



“MIALA”

Heritage Significance Assessment Report



410 Marshall Mount Road, Marshall Mount/Avondale

February 2022

Wollongong City Council

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Wollongong City Council acknowledges that the traditional owners of the land to which this study relates are the local Aboriginal tribes of the Dharawal People. The land to which this report relates has a history of Aboriginal use and occupation extending over thousands of years. The land is Aboriginal Country. Council acknowledges the deep cultural connection our local Aboriginal people have with this Country, and the deep cultural attachments that are retained with these lands through their Dreaming, stories and attachment to the land.

Council acknowledges that the community's strong cultural attachments and stories continue to exist and evolve today, and the significant place of Aboriginal Elders, past, present and emerging in the ongoing evolution of our City.

AUTHORSHIP

This report has been prepared by Council's Heritage Staff, Joel Thompson (Coordinator Heritage) and Carly Boag (Heritage Officer). All photographs are by Authors unless otherwise stated.

VERSION CONTROL

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

This report has been prepared to assess the heritage significance of “Miala”, a historic dairy homestead and associated buildings, dairy, plantings and gardens. The property is located off Marshall Mount Road, Marshall Mount and is located within the West Dapto Urban Release Area. This report documents a formalised assessment of Heritage Significance for the property and focusses on consideration of the heritage values and significance attached to the house and its outbuildings and plantings, as a rural complex.

This report provides a review and analysis of two previously completed heritage assessments that have been prepared for the property. These reports prepared by AECOM and Ecological have drawn competing conclusions in relation to the heritage significance of the site.

1.1 STUDY AREA

The study area for this report is shown on the Map below:

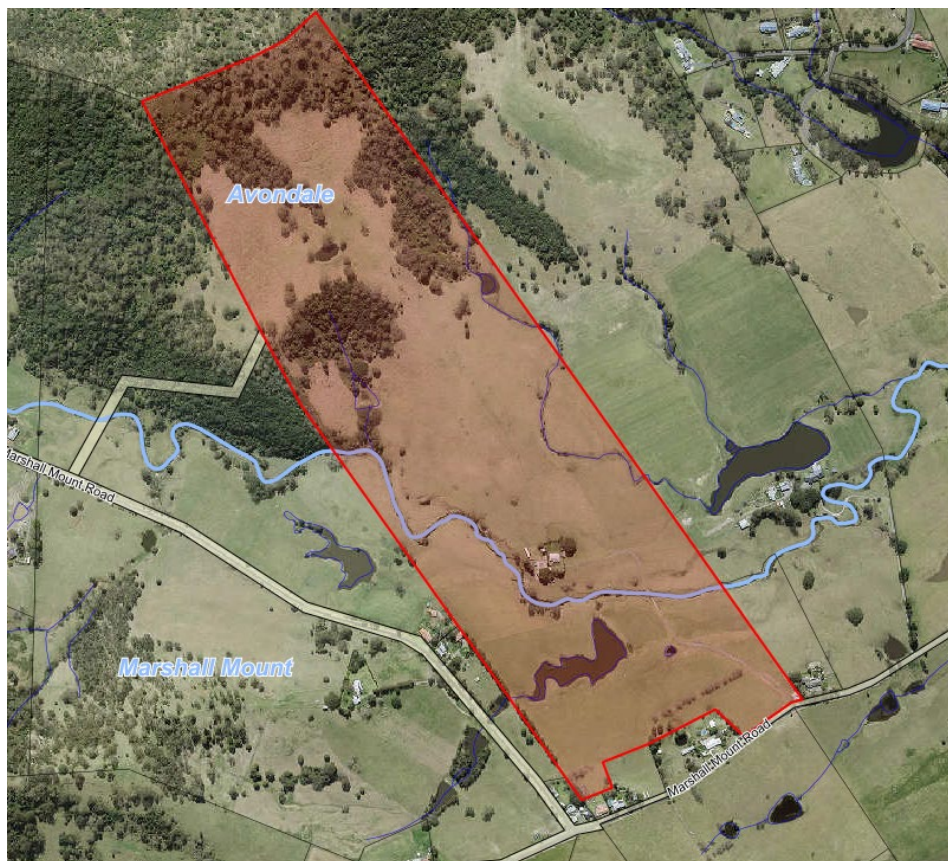


Figure 1: The “Miala” Property, located at 410 Marshall Mount Road (Lot 12 DP 790746).

Miala House and its associated gardens, dairy and outbuildings, as well as the significant plantings associated with the house are all located within the central area of the property, within the suburb of “Avondale” on the north side of the creek. The access driveway is 500m in length and runs north west from Marshall Mount Road, crossing the creek that splits the property via a ford. The position of the homestead complex on the property is indicated in Figure 2 below:



Figure 2: Map showing 2021 aerial photograph view of Miala House complex within Lot 12. Note the access driveway from Marshall Mount Road, and the location of the house within the “Avondale” suburb boundary.

1.2 PROJECT SCOPE

This report provides a detailed assessment of the heritage significance of “Miala House”, along with its associated farm buildings and structures, landscape features and plantings.

Preparation of the report has involved a detailed review, and critique, of the two previous assessments prepared by AECOM and Eco Logical as well as some additional historic research. Additional research has included detailed review of available historic plans of the area, extensive searches of TROVE, analysis of available aerial photography and use of other web resources.

A detailed site inspection was undertaken on 20 October 2021. This visit included an internal and external inspection of the house and dairy as well as an informal interview with the present owner’s daughter (Melinda) who grew up on the property and acted as guide during the site inspection. In addition, during the inspection a brief phone interview with the present owner Mrs Fay Duncan was held to discuss certain aspects of the history of the property. Notes from these informal communications have also informed this assessment.

1.2.1 Limitations

It is understood that an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (ACHAR), including Archaeological Investigations, is currently being undertaken for the site. This ACHAR was not available at the time of finalisation of the Report. The findings, conclusions and any cultural significance or archaeological significance attached to the property stemming from the thousands of years of Aboriginal use and occupation should be considered in terms of whether these may add to the significance assessment within this report. Aboriginal Cultural Heritage values have not been formally considered within this assessment due to the unavailability of this information.

The historic records pertaining to former ownership of the property are limited and certain gaps within the historic records have not been able to be fully closed due to the availability of time and available records.

2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 Neighbourhood Plan

The planning consultant for the developer of the site has lodged a draft Neighbourhood Plan for the Duck Creek/Marshall Vale Neighbourhood Plan area which is currently being considered by Council. The Neighbourhood Plan includes the subject property known as "Miala" located at 410 Marshall Mount Road (Lot 12 DP 790746). The draft Neighbourhood Plan as proposed, would require the demolition of Miala House and all associated outbuildings, as well as surrounding plantings, to provide for the construction of a proposed collector road, as well as to accommodate leveling, stormwater detention and other aspects of the proposed layout.

A preliminary heritage study was submitted to Council with the draft neighbourhood Plan, prepared by AECOM. This report indicated that the property "Miala", located within the study area, held heritage values of local significance. As a result of this information a more detailed assessment of significance was requested from the proponent by Council. Following subsequent revisions, the final AECOM Heritage Study dated 14 May 2021 was provided. This report concludes that Miala House has local heritage significance but suggests that the retention of the property within the proposed neighbourhood Plan is unfeasible.

A second heritage report, prepared as a Peer review of the AECOM study was then prepared by Eco Logical. This report concluded that Miala is not of heritage significance and does not have any archaeological research potential.

A detailed review, assessment and critique of the contents and recommendations of both previous heritage assessment reports is provided separately within section 4.0 of this report.

2.2 Yallah Marshall Mount Rezoning

The site of the proposed Neighbourhood Plan was rezoned as part of the Yallah Marshall Mount Planning Proposal in 2018. This Planning Proposal/Rezoning formed stage 5 of the West Dapto Urban Release Area (WDRA) which had previously been progressed to a draft rezoning proposal but did not proceed, as only Stage 1 and 2 of the WDRA progressed under that initial process.

The Stage 5 area Planning Proposal was progressed through a separate process and resulted in the rezoning of the site in accordance with the below zoning arrangement which has been extracted from the Wollongong Local Environmental Plan 2009 Zoning Map:

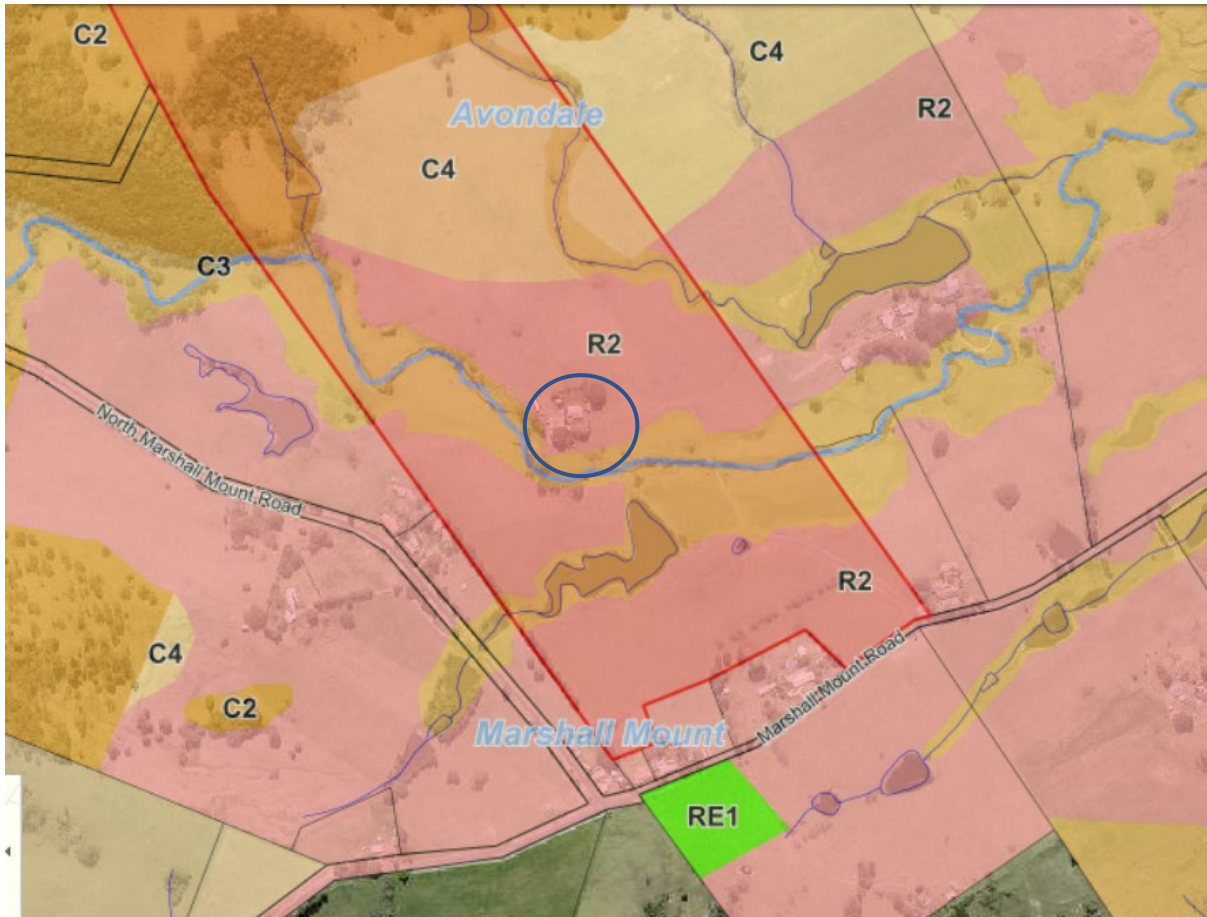


Figure 3: Land Zoning arrangement under the Wollongong LEP 2009 (Note: R2 = Low Density Residential, C2 = Environmental Conservation, C3 = Environmental Management, C4 = Environmental Living).

It is noted that the site of Miala House and surrounding outbuildings, gardens and vegetation is located in the centre of image in a bend in the creek and is within an area zoned R2 Low Density Residential.

2.3 Non-Indigenous Heritage Assessment West Dapto Release Area, HLA, 2006

In preparation for the West Dapto Urban Release Area (WDRA) rezoning process, a Non-Indigenous Heritage Assessment Report was prepared by HLA Envirosiences, for Wollongong City Council and finalised in 2006. This study considered the entire West Dapto Study area, extending from Kembla Grange in the north, to the southern boundary of the Wollongong LGA.

The report identified a wide range of existing and potential heritage sites and items of interest and was used to guide the heritage outcomes of the WDRA Planning Proposal. This resulted in a number of changes and additions to the heritage schedule for the area.

It is of note that the HLA study does not appear to have identified, considered or explored the potential heritage significance of “Miala House” and the property did not appear to be identified for consideration during the process. This may have occurred due to the remote nature of the property some 500m from Marshall Mount Road and its lack of visibility from public areas, along with the limited available documentation about the property and its history. It is also of note that this initial process imagined a lower density housing output and zoning arrangement for the Yallah Marshall

Mount corridor, with large lot housing planned initially as the residential product within this area of the WDRA.

The Yallah Marshall Mount rezoning, which followed the broader WDRA process was not supported by an area specific historical heritage assessment process. Rather, it relied on the 2006 HLA West Dapto Heritage Study. As such, Miala House, and its potential heritage values were not identified or considered within this rezoning process. The property, and its potential heritage significance therefore had not come to Council's attention until the proposed draft Neighbourhood Plan was submitted. This Neighbourhood Plan proposal included the original AECOM heritage study which highlighted the local heritage significance of the site.

3.0 HISTORY

Note – Much of the history and detail presented in the below history of the site has been sourced from Newspaper articles and other records gathered through Trove and Ancestry.com which has added to the historical information provided within the AECOM report. The source materials have been collated from TROVE in a collection of screenshots and extracts within Appendix 1 to this document. The below provides a summarised history which draws on this collated material, along with information provided in the AECOM report.

3.1 SITE HISTORY

3.1.1 Aboriginal History

The study area is located on lands that formed part of Dharawal Country and have been occupied and cared for by the local people of the Dharawal for thousands of years. The Yallah Marshall Mount Aboriginal Heritage Assessment undertaken in 2013 by Austral, and the broader West Dapto Aboriginal Heritage Study prepared by Australian Museum Business Services (AMBS) in 2006 provide a clear indication that the entire West Dapto area contains extensive evidence and retains Aboriginal sites related to this lengthy period of use and occupation.

The preliminary heritage assessment by AECOM and submitted with the draft Neighbourhood Plan for the study area acknowledged the use and potential significance of the study area and identified a number of known sites and potential archaeological deposits within the study area. The AECOM Report also recommended additional Aboriginal archaeological and cultural heritage assessment. This is understood to be being prepared and finalised for separate submission. This work was not finalised at the time of preparation of this report and its findings and recommendations may require further consideration.

