

N B R S & P

H E R I T A G E

CARRINGTON NURSING HOME
(Formerly known as Carrington Convalescent Hospital)
90 WEROMBI ROAD
CAMDEN NSW 2570

HERITAGE CURTILAGE ASSESSMENT



May 2006

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

This report has been prepared for the Carrington Centennial Trust to assist in the preparation of a master plan for the site. This curtilage study is intended to investigate and where possible identify a reduced heritage curtilage within the existing boundary of Carrington to assist in making decisions that relate to the location and scale of new development within the existing boundary of the site.

The former Carrington Convalescent Hospital, and its site, is a rare example of a late Victorian convalescent hospital in New South Wales and has historic, social, associative, technical value. The building and its setting has heritage significance at State level. The Hospital is the earliest purpose built convalescent hospital in New South Wales, and is evidence of late Victorian philanthropy and particularly that of Mr William Henry Paling. The heritage significance of Carrington is sufficient to warrant inclusion on the State Heritage Register, maintained by the NSW Heritage Office.

The evaluation of significance of the site and the extent of an acceptable reduced heritage curtilage for the place has been carried out in accordance with the guidelines contained in the document titled *Heritage Curtilages*, published by the NSW Heritage Office October 1996 and the *Australia ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance (The Burra Charter) 1999*.

Major Recommendations

The significance of the former Carrington Convalescent Hospital Group is in part embodied in its associated buildings and setting. The buildings and their setting demonstrate the design principles and the operation of a late nineteenth century convalescent hospital in New South Wales. Major recommendations of this report include:

- Protect and re-use the existing heritage buildings, gardens and landscape.
- Establish a core historic precinct containing key heritage items.
- Accept the identified reduced heritage curtilage shown in Figure 37 of this report.
- Ensure the former Carrington Convalescent Hospital continues to be the visual focus of development within the historic precinct.
- Retain significant internal views within the site.
- Protect and restore significant bushland and other natural features including the riparian landscapes and the landscape corridor formed by the Nepean River.
- Ensure new development is sympathetic to the scale and character of existing buildings on the site.

NOEL BELL RIDLEY SMITH & PARTNERS



Robert Staas
Director

1.0 SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

<i>Name:</i>	Carrington Retirement Village (formerly known as the Carrington Centennial Hospital; Carrington Hospital for Incurables and Convalescents; Carrington Hospital). The group also includes Grasmere Villa; the Gardener's Cottage (also known as River Cottage); Masonic Cottage Hospital.
<i>Address:</i>	90 Werombi Road, Grasmere NSW 2570
<i>Land Title:</i>	Lot 10 in DP 845472, Parish of Camden, County of Cumberland.
<i>Original Owner:</i>	Subject site contained within the Crown grant of 5400 acres to John Macarthur in 1825 and subdivided in 1882; Contained within the land (Lots 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 45, 46 and 62) purchased by William Henry Paling in 1887; Contained within Lots 12, 13, 45, 46 and 62 and given to the Colony of NSW by William Henry Paling 01/01/1888 under the control of the Carrington Centennial Trust.
<i>Present Owner:</i>	Vested with the Carrington Centennial Trust
<i>Local Government Area:</i>	Camden
<i>Construction Dates:</i>	Grasmere Cottage – c1880 Carrington Convalescent Hospital; Morgue, formal garden setting; Masonic Cottage Hospital, – 1890 Former Gardener's Cottage – 1892-3
<i>Architect:</i>	Main Building - Harry Chambers Kent Masonic Cottage Hospital - HC Kent in association Herbert S. Thompson
<i>Builder:</i>	P Graham (and son, AP Graham)
<i>Summary History:</i>	The subject site is contained within Crown grant of 5400 acres to John Macarthur in 1825. It remained in the Macarthur family until the 1880s, when the Estate was surveyed and subdivided, and William Henry Paling purchased Lots 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 45, 46 and 62. Paling gave the land in trust to the Carrington Centennial Trust, together with £1,000- towards the construction of a hospital for " <i>incurables and convalescents</i> ", although he leased the original cottage for the use of his family, finally relinquishing it to the Trustees in 1901.

<i>Heritage Status:</i>	The land described as Lot 10 of DP 845472 Parish of Camden, County of Cumberland is listed as a heritage item on the following lists: • NSW State Heritage Inventory, Database No.1280027. • Camden Local Environmental Plan No. 48 Schedule 1 - Heritage Items. • Camden Heritage Study • National Trust of Australia (NSW): Classified 1979.
<i>Summary Description:</i>	The Carrington Convalescent Hospital group consists of the main hospital building (1890), morgue (1890), Masonic Cottage Hospital (1890) and immediate garden setting, River Cottage (1892), together with Grasmere Villa (c1880). The buildings are generally constructed of traditional load bearing face brick with slate roofs.
<i>Summary Statement of Cultural Significance:</i>	Carrington Nursing Home is a rare example of a purpose-built nineteenth century convalescent hospital in NSW, and demonstrates historic, associative, social, aesthetic values of heritage significance at state level. Grasmere Villa has significance historic, associative and social significance at local level.

Carrington was the first purpose built nursing home constructed in New South Wales. The Carrington group comprises Carrington Convalescent Hospital, the Masonic Cottage Hospital, the Mortuary, the immediate garden setting and the Gardner's Cottage. The place is particularly associated with the philanthropist William Henry Paling, architect Harry Chambers Kent and the development of Freemasonry in NSW.

The assemblage of hospital buildings and their relationship to their immediate garden setting demonstrate the nineteenth century principles of convalescent hospital design espoused by Florence Nightingale. The main building was considered innovative at the time of its construction for incorporating architectural science principles to control temperature and air circulation to improve the comfort of patients.

The original circular garden and the landscaped area designed to complement Carrington is substantially intact, and the site contains a number of specimen trees dating from the 1890s including Bunya Pines, Hoop Pines, Pepper trees, Jacarandas, Kurrajongs and a Washington Palm. The site also contains some areas of remnant woodland, including Grey Gum, Forest Red Gum and narrow-leaved Ironbark, and riparian landscapes.

Carrington is physical evidence of philanthropy in the late nineteenth century in NSW, and is particularly associated with William Henry Paling, and the Carrington Centennial Trust. The building commemorates the patron of the Trust, Lord Carrington, former Governor of NSW. The names of major benefactors are located within the building.

The site, and particularly the Masonic Hospital Cottage, demonstrates a strong association with Freemasonry in NSW.

The site has some association with John Macarthur and his family, being part of the Cawder Farm subdivision in 1882 by Elizabeth Macarthur Onslow, and part of the parcel of land purchased by William Paling at that time. Grasmere Villa is particularly associated with William Paling, as he leased it from the Carrington Centennial Trust and members of his family occupied it until 1901.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Background

This Heritage Curtilage Assessment was commissioned by the Carrington Centennial Trust in September 2004 to assist in the preparation of a Master Plan for the site. This report was prepared by Noel Bell Ridley Smith & Partners Pty Ltd to determine areas for potential development within its boundary.

It should be read in conjunction with the current Conservation Management Plan prepared for Carrington. Note also, in October 2004, the Carrington Centennial Trust commissioned Noel Bell Ridley Smith & Partners to revise and expand on the existing Conservation Management Plan for Carrington.

2.2 Location of Site

The Carrington Centennial Trust is currently the vested owner of two allotments of land at Grasmere, near Camden NSW. They are:

- 90 Werombi Road, Grasmere NSW 2570, described as Lot 10 of DP 845472 in the Parish of Camden, Country of Cumberland, and
- 5 Small Lane, Grasmere NSW 2570, described as Lot 201 of DP 734620 in the Parish of Camden, Country of Cumberland.

This report relates specifically to 90 Werombi Road, Grasmere NSW 2570, which is identified as a heritage item in Camden Local Environmental Plan No. 48, and contains the Carrington Convalescent Hospital Group. The site is situated approximately three kilometres south west of Camden and is zoned for Special Uses and Rural Land use. The area to the north and west of the subject site is characterised by recent suburban development, while the area to the south and east is largely semi-rural.

The subject site is bounded by Werombi Road to the south and west, residential development to the north, and the Nepean River and Ferguson Lane to the east. The site is currently used for Aged Care Services including:

- Carrington Centennial Nursing Home
- Paling Court Hostel
- Mary MacKillop Hostel
- Carrington Retirement Village
- Carrington Community Care Services

The second allotment, known as 5 Small Lane, Grasmere, is zoned for Rural land use, and is bounded by residential development to the west, Smalls Road and Werombi Road to the north and rural land to the east and south. It does not form part of the site of the Heritage Item protected under Camden Local Environmental Plan No.48.

