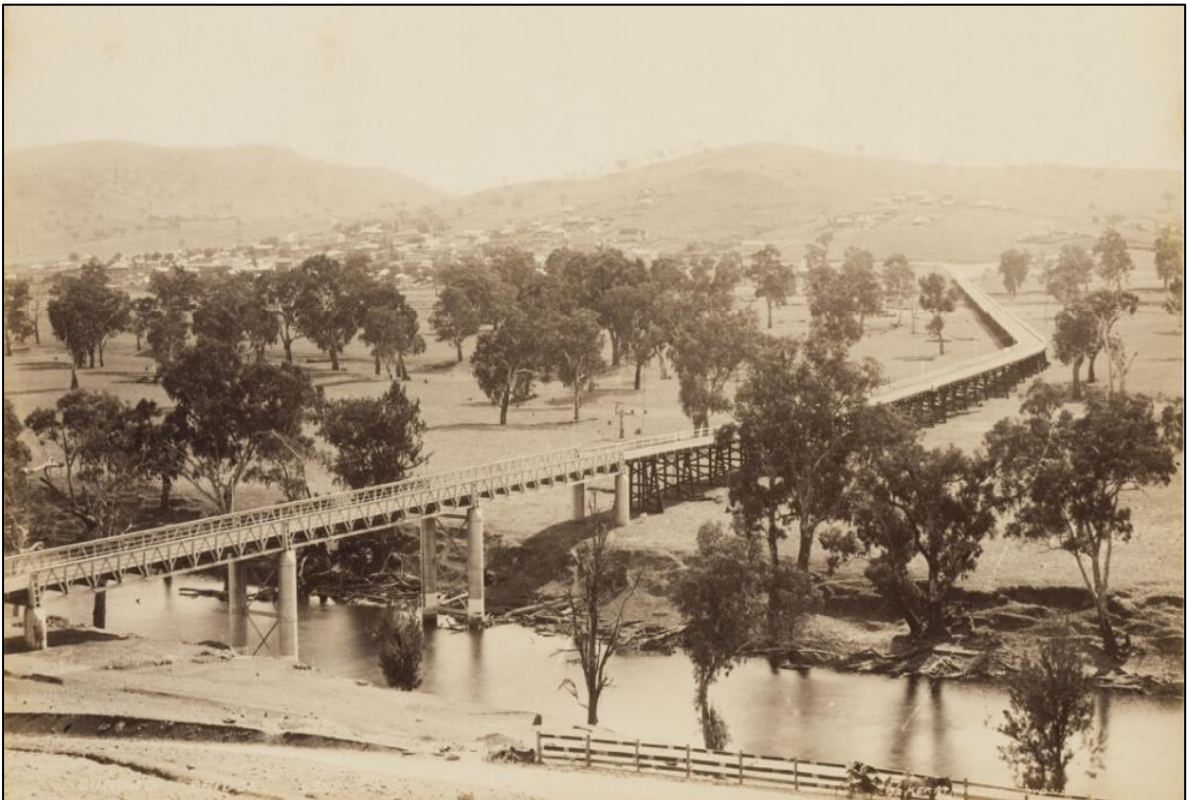


The Gundagai Flood of 1852



A view of the flood plain at Gundagai, c.1886.

Front cover: 1867 Prince Albert Bridge over the Murrumbidgee River c.1886. Courtesy NSW State Library [SPF/1745]

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Introduction

There are numerous accounts of the 1852 flood at Gundagai, which quote varying figures for the number of deaths attributable to the flood, and for the number of people who survived.

This article is an attempt to provide more accurate data, drawing on a variety of sources.

I would be pleased to hear from any reader who has information that will add to, or amend, the contents.

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The Gundagai Flood of 1852

The Dates

The following succinct chronological account of the 1852 flood covers the period from the 24th June to the 30th June [inclusive],

24th June 1852 [Thursday] – The Murrumbidgee River had been rising for some days, but it was not until the evening of this day that concerns for serious flooding materialised. Residents in the lower parts of the town [on the north bank] had moved to higher ground during the day. The northern town, at that time, was located on a flat between the river and a creek, with the latter forming a barrier to higher ground. By Thursday evening the flat was flooded.

One survivor gave the following account of that day, in part,¹

“Between six and seven o'clock on Thursday morning, the 24th instant, I was aroused from my sleep by the voice of a neighbour, exclaiming in accents of horror. "For God's sake jump up, or you will be flooded." I hurriedly I dressed myself - I rushed out and saw the water within 30 yards of my door! I approached to its edge, and found that it was subsiding, but alas its work of destruction had but commenced. Shortly after nine o'clock the rain again set in, and from that hour until 4pm it poured incessantly.”

25th June 1852 [Friday] – At 9am the water had reached the level of the 1851 flood. The river height peaked at 11pm.² According to one resident the flood waters reached two feet into his 2nd floor, which equated to fourteen feet of water on the highest ground, and thirty feet of water on the lower lying land.³ It was on this day, and night, that the majority of the victims perished.⁴

26th June 1852 [Saturday] – The river commenced to fall at around 3am. Death toll said to be 60 people. 34 houses were washed away.⁵

29th June 1852 [Tuesday] – D Smith wrote a letter to the Board of National Education, in which he recorded some 74 deaths and the loss of 36 houses.⁶

30th June 1852 [Wednesday] – News reached Goulburn of the ruin of Gundagai as a consequence of flooding. Stated that 70 to 80 lives had been lost and only three houses were left standing.⁷

Lives Lost

On the 8th July 1852 the SMH reported that upward of 100 lives had been lost. Further that seventy-eight bodies had been interred on Thursday [presumably the 1st July] and that twelve bodies were still missing.⁸

According to one survivor, 74 lives were lost [he had recorded a list, but this was not published].⁹ He estimated a total population of some 200 people at the time of the tragedy and stated that he could account for 106 survivors.¹⁰ He lamented the absence of a minister to call them together and to offer up prayers.

The Rev. Charles F Brigstocke reported seventy-six persons perished. He noted that,¹¹

“About thirty-one bodies have been interred, nineteen on the south side, in good hardwood coffins, in one place, without distinction of sect or creed, and over whom I read the burial service, which ceremony was attended by many of the relations and friends of the deceased, who appeared very grateful for this attention to them in their distress. Five Protestants are buried on this side of the river, over whom I performed the like ceremony; and apart from these, at a short distance, are laid the remains of eight who were Romanists. For the performance of the last rites over these eight, I was informed the Priest from Yass was daily expected; so I did not interfere.”

The bodies officiated over by Brigstocke were as follow,¹²

1. Caroline Amelia Thatcher (44)
2. Mary Ann Thatcher (16)
3. George Thatcher (6)
4. Gerald Hemphill (48)
5. Ann Hemphill (47)
6. Rebecca Hemphill (14)
7. Jane Hemphill (16)
8. Ann Hemphill (7)
9. James Hemphill (9)
10. James Saxonby (56)
11. Catherine Eggerton (36)
12. Richard Hunt (9)
13. William Perkins (30)¹³
14. John Perston (24)
15. John Williams (51)
16. James Minihan (35)
17. Hannah Sophia Lindley (32)
18. George Lindley (8)
19. Hannah Sophia Lindley (1)
20. Sarah Butler (43)
21. Emily Jane Butler (4½)
22. John Haslem (36)
23. George Ross (5)
24. Emma Lindley (5)

All of the above [19 + 5] were buried on the 17th July 1852 [22 days after they drowned – on the 25th June].¹⁴

Correspondence in August 1852 estimated the population at 200 persons, and indicated that more than eighty people had perished, although they had only been able to identify seventy-seven to date. The survivors were numbered at “*about one hundred and fifteen.*”¹⁵

A report in 1912 by HM Turnbull claimed that 184 people were drowned.¹⁶ It should be noted that Henry [junior] was not born at the time of the flood and his recollections were based on hearsay.

In May 1912, Mrs Foster, a survivor of the '52 flood, gave an account of the tragedy. In regard to the deceased bodies she noted,¹⁷

“I remember seeing 24 naked bodies lying in a row, just below where Kenny's place now is [South Gundagai]. Many of the victims were buried at South Gundagai. You might notice a spot there where there are some lilies growing - well, a number of the bodies were interred there. Several others were buried in a plot of ground which is now used as a garden by a South Gundagai man.”