3.1.2 Early Land Grant History – “Macquarie Gift”

“Miala House” is located on one of the first five land grants in the Illawarra. This grant, originally known as “Macquarie Gift”, was officially granted to George Johnston in January 1817. The historic records indicate that the land was formally surveyed in 1816, and that it was at that time already being occupied by employees of Johnston, who had cattle running on the property. Some historical records suggest that Johnston may have been using the land in question from as early as 1804, with cattle having been brought to the area by Steamer (see for example, the article from South Coast Times and Wollongong Argus 1952 in Appendix 1). If true, this (unsubstantiated) claim would place the grant as likely being the earliest area occupied by white settlers in the Illawarra.

George Johnston had originally arrived in the Colony of New South Wales as Major Johnston, on the first fleet. Johnston was a prominent and senior figure in the colony and rose to prominence as the front man of the Rum Rebellion, which saw the overthrowing of Governor Bligh. He was subsequently shipped back to England, promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel whilst awaiting trial, then convicted of Mutiny, stripped of his titles and narrowly escaped the death penalty. He was then returned to the Colony of NSW, where under Governor Macquarie, he was treated as a reformed character, and granted the favour of a number of land grants, including “Macquarie Gift” (1500 Acres) as well as other favours.

On his return to the colony, in 1814, Johnston married his long-term mistress Esther Abrahams, whom he had met on his first journey to Australia in 1788 and with whom he already had a large family. As Esther was a convict, the formalisation of his relationship prior to the loss of his official military positions would have been seen as scandalous and unbecoming of an Officer of his standing. However,

stripped of his titles, and with Governor Macquarie's insistence that he make an honest woman of his mistress, Johnston was free to marry his convict wife.

During his lifetime, George appears to have had employees oversee his "Macquarie Gift" estate and managed the property at arm's length from his residence "Annandale Farm" in Petersham. This was common to most of the early grants in the Illawarra. The grant would have been allocated with the advantage of assigned convict labour. George's main farming interest was in beef cattle and it is understood the farm was largely used for this purpose during his lifetime.

On the death of George Johnston in 1823, George's son David Johnston inherited the "Macquarie Gift" estate. David was subsequently granted an adjoining land grant to the south-west, which became known as "Johnston's Meadows". David appears to have taken a more direct and active interest in the management of his properties in the Illawarra than his father but would have continued to benefit for some time from the advantages of convict labour.

It is likely that during David's ownership, following the cessation of transportation to the colony, and the availability of convict labour during the 1840's, that the farm would have transitioned into tenanted farm arrangements. This was common across many properties in the Illawarra (and elsewhere) due to the difficulties in clearing and managing a large land holding without the availability of free labour. These leases were often let as "clearing leases" and required the tenant to clear uncleared sections of the farm in exchange for cheap rent and farming rights.

David Johnston died in 1866 and the "Macquarie Gift" grant passed through his daughter Esther Emily Johnston to her husband Edward Henry Weston. Edward Henry Weston was also the first Cousin of David's wife Esther, being the son of Blanche Johnston (who was the sister of David Johnston) and her husband Captain George Weston, resident of "Horsley Park" at Prospect.

3.1.3 Weston's Meadows

Edward and Esther Weston are understood to have taken up residence at their Illawarra Estate shortly after they inherited it around 1866. The "Macquarie Gift" grant subsequently becoming known as "Weston's Meadows". Records suggest that during their time on the property they established themselves within the local community and took an active role in the district. Though their affairs and activities were more tightly associated with Albion Park than with Dapto, as their residence was located in the southern areas of the expanded estate, nearby to the present-day Shellharbour Airport.

The estate had its own private racetrack where the family held picnic races and social events. Edward formed the Illawarra section of the NSW Lancers, which later became the Australian Light Horse. Edward and Esther's son Alick Horsley Weston, married Adelaide Norris of Albion Park. They lived at "The Meadows" where Alick served as an Alderman on Shellharbour Municipal Council, Director of the Illawarra Cooperative Central Dairy, and Treasurer with the Albion Park A.H.&I Show Committee (Shellharbour City Council).

Records and historical references relating to "Weston's Meadows" make it apparent that during Edward's ownership of the estate, and following, the farm was split into various tenancies with many long-term tenants documented as residing on the farm. According to a 12 February 1952 article in the South Coast Times and Wollongong Argus focussing on the sale of the final 400 acres of the Weston Estate, these tenants included a long list, many of whom were notable families in the Illawarra in their own right. These smaller tenanted farms were usually equipped with their own residence and other farm facilities.

3.1.4 Frederick Weston Perry

Frederick Weston Perry was the nephew of Edward Henry Weston, being tied through his mother Julia Maria Perry (nee Weston), who was Edward's sister.

Whilst the property records are incomplete, Frederick Weston Perry appears to have acquired a portion of around 100 acres in the north western portion of his uncle's "Weston's Meadows" property in 1884. Perry registered a cattle brand in his name in that same year at Marshall Mount. An 1890 Land Sale marketing plan for the adjacent "Marshall Mount Estate", and other plans associated with the subdivision held in the Wollongong Library Collection clearly show "Perry" as the owner and occupier of the area now occupied by Miala. The Marshall Mount Estate Plan is provided below (Figure 4) and shows Perry's name adjacent to the boundary of Lot 21.

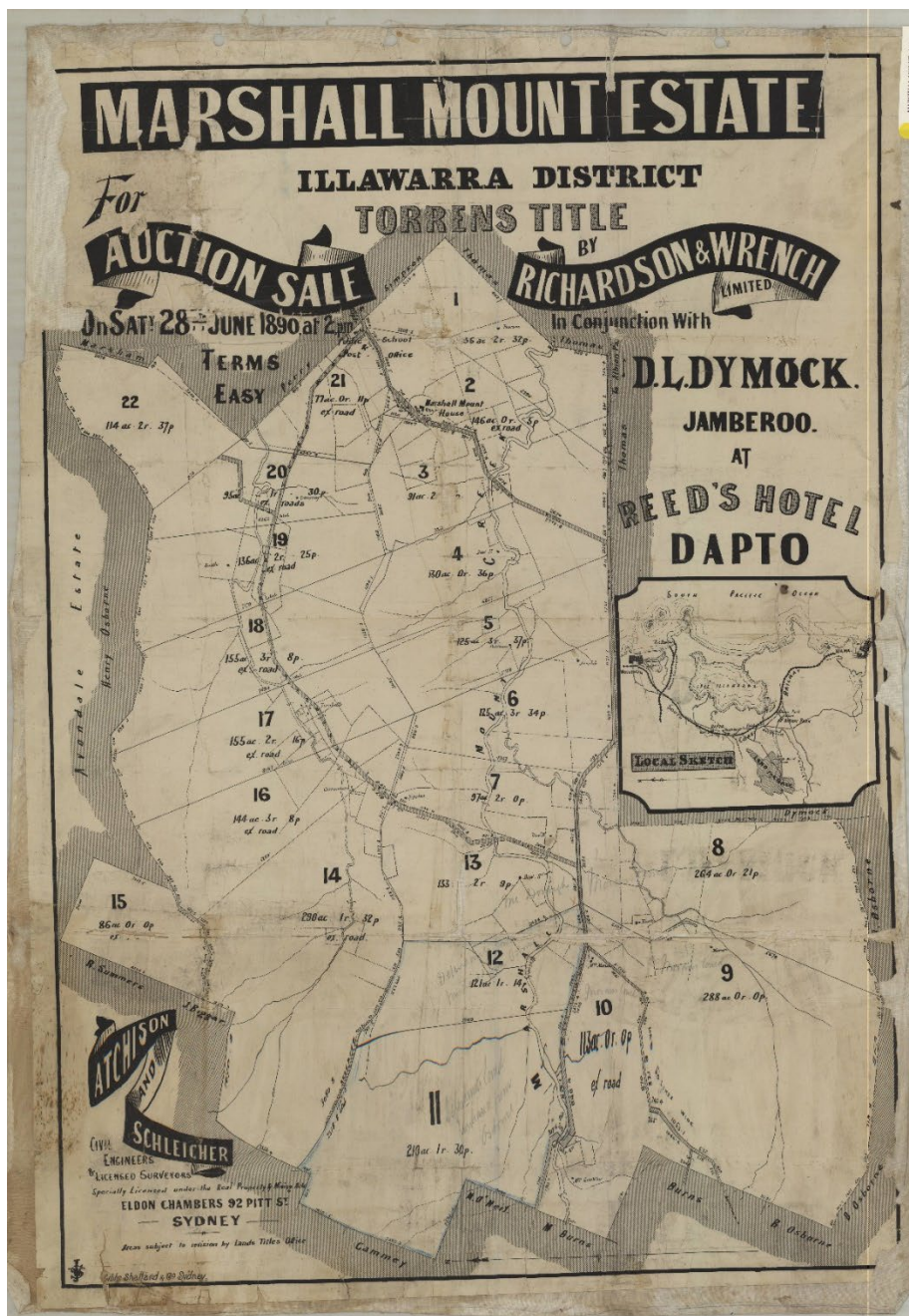


Figure 4: Marshall Mount Estate Land Sales Plan 1890. Note "Perry" is indicated as owning the Miala lands adjacent to Lot 21.

Newspaper reporting on the outcome of this 1890 Marshall Mount Estate Sale confirms that Perry extended his holding by purchasing Portion 22 of the Marshall Mount Estate (see above plan) adjoining his north western boundary (Illawarra Mercury 1 July 1890).

In 1894 Perry appears to have acquired some form of interest in lands belonging to Mr John Smith. Smith had purchased portions 18 and 19 of the above Marshall Mount Estate sale so it is likely this related to those lands. Perry's interest may have related to a lease which was advertised by Mr Smith for 142 acres of farmland advertised in April 1894 (Illawarra Mercury 28 April 1894). Whilst it is unclear what the nature of the arrangement was, Mr Perry appears to have entered into a bond with the bank as part of the transaction, and subsequently became liable for a debt which he was unable to pay, and which he claimed not to be liable for. This matter led to the bankruptcy of Mr Perry in 1895 and the subsequent sale of Perry's expanded holding by the bank to Mr Patrick O'Brien (Illawarra Mercury 24 October 1895). John Smith's properties were also subsequently sold in 1895 and he also ended up bankrupt shortly after, suggesting that the financial issues around the transaction were significant.

Newspaper coverage of Perry's bankruptcy proceedings provides useful information indicating that Mr Perry had from around 1893 leased his farmlands out to a Mr W. Piper, who was conducting the cattle operations on the property during that time. Mr Perry had sold his cattle to Mr Piper as part of the lease arrangement and received regular rent on which he lived. Mr Perry refers to the improvements he had made to the property during his ownership, however no mention of the construction of any specific buildings is made (Illawarra Mercury 12 December 1895). This may suggest that the house was already on the property when he acquired it in 1884, though this is not certain from the available records.

What is clear from the records is that by the end of Perry's tenure and the sale of the property by the bank in 1895, the house now known as Maila had been constructed, along with two substantial additional farm buildings as these are shown on plans drawn at this time. It is possible that one of these additional buildings is the southern (earlier) portion of the dairy building. See Figure 5.

Patrick O'Brien who purchased the property from the bank following the foreclosure, appears to have been a district court judge presiding at Wollongong Local Court. O'Brien appears to have already been established on a farm in the Kembla Grange area known as "Canterbury". It appears likely that he took a distant involvement in the Miala farm, as little mention is available of his time as owner and it was the bank, not Mr O'Brien, who was advertising for tenants for the farm in the subsequent year (Illawarra Mercury 11 January 1896) which raises some questions over the ownership arrangement.

By 1902 it appears that the farm was acquired by Robert Barron and the farm became known for a time as Barron's Farm. In 1910 Barron's farm was sold to Mr Arthur Moore.

In 1913 Arthur Moore registered a cattle brand at "Miala, Marshall Mount". This appears to be the first available record of the property name being referred to as "Miala", perhaps suggesting that Moore named the property during his tenure. The registration of a cattle brand in his name also suggests Mr Moore was by 1913 taking an active role in the operation of the farm. In 1917 Arthur Moore's son was killed in action whilst fighting in World War I. The following year 1918, Mr Moore placed the property as well as his stock and farm equipment up for sale, so as to retire to Wollongong, suggesting the prospect of running the farm without his son was too much.

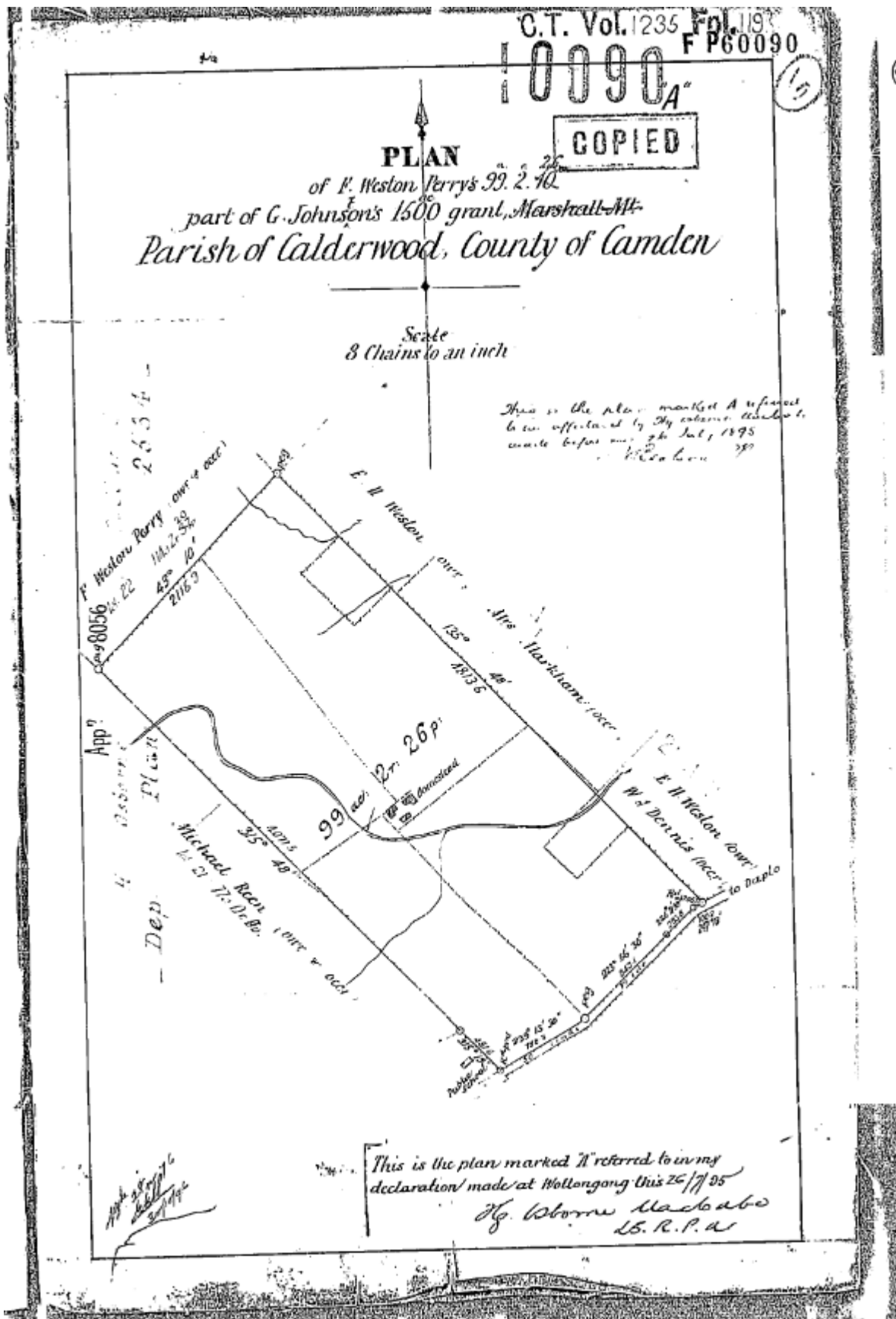


Figure 5: 1895 Plan of W. F Perry's portion of George Johnston's 1500 Grant.