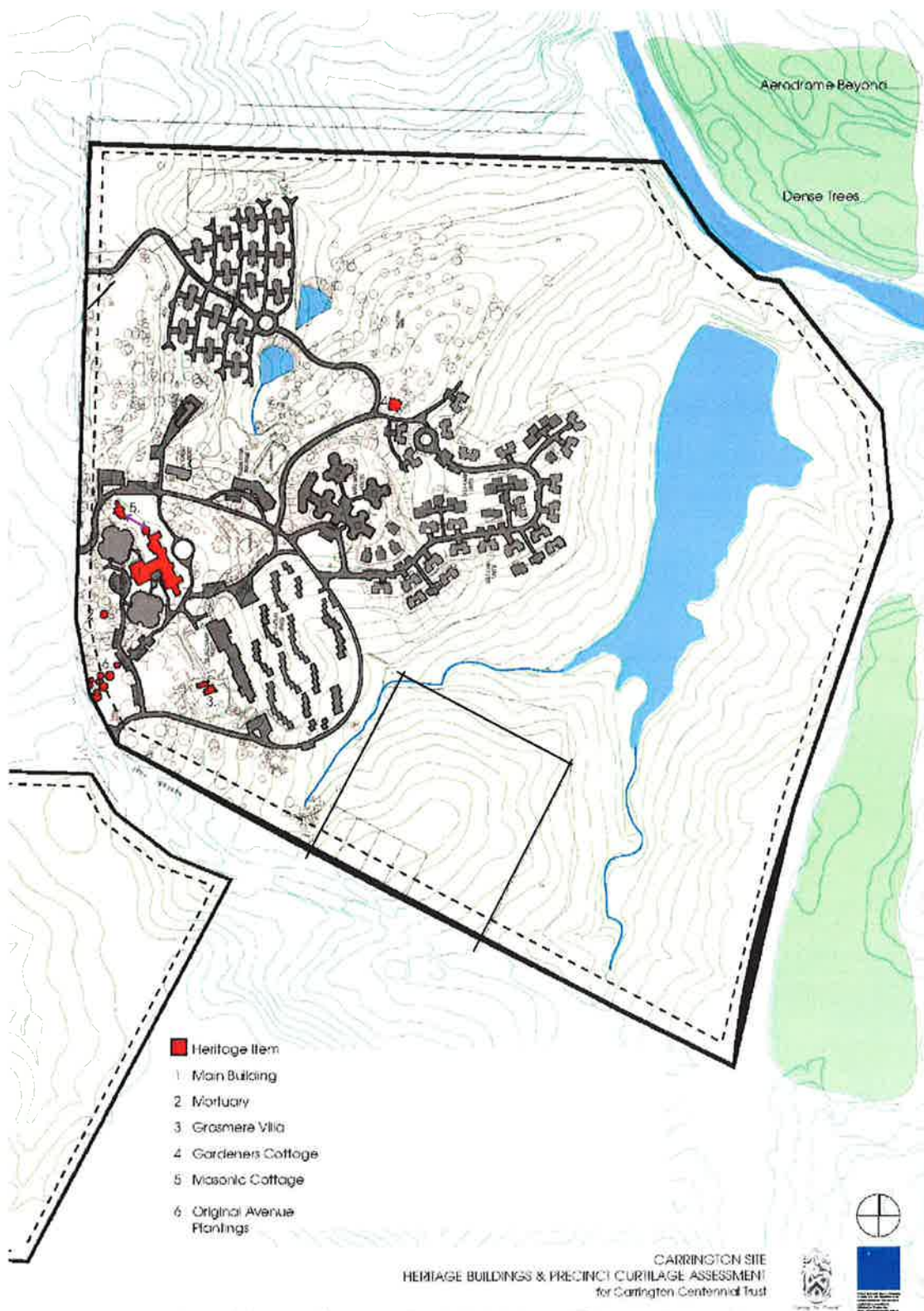


Figure 2. Site plan showing the location of heritage buildings within the boundary of Carrington referred to throughout this report. NTS

2.3 Study Objective

This aim of this report is to analyse the site and its history, to determine whether a reduced heritage curtilage can be defined for the Carrington Convalescent Hospital Group that will ensure the significance of the place is retained and that it can be interpreted to visitors to the site.

This report will be used to assist in the preparation of a Master plan for Carrington to manage changes to the site and to identify locations for potential development within its boundary.

2.4 Methodology

This report generally follows the format set out in the document titled *Heritage Curtilages*, published in 1996 by the NSW Heritage Office, NSW Department of Urban Affairs and Planning. This process involves research to ascertain the significance of the site¹ and its elements and an analysis of the existing site, including the following considerations:

- Historical allotments
- Design, style and taste
- Functional uses and interrelationships
- Visual links
- Scale
- Significant features
- Vegetation
- Archaeological features

The terms *fabric*, *place*, *preservation*, *reconstruction*, *restoration*, *adaptation* and *conservation* used throughout this report have the meaning given them in *Australia ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance (Burra Charter)*.

2.5 Authorship

This report was prepared by Noel Bell Ridley Smith & Partners Architects, under the guidance of Robert Staas, Heritage Consultant and Director of Noel Bell Ridley Smith & Partners Architects. The history was researched and written by Michelle Richmond, Historian, of Noel Bell Ridley Smith & Partners Architects.

2.6 Acknowledgments

The Author gratefully acknowledges the assistance of the following people in the preparation of this report:

¹ Note the existing Conservation Management Plan is currently being revised and expanded by Noel Bell Ridley Smith & Partners (November 2004). The CMP will contain a complete assessment of cultural significance and a statement of cultural significance.

- Mr Raad Richards, Chief Executive Officer, Carrington Centennial Trust
- Mr Ken Dodimead, Property, Maintenance & Construction Manager, Carrington Centennial Trust
- Mr Mark Tutt, OH & S Manager, Carrington Centennial Trust
- Mr John Wrigley, Camden Historical Society and Carrington Museum
- Ms Jo Hafner, Librarian, NSW Masonic Centre
- Mr Grahame Cumming, author of *Masonic Hospitals of NSW*
- Mr Warwick Hirst, Curator of Manuscripts, Mitchell Library
- Mr Colin Kaye, Sydney Water Archives
- Ms Noni Boyd, Heritage Consultant, provided personal research files on the history of hospitals and the comparative analysis of convalescent hospitals in Australia.

2.7 Copyright

This report is copyrighted to Noel Bell Ridley Smith & Partners Architects Pty Limited and was prepared specifically for the owners of the site. It shall not be used for any other purpose and shall not be transmitted in any form without the written permission of the authors.

3.0 OUTLINE HISTORY OF CARRINGTON CONVALESCENT HOSPITAL

3.1 Sources of Information

The main documentary sources consulted in the preparation of this report are listed below, and a complete bibliography is contained in Section 10.0 of this report.

- Carrington Nursing Home Archives
- Mitchell Library, State Library of New South Wales
 - WH Paling Papers
 - Camden Estate Papers
 - Carrington Centennial Trust Papers
 - Subdivision plans – Camden
 - Card catalogue
 - Small Pictures File
 - PICMAN Catalogue
 - WEBMAN Catalogue
- NSW Land & Property Information Division (NSW Dept. of Lands)
 - Vendors Index
 - Old Systems Titles
 - Torrens Titles
- Camden Historical Society
- NSW Masonic Centre Library

3.2 Outline History of Carrington and its Site

The following outline history of Carrington Convalescent Hospital and its site is intended to provide a framework for the historical analysis of the place. A more comprehensive history of the site is contained in the revised *Conservation Management Plan: Carrington Convalescent Hospital* prepared by Noel Bell Ridley Smith & Partners (December 2004), and an outline of the aboriginal history of the site is contained in the *Aboriginal Heritage Assessment: Camden NSW* prepared by Archaeological & Heritage Management Solutions Pty Ltd (November 2004).

3.2.1 Aboriginal Occupation

Camden has a unique place in Australian history, as the district is located at the intersection of two Aboriginal tribal territories. It was shared by the Tharawal people, who ranged from the south side of Botany Bay and the Georges River to the Liverpool and Campbelltown areas as far south as Appin and the Cordeaux and Cataract Water Catchments, and the Gandangara people, who occupied the Nattai and Burragorang Valley, the western Cowpasturers and the ranges as far west as Bathurst. The Nepean River may have formed the eastern boundary of the Gandangara, making Camden near the boundary of

the two groups.² A third group, the Dharug people lived northeast of the Nepean River.

Some important insights into the social life of Aboriginal people in the Camden area are provided by various early documents. William Russell or 'Werriberie', a Gandangara man, was born in 1830 near the banks of Monkey Creek and continued to live and work in the Camden area for most of his life. In 1924 he dictated his recollections to A. Bennett and these accounts were printed in the Camden News³. The grave of 'Werriberie' is in the Camden catholic cemetery, the gravestone being in the shape of a tree stump.⁴ In later years the ethnologist, R.H. Matthews also collected a substantial body of information about the language, ceremony, mythology and social organisation of the Gandangara, Tharawal and Darug peoples.⁵

There is little doubt that the Camden area was used extensively by the aborigines as a hunting area. They called the area Benkennie meaning dry land.⁶

Observations made by the early European explorer Barrallier in 1802 provide further insights into food resources and hunting practices in the Camden and Menangle area. Barrallier noted that swamps in the Menangle area were important resource zones where "enormous eels, fishes and various species of shell were consumed by Aboriginal people".

In 1824 Lieutenant Collins wrote how "the men from the Cowpastures were the most remarkable. They were rather short, stocky strong and superbly built. The painting on their bodies, resembling some kind of coats of mail, added even more to their martial attitude..."⁷

Small groups of aboriginals remained in the area for some time, particularly in Burratorang Valley however because of the low numbers of rock outcrops in the Camden area there are few surface remnants of aboriginal art. The first few years of white presence in the area were peaceful until Governor Macquarie began granting large tracts of land in the Camden district. The farmers erected fences that cut through aboriginal kangaroo hunting grounds and were built over yam beds causing conflict between the farmers and the aborigines. Early records tell of Macarthur's shepherds and their wives being killed by aborigines.⁸

Samuel Hassall in his writings "The Old Australia", published in 1902,⁹ records a skirmish in March 1816 between a large group of hostile Gandangara aboriginals and three of Macarthur's servants. The aboriginals were perused by

² Aboriginal Heritage Assessment: Camden, NSW by Archaeological & Heritage Management Solutions Pty Limited, November 2004, p17

³ Ibid.,

⁴ Russell W (Werriberri) My Recollections (1914) cited in Wrigley J

⁵ Ibid.,

⁶ Wrigley J., *A History of Camden, New South Wales*, Camden Historical Society, 2001, p6.

⁷ Ibid.,

⁸ Wrigley J., op.cit., p6

⁹ Hassall Rev J.S., In *Old Australia*, 1902

a group of 40 armed settlers and a small company of "friendly natives". No one was injured and the Gandangara aboriginals eventually disappeared into the bush.

In 1816 Governor Macquarie, pressured by influential men, declared war on the Aboriginals of the Camden area sending out three detachments of the 46th Regiment to "*chasten these hostile tribes and to inflict terrible and exemplary punishments on them...*". They frightened many aboriginal people, shot several and took half a dozen prisoners. When the company arrived in Appin they came upon an Aboriginal camp and massacred 17 Tharawal and Gandangara men women and children and took 5 of the surviving women and children prisoner. Aboriginal resistance collapsed, the war was over and the survivors fled from their lands into the mountains west and south or onto the farms of the friendly settlers. Hassall however, reported seeing a corroboree at Camden in 1820s at which over four hundred aborigines took part.¹⁰

3.2.2 The Cowpastures

Europeans first visited the Camden district as early as 1795. They reported to Governor Hunter that cattle, which had strayed from Farm Cove in 1788, had been sighted in the area and had grown in size to a herd of 40 wild cattle. Governor Hunter despatched a party, under Henry Hacking to confirm or deny the reports.¹¹ Hunter adopted the name "Cowpastures" by which the area became known.¹²

In December 1803 Governor and Mrs King visited the "Cowpastures" and the Sydney Gazette reported that Mrs King was the first white lady to have crossed the Nepean River.¹³ The Governor instructed that the cattle herd be preserved, and in early 1805 the first house in the district was built near the river ford where Mrs King crossed and where Elderslie lies today, to accommodate Constables Warby and Jackson while carrying out the Governor's instruction.