Michael Norton also saw the bodies at South Gundagai. As he explained,¹⁸

“After the water receded, I was rowed over to South Gundagai, and there saw the dead bodies of no less than 19 persons of all ages and sizes, all collected in one house. The bodies had been washed up by the ebb water into one spot, but the others, big and little, were carried away down stream. But most of the bodies were recovered.”



Above: Photograph of 1900 flood, taken from Sheridan Street, showing the extent of the area submerged during major flooding events. Courtesy Gundagai Museum.

Those known to have perished are as follows,¹⁹

1. Athesley, Mr [or Ainslie]. A young man, residing with the Turnbull family. An artist who was seeking colonial experience.²⁰ He drowned when he attempted to swim to safety. His body was found a week later, near Wagga Wagga.
2. Brennan, Mary [13].²¹ Residing with the McKenna family.²² Daughter of James Brennan.²³ Mary's body was recovered some weeks after the event.²⁴ Recorded as Mary Burnan by Beckham.²⁵
3. Brett, Julia [13].²⁶
4. Butler, Mrs Sarah [43].²⁷ Buried 17th July 1852.²⁸
5. Butler, Emily Jane [5½].²⁹ Buried 17th July 1852.³⁰
6. Castleton, Henry [10]. Residing with Scott family.³¹
7. Connolly, Mrs Ann [55].³² Grandmother to the two Flynn children.³³ [Listed as Courley in SMH]
8. Doyle, Mary Ann [6½].³⁴ The father of the three Doyle children was away at the time of the flood. He had been at Mount Alexander.³⁵
9. Doyle, Charles Edward [2½].³⁶
10. Doyle, Robert Thomas [2½].³⁷
11. Egerton, William [45]. A tailor.³⁸
12. Eggerton [or Egerton], Mrs Catherine [36].³⁹ Buried 17th July 1852.⁴⁰
13. Farrell, Ann [19] – A servant at Lindley's Rose Inn.⁴¹
14. Flynn, Ellen [7].⁴² The two Flynn children were residing with their grandmother at Gundagai. Their father was living at Jugiong, and he suffered property losses, from flooding, at that place.⁴³
15. Flynn, James [5].⁴⁴
16. Gormly, Patrick [55]. A labourer.⁴⁵ The following account was given of Patrick,⁴⁶

"One poor man named Gormley came up to that neighbourhood in the Messrs. Macarthurs' service, and by his own industry, and the good conduct of his sons, the poor man saved money, and bought land at Gundagai and farms in the suburbs, and was commencing with his sons, who were just grown up. The unfortunate man, with his wife, daughter, two sons, and lodgers, were all drowned, their house taken away, leaving but two of the sons."

17. Gormly, Mrs Mary [46].⁴⁷
18. Gormly, Jeremiah [22]. A labourer.⁴⁸
19. Gormly, Sarah [14].⁴⁹
20. Gormly, Patrick [10].⁵⁰
21. Haslem, John [36].⁵¹ Buried 17th July 1852.⁵²
22. Hemphill, Gerald [or Gerard] [48]. An inn keeper.⁵³ Buried 17th July 1852.⁵⁴
23. Hemphill, Mrs Ann [47].⁵⁵ Buried 17th July 1852.⁵⁶
24. Hemphill, Miss Jane [16]. Alive in a tree on night of 26th. Found dead on 27th.⁵⁷ Buried 17th July 1852.⁵⁸
25. Hemphill, Rebecca [14].⁵⁹ Buried 17th July 1852.⁶⁰
26. Hemphill, James S [9].⁶¹ Buried 17th July 1852.⁶²
27. Hemphill, Ann [7].⁶³ Buried 17th July 1852.⁶⁴
28. Henslip, John.⁶⁵ [Could this be John Haslem?]
29. Hunt, Richard [56]. Saddler, formerly of Parramatta.⁶⁶ [see obituary SMH. 10th July 1852, p3] Tried to save himself by swimming from Mr Spencer's premises.⁶⁷
30. Hunt, Mrs Sarah [35].⁶⁸
31. Hunt, Emily [11].⁶⁹
32. Hunt, Richard [9].⁷⁰ Buried 17th July 1852.⁷¹

33. Hunt, Caroline [5].⁷²
34. Hunt, John [3].⁷³
35. Lindley, Hannah Sophia [nee Stewart] [32 or 33].⁷⁴ [See Goulburn Herald. 10th July 1852, p3. – Account of her death.] Buried 17th July 1852.⁷⁵
36. Lindley, George [8].⁷⁶ Buried 17th July 1852.⁷⁷
37. Lindley, Emma [5].⁷⁸ Buried 17th July 1852.⁷⁹
38. Lindley, Thomas [3].⁸⁰
39. Lindley, Hanna [or Anna] Sophia [1].⁸¹ Buried 17th July 1852.⁸²
40. Luff, William [57]. Squatter of the Murrumbidgee, staying at Lindley's Rose Inn.⁸³
41. McKenna, Allan [67]. The schoolmaster – bodies of Mr and Mrs McKenna found wrapped in each other's arms.⁸⁴ Teacher at National School.⁸⁵ Originally an immigrant, from Ireland, who was appointed to position of Assignee to Insolvent Estates. Had been a corn merchant back in Ireland.⁸⁶ [See Goulburn Herald. 10th July 1852, p3. – Biographical details] [**Recorded as Joseph McKenna on plaque**]
42. McKenna, Mrs Elizabeth [34].⁸⁷
43. McKenna, Joseph [13].⁸⁸
44. McKenna, John [11].⁸⁹
45. McKenna, Martha [7].⁹⁰
46. McKenna, William [6].⁹¹
47. McKenna, Justus [4].⁹²
48. McKinnon [spelt McKinnan on death registration], John [50]. A labourer.⁹³
49. McNamara, James [or John] [40]. A labourer.⁹⁴
50. McPherson, John. Swept from Spencer's hotel.⁹⁵
51. Minchin, John. Drowned at South Gundagai.⁹⁶
52. Minehan, James [35]. The punt man.⁹⁷ Swept from Spencer's hotel.⁹⁸ [South Gundagai].⁹⁹ Buried 17th July 1852.¹⁰⁰
53. Morris, John [43]. A horse breaker.¹⁰¹
54. Morris, John [5].¹⁰²
55. Morris, David [3].¹⁰³
56. Morrissey [or Morrissy], Daniel [64 or 70]. A stonemason.¹⁰⁴
57. Perkins, John [William on death certificate] [30]. A labourer from Goulburn.¹⁰⁵ Son of William Perkins [senior].¹⁰⁶ [South Gundagai].¹⁰⁷ Died while attempting to rescue others.¹⁰⁸ Buried 17th July 1852.¹⁰⁹
58. Perston, [or Perton] or Purston, or Preston, John [24], A gentleman from Bathurst.¹¹⁰ [South Gundagai].¹¹¹ Buried 17th July 1852.¹¹²
59. Ross, George [5].¹¹³ Buried 17th July 1852.¹¹⁴
60. Ross, Mary Anne [2½].¹¹⁵
61. Ross, William [1].¹¹⁶ Mrs Ross had swum two miles with an infant at her breast, only to find the child had died.¹¹⁷
62. Sacks, John [28]. A German storekeeper.¹¹⁸ [South Gundagai].¹¹⁹ Swept from Spencer's hotel.¹²⁰ [Spelt Saches in Goulburn Herald].
63. Saxenby, James [56]. A watchmaker from Braidwood.¹²¹ Buried 17th July 1852.¹²²
64. Scott, John [30]. A butcher.¹²³
65. Scott, Mrs Mary Ann [23].¹²⁴ Wife of John.
66. Scott, 2nd child.¹²⁵
67. Scott, Mrs Mary [19].¹²⁶ [**a married servant according to Crooks**]
68. Scott, Henry [3 weeks old]. Son of Mary [19].¹²⁷

