

**WESTOE**  
**AN ICONIC**  
**WAGGA WAGGA**  
**HOME**



**Front Cover:** Westoe. Courtesy the Hampshire Cultural Trust.

©Geoff Burch. September 2020

## **Acknowledgements**

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## **Introduction**

This article started out to trace the history of Westoe, but as often happens, the story just grew.

It now encompasses other historical buildings in that area, and looks at some of the people connected with these buildings.

As always, it draws from an eclectic range of resources, in an attempt to record specific aspects of the city's earlier history.

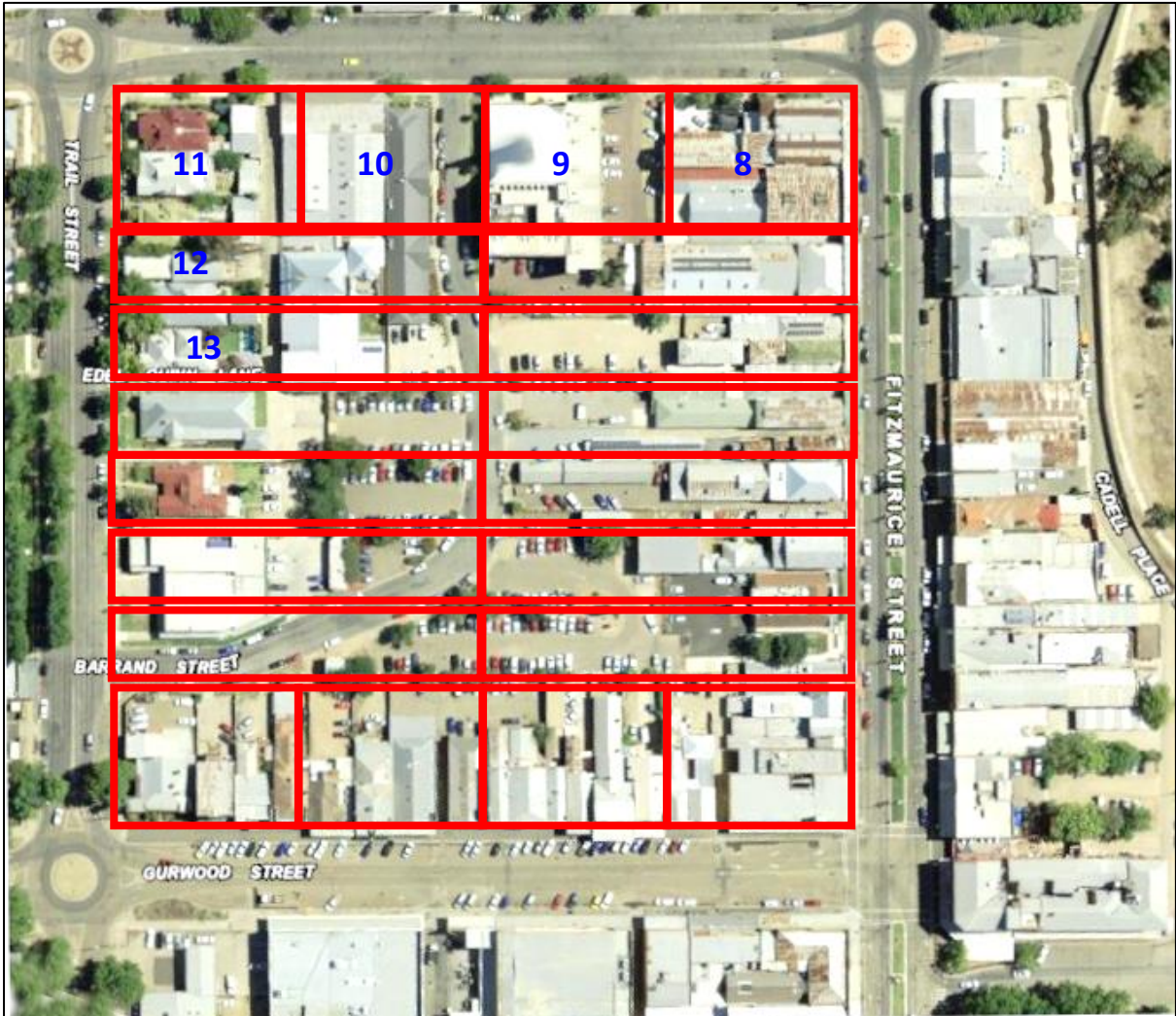


## Some Subdivision of Allotments in Section 1.

The twenty allotments in section 1, town and parish of South Wagga Wagga each had an area of two roods. Allotments 1, 8-11, and 18-20 were all perfect squares, while allotments 2-7, and 12-17 were rectangles.



**Above:** Extract from a 1940 map of Wagga Wagga showing the location of the various allotments within section 1. Courtesy NSW Land Registry Services. Historic Maps.

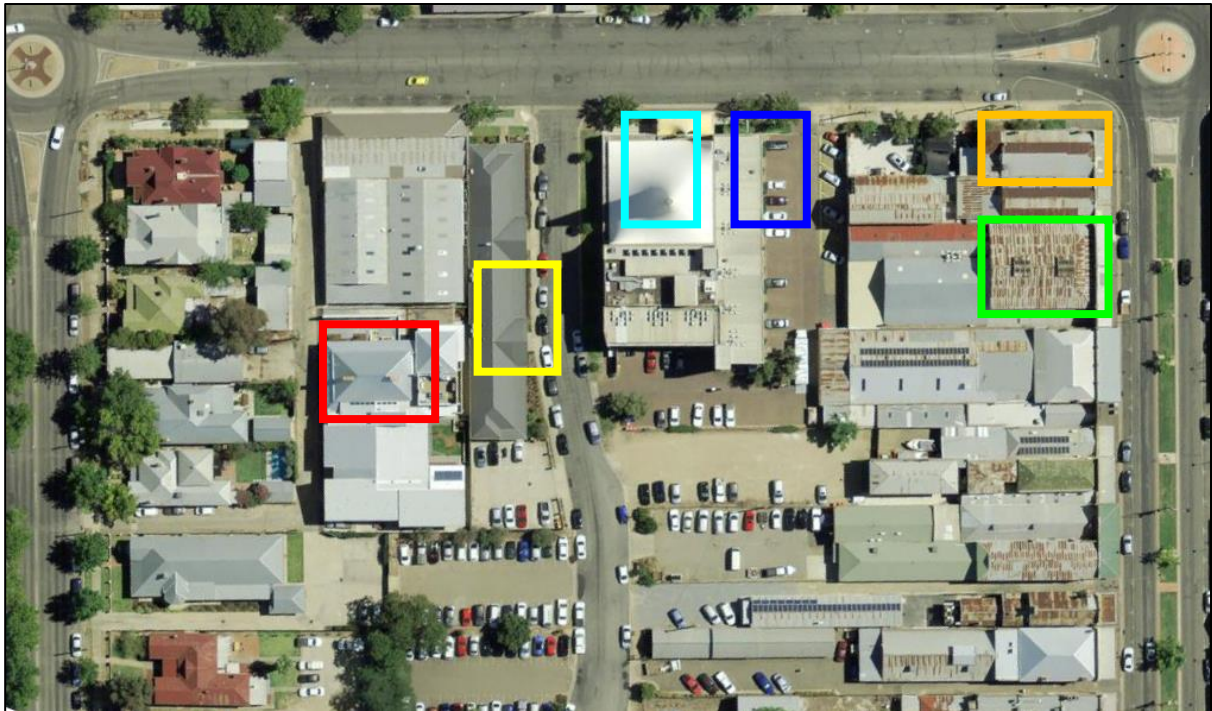


**Above:** A contemporary aerial view with the original allotment boundaries superimposed. Courtesy NSW Land Registry Services. SIX.



**Above:** A contemporary aerial view of the Edel Quinn Centre and surrounds.





**Above:** A contemporary aerial view of the site showing the former locations of the historical buildings. Courtesy NSW Land Registry Services. SIX.

| Key  |
|--|
| Red boundary > Westoe [allotment 12]                           |
| Yellow boundary > Westoe Cottage [allotments 10 and 12]        |
| Light blue boundary > Wagga Olympia Skating rink [allotment 9] |
| Dark blue boundary > Forsyth's bonded store [allotment 9]      |
| Orange boundary > Fox's Squatter's hotel [allotment 8]         |
| Green boundary > Davison's store [allotment 8]                 |

### Squatter's Hotel

In 1849 a new hotel building was erected for James Fox at the corner of Kincaid and Fitzmaurice Streets., and this became known as the Squatter's hotel. It was claimed to be the first brick building constructed in Wagga Wagga.<sup>1</sup>

This was the 3rd hotel to be licensed in Wagga Wagga. In December 1850 Thomas Fox submitted his payment for a publican's license, for a hotel to be called the Squatter's Inn.<sup>2</sup> Fox was the brother in law of James Gormly and the son in law of Patrick Gormly.<sup>3</sup>The sureties for Fox, were Christopher Tidyman, blacksmith, and Patrick Gormly, overseer at Nangus.

By November 1852 Thomas Fox had purchased the new Wagga Inn building and renamed it the Squatters Hotel. Thus by the end of 1852 the first Squatter's Hotel had been closed and it never again traded as a hotel.

<sup>1</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 26<sup>th</sup> January 1909, p2c3.

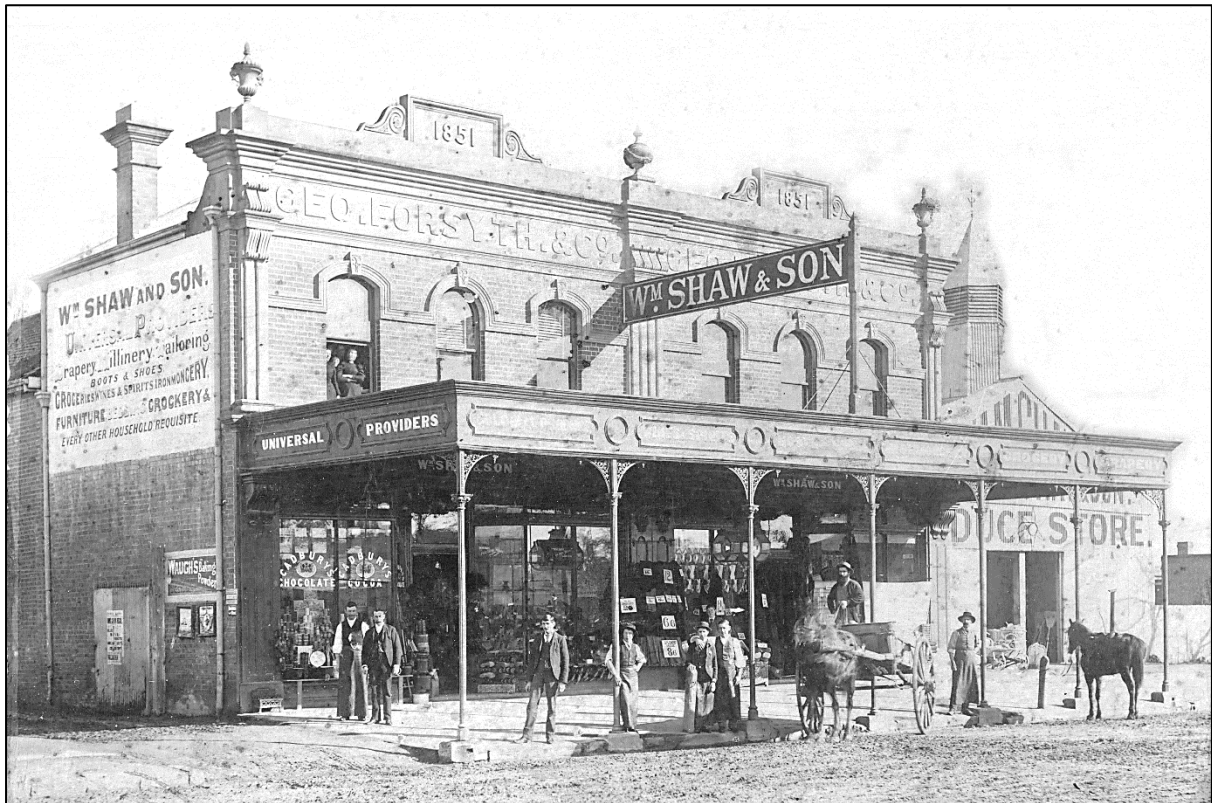
<sup>2</sup> Wagga Wagga Bench Books. 26<sup>th</sup> December 1850.

<sup>3</sup> Gormly, James. *Exploration and Settlement in Australia*. p42.

### Allotments 8 and 9

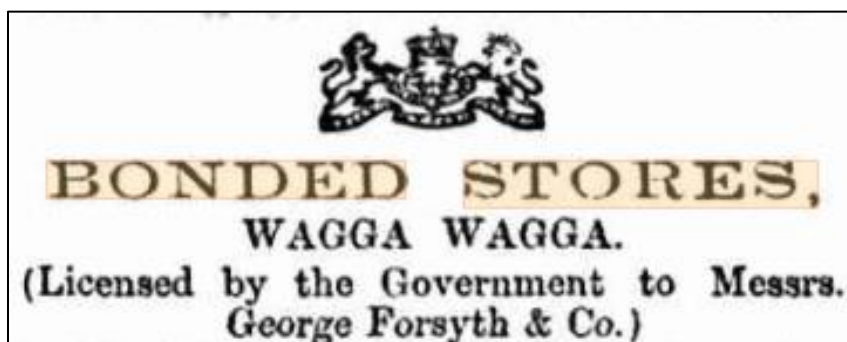
Allotments 8 and 9 were originally purchased by Robert Davison. Allotment 8 was the corner block with frontage to both Kincaid and Fitzmaurice Streets, on which Davison established one of Wagga Wagga's earliest stores, and which was subsequently taken over by George Forsyth. Later owners included William Shaw & Son.

Forsyth's buildings, with frontage to Fitzmaurice Street, did not extend to the edge of Kincaid Street. The actual corner building, where Uneke stands in 2020, was once the site of Thomas Fox's Squatters' hotel.



**Above:** George Forsyth's Store, and the adjoining produce store, both facing onto Fitzmaurice Street.

Allotment 9 faced onto Kincaid Street and for most of its history contained two buildings. The first was the "bonded store," constructed by George Forsyth. The second was the adjoining warehouse [to the west of the bonded store].



**Left:** An 1868 notice in the Wagga Wagga press.



**Above:** In 1890 the general store business was owned by John J Peadon.<sup>4</sup>

John J Peadon came to Wagga Wagga in March 1888 to take over the business of Mr Constantine Dyring. Peadon had previously been the Newcastle representative for the Sydney firm of Lark & Sons.<sup>5</sup> It appears that Peadon originally leased space within Forsyth's Stores, where he carried on a tailoring business.<sup>6</sup>

#### **William Shaw & Son**

Peadon's tenure appears to have been relatively short lived as William Shaw & Son were again the proprietors in June 1893, when the following extensive description of the business was given,<sup>7</sup>

"One of the most prominent structures in Wagga is that occupying a commanding position at the corner of Fitzmaurice and Kincaid Streets, in which the various ramifications of their extensive trade are carried on by MESSRS. W SHAW & SON, Wholesale and Retail Drapers, Grocers, Wine and Spirit Merchants; and General Warehousemen. Though the advent of the Firm dates back but a few years, yet the Establishment itself ranks as one of the oldest in the town, since its founder, Mr. George Forsyth, was justly regarded as the Pioneer Storekeeper of Wagga, at a period when business was done in a most primitive manner and bullock teams, in lieu of railways, formed the means of communication between, towns and stations From these crude beginnings a large and important trade was built up, extending annually and increasing its patrons, until it at length reached the proud position it now occupies, that of the PREMIER STORE OF WAGGA, and an Emporium wherein the Public can obtain all they require, even though it be the proverbial "Needle to an Anchor." But business at the present day, though based on somewhat similar lines to those adopted by pioneer tradesmen, is in many respects widely different. Fashions are constantly changing; new patterns and colors are "all the rage,"

<sup>4</sup> Australian Town & Country Journal. 13<sup>th</sup> September 1890, p29.

<sup>5</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 5<sup>th</sup> April 1888, p2.

<sup>6</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 27<sup>th</sup> November 1888, p2.

<sup>7</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 24<sup>th</sup> June 1893, p3.

novelties are in the ascendant, and the Draper and Clothier who wishes to keep pace with the times must be always to the fore in these matters to ensure success...,

The head of the firm of Messrs. Shaw and Son is a gentleman of sound practical experience, having been for twenty-five years a partner in the well-known firm of Peapes and Shaw, of George-street, Sydney.

As the visitor surveys the external surroundings of these handsome shops, with the attractive display in the large plate-glass windows of samples of the goods within, he cannot but be impressed therewith, and tempted by their cheapness to invest in the purchase of those he most needs. But it is only by investigating the marvellous resources of this establishment that one can truly gauge the standard of its excellence, or the facility it affords for supplying the requirements of all classes of the community.

Entering from the front the DRAPERY DEPARTMENT is reached. This contains a large and choice Stock of Seasonable Dress Material, and Manchester Goods in various patterns and designs, Toilet Requisites, Carpets, Floorcloths, Hearth-rugs, Linoleums, &c., whilst in the portion devoted to FANCY GOODS are Ladies' Hats, Hosiery, Laces, Embroideries, Ribbons, Trimmings, Gloves, Parasols, and Haberdashery of all descriptions. Gentlemen's Outfitting is a specialty here, and suits whether for adults or juveniles, in various grades and qualities are to be had to meet the requirements of all comers. Men's Hosiery, Mercery, Handkerchiefs, Scarves, Soft and Hard Felt Hats in latest style and fashion, are in lavish profusion, whilst the tourist who desires a Portmanteau, Valise, Travelling Bag or Trunk, can choose from a goodly number.

THE BOOT DEPARTMENT contains a comfortable FITTING ROOM, and, in addition to a splendid assortment of Ladies' and Gent's boots from the well-known houses of Bostock, Geek and Co., Vernon, and others, in England, has all the leading lines in foot-coverings. Among these are Pinec's Fashionable Evening Shoes, now much in request by the fair sex. Those who favor the colonial article in Men's Boots; will be glad to hear that the Firm have always in stock Gillespie's and Baxter's noted makes. The former is one of the oldest boot manufacturers in New South Wales, and the work from his Goulburn factory has possibly been more trodden upon and seen more service throughout the colonies than any other. But public taste varies", and the goods of a maker most in request one year may yield place to another in the next. Among specialties are first class lines from the workshops of Wallace, Cowan, and Harper, and M'Murtrie and Co., of Sydney. Both firms are favorites with the public, and, the latter, especially, are coming to the front for the excellence as well as the novelty of their manufactures. Not only will their boots compare with the imported in style and appearance, but in price they are even cheaper. Just now they are introducing what is regarded as a useful departure from the stereotyped routine of bootmaking, viz: - A Gent's boot, which, by means a screwing machine, does away with the ancient system of pegging, consolidates the leather in every part, and makes it firmer and more durable.

Messrs. W. Shaw and Son are sole agents in Wagga for these excellent foot-covering, which are quoted at the same price as the ordinary riveted or pegged article. To offer, a honest opinion, we consider that such boots are introduced at an opportune time, and will prove highly acceptable to those pedestrians who trudge through the muddy streets of our town after heavy rains, and who have hitherto suffered the inconvenience and unpleasantness of wet feet. During the midwinter holidays, paterfamilias, wishing to have his youngsters well shod,



should look through this department, in which is the finest leather well put together whether it be in Colonial Slippers at Is. 6d or the best class of work. The term GROCERY is so explicit and readily understood, as indicating innumerable articles of household use that it is hardly necessary to particularise all contained in the Department devoted to this class of goods. In addition to Teas and Coffees of fine aroma and flavor, Table Delicacies, Jams and Jollies, Wines and Spirits, Dairy Produce, and Biscuits are profusely displayed. The latter are from the factories of Arnott, Stedman, and Arrisbrock, a recent rival in Sydney to the two first, though it is hardly expected he will be able to wrest the laurels from them, which they have so well earned in the past. The end of this Department is devoted to IRONMONGERY, and contains a miscellaneous collection of articles. Among these are Colonial Ovens, Saucepans, Boilers, Lamps, Safes, Brushware, Steel Trunks, Guns, Axes, Cutlery, Water Cans, Locks, Nails, Carpenters' House Furnishings, Garden Tools, Crocks and Jars, Paints, Oils, Paperhangings, Electro Plate, Clocks, Enamel, Ware, Patent Medicines, Stationery, &c. Passing in review these useful though common accessories of daily life, one is the more attracted to the handsome display of Majolica and Fancy wares, and to the toilet, breakfast, tea, and dinner sets in elegant designs, which, with ornaments in glass and porcelain, filters, seltzogenes, and crockery, occupy the whole of a long gallery. Australian Pottery is now in great request, and it is gratifying to find that the acme of perfection in this particular has been attained. In addition to the usual colonial ware, the firm are agents for Messrs. Doulton and Co., of Burslem, Staffordshire, England, whose name is a "household word" with the elite for handsome tea and dinner services. They have recently introduced the 'Manly Beach Ware' which is highly recommended for quality and durability.

Ascending a flight of stairs the upper-floor is reached. On this is the MILLINERY AND DRESSMAKING DEPARTMENT, AND SHOWROOM. Quite an array of Feathers, Flowers, Trimmings, Bird Ornamentations greet the eye as you enter, whilst Fashion's self is well portrayed in Ladies' Hats and Bonnets in every grade of attractiveness. The latest Parisian and London styles are conspicuous, and ladies desiring to be well fitted in the Dressmaking Department find their requirements promptly attended to by competent lady assistants. Underclothing is also here, whether for children or adults, whilst among specialties are Mantles, Wool Polkas, and Infants' Hoods.

Adjacent to this apartment, is one containing furniture of useful and elegant kind, such as Austrian bent-wood Chairs, fancy Spring Rockers, Perambulators, Colonial and English Tables, Mirrors, Pier Glasses, Washstands and Sets, brass and plated mounted Bedsteads etc.. The latter with mattresses in kapok, flock, or feathers seem to invite the beholders to repose, and even the most confirmed victim of insomnia need not fear the speedy response of the Goddess of Slumber, if made on one of these luxuriant couches. They are also marvels of cheapness, their price being about half what it would be in Victoria. When first introduced into the colonies a similar class of bedsteads by Peyton and Peyton of London, were quoted at £10 10s; here they can be had, equally good in quality, from £3 10s. upwards. Every requisite for household furnishing is in stock, and newly made Benedicts, or those who contemplate entering the nuptial state, should inspect these splendid goods.

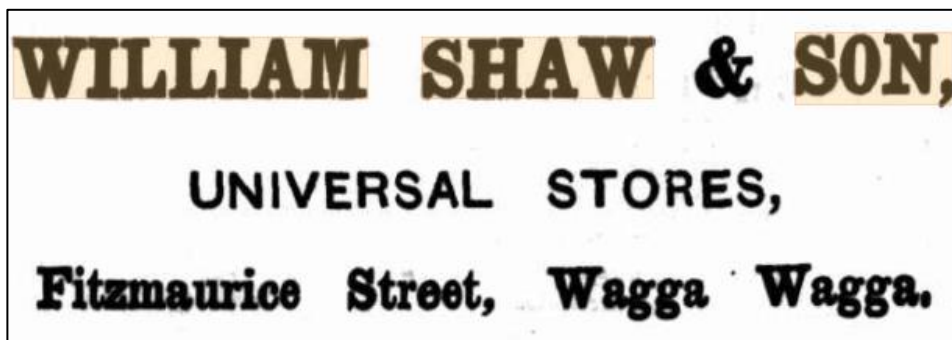
THE CELLARS, which are at the rear of the main building, contain a large and choice stock of English Ports and Sherries, leading brands in Spirits and Beers (bottled and bulk); Wines from South Australian, Victorian, and local vintages,

including Caldwell's Lake Alberts products. These cellars are dry and cool, and connoisseurs of appetising liquors are favourably impressed with the fine quality of those to be had here.

It is only on entering the yard at the back of the premises that their extent can be fully understood, and the estimate, that an acre of ground is occupied for purposes, of business is readily apparent. There are two STORES, one for bulk goods, the other for produce. The first from which the supplies for the Retail Departments are drawn, is a light, dry and roomy edifice of two floors. It was originally a Government Bonded Store, and some idea of its strength can be formed in the fact that its walls are fully, a foot-and-a-half in thickness. Here are stocked Groceries Cheeses, Hams, Ironmongery, Crockery, Hollow Ware, Case Ale and Porter, Oils of all sorts (including Linseed, Colza, Castor, Kerosene, &etc., Fencing and Barbed Wire, Galvanized Iron (all sizes), Ridging, Guttering and Down Pipe, Agricultural and other implements by best makers (for who the firm are agents), Station and Shearing Supplies, Stockholm Tar, Tobacco, Coarse and Fine Salt, Rope, Coppers, Boilers, Camp Ovens, Baking Powder, Washing Soda, &c. -in short, everything required for use or ornament. On the opposite side of the yard is the PRODUCE STORE, which, like the other, is very roomy, and holds a large quantity of goods. Here at present are supplies of Flour, Bran, Pollard, Wheat, Chaff, Oats, Maize, Barley, Potatoes, Onions, &c. The value of those useful adjuncts to a well-appointed business establishment can be better imagined than described, more especially where, as in the present instance, room is a desideratum. Another important matter may be mentioned, viz., the facility afforded by side entrances to the yard, whereby drays and other vehicles can load or unload stores.

The several Departments are under the personal supervision of Mr. W Shaw, who is ably supported by his son, Mr. L Shaw, and a staff of experienced and obliging assistants. The health and comfort of the employees is regarded of paramount importance, and the most cordial relationship exists between employers and employed.

In closing this somewhat crude description of one of the principal businesses in Wagga we can but remark that it would be impossible to do full justice to its numberless resources in the limits at our disposal. Notwithstanding the great depression extant, rendered still more deplorable by bank failures, the purchasing power of the firm of Messrs. W. Shaw and Son. appears as great as ever and as they buy for cash and sell for cash, and are DIRECT IMPORTERS from the Home Markets, they are enabled to give their customers and patrons the benefit of any bargain they may secure. Plain, straightforward dealing, due regard to principles of commercial honesty, combined with strict attention to business, are the stepping stones which, have led to their success."



Left: An 1891 advertisement by the firm. [Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 10<sup>th</sup> December 1891, p3]





**Above:** The site in 2020 [Allotment 8, frontage to Fitzmaurice Steet]. Courtesy Google Maps.

### Key

A > Davison’s original store

B > Forsyth’s Produce Store

C > Site of Squatter’s hotel

### Squatter’s hotel site

In January 1909 the old 1849 building [Squatter’s hotel] was knocked down and replaced by a new two storey edifice, constructed by Charles Hardy & Co.<sup>8</sup>

In June 1910 it was announced that two buildings at “*The Corner*,” [a local term for the south east corner of the intersection of Kincaid and Fitzmaurice Streets], had been sold, on behalf of the Australian Bank of Commerce. The building known as Forsyth’s Store, had been sold to Mr JF Hannan of the Covent Garden Stores, while the building on the corner, occupied by the Massey Harris Depot, had been purchased by Mr Esba Basha.<sup>9</sup> The latter building was located on the site of the former Squatter’s hotel.

Basha had previously operated out of premises adjoining the Pastoral hotel, since 1891. The new building was a two storey structure, featuring large plate glass windows in the front of the shop with brass fittings and full length mirrors. The top floor contained two residences, which opened onto a front promenade balcony. The building had a frontage of sixty six feet to Fitzmaurice Street with about one hundred feet to Kincaid Street, and was known as Coronation House. About a year later Basha announced his retirement from the Wagga Wagga business and his intention of opening a new store at Lockhart.<sup>10</sup> In March 1919, Basha offered the two shops for sale, but there were no bidders for the building and it was passed in for private negotiations.<sup>11</sup>

<sup>8</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 26<sup>th</sup> January 1909, p2.

<sup>9</sup> Wagga Wagga Express. 21<sup>st</sup> June 1910, p2.

<sup>10</sup> The Lockhart Review. 11<sup>th</sup> September 1912, p2.

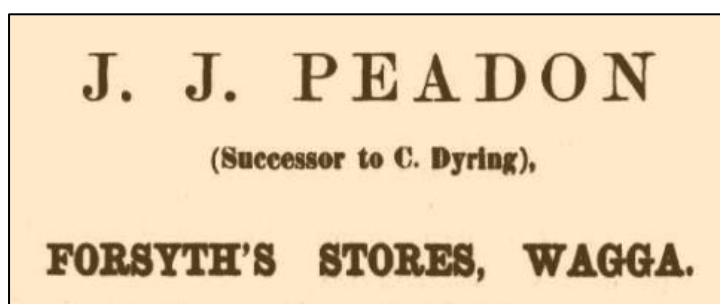
<sup>11</sup> Daily Advertiser. 24<sup>th</sup> March 1919, p2.

## 22 Kincaid Street

22 Kincaid Street is located on allotment 9, and was originally purchased from the crown by Robert Davison on the 1<sup>st</sup> November 1851.<sup>12</sup>

On the 25<sup>th</sup> October 1858 Davison, of the Black Range near Yass, sold allotments 8 & 9, and the buildings thereon, to George Forsyth, a store keeper of Wagga Wagga, for the sum of one thousand two hundred and fifty pounds.<sup>13</sup>

22 Kincaid Street was the address of the bonded store. The bonded store was established by 1868, under license to George Forsyth & Co...<sup>14</sup> It was one of the better buildings in town, and capable of holding a large crowd. When the Earl of Belmore visited Wagga Wagga in July 1868, he, and his entourage, attended a Working Man's ball, held in the upper floor area of the bonded store.<sup>15</sup>



In the 1870's Charles Jackson worked for George Forsyth, possibly as the manager of his Fitzmaurice Street Store. In 1876 and 1878 he was listed as the occupier of Forsyth's store.<sup>16</sup>

**Left:** A notice in 1888 when Peadon took over from Dyring.

In 1890 John J Peadon conducted the general store and the associated buildings, including the former bonded store, a description of which, read as follows,<sup>17</sup>

"The wholesale stores front Kincaid-street. They are large, brick buildings, and were formerly used by the former proprietors, Forsyth and Co., many years ago as bonded stores for the Wagga district. Now they are stocked with all descriptions of groceries, flour, teas, sugar, salt, tobacco, dried fruits, oilman's stores, condiments, oils, kerosene, paints, wines and spirits, bottled ales, soap, candles, &c. On another floor is furniture, bedsteads, bedding, perambulators, &c. In sheds outside are stacked bar iron, galvanised iron, agricultural implements, fencing wire, woolpacks, rock salt, &c.

There are also extensive stables and coachhouses. On another portion of the premises is the farmers' market, where sales of their produce is sold by auction weekly.

This establishment, therefore, as will be seen by the above description, is one of the largest, best conducted, and carries one of the greatest and best assorted stocks of any country town; and is one which the people of Wagga can and do boast of."

It would seem the bonded store ceased to function as such, at some time in the 1880's.

<sup>12</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Book 850, number 875.

<sup>13</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Book 58, number 344.

<sup>14</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 21<sup>st</sup> October 1868, p1.

<sup>15</sup> Gundagai Times. 25<sup>th</sup> July 1868, p2.

<sup>16</sup> Wagga Wagga Rate Books. 1870-1907. CSU Regional Archives.

<sup>17</sup> Australian Town & Country Journal. 13<sup>th</sup> September 1890, p29.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

TOWN LOT.