In 1918 The farm was purchased from Mr Moore by Mr James Stevenson, a farmer who was already established in Dapto and was already actively involved in various community affairs and organisations. He appears to have moved to his Marshall Mount property shortly after its purchase and been intimately involved in the affairs of Marshall Mount.

In 1928, the South Coast Times and Wollongong Argus (see article in Appendix 1 dated 2 March 1928) announced that a public tennis court was to be built at Marshall Mount, on Alderman James Stevenson's farm, immediately adjacent to the public school. It is noted that this "public tennis court" remains to this day, on the private farmland attached to Miala. The tennis court is listed as a heritage item under the Wollongong Local Environmental Plan 2009.

In 1933 Mr Stevenson registered a cattle brand to his property "Myala (sic), Marshall Mount".

Mr Stevenson died unexpectedly in 1943 and his obituary highlights him as a very prominent figure in the local community, having a long term role as an Alderman on the Central Illawarra Council, as well as holding various positions within a range of community, agricultural and dairying organisations. His obituary is provided in full in Appendix 1, see Illawarra Mercury 8 October 1943, and South Coast Times & Wollongong Argus of the same date).

It appears Mr Stevenson's family held the estate following his passing, with his son becoming prominent in local media and community events. In 1957 the Miala property was sold to George and Fay Duncan, who ran the property as a family run dairy farm up until the 1990's.

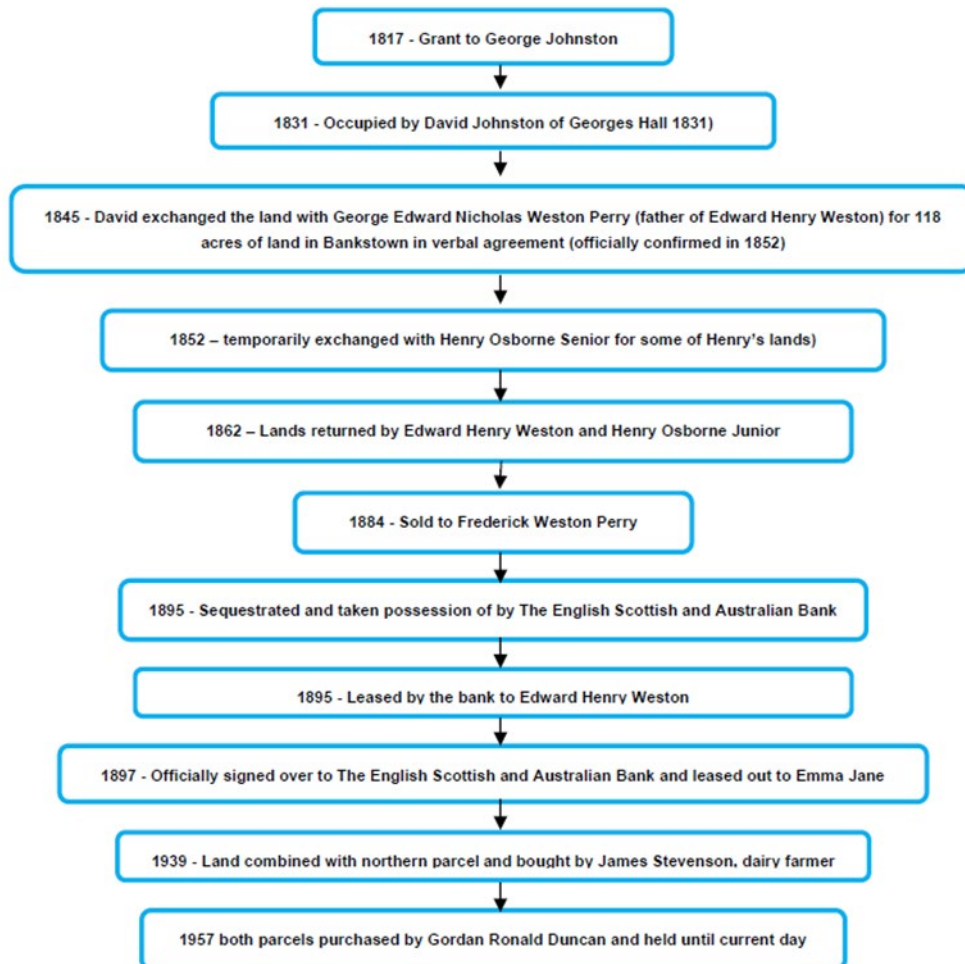
During the 1990's renovations and additions were undertaken to the house, with a north western extension to the building and modifications to the roof form. During the construction period the family temporarily relocated into the dairy building, which underwent modifications to make it suitable as a temporary residence. By this time, the dairying operations had ceased, with the farm being used to graze beef cattle.

In 2018 parts of the site were rezoned for residential development as part of the Yallah Marshall Mount Planning Proposal and rezoning process. The site of Miala House was rezoned to R2 Low Density Residential, and forms part of the broader West Dapto Urban Release Area.

In 2020 a draft Neighbourhood Plan was prepared for the property by a development partner who has acquired an option over the property. This draft plan was lodged for Council's assessment and consideration. The draft Plan was accompanied by a Preliminary Heritage Assessment report prepared by AECOM which identified Miala House as being of local heritage significance.

3.2 HISTORIC TIMELINE

The following timeline/sequence of ownership is provided within the AECOM report and is extracted for information:



This timeline has been substantially extended and expanded below, based on the additional research undertaken within this report. As previously noted, a chronological compilation of source materials is provided within Appendix 1 and provides evidence for the events detailed below.

1816 – Official survey of the first five land grant in the “Five Islands District” undertaken to allocate promised grants in the area. These grants included a promised grant of 1500 acres to George Johnston and incorporated the study area.

1817 - “Macquarie Gift” is officially granted to George Johnston (one of the first 5 land grants in the Illawarra).

1823 – George Johnston dies leaving “Macquarie Gift” to David Johnston (son of George) of “George’s Hall”. David takes over the “Macquarie Gift” Estate.

1840s – Community and political opposition to transportation of convicts results in a significant reduction and shortage of free convict labour. The use of “clearing leases” as an alternative land management method by wealthy land holders becomes common and abundant.

1850 – Final shipload of convicts transported to NSW.

1866 – David Johnston dies, leaving the “Macquarie Gift” property to his son in law Edward Henry Weston through his daughter Esther.

1866 – Edward Henry Weston and his wife Esther (nee Johnson) take up residence on the “Macquarie Gift” estate (toward Albion Park), and it subsequently becomes known as “Weston’s Meadows”.

1884 – Frederick Weston Perry (the nephew of Edward Henry Weston) acquires approximately 100 acres of “Weston’s Meadows” from his uncle. This portion includes the site of “Miala”.

1884 – Government Gazette lists a cattle brand registration at Marshall Mount to Frederick Weston Perry.

1890 – The “Marshall Mount Estate”, adjoining the northern and western boundary of the study area, is marketed for sale. The sales plan shows “Perry” as owner/occupier of the Miala property at the time (see Figure 4).

1890 – F. Weston Perry purchases Lot 22 of the “Marshall Mount Estate” adjoining the north-western boundary of his existing holding. (Illawarra Mercury 1 July 1890)

1895 – F. Weston Perry is declared Bankrupt (NSW Government Gazette 1 November 1895).

1895 – Plan of F. Weston Perry’s original landholding made (CT Vol. 1235 Fol. 119, DP.60090) showing the Homestead which is now known as “Miala”, and two established outbuildings, surrounded by four large, fenced paddocks. This plan appears to have been prepared in connection with the finalisation of Perry’s bankruptcy and the subsequent sale of the property by the bank (copy provided within Appendix 1)

1895 – F. Weston Perry’s property is sold by the bank under foreclosure procedures to **Mr Patrick O’Brien** of “Canterbury” in Kembla Grange.

1902 – **Robert Barron** has acquired the Miala Farm.

1910 – Robert Barron sells the farm to **Mr Arthur Moore**

1913 – Edward Henry Weston dies in Mosman NSW.

1913 – Arthur Moore has a registration of stock brand listed at “Miala, Marshall Mount”. This is the first recorded reference to the property name indicating a likelihood that Mr Moore may have named the site.

1917 – Arthur Moore’s son is killed in action on the front.

1918 – Arthur Moore sells “Miala” Farm to **James Stevenson** and retires to Wollongong.

1920 – “Weston Estate” sale undertaken, subdividing and selling off the remaining Weston Estate lands north of Marshall Mount Road (land to east of the Miala property).

1928 – Newspaper article notes that Marshall Mount “public tennis court” to be built on a site located next to the public school on Alderman J. Stevenson’s land (this tennis court remains on the land adjacent to the school).

1933 – James Stevenson has a registration of stock brand listed at “Myala (sic), Marshall Mount”.

1943 – Alderman James Stevenson (owner of the property) dies suddenly. His death and funeral receive considerable attention due to his extensive contribution to public life and affairs in the Dapto and Albion Park area with his obituary listing an extensive list of voluntary public service (Illawarra Mercury)

1952 – Final “Weston’s Meadows” land sale involving the subdivision and sale of the remaining 400 acres of the Weston Estate (this is understood to have involved lands to the south of Marshall Mount Road).

1957 – “Miala” Property is purchased by George and Fay Duncan. It appears likely that the estate was purchased from Mr Stevenson’s estate. The property remains in the Duncan family’s ownership to this day.

1990’s – Renovations undertaken to Miala house, involving an extension to the north and west. The Dairy building was modified at this time to provide temporary accommodation during the renovations.

2018 – Parts of the property including the site of Miala House are rezoned to R2 Low Density Residential as part of the West Dapto Urban Release Area.

2020 – Draft Neighbourhood Plan is lodged on behalf of a developer for the site.

3.3 HISTORIC THEMES

In 2011 Wollongong City Council adopted a *Thematic History of the City of Wollongong*, prepared by Dr Terry Kass (2010). This report considered the history of Wollongong in a thematic manner to define significant historic themes relevant to the history and development of the Wollongong LGA. The purpose of this report was to provide a thematic basis for the assessment of historic values attached to heritage places so that potential new heritage items could be many of the themes identified within the report are relevant to the study area.

The following key themes were identified as important historic themes which have relevance to the study area:

- Settling the Illawarra
- Working on the land
- Subdividing the large rural estates
- Developing a dairy industry
- Rural housing

It is clear from the research undertaken within this report that Miala House provides historic evidence of these important historic themes in Wollongong’s development.

The following additional themes relating to Aboriginal Cultural Heritage may also have relevance to the study area, depending on the findings and recommendations of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment report:

- Living in harmony with the land
- Coping with invasion
- Maintaining a cultural identity

4.0 PREVIOUS HERITAGE ASSESSMENTS

This section provides a brief discussion, critique and analysis of the two previously prepared heritage reports that have been submitted by the developer in support of the draft Neighbourhood Plan.

4.1 AECOM HERITAGE REVIEW

AECOM provided a Heritage Review Report in support of the draft Neighbourhood Plan. A number of versions have since been provided of this report, with each finding that Miala House is of Local heritage Significance. The latest version of the report submitted by the proponent is dated 14 May 2021.

The report provides a reasonably detailed discussion of the history of the “Miala” property and considers the significance of the site under the NSW Heritage criteria within Table 5 (provided as an extract below):

Table 5 Significance Assessment (against NSW heritage significance criteria)

APPLICATION OF CRITERIA	
Historical significance SHR criteria (a)	<i>The homestead is considered of local significance being associated with the establishment of an early dairying industry in the area. The original land grant established an early dairy, and the subsequent subdivision lead to the continuation of this industry. The homestead present today remains as one of the earliest associated with the late Nineteenth Century subdivision of the area. Despite renovations and additions to the building, the house and facade remaining relatively intact.</i>
Historical association significance SHR criteria (b)	<i>The land was formerly associated with George Johnstone an early influential and prominent person associated with the establishment of the early colony. While the land was associated with his early land grant, the property today does not reflect or is associated with him today. The property is not considered to meet the threshold for State or local listing under this criterion.</i>
Aesthetic significance SHR criteria (c)	<i>The homestead retains particular characteristics associated with the original late Victorian design and aesthetics. These have been diminished by the extensions and renovations that have been undertaken. Specifically, these relate to the internal walls and floors within the original footprint of the house. The external cladding, roof and some of the windows have also been replaced. Despite this, the Homestead is considered to be of local significance under this criterion.</i>
Social, cultural or spiritual significance SHR criteria (d)	<i>The homestead is not considered to have social, cultural or spiritual significance and does not meet the threshold for listing under this criterion.</i>
Cultural or natural history significance SHR criteria (e)	<i>Archaeological potential has been identified to be present on the property, both related to the homestead and to the former dairy industry. This potential may include remain associated with the original kitchen and laundry area, well(s) and privies. The location of these items would assist in better understanding the former layout of the homestead complex dating from the late Nineteenth Century. These remains would have local research value and significance under this criterion.</i>
Rarity SHR criteria (f)	<i>The homestead can be considered to be of local significance for rarity significance. Reference to the Wollongong Heritage Study (McDonald McPhee Pty Ltd et al., 1991) indicates that homesteads dating to the Nineteenth Century that are in good condition are not common and it is these that give “the give the general landscape its character”. This homestead building has been extended and modified internally and externally, however, some of the internal layout and external facades do still represent some of the late Nineteenth Century Victorian period characteristics.</i>
Representativeness SHR criteria (g)	<i>The homestead is considered to be of a typical of a modified and extended late Victorian architectural design; however, it is not considered to be complete or intact to be considered to be a good representative example. As such, the homestead is not considered to meet the State or local heritage listing under this criterion.</i>
Integrity/Intactness	<i>Overall, the building is in good condition as the building was repaired and modified with extensions undertaken from the 1980s onwards. The original front and southern facades are considered in good condition.</i>

The report draws the following conclusion about the heritage significance of the site within Section 4.3.1.4:

Statement of Significance

Miala homestead is considered to be of local historical, aesthetic and rarity significance. The homestead is one of the earliest remaining buildings from the Nineteenth Century in the area. The building has undergone significant modifications, including internal modifications and extensions to the house. The front and southern facades are reminiscent of the Late Victorian period and retain some of this aesthetic style despite extensions to the property. The homestead also contains research potential in the form of potential historical archaeological remains associated with the formation and running of the homestead and dairying complex.