69. Smart, Mary Ann [11] – Little girl residing at Lindley’s Rose Inn.¹²⁸ **[11 years old and a servant to Lindley, according to Crooks]¹²⁹**. Beckham lists with Lindley family.
70. Smart, John A [11].¹³⁰
71. **Sweney [or Sweeney], Mr James [56]** – A watchmaker who was swept away on the roof of Hemphill’s house.¹³¹
72. **Thatcher, Mrs Caroline Amelia [or Catherine][44] [senior].¹³²** Her body was recovered some weeks later.¹³³ Buried 17th July 1852.¹³⁴
73. Thatcher, Mrs Honora [19] [nee Jones].¹³⁵ Her husband, Henry Thatcher [junior], was away at the diggings.¹³⁶
74. **Thatcher, Mary Ann [16].¹³⁷** Buried 17th July 1852.¹³⁸
75. **Thatcher, John Frederick [14].¹³⁹**
76. **Thatcher, William [8].¹⁴⁰**
77. **Thatcher, George [6].¹⁴¹** Buried 17th July 1852.¹⁴²
78. **Thatcher, Alfred [3].¹⁴³**
79. **Thatcher, Louis F¹⁴⁴ [or Lewis or Louisa] [14 months].¹⁴⁵** Son of Henry & Caroline
80. Unknown – Old man residing at Lindley’s Rose Inn.¹⁴⁶
81. Unknown – Servant man residing at Lindley’s Rose Inn.¹⁴⁷
82. Unknown – A servant at Lindley’s Rose Inn.¹⁴⁸
83. Unknown – Woman 2 residing at Lindley’s Rose Inn.¹⁴⁹
84. Unknown – Child of Woman 2 residing at Lindley’s Rose Inn.¹⁵⁰
85. Unknown – Boatman who drowned on 25th while rescuing members of the Thatcher family.¹⁵¹
86. Unknown – Girl 1, lodger with Gormly family.¹⁵²
87. Unknown – Girl 2, lodger with Gormly family.¹⁵³
88. Unknown – Stranger 1, from the Lachlan and staying at Spencer’s Inn.¹⁵⁴
89. Unknown – Stranger 2, from the Lachlan and staying at Spencer’s Inn.¹⁵⁵
90. Unknown – Stranger 3, from the Lachlan and staying at Spencer’s Inn.¹⁵⁶
91. Unknown – Stranger 4, from the Lachlan and staying at Spencer’s Inn.¹⁵⁷
92. Unknown – Shepherd, old and lame.¹⁵⁸
93. Unknown – Servant to Dr Waugh.¹⁵⁹
94. **Walker, William [50 or 51].** A labourer.¹⁶⁰
95. **Williams, John [51].** A labourer and cook for Spencer.¹⁶¹ Swept from Spencer’s hotel. [South Gundagai].¹⁶² Buried 17th July 1852.¹⁶³

Note: It is plausible that an “unknown” detailed in one source, may have been identified by a name in another source.

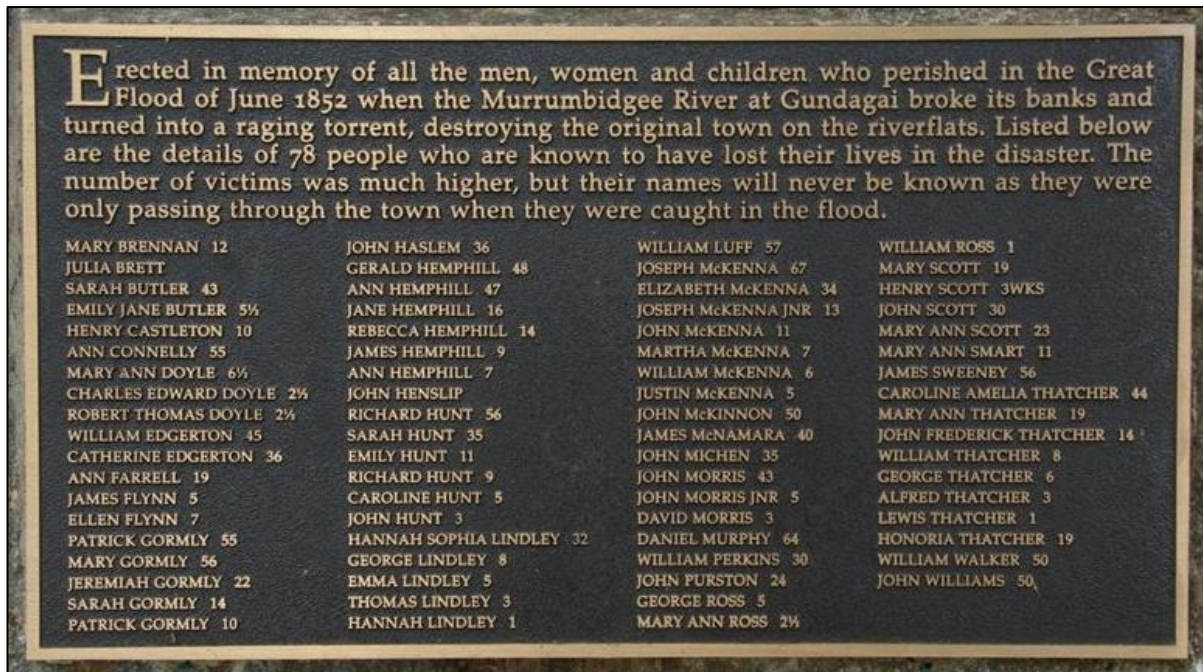
Nineteen people [twenty in a 2nd account] had taken refuge in the loft of Lindley’s kitchen, it being a brick building and offering the highest sanctuary. All of them perished in the flood waters when the kitchen and stable were both washed away [a 2nd account stated that two people survived].¹⁶⁴

Beckham recorded sixty-eight deaths at North Gundagai and seven at South Gundagai.¹⁶⁵

The plaque at Gundagai lists Daniel Murphy - aged 64 – as a victim of the flood. No evidence could be found of such a person drowning at Gundagai in the 1852 flood.

Blue = listed in NSW BDM’s – death registrations

[Note: NSW BDM’s # 1252 plus 1294, 1297, 1316 and 1322 are not ‘52 flood victims. No’s 1326 onwards are not ‘52 flood victims]



Above: The plaque at Gundagai listing those who perished.

Left: James Gormly, one of the survivors of the flood and later a prominent politician. Courtesy Les Gormly.

The Survivors

1. Andrews, Joseph. Along with his wife and five children.¹⁶⁶
2. Bailie, James.¹⁶⁷
3. Baker, Joe. A butcher.¹⁶⁸
4. Bingham, Henry. Commissioner for Crown Lands, Murrumbidgee District.
5. Boland, Mr.¹⁶⁹
6. Booby, Joshua. Along with his wife and three children.¹⁷⁰ [Boobie according to Bingham]
7. Bourke, Mr.¹⁷¹
8. Butler, Charles. Along with his daughter and his two grandchildren – Sarah & Eliza Scott.¹⁷²
9. Caddington, Mr.¹⁷³
10. Clinch, John. A mail coach driver between Gundagai and Tarcutta.¹⁷⁴ Rescued by same boat that rescued James Gormly. This boat was manned by two strangers [white men] who had been staying in the town, on their way to the Victorian gold fields.¹⁷⁵
11. Cooper, Ben. A butcher.¹⁷⁶
12. Davies.¹⁷⁷
13. Davison, Robert. Along with wife and daughter.¹⁷⁸ Also a servant girl and boy.
14. Dawes.¹⁷⁹
15. Doyle, Ellen. Along with her son, William Joseph Doyle. Residing with the Ross family.¹⁸⁰ Both rescued by Yarri.¹⁸¹ Three other Doyle children perished. Beckham lists a second son saved.
16. Ferguson, John.¹⁸²
17. Ford, Mrs. Along with a daughter and a son.¹⁸³
18. Foster, William. Along with his wife and three children.¹⁸⁴ On Thursday 24th, Mrs Foster and her three children moved to the Noah's Ark hotel, which was on higher ground, and were safe there. William Foster had gone to stay with Mrs Lindley, who was afraid, because her husband was away at the time.¹⁸⁵ According to Mrs Foster, on Friday the 25th one of the Aboriginal men, whom she referred to as Tommy, approached the Lindley brick building and found a number of people there, who he offered to rescue in his canoe. All but one declined, that person was William Foster. According to his wife,¹⁸⁶

“The one, however, who decided that Tommy's canoe - cockle-shell that it was, was safer than a brick house in 20ft. of water was my husband. When he said he would accept Tommy's offer, the black fellow wanted to back out of his promise, as he said Foster was too big and heavy. But my husband insisted on the black fellow taking him. Then Tommy made him strip himself and get into the canoe back to back, so that in case of a capsize he would not clutch him. That's how my husband was saved!”