GRANTED, *Robert Davison*  
 DATE, *1<sup>st</sup> November 1851*  
*Town of South Wozza Wozza*  
 AD. *R. 2* *V. 1*

**VICTORIA**, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom  
 of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the  
 Faith, and so forth:

**TO ALL** to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting:—

**W**HEREAS, in conformity with the Laws now in force for the Sale of Crown Lands in Our Territory of NEW SOUTH WALES, and Our Royal Instructions under Our Signet and Sign Manual issued in pursuance thereof, *Robert Davison* of *London* has become the Purchaser of the Allotment or Parcel of Land hereinafter described, for the Sum of *Sixteen* Pounds

Sterling; **Now Know Ye**, That for and in consideration of the said Sum for and on Our behalf, well and truly paid into the Colonial Treasury of Our said Territory, before these Presents are issued, And in further consideration of the Quit-Rent hereinafter Reserved, We HAVE GRANTED, and for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, DO HEREBY GRANT unto the said *Robert Davison* his Heirs and Assigns, Subject to the several and respective Reservations hereinafter mentioned, ALL THAT Allotment or Parcel of Land in Our said Territory, containing by Admeasurement *Two Rods*

be the same more or less, situated in the Town of *South Wozza Wozza*—Parish of *South Wozza Wozza*—County of *Wynyard* being Allotment No. *Three* of Section No. *One* *Commencing* at the West corner of Allotment Number eight and Bounded on the North East by a line bearing south thirty one degrees East two chains; on the South East by a line bearing south fifty nine degrees West two chains fifty links; on the South West by a line bearing North thirty one degrees West two chains; and on the North West by two chains fifty links of the South East side of *Kincaid Street* bearing North, fifty nine degrees East to the West corner of *Plot* Allotment Number eight aforesaid. Being the Allotment sold as Lot 4 in pursuance of the Proclamation of 25<sup>th</sup> June 1850.

with all the Rights and Appurtenances whatsoever thereto belonging; **To Hold** unto the said *Robert Davison* his Heirs and Assigns for ever, YIELDING and Paying therefore Yearly unto Us, Our Heirs and Successors, the Quit-Rent of One Peppercorn for ever, if demanded; **Provided Nevertheless**, AND We DO HEREBY RESERVE unto Us, Our Heirs and Successors, all Mines of Coal; AND We DO ALSO RESERVE unto Us, Our Heirs and Successors, and to the Governor for the time-being of Our said Territory, by such Person or Persons as shall be by Them or Him authorised in that behalf, full power to make and conduct through the said Land, all Common or Public Drains and Sewers which may be deemed expedient; **In Testimony Whereof**, We have caused this Our Grant to be Sealed with the Seal of Our said Territory.

WITNESS Our Trusty and Well-beloved SIR CHARLES AUGUSTUS FITZ ROY, Knight Companion of the Royal Hanoverian Guelphic Order, Governor-General of all Our Australian Possessions, and Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief of Our Territory of NEW SOUTH WALES and its Dependencies, at Government House, Sydney, in NEW SOUTH WALES aforesaid, this *First* day of *November* in the *Fiftieth* Year of Our Reign; And in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand eight hundred and fifty one

L.S. (Signed)

*Chas. A. Fitz Roy*

ENTERED on Record by me, this *Eight* day of *January* One Thousand eight hundred and fifty two

*E. Deas Thomson*

COLONIAL SECRETARY AND REGISTRAR.

Above: The original deed for Robert Davison's purchase of allotment 9.

In March 1901 the property known as Forsyth's corner, was offered up for sale, by public auction, in three lots.<sup>18</sup>

Lot 1 was the main store recently occupied by William Shaw & Son This lot had a frontage of 70ft and 3in to Fitzmaurice Street, and a depth of 171ft.

Lot 2 was the large iron building to the north of the main store. It had served as the hardware and produce store of William Shaw & Son. The land had a frontage of 61ft and 9in to Fitzmaurice Street, with a depth of 171ft.

Lot 3 was the two storey bonded store building, which had a frontage of 96ft 3in to Kincaid Street, and a depth of 198ft.

By October 1903 Edward Easter Collins had established a wool, hide and skin business in the old bonded store premises.<sup>19</sup>

The freehold of the property remained with the Forsyth family up until the 20<sup>th</sup> February 1908, when Margaret Anne Tingcombe [nee Forsyth], conveyed a part of allotment 9 [an area of thirty two perches] to Edward Easter Collins.<sup>20</sup> This lot featured the former bonded store.

In 1912 Collins relocated his business to his newer building [adjoining on the west], and in that same year the Wagga Motor Company moved into the bonded store premises. Edward Gerald Fitzgerald was the proprietor of the garage.<sup>21</sup>

The Wagga Motor Garage Co was formed in 1911, by a group of three locals, one of whom was Edward Gerald Fitzgerald, who had previously operated a hire service business. The other two men were possibly Arthur Charles Chandler, and William Michael Joseph Walsh. Fifteen years later the firm was the largest distributor of Buick cars in NSW, outside of Sydney. It was this firm that added the factory at the rear of the old bonded store.<sup>22</sup> William Michael Joseph Walsh was a solicitor in Wagga Wagga, while Arthur Charles Chandler was a member of the firm, LA Fosbery & Co., and later practiced as a land agent and auctioneer, in his own right. Both men were prominent citizens of Wagga Wagga, with substantial involvement in local community affairs.<sup>23</sup>

**Dissolution of Partnership.**  
**NOTICE** is hereby given that the Partnership hitherto existing between Leonard Arthur Fosbery and Arthur Charles Chandler, under the name of L. A. Fosbery and Co., Land Agents, Valuers, &c., HAS BEEN DISSOLVED this day by mutual consent. The business will be carried on at the present offices in Fitzmaurice Street, Wagga Wagga, by L. A. Fosbery, who will receive all debts owing to and pay all debts due by the firm, and whose receipt shall be a sufficient discharge.  
Dated this 1st day of October, 1906.  
L. A. FOSBERY.  
A. C. CHANDLER.

Left & Right:  
Notices from  
Arthur Charles  
Chandler.

**A. C. CHANDLER**  
HAVING retired from being a Partner in the Firm of L. A. Fosbery and Co., has now COMMENCED to PRACTICE as a  
**LAND AGENT**  
Entirely on his own account.  
Temporary Office:  
RAILWAY HOTEL, WAGGA.  
Will Open at Permanent Office, Next Land Office, on 8th Instant.  
A. C. CHANDLER,  
Land Agent, Wagga Wagga.  
30th September, 1906.

<sup>18</sup> Wagga Wagga Express. 12<sup>th</sup> February 1901, p3.

<sup>19</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 31<sup>st</sup> October 1903, p3.

<sup>20</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Book 850, number 875.

<sup>21</sup> Wagga Wagga Express. 29<sup>th</sup> June 1912, p6. / Wagga Wagga Rate Books. 1917-1919, 1920-1922.[CSURA]

<sup>22</sup> Daily Express. Wagga Pictorial. 1927.

<sup>23</sup> See Sherry Morris Biographical Listings – for both men.

### Edward Gerald Fitzgerald

Edward Gerald Fitzgerald was born in Wagga Wagga, in 1885,<sup>24</sup> the son of Edward Augustine Fitzgerald and Bridget Mary Fitzgerald [nee Cox]. His mother was born at Livingstone Gully on the 1<sup>st</sup> June 1851,<sup>25</sup> the daughter of Joseph William Cox. His father owned and conducted *Brungagee Station* at Book Book, and had been a councillor with the Kyeamba Shire.<sup>26</sup>

In July 1914 Edward Gerald Fitzgerald married Miss Alice Johanna Maher, the daughter of Mr & Mrs Daniel Maher of Mount Pleasant, in St Michael's Church.<sup>27</sup> Edward was the son of Mr & Mrs EA Fitzgerald of Book Book. Patrick Maher was groomsman.

The firm, Wagga Motor Garage Co., was subsequently able to secure premises with frontage to Fitzmaurice Street, which ran back to meet their Kincaid Street block.



**Above:** The Fitzmaurice Street premises of the Wagga Motor Garage Company.

In 1939, Edward held a meeting in Sydney, for the purpose of winding up the Wagga Motor Garage Company Pty Ltd,<sup>28</sup> and it is assumed it ceased to trade around this time.

The Wagga Motor Garage Co., continued to occupy the premises up until 1940. In November 1939 the firm placed the freehold of their two business premises up for sale by public auction. The first of these lots was located at 126-128 Fitzmaurice Street. The second was the old bonded store property. The location was 22-24 Kincaid Street, and consisted of a block of land with a 99ft frontage to Kincaid Street and a depth of 198ft. It was in effect two premises – the main building [the old bonded store] and premises to the rear. The two could be conducted as separate businesses or as one.<sup>29</sup>

<sup>24</sup> NSW BDM's. Birth registration # 27124.

<sup>25</sup> NSW BDM's. Birth registration # 2067/1851 V18512067 68.

<sup>26</sup> Daily Advertiser. 3<sup>rd</sup> June 1916, p5. / 5<sup>th</sup> June 1916, p3. / 6<sup>th</sup> December 1916, p2.

<sup>27</sup> Daily Advertiser. 22<sup>nd</sup> July 1914, p4.

<sup>28</sup> Daily Advertiser. 29<sup>th</sup> September 1939, p5.

<sup>29</sup> Daily Advertiser. 14<sup>th</sup> November 1939, p5.



## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Country car owners are invited to park their cars on our premises FREE, and also may have any parcels or stores delivered to us and collect them at your convenience any time up to 9 p.m. daily, Sunday included. Do not take the risk of leaving your car and parcels in the street.

Your interests and ours are identical. Your welfare is ours, and our desire to serve and assist you is sincere.

Remember we have over 20 years of good honest trading to our credit.

We only give good honest advice, and every job is done in a thoroughly workmanlike manner by mechanics who know their job.

Get our quote for any work you require. You will find our prices the lowest and work the best.

We do everything in our own works. We do not have to send part of the job to other shops. This saves you paying profit in two places.

Remember your car looks and runs best when it is serviced by us; besides it is worth more when you can say **WAGGA MOTORS** do all my work.

Join the N.R.M.A. This is the only authorised **WAGGA DISTRICT DEPOT**.

Open every day and night until 9 p.m. An attendant on premises for ALL NIGHT SERVICE.

**WAGGA MOTOR GARAGE**

EDWARD G. FITZGERALD,

Managing Director.

PHONES 308 and 812.

**1912-1938—26 YEARS**

**UNDER ONE MANAGEMENT**

**Specialists in Servicing, Repairing and  
Reconditioning all Makes of**

**Cars — Trucks — Tractors**

**AND GENERAL MOTOR PRECISION  
WORK**

Everything for the **Motorist** and  
All True to Label



Distributors for Hudson-Terraplane, Wolseley  
and D.W.K. Cars, Marshall and Fowler Diesel  
Wheel and Crawler Type Tractors, All British

**Wagga** District N.R.M.A. Depot

**The Wagga Motor Garage  
Co. Pty. Ltd.**

'Phones 308, 812

EDWARD G. FITZGERALD, Managing Director

Above: A 1932 advertisement placed by the Wagga Motor Garage.<sup>30</sup>

Left: A 1938 advertisement for the Wagga Motor Garage Co. Pty Ltd.<sup>31</sup>

Edward Gerald Fitzgerald passed away on the 6<sup>th</sup> July 1970, at Burwood [Sydney].<sup>32</sup> Alice Johanna Fitzgerald [nee Maher] passed away on the 31<sup>st</sup> January 1972, at Sydney.<sup>33</sup>

<sup>30</sup> Daily Advertiser. 24<sup>th</sup> August 1932, p6.

<sup>31</sup> Daily Advertiser. 10<sup>th</sup> October 1938, p5.

<sup>32</sup> Sydney Morning Herald. 7<sup>th</sup> July 1970. [Ryerson Index]

<sup>33</sup> Sydney Morning Herald. 4<sup>th</sup> February 1972. [Ryerson Index]

In 1946 Jack Lloyd and Barclay's Radiators were both operating out of the premises at 22 Kincaid Street.

**BATTERY SERVICE**  
**JACK LLOYD**  
**REPAIRS and NEW BATTERIES**  
JACK LLOYD, late of Ivan Jack Pty. Ltd., wishes to advise the Motoring Public of Wagga that he is offering an up-to-date Battery Charging and Repair Service at  
**22 KINCAID STREET, WAGGA, 'PHONE 3299**

Both firms continued to operate out of this address into the 1950's.

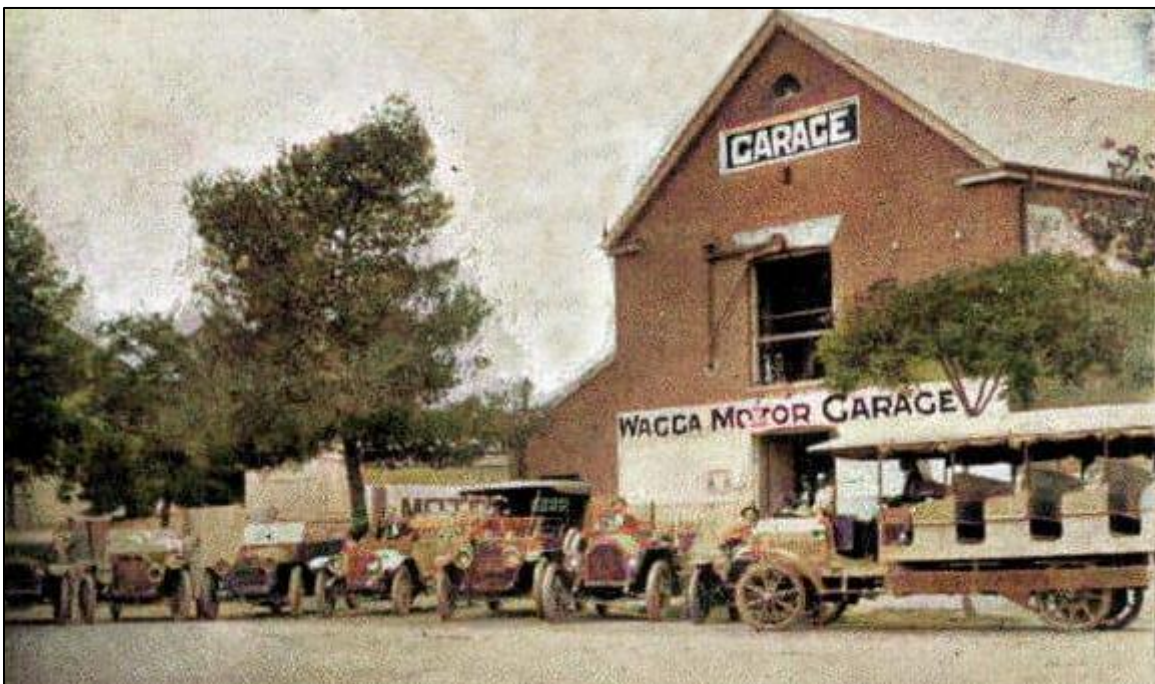
**Repairs to All Radiators**  
**ON EVERY MAKE OF CAR OR TRUCK**  
**HERE'E** quick and efficient Service. Radiator Cores fitted. Same Day Service. Bring in your Old Radiator and we will guarantee fitment of a New Core the Same Day!  
**SOLDERING WORK OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS: FUEL LINES, SEPARATOR PARTS, MILKING MACHINE PARTS, &c., &c.**  
**BARCLAY'S** **22 KINCAID STREET**  
**WAGGA**  
**NEXT TO GREEN'S WOOL STORE**

Barclay's occupied the premises up until 1980, at which time they moved to Pearson Street.<sup>34</sup>

<sup>34</sup> Lost Wagga Wagga. <https://www.facebook.com/lostwaggawagga/posts/2291270731085950>.



**Above and Below:** The bond store, c.1914. Colour enhanced format courtesy Lost Wagga Wagga [Robert Crowe]







**Above:** The old Bonded Store – occupied by Barclay’s Radiators. Courtesy Lost Wagga Wagga.

The bonded store was subsequently demolished and the Pavilion motel [built in 1985] and a car park now occupies the site of the old building.

## 26-30 Kincaid Street

26-30 Kincaid Street was the location of a large iron building constructed by Edward Easter Collins in 1910.

## The Wagga Skating Olympia

Roller skating was a new fad that swept through Wagga Wagga in the year 1910.

Construction of a new rink was well underway by March of that year and it was expected that the Wagga Skating Olympia would be opened in the first week of April. This rink was located in Kincaid Street, near its intersection with Fitzmaurice Street. The proprietors were Messrs. Collins & Hayes, and they had engaged Professor R. W. Martin, of London, as the manager. The latter had recently gained fourth place in the recent two miles world's championship tournament held in England. It was stated that "*a brass band will be constantly in attendance to provide music.*" Separate cloak rooms were provided for each sex, and seating was provided for spectators.<sup>35</sup>

The opening took place on Friday the 8<sup>th</sup> April and the following advertisement appeared in the local paper:<sup>36</sup>

**SKATING! SKATING! SKATING!**

**AT THE WAGGA WAGGA SKATING OLYMPIA.**

**Now Open! Now Open! Now Open!**

ADMISSION, 1/. USE OF EXTENSION SKATES, 6d.

The Most Salutory Athletic Exercise of Modern Times. Splendid Skating Surface. Choice Music. Elaborate Decorations. Efficient Management. Unlimited Seating Accommodation for Onlookers. First-class Brass Band every Evening, and Wednesday and Saturday Afternoons.

THERE WILL BE THREE SESSIONS DAILY.

MORNING :—11 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. Admission, 6d, including use of Skates (Ladies and Children Only). AFTERNOON:—3 to 5 p.m.; Admission --Wednesday and Saturday 1/, Skates 6d; other days, admission 6d, Skates 6d. EVENING :—8 to 10.30 p.m.; Admission 1/, Skates 6d.

SKATING AND WALTZING TAUGHT. TI IMPROVED WINSLOW SKATES ON SALE AT THE RINK.

MESSRS. COLLINS AND HAYES, PROPRIETORS.

A report on the opening stated that some eight hundred tickets had been sold during the evening, and noted that many skaters had brought their own skates, which was just as well as there were insufficient stocks to meet the demand. The proprietors advised they were ordering another 130 pairs of Winslow's ball bearing skates. The hall was decorated with "*hanging festoons of varying colors, Japanese fans and Chinese lanterns.*"

<sup>35</sup> Wagga Daily Advertiser, 19th March 1910, p2c3.

<sup>36</sup> Wagga Daily Advertiser, 5th April 1910, p3c5-6.

The article went on to report that:

“It was a good humoured aggregation of all sorts and conditions of men, women and children, and although collisions were frequent, and falls still more frequent, no one seemed annoyed either at the falls or with the people who laughed at them. Possibly, however, there will be a few people in Wagga today taking their meals from the mantelpiece.”<sup>37</sup>

The sport was very popular and a second rink was officially opened on the 20<sup>th</sup> April. It was called the Newton Skating Rink and was located in the Protestant Hall in Baylis street.<sup>38</sup>

Competition was strong and the Olympia rink was soon advertising the attraction of Athos, a world champion skater,<sup>39</sup> and extended hours,<sup>40</sup> in order to woo customers.

Attendances were still at fever pitch at the end of April, with the numbers for the special morning sessions at the Olympia (for women and children) said to be extraordinary. Many people were now quite competent skaters, thanks to the tutorage of both Professor Martin and Miss Ryan.<sup>41</sup> The Olympia, being the first and the largest rink, was the most popular.

The success of these ventures was confirmed in June when it was reported that “*upwards of 25,000 attendances have been recorded at the Olympia Skating Rink since its opening.*” The regular occurrence of competitions and special events continued to draw a strong local following, and also drew people from nearby towns, such as Junee.<sup>42</sup>

The attraction of world class acts continued with the appearance of Messrs. Bendrods & Irving, the world’s champion scientific and fancy skaters, at the Olympia in June. They were from the USA and had just completed a three months engagement in Sydney.<sup>43</sup>

1910 was not the first time this fad had taken hold of Wagga Wagga. There was certainly a new rink in June 1876,<sup>44</sup> another in May 1877,<sup>45</sup> and then two in 1888 – the first in the Trail Street’ Drill Hall in March,<sup>46</sup> and the second in the building known as the Albion Flour Mill, at the corner of Kincaid & Trail Streets, in May.<sup>47</sup> No doubt there were regular periods when this sport flourished, subsequent to 1910.

The new building was also used as a venue for larger community events, such as balls.<sup>48</sup>

The famous fight between Sharman and Carter also took place in this building,<sup>49</sup> known then as the Wagga Skating Olympia, on the 23<sup>rd</sup> August 1911.<sup>50</sup> Jimmy Sharman, who was the lightweight

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<sup>37</sup> Wagga Daily Advertiser, 9th April 1910, p2c8.

<sup>38</sup> Wagga Daily Advertiser, 21st April 1910, p2c4.

<sup>39</sup> Wagga Daily Advertiser, 19th April 1910, p3c5.

<sup>40</sup> Wagga Daily Advertiser, 21st April 1910, p2c3.

<sup>41</sup> Wagga Daily Advertiser, 30th April 1910, p2c3.

<sup>42</sup> Wagga Daily Advertiser, 11th June 1910, p2c4.

<sup>43</sup> Wagga Daily Advertiser, 16th June 1910, p2c3.

<sup>44</sup> Town & Country Journal, 10th June 1876, p931c2-4.

<sup>45</sup> Wagga Daily Advertiser, 30th May 1877, p2c5.

<sup>46</sup> Wagga Daily Advertiser, 29th March 1888, p3c8.

<sup>47</sup> Wagga Daily Advertiser, 29th May 1888, p2c4.

<sup>48</sup> Daily Advertiser. 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1942, p2.

<sup>49</sup> Daily Advertiser. 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1942, p2.

<sup>50</sup> Wagga Wagga Express. 12<sup>th</sup> August 1911, p2.

**SHARMAN-CARTER FIGHT.**  
 The public are reminded of the **Sharman-Carter** fight, which is billed to take place on Saturday night at the Olympia Skating Rink, for the largest purse ever offered for a boxing contest in this part of the country, viz., £300. Mr. an Abbott will referee the contest. The box plan is now open at Mark Mongan's, and judging by the interest that has been centred in this "meet" for some time, the patronage should be substantial.

champion of the Riverina at the time, won the match after six rounds, when Carter injured his leg as he fell through the ropes.<sup>51</sup>

Left: Notice of the fight.<sup>52</sup>

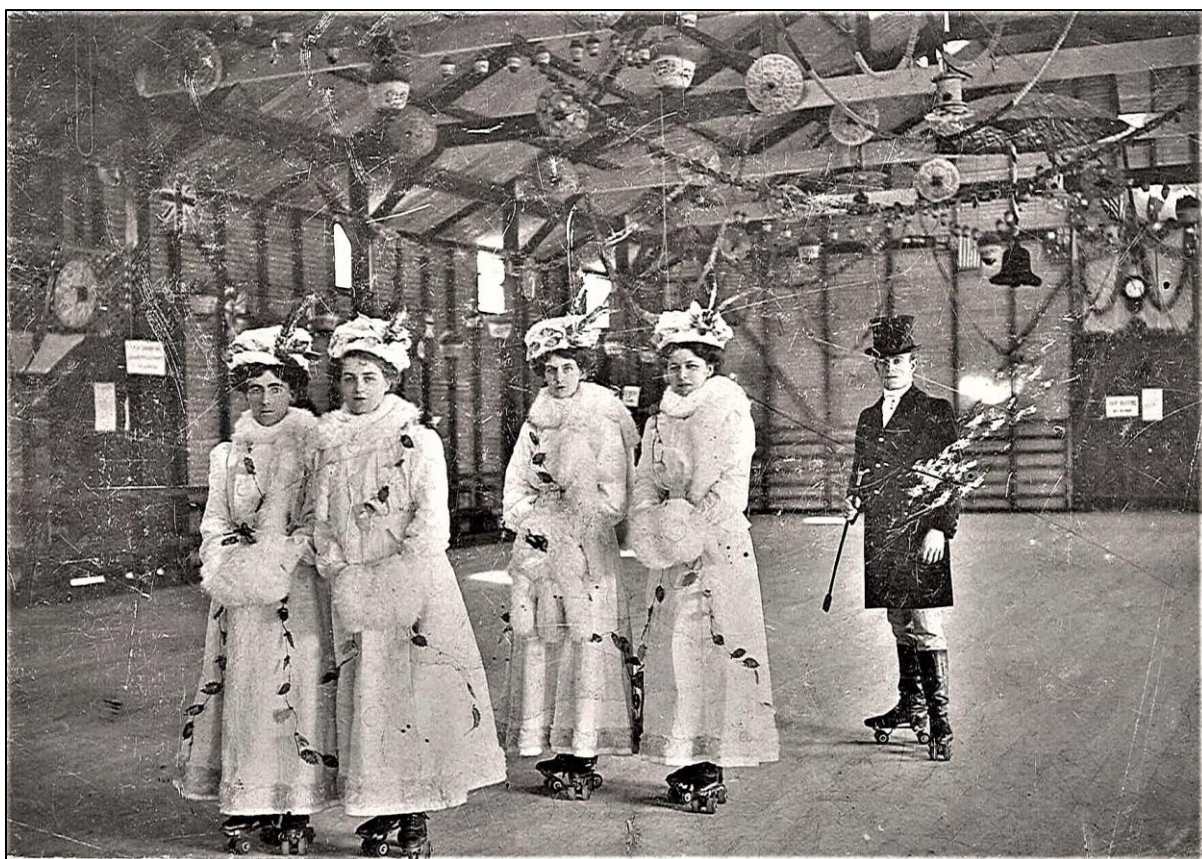


**Above:** Inside the skating rink in 1910. Courtesy Lost Wagga Wagga.

<sup>51</sup> Wagga Wagga Express. 24<sup>th</sup> August 1911, p2.

<sup>52</sup> Wagga Wagga Express. 2<sup>nd</sup> November 1911, p5.





**Above:** Skaters inside the Wagga Skating Olympia in May 1910. [L to R]: Mrs Greer, Essie Syles, Mrs Dunn, Merle Lammas, and Awdrey Headley. Courtesy CSURA and Lost Wagga Wagga.

In 1912 Collins relocated his business from the bonded store to the newer building, and the Wagga Motor Company moved into the old bonded store premises.

TW Green & Co. succeeded Collins as owner of the wool, hide and skin business in January 1936.<sup>53</sup> The former was a large Sydney firm with its head office at Blackwattle Bay, and with branches throughout the state. Mr Green was well known in Wagga Wagga though, as his wife was the daughter of David Copland.<sup>54</sup> In 1942 the company relocated back to the old bond store, in order that the warehouse building might be used by the mayor's Patriotic & War Fund.<sup>55</sup> The latter building was provided free of charge and was seen as a very generous contribution to the local war effort. The building was converted into a dance hall designed to entertain service personnel and to raise funds for the cause.<sup>56</sup>

Beryl Green [nee Copland], the wife of TW Green, lived in Sydney but had strong connections to the town, as did her husband who once conducted a business as a wool and skin merchant, from premises in Fitzmaurice Street [occupied by Great Southern Motors in the 1940's]. Beryl's sister, Vi Copland, provided premises in Gurwood Street for the WAAF's, during the war.

<sup>53</sup> Wagga Wagga Express. 18<sup>th</sup> January 1936, p4.

<sup>54</sup> Wagga Wagga Express. 18<sup>th</sup> January 1936, p4.

<sup>55</sup> Daily Advertiser. 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1942, p2.

<sup>56</sup> Daily Advertiser. 9<sup>th</sup> January 1946, p1.



**Above:** EE Collins' warehouse c.1914. [# 30 Kincaid Street]



**Above:** A later photo of the warehouse. Courtesy Lost Wagga Wagga [Dell Bungay]

### **All Services Palais**

The building was known as the All Services Palais during the war years and its primary purpose was to provide entertainment for Australian troops, but it was also let out to other community organisations when not being used for its primary purpose.<sup>57</sup> The All Services Palais closed in January 1946, and the property was returned to the legal owners.<sup>58</sup>

<sup>57</sup> Daily Advertiser. 27<sup>th</sup> August 1942, p5.

<sup>58</sup> Daily Advertiser. 9<sup>th</sup> January 1946, p1.

**WOOL AND SKINS**  
 FULL MARKET RATES FOR ALL  
 CLASSES OF  
**Wool, Hides, Sheep Skins,  
 Rabbit Skins, &c.**

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**THOS. W. GREEN & Co. Ltd.**  
 Head Office: Blackwattle Bay, Sydney  
 26 KINCAID STREET, WAGGA  
 (Late E. E. Collins & Co.)  
 PHONE 45.  
 J. O'MALLEY, Manager.

**Left:** A notice placed by the new firm in May 1936.

The premises were vacated during the war years [1942-1945, inclusive] but in January 1946 the firm, who had relocated to the old bond store, moved back in.<sup>59</sup>

The firm was still operating from these premises in 1954.

The property had a frontage of 112ft to Kincaid Street, with a depth of 132ft.

The firm still existed up until 2005, as TWG Wool, but was taken over by Landmark in that year.

Thomas Wilkinson Green passed away on the 1<sup>st</sup> January 1953, and an obituary provided the following details,<sup>60</sup>

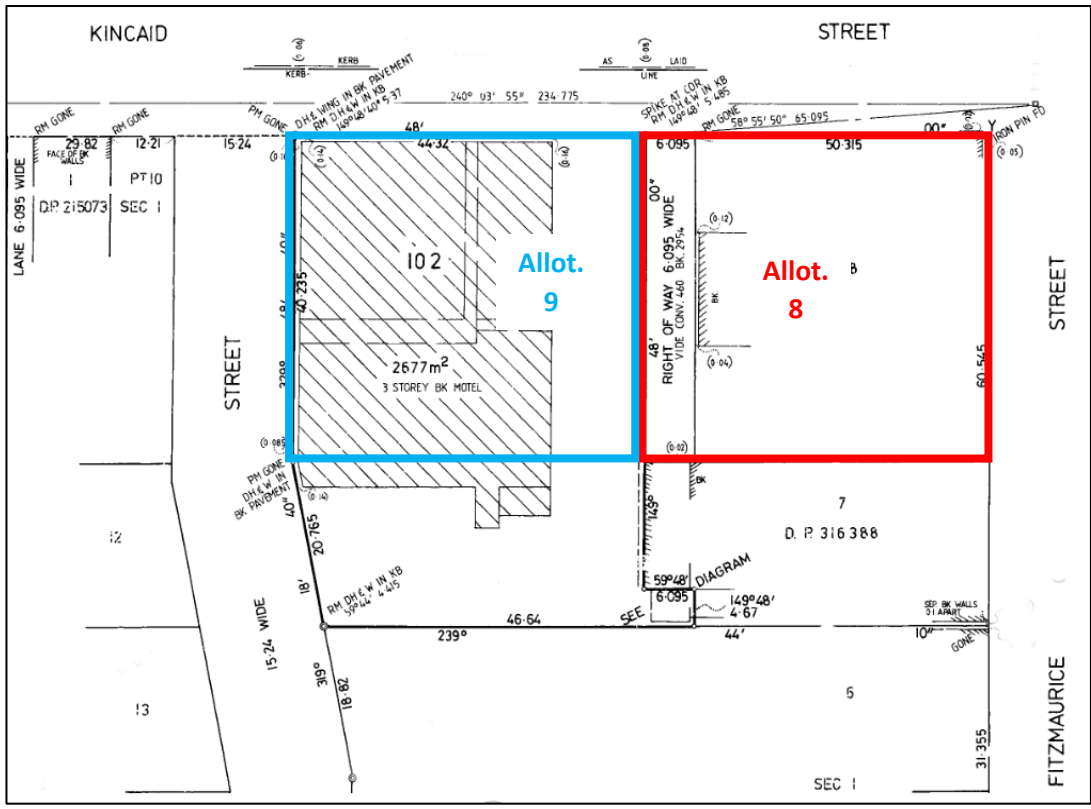
“Mr. Thomas Wilkinson Green, who died at the age of 76 years on January 1, at the Masonic Hospital, Ashfield, was a prominent Wagga businessman more than 30 years ago. An Englishman, the late Mr. Green was a leading member of the Wagga firm of Thos. W. Green and Co. Ltd., wool and skin buyers, of Kincaid Street. Mr. Green came to Wagga from England in 1805, and two years later married Miss Constance Beryl Copland. They had three sons, George and Neville, and David, who was killed in a road accident in Sydney about 1933. When he arrived in Wagga, the late Mr. Green joined the firm of E. E. Collins and Co., which now bears his name. The late Mr. Collins was a former Wagga Mayor. The late Mr. Green was well-known in local amateur theatrical circles and was a prominent racehorse owner. He was a foundation member of the Wagga Picnic Race Club. Mr. Green left Wagga about 1923 and established residence at Ashfield. He is survived by his wife and two sons, his daughter-in-law, Dorothy, and granddaughter, Sandra.”