Several visits of the colonial gentry to the area took place at this time, which resulted in their desire to acquire some of this rich land for themselves.

The track to the Cowpastures led from Prospect and on 17th September 1805, James Meehan, under instructions from Governor King, commenced a survey of the track from Prospect to the Nepean Crossing and a rough road followed the marked line. This became known as Cowpasture Road, most of which is today part of the Camden Valley Way.

3.2.3 The Village of Cawdor

Cawdor was the first village to develop in the Cowpasture district, predating Narellan by some years, and Elderslie and Camden by more than 20 years.

¹⁰ Wrigley J., op.cit., p7

¹¹ Campbell J.F., "The Wild Cattle of the Cowpastures, and the Village of Cawdor, RAHSJ Vol XIV, 1928, p43-45

¹² Jervis J., Camden and the Cowpastures, RAHSJ Vol XX1, 1935, p241 citing map drawn by Governor Hunter dated August 20 1796.

¹³ Sydney Gazette, December 10 1803

In 1812 Governor Macquarie instructed that a Government Station be constructed at Cawdor, named in honour of his wife's family¹⁴, for the capture and taming of the wild cattle of the Cowpastures. Initially, this Government settlement was simply the headquarters of the Cowpasture stockmen but in time the community increased with the arrival of tradesmen and their families and a village developed¹⁵. In the year of 1825, according to the official census, the population of Cawdor was 428 persons of which 139 men were in Government employment.¹⁶

Macquarie's final report on the colony, prepared after returning to London in 1822, included the following public works constructed at Cawdor for the furtherance of the wild cattle enterprise:

1. *A brick house for the residence and accommodation of the superintendent and principal overseer of the Government stock in the Cowpastures; reserving two rooms for the occasional accommodation of the Governor; with a kitchen and other necessary out offices together with a good kitchen garden well enclosed.*
2. *A weatherboard house for the accommodation of the subordinate overseers and stockmen*
3. *Four large paddocks of 100 acres each enclosed with a strong fence, for the grazing of the tame cattle and the taming of the wild cattle, and cleared of the standing of dead timber.*
4. *A tanning house and tan yards, for tanning the hides of the wild bulls, for the use of the Government*
5. *Several other paddocks and stockyards, enclosed for the government horses, horned cattle and sheep, grazing in other parts of the Government grounds of the Cowpastures.*¹⁷

Further development of the township was stalled for a period, following the additional granting of substantial tracts of land in the Cowpastures to John Macarthur in 1825. The first of these was the 5400 acres on which the subject site stands, and which was later referred to as North Cawdor, or the North Cawdor Farms, and the second; an area of 5000 acres adjoined North Cawdor to the south and included the site of the Cawdor village. Negotiations were made with Macarthur regarding the area he was willing to concede for church and school purposes at Cawdor and finally 20 acres was set aside for this purpose.

The wild cattle taming enterprise was abandoned in 1824 and by 1827 a government report on the public buildings of Cawdor referred to them in dilapidated condition. The village had a slight revival in 1836 when a Court of Petty Sessions was established and a sub-central post office opened. However the lack of a permanent water supply and the increase in traffic on the river routes induced the proprietors of the Camden Park Estate to establish the township of Camden, the design of which was prepared in 1836.

¹⁴ Jervis J., Camden and the Cowpastures, *RAHSJ Vol XX1*, 1935, p244 citing *Journal of a Tour*, 1820: Mitchell Library

¹⁵ Campbell J.F., The Wild Cattle of the Cowpastures and the Village of Cawdor, *RAHSJ Vol X1V* 1928, p51

¹⁶ *Ibid.*,

¹⁷ Campbell J.F., The Wild Cattle of the Cowpastures and the Village of Cawdor, *RAHSJ Vol X1V* 1928, p52

In 1841 the Cawdor Public Offices were removed and re-established in Camden and from that date the township gradually ceased to exist.¹⁸

3.2.4 The Macarthur Family

John Macarthur, his wife Elizabeth¹⁹ and their first child Edward arrived in Sydney on the second fleet in 1790 nourishing hopes of a quick promotion and a subsequent return to England. He was lieutenant to the New South Wales Corps and was first posted to Rose Hill.²⁰ In 1793 Macarthur was granted 100 acres at Rose Hill (Parramatta) where he established "Elizabeth Farm".²¹ His interest in sheep began in 1797 when he purchased some Dutch Spanish sheep, which Captain Henry Waterhouse had secured from the Cape of Good Hope, and with these he formed a small stud at Elizabeth Farm.

In 1801 Governor King sent some of the fleeces from the stud to Sir Joseph Banks, supervisor of the Royal Merino Stud at Kew, for an opinion on their quality. Banks reported they were as good as the merino wool from Spain that had the monopoly of the British market.

John Macarthur and two of his sons travelled to England in 1801, taking with them a number of specimen fleeces from his own flocks. He managed to secure permission through Lord Camden the Colonial Secretary, for his resignation from the army, and returned to NSW to develop its wool industry.

Official approval for his scheme was emphasised in a unique grant of 5000 acres of the best pastureland in the colony at Cowpastures, to be increased by a further 5000 acres if tangible results were forthcoming.²²

When Macarthur returned to Sydney in 1805 he received his first grant of 5000 acres, at the coveted Cowpastures, "*for the purpose of sheep breeding*" and Macarthur was given permission to import the first pure merino rams and ewes from the Royal Stud at Kew.

Following his role in the Rum Rebellion that deposed Governor Bligh, Macarthur was authorized to leave the colony, along with the other rebels, to present his defence in England. In 1809 Macarthur left for England to stand trial, taking his two younger sons James and William, and leaving the running of his colonial estate to his wife Elizabeth and his nephew Hannibal Macarthur.²³

18 Campbell J.F. op.cit., p 54-55

19 Nee Elizabeth Veale, daughter of an English country gentleman

20 ADB Entry John Macarthur p1

21 Norrie H., "John Macarthur", *RAHSJ Vol XV*, 1929, p200

22 ADB Entry John Macarthur p3 & 4

23 Norrie.H.op.cit., p210,212

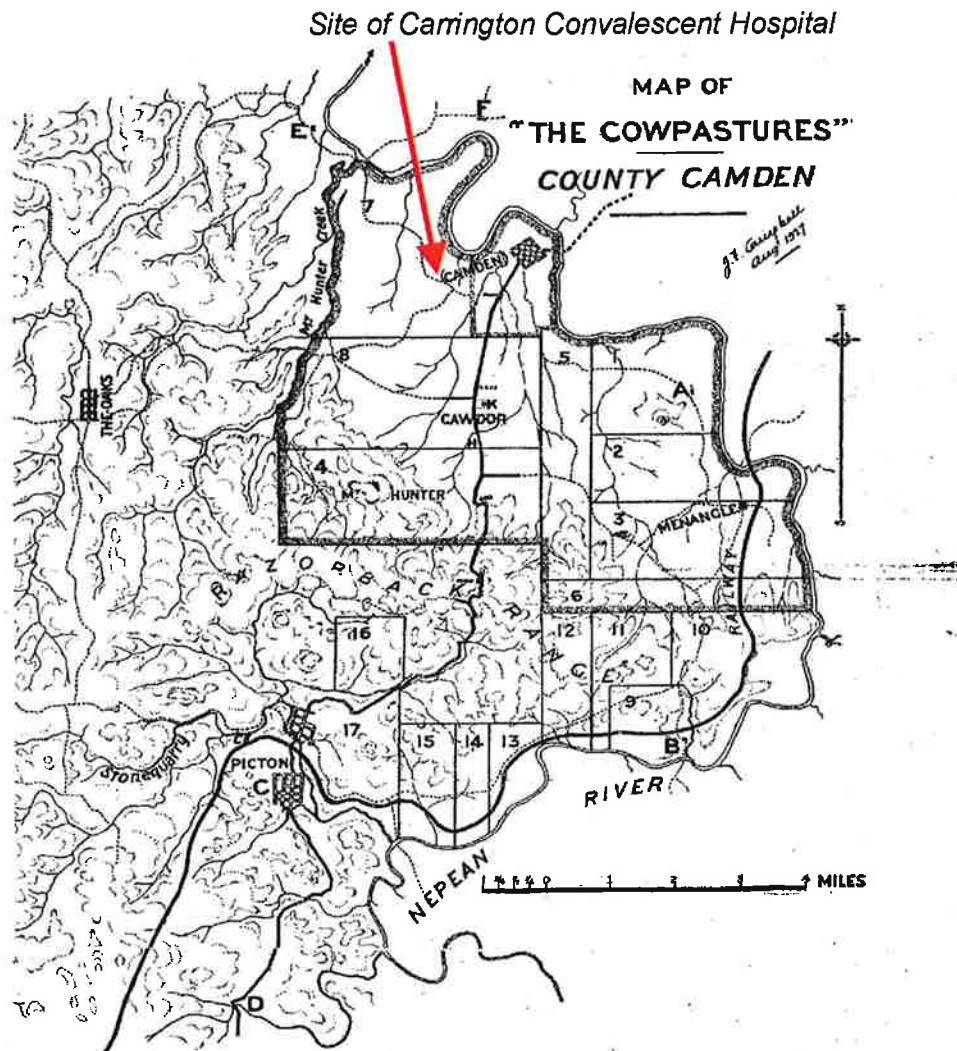


Figure 3 Macarthur Land Camden

Source: Campbell J.F., *The Wild Cattle of the Cowpastures and the Village of Cawdor*, RAHSJ Vol XIV Pt 1 1928 p57