19. Gallogly, George and Tom. Two sons of Mrs Turnbull's first marriage.¹⁸⁷
20. Gasse, . Situated at South Gundagai.
21. Gormly, James.¹⁸⁸
22. Gormly, Thomas.¹⁸⁹
23. Hargraves, Henry. Along with his wife and five children.¹⁹⁰
24. Hemphill, 2nd son - Sole survivor of his family.¹⁹¹
25. Hill, Thomas.¹⁹² Along with his wife and six children.¹⁹³
26. Holding, Mrs. Along with her five children.¹⁹⁴
27. Horsley, Frederick.¹⁹⁵ Horsley saved himself by getting into a tree. He attempted to save the eldest Hemphill girl, to whom he was engaged to be married, by fastening his belt around her and pulling her up, but the belt snapped and the young woman was swept to her death.¹⁹⁶

28. Jackson. Residing with Thomas Hill.¹⁹⁷
29. Jones, Mr. He and his wife both saved.¹⁹⁸
30. Jenkins, Mr. Residing with Turnbull family.¹⁹⁹
31. Lindley, Thomas. Away at Yass at the time. Returned to find all of his family drowned.²⁰⁰
32. Lynch, Patrick.²⁰¹
33. McDonald, Donald. A visitor to Gundagai travelling to the Victorian gold fields.²⁰²
34. Monkhouse, C.²⁰³ Residing with Turnbull family.
35. Morley, Mr. Distributed blankets and provisions to survivors.²⁰⁴
36. Morris, Mrs – Wife of John Morris. Saved by the Aborigines.²⁰⁵
37. Norton, Chief Constable. Opened his home to survivors.²⁰⁶
38. Perkins, Edward. Along with his wife and three children.²⁰⁷
39. Potts, Mrs.²⁰⁸
40. Reardon, Mrs. Along with her five children.²⁰⁹ According to James Gormly the family were rescued by Yarri.²¹⁰ Mr Reardon was at the Bendigo Rush at the time.
41. Riley, Robert.²¹¹ Riley and his family – a wife and five children – all survived,²¹² along with two men [Darby and John]²¹³, a woman servant, Mary Brown,²¹⁴ and the latter's daughter.²¹⁵ Jackey rescued eight people from the Rileys' house using the 2nd small boat at Gundagai.²¹⁶ Jackey went back the next day [27th] to collect the two men – Darby, the groom, and John, the cook – along with Mr Thatcher who was sheltering in a tree.²¹⁷
42. Ross, Charles.²¹⁸ Along with his wife, Kitty. The following account was given of her tribulations,²¹⁹

“We also mentioned that Kitty Ross saved herself by swimming, but at that time we had not heard the extent of self-possession and courage which she displayed. It appears that when the house went, her husband soon got into a tree; she, in passing him swiftly in the current, carrying a young child in her arms, called out to him not to mind her, that she could save herself. She swam to Johnson's corner-fully a quarter of a mile, and succeeded in getting into a tree, she had not been there long when Mrs. Hunt swam to the same tree, she having, with her husband and family, floated down a long way on the roof of the house; Kitty gave her a hand to assist her into the tree, but the branch that she had hold of with her other hand gave way, and they both fell into the water together. Kitty swam, after this, nearly if not fully a mile, and got into another tree, and was taken off next day. She relates she carried her child two hundred yards after it had ceased to live.”

43. Sawyer, Miss Helen. [or Emma] Residing with Turnbull family.²²⁰
44. Scott, Eliza. Granddaughter of Charles Butler.²²¹
45. Scott, Sarah. Granddaughter of Charles Butler.²²²
46. Smith, David. Along with two sons – Charles Sydney Smith and Archie Smith [the elder brother].²²³ David Smith was the first CPS at Gundagai. The two boys were rescued by Yarri and Jackey.²²⁴
47. Spencer, John.²²⁵ Spencer saved himself by swimming to Stuckey's Island and remaining in a tree all night, naked.²²⁶ Rescued from the tree by Yarri.²²⁷ Spencer's son also survived.²²⁸
48. Thatcher, Mr Henry [senior].²²⁹ Some of his family were rescued from his loft on the 25th by a boat, which was swamped on the return journey. Thatcher's five children and one of the boatmen drowned.²³⁰ Thatcher, his wife, a daughter, and his daughter in law were all washed off the roof of the family home. Thatcher was able to reach a tree, but the others were all lost. Henry was subsequently rescued by Jackey, Mr Andrews' Aboriginal.²³¹

49. Thatcher, Mr. A young man from Yass staying with the Turnbells.²³² This man died at Yass in 1925.
50. True, Samuel. Along with his wife and two children.²³³
51. Turnbull, Henry M.²³⁴ Along with his wife, Mary Turnbull [nee Andrews], and four children, aged 5, 3, 2 [years] and an 8 days old baby.²³⁵ The whole family rescued by Jackey, in two trips.²³⁶ The family were rescued by Jackey on the 27th, along with Miss Emma Sawyer. The latter afterwards married Mr PSF Stephen and resided and died at Wagga Wagga.²³⁷ Mary Andrews was twice married, the first time to a Mr Gallogly, in 1846.²³⁸
52. Waugh, Dr.²³⁹
53. Weatherby, William [aka James, or Jim] [1812-1884]. Rescued by Yarri.²⁴⁰ A 1933 obituary for William's son, also William [1846-1933] states that the latter was rescued from the old mill building at Gundagai by Yarri, but it is believed this is erroneous. In a 1925 article, William [1846-1933], while on a visit to Gundagai, visited the spot where Yarri had landed his father, safely, in 1852.
54. Wells, W C.²⁴¹
55. Wilson, Sam. Along with his wife and a daughter.²⁴²

Total listing of 130 people who survived.

D Smith wrote to the Rev. Brigstocke, on the 18th July 1852, to advise that he [Smith] had compiled a list of 115 survivors.²⁴³

Henry Beckham recorded 110 survivors in his correspondence to the Colonial Secretary.²⁴⁴

Henry Bingham, Esq., JP, was the acting coroner following the tragedy.²⁴⁵ Henry Bingham passed away on the 24th [or 21st] August 1852, at "*Creup*," the residence of John Arthur Broughton, Esquire, on the Tumut River.²⁴⁶



Left: The Horsley Memorial Sundial as was presented to Gundagai by the descendants of Frederick Horsley, one of the survivors of the 1852 flood. The sundial was originally unveiled in the grounds of the Court House. Courtesy Monument Australia.²⁴⁷

The Boats

One of the boats used in the rescues was the punt boat, which required four good men to pull it. The men that attempted to save the Thatcher family did not have the necessary experience.²⁴⁸ The boat was owned by Spencer, but it was not the punt. The latter had drifted down the river about a quarter of a mile, where it became jammed against some gum trees, and there it remained for several months, until it was dragged back to the crossing place at Gundagai.²⁴⁹ The punt boat was smashed against a tree while an attempt was being made to rescue the Thatcher children.

Spencer wrote a letter, from Jugiong, on the 3rd July, which read, in part, as follows,²⁵⁰

“I am sorry to have to inform you that we were nearly all drowned on the 24th ultimo; there is not a house left on the flat but mine, and all my back places have been carried away. But I thank God that we have saved our lives. We were washed off our legs, and had it not been for my boat we must have all perished. Nearly all in Gundagai are drowned; in fact I cannot tell you the losses. From the top to the bottom of the river all are washed out. I have not heard from your station, but I am afraid they have met with our fate; I hope their lives are spared. I am informed 84 persons have perished in Gundagai; and we have not yet heard the worst. My loss is about £700.”

John Spencer,²⁵¹ was a correspondent for a Sydney paper. Spencer’s hotel was on the south side of the river and Spencer also conducted the punt that carried people across the river.

There was a second boat, but this had been taken away on the 24th June to help rescue stock. It was returned on the 26th and then deployed in rescuing people. Gormly stated that the current around the tree in which he and another man were sheltering was too strong for the boat to pull up to the tree, but as it swept pass the two men jumped into the water and swam to the boat, and were able to scramble into to it, under their own efforts. The boat, at that time, was manned by two strangers, who had been on their way to the Victorian gold fields.²⁵² After rescuing Gormly and others the boat suffered damage but was repaired by Joe Morley. The locals then decided to give the boat to Andrews’ Jackey, a strong, careful man.²⁵³

According to one resident, whose house was located on some higher ground, but still within the flood zone, the water rose to a level that reached two feet into the second storey of his premises. He estimated the water to be fourteen feet deep at the time. When the water reached into the 2nd floor, he and his two sons, moved up into the loft, where they remained for three nights and two days. During all of this time they called out and signalled for help, but to no avail. There was no boat available on the first day [Saturday 26th].