The report includes a discussion of “Historic Heritage Opportunities and Constraints” in Section 7.0. This discussion includes the following comments:

The identification of Miala House within the Duck Creek precinct as a locally significance item (sic) presents a constraint for the neighbourhood plan. The house has not previously been identified in the Wollongong local heritage study. Roads, drainage and other services associated with the proposed Neighbourhood Plan layout would impact the house site, and any potential historical archaeological remains associated with its former layout.

Opportunities to retain the homestead and realign the access road around the Miala house are not possible, and are constrained by the larger urban design considerations, including road, topographic, earthworks and bushfire protection.

The statement that retention of the building is not possible is stated as fact and is then explained upon through the inclusion of material provided by the developer’s planning consultant (Urbanco) as evidence. The comments provided by Urbanco are detailed on page 59-60 of the AECOM report. This essentially explains that as the retention of the heritage item has not been planned for in the design of the Neighbourhood Plan, that the location of the proposed roads, relevant planned levels and arrangements would not allow the retention of the house. This discussion does not appear to provide any actual consideration of alternative layout options that may be considered to provide for the retention of the elements of significance, or any rigour of assessment.

It is of note that one of the core contentions offered by Urbanco to demonstrate their inability to retain the house remains the location of an indicative collector road which is shown on Council’s structure plan as running through this part of the site. It has been repeatedly advised by Council’s Urban Release team and Council’s Transport Engineers that this planned roadway can comfortably be realigned to accommodate the retention of the house and the adjacent Fig Tree, without any real impact on its purpose or function within the structure plan. Council has raised no objection to the realignment of the roadway.

The Management Recommendations of the AECOM Report include the following:

“Miala Homestead has been assessed as having local heritage significance and would be impacted based on development plans within the current Neighbourhood Plan (and subsequent detailed designs as part of the future development). Opportunities for the retention of Miala house have been investigated, however, retention of the item is not considered possible given topographic, layout, earthworks and bushfire protection constraints.

When detailed design for the subdivision, including all road, crossing and service locations, has been prepared, a Statement of Heritage Impact is required to be prepared to determine the appropriate mitigation measures for Miala house and associated historical archaeological remains. Recommendations may include undertaking additional heritage recording, including archival recording of the homestead, associated buildings and cultural planting be completed prior to any impact works. This would be undertaken in accordance with Heritage NSW's guidelines How to Prepare Archival Records of Heritage Items (1998) and Photographic Recording of Heritage Items using Film or Digital Capture (2006).

In regards to historical archaeological potential identified at Miala House, any Development Application (DA) for works incorporating significant ground disturbance is to be accompanied by an historical archaeological research design (HARD). Subject to the report, a s140 permit application to Heritage NSW, may be required to be submitted prior to any works starting on the site."

Whilst the conclusion of the AECOM report that Miala House is of local heritage significance is supported, it is not clear from the reporting provided why the site is not suitable and capable of retention. No evidence of alternative subdivision arrangements has been provided or considered to a conclusion that the house cannot be retained.

The dwelling appears to be in remarkably good condition for its age, and whilst some issues and maintenance are to be expected, no evidence of fundamental issues with the structural integrity or condition of the dwelling, or the significant outbuildings has been provided within the report. It is understood that the dwelling was occupied until recently but is now understood to be vacant, with only occasional use by visiting family.

The AECOM report also discussed and acknowledges the extent and nature of the more recent modifications to the dwelling, yet still concludes that the site is of significance. The archaeology and landscaping around the site is also acknowledged in the assessment.

4.2 ECO LOGICAL PEER REVIEW REPORT

The Eco Logical Heritage Assessment Report was prepared as a peer review of the AECOM study and is dated 15 September 2021. This report appears to provide very limited additional historical research or information to inform the assessment. Rather, it would appear to rely largely upon the historical information and detail provided within the AECOM Report, and an analysis of the available historic aerial photography of the site from 1948-2021.

It is unclear from the report whether the author has visited the property. However, given the report was prepared during a period of Covid lockdowns and given some of the inclusions and discussion within the report, it appears possible that no site inspection was undertaken. Some of the conclusions and assumptions are at odds with what can be viewed on-site.

The following key errors and deficiencies in the Eco Logical report are of particular concern:

1. Historic Research

The Eco Logical report references a 2005 Tamara Hynd study of 100 early farm and house sites in Shellharbour Local Government Area and notes that it does not reference Miala House. This is taken to indicate that Miala was not regarded as having heritage significance. The report fails to recognise or acknowledge that this report was prepared for Shellharbour Council and relates entirely to the Shellharbour Local Government Area. It is therefore clear that the report would not have considered

Miala as it is located in the Wollongong LGA, outside of the study area of its assessment. The Hynd (2005) report does however contain a range of relevant background historical assessment and thematic analysis that could be, but seemingly has not been, considered. A link to the Tamara Hynd Study is provided in the references section of this report.

The Ecological report fails to reference or consider the West Dapto Heritage Study by HLA which was undertaken in 2006 for Wollongong City Council. This is effectively the equivalent assessment to the Hynd report but is relevant to the West Dapto Urban Release Area. It is noted and acknowledged (as mentioned previously within this report) that this study also fails to acknowledge the Miala Property and it is unclear whether the site was identified, visited or assessed as part of its assessment.

2. Fig Trees

Page 3 of the report indicates that ***“The large fig tree adjacent to the northeast corner of the building is not present in the 1948 aerial image (Figure 3)”***. This is clearly untrue. The tree is present in the 1948 aerial photograph as shown within Figure 6 below (Note – the Figure 3 reference above refers to figure 3 from the Eco Logical report, which is extracted into Figure 6 of this report):



Figure 3: 1948 aerial image showing arrangement of buildings

Figure 6: Left Image – 1948 Aerial photo showing that the large Fig to the north east of the house was present in 1948. Right Image – Extract of Figure 3 from the ecological report which has been cropped, excluding the Fig to the north east of the house.

Though significantly less mature in the 1948 aerial photograph of the site than it is today, it is clear that Figure 3 (shown on the right) in the Ecological report has simply been cropped to close to the buildings, and the Fig Tree is not included within the frame.

The Fig in question clearly pre-dates 1948 by a reasonable margin as it appears as an established, yet probably young tree at this time.

3. Dairy Building

Page 4 of the Eco Logical report includes the following statements in relation to the Dairy:

“Other ancillary structures include a simple, rectangular timber and corrugated iron clad shed constructed on a concrete slab which AECOM (2021:46) claim to be a dairy. It would be unusual to construct a dairy in such close proximity to the house on a property off (sic) that size and internally there is no evidence of cattle stalls and associated milking equipment. Windows are present along the eastern facade, comprising both double casement and double hung, all of which appear to be modern installations. The building has been subject to significant modifications in the 1990s when the owner was living in it and very little of the structure’s original fabric remains.”

These comments strongly suggest that the author of the report has not visited the site and inspected the dairy building, as the structure is readily identifiable as a modified dairy. Tell-tale features include the shaded raised milk storage/collection area on the south east of the building, self-closing doors to the western facade, surrounding concrete slabs with evidence of past fencing and gates for cattle movement, surrounding circular concrete cattle troughs, nearby stock hold and cattle ramp, and the filled in milking pit in the centre of the dairy space. These all provide clear indications of the buildings former function.

Further, personal communications with the owner Fay Duncan, and her daughter Melanie, quickly clarified that the building was indeed a dairy. Its proximity to the house was considered an important part of its function for a family run dairy. These discussions also confirmed that the dairy was present when the Duncan's purchased the property in the 1950's, and explained the major modifications made to the building in the 1990's, when the dairy was converted for use as a temporary residence for the family whilst Miala House was being renovated. This saw the filling in of the milking pit, the cladding of part of the eastern façade with timbers from the old Bull Pen (which was previously located to the north of the house), the fitting of some new window fixtures and the closing up of some of the larger openings in the building.

Regardless of the above changes and the cessation of the use of the dairy for that purpose, the function of the building and evidence within the structure of these historic phases and adaptations remain present and are easily understood from the evidence on site. The dairy remains readily recognisable as an early, expanded and later modified and repurposed dairy building and is located in a manner typical of a family run dairy operation, where the proximity of the dairy to the house was an important practicality that allowed children and family members to assist with the milking operations.

4. Modifications to Miala House

The Eco Logical report claims that the majority of the original house has been demolished/rebuilt/redeveloped. This is unsubstantiated. Whilst modification has occurred, much of the original building has been retained and appears essentially intact. The additions and alterations to the building are generally sympathetic and likely to represent changes that may have been considered satisfactory if the building were indeed heritage listed. The majority of the substantial change to the house is to the north western side, which effectively represents the "rear", and includes some significant roof-form changes, and alterations to expand the building.

Whilst these modifications are significant, it is clear from the internal and external fabric that the modifications have been undertaken in a sympathetic manner, and that the original configuration and detail of the house have in many cases been retained or are readily identifiable. The building remains identifiable as a remnant early farmhouse, likely dating to the late Victorian era. It has been expanded and modified to provide a more practical and functional layout and to better capitalise on the northern aspect of the house through reasonably sympathetic additions and modifications.

These modifications are indicative of the changes to the properties use and the changing role of the site as it moved away from dairy farming to accommodating beef cattle. The original layout and configuration of the house, and the expanded areas are able to be clearly understood through joins in the flooring, and the arrangement and configuration of walls and ceilings in the interiors of the house.

5. Dating of Miala House

The Eco Logical report concludes that the house was built around 1897 based on a plan of that date existing and no earlier evidence having been found by Eco Logical. A DP plan dated 1895 confirms that even this date is at least two years out (see Figure 5). The study (along with the AECOM report) assumes that there was no earlier phase to the occupation of this site on the basis that the property was part of a broader holding known originally as “Macquarie Gift” and later “Weston’s Meadows”. However research indicates that:

- a) The house and two substantial outbuildings including the dairy, were located on the 1895 Deposited Plan and were clearly established at this time. Based on available evidence, it is possible that F. Weston Perry had occupied the site from 1884 and that he was well established on the property prior to 1890. Given this, the house is highly likely to date to at least the 1880’s, though an earlier date of construction cannot be ruled out as it is unclear if Perry constructed the dwelling, or whether it was already in place at his arrival.
- b) There are indications in the historical records that indicate that “Macquarie Gift”, which became “Weston’s Meadows” had, from early in its history, a large number of tenant farmers who had their own farming operations occurring on the site as part of long-term tenancy arrangements (see for example South Coast Times and Wollongong Argus article dated 18 February 1852). This was a common agricultural practice on large early estates and often occurred as a means of allowing land grantees to meet the requirements of their grants, which were generally issued under clearing leases (requiring the clearing of land within set timeframes by the Government of the day).

Given this, earlier phases and dates relating to the occupation of this area of the broader estate cannot be dismissed. The raised, flattened nature of the land in close proximity to the creek (fresh water supply) would have made this an attractive location for earlier buildings and it is clear that the estate was divided into smaller tenancies with tenant farmers in residence.

6. Conclusions about Archaeological Potential

On the basis of Eco Logical’s assumption that there was no earlier occupation than the existing dwelling and outbuildings which they claim were built around 1897, the potential for the site to contain significant archaeology has been ruled out. On this basis Eco Logical suggest that the site has low archaeological potential and that there is no need for further archaeological assessment. This contradicts the findings of the AECOM study who indicated the site has archaeological research potential.

As noted above, based on the historic research outlined within this report, it is clear that the “Weston’s Meadows” estate was divided up into tenanted farms from early in the history of the property. It is also clear that many of these leases were long term and formed around close family bonds and connections with both the Johnston and Weston Families. The available evidence also highlights a likelihood that the farm was already well established prior to the 1897 plan referenced by Eco Logical and which confirms the presence of the existing house, and potentially the dairy building.

Whilst concrete evidence of the earlier construction of buildings and dwellings on this part of the site has not been located, it is the authors view that this absence of documentary evidence could be argued to actually increase the potential significance of the archaeological record, as it may provide historic information that is not available through any other source. Further, any archaeology found on the site that relates to tenant-based farming practices on very early Illawarra Estates may provide rare

and important archaeological evidence and insight into this widespread practice of tenanted farms being let under clearing leases in the Illawarra. This is an area that has not been well studied and understood.

Given the location of the site on one of the first five land grants in the Illawarra, and the potential very early date of establishment of buildings and activity on the site (having been occupied from at least 1817), the archaeological record from this site has the potential to directly inform our understanding of the development phasing and chronology of occupation on the site.

It is feasible (and potentially likely) that the location of Miala could have accommodated earlier farm buildings, as the creek would have provided a natural farm separator, with the land Miala is located on providing a relatively flat, raised area, close to fresh water and with the necessary conveniences for an early settler's dwelling. It is clear from other sites within the West Dapto precinct, that it was common to place new farmhouses in close proximity to earlier dwellings on the site.

7. Conclusions about significance

The Ecological Study concludes that "Miala" has no heritage value, has low archaeological potential and is not worthy of further assessment. This conclusion contradicts the findings of the AECOM report despite very limited additional historic research having been undertaken, and seemingly without having undertaken a site inspection.

These conclusions of the Eco Logical report are disputed.

On the basis of the above critique, there are significant deficiencies and oversights within the Eco Logical Report and that some of its key assumptions are incorrect or questionable. As such, the conclusion that the house is not of heritage significance cannot be supported.

5.0 SITE ANALYSIS AND OBSERVATIONS

5.1 SITE INSPECTION OBSERVATIONS

A site inspection was undertaken on 20 October 2021. This visit included an internal and external inspection of the house and dairy as well as an informal interview with the present owner's daughter (Melanie) who acted as guide during the site inspection. In addition, during the inspection a brief phone interview with the present owner Mrs Fay Duncan was held to discuss certain aspects of the history of the property. These informal communications have informed this assessment and are included where relevant within this section.