Key:

A	Camden Park House	B	Douglas Park
C	Stone quarry now Picton	D	Bargo Bridge
E	Brownlow Hill	F	Cobbity
H	Church and School lot of 20 acres Cawdor		
K	Site of Governor's residence Cawdor now the site of the Wesleyan Church		

No.7 5400 acres granted to John Macarthur 5th October 1825 (referred to as North Cawdor or North Camden in various historical documents)

No. 8 5000 acres granted to John Macarthur 5th October 1825 (including town of Cawdor)

No's 1, 2, & 3 John Macarthur and Walter Davidson's original grants in 1805

James and William attended school in England, and from 1813 James was apprenticed to a broker in a London counting house. Between March 1815 and May 1816 James and William travelled with their father in France, Switzerland and Northern Italy where they gained experience in viticulture and fruit growing and learnt new methods of washing sheep before shearing to ensure the wool would show well in the auction room.²⁴

Macarthur finally received permission to return to NSW in 1817, and on his return placed James and William in charge of the colonial holdings and for the next decade. The brothers proved to be great managers and the estates flourished, with Macarthur wool bringing the best prices in the colony. In 1807 the export of wool from the colony was only 245 lbs., in 1815 it was 32,191 lbs., and by 1835 it had increased to 1,776,191 lbs.²⁵ On February 13 1825, a newspaper reported that eleven teams carrying wool from the flocks of John Macarthur esq. had passed down George Street on the proceeding day.²⁶

John Macarthur successfully pressed his claim to the supplementary 5000 acres that he had been promised in 1804 and in 1825 he was granted a further 5400 acres at Cowpastures.²⁷ The subject site lies within this grant of land, shown as No.7 in Figure 3. Earl Bathurst was asked to permit Macarthur to take the whole of the unlocated land, which came to over 10,000 acres and included the village of Cawdor.²⁸ By the end of the decade Camden Park was the first agricultural establishment in the colony incorporating over 60,000 acres acquired by grant and purchase.²⁹

In 1826 Macarthur introduced dairying at Camden Park, employing 14 female convicts as dairymaids. It was to be the dairying industry, which stood the test of time until recently in the Camden district.³⁰

By the 1840s the estate and the whole district turned their interest to wheat growing. A writer from the *Sydney Morning Herald* dated September 30 1847 referred to the land of excellent quality on the Camden Estate, and stated that it had been opened up and cultivated "*within the last few years by a sort of primitive pioneers who took the farms on clearing leases.*" In the following year the crops were particularly heavy, on new land which yielded as much as 40 bushels to the acre. Reapers received 10/- per acre, while 2/6 per acre was paid for mowing. Labourers were paid 2/6 per day. At this period a good many aborigines were employed in the fields. It was reported that the Macarthur estate would probably produce 40,000 bushels of wheat.³¹

Practically all the clearing leases were transformed into wheat farms. For about 20 years much success was achieved and a number of mills established for the

24 ADB James Macarthur p1

25 Sidman G.V., *The Town of Camden*, p13

26 Jervis J., *Camden and the Cowpastures*, RAHSJ Vol XX1, 1935, p248

27 ADB John Macarthur p7

28 Jervis J., *Camden and the Cowpastures*, RAHSJ Vol XX1, 1935,p247

29 ADB John Macarthur p7

30 Ibid.,

31 SMH Dec 15, 1848

grinding of the wheat to produce flour. The earliest of these was a water mill owned by Henry Thompson, which was superseded by a steam mill in about 1847. Thompson erected another mill in 1861. These mills were adjacent to the river and close to the bridge. Two windmills were built, one near the church and another on the hill now occupied by the Hospital. In 1851 Camden flour had a good name and sold readily in the Sydney market.³² The Macarthurs had 25 ploughs in their own field at work during this time. All this came to an end however when in 1861 and 1863 rust made its appearance and ruined the industry.

Following John Macarthur's death in 1834, his sons, James and William, inherited Camden Park Estate. James Macarthur married Emily Stone, daughter of a well-known London Banker, in England in 1837 and the couple had one child, a daughter Elizabeth born at Camden Park in 1840.³³ Elizabeth married Arthur Alexander Walton Onslow, a naval officer and politician, in 1867 and the couple had six sons and two daughters. When Onslow died in 1882 he was buried at Camden Park and in 1892 Elizabeth officially changed her name to Macarthur-Onslow.³⁴ As William Macarthur never married, Elizabeth inherited the bulk of the Macarthur estates.

In 1881, much of the leasehold farmland was sold to the Anglo Australian Investment Company with the settlement of the sale due in 1888. The Anglo Australian Investment Company in turn offered farms for sale from 1881 onwards, the final settlement on each also due in 1888. Following the settlement of William Macarthur's estate and the sale of the land by Elizabeth Macarthur-Onslow, many of the land titles were converted from leasehold to freehold (Torrens Title).

In 1887 Elizabeth Macarthur-Onslow took her surviving six children to Europe for their education. She studied dairying in southern England and the metayage-share farming system in Italy and on returning to Australia in 1889, founded the dairying complex on the Camden Estate and installed a relation, A.J. Onslow Thompson as manager in 1889-1915. In the 1890s the model dairies and creameries were served by twelve co-operative farms and 40 leased farms; the milk and the butter were sold on the Sydney market. In 1899 Elizabeth converted the estate into a private Company with her children as shareholders and directors.

Elizabeth Macarthur-Onslow died on the 2nd August 1911 whilst on holidays in England, leaving an estate sworn at £196,668-.

3.2.5 The Establishment of Camden

The village of Camden is situated in part of an area of 1600 acres that had originally been set aside for church and school by Governor Brisbane in 1823 but which had been cancelled in favour of John Macarthur.³⁵

³² Jervis J., Camden and the Cowpastures, *RAHSJ Vol XX1*, 1935,p248-249

³³ ADB entry James Macarthur p4

³⁴ Sidman G.V., *The Town of Camden*,1995, p12-13

³⁵ Campbell J.F., *The Wild Cattle of the Cowpastures and the Village of Cawdor*, *RAHSJ Vol X1V* 1928, p55

In 1830 prominent citizens petitioned the governor to establish a town near the Nepean. The Surveyor General, Major Mitchell, suggested that Macarthur surrender 320 acres of his land for this purpose. Macarthur declined to do so, but in 1836, two years after his death, his sons James and William had the area surveyed and offered allotments for sale in 1840. Thus the town of Camden was born.

Provision was made too for the erection of a church and for a commodious hotel. By February 1840, this was already under construction and was licensed as the Camden Inn on 21st June 1841.³⁶

In the Sydney Morning Herald dated 17th September 1847 the correspondent wrote:

"In the midst of this charming country arises the infant village of Camden, a lusty bantling, already fresh and dewy from the lap of the wilderness. It is already dotted with building throughout its whole limits-here a police court, a post office, and two inns. A steam grist mill, workshops of all useful artisans, a Roman Catholic Church, a Wesley chapel and on a commanding eminence an Episcopalian Church now in progress towards completion.

The town mainly grew up to service rural industries and travellers. Windmills were erected; one near St Johns Church and the other near the present Camden Hospital.

In 1826 Macarthur introduced dairying at Camden Park and it was the dairying industry, which stood the test of time until recently in the Camden district.

In the 1840s the whole district turned their interest to wheat growing which dominated the agricultural development of the area until rust ruined the industry in the 1860s.

On 18th August 1883, a meeting of citizens was held to formulate action for the incorporation of the Town of Camden as a Municipality. This incorporation took place in February 1889, and on the 24th April of that year the Council held its first meeting. At that time the Council served some 342 people of whom 180 were males and 162 were females.

The first railway to the area opened in March 1882 and was called the Camden Tramway because it utilised part of the roadway wherever possible for compensation. At first it crossed the Nepean River on a low level bridge running in the middle of roadway until a later bridge was built in 1901.

The first station was below the junction of Edward and Argyle Streets but later land was resumed between Elizabeth and Edward Streets for the station.³⁷ Wandering up and down hills and mostly alongside the road this quaint railway

³⁶ Wrigley, p10.

³⁷ Wrigley J., op.cit.,p14

was popular with photographers but often the carriage was empty. The line was closed in 1963.

The first bridge across the Nepean in the area was commenced on the site of the present Cowpasture Bridge in 1826 and opened as a toll bridge in 1827. Travelling along the bridge on the Sabbath was prohibited by order of the governor. The bridge was partly renewed and strengthened following the 1835 flood. Higher and higher bridges replaced the first one in 1861 and in 1901. The present bridge was opened in 1976 following the destructive floods of 1975.³⁸

3.2.6 History and development of the Subject Site

The subject property lies on part of a grant of 5400 acres to John Macarthur in 1825 and referred to as the North Cawdor or North Camden Estate and later as Cawdor Park. This land was not part of the original Camden Park Estate granted to John Macarthur in 1805 but part of a second grant of two adjoining portions containing over 10,000 acres. (See Figure 3)

John Macarthur died in 1834 and his two younger sons James and William inherited the whole of the Camden Estates, which they continued to operate.

James Macarthur bequeathed the whole of his estate and property to his wife Amelia and his brother Sir William Macarthur in trust for his daughter and only child Elizabeth Macarthur. William never married and his estate was also left to James and Amelia and then in trust to his niece Elizabeth.

James Macarthur died on the 21st April 1867, Amelia Macarthur died on 25th November 1880 and William died on 29th October 1882. Elizabeth married Arthur Alexander Walton Onslow in January 1867 and he also died in October 1882. Thus by the end of 1882 Elizabeth had inherited the bulk of the Macarthur Estates. In 1892 Elizabeth officially changed her name to Macarthur-Onslow.

From the 1840s much of the Camden Estate was opened up and cultivated as clearing leases for wheat growing which initially was very successful but the industry was ruined in the 1860s when rust made its appearance.

In 1881 a syndicate of 4 people WH Paling, Benjamin James Jnr, William Stimson (land owner and Mayor of Fairfield in the late 1800s), and Andrew Hardie McCulloch, (member of the legislative assembly) entered into an agreement to purchase the North Cawdor Farms and all the unsold portions of the township of Camden, from the Macarthur family, being a total area of 5100 acres. The agreement was initially entered into with Sir William Macarthur and following his death in October 1882 continued with Elizabeth Macarthur Onslow.