The Pavilion motel [constructed in 1985] now occupies the site of the old Wagga Skating Olympia.

<sup>59</sup> Daily Advertiser. 9<sup>th</sup> January 1946, p1.

<sup>60</sup> Daily Advertiser. 9<sup>th</sup> January 1953, p2.





Above: Extract of plan from DP.719746, showing footprint of the Pavilion motel, with the boundaries of the original allotments superimposed. Courtesy Wagga Wagga City Council. Intramaps.



Above: 26-30 Kincaid Street in 2006.

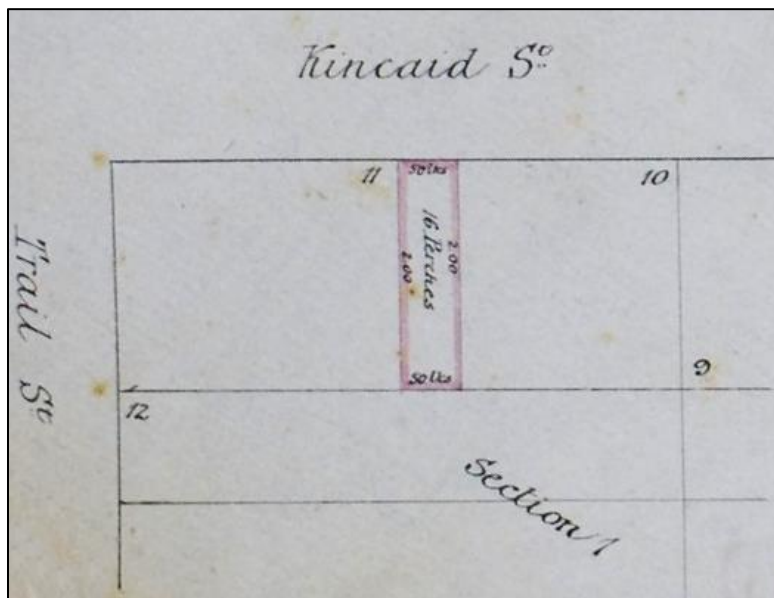


## Allotment 10

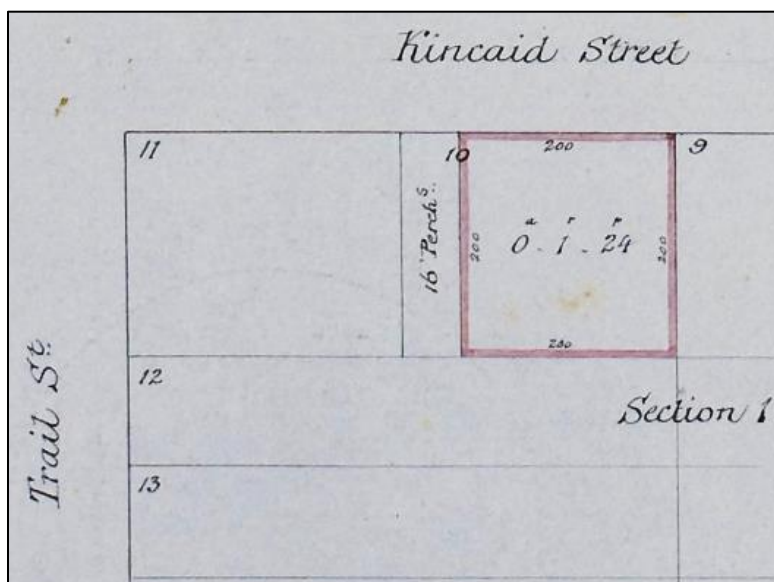
Allotment 10 was originally purchased from the Crown by Henry Wallis on the 1<sup>st</sup> November 1851.<sup>61</sup>

In December 1863 George Forsyth became the legal owner of allotment 10, which had an area of two roods.<sup>62</sup>

On the 15<sup>th</sup> December 1863, George Forsyth transferred a part of allotment 10 to John Oxley Norton, of Hartley, and Francis Cox, of Mudgee, for the sum of twelve pounds.<sup>63</sup> This was a thin slice of allotment 10 that lay along its western boundary. In September 1868 Norton and Cox transferred the land back to George Forsyth.<sup>64</sup>



**Left:** The small sliver of allotment 10 that was conveyed to Norton & Cox in 1863. Courtesy NSW Land Registry.



Forsyth retained the residue of allotment 10.<sup>65</sup>

**Left:** The residue of allotment 10 held by George Forsyth in 1864. Courtesy NSW Land Registry.

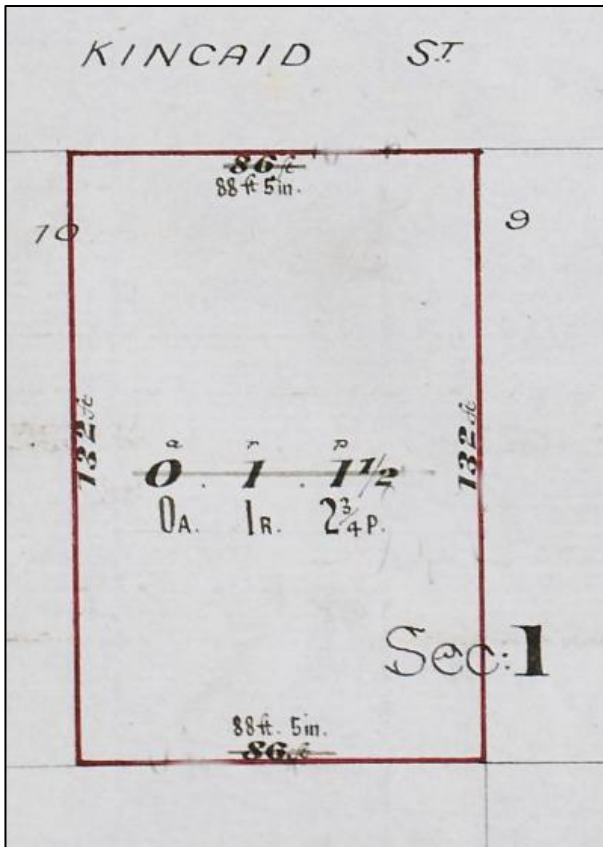
<sup>61</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 2, folio 92. [Year 1851, page 78]

<sup>62</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 2, folio 92.

<sup>63</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 2, folio 92.

<sup>64</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 3, folio 54. / Volume 74, folio 152.

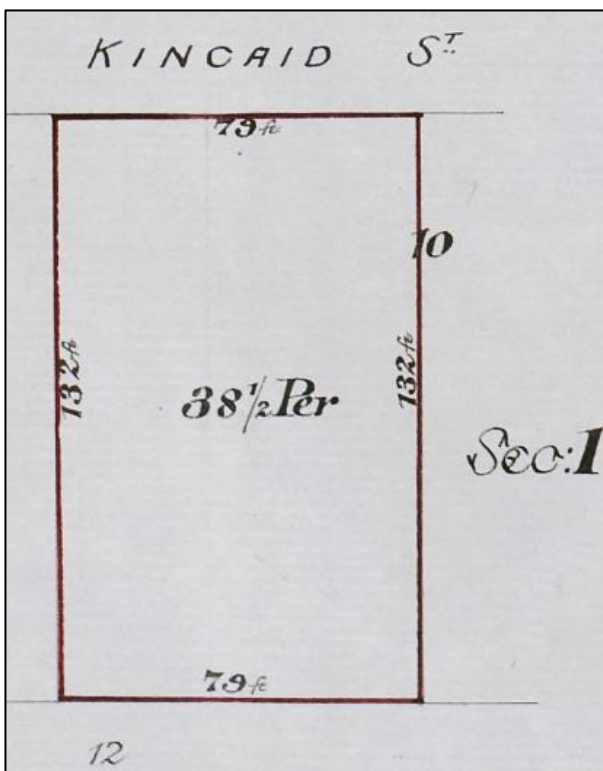
<sup>65</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 3, folio 62.



On the 5<sup>th</sup> May 1874 Forsyth sold a part of this holding to John Cox, a grazier of Mangoplah.<sup>66</sup> This constituted just over half of the original area of allotment 10, and was the eastern portion of said allotment.<sup>67</sup>

The western half of this lot is where Westoe Cottage stood. {See next page for continued history. "**Allotment 10 – Eastern portion, adjoining Allotment 9.**"}

**Left:** The part of allotment 10 purchased by John Cox in 1874. Courtesy NSW Land Registry.



George Forsyth retained the residue of allotment 10. This was the western section of allotment 10 and included the small sliver that had previously been sold to Norton & Cox in 1863..<sup>68</sup>

**Left:** The residue of allotment 10 held by George Forsyth in 1874. Courtesy NSW Land Registry.

On the 8<sup>th</sup> October 1880, George Forsyth conveyed this holding to the Australian Joint Stock Bank.<sup>69</sup> [For subsequent history see page 31 onwards]

<sup>66</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 3, folio 62.

<sup>67</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 182, folio 147.

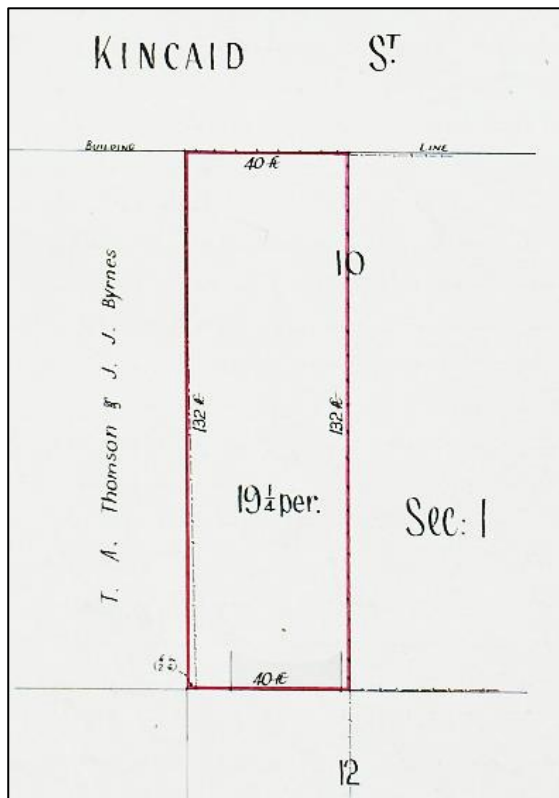
<sup>68</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 182, folio 148.

<sup>69</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 182, folio 148.

## Allotment 10 – Eastern portion, adjoining Allotment 9

On the 24th March 1876 John Cox conveyed the eastern half of allotment 10 to John Gordon, of Melbourne.<sup>70</sup>

On the 11th May 1899 Samuel Gordon, a grazier of Tumut, became the legal owner, by transmission.<sup>71</sup>



On the 22nd May 1899 Samuel Gordon conveyed a part of his holding to William Orr, of Wagga Wagga.<sup>72</sup>

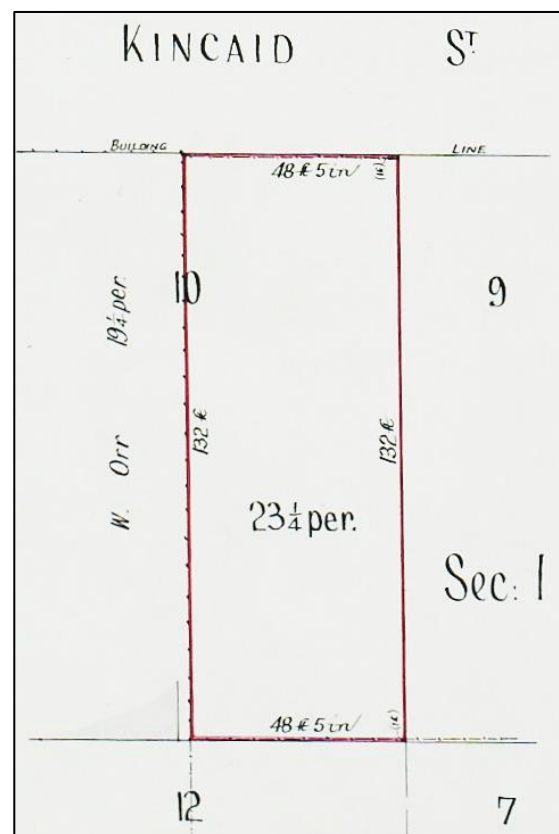
**Left:** The portion of allotment 10 transferred to William Orr in 1899.<sup>73</sup> This would be united with parts of allotments 12 and 13 to create a strip of land 40 feet wide fronting onto Kincaid Street and extending back to the south. This was the block of land on which the Westoe Cottage stood. Courtesy NSW Land Registry Services. [See page 33 for continued history of this piece of land]

**Right:** The piece of allotment 10 retained by Samuel Gordon. Courtesy NSW Land Registry Services.

On the 13<sup>th</sup> September 1907, Samuel Gordon conveyed this piece of land to Edward Easter Collins.<sup>74</sup>

Edward Easter Collins passed away on the 8<sup>th</sup> April 1936, at his residence, in Manly.<sup>75</sup>

In October 1937 the Perpetual Trustee Company became the legal owner by means of a transmission.



<sup>70</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 182, folio 147.

<sup>71</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 182, folio 147.

<sup>72</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 182, folio 147.

<sup>73</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 1808, folio 182.

<sup>74</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 1808, folio 183.

<sup>75</sup> Daily Advertiser. 8<sup>th</sup> April 1936, p4.

On the 1<sup>st</sup> September 1942 the Perpetual Trustee Company conveyed the property to Thomas W Green & Co. Pty Ltd.<sup>76</sup>

In August 1942 Green leased the property to Henry Ernest Gissing, a chemist of Wagga Wagga, Frances Henry Burns, the Town Clerk of Wagga Wagga, and William John Loader, an insurance inspector of Wagga Wagga. This lease expired in August 1951.<sup>77</sup>

### **Edward Easter Collins**

Edward Easter Collins was born at Sandhurst, Victoria, in 1866, the son of Francis Smith Collins and Emma Collins [nee Kibble].<sup>78</sup>

On the 6<sup>th</sup> April 1885, he married Emma Clayton, in Victoria.<sup>79</sup>



**Left:** Emma Collins [nee Clayton]. Courtesy Sherry Morris.



**Right:** Edward Easter Collins.

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<sup>76</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 1808, folio 183.

<sup>77</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 1808, folio 183.

<sup>78</sup> VIC BDM's. Birth registration # 17656.

<sup>79</sup> VIC BDM's. Marriage registration # 3278.

Edward Easter Collins passed away at Manly on the 8<sup>th</sup> April 1936. The following obituary appeared in the local press,<sup>80</sup>

“Mr. Collins, who was a native of Geelong (V.) Lived at Albury for some years, where he was in business. He came to Wagga 35 years ago, and for many years carried on a wool and skin selling agency at Wagga. He was noted as an authority on wool, skins, and hides, and often judged the wool section of the Wagga and other Riverina Shows. He was a member of the executive and vice-president of the old Nationalist Party of N.S.W. and at one time contested the Hume seat as a Nationalist. It was however, in his municipal activities that Mr. Collins became so well known at Wagga. He was an alderman of the Wagga Municipal Council for 25 years, during 14 of which he was Mayor of Wagga. He was a man of very strong views, but won many admirers for his straightforwardness and persistency. He was a great admirer of Wagga and the Wagga district, and did his best for Wagga and the Wagga people in anything that made for their advancement and progress. He was almost as well known in Sydney as at Wagga, for he literally haunted Government departments in search for information likely to be useful to Wagga, or in making representations for some public utility. He was very persistent in his inquiries, and would go to a lot of trouble to battle for what he considered to be Wagga's rights. Except for one or two terms eight or nine years ago, Mr. Collins has been the country representative of the municipal councils on the Board of Fire Commissioners for many years, and toured with the board on inspections all over the State. He was largely instrumental in the building of the new fire station which was erected at the Esplanade, Wagga, a few years ago. The old fire station was in the building at present known as the Soldiers' Hall. With Mrs. Collins, Mr. Collins made two trips abroad. About ten years ago they visited England, staying about eight or nine months, and last year they went to the United States on a health trip. On both occasions Mr. Collins gave interesting accounts of his experiences and impressions abroad. A lover of sport, Mr. Collins was a good Australian Rules football player in his younger days in Victoria and Albury. He also played cricket. For some years he was a member of the Wagga Bowline Club, and was also on the members' list of the Bolton Park Club. He was patron for many sporting bodies, and gave liberally to their funds, as well as to all charitable institutions in the town. Last Christmas Day was the first occasion that Mr. and Mrs. Collins had missed visiting the Wagga District Hospital with members of the Hospital Board on their annual Christmas cheer visit. When the Riverina Development League started about 10 years ago, Mr. Collins became its first president and one of its most active workers. He was a great advocate for the southern town's water supply scheme - a project which seems now near realisation. Mr. Collins was also an advocate for electricity for rural areas, and did much to assist the establishment of spur lines from the main Burrinjuck line to areas in the Wagga district. During the war, Mr. Collins was a great worker for the Wagga soldiers' organisations. A member of the old Upper House for about three years, Mr. Collins was appointed in August, 1934, to the reformed Chamber to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Ald. D. Rees. Mr. Rees had been serving on the Legislative Council since the first election of the new Chamber in May, 1933. His term was for six years, and Mr. Collins took over for the balance of the period. A new election will, of course, now be necessary. On April 17 of last year a representative gathering of citizens assembled at the Wagga Town Hall, when a

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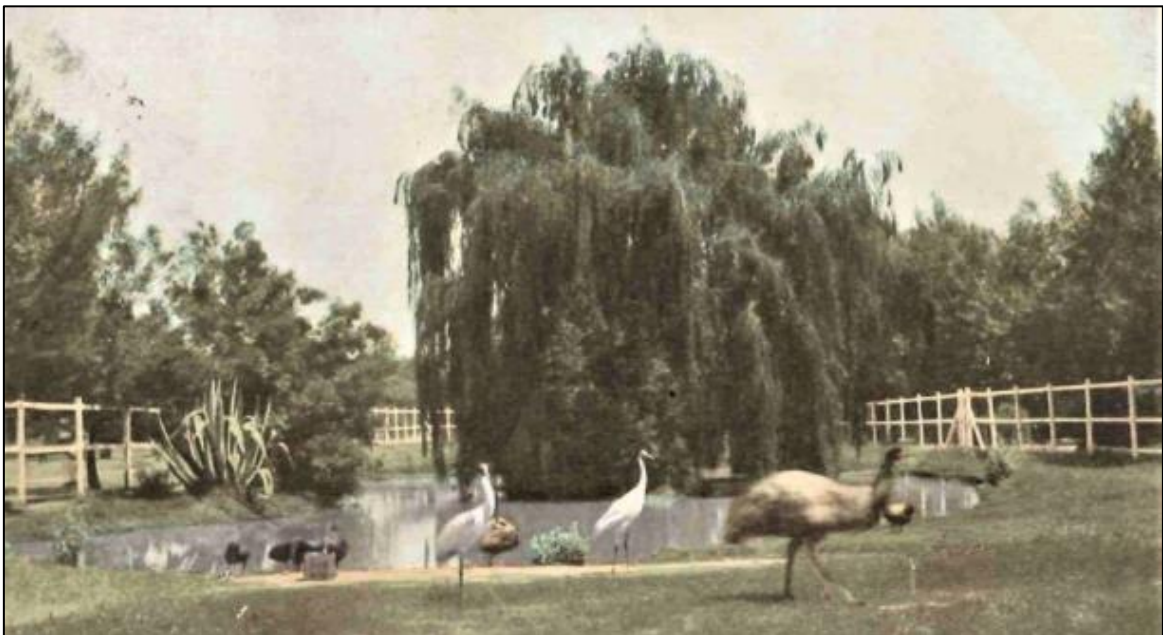
<sup>80</sup> Daily Advertiser. 8<sup>th</sup> April 1936, p4.



testimonial was given to Mr. and Mrs. Collins in recognition of their services in the civil life of the town during their long residence in Wagga. Mr. Collins was presented with a wallet of notes on behalf of the committees representing the citizens of Wagga, and Mrs. Collins was presented with a silver tea and coffee service. During the last few years Mr. Collins interested himself in other commercial activities besides his wool and skin store. He was a director of the Riverina Laundry and Dry Cleaning Co. Ltd., and was the owner of the Grand Garage, Fitzmaurice Street, which was being managed for him by Mr. P. Taylor. Mr. Collins is survived by Mrs. Collins and one son, Mr. P. G. Collins, farmer and grazier, of Humula, one daughter, Mrs. James Greer, of Terramungamine, near Dubho, and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Ald. H. H. Collins, of the Albury Municipal Council, is a brother. Towards the end of last year he went to Manly, with Mrs. Collins, and later entered hospital for treatment. After a severe illness he sufficiently recovered to leave the hospital, but last week he again became seriously ill, but remained at the flat until his death."

In April 1936 Edward Collins' ashes were deposited in what had formerly been Newtown Park, Wagga Wagga, and which was dedicated as Collins Park, in his honour, on the same occasion.<sup>81</sup>

Emma Collins [nee Clayton] passed away at 14 Greycliff Avenue, Vacluse, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1950, aged eighty six. One daughter, Mrs Stella Greer, survived her.<sup>82</sup> Two sons had predeceased her.



**Above:** Collins Park [formerly Newtown Park].

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<sup>81</sup> Wagga Wagga Express. 18<sup>th</sup> April 1936, p3.

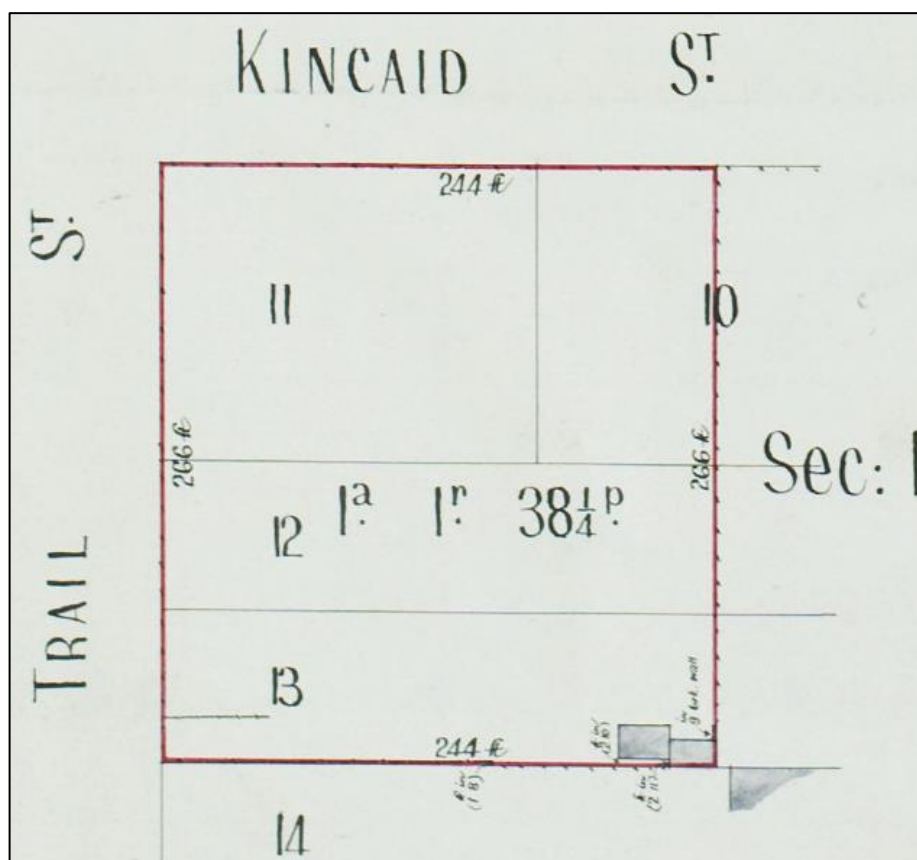
<sup>82</sup> Sydney Morning Herald. 4<sup>th</sup> September 1950, p14.

## Allotment 10

By October 1880 the AJS Bank owned the western half of allotment 10, and they combined this with all of allotment 11, and the major portions of allotments 12 and 13, to form a single title.<sup>83</sup> On the 23<sup>rd</sup> April 1888, the bank conveyed all of this holding to William Orr, a civil engineer of Wagga Wagga.<sup>84</sup>

In January 1902, Gilbert William Orr, a licensed surveyor, and Agnes Orr, a spinster of Bathurst, became the legal owners of the property by means of a transmission.<sup>85</sup> Agnes had already agreed to sell her share to Gilbert, and this transaction was made in October 1901.

On the 22<sup>nd</sup> November 1906, Gilbert Orr conveyed the holdings to Thomas Austin Thomson and John Joseph Byrnes, as tenants in common.<sup>86</sup>



**Left:** The land owned by Thomson & Byrnes in 1906. Courtesy NSW Land Registry Services.

Thomson and Byrnes owned other land in section 1, and on the 17<sup>th</sup> January 1907 the two men subdivided their holdings to create seven new lots.<sup>87</sup>

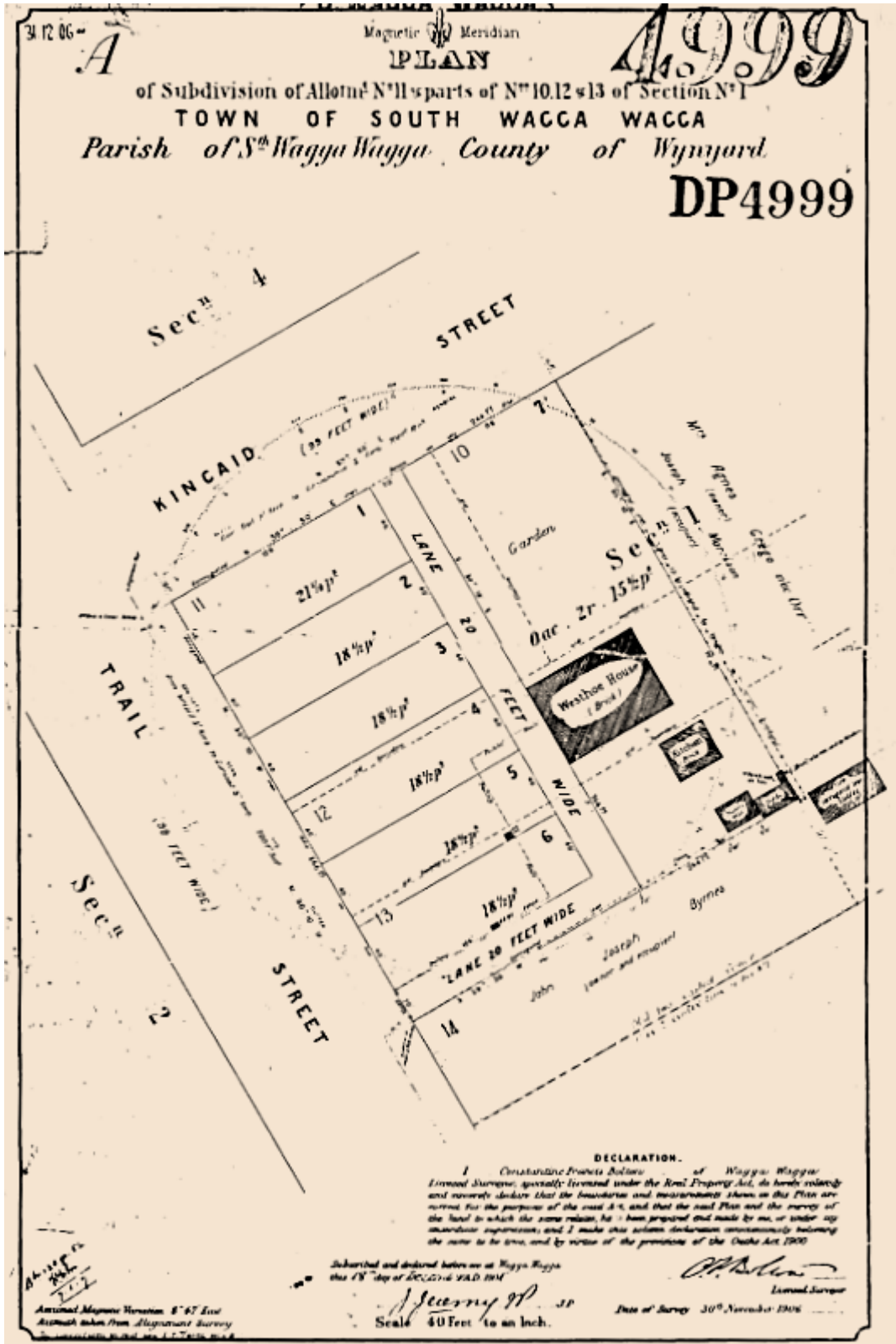
<sup>83</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 512, folio 208.

<sup>84</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 512, folio 208.

<sup>85</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 512, folio 208.

<sup>86</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 1793, folios 156 & 157.

<sup>87</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 1793, folios 156 & 157. / Deposited Plan 4999.



Above: Deposited Plan 4999, showing the seven lots created. Westoe was located within lot 7. A lane way ran through the blocks now. Courtesy Wagga Wagga City Council. Intramaps.

The history of lots 1 to 6 is not researched past this point.