Miala House is barely visible from Marshall Mount Road. The approach to Miala is via a 500m long entry drive, which includes a Ford crossing of the creek line adjacent to the house. The house becomes visible along the approach, highlighting its striking setting on a bend in the adjacent creek-line, and its striking backdrop of the Illawarra Escarpment.



Figure 6: Miala House from partway along the driveway approach. Photo looking northwest.

Miala House is readily recognisable as a Victorian Era farmhouse. The “front” of the house faces east and is visible on the approach along the lengthy driveway. The eastern and southern facades as viewed on the approach retain the typical characteristics of a generous, yet not overstated weatherboard farmhouse of the period. The original simple hipped roof form is retained as viewed from these two sides. The original posted veranda to the eastern and southern elevation remains generally intact and for the most part, original timber doors and windows are retained.



Figure 7: View of front of house from the south east, adjacent to the driveway.

Figure 7 shows that a sunroom has been added to the north east of the house under a separate hipped roof, adjoining the original veranda profile (right of image). An additional hipped wing has been added at the south west corner of the southern veranda, enclosing a modern ensuite and walk in robe to the main bedroom (left of image). The roofing has been replaced in full, and original chimneys have been removed or cut down beneath the roof form and are no longer visible.

The northern side of Miala (Figure 8) has undergone significant changes, with a large, hipped roofed wing addition expanding to the north. The new northern wall alignment aligns with the original veranda extent, with a new traditional styled veranda having been added along the northern side and adjoining to the separately enclosed sunroom in the eastern corner (left of image). The new addition has been built in a traditional style and continues the use of materials and details from the original house.

It is noted that the rough-sewn and aged historic decking timbers used along the new northern veranda were noted by the owner's daughter as having been re-used from the old fence that surrounded the bull pen, and which was located to the north of the house but was removed during the renovations to create the northern gardens.



Figure 8: Northern façade of Miala.

This northern elevation retains little significance, as it is essentially a new addition, however it has been constructed in a reasonably sympathetic manner, with matching materials and details, and is effectively to the “rear” of the property as viewed on the current driveway approach. The additions do not have a significant negative impact on the significance or setting of the historic dwelling.

Internally, the construction detail retains evidence of the original wall alignments and ceiling arrangements so that the earlier configuration can be interpreted in the fabric making it clear that the additions did not involve wholesale demolition and replacement of fabric.

Similarly, as shown in Figure 9, the western façade of the building has been modified and does not represent significant fabric as these are rear additions to the building that are recent, though continuing the use of traditional materials.



Figure 9: Western Façade of Miala. This elevation was modified in the 1990's additions and adaptations and does not represent significant fabric.

The southern façade includes elements of the later additions, including the hipped roof wing enclosing the ensuite (centre of image), and the southern side of the north western extension (left of image) as shown in Figure 10 below. At right of image, the original hipped roof form, and traditional veranda arrangement is retained.



Figure 10: Southern façade showing recent additions to left of image, with the original veranda configuration and hipped roof form (right of image). Note the position of the silo to far left.

Figure 11 (below) shows the more traditional form of the original building and veranda arrangement with the large established Fig to the north east of the house dominating the right of image.



Figure 11: Southern façade of Miala cottage showing original veranda detail and original intact hipped roof form (right of image) and additions (left of image). Note the large established Fig.

5.2 OUTBUILDINGS

The site contains four outbuildings of note within the assessment. These include the Dairy, the Silo and the Barn, with a modern garage that is not discussed in detail also being present. These are discussed below.

Dairy

The dairy building appears to have been built in two main stages, with the southern portion likely to be the same structure shown on the 1895 plan. The building appears to have been expanded to the north with a masonry addition, and has clearly undergone various stages of modification and change.

The south western corner of the building retains a raised milk storage/loading area for the storage of milk awaiting collection as shown in Figure 12.



Figure 12: Southern end of dairy building, showing raised milk storage area and recent vertical slab cladding (recycled bull pen fencing) and residential door which were added to the building during the 1990's modifications.

The building retains the typical form and structure of a dairy as shown in Figures 13 and 14, as well as extensive evidence of changes and modifications.



Figure 13: Southern façade of dairy building. Note the western addition, slab areas surrounding, and corrugated circular water trough. Note also the substantial and established Fig to right of building.



Figure 14: Eastern façade of dairy showing phased construction, modifications and recladding.

The dairy was most recently modified in the 1990's to provide temporary accommodation for the owners whilst they were renovating the house. The milking pit in the central space of the dairy was filled with concrete, with the eastern side of the building reclad in timbers salvaged from the old Bull Yard located north of the house (personal communication from Melanie – owner's daughter). A number of changes to reduce the size of the openings and provide infill windows were made at this time. Further, some of the surrounding fencing and gates providing for cattle movement have been removed (though evidence remains). The dairy building retains surrounding water troughs and a stone cattle ramp relating to the use of the area as a dairy.



Figure 15: Remnant stone/concrete cattle ramp nearby to Dairy.

The interior of the dairy building has been modified, through the filling in of the milking pit, cladding and filling in of some larger openings in wall panels and introduction of a ceiling (among other modifications as shown in Figure 16 below.



Figure 16: Interior of part of the dairy building, showing modifications including the filled in central milking pit.

Silo

The property retains a large silo structure constructed from corrugated formed concrete. The structure pre-dates 1948 and provides a significant feature in the area. The silo is located to the northwest of the house (refer to Figure 10). Whilst no research into the age of the silo has been undertaken to date, these corrugated silos are not uncommon in the area, with other examples believed to date to the early 1900's.



Figure 17: Detail of corrugated concrete silo located to the north west of the house. The flat roof structure tied to the ground with wires.

Barn

It is clear from the available evidence that the Barn has undergone a number of phases of construction and substantial changes. This is shown in the historic aerial photography of the site which is provided within the AECOM and Ecological reports. The existing barn does not appear to be materially significant within the complex, however, its location, and function in supporting the farming operation have been significant. Archaeological evidence of earlier structures in this location may also be of significance given the location of earlier buildings in the 1895 plan for the site (see Figure 5).



Figure 18: Showing detail of recent barn construction. The barn appears to have been constructed using recycled materials from an earlier barn of structure (as was indicated by Melinda on site).

5.3 CHANGES, MODIFICATIONS AND INTEGRITY

Miala has undergone various modifications over time, including some significant modifications undertaken during the 1990's. There are no records available relating to the extent of works undertaken. The AECOM report (in Figure 25 of that report) provides a marked up aerial photograph of the property indicating the changes made to the property during this work. This image is extracted from the AECOM report and provided below to assist the discussion.



Figure 25 Homestead showing approximation of original footprint (red) and modifications (blue)

Figure 19: Extract of Figure 25 from the AECOM report, which provides a useful explanation of the changes made to the building in the 1990s (unapproved) modifications.

As shown above, the modifications involved substantial roofline changes to the north western and western areas of the property, to envelope the majority of the original north facing veranda area into expanded north facing rooms labelled “Northern Extension”. With the exception of the room in the north-eastern corner of the house which retains its original form and configuration. Though its northern window now opens into an enclosed section of veranda that adjoins the separate form of the sunroom.

5.4 LANDSCAPE AND SETTING

The Miala farm complex is located within a striking setting on the foothills of the Illawarra escarpment as shown in Figure 20 below. The house and farm buildings are located on a flat bench which sits high above a bend in the adjacent creek line (Duck Creek). The house is surrounded by a number of large and established Figs, with one to the south west of the house, and another on the north east. Additional established trees including conifers provide an established setting to the house. The house is surrounded by a traditional style picket fence, with a cattle grate to the main entry and indicating the arrival at the house yard at the end of the 500m long driveway access.



Figure 20: View to house from midway along the driveway access showing the striking escarpment backdrop, with the ford crossing centre right of photo, and the established Figs and vegetation surrounding the house.



Figure 21: Miala showing the picket fence and garden setting of the house with escarpment backdrop behind. Note the cattle grate to the entry.

The gardens around the house are well established and well-tended, despite the fact that the property is currently vacant. The garden to the north of the house is a recent addition, having only been established in its current picturesque form to support the recent renovations to the house.



Figure 22: The more recently established picturesque garden to the north of the house. Whilst not part of the history of the house, the garden responds to the recent additions and modifications to the house.

The fenced gardens surrounding the house and the large established Figs to the north east and south west of the house contribute to the buildings significance and contribute to the established setting of the house. The Fig to the south west of the house appears to have some health issues but both trees make a significant contribution to the significance of the place.

6.0 SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT

6.1 SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

The following Table provides a comparison of the two previous heritage assessment reports Assessment of Significance against the NSW Heritage Act 1977 in the middle two columns, with the outcome of this assessment on the right. This assessment against the heritage significance criteria has been prepared by applying the Heritage NSW *Assessment of Heritage Significance Guidelines* (The Guidelines).

CRITERIA	AECOM	ECOLOGICAL	WCC COMMENT
<p><i>A – Historical Significance</i> An item is important in the course or pattern of the local area’s cultural or natural history.</p>	<p>The homestead is considered of local significance being associated with the establishment of an early dairying industry in the area. The original land grant established an early dairy, and the subsequent subdivision lead to the continuation of this industry. The homestead present today remains as one of the earliest associated with the late Nineteenth Century subdivision of the area. Despite renovations and additions to the building, the house and facade remaining relatively intact.</p>	<p>Dairy farming is not evidence of a significant human activity, Miala has incidental connections with historically important activities or processes and the house has been so altered that it can no longer provide evidence of a particular association. The property no longer functions as a dairy and therefore does not maintain the continuity of a historical process or activity.</p>	<p>Miala is located on one of the first five land grants in the Illawarra, “Macquarrie Gift”. The house appears from the historic information available likely to have been built by family descendants of the original grantee, either under the ownership of Edward Henry Weston prior to 1884, or by his nephew Frederick Weston Perry who purchased the Miala property from his uncle in 1884.</p> <p>Dairy farming represents a significant theme in the history and development of Wollongong. Family run dairy farms were the dominant industry in Marshall Mount and made a significant contribution to the economy of the Illawarra for a significant period of time.</p> <p>“Miala” was likely built in the 1880’s (or earlier) to support a dairy farming operation. Whilst the ownership of the farm changed on numerous occasions, the house and the surrounding outbuildings were developed and adapted to provide for the operation and running of family run dairy operations.</p> <p>Miala provides good physical evidence of And through later owners such as Alderman James Stevenson had direct links to the establishment of the Albion Park Dairy Factory and the Marshall Mount Creamery.</p> <p>Whilst the farm is no longer used for dairying, the site retains an ongoing connection to cattle farming, and retains a range of physical evidence including the (modified) dairy building, cattle infrastructure, and silo.</p> <p>The Guidelines for inclusion note that a site should be <i>associated with a significant activity or historical phase</i>. There is no exclusion based on change of use.</p> <p>Therefore, the site meets the criteria at a local level.</p>
<p><i>B – Associative Significance</i> An item has strong or special associations with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in the local area’s cultural or natural history.</p>	<p>The land was formerly associated with George Johnstone an early influential and prominent person associated with the establishment of the early colony. While the land was associated with his early land grant, the property today does not reflect or is associated with him today. The property is not considered to meet the threshold for</p>	<p>Miala is not associated with a significant event, person, or group of persons.</p>	<p>The Miala property formed part of one of the first five land grants of the Illawarra, granted to George Johnston, who was associated with the Rum Rebellion. The property had a long standing association with the Johnston/Weston families, and appears highly likely to have been built by descendants of the grantee, either pre-1884 during the ownership of Edward Henry Weston, or by his nephew Frederick Weston</p>

	State or local listing under this criterion.		<p>Perry. The Weston's are a well-known family in the history of Dapto/Albion Park and Shellharbour.</p> <p>"Miala" was later the farm of Alderman James Stevenson during the 1920's to 1940's during which time Stevenson played critical roles in the establishment and running the local dairy industry including the establishment of the Albion Park Dairy Factory whilst also serving a significant period on the Central Illawarra Council.</p> <p>The site meets this criteria at a local level.</p>
<p><i>C – Aesthetic Significance</i> An item is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in the local area.</p>	<p>The homestead retains particular characteristics associated with the original late Victorian design and aesthetics. These have been diminished by the extensions and renovations that have been undertaken. Specifically, these relate to the internal walls and floors within the original footprint of the house. The external cladding, roof and some of the windows have also been replaced. Despite this, the Homestead is considered to be of local significance under this criterion</p>	<p>Miala is a highly modified common, simple, house. It is not a major work by an important designer or artist, does not have landmark or scenic qualities and is not aesthetically distinctive. The house does not exemplify a particular taste or style and there are no views to the property from Marshall Mount Road or North Macquarie Road.</p>	<p>The Miala property retains the typical characteristics of an early historic family dairy property, with the dairy buildings, associated dairy infrastructure and large concrete silo retained. Whilst some modifications have occurred and active dairying has ceased, the property maintains a continuous connection to cattle farming.</p> <p>The landscape setting of the Homestead Complex including the established Fig Trees, gardens and homestead setting, combined with the long meandering driveway with ford crossing, and striking escarpment backdrop contribute to the aesthetic significance of the dairy complex.</p> <p>The site meets this criteria at a local level.</p>
<p><i>D – Social Significance</i> An item has strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group in the local area for social, cultural or spiritual reasons.</p>	<p>The homestead is not considered to have social, cultural or spiritual significance and does not meet the threshold for listing under this criterion.</p>	<p>Apart from the family who own the property, Miala is not important for its associations with an identifiable group nor is it especially valued by the community.</p>	<p>Due to the remoteness of the property, and its limited visibility to the community in recent years, the homestead site does not meet this criteria.</p> <p>It is noted that the broader property also retains the already heritage listed tennis court adjacent to the Marshall Mount School Site, which was established in the 1920's as a "Public Tennis Court" on the private property of Alderman James Stevenson. This element of the site, which is already heritage listed may retain some level of social significance in the community.</p>
<p><i>E – Research Potential</i> An item has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of the local area's cultural or natural history.</p>	<p>Archaeological potential has been identified to be present on the property, both related to the homestead and to the former dairy industry. This potential may include remain associated with the original kitchen and laundry area, well(s) and privies. The location of these items would assist in better understanding the former layout of the homestead complex dating from the late Nineteenth Century. These remains would have local research value and significance under this criterion.</p>	<p>Miala was simply used as a dairy farm like many others in the surrounding region. It is not an early site, it has no research potential to provide valuable or new information and only contains information that is readily available from other resources or archaeological sites. Any archaeological material present would not meet the threshold to be locally significant.</p>	<p>The site is considered to have research potential through the potential archaeological record. Given the early occupation of the grant (from at least 1817), the evidence for early tenant farmers having established farmlets, and the limited records available to confirm the history of the property, date of construction of the dwelling and associated buildings, and the potential for earlier buildings on the raised area, north of the creek, the archaeological record is considered likely to provide evidence that will add to and assist clarification of the historic record.</p> <p>The sites contribution to the dairy industry in the area, and association with the families of the original land grantee add to the potential significance of the archaeological record.</p> <p>In the event that the site is found to provide evidence of earlier occupation (pre 1884) it is</p>