The agreement established that an initial sum of £5000 be paid immediately and that a further £5000 be paid within 12 months from the date of sale, bearing interest of 4% and the balance to remain secured by mortgage for 5

³⁸ Wrigley J., op.cit., p26

years bearing interest at the rate of 4% per annum, the interest to be paid half yearly and to commence from 1st January 1882. The total cost the land was £61,000.³⁹

The agreement further stated that the property would be sold subject to an annuity of £300 to be paid to Lady Emmeline Parker, daughter of Hannibal Macarthur, with a further £3000 paid at her death. The vendors, Sir William Macarthur and others, would pay this annuity.

At the time of sale, all the farms were tenanted and a list of the names of the tenants on the farms sold to the Syndicate appears in the Macarthur Papers.⁴⁰

In 1882 Hardie and Gorman advertised the land purchased by the syndicate for auction. Ferdinand Reuss was the surveyor and the sale was set for Monday and Tuesday 13th & 14th March. The names of the tenants appear across each farm. (See Figure 4)

The farms were offered again for sale again in 1883, 1887 and 1888.

Sales were slow, and in 1887 a glossy sales booklet was published to assist in the promotion of this land. In this booklet the land was described as 3600 acres known as the North Cawdor Estate consisting of farm lots of between 40 and 130 acres. The farms were offered as sites for Villas or country residences and the brochure highlighted the excellent condition of the roads throughout the estate.⁴¹

To emphasise the desirability of this land the brochure stated that the *North Cawdor Estate is desirable as sites for farms and homesteads is evidenced by the fact that Mr WH Paling, J.P., the well-known musician and piano forte importer (who has built a commodious site), Mr McCulloch, Mr Cliff and Mr Porter, all purchased large farms in the centre of the estate. These gentlemen have expended large amounts in fencing, making dams and reservoirs and laying down hundreds of acres of English Grasses.*

The brochure also contained, among other images, three sketches of Mr WH Paling's farm showing the cottage, dairy and stockyard (see Figure 5,6 & 7). Paling had selected some of the land for himself, as had Stimson and McCulloch, and had outlaid quite a sum of money in establishing his farm. The following images give some indication as the extent of development on Paling's property in 1887. His land included farms 12, 13, 45, 46, 47 & 62 and is shown in Figure 8.

39 Macarthur Papers Mitchell Library A4220 pp141-166

40 Ibid.,

41 Sales Brochure North Cawdor Estate Camden NSW 1887 located at the Camden Museum

CAMDOR CAMDEN PARK

For Auction CLOSE TO ST JOHN'S CHURCH
 AT 1.30 O'CLOCK
 Sale MONDAY & TUESDAY 13 & 14 MARCH 1882.
HARDIE & GORMAN

AT CAMDEN
 AUCTIONEERS.
 BROWNLOW
 HILL

P. MURDOCH
 200ac.



Location of Carrington Convalescent Hospital

Figure 4 Cawdor Park Estate Camden, Land Sales 1882

Source: Mitchell Library Subdivision Plans Camden

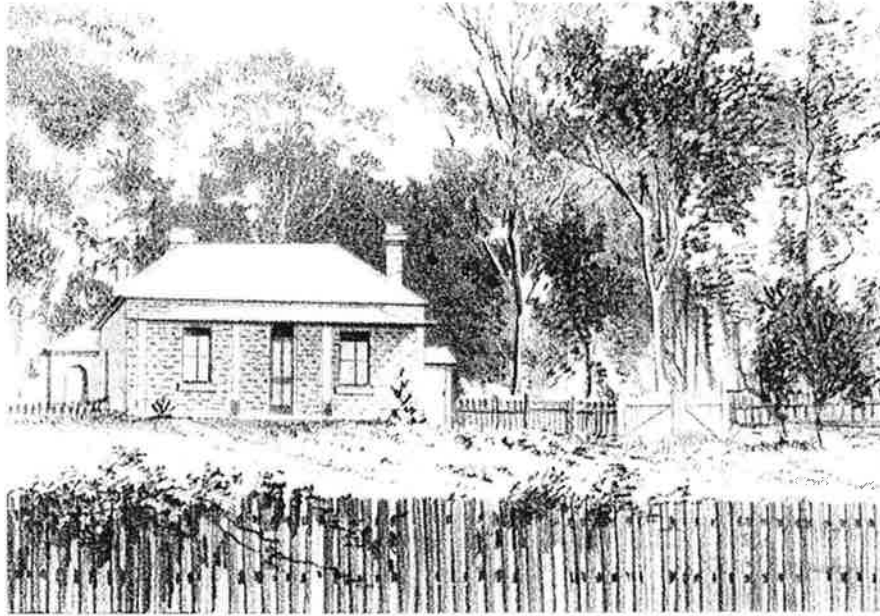


Figure 5 Mr WH Paling's Cottage, Camden, 1887, showing the early split timber picket fence. The illustration shows the cottage before the verandah was extended.

Source: North Cawdor Estate Sale Brochure 1987 Camden Museum



Figure 6 Mr WH Paling's Dairy and Stockyard, Camden, 1887

Source: North Cawdor Estate Sale Brochure 1887 Camden Museum

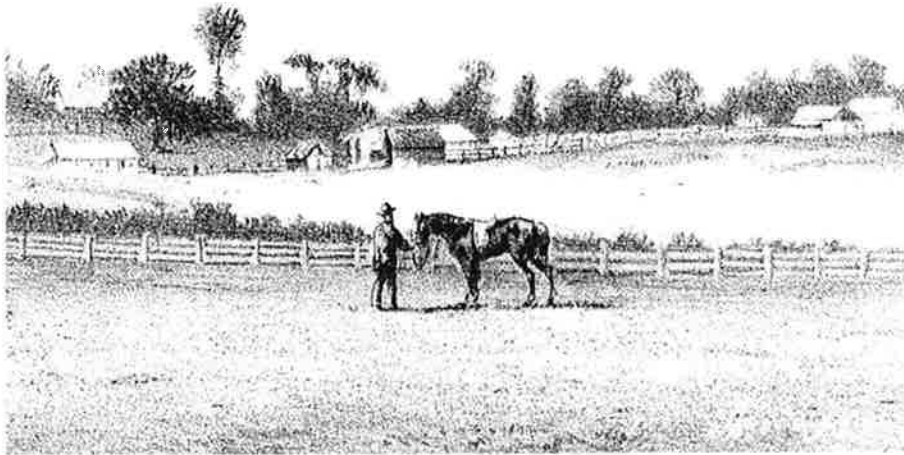


Figure 7 View of Mr WH Paling's farm 1887

Source: North Cawdor Estate Sale Brochure 1887 Camden Museum

By 1887 the farms were being advertised under the name of the Anglo Australian Investment Finance and Land Company, of which Paling, Stimson, McCulloch and James were the board members. This time the land was referred to as Camden Park Estate, Cawdor Farms perhaps thought to be a more known title.

In 1888 the purchase of the Cawdor Farms Land was finalised and the land converted from leasehold to freehold. Though some farms had been sold prior to this date final payment not due until after 1888.

Between 1888 and 1898 the Land Titles Office record the sale of 48 of the North Cawdor farms, and Palings purchase in April 1888 appears to have been the first completed sale.

1887 which gives a clear indication as to how Paling had been using his land prior to it being donated for the construction of the hospital.⁴⁴

Over £1000 had been spent on fencing, clearing land and in the construction of small dams and water holes. The farm contained an established dairy on Farm 12 (see Figures 9 & 10). A cottage occupied by the farm manager John Carter was possibly also on Farm 12. A private cottage on Farm 45 (presumably Grasmere) valued at £567.11.12 had additions to the value of £529.15.7. Another cottage, Alpha Cottage valued at £142 is mentioned but no location given. On Farm 62 there was a fourth cottage valued at £75. A coach house had been constructed on both Farm 13 and Farm 45, while Farm 45 contained a shed. Other construction included a bull shed, a pig pound, a hay shed and a silo, but no location is given.

Farm 45 was referred to as "Orchard Farm" and contained 1111 fruit trees and 20 ornamental trees. The land had been cleared, ploughed and fenced with extra soil carted from a large dam, which had been constructed on the site.⁴⁵ This is clearly shown in Figures 11 & 12.

Farm 62 was referred to as "Vineyard Farm" where Paling had established 5250 vines.⁴⁶ (See Figures 13 & 14)

The following extracts from the 1888 plan of the Grasmere Estate shows the development on each farm at this time.

Grasmere Villa is shown surrounded by orchards with adjacent stables and a pigsty. It is shown with the additional wing constructed by Paling. The proposed site for the hospital is also seen here on Farm 47.