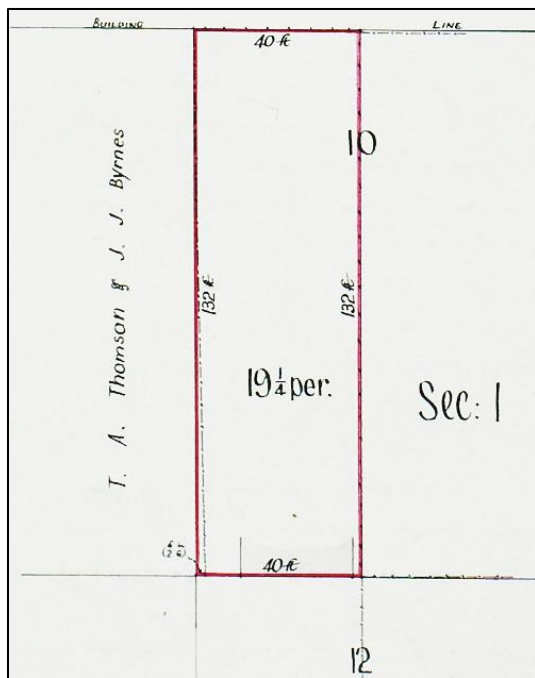


## Back to George Forsyth

George Forsyth held the balance of allotment 10, which now had an area of one rood plus one and a half perches.<sup>88</sup> In June 1874 he sold this lot to John Cox. On the 24<sup>th</sup> March 1876, John Cox conveyed the lot to John Gordon, Esquire, of Melbourne.<sup>89</sup>

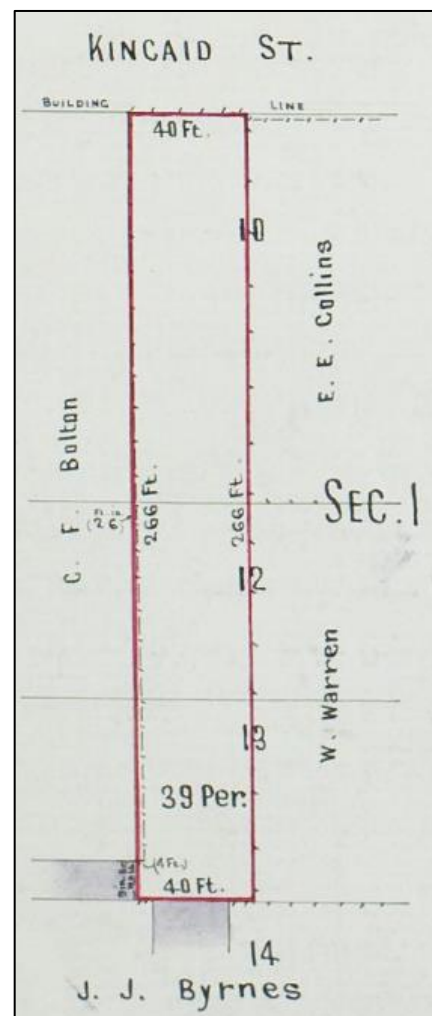
On the 11<sup>th</sup> May 1899, Samuel Gordon, a grazier of Tumut, became the legal owner, by means of a transmission.<sup>90</sup> Samuel immediately on sold a piece of the property to William Orr, esquire, of Wagga Wagga.<sup>91</sup>

Samuel Gordon retained a larger portion, which he subsequently sold to Edward Easter Collins, a wool and hide merchant of Wagga Wagga, on the 13<sup>th</sup> September 1907.



**Left:** The piece of allotment 10 purchased by William Orr in 1899. Courtesy NSW Land Registry Services.

**Right:** The strip of land owned by Gilbert and Norman Orr in 1909.



In January 1909, Gilbert William Orr, a staff surveyor at Bathurst, and Norman Sydney Orr, a draughtsman of Sydney, became the legal owners of this property by means of a transmission.<sup>92</sup>

The two brothers combined this with other land they owned to form a block that ran back through allotments 12 and 13 to create a block with an area of thirty nine perches, a frontage of forty feet, to Kincaid Street, and a depth of 266 feet.<sup>93</sup> The property remained with the two men until May 1942, when the property was transferred to the Union Trustee Company of Australia. The trust was designed to preserve their sister's [Agnes'] right in the property.

<sup>88</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 182, folio 147.

<sup>89</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 182, folio 147.

<sup>90</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 182, folio 147.

<sup>91</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 182, folio 147. / Volume 1808, folio 182.

<sup>92</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 1808, folio 182.

<sup>93</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 1987, folio 18.

## William Edward Orr

William Edward Orr was born at Sydney on the 6<sup>th</sup> March 1846,<sup>94</sup> the son of William Orr and Janet Orr [nee Blair].

On the 15<sup>th</sup> September 1870 he married Mary Danks, at Sydney, in the Wesleyan Church, York Street.<sup>95</sup>

William and Mary had seven children:

1. Gilbert William Orr [1871<sup>96</sup>-1960<sup>97</sup>]
2. Mary Orr [1873<sup>98</sup>-1878<sup>99</sup>]
3. Norman Orr [1874<sup>100</sup>-1949<sup>101</sup>]
4. Agnes Orr [1876<sup>102</sup>-1955]. Married William Henry Crago at Bathurst in 1903.
5. Daisy Orr [1877<sup>103</sup>-1879]
6. Baby Orr [1880<sup>104</sup>-1880]
7. Hessel Orr [1882-1955<sup>105</sup>].

Mary Orr [nee Danks] passed away, at *Westhoe*, Wagga Wagga, on the 24<sup>th</sup> August 1896,<sup>106</sup> aged forty seven. She was well known for her works with St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, where she had been the organist for a number of years. She was also one of the original founders of the Wagga Wagga branch of the Young Women's Christian Association.<sup>107</sup>

On the 28<sup>th</sup> April 1901, William Edward Orr suffered a stroke while returning home [Westoe] from the Presbyterian Church, and subsequently passed away at Wagga Wagga on the 6<sup>th</sup> May 1901. An obituary provided a detailed account of his life,<sup>108</sup>

“Deceased was a very old resident of the Riverina. He was born in Sydney 55 years ago, and received part of his education at the Sydney Grammar School. His connection with the public service was long and meritorious. He first joined the Harbours and Rivers branch of the Public Works Department, and while there passed his examination for licensed Surveyorship. Between 1875 and 1879 he removed to the Urana district, where he carried out surveys on fees as a licensed surveyor and was subsequently appointed Acting District Surveyor at Deniliquin. In 1885, after some years' connection with the Wagga district, he was appointed District Surveyor at Wilcannia, and remained there two years. His next appointment was as District Surveyor at Hay, where he remained from June until December, 1887, being then

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<sup>94</sup> NSW BDM's. Birth registration # 5867/1846 V18465867 45C or 826/1846 V1846826 48.

<sup>95</sup> NSW BDM's. Marriage registration # 863.

<sup>96</sup> NSW BDM's. Birth registration # 4415.

<sup>97</sup> NSW BDM's. Death registration # 30109.

<sup>98</sup> NSW BDM's. Birth registration # 19793. / Wagga Wagga Express. 17<sup>th</sup> May 1873, p2.

<sup>99</sup> NSW BDM's. Death registration # 10021.

<sup>100</sup> NSW BDM's. Birth registration # 20501.

<sup>101</sup> NSW BDM's. Death registration # 6953.

<sup>102</sup> NSW BDM's. Birth registration # 21412.

<sup>103</sup> NSW BDM's. Birth registration # 21876. / Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 28<sup>th</sup> July 1877, p2.

<sup>104</sup> NSW BDM's. Birth registration # 13198.

<sup>105</sup> NSW BDM's. Death registration # 7330.

<sup>106</sup> NSW BDM's. Death registration # 11837. / Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 25<sup>th</sup> August 1896, p2.

<sup>107</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 25<sup>th</sup> August 1896, p2.

<sup>108</sup> Wagga Wagga Express. 7<sup>th</sup> May 1901, p3. / NSW BDM's. Death registration # 7316.

transferred to the position of District Surveyor at Wagga. The deceased was always a hard worker, and seems to have found his way into whatever place the work, was thickest. The work devolving upon the District Surveyor at Wagga has always been recognised as the heaviest of all the district survey offices, and the manifold new classes of settlement introduced under the existing Land Acts, taken in conjunction with the pre-eminence of the Riverine district for the purpose of such settlement, greatly increased the work. This necessitated Mr. Orr's untiring exertions both day and night, and the strain was so great that his health broke down in 1898, and acting on the advice of his medical attendant, Dr. Warren, he obtained six months' leave of absence, and visited England and Scotland, sailing from Sydney in the H.M.S. Victoria in March of that year. The tour thoroughly restored Mr. Orr to health, but the severe strain on his powers since his return renewed the trouble in an aggravated form, and caused the formation of a clot of blood on the brain, which brought on the paralysis which ended in his death. The late Mr. Orr married at Sydney, in 1870, Miss Danks, who predeceased him by nearly four years. Four children survive him, viz., Gilbert W. Orr, staff surveyor at Bathurst; Mr. Norman Orr, a member of the survey staff at Wagga; Mr. Hess, and Miss Orr. In private life he was somewhat retiring so far as his appearance before the public was concerned. He, however, took great interest in all movements in the town. He was a prominent member of the Masonic Lodge, and shared with Mr. John M'Intosh the honor of being the oldest member of Lodge Harmony. He held the offices of secretary of the Lodge, Worshipful Master, Immediate Past Master, and Past District Grand Inspector of Workings, these offices conferring the style Very Worshipful upon him. He was also an active worker in connection with St. Andrew's (Presbyterian) Church, in which he was an Elder and Clerk of the Kirk Session. To the majority of field sports he gave liberal and active support, being president of football and cricket clubs and of the Cycling Club. Yesterday week he was chosen by a unanimous vote of the members as first president of the Wagga Branch of the Australian Natives' Association, in the formation of which he took a deep interest and an active part. He was a liberal donor in the cause of charity and the church, to which he made it a practice of distributing one-tenth of his annual income, which was reputed to be large. He disliked ostentatiousness in connection with whatever he gave, and large numbers of people have good cause to remember his for assisting them substantially in times of difficulty. He was probably the most generous giver in the district, but at the same time very few knew the extent of his generosity. He was an ardent lover and follower of field sports, and rendered substantial monetary assistance in promoting healthy sport by giving prize money. His funeral is timed to leave 'Westhoe,' Kincaid-street, at 3 o'clock this afternoon. The deceased will be accorded a Masonic funeral, and an advertisement in this issue requests members of the Order to assemble at the Oddfellows' Hall at 2.30 p.m. A lodge of sorrow will be held, after which members will march to 'Westhoe.' The Masonic funeral service will take place at the grave, W.M. Bro. T. Watkins Burgess officiating. The pallbearers will be: W.M., Bro. T. Watkins Burgess, I. P.M., Wor. Bro. W. J. Daley, Bro. E. Bellair, and Bro. A. Lewis; members who will, carry the coffin are Wor. Bro. W. UB. Morison, Wor. Bro. H. B. Jefferson, Wor. Bro. C. E. Layh, and Wor. Bro. H. D. Cox. The remains will be interred in the Presbyterian portion of the cemetery, and Rev. Chas. Bell, who is on a visit to Melbourne, will arrive at Wagga this morning in order to conduct the service."

## **Agnes Crago**

Agnes Orr was born on the 4<sup>th</sup> April 1876, at Wagga Wagga.<sup>109</sup>

In 1903, Agnes married William Henry Crago, at Bathurst.<sup>110</sup> Between 1905 and 1912, the couple had three children.

In 1920 Agnes filed for divorce, from her husband, William Henry Crago, a flour miller of Bathurst, "*on the ground of misconduct with Nancy Gough, at Lismore and Grafton in September 1919.*" The judge accepted evidence that William had stayed in a hotel room at Lismore, with Nancy Gough, but registered as Mr & Mrs Crago. The court issued a decree nisi.<sup>111</sup> Agnes testified that their marriage was a happy affair initially, but that her husband's drinking habits, and his eye for other women, brought about an end to their relationship. Agnes had gone to Double Bay, for a period of fifteen months, during which time Nancy Gough had been the housekeeper at the family home in Bathurst. On her return Agnes became suspicious of the pair and ordered Gough out of the house. William Crago subsequently spent time with Gough at Lismore.<sup>112</sup> The decree became absolute a year later.<sup>113</sup>

An order of the court was that Agnes was to be paid the sum of twelve pounds per week, until the time she died, or until she remarried. When William Henry Crago passed away in 1933, his second wife, Eva Crago, took the matter to court where it was ruled that the payment was to be continued by the trustees of William's estate.<sup>114</sup>

Agnes' two brothers had done well to protect her interest in the property at Wagga Wagga.

Agnes Crago [nee Orr] passed away on the 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1955,<sup>115</sup> at Potts Point.

In July 1950 The Union Trustee Company of Australia conveyed the land to Linda Roberts Grinton [nee Morrison], the wife of Norman William Grinton, a clerk of Wagga Wagga.<sup>116</sup>

On the 1<sup>st</sup> March 1983, Norma Alwine Schultz, and Robert James Grinton became the legal owners, as tenants in common.<sup>117</sup>

On the 26<sup>th</sup> September 1989 Harold Glenmore Schultz and Norma Alwine Schultz became the legal owners.<sup>118</sup>

The title was subsequently converted to a computer folio.

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<sup>109</sup> NSW BDM's. Birth registration # 21412.

<sup>110</sup> NSW BDM's. Marriage registration # 8036.

<sup>111</sup> Northern Star. 11<sup>th</sup> September 1920, p5.

<sup>112</sup> The Sun. 10<sup>th</sup> September 1920, p3. / Evening News. 10<sup>th</sup> September 1920, p3. / Daily Telegraph. 10<sup>th</sup> September 1920, p8.

<sup>113</sup> Sydney Morning Herald. 15<sup>th</sup> September 1921, p6.

<sup>114</sup> Sydney Morning Herald. 24<sup>th</sup> June 1933, p10.

<sup>115</sup> NSW BDM's. Death registration # 17569. / NSW Government Gazette. 27<sup>th</sup> January 1956, p230.

<sup>116</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 1987, folio 18.

<sup>117</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 1987, folio 18.

<sup>118</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 1987, folio 18.



## **The Morrison and Grinton Families**

### **Joseph Morrison**

Linda's father, Joseph Morrison, passed away on the 10<sup>th</sup> January 1934, at his residence, 32 Kincaid Street. The following excerpts are taken from an obituary in the local press,<sup>119</sup>

“The death yesterday of Mr. Joseph Morrison, of 32 Kincaid Street, Wagga at the age of 76 years, removes a very old identity of Wagga with 50 years' residence. Mr. Morrison was born at Eldorada, near Adelaide (S.A.) on August 1, 1857. Serving his apprenticeship in the watchmaking trade under the noted Turret clock maker, Mr. J. Goodwin, of Melbourne, he opened up in business as a watch maker and jeweller in Beechworth at a very early age. Coming to Wagga in 1884 he again began business in the old Tichbourne buildings in Gurwood Street, and followed his occupation until recent years when failing health compelled him to relinquish his connections. For 20 years he was the official in charge of the Wagga town clock. His active association with the many public bodies, the most prominent being the Eight Hour Association as president, the M.U.I.O.O.F. the Ancient Order of Foresters, in which he occupied all officers, and, most actively of all, with the Wagga Fire Brigade in which he held rank of captain for a number of years, earned for him many lasting friendships. He is survived by his widow, two sons, and five daughters, Mr. J. E. Morrison, of Hamilton, Mr. E. I. Morrison, of Wagga, Mrs. E. I. McKenzie, of North Sydney, Mrs. S. J. Heathwood, of Albury, Mrs. S. Dodwell of Tarcutta road, Mrs. S. Owens, Wagga, and Mrs. N. W. Grinton, of Wagga. Three daughters predeceased him. The funeral will leave from the residence in Kincaid Street, at 11 o'clock this morning for interment in the Church of England division of the Wagga cemetery. Members of the Loyal Southern Star Lodge, No. 29 M.U.I.O.O.F. are invited to attend the funeral.”

Linda's mum, Alwine, passed away on the 26<sup>th</sup> October 1952, at Wagga Wagga.<sup>120</sup> Alwine was still residing at 32 Kincaid Street, at the time of her death.

### **Linda Roberts Morrison**

Linda Roberts Morrison was born on the 16<sup>th</sup> January 1900, at Wagga Wagga.<sup>121</sup> She was the youngest daughter of Joseph Morrison and Alwina Johanna Morrison [nee Jager], and the ninth of ten children.

Linda Roberts Morrison was born in the house at 32 Kincaid Street, where she lived for all of her life. An article in 1970 quoted Mrs Grinton as claiming her home, 32 Kincaid Street, had been a hospital in 1864-65, and before that it had been the Royal hotel. Neither of these statements is correct.<sup>122</sup>

Mrs Grinton claimed that it was her father, Joseph Morrison, who constructed the brick building [at 32 Kincaid Street], as an addition to an earlier existing slab and bark building.<sup>123</sup> This too is incorrect.

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<sup>119</sup> Daily Advertiser. 11<sup>th</sup> January 1934, p4.

<sup>120</sup> Daily Advertiser. 27<sup>th</sup> October 1952, p3. / NSW BDM's. Death registration # 32733.

<sup>121</sup> NSW BDM's. Birth registration # 8058.

<sup>122</sup> Daily Advertiser. 10<sup>th</sup> March 1970, p14.

<sup>123</sup> Daily Advertiser. 10<sup>th</sup> March 1970, p14.

Linda, or Bobbie as she was known, married Norman William Grinton, in St John's Church, at Wagga Wagga, on the 21<sup>st</sup> April 1924.<sup>124</sup> Norman was the youngest son of Mr & Mrs James Grinton of Marrickville.<sup>125</sup>

Linda worked for various charities throughout her life. In 1970 she was the vice-president of the Red Cross., and an active member of the Wagga Women's Bowling Club.<sup>126</sup>

Linda Roberts Grinton [nee Morrison] passed away on the 1<sup>st</sup> October 1982, at the age of eighty two.<sup>127</sup>

### **Norman William Grinton**

Norman William Grinton was born on the 3<sup>rd</sup> March 1899, at Newtown [Sydney].<sup>128</sup> He was the youngest son of James Grinton and Margaret Jane Grinton [nee Armstrong].

Norman was an original bearer for the Wagga Ambulance, and in 1970 he was the only surviving holder of that position. He was, in 1970, one of only two surviving life members of the Wagga Base Hospital. At one time, commencing around 1919, he worked for the Daily Advertiser, for a period of some six years.<sup>129</sup> After leaving the Daily Advertiser he worked for the Wagga Wagga Municipal Council [later the City Council] up until 1964.

Norman was involved with a wide variety of community groups and political groups. In the 1920's, while working at the Daily Advertiser, he was instrumental in establishing Lodge Kurrajong , no.536, a division of the Druids, which was an early form of community insurance that provided sick pay.<sup>130</sup> He was the secretary of the Wagga Wagga branch of the Country Party.<sup>131</sup>

In 1930 Norman was made a life governor of the Royal Victorian Institute for the Blind, that being its highest honour.<sup>132</sup>

In 1938 Norman was elected president of the Wagga Apex Club.<sup>133</sup>

In 1946 Norman was elected honorary secretary and treasurer of the newly formed Wagga Wagga & District Historical Society and it was he who did much of the work in organising the collection and storage of historical material, at the Council Chambers.<sup>134</sup>

Norman was a clerk with the Wagga Council, but rose to the position of assistant Town Clerk [Chief Clerk], and on several occasions fulfilled the role of acting Town Clerk. He was secretary to numerous community groups and events.

Norman was a member of the RAAF during WW2, and it is believed his primary involvement centred on the Air Training Corp established at Wagga Wagga in 1942.<sup>135</sup>

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<sup>124</sup> NSW BDM's. Marriage registration # 9195.

<sup>125</sup> Daily Advertiser. 22<sup>nd</sup> April 1924, p2.

<sup>126</sup> Daily Advertiser. 10<sup>th</sup> March 1970, p14.

<sup>127</sup> Daily Advertiser. 2<sup>nd</sup> October 1982, p24.

<sup>128</sup> NSW BDM's. Birth registration # 14434.

<sup>129</sup> Daily Advertiser. 10<sup>th</sup> March 1970, p14.

<sup>130</sup> Daily Advertiser. 7<sup>th</sup> December 1921, p3.

<sup>131</sup> Daily Advertiser. 19<sup>th</sup> May 1927, p2.

<sup>132</sup> Daily Advertiser. 4<sup>th</sup> August 1930, p2.

<sup>133</sup> Daily Advertiser. 17<sup>th</sup> August 1938, p4.

<sup>134</sup> Geoff Burch. WWDHS. 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – September 2012. p4.

<sup>135</sup> Daily Advertiser. 14<sup>th</sup> April 1942, p2. / WW2 Service Records. SERN 4869. [National Archives of Australia]



**Above:** The Grinton family. Back Row [Standing, L to R]: Otto Charles Grinton, Elsie Marguerite Grinton, and James Park Grinton. Seated on chairs: Margaret Grinton [nee Armstrong] and James Grinton. Sitting on ground: Norman William Grinton. Courtesy kandrdaffey [ancestry.com]

Norman's father, James Grinton, passed away on the 28<sup>th</sup> September 1935. The following brief obituary appeared in the local Wagga Wagga press,<sup>136</sup>

"The death occurred on Saturday at his residence, 39 Excelsior-parade, Marrickville, Sydney, of James Grinton, in his 84th year. Mr. Grinton, who was an engineer, was the overseas representative for Crossley Bros. The Otto gas engine was his invention. The illness which led to his death was the first serious illness of his life. He leaves a widow, three sons and one daughter, one of the sons being Mr. Norman Grinton, assistant town clerk, Wagga."

Norman's mother, Margaret Jane Grinton [nee Armstrong] passed away at a private hospital in Marrickville, on the 12<sup>th</sup> August 1946. She was survived by her three sons, and her daughter, Mrs Elsie Penprase. All of her children, with the exception of Norman, resided in Sydney.

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<sup>136</sup> Daily Advertiser. 30<sup>th</sup> September 1935, p2.



Norman William Grinton, of 32 Kincaid Street, Wagga Wagga, passed away on the 11<sup>th</sup> October 1980, aged eighty one.<sup>137</sup> He was survived by his wife, Linda [Bobbie], his daughter, Norma [Noni Schultz], and his son, Robert – all of Wagga Wagga.

**Left:** Mr Norm Grinton – Honorary Secretary/Treasurer of the 1946 WWHS. Photo courtesy Robert & Mavis Grinton.

Norman and Bobbie had two children, Robert and Norma Alwine [Nonie].



**Norma Alwine Grinton**

Norma [Nonie] Alwine Grinton was born on the 13<sup>th</sup> August 1926, at Wagga Wagga. In 1950 she married Harold Glenmore Schultz, in St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, at Wagga Wagga.<sup>138</sup>

**Left:** Wedding photo of Norma Grinton and Harold Glenmore Schultz. Courtesy Daily Advertiser. Colour enhanced courtesy My Heritage.

Noni Schultz [nee Grinton] passed away on the 17<sup>th</sup> July 2004, at Wagga Wagga.<sup>139</sup> Harold had predeceased her, on the 27<sup>th</sup> June 2003.<sup>140</sup>

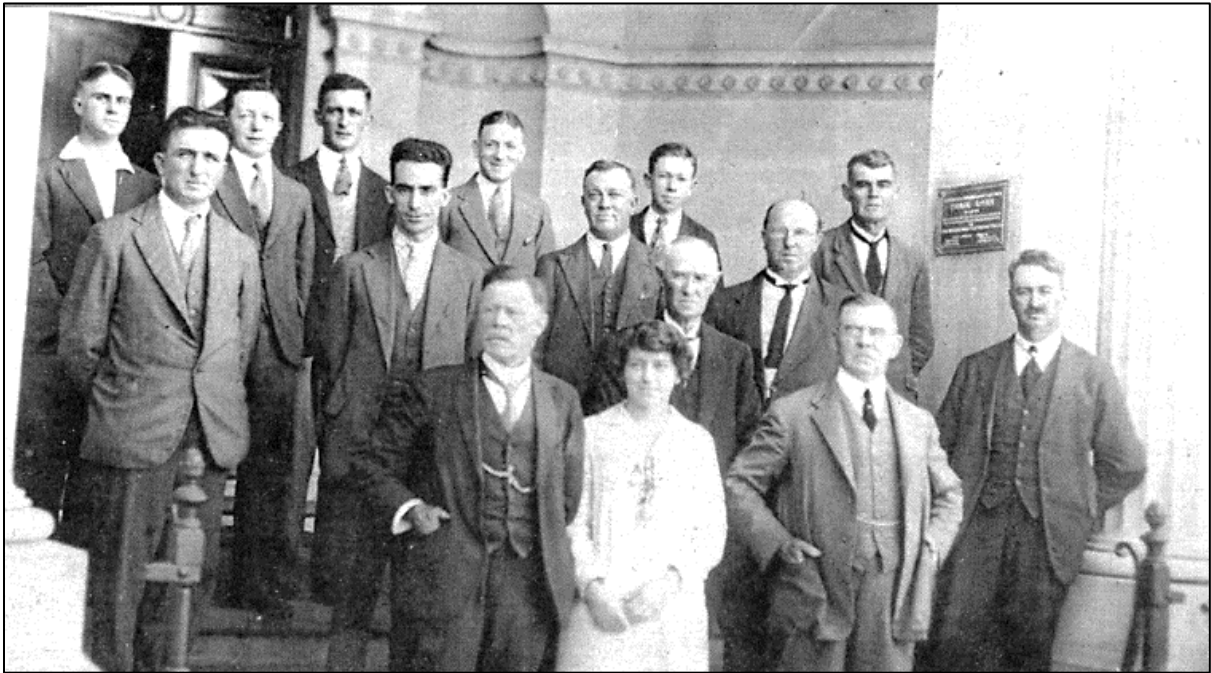
<sup>137</sup> Daily Advertiser. 13<sup>th</sup> October 1980, p10 & p20.

<sup>138</sup> NSW BDM's. Marriage registration # 20321. / Daily Advertiser. 23<sup>rd</sup> September 1950, p3.

<sup>139</sup> Wagga Wagga Cemetery records.

<sup>140</sup> Wagga Wagga Cemetery records.





**Above:** Wagga Wagga Municipal Council staff on the steps of the old council chambers, in 1927. The fifth person from the left is Norman Grinton. The mayor, Alderman EE Collins, is front right. The youngest person in the back row is Eric Williams who retired as Deputy Town Clerk, in 1974, to be succeeded by Brian Andrews. The 4<sup>th</sup> person from the right is Danny Lewis, the Chief Health Inspector, who was succeeded by his deputy, Barry Hale. Courtesy Sherry Morris collection.

### Robert Grinton

Robert James Grinton was born about 1932, and passed away at Calvary Hospital on the 4<sup>th</sup> July 2020, aged eighty eight.

He was survived by his wife, Mavis Carmel Grinton [nee Jamieson], who he married in 1960, at Wagga Wagga.<sup>141</sup>

### 32 Kincaid Street

32 Kincaid Street was the location of Westoe Cottage, which was later the home of Norman William Grinton and his family. The old house [Westoe Cottage] was demolished around 2006.

### Westoe Cottage

The earliest reference found to a house on allotment 10, was dated 1876, at which time Charles Jackson was listed as the occupant.<sup>142</sup> Jackson was either an employee of George Forsyth, or had leased the Fitzmaurice Street Store. It is suspected that the cottage building could have been there a year or two earlier.

**Sales by Auction.**  
**Thursday Next, 15th May.**

**VERY SUPERIOR**  
**HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE.**

**WILKINSON, MINCHIN, and**  
**LAVENDER** have received in-  
structions from Mr. J. E. Jackson (Geo.  
Forsyth and Co.), who is leaving the district  
for a time, to offer by public auction, on  
Thursday, 15th May, at his residence, Kin-  
caid-street, next to Westoe House,

**The Whole of his VALUABLE AND**  
**WELL-SELECTED HOUSEHOLD**  
**FURNITURE, equal to anything**  
**submitted for a considerable time.**

**Also,**  
**Milking Cows**  
**Horses, Saddlery, &c.**  
**Imported, Game, and other Fowls.**

Charles Jackson vacated the cottage in May 1879, in preparation for a planned move from Wagga Wagga.<sup>143</sup>

**Left:** Notice of Jackson's sale in 1879.

When William Orr purchased this house and land in 1899 he insured it against fire. The policy [# 97147] covered the main building [insured for £160], and the adjoining kitchen [insured for £90]. Both premises were described as brick buildings with iron roofs. The policy was renewed each year, up until 1907, and probably onwards from that date. In 1899 the occupant of the house was Joseph Morrison, and the house was always occupied by him, or his descendants up until the late 20<sup>th</sup> century, or early 21<sup>st</sup> century.<sup>144</sup>

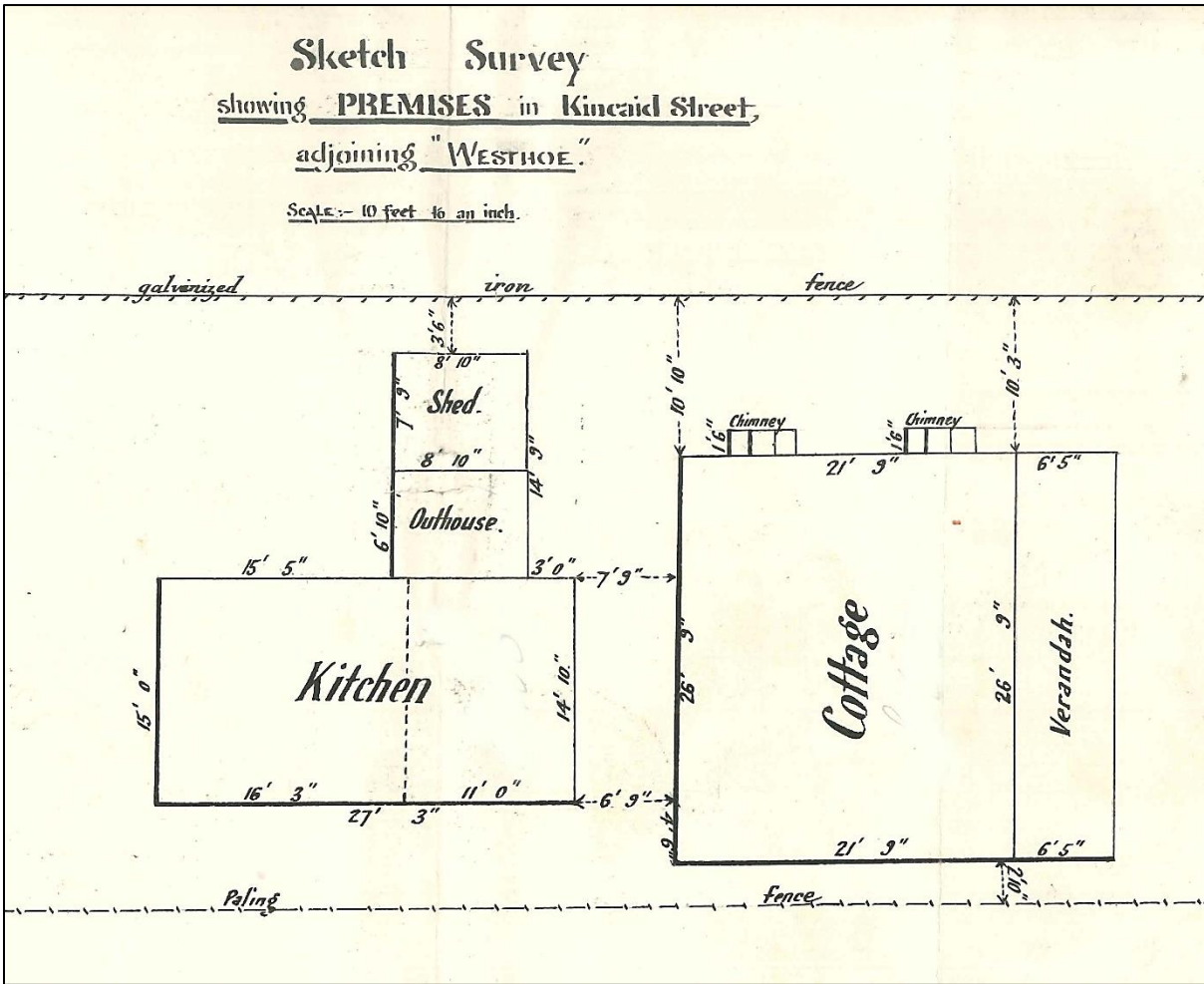
It appears that Agnes Crago owned the building up until 1950, but it continued to be occupied by Joseph Morrison. The Wagga Wagga rate books record Joseph as the occupant from 1929 through till 1934, but from 1935 till 1937, Mrs Alwine Johanna Morrison was listed as the occupant. Agnes Crago was listed as the owner from 1938 till 1949, but it is clear the property was let out to the Morrison family for all of this period.