			<p>likely that this would provide evidence of tenant farming operations in the area. An area that is not well documented in the historic record and which has not been the subject of any detailed research.</p> <p>Under the Guidelines, the site should be included if it <i>has the potential to yield new or further substantial scientific and/or archaeological information.</i></p> <p>The site meets this criteria at a local level.</p>
<p><i>F – Rarity</i> An item possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of the local area's cultural or natural history.</p>	<p>The homestead can be considered to be of local significance for rarity significance. Reference to the Wollongong Heritage Study (McDonald McPhee Pty Ltd et al., 1991) indicates that homesteads dating to the Nineteenth Century that are in good condition are not common and it is these that give "the give the general landscape its character". This homestead building has been extended and modified internally and externally, however, some of the internal layout and external facades do still represent some of the late Nineteenth Century Victorian period characteristics.</p>	<p>Miala is not rare, hundreds of small weatherboard houses are still extant in the LGA and across NSW, many much older than 1897. Miala is not of exceptional interest and does not provide evidence of a defunct custom, way of life or process activity that is in danger of being lost. Dairies are common in NSW and the property no longer functions as a dairy.</p>	<p>It is noted that the rarity criteria for a local listing relates to the local area only and other sites across NSW are not relevant.</p> <p>The assertion that there are hundreds of small weatherboard houses in the LGA is fundamentally flawed as Miala is an early dairying complex and homestead associated with the dairy industry in the West Dapto area.</p> <p>The site is one of an increasingly small number of surviving 19th century dairy complexes in the area. Whilst the site has undergone modifications, including additions and alterations to the house and dairy building, it remains readily identifiable as a late Victorian dairy farmhouse in a farmland setting.</p> <p>As the West Dapto Urban Release Area and the Calderwood Release Area is developed, intact dairy complexes are becoming increasingly rare.</p> <p>The site meets this criteria at a local level.</p>
<p><i>G – Representative</i> An item is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of NSWs (or the local area's): cultural or natural places; or cultural or natural environments.</p>	<p>The homestead is considered to be of a typical of a modified and extended late Victorian architectural design; however, it is not considered to be complete or intact to be considered to be a good representative example. As such, the homestead is not considered to meet the State or local heritage listing under this criterion.</p>	<p>Miala is highly modified and is not a fine example of its type. It does not represent well the characteristics that make up a significant variation of a type nor is it outstanding because of its setting, condition or size.</p>	<p>The Miala complex provides a good representative example of an early dairy complex dating from the late Victorian period.</p> <p>Although the homestead and dairy have been modified following the cessation of dairying operations, the house remains readily recognisable as an early farmhouse through the construction of the western extensions, the main façade and verandah as well as significant internal elements remain intact and readily identifiable as discussed in this Report. The intact facades are representative of a typical late Victorian period farm house with intact (though modified) surviving dairy, and associated infrastructure.</p> <p>Therefore the site meets this criteria at a local level</p>

6.2 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The following Statement of Significance has been prepared based on the Assessment of Heritage Significance:

Miala house and surviving dairy, along with the associated infrastructure including cattle ramp, drinking troughs and Silo provide evidence of a small scale, family run dairy complex established from the late Victorian period. The house, whilst modified, remains readily recognisable as a late Victorian farmhouse, whilst the dairy and associated infrastructure retain evidence of this significant historic occupation, which was a key industry at the core of the Illawarra's economy during the second half of the 19th, and much of the 20th century.

The property is associated with one of the first five land grants in the Illawarra, being part of "Macquarie Gift", which was granted to George Johnson of Rum Rebellion fame. The property remained in the ownership of the Johnston and Weston families, through descendants of George Johnston up until 1895. The house was most likely built during the 1880s, during the ownership of either Edward Henry Weston (pre-1884) or Frederick Weston Perry (1884 onward), though an earlier date of construction cannot be ruled out. Later owners of the property included Alderman James Stevenson who, whilst living on the property, played a central role in a wide range of community affairs as well as an important role in the progression of the Illawarra dairy industry through his roles with the Albion Park Dairy Factory, the Royal Agricultural and Horticultural Society as well as many other local community organisations and institutions.

The remote agricultural setting of the Miala complex, and its established gardens, including two large established Figs, and backdrop of the Illawarra Escarpment are aesthetically significant. The 500m long driveway including ford crossing provides a dramatic arrival to the complex with the soaring escarpment slopes and cliffs to the north and west of the site adding to the aesthetic significance of the site.

The site is likely to retain archaeological evidence relating to the historic development of the homestead complex and to earlier outbuildings and farm structures. Given the length of tenure from the earliest (post invasion) settlement in the Illawarra, and the evidence in the historic records for tenant farms on the estate from early in its history, the presence of earlier farm buildings that may reveal important historic evidence of tenant-based farming activities cannot be ruled out. Archaeological research has the potential to reveal evidence that may assist with dating and adding to the chronology of development on the site and to close gaps in the available historic record.

The Miala complex is representative of a family run dairy farm, established from the late Victorian period with building and structures that provide evidence of this significant economic activity and occupation.

Surviving dairy complexes are growing increasingly rare in the Illawarra and West Dapto precinct, with few sites providing intact dairy complexes dating from the 1880's surviving throughout the area, with house, dairy and associated facilities and structures intact (albeit modified).

6.3 CURTILAGE ASSESSMENT AND DISCUSSION

The significant elements within the Miala Complex, include the house, the dairy and associated concrete mustering areas, water troughs and cattle ramp, the silo, as well as the site of the historic barn or other outbuildings. The two large Figs and other established plantings, gardens and picket fenced house enclosure and the direct physical connections between the house and the adjacent creek line which snakes around the western and southern side of the complex also contribute to the significance of the site, and the setting of the complex within the landform.

Given this, a curtilage appropriate for the future management of the complex is proposed below in Figure 23:

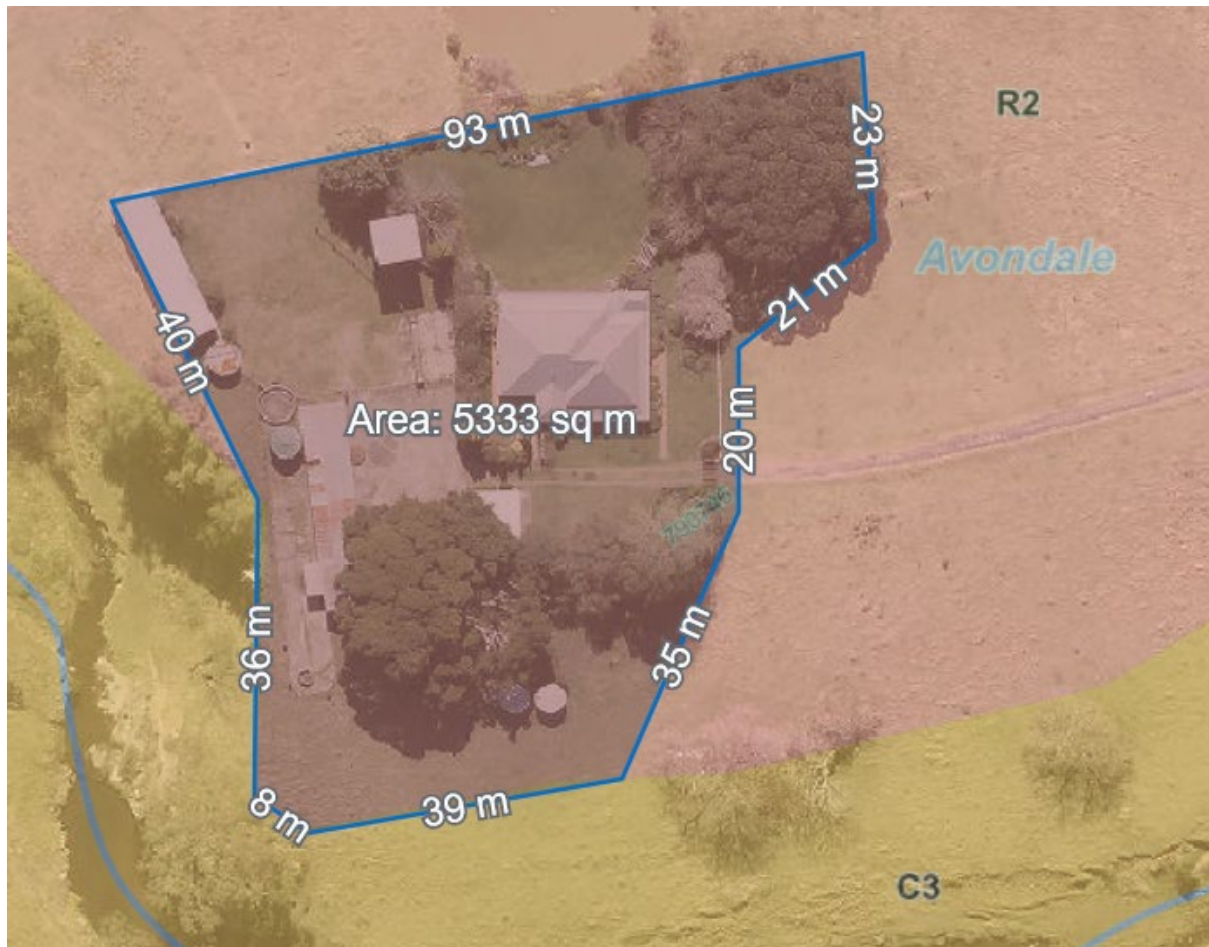


Figure 23: Proposed curtilage boundary.

Whilst the 500m long driveway and ford crossing contribute to the significance of the property, the listing of these elements as part of the curtilage is not considered an appropriate response in a residential release area. The vehicle entry however as a marker of the historic access to the property should be considered in future planning and maintained as a frontage to future development if possible.

6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations are made based on the strength of the assessment provided within this report:

1. A draft Planning Proposal should be prepared and reported to the Wollongong Local Planning Panel and then Council seeking to add the “Miala House and dairy complex” to the Wollongong Local Environment Plan 2009 as a local heritage item. If endorsed, and following a Gateway determination the draft Planning Proposal would be exhibited.
2. The proposed curtilage map provided at Figure 23 should be adopted and used as the basis for updating the Wollongong Local Environment Plan 2009 Heritage Map.
3. The Statement of Significance provided within this report should be adopted and used to inform decision making related to the future conservation of the complex.
4. The draft Neighbourhood Plan should be amended to provide for the retention and conservation of the significant fabric and features identified within this report. This redesign should include the realignment of the proposed collector road, and stormwater detention.
5. Consultation with the property owner/developer should be commenced to explore the potential opportunities for adaptive re-use of the site as a central focal point for the new residential community and to ensure that the site provides a commercially viable outcome. Consideration could be given to providing for additional options and/or flexibility in the use of the property (eg. Potential function venue, café, small urban farm, Bed & Breakfast or similar). Consideration could be given to additional permissible uses as part of the Planning Proposal for Heritage Listing.
6. Consideration should be given within the residential subdivision to retain and/or interpret elements of the historic access to the property, including the driveway alignment, entry gates on Marshall Mount Road, and particularly, the location of the Ford across the creek.
7. The outcomes of the yet to be finalised Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report should be considered to explore opportunities for any Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Values attached to the site to be incorporated and/or acknowledged within the proposed heritage listing. Consultation with the Aboriginal Community to this end as part of any future exhibition should be undertaken and carefully considered.
8. Any future development within the proposed curtilage boundary must consider the potential archaeological significance of the site. An excavation permit will be required under the NSW Heritage Act 1977 and archaeological oversight provided.
9. The proposed future development should explore opportunities to provide for the interpretation of the Aboriginal and Historic Heritage values of the site, including the significance of the site as part of “Macquarie Gift”, one of the first five land grants in the Illawarra.

7.0 CONCLUSIONS

The “Miala House” complex, including the house, dairy buildings and associated infrastructure, silo, gardens and established Figs provide a historically significant complex of local significance. The retention of the significant features of the site, within a suitable curtilage provides an opportunity for the retention of evidence of the principal historic occupation in the Marshall Mount area, and of the use of the area prior to the proposed residential subdivision.

The location of the site on raised land, near the elbow of a natural creek-line, and adjacent to a (slightly relocated) proposed collector road, provides an opportunity to retain the house, and its significant outbuildings, and landscape features, as a centrepiece of the proposed residential subdivision.

The recommendations of this report should be adopted and implemented in the progression of considerations to the finalisation and adoption of the draft Neighbourhood Plan.

9.0 REFERENCES

AECOM (2021) *Duck Creek/Marshall Vale Neighbourhood Plan Heritage Review*. Prepared for Urbanco.

Eco Logical Australia (2021) *“Peer Review” 410 Marshall Mount Road Heritage Assessment*. Prepared for Urbanco.

HLA-Envirosciences (2006) *Non-indigenous Heritage Study, West Dapto – Volume 1*. Prepared for Wollongong City Council (as part of the West Dapto Local Environmental Study).

Hynd, Tamara (2003-2004) *Historic and Archaeological Map, Shellharbour City 1830-1930*. Prepared for the Tongarra Heritage Society Inc.

<https://www.yumpu.com/en/document/read/8172080/historic-and-archaeological-map-shellharbour-city-council>

Kass, Terry (2010) *Thematic History of the City of Wollongong*, Prepared for Wollongong City Council.

NOTE – Appendix 1 of this report provides an amalgamation of various historic records and documents gathered for the preparation of this report. Many of these articles are from newspapers and were accessed via TROVE. These historic articles and extracts are presented in chronological order with identified sources and can be accessed within this appendix. These references form the basis of much of the History section of this report and have allowed for a significant expansion of the evidence provided within the previous assessment reports. These individual articles are not individually referenced within the reference list above.

APPENDIX 1: Chronological compilation of historic documents and source material

For further particulars, apply to
MAIDEN, HILL, and CLARK, 171, Pitt-street.

Preliminary Notice.
Highly Attractive Land Sale, at Macquarie River,
Illawarra,
Johnstone's Meadows.
1800 Acres and upwards.
Early in JANUARY, 1876.