On the following day [Sunday 27th] there was a boat but there was no one with the experience to control it. On the third day two Aboriginal men came in the boat and rescued the man and his sons, taking them to high land.²⁵⁴ {this could be Smith the CPS and his two sons}²⁵⁵

In July 1852, the Rev. Charles F Brigstocke visited the devastation and wrote to the Bishop of Sydney, on the 19th July, to provide a report of the tragedy. He stated that a boat rescued a few people on the morning of Friday the 25th, and that an Aboriginal man rescued two women and ten children in the afternoon of that day, by means of a bark canoe.

Frederick Horsley and H Thatcher, two survivors of the tragedy, wrote to the SMH, on the 30th June, praising Henry Bingham, noting that he [Bingham],²⁵⁶

“..deserves the highest praise for his meritorious conduct, in so effectually and powerfully exerting that great moral influence he has over the aboriginal natives, in urging them to cut canoes, and pointing out to them the proper measures to take, by which means many lives have been rescued and taken from trees to which they had been washed; that gentleman himself having been most providentially saved amidst the scene of devastation and ruin.”

Horsley shortly afterwards recanted his statement, noting that,²⁵⁷

“We beg to state that the letter published in your journal on the 10th instant was written by Mr. H. Bingham, and signed by us without our reading the contents, when our minds were totally occupied by the loss of our friends and relations, and our own providential escape from a watery grave, that gentleman having stated to us that it was merely a short account of the flood and number of lives supposed to be lost; but we were rather surprised to find that he had commented so much on his own exertions and meritorious conduct, which we beg to state is rather exaggerated.”

The new letter was signed by Horsley and H Strutchley. The two men’s comments appear harsh as they conceded that it was Bingham who convinced the Aboriginal men to cut two bark canoes, “*by which means several lives were saved.*”²⁵⁸

Donald McDonald arrived at Gundagai on Monday the 21st June and personally experienced the catastrophe. He recorded some details of the event, which included an account of the efforts of John Perkins, and others, to save some of the people isolated by the flood.²⁵⁹

“At 11 o'clock am of Thursday, the 24th, he and two other men bound for Mount Alexander diggings, put off in a small boat from the south bank of the river for the purpose of rescuing some of the unfortunate persons on the opposite side; they succeeded in getting across, and took a woman and five children into the boat. As they were coming back they came in collision with a tree, and the boat upset; one of the men managed to save his life by swimming ashore, but poor Perkins swam to a tree at a distance, and put off his clothes and dried them; and as soon as he got them on again, and seemed to have got over his predicament, the tree gave way, and down they both went and appeared no more. His body was found three days afterwards and was interred in unfortunate Gundagai.”

Michael Norton recalled that,²⁶⁰

“A boat was employed in taking people from the old town over to their friends and relatives in South Gundagai, and I can bring to mind a sad incident of the time. The boat had made several successful trips, but eventually whilst conveying some people to the south side the current carried it into the head of the tree and capsized it. All were drowned except Mr. Fred. Horsley who afterwards owned the great Yabtree Station, and who died only a few years ago, and the son of a publican named Hemphill. They were carried down the stream to the head of a tree and from there were afterwards rescued.”

The Canoe

A letter to the editor [F Horsley and H Strutchley] in August 1852²⁶¹ noted that it was Mr Bingham [Commissioner of Crown Lands] who had persuaded the “*aboriginal natives*” to cut two bark canoes, by which means several lives were saved.”

In October 1933, Jim Harlow, whose family had lived in the district for many years, claimed that the canoe used by Yarrie [sic] in the 1852 Flood, was made of bark stripped from a box tree, which grew on a ridge at Jackalas. The trunk of the tree, according to Harlow, was not straight, but rather had a bulge in the middle, which helped lift the prow and stern of the canoe clear of the water. The canoe was fourteen feet long and could accommodate two passengers, as well as Yarri.²⁶² Harlow provided the following additional details,²⁶³

“The story of the flood, and particularly the part played in it by Yarrie, was often related by Patrick Bowman, one of the blacks camped on the Harlow's property at Eurobin, which is the native name for Twin Hills. This Patrick Bowman was a noted foot runner, and later won £140 in prize money by winning the Carrington Handicap at Sydney. According to Bowman's account, four blacks carried the canoe, for a part of the way on hand sticks till they got it to the Jackalas Creek, down which they worked it till they reached the Murrumbidgee. They sailed down Morley's Creek until they came to a point opposite Elworthy's printing office. This was where Yarrie had his mia-mia, and there he moored his craft, and from there he directed his operations.

Besides this bark canoe there was another boat in which the Hargreaves family made their escape. This was, however, just as primitive a vessel as the other, although larger and stronger, being merely a dug-out made by scooping out a log with an adze. The Hargreaves, who lived down on the flat near the present site of Haley's, on the northern side of the creek, made their escape, not by paddling, but by propelling the dug out with poles, the water about them being not more than four or five feet deep. Seven or eight persons could be transported at a time.”

James Gormly, a survivor of the flood, was of the opinion that Yarri's bark canoe could only carry “*two light persons*.”²⁶⁴ Gormly further stated,²⁶⁵

“I did not see anything of Yarry [sic] or his canoe that day [26th], and therefore think that the canoe must have been swamped the previous day or night.”



Left: Yarri's canoe, presumably, looked something like the canoe depicted in the memorial at Gundagai.

Houses and Businesses Lost

According to one survivor, 48 buildings were swept away, with nothing left to show where they once stood.²⁶⁶

Correspondence to the Governor General in August 1852 declared that only eight buildings had survived the flood and that seven of these were uninhabitable.²⁶⁷

Correspondence from Edward Beckham, the Commissioner of Crown Lands, Lachlan District, dated the 16th July 1852, recorded 72 buildings in North Gundagai – 48 had been swept away in their entirety, while another eight were so damaged as to be uninhabitable. Thirteen of the remaining sixteen were under water.²⁶⁸

Beckham's list of buildings read as follows,²⁶⁹

1. Andrews. Mr – A cottage, three rooms out of five washed away.²⁷⁰
2. Booby, Mr – A cottage, swept away in its entirety.²⁷¹
3. Butler, Mr – A cottage, swept away in its entirety.²⁷²
4. Court and lock-up. swept away in their entirety.²⁷³
5. Davison, Mr – A cottage, swept away in its entirety.²⁷⁴
6. Davison, Mr – Old store, swept away in its entirety.²⁷⁵
7. Davison & Co. – Newer store, slightly damaged.²⁷⁶
8. Doyle, Mr – A cottage, swept away in its entirety.²⁷⁷
9. Egerton, Mr [tailor]– A cottage swept away in its entirety.²⁷⁸
10. Flood, Mr – A store, swept away in its entirety.²⁷⁹
11. Flood's Mill. Not much damage, but the stores are gone.²⁸⁰
12. Foster, Mr [blacksmith]- A cottage, swept away in its entirety.²⁸¹
13. Gormly, Mr - A cottage, swept away in its entirety.²⁸²
14. Hargraves, Henry - A cottage, swept away in its entirety.²⁸³
15. Hemphill, Mr – Murrumbidgee Cottage Inn, swept away in its entirety.²⁸⁴
16. Hunt, Mr [saddler]- A cottage, swept away in its entirety.²⁸⁵
17. Jew's store, or late Court House. Seriously damaged. Uninhabitable.²⁸⁶
18. Jones, Charles – Golden Pippin Inn, swept away in its entirety.²⁸⁷
19. Lindley, Mr – The Rose Inn, substantially damaged and uninhabitable.²⁸⁸ Kitchen and stable swept away.
20. Morley's mill.²⁸⁹ Damaged.
21. Morley's public house said to be the only hotel left standing.²⁹⁰
22. Morris, John – House swept away.²⁹¹
23. National School. Severely damaged.²⁹²
24. Post Office. Attached to Davison's newer store. Partly washed away.²⁹³
25. Reardon, Mr - A cottage, swept away in its entirety.²⁹⁴
26. Riley, Mr – Inn, substantially damaged and uninhabitable.²⁹⁵
27. Ross, Charles – Hut etc swept away.²⁹⁶
28. Scott, Mr [butcher] – A cottage, swept away in its entirety.²⁹⁷
29. Simpson, Mr – Store occupied by Turnbull. End walls washed away and building gutted but standing.²⁹⁸
30. Smith, Mr [clerk of petty sessions] – A house, substantially damaged.²⁹⁹
31. Spencer, Mr – Family Hotel, swept away in its entirety.³⁰⁰
32. Sunday School - Swept away in its entirety.³⁰¹
33. Turnbull, Mr – The Victoria Store, substantially damaged and uninhabitable.