<sup>141</sup> NSW BDM's. Marriage registration # 11316.

<sup>142</sup> Wagga Wagga Rate Books: 1870-1907. CSU Regional Archives.

<sup>143</sup> Wagga Wagga Express. 10<sup>th</sup> May 1879, p5.

<sup>144</sup> CSU Regional Archives. William Orr papers. [RW1056/94]



**Above:** A plan showing the footprint of the Westhoe Cottage and adjoining kitchen. The verandah on the right faced onto Kincaid Street. Courtesy CSU Regional Archives. [RW1056/103].



**Above:** 32 Kincaid Street in 2019, post the demolition of the Grinton home. Courtesy Google Maps.





**Above:** Front view, Grinton's old home in December 2003. Courtesy Wagga Wagga City Library. Local History Photograph Collection.



**Above:** Side view, Grinton's old home in December 2003. Courtesy Wagga Wagga City Library. Local History Photograph Collection.





**Above:** The old cottage [Grinton home] at 32 Kincaid Street, lit up for Xmas.



**Above:** Mr & Mrs Norm Grinton seated in front of their Kincaid Street home, in 1970.

## Allotment 12

The original grant for allotment 12 was to John Peter on the 17<sup>th</sup> October 1855.<sup>145</sup>

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> May 1857 John Peter, esquire of Wagga Wagga, conveyed the property to Thomas Fox, a licensed victualler of Wagga wagga, for the sum of fifty five pounds.<sup>146</sup> [The deed does not refer to a specific building, but recognises that the purchaser has the right to any houses, associated structures and rents etc. The deed suggests that there were buildings on the property, but the price suggests nothing lavish.]

The above title deeds do not sync with details provided in early newspaper reports.

### The Royal Hotel

In June 1853 a well know Woggarite, "Tinker" Brown was granted a license for the Royal Hotel in Trail Street, South Wagga Wagga,<sup>147</sup> which he advertised in November of that year, as "*a liberal and well conducted family hotel.*"<sup>148</sup>

This property was being advertised for sale (along with the Ferry Hotel at North Wagga Wagga) in January 1854, and was described as follows,<sup>149</sup>

*"..the Royal hotel, situated at South Wagga Wagga, and has only been built about 6 months, and is the nearest hotel to the courthouse, and is built on the highest and best allotment in the town, and is now doing a first rate business. The furniture must be taken with the house at a fair valuation, and the spirits etc, at cost price with carriage. Immediate possession can be given. Rent is £150 per annum, paid half yearly in advance."*

Brown had purchased the property, on which the Royal Hotel stood, from Thomas Fox, for the sum of twelve pounds.<sup>150</sup>

In the latter half of 1854 Brown was to be preoccupied as the plaintiff in Brown vs. Fox, at Goulburn Court. Brown contended that he had purchased the property on which his Royal Hotel now stood, being allotment 12 of section 1, in South Wagga Wagga, from Thomas Fox in May 1852, with the proviso that Fox was to deliver up the title. The title had not been forthcoming and Brown was now unable to sell the property for which he had been offered £1,000. Brown claimed he had expended £600 in improvements (the Royal Hotel) and sought damages of £2,000.

Evidence was given that the land was originally a grant from the Crown to Dr. Braithwell. The latter had borrowed £10 from Fox (to go gold digging) and signed an agreement that unless he repaid the money within four months (along with £2 interest) Fox could keep the land. Fox claimed he had told Brown that the only title he had was the note from Braithwell, and also swore that the he was unaware of the clause in their signed agreement to deliver up good title. The jury found for the plaintiff to the value of £1,000, with the property reverting to the ownership of Thomas Fox<sup>151</sup>.

It is presumed that the registration of deeds lagged well behind the actual transactions and that the transactions of Braithwell and Brown were never recorded.

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<sup>145</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Book 134, number 389.

<sup>146</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Book 48, number 990.

<sup>147</sup> Treasury Butts & Certificates of Publican's Licenses, 1853.

<sup>148</sup> Goulburn Herald, 5<sup>th</sup> November 1853, p3.

<sup>149</sup> Sydney Morning Herald, 14<sup>th</sup> January 1854, p3.

<sup>150</sup> Goulburn Herald, 11<sup>th</sup> November 1854, p3. / Sydney Morning Herald. 20<sup>th</sup> September 1854, p5.

<sup>151</sup> Sydney Morning Herald, 20<sup>th</sup> September 1854, p5. / Goulburn Herald, 23<sup>rd</sup> September 1854, p4.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

TOWN LOT.

VICTORIA, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith, and so forth :-

To ALL to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting :-

WHEREAS in conformity with the Laws now in force for the Sale of Crown Lands in Our Territory of NEW SOUTH WALES, and Our Royal Instructions under Our Signet and Sign Manual, issued in pursuance thereof,

John Peter of Wogga Wogga has become the Purchaser of the Allotment or Parcel of Land hereinafter described, for the Sum of Two Pounds six Shillings and eight pence Sterling; Now Know Ye, That for and in consideration of the said Sum for and on Our behalf, well and truly paid into the Colonial Treasury of Our said Territory, before these Presents are issued, And in further consideration of the Quit-Rent hereinafter Reserved, WE HAVE GRANTED, and for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, DO HEREBY GRANT unto the said

John Peter his Heirs and Assigns, Subject to the several and respective Reservations hereinafter mentioned, ALL THAT Allotment or Parcel of Land in Our said Territory, containing by Admeasurement Two rods be the same more or less, situated in the Parish of South Wogga Wogga, County of Wyndward, being Allotment No. Twelve of Section No. One

Commencing at the south corner of allotment number eleven, and bounded on the north west by a line bearing north fifty nine degrees east five chains on the north east by a line bearing south thirty one degrees one chain, on the south east by a line bearing south fifty nine degrees west five chains; and on the south west by one chain on the north east side of Trail Street bearing north thirty one degrees west to the south corner of allotment number eleven aforesaid. Being the allotment sold as Lot 1 in pursuance of the Proclamation of 13th December 1850.

with all the Rights and Appurtenances whatsoever thereto belonging: To Hold unto the said

John Peter his Heirs and Assigns for ever, YIELDING and Paying therefore Yearly unto Us, Our Heirs and Successors, the Quit-Rent of One Peppercorn for ever, if demanded; Provided Nevertheless, AND WE DO HEREBY RESERVE unto Us, Our Heirs and Successors, all Mines of Coal; AND WE DO ALSO RESERVE unto Us, Our Heirs and Successors, and to the Governor for the time-being of Our said Territory, by such Person or Persons as shall be by them or Him authorised in that behalf, full power to make and conduct through the said Land, all Common or Public Drains and Sewers which may be deemed expedient: In Testimony Whereof, We have caused this Our Grant to be Sealed with the Seal of Our said Territory.

WITNESS Our Trusty and Well-beloved SIR WILLIAM THOMAS DENISON, Knight, Governor-General in and over all Our Colonies of NEW SOUTH WALES, VAN DIEMEN'S LAND, VICTORIA, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, and WESTERN AUSTRALIA, and Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief of Our Territory of NEW SOUTH WALES and its Dependencies, at Government House, Sydney, in NEW SOUTH WALES aforesaid, this twentieth day of October in the Nineteenth Year of Our Reign; And in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand eight hundred and fifty-five

L.S. (Signed) W. D. Riddell in register of Maps, the maps of No. 175, Page 357. ENTERED on Record by me this twentieth day of October One Thousand eight hundred and fifty-five

C. D. Riddell COLONIAL SECRETARY AND REGISTRAR.

Above: The deed for John Peter's original purchase of allotment 12.<sup>152</sup>

<sup>152</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Serial # 252, page 32.

The court's decision was appealed in October 1854, where Fox testified the only document he ever had was a memorandum from Dr Braithwell [of Sydney], claiming he was the original grantee of the land. There does not appear to have been any evidence presented to show that Braithwell was the original purchaser of the allotment.

In a strange twist of fate, some months later (February 1855) a letter to the editor of the *Goulburn Herald*, proclaimed that,<sup>153</sup>

*"a few days since, a considerable portion of the fabric (sworn to have cost six hundred pounds in its erection) suddenly fell to the ground, disclosing walls four inches only in thickness. It was a mercy the inhabitants of this sworn costly building were not buried under its ruins. I say mercy, because an industrious man was its occupant; but had Brown himself been the dweller therein, and such a catastrophe had happened, everyone who knows the man (and who does not know him in this neighbourhood?) could only have exclaimed in the language of holy writ, and a firm belief in a divine retribution – 'Great and just are Thy judgements, O Lord.'"*

The writer was not content to leave it at this, but rather concluded with a P.S. in which he referred to an item in the *Goulburn Herald*, some months back, alluding to Brown's departure from Wagga Wagga, noting that,

*"Unfortunately for the peace of this community he soon returned, and again lighted the torch of discord. Thank God the system under which this man was expatriated to New South Wales belongs to the history of the past."*

### **Wagga Wagga's First Hospital**

On the 21<sup>st</sup> April 1856 a meeting was held at the Wagga Wagga court house for the purpose of establishing a hospital in Wagga Wagga<sup>154</sup>. George Forsyth proposed:

*"that the premises known as the Old Royal Hotel be applied for twelve months, at a rental of £30, beginning the 1<sup>st</sup> July next; and that the landlord having gratuitously offered the use of the premises adjoining in the meantime, they be accepted."*

The same meeting elected the following officers to manage the affairs of the hospital:

President – John Peter

Vice president – William Taylor

Treasurer – George Forsyth

Secretary – Frederick A. Tompson

Medical Officer – Dr Morgan

Committee members: Messrs Alleyne, Gordon, Church, Clarke, Macleay, McKellar, Loughnan, Taylor, Tompson, Walsh, and Mallyon.

Dr Morgan's retainer was set at £50 per annum<sup>155</sup>.

It was also resolved that a vote of thanks be extended to Mr Thomas Fox, landlord of the Royal hotel, for providing, at no cost, a building for the reception of patients. It is assumed this building would have been one of the outbuildings associated with the hotel, or it could have been another building of Fox's on an adjoining lot.

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<sup>153</sup> Goulburn Herald, 3<sup>rd</sup> February 1855.

<sup>154</sup> Goulburn Herald, 3<sup>rd</sup> May 1856, p1c3.

<sup>155</sup> Goulburn Herald. 31<sup>st</sup> May 1856, p4c7-p5c1.



The same source<sup>156</sup> provided a list of subscribers to the “*Wagga Wagga District Hospital*”. These subscriptions totalled some £284. The largest contributions were from people like John Peter and John Gordon (both prominent squatters); Frederick Tompson, George Forsyth, and Thomas Fox (prominent businessmen); and others such as Dr Morgan. Aside from Peter (£15/15s), the donations ranged from £10 down to £1.

Shortly afterwards, Dr Allen Bradley Morgan and Dr J. Morgan, advertised that the hospital had opened on the 1<sup>st</sup> June 1856<sup>157</sup>. The relationship between these two is not known, but it was subsequently determined that James H. Morgan was not recorded as “*a duly qualified Medical Practitioner*”<sup>158</sup>. The latter though was the Honorary Secretary in 1857<sup>159</sup>.

The hospital was soon catering to a variety of cases. In December 1856, Daniel Corkley, a tailor of Wagga Wagga, had his hand amputated by Dr Morgan, after a gun he was handling exploded, blowing his hand to pieces and severely injuring his face. In the same month a labourer on Church’s station was returning to Wagga Wagga when his horse bolted, throwing him against a tree. He was brought to the hospital but passed away the next day<sup>160</sup>.

The annual meeting of subscribers occurred in May 1857, and the medical officer, Mr James H. Morgan, reported that thirty seven in-patients had been admitted to treatment; and that of those, twenty five had been cured and discharged, six had been discharged in relieved circumstances, four had died, and two were still being treated. The treasurer, Mr George Forsyth, reported receipts of some £576 and expenses of some £445, leaving a balance in hand of some £130. Another £121 was subscribed at this meeting<sup>161</sup>.

In March 1858 the Albury Border Post noted that “*Wagga Wagga, a place inferior in every respect, has long had its hospital, thanks to the solicitude of Dr Morgan; but the Albury patient of small means, in cases of extreme difficulty, requiring much care, is sent to Beechworth*”<sup>162</sup>.

By 1858 it was evident the hospital was becoming too small relative to the number of patients it was treating, and with the lease due to expire in July 1859, it was resolved to lobby the Government for a new site<sup>163</sup>.

At the annual meeting of subscribers in 1859 the secretary, the Rev. Mr Young, raised concerns that whilst patient numbers were increasing (fifty one in the previous year), public subscriptions had declined. He reminded those present that the present lease expired in June next, and that the present premises may not be available again. He noted that the hospital site applied for on Church Hill had been rejected by the government, who had instead offered a property in Tarcutta street, which was deemed just as suitable. A Mr Richard Mallyon had erected a building on this latter site, and the committee was compelled to purchase same for a cost of £100. The secretary stated that this building could suffice as a hospital in an emergency (i.e. if no other premises were available)<sup>164</sup>.

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<sup>156</sup> Goulburn Herald, 3<sup>rd</sup> May 1856, p1c2.

<sup>157</sup> Goulburn Herald, 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1856, p1c7.

<sup>158</sup> Gormly Indexes, “Hospital”. [Citing Gundagai Bench Book]

<sup>159</sup> Gormly Indexes, “Hospital”. [Citing Albury Border Post, 22<sup>nd</sup> April 1857.]

<sup>160</sup> Sydney Morning Herald, 20<sup>th</sup> December 1856, p4.

<sup>161</sup> Maitland Mercury, 12<sup>th</sup> May 1857, p2.

<sup>162</sup> Argus (Melbourne), 3<sup>rd</sup> March 1858, p5.

<sup>163</sup> Morris, Sherry, A Delicate Balance – A History of Wagga Wagga Base Hospital, 1988, p8. [Citing Eric Irvine, Daily Advertiser, 24<sup>th</sup> April 1956, p12.]

<sup>164</sup> Wagga Wagga Express, 23<sup>rd</sup> April 1859 p2c3-4.

In March 1888 a fire broke out in the home of Mr George Woods, in Kincaid Street. The house was said to be nearly opposite the Club House hotel. It was a timber structure with an iron roof and suffered considerable damage, mainly to the front and roof of the building, as a result of the fire. A report on the fire stated that it was a very old building and had previously been used as the local hospital.<sup>165</sup> Woods had only recently purchased the house from Mrs Tingecombe, on behalf of his son. This may have been the building used to receive patients before the 1<sup>st</sup> July 1856, pending the initiation of the lease of the old Royal hotel, effective from that date.

In 1913, Mr William Garland, headmaster of Wagga Wagga Public High School, produced a small booklet titled "The History of Wagga Wagga". It included a chronological history of Wagga Wagga, with an entry for 1857, as follows<sup>166</sup>:

*"First hospital established in Kincaid Street, where 'Westhoe' now stands."*

Given Garland's standing and abilities, along with the fact that he would have had access to "old timers" and their recollections, considerable credence is given to his writings.

In 1927, one of Wagga Wagga's oldest citizens, Mrs John Palmer, recounted some history of early Wagga Wagga. She stated that she first came to Wagga Wagga in 1853, at the age of seven, and at that time Tinker Brown kept the Royal hotel, where Westhoe later stood, in Kincaid Street. Furthermore that the Royal hotel was later converted into a hospital, and was afterwards burnt down<sup>167</sup>.

In light of all of the above it is evident that allotment 12 of section 1 was the site for, firstly the Royal hotel and associated out-buildings, then Wagga Wagga's first hospital, then Westhoe, and finally the Edel Quinn Centre.

Some have claimed that the small brick building to the east of the Edel Quinn shelter was the old hospital but have not provided any evidence to support such a claim, and such a claim is contradicted by the aforementioned evidence. This building, Grinton's house, was actually located on allotment 10, and as the above evidence states the original hotel/hospital building was destroyed by fire.

Thomas Fox passed away on the 24<sup>th</sup> March 1859, and his wife, Sarah, remarried, to Thomas Gormly. Thomas Fox left all of his estate to his wife, and their infant child, James Fox. Thomas died intestate and it took some years for the property to be sold at public auction. When the auction did eventually take place, the highest bidder was Robert Nixon, who became the legal owner of allotment 12 on the 4<sup>th</sup> December 1862.<sup>168</sup>

On the 6<sup>th</sup> June 1863 Robert Nixon transferred the property to George Forsyth.<sup>169</sup>

On the 16<sup>th</sup> February 1873, Forsyth conveyed the eastern portions of allotments 12 & 13 to John Cox of Mangoplah, along with a portion of allotment 9.<sup>170</sup> Cox paid three hundred and nineteen pounds and ten shillings for the holdings.

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<sup>165</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 24<sup>th</sup> March 1888, p2.

<sup>166</sup> Garland, William, The History of Wagga Wagga. 1913. P.15 (Appendix 1).

<sup>167</sup>Wagga Wagga Advertiser, 18<sup>th</sup> October 1927, p5c1-3.

<sup>168</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Book 82, number 133.

<sup>169</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Book 134, number 389.

<sup>170</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Book 134, number 389.

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> May 1878, Richard Cox, of Marrar Station, and Patrick Cox, of Merriegreen [?] Station, as trustees for the estate of John Cox of Mangoplah, conveyed the holdings to John Gordon, of St Kilda.<sup>171</sup> Gordon controlled the property, at the behest of George Forsyth, with the rents of the property to go to his [Forsyth's] daughter, Margaret Anne Forsyth [a spinster].

Margaret Anne subsequently married Henry Clement Tingecombe, a bank manager of Narandera, at Sydney, in 1882.<sup>172</sup> On the 5<sup>th</sup> November 1889 part of the holdings now held by Margaret, were mortgaged to Frederick William Gowlland, a bank manager of Wagga Wagga, and Phineas Hann, a grazier of Wagga Wagga.<sup>173</sup> The land involved consisted of portions of allotments 12 and 13, and a piece of allotment 10.

On the 6<sup>th</sup> March 1899, Norman Frederick Giblin, the Official Assignee, conveyed the holdings to William Orr, a civil engineer of Wagga Wagga.<sup>174</sup> Giblin was acting on behalf of the estate of Harry Berkeley Fitzhardinge. It was a complicated transaction. Margaret Tingecombe [nee Forsyth] had agreed to sell the holdings to George Edward Wood, for the sum of two hundred and forty pounds. Fitzhardinge held a mortgage over Woods for this same amount. Hence the right of his estate over the property.

The title was not tracked for the period 1899 to 1909, at which latter date Gilbert William Orr converted his then holding to Torrens title. When William Edward Orr passed away in 1901, it generated an extensive number of documents related to his estate. He held a considerable number of land titles, many of which were mortgaged.

At some point in time the block of land on which *Westoe* stood, was purchased by Constantine Francis Bolton.

### **Constantine Francis Bolton**

Constantine Francis Bolton passed away in his home, *Bamboo*, in Best Street, Wagga Wagga, on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March 1923.<sup>175</sup> His obituary provided some interesting details,

“He was born at Abbey Green, near Singleton, in 1840, and was a son of the late Rev. H. T. Bolton, who worked under Bishop Broughton, the first Anglican Bishop in Australia. At the age of 17 he joined the field staff of Mr. P. F. Adams, licensed surveyor, who afterwards became Surveyor General of New South. Wales. Taking up work in the country extending from Goulburn to the South Australian border, Mr. Bolton formed one of a party that arrived in Albury in 1858. A great deal of arduous and important work was accomplished all over the southern district and along the Murray, Mr. Bolton acting as head chainman. This party made the preliminary surveys for the towns of Adelong, Wentworth, Maude, Wangonella, and other places. After a further series of long journeys and detached surveys the late Mr. Bolton received an appointment at the head office as draughtsman, being permanently attached to the staff in 1860. He was afterwards a staff surveyor in the Albury district for some years, and later was appointed to the post, of District Surveyor at Bathurst, and later still was transferred to Wagga in a similar capacity. This was in 1875, but prior to these

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<sup>171</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Book 192, number 680.

<sup>172</sup> NSW BDM's. Marriage registration # 597.

<sup>173</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Book 428, number 517.

<sup>174</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Book 664, number 873. [see also book 594, number 780]

<sup>175</sup> Daily Advertiser. 22<sup>nd</sup> March 1923, p2.

appointments he was stationed in the metropolitan district and made some rather important road surveys and explored and set out what is now known as the Bulli Pass on the South Coast. Perhaps his most important work in Wagga was in assisting to lay out that part of the town that lies south of the Wollundry Lagoon. He carried out the duties of his office of District Surveyor here until he retired about 1886, when he was succeeded by Mr. Orr. The late Mr. Bolton did not, however, relinquish his profession of surveyor until a comparatively recent date, and one of his latest works was to survey for his brother, the late A. T. Bolton, all that area known as the Bolton Estate, the site of the Housing Board's present scheme near the hospital. Mr. C. F. Bolton was an indefatigable worker and long before his retirement from the Lands Department, acquired the pastoral property known as Moorong, near Pomingalarna, which he worked and developed for a number of years with the assistance of a nephew, Mr. Frank Mitchell. He continued to reside at Moorong for a number of years after 1886, finally disposing of the estate to Mrs. James Hill, one of the legatees of the Tyson estate. Mr. Bolton then came into Wagga and invested extensively in town properties. Since then he has been absent from the town for scarcely a day and was one of the best known figures in the streets between 'Bamboo' and the business portions of the town, every day in the week, year in and year out. He took a deep interest in the expansion and welfare of Wagga, and for some years was a member of the municipal council, identifying himself also with several other public bodies. In the course of his long life he had acquired a large fund of information on a variety of subjects, and at any time could be appealed to for accurate information relating to the affairs, not only of the district, but of all parts of the State. The late Mr. Bolton was a man of striking personality and was on terms of intimate friendship with practically every member of the community in which he had spent such a lengthy period of his life. Although 83 years old he retained full possession of his faculties until quite recently. The late Mr. Bolton never married. The late Lady Windeyer was his sister, and another sister, Mrs E Twynam, residing at Goulburn, is the wife of the well-known surveyor there. Mr. Richard Windeyer, K.C., and Mr. William Windeyer solicitor, of Sydney, are nephews of the deceased."

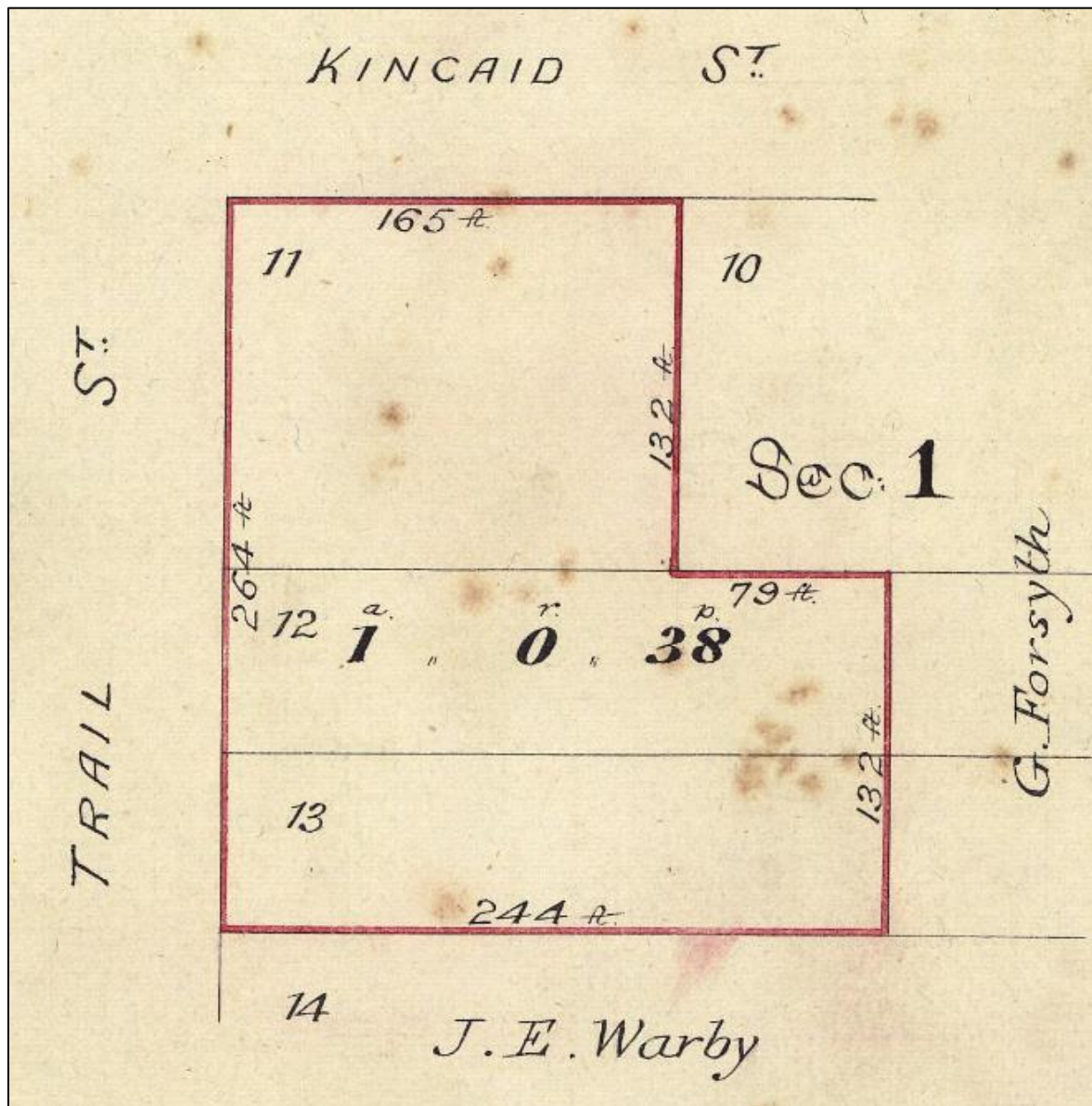


**Left:** Constantine Francis Bolton. Courtesy Jennifer Heppell [ancestry.com]



### Related Transfers

In February 1874 George Forsyth converted all of allotment 11, and the western sections of allotments 12 and 13, to Torrens title.<sup>176</sup>



**Above:** The land converted to Torrens title by George Forsyth in 1874. Courtesy NSW Land Registry Services

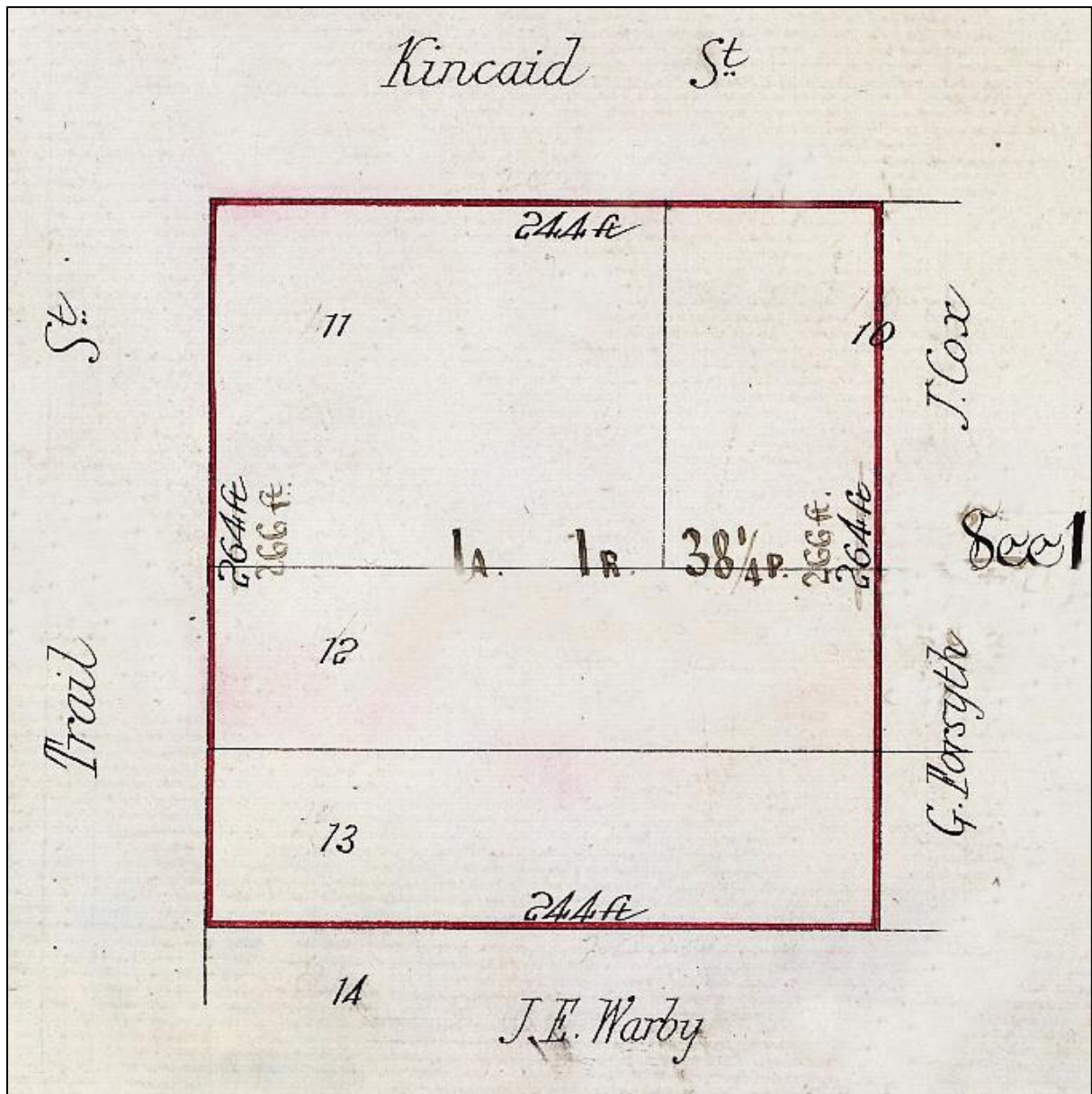
This holding was conveyed to the Australian Joint Stock Bank on the 8<sup>th</sup> October 1880.<sup>177</sup>

The bank combined this holding with the piece of allotment 10 that they also owned to create a larger rectangular block, having a frontage of 244 feet to Kincaid Street and a frontage of 264 feet to Traill Street.<sup>178</sup>

<sup>176</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 175, folio 182.

<sup>177</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 175, folio 182.

<sup>178</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 512, folio 208.