D. L. DYMCK has received instructions to sell by auction, at Kiama, early in January, 1876 (of which full particulars will shortly be advertised),

The above magnificent property, known as Johnstone's Meadows (adjoining Weston's Meadows) rich alluvial soil, subdivided into suitable homesteads—splendidly watered; situation unsurpassed for convenience, being contiguous to main Wollongong and Kiama Road.

Terms liberal.

For further particulars apply to the Auctioneer, Jam-beroo and Kiama; or **JAMES LAIDLIEY, Esq.** Exchange-buildings, Sydney.

Extensive and Valuable

JOHNSTONE'S MEADOWS, JOHNSTONE'S MEADOWS,
 Midway between Wollongong and Kiama.

HIGHLY ATTRACTIVE LAND SALE,
 Macquarie River, Illawarra,
 on **THURSDAY, 20th instant, at 1 o'clock, at Steam Packet Hotel, Kiama.**

D. L. DYMCK has been favoured with instructions from Messrs. D. T. Johnstone, G. R. Johnstone, and A. A. Johnstone (to close an estate account) to sell by public auction, on and at the above date and place,

All that truly magnificent and centrally situated property known as Johnstone's Meadows, carefully subdivided into choice farms, and containing as under:

LOT 1.—Containing 100 acres, occupied by Mr. W. Swan. Soil rich, cabbagetree bush, on the bank of the river, highly improved, every convenience in buildings for a farm, securely fenced, and subdivided into numerous paddocks,—a magnificent farm.

LOT 2.—Containing 140 acres, occupied by Mr. H. Bartlett, adjoining lot 1, about 90 acres of meadow land, remainder fine arable forest. Suitable premises are erected on this farm. It is well subdivided and unsurpassed in the district.

LOT 3.—Containing 120 acres of first-class forest land, thinly timbered, and great portion cleared (adjoining lot 1 and Mr. Weston's property)—grand piece of forest soil—excellent.

LOT 4.—Containing 100 acres, occupied by Mr. Joseph Ross—a splendid farm, containing meadow land and rich forest ground. A highly productive farm, with suitable premises.

LOT 5.—Containing 80 acres, all cleared, adjoining lot 4, occupied by Mr. Howse, containing splendid meadow paddock, extensive orchard in full bearing.

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LOT 5.—Containing 80 acres, all cleared, adjoining lot 4, occupied by Mr. Howse, containing splendid meadow paddock, extensive orchard in full bearing, good premises, all enclosed. A beautiful farm.

LOT 6.—Containing 94 acres, occupied by Mr. J. Reid—(this lot joins the famous Marshal Mount Estate, of the late Henry Osborne, Esq.)—subdivided into paddocks, with suitable premises. A very nice block.

LOT 7.—Containing 126 acres, occupied by Mr. Rafferty (adjoining lot 2), consisting of rich meadow and fine forest, on the Macquarie River, with suitable premises also. A perfect garden.

LOT 8.—Containing 140 acres, occupied by Mr. Fraser (adjoining lot 7), a splendid farm, being all river flats and forest bush ridges, with plenty of shelter, good premises, and well enclosed.

LOT 9.—Containing 255 acres, occupied by Mr. Barker (adjoining lot 8), and consisting of nice river flats, fine grassed, rich forest land, all subdivided into paddocks—excellent premises. A highly productive farm.

LOT 10.—Containing 70 acres of fine open forest (adjoining lot 2). A splendid paddock for dry stock.

LOT 11.—Containing 100 acres, fine timbered, open forest (adjoining lot 4), an indispensable paddock for surplus stock.

LOT 12.—Containing 426 acres, known as Middle Paddock, with a frontage to the Macquarie River, nearly all open bush, brush ridges, box forest, all enclosed. A heavy stock carrier in the winter.

Total, 1751 acres (more or less).

Title unquestionable.

Liberal Terms—25 per cent. cash deposit; balance by equal instalments, bearing 7 per cent. interest per annum. Luncheon at 12 o'clock, at Steam Packet Hotel.

The Auctioneer, in the small compass of an advertisement, cannot adequately describe the intrinsic value of the above property. The character of its soil is unsurpassed, consisting as it principally does of alluvial soil to any depth, its contiguous position to the celebrated properties of the late Henry Osborne, Esq., E. H. Weston, Esq., and Terry's estate (so recently sold at £30 5s. per acre), its close proximity to the main road to Wollongong and Kiama, the advantages of shipping, the almost certainty of the Illawarra Railway passing through this property, must increase its value immensely, its highly productive character, the advantages of the purest water in

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THE ILLAWARRA MERCURY, FRIDAY, JANUARY 21, 1876.

Kiama, Thursday evening.

The sale of Johnstone's Meadows, which took place here to-day, by Mr. D. L. Dymock, was largely attended and spirited, all the lots being sold as under:—

Lot.	Acres.	Purchaser.	Price.
1	100	Mr. John Russell	£2665
2	140	John Russell	2685
3	120	E. H. Weston	242
4	100	H. Bartlett	1415
5	80	C. Heininger	720
6	94	W. Thomas	396
7	126	T. Armstrong	833
8	140	John Frnzer	1217
9	255	W. Swan	1500
10	70	T. Armstrong	270
11	100	John Hayes	282
12	246	S. Clarke	1148
13	—	W. Piper	47

Moved by Rev. G. Charter, seconded by Mr. D. M'Donald, and carried unanimously—“That Messrs. W. G. Robertson and A. Campbell be the Auditors for the year.”

On the motion of Messrs. G. Hewlett and D. M'Donald, the remuneration to be granted to each of the Medical Officers during the year was fixed at the same figure as last year, viz., £20 each.

Mr. T. Dakin moved—“That the Rev. G. Charter be the Secretary for the current year,” and in doing so he spoke in commenting terms of the efficient manner in which the Rev. Mr. Charter always discharged the duties of Secretary.

Mr. J. W. Hosking seconded the motion, which was then carried unanimously.

Rev. G. Charter acknowledged his re-election to office, and thanked the subscribers for the confidence so manifested in him. He said he should much rather have seen some one else elected to the office, but as the meeting had seen fit to re-elect him, that he should not decline to again perform the duties of Secretary to the best of his

LOCAL NEWS.

Conjoined Letters.		
HC	Edward Magick, Maltagunna, Bourke	49859
C	F. W. Perry, Marshall Mount, Illawarra	50027
H	George Cafe, Carwell, Gilgandra	49922
HC	Joshua Hughes, Glen Innes	49989
HC	H. G. Marsh, Armidale	49877
HC	James Cannons, Woodlands, Inverell	49890
H	P. B. Moore, Boyong, Hay	30000
HC	Richard Marum, Deniliquin	49642

Opposite O'Brien's Hotel,
Crown-street.

AUCTION SALES.

FAT CATTLE. FAT CATTLE.
HEIFERS. HEIFERS. HEIFERS.

AT FIG TREE SALE YARDS.

WM. OSBORNE and CO. have received instructions from Messrs. Perry and Weston to sell by auction, on

THIS DAY,

AT 3 o'clock,
15 Head Superior Fat Cattle
10 Head Choice 3 year old Heifers.

TERMS CASH.

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MARSHALL MOUNT ESTATE.

A SUCCESSFUL SALE.

The sale of the above estate took place at Reed's Hotel, Dapto, on Saturday last. The auctioneers were Messrs. Richardson and Wrench, of Sydney, who acted in conjunction with Messrs. D. L. Dymock and Co., of Kiama. The attendance was large, and despite the fact that the weather was far from being propitious, about 200 persons were present, chiefly from Marshall Mount, Albion Park, Kiama, and Jamberoo. An ample luncheon was provided, and after it had been partaken of, Mr. Wrench ascended the rostrum and commenced operations by declaring the conditions of sale, and then expatiating upon the great agricultural value of the land comprised in the estate submitted, also upon its proximity to Dapto, and the advantages of such a situation in view of the extensive harbor scheme it is proposed to apply to the Illawarra Lake, and the importance that must necessarily attach therewith. After the first block was subjected to the bid, it was very clear that the percentage of determined buyers amongst the assemblage was large, and the bidding was consequently spirited. As a result, we are enabled to report that the entire subdivision was disposed of at satisfactory prices. Seeing that this estate was a large one, comprising some 3,300 acres of the best agricultural lands in the district, and further that it had been occupied by a numerous and prosperous tenantry for very many years, considerable importance both industrially and commercially attached to its disposal. It was the disbanding of a large estate, which afforded an opportunity to the tenants of 22 farms to obtain ownership in the land that afforded them their livelihood, and which it might have caused a pang of regret to some at seeing one of the earliest homesteads in the Illawarra district broken up and parcelled out to a

and the use from some distance beyond North Clifton to the Macquarie River is ballasted with it. There is a large deposit of the stone, and it should develop into an important industry, seeing that blue stone is being used to re-ballast the railways in New South Wales, and that the Councils—particularly that of North Illawarra—require large supplies of the same commodity.

HOW WEALTH IS DISTRIBUTED.

The following remarks are from the pen of "T. Raleigh," an English author of some note on economic questions:—"If you make out a scheme, showing how the income of a great community is distributed, you will find that the incomes enjoyed by individuals may be classified under three heads:—(1) Rent and interest (payments for the use of property); (2) Salaries, fees, and wages—payments for services rendered; (3) Profits of exchange and speculation. Rent is a payment made to the owners of land and fixed capital for leave to occupy and use it. The amount of this payment is fixed, as we have seen, chiefly by competition. The total amount of rent paid in a civilized country increases with the prosperity of the country. Two 200 years ago this nation was paying 10 millions sterling; to the owners of land; now we are paying sixty millions. Our industry becomes more various and more skilful, income from other sources increases more rapidly than rent; and rent forms a smaller proportion of the whole. Two 200 years ago, rent stood for a fourth of the national income; now it stands for less than a twentieth. The majority of bread-winners in the country live by wages which are paid to them fortnightly, weekly or at shorter intervals by their employers. The total amount of employment and wages paid varies according to the amount of capital seeking investment, according to the opportunities which exist for investing it, so as to obtain a profit

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district broken up and parcelled out to a score of purchasers, the declination of the tenure cannot bear other than highly beneficial results to the district at large. Commercially, of course, the results of the sale afford a good criterion of the landed values in the locality and district generally.

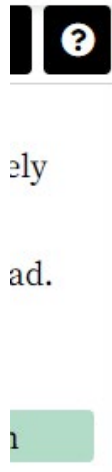
The homestead was the first submitted; this rapidly rose to £20 10s per acre, and fell to the nod at Mr. Thomas Armstrong, who purchased for Mr. Robert Menzies Dymock. A full list of purchasers is here appended:—

Lots	Acres	Price	Purchaser
1	136 2 32	15 10 0	Wm. Pearson
2	146 0 5	20 10 0	R. M. Dymock
3	91 2 32	16 10 0	John O'Doud
4	130 0 36	14 5 0	Wm. H. Sharpe
5	125 8 87	14 15 0	John Pearson
6	125 3 34	10 15 0	Harry Timbs
7	97 2 0	17 0 0	Jas. Rogan
8	264 0 21	8 10 0	Wm. Moran
9	288 0 0	8 10 0	Wm. Moran
10	113 0 0	4 15 0	Wm. Moran
11	210 1 30	8 12 6	T. O'Neill, sen.
12	121 1 14	10 15 0	T. O'Neill, sen.
13	133 2 9	12 10 0	Mr. M'Donough
14	290 1 32	6 15 0	W. Mathie
15	86 0 0	5 0 0	W. Mathie
16	144 3 8	8 0 0	Jas. Dawes
17	155 2 16	10 10 0	G. Timbs
18	155 3 8	13 0 0	John Smith
19	136 2 25	13 0 0	John Smith
20	95 1 30	9 0 0	M. Keen
21	77 0 11	11 5 0	M. Keen
22	114 2 37	5 10 0	F. W. Perry

The total amount of sale was £34,331 14s 5d.

The sale is the largest in amount sold by public auction since the advent of the first settler, and is ample proof to vendors that the public are the judges of values, and that a property once determined upon to sell should be left to unrestrained competition. The sale is important in many aspects; it is the break in the first large estate held. It will add value and enterprise by being

according to the opportunities which it affords for investing it, so as to obtain a good rate of interest and profit. The rate of exchange of labor—depends on a number of causes which must be separately considered. First, it depends on the number of persons seeking employment. Where labor is scarce in proportion to the work to be done, employers will have to pay high wages. In old countries the labor-market is usually full, and over full, by the growth of population, and wages are forced down by competition. Second, the rate of exchange varies according to the efficiency of the laborer. Strong, diligent, skillful men are worth much to their employer; they must be well paid. Here it may be noted that 'cheap labor,' in the employers' sense of the phrase, ought not to mean underpaid labor. If, for example, a contractor has to make a railway, he will not employ Englishmen, but will employ Indians, who he gets at half the price. Working men, therefore, have an interest in improving the efficiency of their labor. If they are tempted to give their employer all they can for their money, they should remember that every rule of custom which makes their labor less valuable in the long run to lower their wages. The rate of wages depends not only on the laborer's efficiency in his work, but on his habits and standard of living. If accustomed to good food, nice houses, and other comforts, they will put themselves in the way of having them; they will sacrifice their independence and their position towards their employers. In the last fifty years, there has been a marked improvement in the tastes of the laboring people; and this improvement has led to secure for the laborer a considerable share of the wealth yielded by the modern methods of production. Unhappily there are always some laborers whose tastes



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CHENEY, Produce Stores, Balli Road.

Tenders.

TENDERS FOR SMITH'S FARM, Marshall Mount; 142 Acres; upon which owner resides; highly improved. Term, 5 years; quarterly rents; usual terms of lease. Highest tender not necessarily accepted. Information from owner. Tenders up to 30TH APRIL, at 12 o'clock. 12 acres planter to be valued; 3 acres corn.

D. L. DYMCK, Auctioneer.

HAVE JUST
OILSKIN CLOTHING
to call and inspect
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April 26th.

SALE OF MARSHALL MOUNT FARMS.

On Wednesday afternoon, last a fair number of persons attended the sale of two farms at Marshall Mount, advertised to take place at Reed's Hotel, Dapto, by Mr. Frank Bavan. The farms are locally known as Mr. John Smith's (at present in the occupation of Mr. J. Chic) and Messrs. Jolliffe Bros. respectively. The majority of the people attending the sale consisted of representative landholders. Mr. T. F. Armstrong wielded the hammer and made a lengthy speech in eulogy of the properties. The one lately occupied by Mr. J. Smith, consisting of 136 acres, was the first offered. The bidding commenced at £10 and then £11 10s, £11 15s, and £12 was bid, when the lot was withdrawn. The other farm, in the occupation of Mr. J. Chic, was then put up. It consists of 135 acres, and was also withdrawn, £12 being the highest bid. It is considered more than probable that the two farms will be disposed of privately at the price required to liquidate the liabilities of the bank. The terms are liberal, the deposit being 10 per cent, with 10 per cent in 3 months, and the balance in 10 half-yearly payments at 6 per cent. This should be a good investment for anyone who wants to secure a couple of the richest and best watered farms in Illawarra.

of Albion Park have been compelled to raise the price of beef.