34. Waugh, Dr. – A cottage, swept away in its entirety.³⁰²

35. Weatherby, Mr – A cottage, swept away in its entirety.³⁰³

All outbuildings associated with above premises were swept away.³⁰⁴

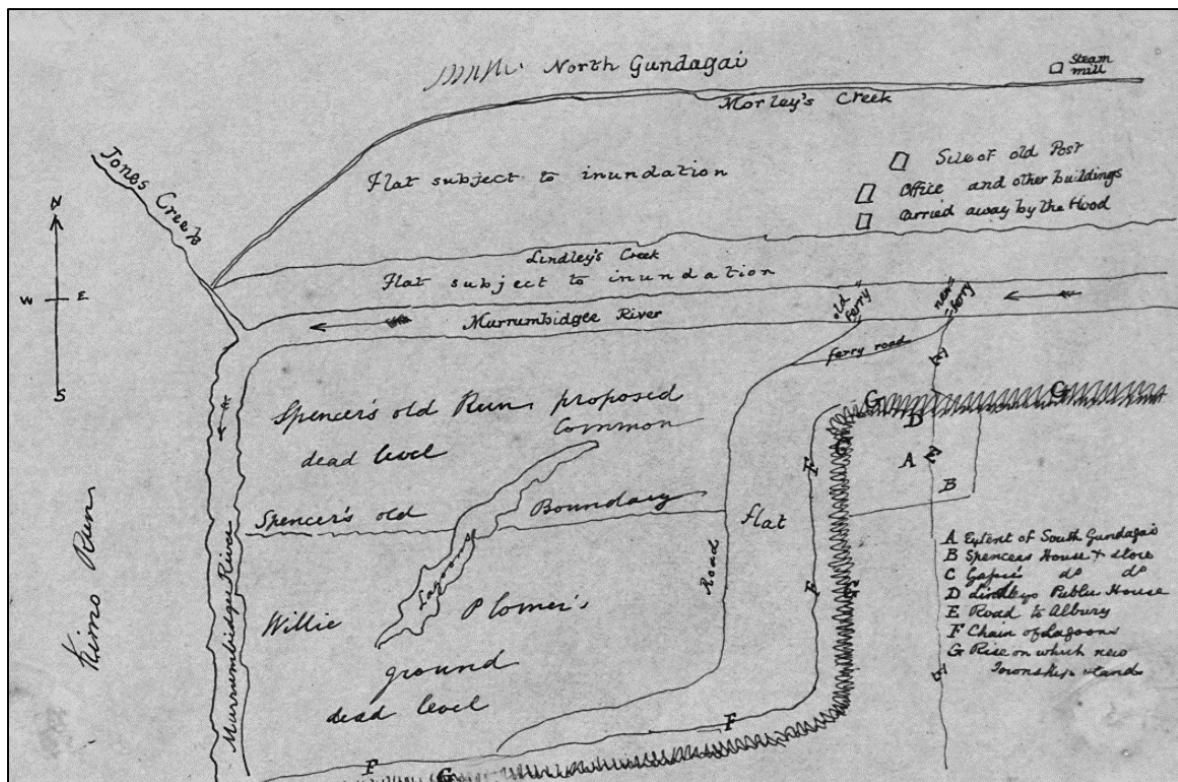
Frederick Gasse's store survived the flood,³⁰⁵

"Strange to relate, Monsieur Gasse's store is the only one that has escaped destruction. When a flood occurred on the river a few years back it was the only building swept away; and when the proprietor re-erected it, he wisely selected a spot upon higher ground and by that means secured himself against similar visitations."

NOTICE is hereby given, that the Partnership heretofore existing between the undersigned carrying on business of general Storekeepers at Gundagai, under the firm of Gasse and Prevost, has this day been dissolved by mutual consent. The business will in future be carried on by Mr Frederick Gasse, to whom all debts due to the late firm are to be paid, and by whom the liabilities of the late firm will be discharged.
Dated this 26th day of February, A D. 1851.
F. GASSE.
L. E. PREVOST.
Witness—James N. SHUTTLEWORTH.
Solicitor. 4263

Fortuitously, Frederick Gasse's partner, LE Prevost, sold out in February 1851, thereby avoiding the catastrophe.

Left: Notice dissolving the partnership of Frederick Gasse and LE Prevost. [Sydney Morning Herald. 28th February 1851, p3.]



Above: An 1854 rough plan from surveyor's sketch book showing the location of some buildings at South Gundagai. Courtesy NSW State Records. NRS13886-1-[X765]. Sketch book 6, folio 113.

Names of persons who have sustained loss and damage.	Description of property swept away, and destroyed.	Value of Landed Property, Improvements & Produce of soil.			Value of Household and Store Goods lost, and damaged.			TOTAL.		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Henry Hargraves	{ Dwelling, and about 200 bushels of wheat	60	0	0	20	0	0	80	0	0
Joseph Andrews	{ 3 rooms of brick dwelling-house	300	0	0	40	0	0	340	0	0
	{ Stable and fence									
Alexander Sibald	Dwelling and fences	40	0	0	.....			40	0	0
Sam. True	Ditto	15	0	0	10	0	0	25	0	0
Colin McDonald	Ditto	80	0	0	10	0	0	90	0	0
	Ditto	40	0	0	.....			40	0	0
Patrick Gormley	Ditto	40	0	0	30	0	0	70	0	0
Peter Ross	Ditto	40	0	0	.....			40	0	0
Joshua Boobie	Two dwellings, and fences	35	0	0	10	0	0	45	0	0
John Doyle	Ditto	40	0	0	20	0	0	60	0	0
David Smith	{ 2 storied dwelling-house, kitchen, and fences	200	0	0	50	0	0	250	0	0
	{ Verandah and skillion of cottage and stable				100	0	0	230	0	0
H. M. Turnbull	Dwelling-house and fences	100	0	0	.....			100	0	0
James Green	Ditto	70	0	0	.....			70	0	0
William Edwards	Ditto	50	0	0	.....			50	0	0
Edward Norman	2 dwelling-houses, kitchen, & fences	170	0	0	.....			170	0	0
Henry Thatcher	Furniture, clothing, tools, bedding.	.....			120	0	0	120	0	0
Thomas Ford	Furniture, clothing, bedding .. ..	.....			40	0	0	40	0	0
J. N. Waugh, Surgeon	Dwelling and fencing	90	0	0	180	0	0	270	0	0
R. Davison and Co. ..	{ Store damaged, 3 out-buildings, and fences	200	0	0	400	0	0	600	0	0
Richard Hunt	Dwellings	120	0	0	.....			120	0	0
	Ditto	200	0	0	150	0	0	350	0	0
	Ditto	60	0	0	.....			60	0	0
John Scott	Furniture, clothing, tools, &c. ..	.....			50	0	0	50	0	0
Robert Riley	Inn damaged, store; stable, kitchen, fences	200	0	0	250	0	0	450	0	0
Charles Simpson	{ Brick store seriously damaged, stable, out-buildings, & fences.	400	0	0	.....			400	0	0
H. M. Turnbull	Store goods and household property .. ..	.....			800	0	0	800	0	0
Thomas Lindley	{ Public-house seriously damaged, 2 stables, store, kitchen, fences	500	0	0	200	0	0	700	0	0
Henry Hargraves (2)	Dwelling, and public pound	45	0	0	.....			45	0	0
James Bailee	Household property and clothing ..	.....			15	0	0	15	0	0
Edward Perkins	Dwelling	25	0	0	25	0	0	50	0	0
Gerard Hemphill	{ Public-house, stable, out-buildings, &c.	150	0	0	100	0	0	250	0	0
John Beardon	Dwelling and fences	50	0	0	30	0	0	80	0	0
John Holding	Ditto	50	0	0	30	0	0	80	0	0
John Fergusson	Furniture, clothing .. .. .	.....			25	0	0	25	0	0
William Brown	Ditto	40	0	0	.....			40	0	0
Edward Flood	Brick store and part of Steam Mill.	300	0	0	.....			300	0	0
Frederick Gasse	Store goods, furniture, &c.	150	0	0	50	0	0	200	0	0
Benjamin Cooper	Stable and fences	20	0	0	.....			20	0	0
J. L. Barrow	Fences, furniture, &c.	10	0	0	15	0	0	25	0	0
John Spencer	Inn, stable, kitchen, and fences ..	250	0	0	150	0	0	400	0	0
Charles Jones	Inn, store, kitchen, and fences ..	250	0	0	200	0	0	450	0	0
Frederick Gasse	Stable, and fence	30	0	0	40	0	0	70	0	0
BUILDINGS ERRECTED BY SUBSCRIPTION AND AT PUBLIC COST.										
National School	{ End and partition walls washed down	230	0	0	.....			230	0	0
Wesleyan Chapel	Entirely swept away	40	0	0	.....			40	0	0
Court House & Lock-up	Ditto	136	12	6	.....			136	12	6
		£ 3,781	12	6	4,395	0	0	8,126	12	6

Edward Beckham's list of damaged properties.