**Above:** The rectangular block created by the AJS Bank in 1880.

On the 27<sup>th</sup> April 1888 the AJS Bank conveyed all of this holding to William Orr, a civil engineer of Wagga Wagga.<sup>179</sup>

In March 1902, following the death of William Orr, his son, Gilbert William Orr, a licensed surveyor, and his daughter, Agnes Orr, a spinster - both of Bathurst – became the legal owners, by transmission.<sup>180</sup> The title was subsequently transferred into Gilberts name only, in a move that is assumed to have been designed to protect the interest of Agnes.

<sup>179</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 512, folio 208.

<sup>180</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 512, folio 208.

On the 22<sup>nd</sup> November 1906, Gilbert transferred the property to Thomas Austin Thomson and John Joseph Byrnes, as tenants in common.<sup>181</sup>

Thomson and Byrnes were stock dealers in 1904, presumably as partners.<sup>182</sup>

**The "WESTHOE"**  
**Subdivision.**

Beautifully Situated, High, Ideal, Central  
Villa Sites.

**IN SIX LOTS.**  
**WITH TRAILL STREET FRONTAGES**

Lot No. 1, Frontage 46 feet.  
Lots 2 to 6, Frontages 40 feet.

All good depths, back to a 20 foot Lane,  
LOVELY SLOPES.  
GRAND BUILDING POSITIONS.

**M**EURANT & BLAKE and J. JEREMY  
& CO., acting in conjunction, have  
received instructions from Messrs. Thomson  
and Byrnes to submit to public competi-  
tion at the Pastoral Hotel, on

**THIS DAY,**  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18th,  
At 3 o'clock.

**THE FOREGOING SIX SPLENDID  
VILLA SITES.**

Real Property Act Title.  
Subdivisional Plan under preparation.  
Without exception the best Villa Sites  
ever offered in Wagga.

**TERMS EASY AT SALE.**

**J. JEREMY & CO.,  
MEURANT & BLAKE,  
Auctioneers in Conjunction.**

In December 1906 Thomson and Byrnes, created a subdivision and placed lots 1 to 6 of same up for sale, by public auction. All six lots faced onto Traill Street.<sup>183</sup>

The subdivision had been surveyed by Constantine Francis Bolton.<sup>184</sup> The only lot not up for sale, lot 7, was conveyed to Bolton.

**Left:** Notice of the *Westhoe* subdivision sale in 1906, on account Thomson & Byrnes.

The sale was a bit of a fizzer – five of the six lots were passed in for private sale.<sup>185</sup>

<sup>181</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 512, folio 208.

<sup>182</sup> Wagga Wagga Express. 30<sup>th</sup> April 1904.

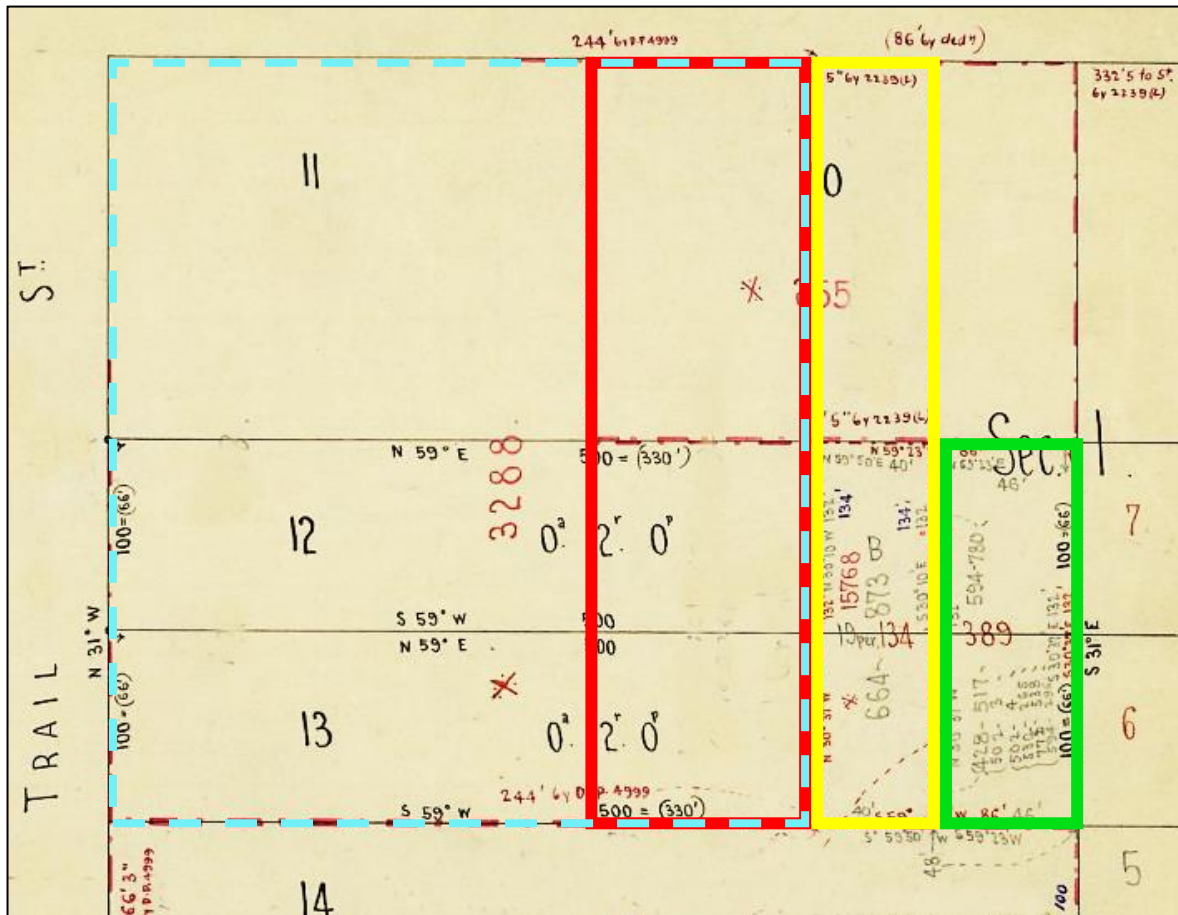
<sup>183</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 18<sup>th</sup> December 1906, p3.

<sup>184</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 18<sup>th</sup> December 1906, p2.

<sup>185</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 20<sup>th</sup> December 1906, p2.



As described earlier in this article, it was Thomson and Byrnes who subdivided the holding, creating seven lots, registered as deposited plan 4999. Lot seven was sold to Constantine Francis Bolton, along with a right of way. Lot 7 had a frontage of 98 feet to Kincaid Street, and extended south as far as the northern border of allotment 14, encompassing pieces of allotments 12 and 13. It was this piece of allotment 12 that featured *Westoe*.<sup>186</sup>



**Above:** An extract from primary applications sketch showing the various lots of land when Gilbert William Orr converted his holding to Torrens title, in 1909. Courtesy NSW Land Registry Services.

**Key [and some subsequent owners]**

Blue Boundary > AJS Bank [volume 512, folio 208]

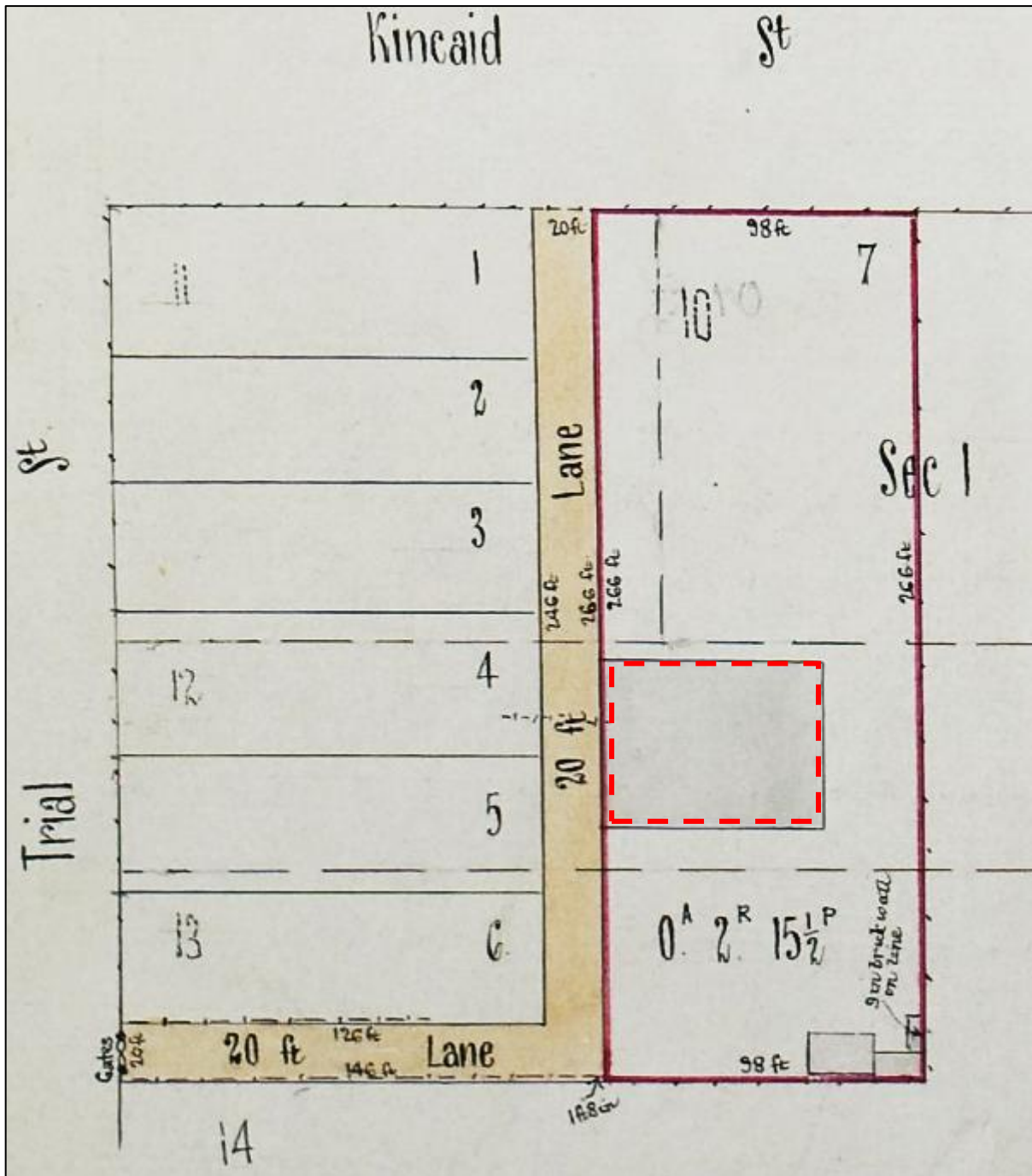
Yellow boundary > William Gilbert Orr - [volume 1987, folio 18]

Red boundary > Constantine Francis Bolton - [volume 1814, folio 223]

Green boundary > William Warran – [Book 594, number 780]

<sup>186</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 1793, folio 156.





**Above:** The land held by Constantine Francis Bolton in October 1907, showing the footprint of Westhoe [dotted red boundary]. Courtesy NSW Land Registry Services.

### Subdivision by Constantine Francis Bolton

In 1907 the property featuring *Westhoe* was owned by Constantine Francis Bolton.<sup>187</sup>

On the 4<sup>th</sup> April 1919 Constantine transferred the property to Mika Marie Minnitt, a widow, Alice Emilie Millenet, a spinster, Amy Rosa Adele Millenet, a spinster, Louise Charlotte Millenet, also a spinster, and Leonie Mabel Piddington, a confectioner – all of Wagga Wagga – as joint tenants.<sup>188</sup>

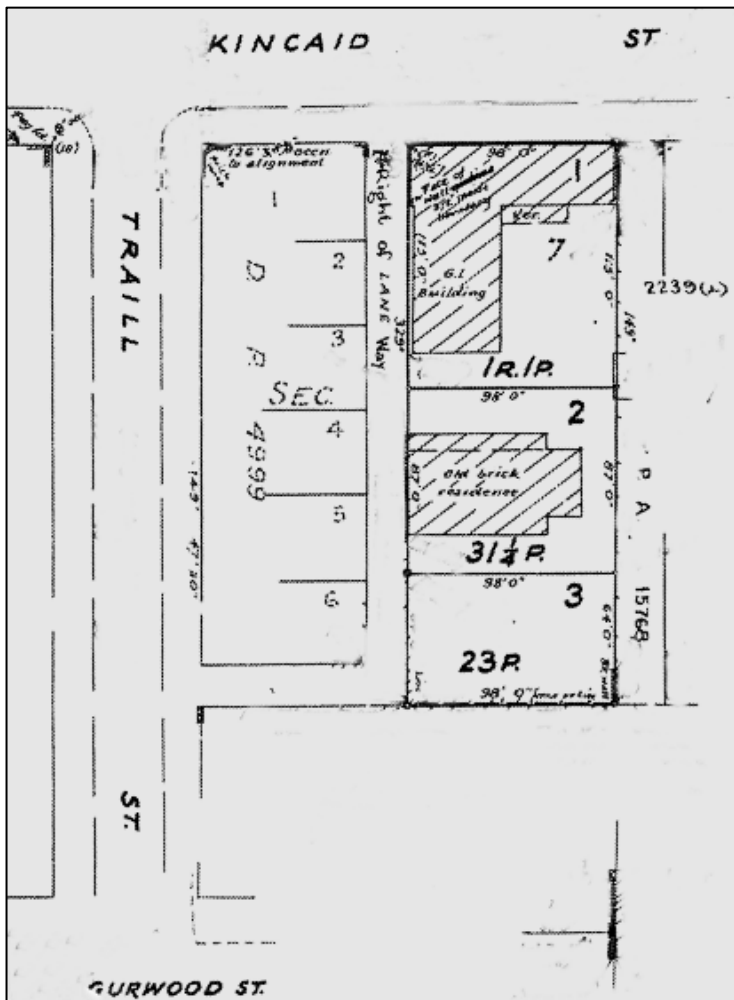
Amy Rosa Adelle Millenet died in 1928 [?], while Alice Emilie Millenet passed away in 1938. Louise Charlotte Millenet passed away in 1948. So, in 1952, Mika Marie Minnitt and Leonie Mabel Piddington were the two surviving owners.

On the 20<sup>th</sup> June 1952 Leonie Mabel Piddington purchased her sister's share in the property, becoming the sole proprietor.<sup>189</sup>

Transactions to follow were,<sup>190</sup>

1954, 9<sup>th</sup> March – Conveyance to Colourton Pty Ltd.

The land title was subsequently changed - see DP215073 [1to3]. [Volume 9318, folios 21, 22, 23]



**Left:** Extract from DP.215073, showing the creation of lots 1, 2 and 3 within that plan [formerly lot 7 of DP.4999]. Courtesy Wagga Wagga City Council. Intramaps.

The title history has not been traced past this point.

<sup>187</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 1814, folio 223.

<sup>188</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 1814, folio 223.

<sup>189</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 1814, folio 223.

<sup>190</sup> NSW Land Registry Services. Title Deed. Volume 1814, folio 223.

## The Millenet Family

Jean Henry Millenet was born in Geneva, Switzerland, in 1829. He migrated to Australia in June 1857, arriving on the vessel, *James Chester*. He was a baker by trade. Jean became an Australian citizen on the 27<sup>th</sup> May 1870.<sup>191</sup>

Jean Henry landed in Melbourne, and, as so many did in those days, he tried his luck on the gold fields. In 1860 he arrived in Wagga Wagga and started a baker's and confectioner's shop in premises previously occupied by "*Granny Apps*."

In 1863 he married Charlotte Jones at Wagga Wagga.<sup>192</sup> Charlotte was a native of Wiltshire, England, the daughter of Stephen Jones and Ruth Jones [nee Bailey]. Charlotte had arrived in Australia in 1848, at the age of five, with her parents.<sup>193</sup>

Jean Henry and Charlotte had ten children,

1. Maud L M Millenet Born 1865.<sup>194</sup> died?
2. Mika Marie Millenet. Born 1867,<sup>195</sup> died 1952.<sup>196</sup> Married Frank E A Minnitt in 1899.<sup>197</sup>
3. Alice Emilie Millenet. Born 1868,<sup>198</sup> died 1938.<sup>199</sup> Never married.
4. Amy Rose Adele Millenet. Born 1871,<sup>200</sup> died?
5. Annie Bessie Milenet. Born 1873,<sup>201</sup> died 1952. Married Ernest Francis Hartley Brown in 1908.<sup>202</sup>
6. Charles Henry Millenet. Born 1875,<sup>203</sup> died 1876.<sup>204</sup>
7. Louisa Charlotte Millenet. Born 1878,<sup>205</sup> died 1948.<sup>206</sup> Never married.
8. Alfred Henry Millenet. Born 1880,<sup>207</sup> died 1881.<sup>208</sup>
9. Elsie Grace Millenet. Born 1882,<sup>209</sup> died 1952. Married Stuart A Hogg in 1911.<sup>210</sup>
10. Leonie Mabel Constance Millenet. Born 1888,<sup>211</sup> died 1967.<sup>212</sup> Married Frederic C Piddington in 1910.<sup>213</sup>

Sadly the couple's only two sons both died in infancy.

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<sup>191</sup> NSW. Certificate of Naturalization. # 70/60. [ancestry.com]

<sup>192</sup> NSW BDM's. Marriage registration # 3034.

<sup>193</sup> Daily Advertiser. 25<sup>th</sup> January 1922, p3.

<sup>194</sup> NSW BDM's. Birth registration # 15981.

<sup>195</sup> NSW BDM's. Birth registration # 16940.

<sup>196</sup> NSW BDM's. Death registration # 31067.

<sup>197</sup> NSW BDM's. Marriage registration # 4497.

<sup>198</sup> NSW BDM's. Birth registration # 17411.

<sup>199</sup> NSW BDM's. Death registration # 26746.

<sup>200</sup> NSW BDM's. Birth registration # 18576.

<sup>201</sup> NSW BDM's. Birth registration # 19878.

<sup>202</sup> NSW BDM's. Marriage registration # 517.

<sup>203</sup> NSW BDM's. Birth registration # 20944.

<sup>204</sup> NSW BDM's. Death registration # 10383.

<sup>205</sup> NSW BDM's. Birth registration # 23315.

<sup>206</sup> NSW BDM's. Death registration # 19161.

<sup>207</sup> NSW BDM's. Birth registration # 25767.

<sup>208</sup> NSW BDM's. Death registration # 9116.

<sup>209</sup> NSW BDM's. Birth registration # 22903.

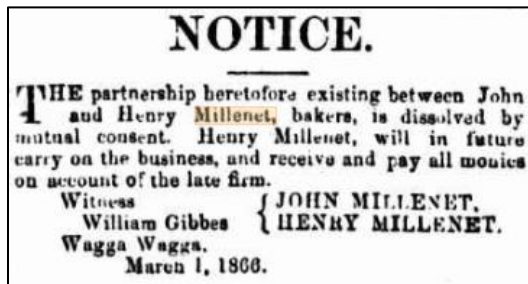
<sup>210</sup> NSW BDM's. Marriage registration # 2048.

<sup>211</sup> NSW BDM's. Birth registration # 29285.

<sup>212</sup> NSW BDM's. Death registration # 36218

<sup>213</sup> NSW BDM's. Marriage registration # 3032.

After establishing the bakery and confectionary business Jean Henry subsequently purchased a property in Johnstone Street and conducted the business from those premises for the next twelve years.<sup>214</sup>



In 1866 he dissolved his partnership with his brother John, and became the sole proprietor.<sup>215</sup>

Left: Notice of the cancellation of the partnership with his brother.

Jean Henry Millenet was best known as the licensee of the Criterion hotel, which he licensed from 1884 to 1914.

Jean Henry Millenet passed away in 1917.<sup>216</sup> An obituary in the local paper read, in part, as follows,<sup>217</sup>

“The late Mr. Millenet was a Frenchman, born at Geneva, who came to Australia in the middle part of the 19th century, and to Wagga more than half a century ago. He quickly established himself in the confidence of those with whom he became associated in the land of his adoption, and won a measure of esteem which lasted through a long and honorable business career. He came to be regarded as a man of fixed principles, kind and generous in his judgment of others, loyal in his friendship, and scrupulously exact in meeting his business obligations. This latter quality was a by-word in business circles, and no doubt had much to do with the success he achieved. For several years after coming to Wagga Mr. Millenet engaged in a bakery business, and then became the licensee of the Criterion Hotel in Fitzmaurice-street. Until advancing years sapped his energies he was a good townsman, and was actively associated with many of Wagga’s public institutions. As a sportsman he was keenly interested in shooting and billiards. Old records show that there were few better rifle shots in the old Wagga Rifle Club, of which he was a great supporter. He had the reputation of being one of the best - or perhaps it might be said, the champion cueist of this part of the State, in the French cannon game. Since retiring from business a few years ago Mr. and Mrs. Millenet have resided with members of their family at 'Westhoe,' Kincaid-street. A few weeks ago he was seized with a sudden illness from which he failed to rally, and died on Saturday evening. The late Mr. Millenet leaves a widow and a family of daughters, Mrs. Minnitt (Wagga), Mrs. E. F. Brown (Bank of New South Wales, Ardlethan), Mrs. S. A. Hogg (Experiment Farm, Bomen), Mrs. J. Piddington (Wagga), and three unmarried daughters. It was a Masonic funeral, the late Henry Millenet being one of the foundation members of Lodge Harmony at Wagga. “

Following her husband’s death the family purchased *Westoe*, as a residence. Charlotte Millenet [nee Jones] passed away on the 24<sup>th</sup> January 1922, in Sydney, aged 79 years.<sup>218</sup>

<sup>214</sup> Wagga Wagga Express. 12<sup>th</sup> November 1895, p3.

<sup>215</sup> Wagga Wagga Express. 3<sup>rd</sup> March 1866, p3.

<sup>216</sup> NSW BDM’s. Death registration # 16020.

<sup>217</sup> Daily Advertiser. 3<sup>rd</sup> December 1917, p2.

<sup>218</sup> NSW BDM’s. Death registration # 2462.





**Above:** The Millenet family. Back Row [L to R]: Alice, Louise, Rosa, Mika. Seated [L to R]: Grace, Henry, Leonie Mabel, Bessie, Charlotte. Courtesy Tande159 [ancestry.com]

**WANTED, a General.**—Apply Miss Millenet, "Westhoe," Kincaid-st.

**WANTED, a Useful Girl.**—Apply Mrs. Millenet, "Westhoe," Kincaid-street.

**WANTED, a Useful Girl; no laundry.**—Apply Miss Millenet, "Westhoe," Kincaid-street, Wagga.

**WANTED, Strong Boy or Girl.**—Apply Miss Millenet, "Westhoe," Kincaid-street.

**WANTED, a Girl for Housework.**—Apply Miss Millenet, "Westhoe," Wagga.

**Left:** A series of notices palced by the Millenet girls during their time at Westoe. Life would have been very comfortable for them, living in a large house, with servants.

**Mrs. Piddington and Miss Millenet.** Wagga, agents for Seattle's flowers and seeds, will be pleased to execute all floral orders lodged with them.

**Coll.**  
Twenty-two associates took part in the foursomes on Monday afternoon. The result was a tie between Miss Millenet and Miss Copland and Miss E. Meurant and Mrs. Bradhurst. Afternoon tea was given by Mrs. Chandler.

## Westoe [aka Westhoe]

Westoe was located on allotment 12 of section 1, in the town and parish of South Wagga Wagga.

The earlier history, recorded in the pages previous to this, show that "Tinker" Brown had constructed a brick hotel on allotment 12 in 1853, and that this building was subsequently utilised as Wagga Wagga's first hospital. By 1863 the property was owned by George Forsyth.

It is not known exactly when the old building was destroyed by fire but at some point prior to 1870, George Forsyth had constructed a new brick residence with a substantial garden.<sup>219</sup> In the year 1872 he placed the *Westoe* block up for sale, by public auction, along with numerous other lots.<sup>220</sup>

**TO CAPITALISTS.**

**F**OR SALE, BY AUCTION, on account of Mr.  
GEORGE FORSYTH, by  
G. A. ELLIOT,  
**On Wednesday, 1st May, 1872,**  
at 2 o'clock,  
At the Australian Hotel, Wagga Wagga,  
Lot 1—The RESIDENCE of MR. GEO. FORSYTH,  
called  
**"Westoe House" and Grounds,**  
having a frontage to Kincaid-street, and  
corner of Trail-street, in town of Wagga  
Wagga, containing tea rooms, Bath room,  
three Cellars, and every convenience for a  
gentleman's residence. It has  
**TWO WELLS OF WATER**  
and three large Tanks.  
The GARDEN is well stocked with choice vines,  
fruit and ornamental trees.  
The Dwelling House has been built with great  
care, having a wide spacious verandah all round, and  
being on an eminence, commands a view of all the  
surrounding country.  
Lot 2—A COTTAGE of eight rooms, adjoining the  
above, with entrance from Kincaid and  
Trail streets.  
Lot 3—An ALLOTMENT adjoining, fronting to Kin-  
caid-street, 66 ft. by 132 ft.  
Lot 4—ALLOTMENT adjoining near "Bonded  
Stores," same dimensions. These two lots,  
well stocked with Vines and Fruit Trees,  
are most excellent building sites,

Left: Early notice for sale of  
*Westoe* in 1872.

Forsyth had extensive holdings  
as can be seen on the  
following page.

<sup>219</sup> Wagga Wagga Rate Books. 1870-1907.

<sup>220</sup> Wagga Wagga Express. 13<sup>th</sup> April 1872, p1.



**To Capitalists.**

**FOR SALE BY AUCTION,**

On account of Mr. GEO. FORSYTH, by  
G. A. ELLIOT,  
ON  
**WEDNESDAY, 1st MAY, 1872,**  
At 2 o'clock, at the  
**AUSTRALIAN HOTEL,**  
Wagga Wagga.

**Lot 1.**—The residence of Mr. GEORGE FORSYTH, called  
**WESTOE HOUSE,**  
and GROUNDS, having a frontage to Kincaid-street and corner of Trail-street, in the town of Wagga Wagga, containing 10 rooms, bathroom, three cellars, and every convenience for a gentleman's residence. It has two wells of water, besides three large tanks. The garden is well stocked with choice vines and fruit trees, besides ornamental trees. The dwelling-house has been built with great care, having a wide, spacious verandah all round, and being on an eminence, commands a view of all the surrounding country.

**Lot 2.**—A COTTAGE of eight rooms, adjoining the above, with entrance from Kincaid and Trail-streets.

**Lot 3.**—ALLOTMENT, adjoining, frontage to Kincaid-street, 66ft. by a depth of 132ft.

**Lot 4.**—ALLOTMENT, adjoining, near the Bonded Stores, same dimensions.  
These two lots, well stocked with vines and fruit-trees, are most excellent building sites.

**Lot 5.**—Corner of Fitzmaurice and Kincaid streets, opposite the old Bank of New South Wales, and next the stores of Geo. Forsyth and Co., having a double frontage, well suitable for the erection of a family hotel. There is a six-roomed cottage, kitchen, and buildings in the rear of this lot, also a good well of water.

**Lot 6.**—A COTTAGE in Kincaid-street, occupied by Mr. James Fox, rented at £26 per annum.

**Lot 7.**—A COTTAGE adjoining the above, in the occupation of Mr. W. Gibbes, rented at £26 a year.

**Lot 7.**—A COTTAGE, opposite the Toll-house, in Fitzmaurice-street; rental, £17 per annum.

**Lot 9.**—The WALLACE TOWN HOTEL and GROUNDS, on the Junee-road, occupied by Mr. Simpson, rented at £50 per annum.

The above valuable properties afford an excellent opportunity for the investment of capital, and return a remunerative interest for money.

PLANS and FULL PARTICULARS of the above can be had on application to the Proprietor or the Auctioneer.

Wagga Wagga, April 11, 1872.

IMPORTANT SALE  
OF  
Valuable Freehold Properties.  
**FOR SALE BY AUCTION,**

On account of Mr. GEORGE FORSYTH,  
BY  
G. A. ELLIOT,  
ON  
**WEDNESDAY, 1st MAY, 1872,**  
AT THE  
**Australian Hotel, Wagga Wagga.**  
At 2 o'clock.

**P A D D O C K S .**

**Lot 1.**—A valuable BLOCK of LAND of 75 acres, Nos. 41 and 42 on the town map, situate at Marshall's Creek, fenced, watered by a creek and dam, within the borough of Wagga Wagga.

**Lot 2.**—FARM of 35 acres (formerly S. Milner's), with Marshall's Creek through it, suitable for cultivation and grazing.

**Lot 3.**—The PADDOCKS known as BAILLIE'S, at Rocky Waterhole, on road leading from Lake Albert to the Cemetery, containing 137 acres 3 roods, all securely fenced with strong split fence, large water-hole, yard, &c. The water from the Lake runs through the centre. The land is well grassed and very fine grazing for stock.

**Lot 4.**—A FARM of 37 acres 2 roods, formerly Biddle's, adjoining to the farms of Mr. R. J. Higgins, at North Wagga, having an arm of creek from the river passing through it.

**ALLOTMENTS.**

- 1.—Two ALLOTMENTS in Crampton-street, Nos. 12 and 13, section 58, adjoining Mr. Eaton's new residence, near Chapman's Mill.
- 2.—One ALLOTMENT in Crampton-street, 18, section 57, near Race-course.
- 3.—One do., in Fitzmaurice-street, nearly opposite the Bridge, No. 6, section 7.
- 4.—One do., do., do., No. 7, section 7.
- 5.—One do., do., do., corner, No. 8, section 7.
- 6.—One do., do., No. 9, section 7.
- 7.—One do., do., No. 10, section 7.
- 8.—One do., do., No. 12, section 7.
- 9.—One do., do., No. 13, section 7.
- 10.—One do., do., No. 14, section 7.
- 11.—One do., do., No. 15, section 7.
- 12.—One do., do., No. 16, section 7.
- 13.—One do., do., No. 17, section 7.

**ALLOTMENTS**  
On the Sand-hills, between the River and Baylis-street.

- 14.—Five ALLOTMENTS in Berry, Tompson, and Forsyth streets, near Love and Roberts's Newtown Stores, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 of section 70.
- 15.—Two ALLOTMENTS in Tarcutta-street, Sandhills, 9 and 10, section 70.
- 16.—Three do., Morgan and Tarcutta streets, 8, 9, and 10, section 72.
- 17.—One MOIETY of ALLOTMENTS, corner Forsyth-street, adjoining Lime-kiln, 13, section 72.

PLANS and PARTICULARS can be had on APPLICATION to the AUCTIONEER.

Above and Right: Two advertisements for the sale of Forsyth's properties in May 1872.

When the public auction took place Westoe failed to sell, as revealed in the following report of the event,<sup>221</sup>

*"On Wednesday afternoon, in accordance with advertisement, the whole of Mr. Forsyth's large and valuable property was submitted to public auction at the Australian Hotel. There was a very large attendance, the long room of the hotel being crowded. Mr. G. A. Elliot was the auctioneer, but in spite of that gentleman's genial efforts, ably seconded as he was by the vendor himself, the biddings were of the tamest possible character, and with the exception of a fair consumption of cheap drinks, very little business was done. For many of the lots*

**WEDNESDAY, 17th FEB. 1875.**

**Important  
Sale of Freehold Property.**

**A. T. BOLTON** has received instructions from **Geo. Forsyth, Esq.**, to sell by public auction at the Australian Hotel, at 2 o'clock, on Wednesday, 17th February, 1875, the following very valuable properties:—

Lot 1.—145 feet frontage to Kincaid-street, on which is erected that spacious and faithfully built residence, **WESTOE HOUSE**, the residence of Geo. Forsyth, Esq.