⁴⁴ Carrington Hospital Special Collection – not catalogued Mitchell Library

⁴⁵ Stock Book of Cattle, Horses, Implements, Irrigation Plant etc, of Grasmere Estate as handed to the Carrington Hospital on April 23, 1888 by W.H. Paling located at the Mitchell Library, Carrington Collection

⁴⁶ Ibid.,

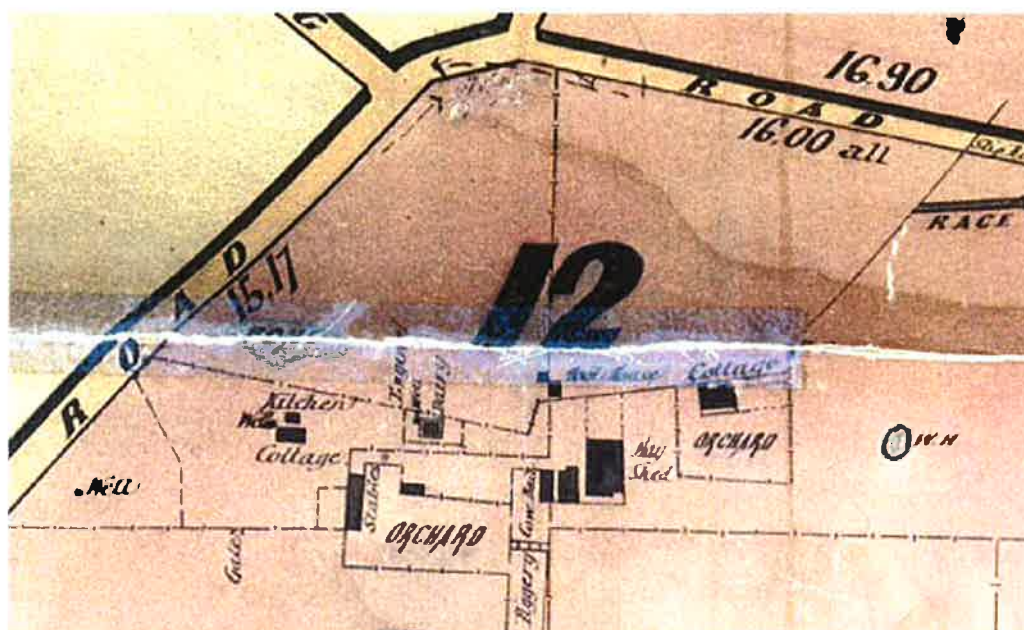


Figure 9 Detail of the Dairy Buildings on Farm 12

Source: Part of Plan of Grasmere Estate presented to Lord Carrington by WH Paling, 1888 ML MSS 4825/42x

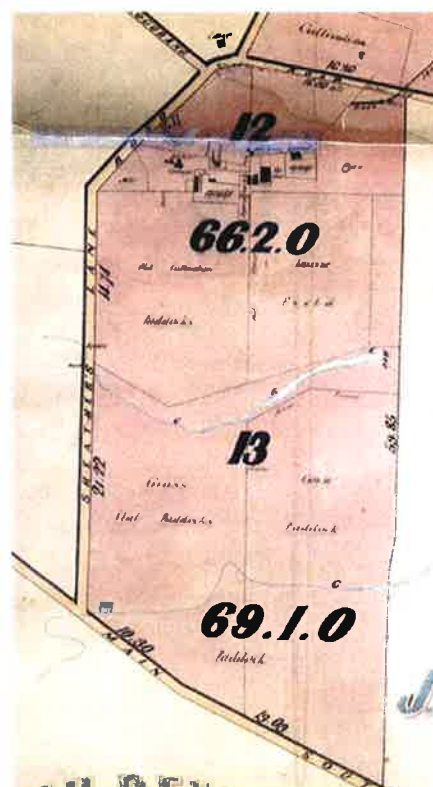


Figure 10 Farms 12 & 13

Source: Part of Plan of Grasmere Estate presented to Lord Carrington by WH Paling, 1888 ML MSS 4825/42x

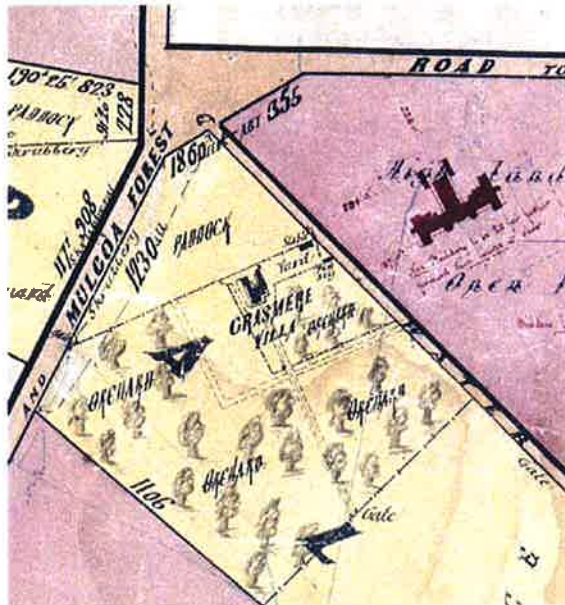


Figure 11 Detail of development on the immediate land surrounding Grasmere Villa in 1888.

Source: Part of Plan of Grassmere Estate presented to Lord Carrington by WH Paling, 1888 ML MSS 4825/42x

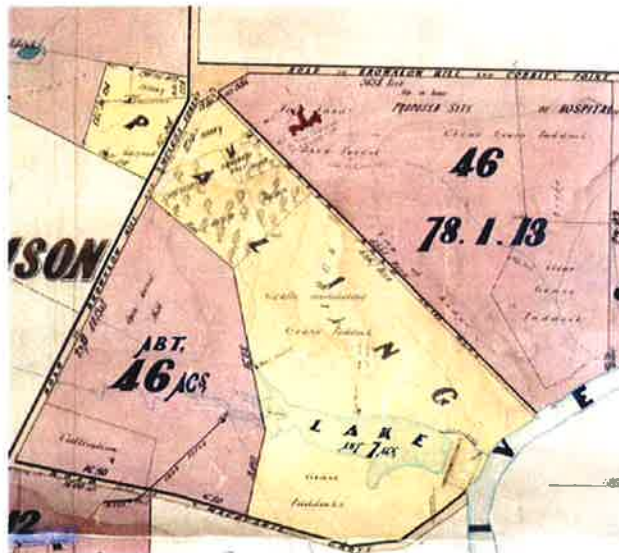


Figure 12 Detail of Farms 46 & 47

Source: Part of Plan of Grassmere Estate presented to Lord Carrington by WH Paling, 1888 ML MSS 4825/42x

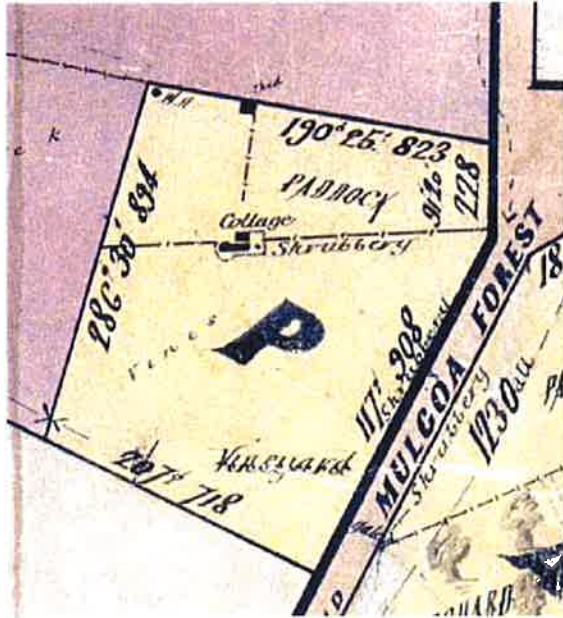


Figure 11 Part of Farm 62 showing the vineyard site and cottage

Source: Part of Plan of Grasmere Estate presented to Lord Carrington by WH Paling, 1888 ML MSS 4825/42x

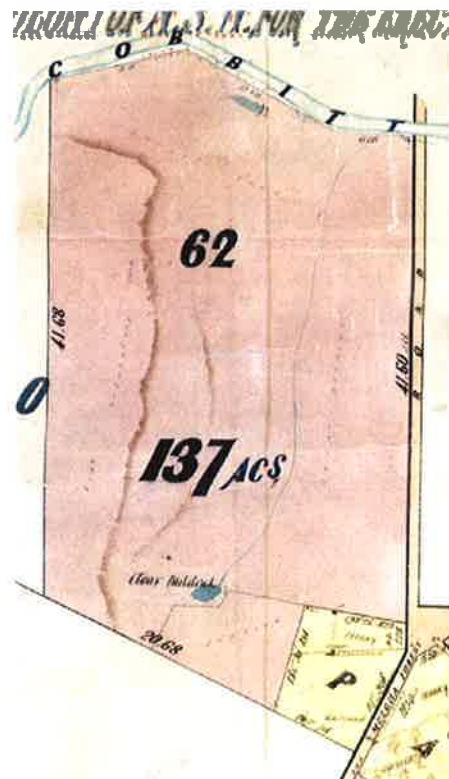


Figure 12 Farm 62

Source: Part of Plan of Grasmere Estate presented to Lord Carrington by WH Paling, 1888 ML MSS 4825/42x

As well as the plants, Paling's farm contained 874 cattle, 23 fowls and various horses, plus 52 acres of maize, 20 acres of 'Planter's Friend' and 1 acre of pumpkins.⁴⁷

The map below (Figure 15) was attached to the sale document and locates the buildings already existing on the farms when given by Paling to Lord Carrington.

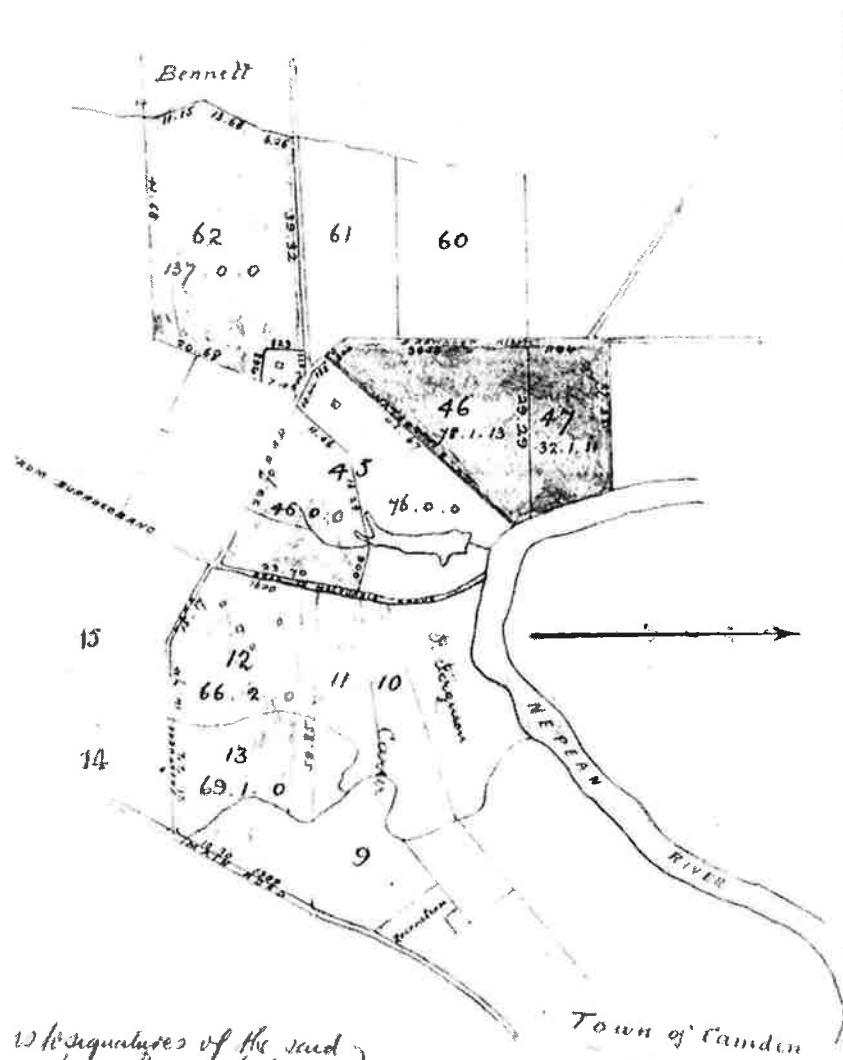


Figure 13 Showing land purchased by William Henry Paling in April 1888.