Endnotes

- ¹ Sydney Morning Herald. 6th July 1852, p2.
- ² Sydney Morning Herald. 5th July 1852, p2.
- ³ Sydney Morning Herald. 22nd July 1852, p2.
- ⁴ Sydney Morning Herald. 26th July 1852, p2.
- ⁵ Sydney Morning Herald. 5th July 1852, p2.
- ⁶ Sydney Morning Herald. 5th July 1852, p2.
- ⁷ Goulburn Herald. 3rd July 1852, p4.
- ⁸ Sydney Morning Herald. 8th July 1852, p2.
- ⁹ Sydney Morning Herald. 22nd July 1852, p2.
- ¹⁰ Sydney Morning Herald. 22nd July 1852, p2.
- ¹¹ Sydney Morning Herald. 26th July 1852, p2.
- ¹² Registers of St Clément's Church, Yass: 1839-1922. Burials in the year 1852, pp10-12. [Diocese of Canberra/Goulburn records. Held by National Library of Australia] [MS.3085/38].
- ¹³ ERROR. Don't know why this number is here. It does not appear in the main text.
- ¹⁴ Registers of St Clément's Church, Yass: 1839-1922. Burials in the year 1852, pp10-12. [Diocese of Canberra/Goulburn records. Held by National Library of Australia] [MS.3085/38].
- ¹⁵ Sydney Morning Herald. 31st August 1852, p2.
- ¹⁶ Northern Star. 6th July 1912, p11.
- ¹⁷ Gundagai Independent. 22nd May 1912, p4.
- ¹⁸ Cootamundra Herald. 19th February 1898, p3.
- ¹⁹ See VP10244.
- ²⁰ Northern Star. 6th July 1912, p11. / Muswellbrook Chronicle. 11th January 1927, p3. / Burrowa News. 28th September 1928, p3.
- ²¹ Sydney Morning Herald. 26th July 1852, p2. / Registers of St Clément's Church, Yass: 1839-1922. Burials in the year 1852, pp10-12. [Diocese of Canberra/Goulburn records. Held by National Library of Australia] [MS.3085/38].
- ²² Empire. 5th July 1852, p2. / NSW BDM's. Death registration # 1298/1852 V18521298 38B.
- ²³ Goulburn Herald. 25th September 1852, p6.
- ²⁴ Goulburn Herald. 25th September 1852, p6.
- ²⁵ Correspondence Beckham to Colonial Secretary. Votes & Proceedings of the Legislative Council: 1852.
- ²⁶ Sydney Morning Herald. 26th July 1852, p2. / NSW BDM's. Death registration # 1299/1852 V18521299 38B. / Registers of St Clément's Church, Yass: 1839-1922. Burials in the year 1852, pp10-12. [Diocese of Canberra/Goulburn records. Held by National Library of Australia] [MS.3085/38].
- ²⁷ Sydney Morning Herald. 26th July 1852, p2. / NSW BDM's. Death registration # 1271/1852 V18521271 38B. / Correspondence Beckham to Colonial Secretary. Votes & Proceedings of the Legislative Council: 1852.
- ²⁸ Registers of St Clément's Church, Yass: 1839-1922. Burials in the year 1852, pp10-12. [Diocese of Canberra/Goulburn records. Held by National Library of Australia] [MS.3085/38].
- ²⁹ Sydney Morning Herald. 26th July 1852, p2. / NSW BDM's. Death registration # 1272/1852 V18521272 38B. / Correspondence Beckham to Colonial Secretary. Votes & Proceedings of the Legislative Council: 1852.
- ³⁰ Registers of St Clément's Church, Yass: 1839-1922. Burials in the year 1852, pp10-12. [Diocese of Canberra/Goulburn records. Held by National Library of Australia] [MS.3085/38].
- ³¹ Sydney Morning Herald. 5th July 1852, p2. / Sydney Morning Herald. 26th July 1852, p2. / NSW BDM's. Death registration # 1300/1852 V18521300 38B. / Registers of St Clément's Church, Yass: 1839-1922. Burials in the year 1852, pp10-12. [Diocese of Canberra/Goulburn records. Held by National Library of Australia] [MS.3085/38]. / Correspondence Beckham to Colonial Secretary. Votes & Proceedings of the Legislative Council: 1852.
- ³² Sydney Morning Herald. 26th July 1852, p2. / NSW BDM's. Death registration # 1308/1852 V18521308 38B. / Sydney Morning Herald. 19th July 1852, p2.
- ³³ Correspondence Beckham to Colonial Secretary. Votes & Proceedings of the Legislative Council: 1852. / Maitland Mercury. 24th July 1852, p4.
- ³⁴ Sydney Morning Herald. 19th July 1852, p2. / Sydney Morning Herald. 26th July 1852, p2. / NSW BDM's. Death registration # 1293/1852 V18521293 38B. / Registers of St Clément's Church, Yass: 1839-1922. Burials in the year 1852, pp10-12. [Diocese of Canberra/Goulburn records. Held by National Library of Australia] [MS.3085/38].

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- ³⁵ Empire. 31st August 1852, p4.
- ³⁶ Sydney Morning Herald. 19th July 1852, p2. / Sydney Morning Herald. 26th July 1852, p2. / NSW BDM's. Death registration # 1294/1852 V18521294 38B. / Registers of St Clément's Church, Yass: 1839-1922. Burials in the year 1852, pp10-12. [Diocese of Canberra/Goulburn records. Held by National Library of Australia] [MS.3085/38].
- ³⁷ Sydney Morning Herald. 19th July 1852, p2. / Sydney Morning Herald. 26th July 1852, p2. / NSW BDM's. Death registration # 1295/1852 V18521295 38B. / Registers of St Clément's Church, Yass: 1839-1922. Burials in the year 1852, pp10-12. [Diocese of Canberra/Goulburn records. Held by National Library of Australia] [MS.3085/38].
- ³⁸ Sydney Morning Herald. 5th July 1852, p2. / Sydney Morning Herald. 26th July 1852, p2. / Correspondence Beckham to Colonial Secretary. Votes & Proceedings of the Legislative Council: 1852. / Registers of St Clément's Church, Yass: 1839-1922. Burials in the year 1852, pp10-12. [Diocese of Canberra/Goulburn records. Held by National Library of Australia] [MS.3085/38].
- ³⁹ Sydney Morning Herald. 5th July 1852, p2. / Sydney Morning Herald. 26th July 1852, p2. / NSW BDM's. Death registration # 1262/1852 V18521262 38B. / Correspondence Beckham to Colonial Secretary. Votes & Proceedings of the Legislative Council: 1852.
- ⁴⁰ Registers of St Clément's Church, Yass: 1839-1922. Burials in the year 1852, pp10-12. [Diocese of Canberra/Goulburn records. Held by National Library of Australia] [MS.3085/38]
- ⁴¹ Sydney Morning Herald. 5th July 1852, p2. / Sydney Morning Herald. 26th July 1852, p2. / NSW BDM's. Death registration # 1306/1852 V18521306 38B. / Registers of St Clément's Church, Yass: 1839-1922. Burials in the year 1852, pp10-12. [Diocese of Canberra/Goulburn records. Held by National Library of Australia] [MS.3085/38].
- ⁴² Sydney Morning Herald. 26th July 1852, p2. / Maitland Mercury. 24th July 1852, p4. / NSW BDM's. Death registration # 1310/1852 V18521310 38B.
- ⁴³ Sydney Morning Herald. 28th July 1852, p3.
- ⁴⁴ Sydney Morning Herald. 26th July 1852, p2. / Maitland Mercury. 24th July 1852, p4. / NSW BDM's. Death registration # 1309/1852 V18521309 38B.
- ⁴⁵ Sydney Morning Herald. 5th July 1852, p2. / Sydney Morning Herald. 26th July 1852, p2. / NSW BDM's. Death registration # 1314/1852 V18521314 38B. / Correspondence Beckham to Colonial Secretary. Votes & Proceedings of the Legislative Council: 1852.
- ⁴⁶ Goulburn Herald. 10th July 1852, p4.
- ⁴⁷ Sydney Morning Herald. 5th July 1852, p2. / Sydney Morning Herald. 26th July 1852, p2. / NSW BDM's. Death registration # 1315/1852 V18521315 38B. / Correspondence Beckham to Colonial Secretary. Votes & Proceedings of the Legislative Council: 1852.
- ⁴⁸ Sydney Morning Herald. 5th July 1852, p2. / Sydney Morning Herald. 26th July 1852, p2. / Correspondence Beckham to Colonial Secretary. Votes & Proceedings of the Legislative Council: 1852.
- ⁴⁹ Sydney Morning Herald. 5th July 1852, p2. / Sydney Morning Herald. 26th July 1852, p2. / NSW BDM's. Death registration # 1317/1852 V18521317 38B. / Correspondence Beckham to Colonial Secretary. Votes & Proceedings of the Legislative Council: 1852.
- ⁵⁰ Sydney Morning Herald. 5th July 1852, p2. / Sydney Morning Herald. 26th July 1852, p2. / NSW BDM's. Death registration # 1318/1852 V18521318 38B. / Correspondence Beckham to Colonial Secretary. Votes & Proceedings of the Legislative Council: 1852.
- ⁵¹ Sydney Morning Herald. 26th July 1852, p2. / NSW BDM's. Death registration # 1273/1852 V18521273 38B.
- ⁵² Registers of St Clément's Church, Yass: 1839-1922. Burials in the year 1852, pp10-12. [Diocese of Canberra/Goulburn records. Held by National Library of Australia] [MS.3085/38]
- ⁵³ Sydney Morning Herald. 5th July 1852, p2. / Sydney Morning Herald. 26th July 1852, p2. / NSW BDM's. Death registration # 1255/1852 V18521255 38B. / Correspondence Beckham to Colonial Secretary. Votes & Proceedings of the Legislative Council: 1852.
- ⁵⁴ Registers of St Clément's Church, Yass: 1839-1922. Burials in the year 1852, pp10-12. [Diocese of Canberra/Goulburn records. Held by National Library of Australia] [MS.3085/38]
- ⁵⁵ Sydney Morning Herald. 5th July 1852, p2. / Sydney Morning Herald. 26th July 1852, p2. / NSW BDM's. Death registration # 1256/1852 V18521256 38B. / Correspondence Beckham to Colonial Secretary. Votes & Proceedings of the Legislative Council: 1852.
- ⁵⁶ Registers of St Clément's Church, Yass: 1839-1922. Burials in the year 1852, pp10-12. [Diocese of Canberra/Goulburn records. Held by National Library of Australia] [MS.3085/38]