Lot 2.—80 feet frontage to Kincaid-street, together with the **BONDED STORE** erected thereon.

Lot 3.—60 feet frontage to Kincaid-street, adjoining the Bonded Store.

Lot 3.—99 feet frontage to Kincaid street, with 132 feet frontage to Traill-street.

Lots 5 and 6.—66 feet frontage each to Traill-street.

The Auctioneer desires to call the attention of capitalists to this important sale.

Westoe House is the most substantially built, best appointed, and most spacious residence in the district, and is surrounded by a Garden that is unequalled about Wagga Wagga. It is splendidly adapted for a Private Residence, an Hotel, or Club House (a want long felt in the district). Comment on the Bonded Store is thought unnecessary, it being acknowledged to be one of the finest buildings out of the metropolis—being a faithfully-built, two-storied building, 33 feet x 63 feet (the most commodious in the town), with every convenience for storing wool, grain, or general merchandise.

The allotments are admirably suited for building purposes, either as building sites or for private residences. They are all stocked with a very choice selection of fruit trees in full bearing, yielding a handsome return annually. Inspection of the property is particularly invited.

*not a single bid was made, while for others the offers did not come up even to the very moderate reserve put upon them by the vendor. The only purchaser was Mr. John Cox, to whom the old cottage on the hill adjoining Mr. Forsyth's residence was knocked down for £120, and who also purchased two allotments fronting Kincaid street, adjoining the Bonded Store, for 28s. and 27s. per foot respectively. The only bid for Westoe House and grounds was Mr. Moxham's of £2000, which the auctioneer said was considerably below the price already offered for the property privately, and at this stage, as there seemed to be no prospect of any more business being done, the sale was stopped."*

George took matters into his own hands and in June 1872 it was reported that he had sold *Westoe House* to Auber George Jones.<sup>222</sup> Jones was never listed on any title deed for the property, and it is assumed the deal fell over as George Forsyth placed the property back on the market in February 1875.

**Left:** The 1875 notice of sale.

<sup>221</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 4<sup>th</sup> May 1872, p2.

<sup>222</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 15<sup>th</sup> June 1872, p2.



It seems the *Westoe* property failed to sell, once more, as it was advertised to let in December 1875.<sup>223</sup>

In November 1876 Mrs Lipscombe gave birth to a daughter, at her residence, *Westoe House*,<sup>224</sup> and it can be assumed Forsyth's daughter was now the occupant of the house.

A Mr & Mrs JE Jackson was living in the adjoining cottage, in January 1877, which was referred to as *Westoe Cottage*.<sup>225</sup> Mr Jackson worked For Forsyth, in his Fitzmaurice Street store.<sup>226</sup>

**NOTICE.**

**A**LL GOATS found TRESPASSING, after this date, on the grounds at Belmore House or *Westoe House* will be SHOT. This notice has special reference to the seven animals which continually infest the streets, and are a nuisance to the whole neighbourhood.

A. G. JONES.

Wagga Wagga, Jan. 23, 1877.

Auber George Jones had some connection with *Westoe House* in 1877 as can be gleaned from a notice he placed in his paper.<sup>227</sup>

An editorial comment later in the year suggested the grounds of the property were not being looked after very well,<sup>228</sup>

*"We notice a very serious dilapidation around the premises of Westoe House, and, in as much as the fence in Traill Street is all down and displays an eyesore to our editorial vision we must request either the municipality or the owner of these properties to repair damages."*

George Forsyth was living at Yarrangobilly by 1877 and in May of that year he auctioned off the household furniture of *Westoe House*.<sup>229</sup>

In August 1878 Mr & Mrs Rand were occupying *Westoe House*.<sup>230</sup>

**Household Furniture and Effects.**

MONDAY NEXT, MAY 7, 1877.

AT WESTOE HOUSE.

**W**ILKINSON, HANN, MINCHIN, and Co. have been instructed by G. Forsyth, Esq. (of Yarrangobilly), to sell by public auction, on Monday next, at his late residence (*Westoe House*), at 12 o' clock, a quantity of

**HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE,**

Consisting of

Dining Room Suite  
Drawing Room Suite  
2 Brussels Carpets  
1 Large Sideboard  
1 Telescope Mahogany Dining Table  
Double and Single Iron Bedsteads  
Hair Mattresses and Palliasses  
Washstands, Oilcloth  
Chests of Drawers  
Bronze Marble Hat Stand  
Bronze Ornaments  
Large Dresser, Kitchen Tables, &c., &c.

As the owner's instructions are to sell to the highest bidder, without any reserve whatever, the Auctioneers would call the special attention of anyone furnishing to this sale.

Terms—Cash.

<sup>223</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 11<sup>th</sup> December 1875, p4.

<sup>224</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 15<sup>th</sup> November 1876, p2.

<sup>225</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 31<sup>st</sup> January 1877, p2.

<sup>226</sup> Wagga Wagga Express. 10<sup>th</sup> May 1879, p5.

<sup>227</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 24<sup>th</sup> January 1877, p3.

<sup>228</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 4<sup>th</sup> August 1877, p2.

<sup>229</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 5<sup>th</sup> May 1877, p3.

<sup>230</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 17<sup>th</sup> August 1878, p4.

## Doctors Surgery

By November 1881 Dr Ellis Somers Piercy, a physician and surgeon, was the occupant of *Westoe House*,<sup>231</sup> and he was conducting his practice from that place. Dr Piercy continued to practice at *Westoe House* up until March 1888, when he sold the practice to Dr St Clair Long,<sup>232</sup> who promptly moved into the residence.

## Dr Ellis Somers Piercy

Dr Ellis Somers Piercy was one of the honorary medical officers at the Wagga Wagga hospital,<sup>233</sup> but he clashed with some members of the hospital committee, and in January 1885, he came a poor third in terms of votes to elect two honorary medical officers.<sup>234</sup> The committee elected Drs Hillas and Simons, effectively dismissing Dr Piercy.

Dr Piercy was an interesting character. He was born in America c.1849 and arrived in Australia, on board the vessel, *Australia*, via San Francisco, Honolulu, and Auckland. He was a qualified surgeon when he arrived in June 1879.<sup>235</sup> Another passenger on that same vessel was Augusta Letitia

Dargon, a famous actress.<sup>236</sup>

In 1880 Ellis married Augusta Letitia Dargon, in the Royal hotel, at Orange.<sup>237</sup> Dr Piercy was practicing at Coonamble at that time.<sup>238</sup>

The couple had one child, Latouche Dargon Piercy who was born at Wagga Wagga, in 1881,<sup>239</sup> and who died at that same place in 1883.<sup>240</sup> The loss of her only child had a melancholy effect on Augustus.<sup>241</sup>

The presence of Augustus in Wagga Wagga would have elicited much excitement, especially as she made a number of appearances to support local events. No doubt Dr Piercy thought himself a very lucky man.

Augustus would be the most famous of all of the people who ever resided at *Westoe*.

**Left:** Notice of a fund raiser featuring Augustus Dargon.<sup>242</sup>

**Preliminary Announcement.**

**Murrumbidgee Turf Club.**

**YE FAYRE OF YE OLDEN TIME**

**T**HE Committee have much pleasure in announcing that the accomplished and distinguished Artiste, **MRS. DARGON PIERCY,** has kindly consented to give an Evening of **READINGS AND RECITALS,** IN THE **FREEMASONS' HALL,** Wagga Wagga.

Towards raising Funds in aid of the proposed Fancy Fayre to be held during the Annual Meeting in November next, for the purpose of liquidating the debt upon the Murrumbidgee Turf Club.

Plan of Hall at Mr. L. S. JOSEPH'S, where Seats may be reserved on production of Tickets, which can be obtained from any member of Committee.

Stalls and Dress Circle, 6s.

Full particulars in a futuro issue.

**GEORGE COLEMAN,** } Hon.  
**FRED. W. GOWLLAND,** } Secs.

<sup>231</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 17<sup>th</sup> November 1881, p1.

<sup>232</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 1<sup>st</sup> May 1888, p3.

<sup>233</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 4<sup>th</sup> December 1884, p2.

<sup>234</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 24<sup>th</sup> January 1885, p3.

<sup>235</sup> NSW Unassisted Immigrant Passenger Lists: 1826-1922. [ancestry.com]

<sup>236</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 15<sup>th</sup> February 1879, p2.

<sup>237</sup> NSW BDM's. Marriage registration # 4477.

<sup>238</sup> Gundagai Times. 4<sup>th</sup> June 1880, p2.

<sup>239</sup> NSW BDNM's. Birth registration # 22296.

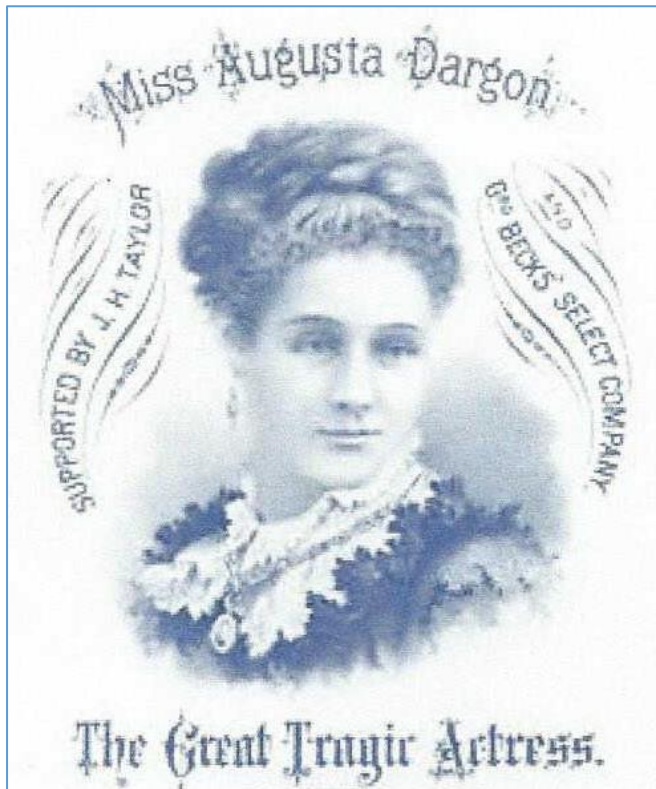
<sup>240</sup> NSW BDNM's. Death registration # 9973.

<sup>241</sup> Gundagai Times. 30<sup>th</sup> December 1902, p2.

<sup>242</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 17<sup>th</sup> June 1882, p3.

Dr Piercy was insolvent in 1892, and he sequestrated his estate in September of that year.<sup>243</sup> An examination of his affairs in March 1895, heard how his wife, Augusta, held a deposit of £3,336 in a bank account at Scone, under the name of E Drake. Augusta claimed she won it in a sweep.<sup>244</sup> The inference of the examination was this was an attempt to hide a cash asset.

After leaving Wagga Wagga Dr Piercy practiced in Sydney, but then settled at Gundagai, where his wife passed away, some two years after moving there to reside at Mount Parnassus.<sup>245</sup>



**Left:** Augusta Dargon. Courtesy DargonS [ancestry.com]

Augusta Piercy [nee Dargon] passed away, at Gundagai, on the 25th December 1902.

A report in the Catholic Press best captured the details of her eventful life,<sup>246</sup>

“Augusta L. Dargon (in private life Mrs. Piercy) died on Christmas Day at the residence of her husband, Dr. Piercy, at Gundagai. Little more than 20 years ago the name of Augusta Dargon was high up on the roll of the world's great actresses. It was the wish of the accomplished lady that her remains should be laid to rest in the cemetery at Waverley —

the Garden of Sleep on the cliffs by the sea, where Dalley (the orator), Deniehy (the scholar), and Kendall (the poet), are numbered among the silent company. On Saturday afternoon a few old friends assembled at the graveside to see the last rites of the Church performed. It was not a public funeral. Among the little group were the husband of the deceased, Mr. and Mrs. Flannery, Dr O. W. MacCarthy, Mr. and Mrs, J. Broughton, Messrs. G. B. Henry, W. H. Plunkett, J. White, and Miss Dancer. Some years ago the deceased lady resided at Randwlck, and the Waverley Cemetery then had a popular attraction for her, holding, as it did, not a few of her dearest friends.

Augusta L. Dargon was born in Dublin. When she had attained the age of 12 she was taken to America. There she received the sound education which proved of such immense assistance in her profession. Miss Dargon first notable impersonation was as Qrace Harkaway in 'London Assurance' in Louisville, Kentucky, under the management of Mr. George Fuller. So pleased was the manager that, in two or three months, the rising star Waa entrusted with the

<sup>243</sup> Wagg Wagga Express. 28<sup>th</sup> March 1895, p3.

<sup>244</sup> Wagg Wagga Express. 28<sup>th</sup> March 1895, p3.

<sup>245</sup> Gundagai Times. 30<sup>th</sup> December 1902, p2.

<sup>246</sup> Catholic Press. 31<sup>st</sup> December 1902, p15.

part of Lady Macbeth and kindred ones. The press predicted a brilliant theatrical career for Miss Dargon, whose abilities had by this time been generally admitted. After her first engagement- which lasted ten months, during which time she continued to play leading characters - she met with uninterrupted success.

Her first taste of misfortune as an actress was at the time of the historic Chicago fire. Miss Dargon not only lost a large sum of money in being burnt out, but in endeavouring to save her wardrobe sustained painful injuries, from the effects of which she suffered for years afterwards.

The Irish-American actress arrived in Australia early in 1879 unheralded, trusting altogether to her own merits as an actress to win a favourable verdict from the public

At the conclusion of her Sydney engagement in October, 1879, Miss Dargon was tendered a benefit by the Irish citizens of Sydney, the special performance taking place at the old Victoria Theatre in Pitt Street

At the close of the year Miss Dargon was similarly honoured in the Theatre Royal, Melbourne.

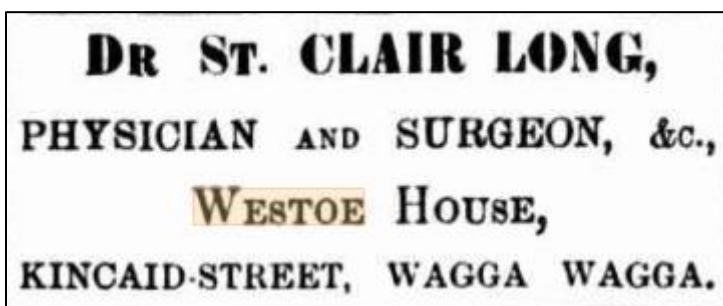
Soon after gathering in her laurels in 1879, Miss Dargon married Dr. Piercy, and made up her mind to remain permanently in Australia. Dr. Piercy, an American, had admired the actress in the United States, and had followed her to Australia."

When Augustus moved to Wagga Wagga she had resolved to end her acting career, although she did make two returns to play Lady Macbeth, and she also gave a number of recitals.

After Augusta passed away in December 1902, Ellis married Annie Dancer, at Sydney in 1903.<sup>247</sup>

Ellis Somers Piercy passed away on the 24<sup>th</sup> November 1911, at Termiel, on the NSW South Coast.<sup>248</sup> His residence was given as Central Tilba. Prior residences were listed as *Dargan*, the Boulevard, Ashfield, and Wagga Wagga.<sup>249</sup>

Dr St Clair Long followed Dr Piercy at *Westoe*.



**DR ST. CLAIR LONG,**  
PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON, &c.,  
**WESTOE HOUSE,**  
KINCAID-STREET, WAGGA WAGGA.

**Left:** A notice from Dr St Clair Long in 1888.

St Clair Long did not stay long at *Westoe House*. In May 1888 he moved to premises across the road in Traill Street, adjacent to the Wagga Wagga Advertiser offices.<sup>250</sup>

<sup>247</sup> NSW BDM's. Marriage registration # 7453.

<sup>248</sup> NSW BDM's. Death registration # 15400.

<sup>249</sup> Truth [Sydney]. 31<sup>st</sup> December 1911, p12.

<sup>250</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 8<sup>th</sup> May 1888, p2.



### St Clair Andrew Long

St Clair Andrew Long was born in Dublin, Ireland, c.1865. It is not known when he came to Australia, but he had settled at Wagga Wagga by 1888. In 1889 he married Katherine Helen Fitzhardinge, at Wagga Wagga.<sup>251</sup> Katherine was the daughter of Harry Berkeley Fitzhardinge, a well-known Wagga Wagga solicitor. Dr Long only lived in *Westoe* for some three months, before he moved to alternative premises.

St Clair Andrew Long died tragically, in May 1897, when the wheel of his buggy struck a log, throwing him out and causing his death. Dr Long was on his way to Mangoplah to treat a patient.<sup>252</sup>

Katherine Long [nee Fitzhardinge] passed away on the 6<sup>th</sup> May 1901, at Campbelltown, having left Wagga Wagga some six months earlier.<sup>253</sup>

### William Orr

By the beginning of 1889 William Orr and his family were the occupants of *Westoe House*.<sup>254</sup>

In August 1896, William's wife, Mary, passed away, at *Westoe*, on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of that month.<sup>255</sup> The death of William Orr took place in May 1901.

Following the death of William the family sold off the household furniture and moved out of *Westhoe*.<sup>256</sup> The house was advertised to let, and its location was described as, "*corner of Kincaid and Traill Streets*."<sup>257</sup>

### Private Nursing Home

Some general repairs were carried out in the early months of 1903,<sup>258</sup> and shortly thereafter, in April 1903, Drs Stoker, Thane and Warren opened the Wagga Nursing Home, in the *Westhoe* premises.<sup>259</sup>



Left: Notice for the nursing home and private hospital in 1903.

In 1904 numerous deaths took place at Westhoe private nursing home, a number of whom were prominent citizens. It appears that many patients with terminal illnesses spent their last days there. [See local papers for details of those deaths.]

In March 1904 Sister Meredith-Brown, a registered midwife nurse, and late matron of the Maryborough Hospital, purchased the Westhoe Nursing Home business, and conducted same forthwith.<sup>260</sup>

<sup>251</sup> NSW BDM's. Marriage registration # 5870.

<sup>252</sup> Wagga Wagga Express. 6<sup>th</sup> May 1897, p2.

<sup>253</sup> Wagga Wagga Express. 7<sup>th</sup> May 1901, p3.

<sup>254</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 28<sup>th</sup> February 1889, p4.

<sup>255</sup> Wagga Wagga Express. 25<sup>th</sup> August 1896, p3. / 25<sup>th</sup> August 1896, p2.

<sup>256</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 24<sup>th</sup> September 1901, p3.

<sup>257</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 26<sup>th</sup> September 1901, p3.

<sup>258</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 5<sup>th</sup> March 1903, p2.

<sup>259</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 18<sup>th</sup> April 1903, p5.

<sup>260</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 22<sup>nd</sup> March 1904, p2.

**“Westhoe”**

**Nursing Home,**  
**KINCAID STREET.**

---

**S**ISTER MEREDITH BROWN, late Matron of the Maryborough Hospital, Certificated Midwifery Nurse, HAS PURCHASED the ABOVE INSTITUTION, and will carry it on as a FIRST-CLASS NURSING HOME. An Efficient and Qualified Nursing Staff has been secured, and arrangements made by which Nurses may be engaged to attend Patients at their own homes. The Home has been entirely re-furnished.

Left: A notice for Westhoe Nursing Home in 1904.

In December 1904 a Miss Ward, late matron of the Bourke and Yass hospitals, took over the management of the nursing home.<sup>261</sup> In April 1905 Miss Ward moved the nursing home to Belmore House.<sup>262</sup>

By 1905 a Mrs Johnstone had occupied the premises, but in October of that year she sold off all of her household furniture.<sup>263</sup>

#### Boarding House

In 1906 *Westhoe* was serving as a boarding house.<sup>264</sup>

**T**WO-DAY.—Cheap sale at Smyth and Co.'s. Their whole stock of boots at reduced prices.

---

**V**ACANCIES for Gentlemen Boarders, at *Westhoe*.

---

**T**WO let, a Cottage, five rooms, two miles from Wagga. Apply Austin Donnelly.

#### Early Burial Ground

In December 1905 Matt Best stated that the area at the north east corner of *Westhoe House*, was a burial ground for the local aboriginal people in the early days [before the town developed], it being a natural sand hill. He also claimed that several white men were buried in the same location.<sup>265</sup>

**FURNITURE SALE.**

---

On Account of Mrs. JOHNSTONE,  
“Westhoe” House, Kincaid-st.

---

**MONDAY NEXT, 30<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER,**  
**At 2.30 p.m.**

---

**C**OMPRISING—Tapestry Suite (good), R. Table (cedar), Octagon Table, Rocker, good variety Curtains and Blinds, Cane Chairs; 4 D. Bedsteads, 4 Mattresses, Bedding, complete; 4  $\frac{1}{2}$  Bedsteads, 4 Mattresses, Bedding, complete; 3 Single Bedsteads, 3 Mattresses, Bedding, complete; 2 Wire Stretchers, 7 W. Stands, 8 Toilet Tables, 5 Swing Mirrors, 5 Toilet Sets, large quantity Linoleum (splendid order), splendid Extension Table, Cutlery, 5 Kitchen Chairs, Kitchen Tables, Fishing Tackle, quantity Cooking Utensils, quantity Crockery, etc.

---

The Auctioneers beg to inform you that all the above is in good order, and to be sold, without reserve. Don't miss this sale.

---

Inspection Invited.

---

**TERMS STRICTLY CASH.**

**J. SKUDDER & CO.,**  
Auctioneers.

<sup>261</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 6<sup>th</sup> December 1904, p2.

<sup>262</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 15<sup>th</sup> April 1905, p2.

<sup>263</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 28<sup>th</sup> October 1905, p5.

<sup>264</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 9<sup>th</sup> June 1906, p5.

<sup>265</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 12<sup>th</sup> December 1905, p3.

In November 1906 it was announced that, “the block of land at the corner of Kincaid and Traill Streets, on which the residence known as ‘Westhoe’ is erected, is to be cut up and sold as villa sites.”<sup>266</sup>

**“WESTHOE.”**

CORNER TRAILL & KINCAID  
STREETS, WAGGA.

—  
IMPORTANT  
Subdivisional Sale  
OF THIS VALUABLE PROPERTY.

**M**EURANT & BLAKE and J. JEREMY & CO. in conjunction, have been instructed by Messrs. Thomson and Byrnes, to submit to public competition ON AN EARLY DATE—

**“WESTHOE.”**

Cut up into splendid Villa Sites with convenient lanes, and conserving Westhoe House intact with ample grounds.

Subdivisional Plan now being prepared.  
NOTE.—Real Property Act Title.  
**MEURANT & BLAKE,  
J. JEREMY & CO.,  
Auctioneers in Conjunction.**

The **“Westhoe”**  
Subdivision.

—  
BEAUTIFULLY SITUATED, HIGH,  
IDEAL, CENTRAL VILLA SITES.

—  
**IN SIX LOTS,**  
WITH TRAILL STREET FRONTAGES

—  
Lot No. 1—Frontage, 46 feet.  
Lots 2 to 6—Frontages, 40 feet ;

—  
All Good Depths back to a 20 foot Lane.

—  
LOVELY SLOPES.  
GRAND BUILDING POSITIONS.

—  
**M**EURANT & BLAKE and J. JEREMY & CO. (acting in conjunction) have received instructions from Messrs. Thomson and Byrnes to submit to public competition, at the Pastoral Hotel, on **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18th, at 8 o'clock,**

**The Foregoing Six Splendid  
Villa Sites.**

—  
REAL PROPERTY ACT TITLES.

—  
Subdivision Plan under preparation.

—  
**WITHOUT EXCEPTION the BEST  
VILLA SITES ever offered in Wagga.**

—  
**Terms Easy at Sale.**

—  
**J. JEREMY & CO.,  
MEURANT & BLAKE,**

Above and Right: Notices of the subdivision of the Westhoe estate in 1906.

This was as per deposited plan # 4999 with six lots having frontage to Traill Street.

The sale was not a huge success – five of the six lots were passed in, for sale by private negotiation. The only block sold, lot 6, went to Mr M Shaw.<sup>267</sup>

A Mrs Aveyard was resident at Westoe in April 1908,<sup>268</sup> and still there in March 1912.<sup>269</sup>

Margaret Kate Aveyard [nee Taylor], was the daughter of Dr William George Taylor, and Harriett Campbell Taylor [nee Newman]. She was born at Tamworth in 1875.<sup>270</sup> In 1901 she married

<sup>266</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 17<sup>th</sup> November 1906, p2.

<sup>267</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 20<sup>th</sup> December 1906, p2.

<sup>268</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 23<sup>rd</sup> April 1908, p3.

<sup>269</sup> Daily Advertiser. 11<sup>th</sup> March 1912.

<sup>270</sup> NSW BDM's. Birth registration # 19632.

Lewis Aveyard at Waverley [Sydney].<sup>271</sup> Lewis was the manager of the Wagga Wagga branch of the Australian Bank of Commerce for some twelve years. Lewis and Margaret left Wagga Wagga in May 1920.<sup>272</sup> Margaret's father, Dr Lewis, had practiced in Wagga Wagga at one time.<sup>273</sup>

By November 1913 *Westhoe* was occupied by the Millenet family.<sup>274</sup> By July 1916 a Mrs Piddington [nee Millenet] occupied *Westhoe*.<sup>275</sup>

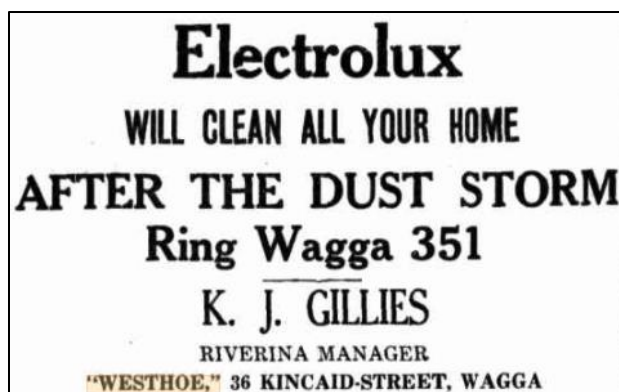
On the 1st December 1917, Jean Henry Millenet passed away at *Westhoe*.<sup>276</sup>

Charlotte Millenet passed away at *Westhoe* on the 24<sup>th</sup> January 1922.<sup>277</sup>

A member, or members, of the Millenet family continued to hold the freehold of *Westoe* up until 1954.

In May 1927 the Millenet girls sold off all of the householder furniture and equipment,<sup>278</sup> and it is suspected that from that time forward the house was let out to various tenants. One or more of the girls may have occupied a part of the premises?

From 1929 to 1931 Robertson McCracken, a retired gentleman was a tenant.<sup>279</sup> It is not known who this person was.



In September 1929 KJ Gillies was occupying space at *Westoe*.<sup>280</sup>

From 1932 to 1934 a local chartered accountant, Geoffrey Paul Turner, was the occupant of *Westoe*.<sup>281</sup>

From 1935 to 1937 there were three [concurrent] occupants:<sup>282</sup>

1. David Williams, a labourer
2. Joseph Stirling Furze, a night officer
3. Alfred James Mills, a gardener

The rate books do not list tenants from 1938 onwards.

<sup>271</sup> NSW BDM's. Marriage registration # 7826.

<sup>272</sup> Daily Advertiser. 20<sup>th</sup> May 1920, p3.

<sup>273</sup> Daily Advertiser. 15<sup>th</sup> August 1931, p4.

<sup>274</sup> Daily Advertiser. 29<sup>th</sup> November 1913, p4.

<sup>275</sup> Daily Advertiser. 12<sup>th</sup> July 1916, p3.

<sup>276</sup> Daily Advertiser. 4<sup>th</sup> December 1917, p2.

<sup>277</sup> Daily Advertiser. 25<sup>th</sup> January 1922, p3.

<sup>278</sup> Daily Express. 14<sup>th</sup> May 1927, p4.

<sup>279</sup> Wagga Wagga Rate Books.1914-1949. CSU Regional Archives.

<sup>280</sup> Daily Advertiser. 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1929, p5.

<sup>281</sup> Wagga Wagga Rate Books.1914-1949. CSU Regional Archives.

<sup>282</sup> Wagga Wagga Rate Books.1914-1949. CSU Regional Archives.



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| <p><b>SOLID OAK AND CEDAR FURNITURE</b></p> <p>on account Misses Millenet, "Westoe"<br/>36 Kincaid Street</p> <p>BY PUBLIC AUCTION</p> <p><b>WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, at 10.30 a.m.</b></p> <p>Household furniture and effects comprising as follows:—</p> <p><b>DINING ROOM.</b>—Solid Oak Sideboard, Oak Dinner Waggon, Oak chairs, Oak O'mantle, Cabinet, Maple Writing Desk (with drawers) solid Oak Dining Table, Bordered Art Serge Cloth, Curtains, Ornaments, Glassware and China, Music Cabinet, Linoleum, Jardinieres, Pictures.</p> <p><b>HALL.</b>—Maple Settee, Walnut Settee, Cane Lounge, Hall Runner, Linoleum, Art Mirror, Walnut Wall Clock, Hall Table, Curtains.</p> <p><b>BREAKFAST ROOM.</b>—Table, Chairs, Wall Mirror, Curtains, Dixie Square, Pictures.</p> <p><b>BEDROOM.</b>—D. Bedstead, W. Mattress, Bed Pillows, solid Oak, 3-piece Suits, Toiletware, Chairs, Bedstead, Cedar Chest Drawers, Chest Drawers, Linoleum.</p> <p><b>BEDROOM.</b>—2 Ivory S. Bedsteads, W. Mattress, Beds, 3-piece solid Oak Bedroom Suite, Easy Chair, Aust. Chairs, round Table, Toiletware, Screen, Curtains, Floor Mats, Linoleum (20 x 22), etc.</p> <p><b>BEDROOM.</b>—Ivory S. Bedstead, Beds, Oak Cabinet, Pictures, Combination Lady's Table and Chest of Drawers, Chairs, Linoleum, Rosewood Chair, etc.</p> | <p><b>LOBBY.</b>—Solid Cedar Chest Drawers, small Chest Drawers, Carved Oak Mirror, Towel Horse.</p> <p><b>BEDROOM.</b>—Solid Cedar Chest Drawers, Linoleum, 5 Bedsteads, W. Mattress, Bed, Linoleum, Chairs, Lady's Table.</p> <p><b>BACK VERANDAH.</b>—Large Chest Drawers, Oval Mirror, Linoleum, Chest Drawers.</p> <p><b>BEDROOM.</b>—Bedstead, Cabinet, Linoleum, Clothes rack, Chair.</p> <p><b>FRONT VERANDAH.</b>—Chairs, Ice Chest, Lady's and Gen's Bicycles.</p> <p><b>BACK VERANDAH.</b>—Bedstead, S. Bedstead, <del>with</del> large Safe, Table, cupboard</p> <p><b>SEWING ROOM.</b>—Large Table, pair Candelabra Chairs, Duchesse, Mending Basket, host of Sundries.</p> <p><b>KITCHEN.</b>—Chairs, Safe, Table, Flat Irons, S. Pans, Fountain, 2 sets Shelves, Crockery and Alum. Ware, Brooms, quantity Kitchen Requisites.</p> <p><b>YARD.</b>—14-gal. Copper, Garb. Tin, Ladder, Steps, Iron Barrow, Garden Tools, Hose, Axe, Lawn seat, etc.</p> <p><b>ALSO PLANT SUITABLE FOR CATERERS</b></p> <p>Hand Baskets, Cake Trays, Cake Box, Confectionery Jars, Jam and Bisc. Jars, Cake Mixer, Egg Mixer, Quantity Cake Tins, China, large Bell, Warmer Service, Brown Tea and Coffee Pots, Coffee Jugs, Mincer. Full list too numerous to mention.</p> <p>Misses Millenets having decided to give up house-keeping, have decided to dispose of the whole of the <b>HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE</b> and <b>EFFECTS</b> contained in "Westoe," as advertised in this issue.</p> <p>Terms prompt cash<br/><b>SKUDDER &amp; MONKS</b><br/>Property and Furniture Salesmen</p> |
|--|---|

Above: One of the advertisements for the 1927 sale of furniture etc, from Westoe.