Source: LPI Bk 386 No 478

⁴⁷ Ibid.,

3.2.8 William Henry Paling

William Henry Paling (1825-1895), a prominent Sydney citizen and businessman immigrated to Australia from the Netherlands in 1853. In his early life he had studied violin, and was already a skilled pianist and technician of musical instruments before immigrating to the Colony of NSW. He settled permanently in Sydney, where he taught music and promoted concerts, becoming an *"estimable pioneer of the musical community of Sydney."*⁴⁸

Paling established an enduring and profitable business, importing hand-selected pianos and popular sheet music from Europe. He further profited by speculating in mining and land, and accrued considerable personal wealth.⁴⁹



Figure 14 William Henry Paling

Source: Nixon R.E., "Carrington 1890 to 1990" p2

Aside from his musical and cultural endeavours, and his business interests, WH Paling was a distinguished citizen. He was a member of the Commission of the Peace, and regularly served on the Bench of Magistrates. He was also active in civic affairs as an Alderman, and later Mayor, of Petersham Council.⁵⁰ Contemporary reports indicate that Paling was also noted for his generous philanthropy.

⁴⁸ Music for a Hundred Years, (Sydney: Oswald Ziegler Publications, 1954), p 44 [Courtesy Carrington Archives]

⁴⁹ Ibid: H Barker & M Elven, Houses of Hornsby Shire, Vol 1, (Hornsby Shire Historical Society, 1989) p 10

⁵⁰ Ibid

That Paling was socially progressive is further indicated by his concern for health reform. Nixon notes that during his involvement in Petersham Council it was reported,

*His service was most active... he has taken the greatest interest in and has devoted much attention to sanitary improvements... he esteems good health to be of the first importance in individual and in national greatness.*⁵¹

It was this concern, which led to the establishment of the Carrington Centennial Convalescent Hospital, the first major convalescent hospital in the Colony.⁵²

3.2.9 The Carrington Centennial Hospital

On New Year's Day 1888 WH Paling wrote to Lord Carrington, the Governor of NSW, declaring his intention to donate his substantial Camden estate (Figure 16), "Grasmere" and £10,000 towards establishing a Hospital for Incurables and Convalescents, and his desire that it be named after Lord Carrington. He dedicated it as a:

*"... Centenary Gift for the Colony of NSW as a token of loyal affection and gratitude from one who during 33 years has enjoyed all the rights and privileges as a subject of that great and liberal nation the British Empire."*⁵³

Paling's generous gift was accepted and a Provisional Committee, which included Governor Carrington, was formed. By 28 February 1888 the Committee had resolved that the new Hospital be named "The Carrington Convalescent Hospital", and appointed a sub-committee to prepare the necessary arrangements to implement Palings proposal.

The Governor subsequently appointed a Board of Trustees, and the General Committee was formed on 13 March 1888. Governor Carrington accepted Presidency of the Hospital and Chair of the General Committee, and William Paling was elected Vice-President.⁵⁴

The *Deed of Gift*, by which William Palings' donation, in its entirety, was officially transferred to the Hospital Trustees, was signed on 18 April 1888.⁵⁵ The Deed defined the "Objects for which the Gift was made"; thus ensuring the continuance of Paling's ideals well into the future of the new Hospital.

A Public Meeting was held at Sydney Town Hall on 29 May 1888 to announce the opening of a public subscription to raise £18,000-. This sum was intended to supplement Palings £10,000 cash endowment⁵⁶, to achieve a "perfect result". Sir Henry Parkes, the Premier, moved a resolution;

51 RE Nixon, Carrington 1890-1990: The Centre of Total Care, 1990, p11

52 WL Chapman, National Trust Listing Proposal, "Carrington Centennial Convalescent Hospital", 25.6.1979

53 Nixon, op cit, p 7

54 Nixon op.cit., p 10

55 LTO BK 386 No. 479

56 Ibid, p 11

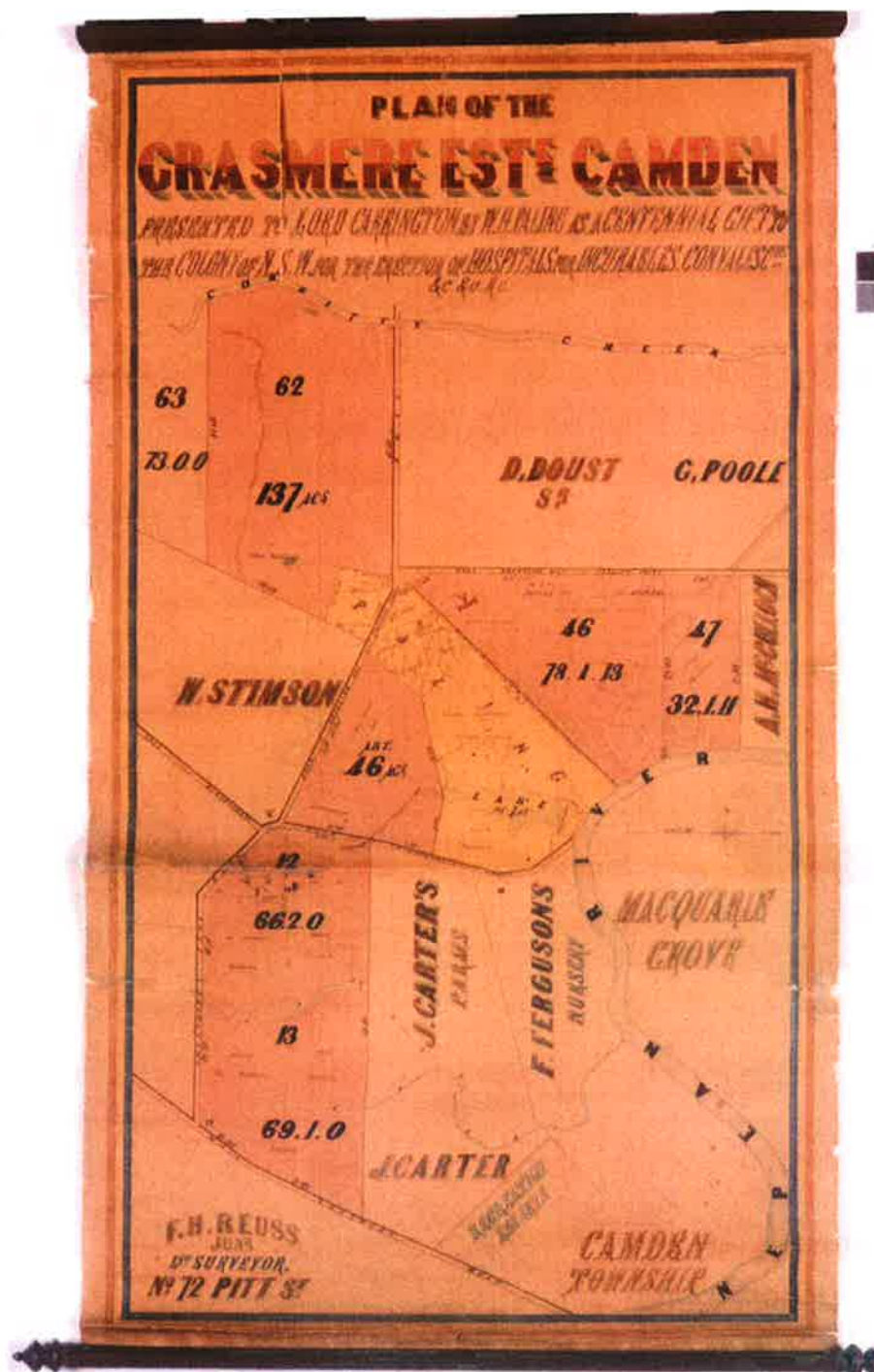


Figure 15 Plan of Grasmere Estate presented to Lord Carrington by WH Paling, 1888

Source: ML MSS 4825/42x

*"That with a view to meeting the pressing necessity for a Convalescent Hospital, a Public Subscription be immediately opened, and a fund raised for its erection upon the Grasmere Estate..."*⁵⁷

It was hoped that the hospital would benefit those recovering from acute illnesses by convalescing, for a short time, in the *"healthful climate of Camden and from the plentiful use of farm products from the estate and that those suffering from incurable illnesses may have their lives prolonged and their sufferings alleviated by these conditions."*⁵⁸

A building committee was established in 1888 and architect Harry Chambers Kent was engaged to prepare plans for the main hospital building. The Board of Management invited several religious and charitable organizations to build convalescent cottages to accommodate their respective members within the grounds of Carrington. Though numerous groups made enquiries, the Freemasons were the only organisation to accept this invitation, donating £1000 to erect a cottage. Kent was called upon to oversee the design the Masonic Cottage Hospital, in conjunction with the Masons own architect, Herbert S. Thompson, and both the cottage and the main hospital building were officially opened on 20 August 1890.