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- ⁵⁷ Sydney Morning Herald. 5th July 1852, p2. / Sydney Morning Herald. 26th July 1852, p2. / NSW BDM's. Death registration # 1258/1852 V18521258 38B. / Correspondence Beckham to Colonial Secretary. Votes & Proceedings of the Legislative Council: 1852.
- ⁵⁸ Registers of St Clément's Church, Yass: 1839-1922. Burials in the year 1852, pp10-12. [Diocese of Canberra/Goulburn records. Held by National Library of Australia] [MS.3085/38]
- ⁵⁹ Sydney Morning Herald. 5th July 1852, p2. / Sydney Morning Herald. 26th July 1852, p2. / NSW BDM's. Death registration # 1257/1852 V18521257 38B. / Correspondence Beckham to Colonial Secretary. Votes & Proceedings of the Legislative Council: 1852.
- ⁶⁰ Registers of St Clément's Church, Yass: 1839-1922. Burials in the year 1852, pp10-12. [Diocese of Canberra/Goulburn records. Held by National Library of Australia] [MS.3085/38]
- ⁶¹ Sydney Morning Herald. 5th July 1852, p2. / Sydney Morning Herald. 26th July 1852, p2. / NSW BDM's. Death registration # 1260/1852 V18521260 38B. / Correspondence Beckham to Colonial Secretary. Votes & Proceedings of the Legislative Council: 1852.
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- ²³² Muswellbrook Chronicle. 11th January 1927, p3.
- ²³³ Correspondence Beckham to Colonial Secretary. Votes & Proceedings of the Legislative Council: 1852.
- ²³⁴ Goulburn Herald. 3rd July 1852, p4.
- ²³⁵ Correspondence Beckham to Colonial Secretary. Votes & Proceedings of the Legislative Council: 1852. / Muswellbrook Chronicle. 11th January 1927, p3.
- ²³⁶ Muswellbrook Chronicle. 11th January 1927, p3.
- ²³⁷ Albury Banner. 4th June 1915, p44.
- ²³⁸ NSW BDM's. Marriage registration # 382/1846 V1846382 31C.
- ²³⁹ Goulburn Herald. 17th July 1852, p6.
- ²⁴⁰ Gundagai Independent. 9th February 1925, p2. [Note: Weatherby listed as owning a cottage at time of flood, so presumed reference is to William [1812-1884]
- ²⁴¹ Sydney Morning Herald. 5th July 1852, p2.
- ²⁴² Correspondence Beckham to Colonial Secretary. Votes & Proceedings of the Legislative Council: 1852.
- ²⁴³ Sydney Morning Herald. 26th July 1852, p2.
- ²⁴⁴ Correspondence Beckham to Colonial Secretary. Votes & Proceedings of the Legislative Council: 1852.
- ²⁴⁵ Sydney Morning Herald. 10th July 1852, p6.
- ²⁴⁶ Sydney Morning Herald. 8th September 1852, p3. 24th September 1852, p3.
- ²⁴⁷ Monument Australia. [<https://monumentaustralia.org.au/themes/disaster/flood/display/21443-horsley-memorial-sundial>] Accessed 26th January 2024.
- ²⁴⁸ Goulburn Herald. 17th July 1852, p6.
- ²⁴⁹ Albury Banner. 2nd July 1915, p44.
- ²⁵⁰ People's Advocate. 10th July 1852, p4.
- ²⁵¹ Gundagai Times. 18th May 1915, p2.
- ²⁵² Albury Banner. 28th May 1915, p44.
- ²⁵³ Albury Banner. 28th May 1915, p44.
- ²⁵⁴ Sydney Morning Herald. 22nd July 1852, p2.
- ²⁵⁵ Sydney Morning Herald. 26th July 1852, p2.
- ²⁵⁶ Sydney Morning Herald. 10th July 1852, p6.
- ²⁵⁷ Sydney Morning Herald. 5th August 1852, p3.
- ²⁵⁸ Sydney Morning Herald. 5th August 1852, p3.
- ²⁵⁹ Goulburn Herald. 10th July 1852, p4.
- ²⁶⁰ Cootamundra Herald. 19th February 1898, p3.
- ²⁶¹ Sydney Morning Herald. 5th August 1852, p3.
- ²⁶² Gundagai independent. 12th October 1933, p5.
- ²⁶³ Gundagai independent. 12th October 1933, p5.
- ²⁶⁴ Gundagai Times. 18th May 1915, p2.

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- ²⁶⁵ Albury Banner. 28th May 1915, p44.
- ²⁶⁶ Sydney Morning Herald. 22nd July 1852, p2.
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- ²⁶⁸ Correspondence Beckham to Colonial Secretary. Votes & Proceedings of the Legislative Council: 1852.
- ²⁶⁹ Correspondence Beckham to Colonial Secretary. Votes & Proceedings of the Legislative Council: 1852.
- ²⁷⁰ Sydney Morning Herald. 19th July 1852, p2.
- ²⁷¹ Sydney Morning Herald. 19th July 1852, p2.
- ²⁷² Sydney Morning Herald. 19th July 1852, p2.
- ²⁷³ Sydney Morning Herald. 19th July 1852, p2.
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- ²⁷⁹ Sydney Morning Herald. 19th July 1852, p2.
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- ²⁸¹ Sydney Morning Herald. 19th July 1852, p2.
- ²⁸² Sydney Morning Herald. 19th July 1852, p2.
- ²⁸³ Sydney Morning Herald. 19th July 1852, p2.
- ²⁸⁴ Sydney Morning Herald. 19th July 1852, p2. / Empire. 15th July 1852, p3.
- ²⁸⁵ Sydney Morning Herald. 19th July 1852, p2.
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