### Joseph Stirling Furze

Joseph Stirling Furze was born at Hawksburn, Victoria, in 1888,<sup>283</sup> the son of Joseph Godfrey Furze and Elizabeth Mary Furze [nee Stirling].

On the 10<sup>th</sup> November 1914 he married Beatrice Pryce, at Grenfell.<sup>284</sup> The couple had three children – all born before Joseph and Elizabeth moved to Wagga Wagga. It appears that this latter event occurred around 1935 or a bit earlier. In 1935 Joseph was a relieving railway officer at Wagga Wagga, and he and his wife, Beatrice, were living at *Westoe*.<sup>285</sup>

In November 1937 Joseph was the stationmaster at Tumbarumba, and on the 18<sup>th</sup> of that month he was cycling home [to his residence at Tumbarumba] when he was struck by a motor vehicle and died shortly thereafter. The accident took place at the gates to the Tumbarumba Hospital, on a sharp hairpin bend. Joseph had been posted at Tumbarumba for the past two years, but his wife resided at Wagga Wagga.<sup>286</sup>

Joseph was a member of a well-known Victorian newspaper family who had press interests at Mildura, Shepparton, and Holbrook. He had been employed with the railways for some twenty years, and before going to Tumbarumba had been a night officer at the Wagga Wagga station.<sup>287</sup>



**Above:** Joseph and Beatrice Furze. Courtesy John Lawrie [ancestry.com]

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<sup>283</sup> VIC BDM's. Birth registration # 150.

<sup>284</sup> NSW BDM's. Marriage registration # 17248.

<sup>285</sup> Australian Electoral Rolls. 1935. [ancestry.com]

<sup>286</sup> Daily Advertiser. 20<sup>th</sup> November 1937, p8.

<sup>287</sup> Daily Advertiser. 19<sup>th</sup> November 1937, p4.

Beatrice was still occupying *Westoe* in February 1942, at which time her son, Flight- Sgt John David Furze was serving in Batavia.<sup>288</sup> Beatrice was still there in April 1943, when her son, John David Furze, married Dorothy Claire Barnett, in St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, at Wagga Wagga.<sup>289</sup> Dorothy was a member of the WAAAF, based in Melbourne.



Beatrice continued residing at *Westoe*, until the latter part of 1944,<sup>290</sup> but appears to have relocated around that time.

It is believed she moved to 83 Kincaid Street, where she lived with her son, Ronald Pryce Stirling Furze, and his wife, Madge Furze [nee Lowe].<sup>291</sup>

Beatrice Furze [nee Pryce] passed away on the 11<sup>th</sup> April 1968, at St Vincent's hospital, Darlinghurst.<sup>292</sup>

**Left:** A young 20 year old Beatrice Pryce. Courtesy mikh\_1951 [ancestry.com]

From the late 1940's until the mid-1950's the property was let to a variety of people.

From around 1955 the property was owned by Sir Frank Packer, and provided accommodation for the staff of his *Evening News*. When Consolidated Press decided to sell the property it was purchased by the Catholic Church, in 1965, for the sum of £3,500. The premises were substantially renovated to become the Edel Quinn shelter, conducted by the St Vincent de Paul Society. The shelter commenced operation on the 26<sup>th</sup> August 1966, under the management of Harry and Mary Kemp.<sup>293</sup>

A 1966 press report declared that the double storey, twenty plus room, former mansion, had been acquired by the St Vincent de Paul Society and was being renovated to house needy people. The

<sup>288</sup> Daily Advertiser. 24<sup>th</sup> February 1942, p2.

<sup>289</sup> Daily Advertiser. 6<sup>th</sup> April 1943, p2.

<sup>290</sup> Daily Advertiser. 5<sup>th</sup> September 1944, p2.

<sup>291</sup> Australian Electoral Rolls. 1949.[ancestry.com]

<sup>292</sup> Sydney Morning Herald. 13<sup>th</sup> April 1968. [Ryerson Index]

<sup>293</sup> On Record. CSU Regional Archives. "onrecordblog.wordpress.com/2017/10/31/westhoe"

property was referred to, erroneously, as Westby, in the article. Members of the South Wagga Lions Club were assisting with the initial demolition works. The president of the Club, Rod Parsons, advised that the complex would be renamed the Edel Quinn Shelter.<sup>294</sup>



**Above:** Front view of Westoe in 1956, with the separate building to the left, or east of the main building. This smaller building was demolished in subsequent developments. Courtesy CSU Regional Archives [RW3225/113]

The smaller building on the eastern side of *Westoe*, was not part of Forsyth's original home. It is not known when it was constructed or for what purpose. Some have claimed that it was a morgue, which, given the number of people who died at *Westoe* when it was a nursing home, is plausible.

There was no public morgue at Wagga Wagga in 1914, but a public morgue had been established at the Wagga Wagga Hospital by June 1916.<sup>295</sup> It was a part of the existing building, and not a separate edifice.<sup>296</sup>

No references could be found to the existence of a morgue at *Westoe*.

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<sup>294</sup> Daily Advertiser. 28<sup>th</sup> February 1966, p3.

<sup>295</sup> Daily Advertiser. 30<sup>th</sup> June 1916, p3.

<sup>296</sup> Daily Advertiser. 11<sup>th</sup> November 1924, p6.





**Above & Below:** Early photos showing the back of Westoe. Courtesy Museum of the Riverina  
[BGS.2008.1452 & BGS.2008.1453]

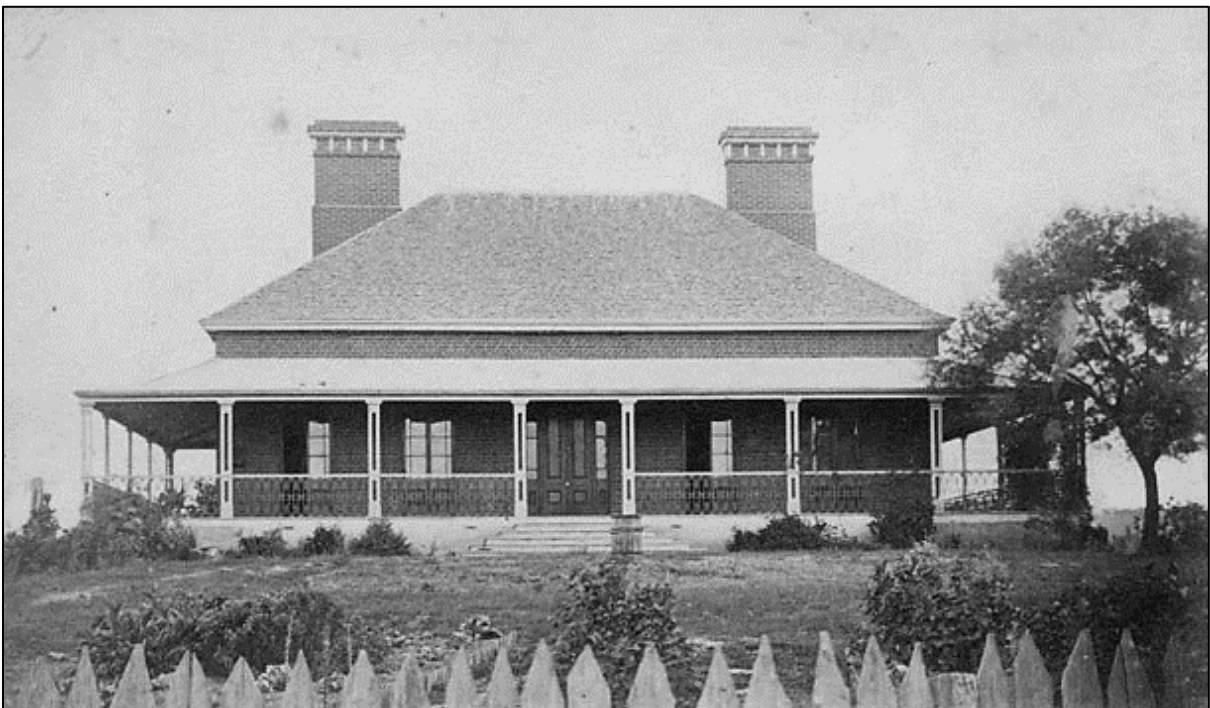






**Above:** Early photo showing the front of Westoe. Courtesy Museum of the Riverina [BGS.2008.1454]

**Below:** Forsyth's original Westoe [front view].





**Above:** A photo of the demolition works in 1966. Courtesy Daily Advertiser.

Regrettably the beautiful little building on the right was subsequently demolished.

**EXTENSIVE CLEARING SALE**  
**THIS DAY**  
 At "Westhoe," 36 Kincaid-street,  
 Wagga.  
**ON ACCOUNT MISSES MILLENET,**  
**ORDER OF SALE**  
 To suit intending purchasers  
**Note: Sale starts 10.30 a.m.**  
 Morning Sale: Catering Plant, Kitchen  
 Requisites, Crockery, Glassware,  
 Yard, Garden, Hose, &c.  
 Afternoon: Oak and Cedar Furniture,  
 Bedsteads, Linoleum, Chairs, Tables,  
 &c.  
 Terms Prompt Cash  
**SKUDDER & MONKS,**  
 Auctioneers, Wagga.

**Above Left:** A 1927 notice in the local paper.

**THANKS.**  
**THE RELATIVES** of MRS. COSTIN, of  
 Old Junee, wish to express their deep  
**GRATITUDE** to DR. STOKER for the  
 skilful operation he performed, when at a  
 critical juncture, on the above patient, at  
 "Westhoe" Private Hospital, Wagga; also  
 to DR. THANE for his able assistance.  
**WE**, the undersigned, desire to tender  
 our most **HEARTFELT THANKS**  
 to DR. STOKER for the successful opera-  
 tion he performed on Mrs. Costin, at  
 "Westhoe" Private Hospital; also for his  
 kind attendance to her.  
**MR. & MRS. H. COSTIN.**

**Above Right:** A 1903 notice.





**Above:** Edel Quinn in April 2006.



**Above:** Edel Quinn in October 2012.





Above: Edal Quinn [rear] in October 2012.



Above: Edal Quinn [side and rear] in October 2012.



**Above:** A contemporary photo of Edel Quinn.

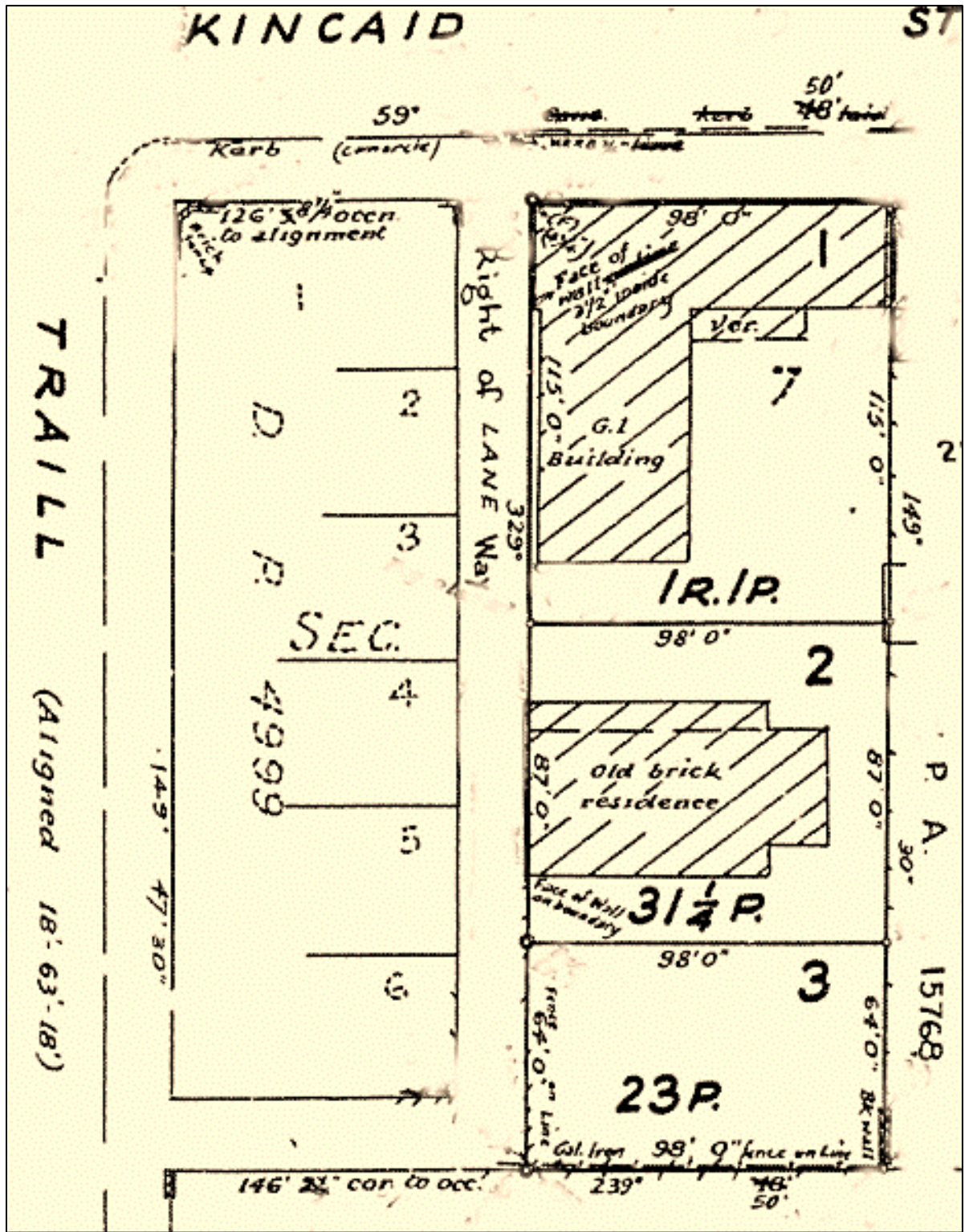


**Left:** The official opening of the Edel Quinn Centre on the 23<sup>rd</sup> October 1966.

**L to R:** Mr & Mrs Harry Kemp [the caretakers], Bishop FA Henschke, and Wal Fife, the member for Wagga Wagga.

Courtesy CSU Regional Archives [RW17].





Above: DP.215073, it being lot 7 of DP4999 plus bits of allotments 12 & 13. Westhoe was on lot 2 of DP.215073. Courtesy Wagga Wagga City Council. Intramaps.



**Above:** A contemporary aerial view of the site. Courtesy NSW Land Registry Services. SIX.

**Key**

Yellow boundary > Footprint of original the Westhoe house.

Red boundary > Approximate area of the original allotment 12.





**Above:** A 1944 aerial view of the site. Yellow boundary is *Westoe* house [on allotment 12]. Red boundary is Grinton home [on allotment 10]. Courtesy Wagga Wagga City Council. Intramaps.



**Above:** A 1971 aerial view of the site. Yellow boundary is *Westoe* house [on allotment 12]. Red boundary is Grinton home [on allotment 10]. A large building has now been constructed in front of *Westoe* house. Courtesy Wagga Wagga City Council. Intramaps.

By 1990 further subdivision had occurred and Barrand Street now ran down what was once the western boundaries of allotments 9, 7, 6, et al.



**Above:** A 2012 aerial view of the site. Major extensions have been added to Westhoe house. Grinton's house has been demolished along with the associated outbuildings, and a new building constructed along the length of the block. A new street has been created to accommodate the changes - Barrand Street. The old iron shed on allotment nine has been demolished and a new complex erected. Courtesy Wagga Wagga City Council. Intramaps.

DP.1.788437 > DP.1.552357 & DP.2.552357 > 11738-167 & 11738-167

DP.2.788437 > DP.2.552357

DP.2.215073 > 9318-22

## George Forsyth

George Forsyth was born in England, on the 25<sup>th</sup> February 1818. He was baptised at South Shields, Durham, on the 15<sup>th</sup> March 1818, in the Presbyterian Church. He was the son of James Forsyth and Isabella Forsyth [nee Williamson].<sup>297</sup> His father was a native of Sunderland, and a cordwainer [shoe maker] by trade. His paternal grandparents were James Forsyth, also a cordwainer, of Sunderland, and Elizabeth Clerehugh, a native of Scotland. His maternal grandparents were George Williamson a farmer of South Shields, and Elen Williamson [nee Kinghorn].

No record could be found of George's arrival in the colony, but by February 1841 he was employed on Tarrabunbra Station, on the Tumut River, almost certainly working for the Tooth family of Sydney, and more specifically for John Tooth, of the Kent Brewery, at that latter place.<sup>298</sup>

Morris states that George managed a pastoral run for the Tooth family at Hay in the 1840's, and that he was able to save sufficient funds to establish a store at Lower Tarcutta in 1850, with his brother Thomas Forsyth.<sup>299</sup> By March 1851 George Forsyth was definitely settled at Lower Tarcutta, and conducting a store at that place.<sup>300</sup>

In January 1852 George married Margaret Annie Gordon, the sister of John Gordon of Borambola, at Lower Tarcutta. The ceremony was performed by the Lord Bishop of Sydney.<sup>301</sup>

On the 12<sup>th</sup> October 1852 their first child, Thomas James Forsyth, was born at Lower Tarcutta.<sup>302</sup>

In June 1853 George Forsyth was the licensee of the Tarcutta Inn at Lower Tarcutta,<sup>303</sup> and was still so in 1854.<sup>304</sup> No records survive for 1855, but by 1856 William Sawyer was the licensee of the Tarcutta Inn.<sup>305</sup>

On the 17<sup>th</sup> January 1854, at Lower Tarcutta, George's only son, Thomas, died at the age of fifteen months.<sup>306</sup>

George was still conducting a store at Lower Tarcutta in August 1854, when a second son was born at that place, on the 26<sup>th</sup> of said month.<sup>307</sup> This little fellow survived for nine months before he passed away on the 11<sup>th</sup> May 1855.<sup>308</sup>

George was actually in partnership with his brother Thomas, but they dissolved same in May 1855.<sup>309</sup> George had made the decision to move to Wagga Wagga, and take over the business of Robert Davison & Co.<sup>310</sup> By August 1855, George had taken over Davison's store.<sup>311</sup>

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<sup>297</sup> England and Wales. Non-conformist and Non-parochial Registers: 1567-1970. Ref. 1238. [ancestry.com] / NSW BDM's. Death registration # 9923.

<sup>298</sup> Sydney Herald. 25<sup>th</sup> February 1841, p4.

<sup>299</sup> Sherry Morris. *George Forsyth: Wagga Wagga's First Mayor* [article].

<sup>300</sup> Goulburn Herald. 8<sup>th</sup> March 1851, p5. / 2<sup>nd</sup> August 1851, p7c1.

<sup>301</sup> Goulburn Herald. 10<sup>th</sup> January 1852, p5c1. / NSW BDM's. Marriage registration # 517/1852 V1852517 38C.

<sup>302</sup> Goulburn Herald. 30<sup>th</sup> October 1852, p5c1. / NSW BDM's. Birth registration # 1399/1854 V18541399 52.

<sup>303</sup> Goulburn Herald. 25<sup>th</sup> June 1853, p2c4.

<sup>304</sup> NSW State Records. Treasury Butts & certificates of Publicans' Licences. 1854. License # 108.

<sup>305</sup> NSW State Records. Treasury Butts & certificates of Publicans' Licences. 1856. License # 119.

<sup>306</sup> Goulburn Herald. 4<sup>th</sup> February 1854, p2c6.

<sup>307</sup> Goulburn Herald. 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1854, p2c6.

<sup>308</sup> Goulburn Herald. 26<sup>th</sup> May 1855, p2c4.

<sup>309</sup> Goulburn Herald. 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1855, p2c7.

<sup>310</sup> Goulburn Herald. 18<sup>th</sup> August 1855, p3c1.

<sup>311</sup> Goulburn Herald. 25<sup>th</sup> August 1855, p1.



**South Wagga Wagga.**

**ROBERT DAVISON & CO.,**

**H**AVING disposed of their extensive Stock of General Stores to **GEO. FORSYTH & Co.**, beg to recommend their successors to their numerous constituents and supporters; and they cannot allow the opportunity to pass without most cordially thanking their friends for their kind patronage.

**GEORGE FORSYTH & CO.,**

in entering upon their new Stores, as successors to R. Davison & Co., beg to direct the attention of the inhabitants of North and South Wagga Wagga, and the settlers in the district, to their extensive stock of General Stores, comprising—

**GROCERIES  
DRAPERY  
IRONMONGERY  
EARTHENWARE  
SADDLERY  
BOOTS AND SHOES  
WOOLPACKS, and  
SHEARING SUPPLIES,**

which they are ready to sell this season at a *small advance on the actual cost.*

G. F. & Co. will be glad of a visit from their friends, to inspect their numerous and extensive assortment.

Wagga Wagga, August 10, 1855.

**Left:** Notice of George's take up of the business at Wagga Wagga in 1855. George quickly became involved in community affairs, and within a few months was the treasure of the committee chosen to raise funds for the appointment of an Anglican clergyman at Wagga Wagga.<sup>312</sup>

George's original relationship with Davison was that of a partner. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1856 that partnership was dissolved and George became the sole proprietor of the business.<sup>313</sup>

George's mother in law, Mrs Jane Gordon [a widow], was residing at his home in 1857, when she passed away there, on the 11<sup>th</sup> November 1857.<sup>314</sup>

By November 1857 George was conducting sales by public auction, for stock initially.<sup>315</sup>

By May 1858 George was the treasurer of the local hospital committee.<sup>316</sup>

**Right & Below:** Notices for George's activities.

**2,500 STORE CATTLE  
FOR SALE  
BY PRIVATE CONTRACT.**

**A**LL over 2 years old, deliverable at "COLD WATER STATION," on the Lower Lachlan. For terms and full particulars, apply to

**GEORGE FORSYTH.**

**Horses, Cattle, and  
Sheep.**

**MONTHLY PERIODICAL SALES.**  
BY  
**GEORGE FORSYTH,**  
**AT HIS YARDS,  
SOUTH WAGGA WAGGA**

**REGULAR  
MONTHLY SALE,**  
on the  
**FIRST TUESDAY IN EACH MONTH**  
and at intermediate periods when required. The great convenience of fixed days for buyer and seller, will much facilitate the disposal of Stock.

Wagga Wagga, September 1, 1859. 0

<sup>312</sup> Goulburn Herald. 3<sup>rd</sup> November 1855, p2.

<sup>313</sup> NSW Government Gazette. 1856, p2578.

<sup>314</sup> Sydney Morning Herald. 20<sup>th</sup> November 1857, p1c1.

<sup>315</sup> Sydney Morning Herald. 24<sup>th</sup> November 1857, p5.

<sup>316</sup> Maitland Mercury. 12th May 1857, p2.

**WAGGA WAGGA.**  
**HORSE, CATTLE, AND SHEEP**

**B A B A B .**

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**GEORGE FORSYTH**  
**AUCTIONEER,**  
**AND**  
**COMMISSION AGENT,**

**I**S prepared to negotiate for the sale or purchase of stock of all descriptions; and also for stations, landed and house property.

THREE EXCELLENT STATIONS FOR SALE,  
viz,

**"OWRA,"** with 12 miles frontage to the Murrumbidgee, and 2 Saltbush Blocks near Yanco Creek; also,  
**KOLKIBERTO, EAST**  
**STATION,** near Marool Creek, on the north side of the Murrumbidgee, a most excellent fattening run, containing about 64,000 acres. Apply to

**G. FORSYTH.**

Left & Below: Notices of George Forsyth's growing business acumen.<sup>317</sup>

**SOUTH WAGGA WAGGA.**

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**GEORGE FORSYTH,**  
**GENERAL STOREKEEPER,**  
**WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANT,**

**B**EGS to tender to his friends his best thanks for their kind support during the past three years, and to assure those parties either in the immediate vicinity or at a distance, that their esteemed favours will be met with promptitude and correctness, under the personal superintendence of G. F., who has at present on hand one of the largest stocks of General Merchandise ever offered in Wagga Wagga, judiciously assorted from some of the best houses in Sydney.

**Wagga Wagga, October 30, 1858.**

In 1859 Forsyth built a new store, next to the old store, to accommodate his expanding business. The new store was to open on Monday the 15<sup>th</sup> August, in that year.<sup>318</sup>

In 1860, a daughter, Isabella, was born, at Wagga Wagga,<sup>319</sup> but sadly she passed away, in the following year, at the age of one year and eight months.<sup>320</sup>

In 1862 the couple's fourth child, Margaret Ann Forsyth, was born at Wagga Wagga.<sup>321</sup> Margaret was the only one of their children to survive past infancy.

In February 1863 George was appointed a Justice of the Peace, and able to sit as a magistrate on the local bench.<sup>322</sup>

Business continued to grow and in May 1864 Forsyth erected new brick stores, with cellars, to the rear of his existing stores.<sup>323</sup>

The business of George Forsyth & Co., would have been enhanced in August 1868, when a building belonging to George was declared a "*bonded store*," by the government.<sup>324</sup> This was a two storey brick building that faced onto Kincaid Street, to the west of his Fitzmaurice Street store.

<sup>317</sup> Wagga Wagga Express. 11<sup>th</sup> December 1858, p4.

<sup>318</sup> Wagga Wagga Express. 13<sup>th</sup> August 1859, p4c2.

<sup>319</sup> NSW BDM's. Birth registration # 12945.

<sup>320</sup> Wagga Wagga Express. 19<sup>th</sup> June 1906, p4c3. Extract from WVE. 6<sup>th</sup> September 1861.

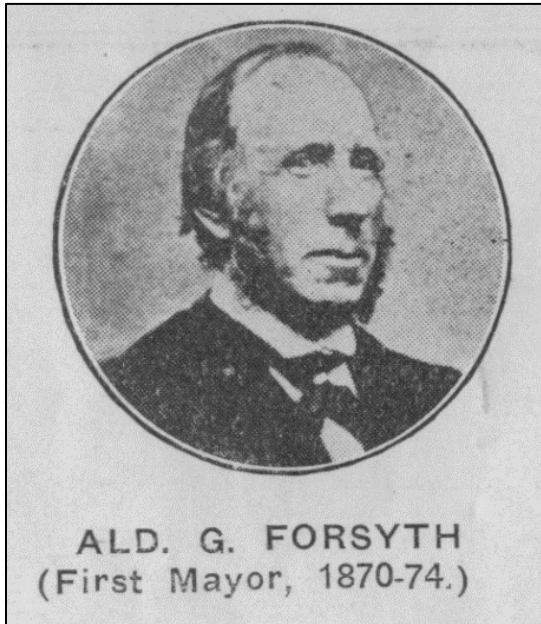
<sup>321</sup> NSW BDM's. Birth registration # 14336.

<sup>322</sup> Goulburn Herald. 28<sup>th</sup> February 1863, p2.

<sup>323</sup> Yass Courier. 11<sup>th</sup> May 1864, p2c6.

<sup>324</sup> NSW Government Gazette. 1868, p2570.

In the 1860's and 1870's George Forsyth was dominant in the business environment of Wagga Wagga and its surrounds. He was the major trader in stock, and real estate of all classifications. He commonly bought and sold properties, in his own name, in order to turn a profit. At the same time he participated in a wide variety of community groups and events. Many public meetings were chaired by George. His influence was at its peak. Newspapers were laced with notices from George Forsyth & Co., promoting a variety of sales – everything from furniture and stock to large runs.<sup>325</sup>



In June 1870 the local citizens [those that qualified] voted to elect nine alderman for the newly formed Wagga Wagga Borough Council. Three aldermen were elected for each of the established three wards – North, South and East wards. George Forsyth was elected to represent the South ward, and it was he who received the highest number of votes of all candidates.<sup>326</sup> On Monday the 20<sup>th</sup> June George Forsyth was elected to be the first ever mayor of Wagga Wagga.<sup>327</sup>

By 1876 George had made the decision to sell up and move from Wagga Wagga. He sold his general store business in June of that year, to Messrs JE Jackson & JP Charles. The latter men retained the company name of Forsyth & Co.<sup>328</sup>

It appears that George left Wagga Wagga in 1876 to reside on his property, *Yarangobilly*. At some point in time he moved to live at Kempsey, where he remained up until the time of his death.

George's death took place at Kempsey, in the Star hotel, on the 26<sup>th</sup> May 1887.<sup>329</sup> George's body was buried in the cemetery at Frederickton.

George's only surviving child, his daughter, Margaret Ann, had married Henry Clement Tingcombe, who, at the time of George's death, was the manager of the Murrumburrah branch of the Commercial Bank.

George's wife, Margaret passed away on the 18<sup>th</sup> March 1890 at Narandera, aged seventy one.<sup>330</sup>

At Kempsey George had been living with his brother, Thomas. The latter passed away on the 26<sup>th</sup> January 1892, and was buried next to his wife and his brother, in the cemetery at Frederickton.<sup>331</sup>

Two people have been commonly referred to as the "*father of Wagga Wagga*." One was Frederick Anslow Tompson, and the second was George Forsyth.<sup>332</sup> Both men made a substantial contribution to the town and its people, and both men deserved the accolade.

<sup>325</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 9<sup>th</sup> January 1869, p4.

<sup>326</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 18<sup>th</sup> June 1870, p2.

<sup>327</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 22<sup>nd</sup> June 1870, p2.

<sup>328</sup> Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 24<sup>th</sup> June 1876, p3.

<sup>329</sup> NSW BDM's. Death registration # 9923. / Wagga Wagga Advertiser. 28<sup>th</sup> May 1887, p2.

<sup>330</sup> Australian Star. 25<sup>th</sup> March 1890, p6.

<sup>331</sup> MacLeay Argus. 29<sup>th</sup> January 1892, p5.

<sup>332</sup> Daily Advertiser. 24<sup>th</sup> February 1951, p2. / 26<sup>th</sup> August 1953, p3.

# George Forsyth



**Left:** George Forsyth, the father of Wagga Wagga.

The following extract is taken from the Australian Dictionary of Biography, the text of which was researched by our own Keith Swan,

“For over twenty years Forsyth was also a civic leader in Wagga Wagga. He was prominent in the establishment and management of the Mechanics' Institute, the hospital, the National school and the Presbyterian Church and was a founding director of the Wagga Wagga Bridge Co. which built the toll bridge across the Murrumbidgee in 1862. He was voted to the chair at many meetings and in 1870-74 he was first mayor of Wagga Wagga. In these faction-ridden years Forsyth was respected for his integrity. In 1876 when he decided to leave the town the Wagga Wagga Advertiser suggested that local residents plan 'a right royal parting testimony to the worth of our good King George'. In 1876 Forsyth retired to his property near Yarrangobilly and about 1880 moved to South West Rocks on the Macleay River.”