Although Paling gave some 450 acres to the Carrington Centennial Hospital, he negotiated to lease Grasmere Villa and a section of land for the benefit of himself, and his stepsons Maney and Willem Lake, to occupy at a peppercorn rent for their lifetime⁵⁹. The land to be leased included Farm 12, portion of Farm 45, Farm 62 and Farm 13 containing an area of 313 acres with an option of leasing Farm 47, containing 32 acres, for a 5-year term. In 1891 the Grasmere Estate Farm was leased to Mr H. Greigg for 5½ years at an annual rate of £150.⁶⁰ The Trustees of the Hospital did not occupy Grasmere Villa until 1901 following the expiration of the lease.

The remainder of the farmland of the Grasmere estate, not occupied by the hospital, initially remained under the management of Mr John Carter who was also managing Palings other Camden Farms (Nos 8-11). Carter appears to have been the farm manager during Paling's ownership of the property, and farm records indicate that he had half shares in the livestock and equipment on the property.⁶¹

As work on the construction of the hospital proceeded Carter became more and more frustrated with gates left open and stock escaping and in 1890 a new agreement was drawn up to lease the farm to Carter and for him to supply the hospital with dairy produce from time to time as part of his rent. By March 1891 Mr Carter had decided not to renew his lease and a date was set for the sale of live stock and dairy utensils allowing Carter's share in these products to be given to him.

⁵⁷ Ibid, p 12

⁵⁸ Illustrated Sydney News May 24, 1890 p8

⁵⁹ Nixon, op cit, p 15

⁶⁰ Estate Management Committee CCHFC dated January 1891

⁶¹ Estate Records given to Carrington Hospital in 1888 located at the Mitchell Library

3.2.10 Grasmere Cottage

Grasmere Cottage is the oldest surviving building on the site. The date of the Cottage is unknown, but stylistically part of the cottage could date from the 1870s and may have been erected by Amos Miller an early lessee.⁶² Records contained in the Estate Stock Books indicate additions to the cottage, valued at £529.15.7 made in the period between 1882 and 1887.⁶³ Figure 5 shows a sketch of the cottage in its original form.

Paling continued to lease Grasmere Cottage and the surrounding orchard, vineyard and paddock (which included some land on the opposite side of Werombi Road), at a peppercorn rental, and the family continued to use this area for their personal use until 1901. At this time the cottage officially came under the control of the Trustees of the Carrington Hospital.⁶⁴ A tenant for the site was sought however by 1902 the cottage was still vacant and the committee began to look at the idea of using Grasmere Cottage for juvenile convalescent purposes.⁶⁵ Some repairs were carried out to the cottage and it was connected to the battery of the main hospital to provide electric lights. The vineyard at Grasmere was restored on advice from the Government fruit expert WE Allen supervised by Mr Downes, *and a fair crop of grapes was promised.*⁶⁶

Towards the end of 1902 Grasmere Cottage and portion of the grounds were leased as a Convalescent Home for Children sent from the Royal Alexandria Hospital for Children at Glebe.⁶⁷ This arrangement was short lived and by 1908, having not occupied the cottage for some time, the Royal Alexander Hospital relinquish their lease. In 1910 the cottage was still unoccupied and its use as a juvenile convalescent home was abandoned.

The next occupier of the cottage was Peter Simonsen, a long serving maintenance man who lived in the cottage (see Figures 18 & 19) with his family until his death in 1929. From 1931 *Grasmere* was run as a tearoom by the Matron, and recorded good profits.⁶⁸ It was later used for nurses' accommodation and office purposes.⁶⁹ The cottage is currently in use as visitor's accommodation (Figure 20).

62 The Macarthur Papers held at the Mitchell Library A 4220 record that the Amos Miller was leasing Camden Park land from as early as 1862 and of the land purchased by the Syndicate in 1881 he was leasing 163 acres.

63 Carrington Papers held at the Mitchell Library, uncatalogued

64 Carrington Centennial Home for Convalescents Annual Report 1901

65 Carrington Centennial Home for Convalescents, Annual Reports, 1902, p 8

66 Carrington Centennial Home for Convalescents Annual Report 1902

67 Carrington Centennial Home for Convalescents Annual Report 1902

68 Ibid, p 89

69 Ibid, p 62



Figure 16 Early windmill and shed on the Grasmere Estate
Source: Carrington Archives



Figure 17 Rear of Grasmere Villa c1930 looking at the northern elevation
Source: Carrington Archives



Figure 18 Grasmere Villa in 1994

Source: Carrington Archives

3.2.11 The Carrington Convalescent Hospital Building

A Building Committee was appointed on 24 April 1888, and on 11 June 1888 Mr HC Kent, of Pitt Street, Sydney, was appointed Architect to prepare rough plans for the consideration of the General Committee.⁷⁰ Kent continued to serve as Honorary Architect until about c1935, and designed most outbuildings and modifications made to the Hospital during that time.⁷¹

Alfred Roberts, the Administrator of the (Royal) Prince Alfred Hospital Sydney, gave assistance in the arranging and carrying out of the various plans for the Carrington Hospital. *He has studied minutely every part and it is almost impossible to mention any detail of either the building or the future working management, which he has not mastered and prepared.*⁷²

Most of the bricks for the main building were hand-made in Queen Street Narellan by a local brickworks operator, Ephraim Cross, and his son. However, some bricks were made on site, using the clay that had been removed during the excavation of the man-made lake. Interestingly Cross was contractually obliged to bring wood to fire the bricks in from outside of Grasmere.⁷³ By November the bricks were completed and HC Kent reported that Cross had presented an account for 89,874 bricks. Kent accepted 87,500 bricks, for which Cross received £1,968 15s, allowing Mr Cross to sell the remaining 2,374.

Governor Carrington laid the foundation stone on 18 February 1889. HC Kent was instructed by the Committee of the hospital to prepare two stones. Governor Carrington laid the first stone to the right of the entrance, while the

⁷⁰ Ibid, pp 30-31

⁷¹ Carrington Centennial Home for Convalescents Annual Reports, 1890-1921

⁷² The Illustrated Sydney News 24 May 1890 p8

⁷³ Nixon, op cit, p 35

second stone laid by William Paling, and inscribed, "A tender regard for the afflicted attests to the Kingship of Humanity".⁷⁴

By November 1889 the Architect reported that the work was well advanced. Lord Carrington officially opened the Carrington Centennial Hospital for Convalescents on 20 April 1890.⁷⁵ It was opened for the reception of patients on the same day, despite some areas being incomplete (Figure 21). The Hospital received patients referred to it from Sydney Hospital, Prince Alfred Hospital and St Vincent's Hospital.

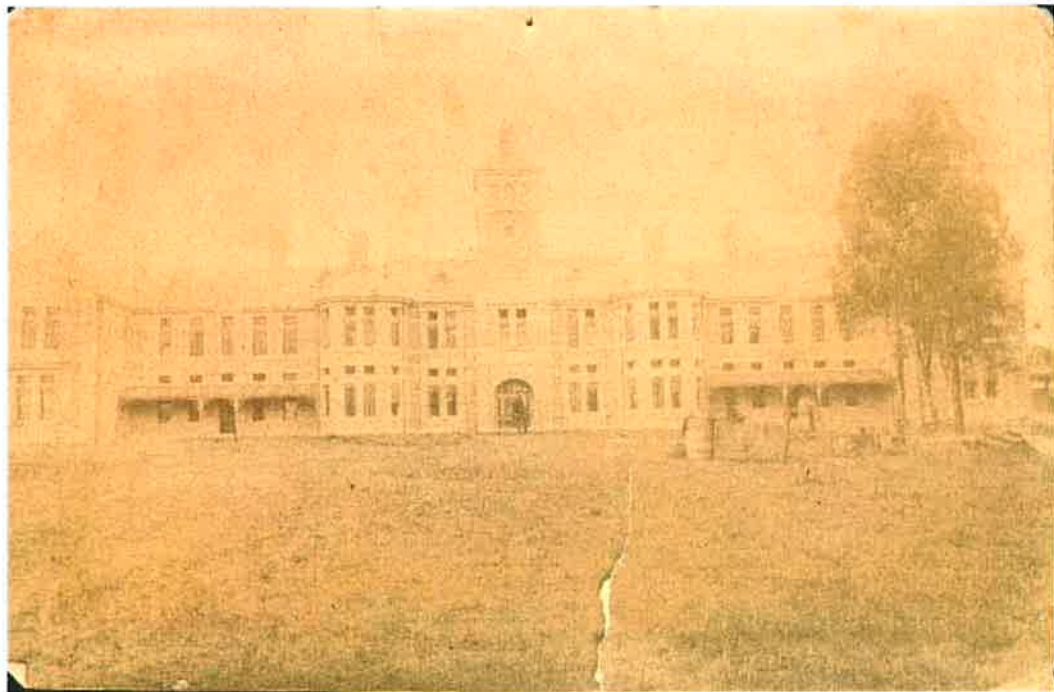


Figure 19 Carrington Hospital on completion in 1890.

Source: Carrington Archives

⁷⁴ Ibid, p 37

⁷⁵ RE Nixon, Carrington 1890-1990: The Centre of Total Care, 1990, p 11

Various newspaper reports, including that contained in Section 9.0, recorded the opening of the hospital including the sketch shown in Figure 22, which appeared in the Daily Telegraph dated April 19, 1890.



Figure 20 Sketch of the Carrington Centennial Hospital 1890

Source: Daily Telegraph, Saturday April 19 1890

Following the opening of the Hospital, the Railway Commissioners provided a special carriage to accommodate 8 patients, twice a week, attached to a train departing Redfern for Campbelltown. At Campbelltown the carriage was shunted onto the Camden Line. The same carriage was also used to convey patients returning to Sydney after their residence at the hospital.⁷⁶

3.2.12 The Cottage Hospital Project

Palings original scheme envisaged two main buildings forming the Hospital, one for Convalescents and one for Incurables, along with an unspecified number of cottages funded by individual organizations, as outlined in the original Deed of Gift,

*It is the strong desire of the Donor that benevolent persons should be invited to erect cottages in memory of a deceased child, friend or relative. Such cottages...shall become the absolute property of the Institution and be subject to the control of the Committee in all respects. It is also the donor's wish that Trades Unions Freemasons and Oddfellows and different Friendly Societies... might be invited to erect cottages to be called after the [donor] institutions...*⁷⁷

⁷⁶ Nixon, op. cit., p 43

⁷⁷ Nixon, op cit, p 14