At Albion Park, on Saturday, Mr. D. L. Dymock sold the farm known as F. W. Perry's, Marshall Mount, for £14 5s per acre. The purchaser was Mr. P. O'Brien, Canterbury.

In a certain town (not Berry), says the Register, they have a tennis club and

of the E., S., and A. Bank.—Dated at Sydney, this 23th day of October, A.D. 1895.

ARTHUR HENRY,
Registrar in Bankruptcy.
2450 3s. 6d.

2450

[Notice under Section 11 of the Bankruptcy Act, 1887.]
In the Supreme Court of New South Wales. (10,236)
IN BANKRUPTCY.
Re Frederick Weston Perry, of Marshall Mount, near Campbelltown.

NOTICE is hereby given that a Sequestration Order has this day been made against the abovenamed bankrupt, on the petition of the Bank of New South Wales.—Dated at Sydney, this 23th day of October, A.D. 1895.

ARTHUR HENRY,
Registrar in Bankruptcy.
2453 3s. 6d.

Official Assignee—WILLIAM 2454

In the Supreme Court of N
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Re John Gibson, of Home
NOTICE is hereby given th
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day of November, 1895, at
of business will permit. T
his proof must be lodged
Chancery-square, Sydney,
November, 1895.

Official Assignee—WILLIAM 2457


BANKRUPTCY COURT.
—o—
MONDAY, DEC. 9.
(Before Mr. W. H. H. Beck, P.M.,
District Registrar.)

In the estate of Frederick Weston Perry, farmer, Marshall Mount.


Bankrupt deposed that he had filed a statement of his affairs, and did not desire to amend it; he had never been bankrupt before, nor made an assignment for the benefit of his creditors; had kept no books of account; the cause of his bankruptcy was pressure by the Bank of New South Wales for an amount alleged to be owing in connection with a bond he had signed under the impression that he was only liable for a certain period, which had expired.

In reply to Mr. Cox, who appeared for the official assignee and Bank of New South Wales, bankrupt further deposed: I understood that I signed the bond until the bank got John Smith's deeds into their possession, when my liability was to cease; it was not for any overdraft; I was surprised when the bank sent me a notice to pay, and replied to the effect that I did not owe them any money; I saw Mr. Adams, the manager of the Wollongong branch, and told him that I had signed the bond under the impression that I was only liable until the bank obtained the deeds, which it then held; Mr. Adams said I was still liable under the terms of the bond; I then told him that I could not pay it, as I had

SYDNEY
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 told him that I could not pay it, as I had not the money; I afterwards received a letter from the bank's solicitor demanding payment; I replied that my property was fully mortgaged to the E.S. and A. Bank, and that I could not pay the demand; on the petition of the bank, I was subsequently declared bankrupt; the amount of the bank's demand was £1080; Mr. Grace, my solicitor, opposed the bank's petition on the ground that I did not owe the money, as I had signed the bond under a wrong impression; if I could have done it I would have bought Smith's property and saved all trouble; the E.S. and A. Bank sold my farm and cottage to satisfy the mortgage; the farm consisted of 154 acres, and realised £14 5s per acre; the cottage realised £345; the whole sale realised about £2500, and the bank's claim was about £2300; I believe I put down the E.S. and A. Bank as a fully secured creditor; I would be surprised if you told me it was not down as a creditor at all, as I told my solicitor's clerk to put it down; I also told him to put down the Bank of New South Wales as an unsecured creditor for £1080; the amount owing to other creditors is £212 6s 4d, which is the only amount I consider I legitimately owe; the total amount of my assets is £17, £7 being the value of a dray and £12 for furniture; I have had no cattle since I let the farm to Mr. W. T. Piper, about two years ago; he was working the farm on terms; he found all the dairying plant and cattle, and we divided the profits; my share varied from £7 to £10 per month; he left the

United action is necessary to get out the cheap and mongrel breed which should be put out of the white man and...
CONSCRIPTION
 The South Australian Government has passed the second bill to reduce the system of conscription in the country. South Australia does not trust its defence to the bayonets, but requires a more ample and ample in the...
 out in that quarter of the country. The description is somewhat... and service is only... of invasion or the... attack by an aggressor... first time in the history... the idea of conscription... The fact that the... received and will be... amendments goes to... are awakening to the... does not occupy an... We may enjoy peace... molestation for man... answer for the ren... when the sons of... called upon to defend... homes from the aggressor...
THE LABOR PARTY
 The question now before the Government may rely on the Labor Party... known that a portion... distrust Mr. Reid...


 farm on the 8th November, and we have not settled up for that month; I have banked with the E.S. and A. Bank since the Albion Park branch was opened; I did not hand over the butts of my cheque books nor my bank book to the official assignee, but am prepared to do so at any time; I have a wife and four children, and have been living upon the money received from Mr. Piper for the last eighteen months, during which time I have been working upon the farm and improving it; I had no interest whatever in the cattle on the farm; I sold them to Mr. Piper when he took the farm; I paid £10 to Mr. Dwyer for the dray; my bank book would show all my transactions up to the time of the suspension of the banks; about seven years ago the Golden Age Hotel, near Circular Quay, was bequeathed to my brothers and myself by a relative, and my share of the sale of the property amounted to £3000; I owed a good deal when I received the money, and when I got it I cleared off my liabilities, purchased an additional portion of land, and spent the rest in improving the property; I have lost money in bad deals; I purchased the goodwill of the Commercial Hotel, Albion Park, for £3800, and after keeping it for eight months sold out for £3500; I consider I lost about £1000 by that transaction; I have no money in the Savings Bank, and have not made any disposition of property on my wife or children; as far as I know I am not entitled to anything on the death of any of my relatives.
 The examination was declared closed.

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75, Pitt-street, Sydney.

F A R M T O L E T.

TENDERS for a LEASE of one year will be received until SATURDAY, 18th instant, for the FARM of 154 acres at Marshall Mount, known as Mr. F. W. Perry's. Abundance of good water, and close to Creamery. Possession 1st February.

For E., S., and A. BANK, Ltd.,
ALEX. NICHOLSON,
 Albion Park, Manager.
 9th January, 1896.

Willow Farm, Bulli.

Auction Sales.

BANKRUPT ESTATE OF F. W. PERRY, Marshall Mount.

FRANK BEVAN has been instructed by the Official Assignee, W. H. Palmer, Esq., to sell by auction, on the premises, ON MONDAY, 27th INST., at 2 o'clock,

The following Assets in the above Estate—
 1 Tip Dray
 Quantity of Hoes
 Household Furniture and Effects.

GREAT CLEARANCE SALE

ANNUAL TENDERS.

Tenders for Forage for the Police out the Colony, and for Public Works, Metropolitan and Districts, 1896-1897.

NOTICE is hereby given that TENDERS for the ANNUAL FORAGES for the Police throughout the Colony, and for Public Departments, Metropolitan and Parramatta Districts, for the year ending 31st March, 1897, will be received at the Treasury up to noon of TUESDAY, 29th February, 1896.

The list of Stations and conditions of Forage, &c., will be found in the "Government Gazette" (Supplement) No. 814, December, 1895,—copies of which

By his Agent,—DAVID M. MYERS, 28, Castlereagh-street, Sydney. Narrabri. 6s. 6d.

742

[Notice of Application for a Certificate of Discharge.]
 In the Supreme Court of New South Wales. (10,236)
IN BANKRUPTCY.
 Re Frederick Weston Perry, of Marshall Mount; ex parte Frederick Weston Perry.
 To the Official Assignee and Creditors.

TAKE NOTICE that I, Frederick Weston Perry, intend to apply to His Honor the Judge in Bankruptcy, at the Court, Chancery-square, Sydney, on Thursday, the 27th day of August instant, at 11 a.m., or as soon afterwards as the course of business will admit, that a Certificate of Discharge be granted to me, under and according to the provisions of the Act 51 Victoria No. 19.—Dated this 4th day of August, 1896.

F. W. PERRY.

CORP & KING,
 Solicitors for the Applicant.
 14, Castlereagh-street, Sydney.

6 57 6s. 6d.

[Notice of Application for a Certificate of Discharge.]
 In the Supreme Court of New South Wales. (10,177)

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BREVITIES.

Messrs. A. P. Johnstone, M. Carrol, G. Timbs, W. Fleming, and other Albion Park riflemen, were winners at the Kiama Rifle Meeting during the week.

A farm at Marshall Mount, the property of Mr. R. Barron, was submitted to sale on Saturday last by Messrs. Stewart and Morton, and was passed in at £13 10s per acre.

During the sale of draught horses at Easter in Sydney, draught stock by Prince Victor brought the very high prices of 197 guineas, 180 guineas, and 90 guineas, while a full brother to Prince Victor changed hands at 196 guineas. These prices should enhance the value of Mr. Manson's horse should he decide to dispose of him before the season comes in.

A serious outbreak of tick was discovered on Tuesday at Dinidible, on the Tweed River, on a farm owned by Mr. G. W. Richards, about five miles from town. Out of his dairy herd of 138 animals 40 were found to be infested. It is stated that the symptoms were fairly well developed.

Mr E. Longbottom is leaving the district, and intends following farming pursuits on the Tweed River.

SHEPPARDSON COUNCIL

Scullers to the number of 20 already entered for the Parr Hundred Handicap, to be held April 30 and May 7. This is a field in this part of the world event of the kind, and the entries include all the best scullers in Australia. Some of them are sons of famous champions, and there is a sculler of any consequence who has not entered, while there are one or two determined aspirants who have just pulled a race in an out-of-gear year.

Full list of the entries received follows:—

- R. Arnst, New Zealand.
- Harry Pearce, Middle Harbour.
- J. Arnst, New Zealand.
- P. S. Hagney, Sydney.
- Syd. Pearce, Double Bay.
- W. Fogwell, Coraki.
- Geo. Day, Woodburn.
- E. C. Laycock, Port Hacking.
- Norman Towns, Newcastle.
- Theo.
- Syd. Kemp, Abbotsford.
- G. Matterson, George's River.
- F. Matterson, George's River.
- C. Matterson, Rookwood.
- Tom Kemp, Abbotsford.
- Peter Kemp, jun., Abbotsford.
- Dick Green, Greenwich.

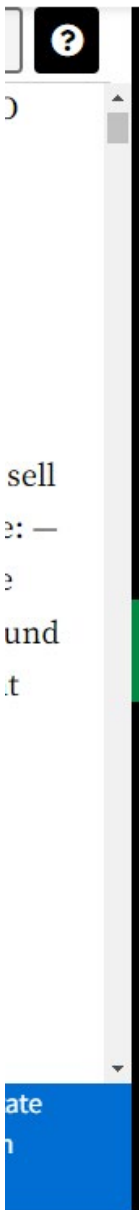
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C. F. Smith, general auctioneer, reports the sale of Mr. R. Barron's farm, Marshall Mount, to Mr. A. Moore, from the Northern district.

The Kiama Rifle Club last week made a presentation to Mr. Have-

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HIGH-CLASS DAIRY HERD.

HERD BOOK AND GRADE STOCK.

MONDAY, 30th,
AT 12.30.

AT MARSHALL MOUNT.

O'Donnell & Stumbles

Have received instructions from **A. Moore, Esq.**, to sell by auction at his Homestead, adjoining Marshall Mount School, as above, the whole of his very choice Dairy Herd, young stock, Horses and Plant, comprising chiefly:—

- 34 superior young Dairy Cows, of which 32 head are springers, and including cows entered in the M. S. Herd Book.
- 6 two-year old Dairy Heifers (extra good).
- 25 Yearling and Poddy Heifers.
- The high-class Illawarra Bull "Phil" (entered in the I.D.C. Herd Book), aged 5 years. This bull secured second prize at last Dapto Show, being only beaten by Mr. Bigg's bull, and was bred by Mr. J. W. Musgrave, from the M.S.H.B. cow Linda, by Musket 3rd.
- 1 Illawarra Bull, 1½ years.
- 3 Plough Mares, 2 five year olds, and one 7 years.
- 2 three-year old Draught Geldings.
- Light Harness and Saddle Horse.
- Lister Separator, milk cans, buckets, and dairy utensils.
- 2 Massey Harris Ploughs (8 and 11in.).
- 1 Treble Iron Harrow.
- 1 Massey Harris Springtooth Cultivator.
- Massey Harris Mowing Machine with Reaper.
- Chaffcutter and sundry Tools, etc.
- Tip Dray and Harness, Spring Cart and harness.
- 2 Bent-shaft Sulkeys and Harness.
- Sundries.
- Luncheon Provided. Easy Terms.
- Delivery to Jamberoo and Unanderra.

BULL.

AT CENTRAL SALEROOMS,
SATURDAY, AT 2.30 P.M.

Cottage Property and Allotment, Main road, on account of Mr. J. Smith, advertised last issue. The vendor having left the State, the above for absolute sale.

TERMS CAN BE ARRANGED.

H. F. Cotterell

DISTRICT AUCTIONEER.

RUSSELL VALE.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 24th, AT 1.30 P.M.

At the residence of Mrs. Jane Clark The whole of the Furniture and Effects comprising: Suite, sideboard, linoleums, and oilcloths, double bedsteads and mattresses, marble washstand and sets, Austrian chair combination, carpets, cedar drawers, dressing tables, large mirror, dining room table, safe, glass enclosed dresser, glassware and crockery lamps, kitchen table, crockery, utensils, tubs, mangle, single bedstead, deck chair, tools and sundries, horse line and carpet strip, etc., kapok bedding.

EVERYTHING CLEAN AND IN GOOD ORDER.
TERMS CASH.

H. F. Cotterell

AUCTIONEER.

CORRIMAL—AUCTION SALE.
SATURDAY, 21st SEPTEMBER.

J. Cropper

Will sell Crockery, Grocery, Glassware, Poultry, two Ponies, one Sulky, and anything that may be brought in for sale.

AT THE MART, AT 3 P.M.

CORRIMAL.
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23rd.

J. Cropper

Luncheon Provided. Easy Terms. Delivery to Jamberoo and Unanderra.

Note.—Mr. Moore has sold his farm to Mr. James Stevenson, and is retiring, hence the sale of this fine herd is absolute. The whole of the cows with the exception of two are springers and are in calf to the Herd Book bull. Mr. Moore is recognised as a successful farmer who kept only the most profitable cows, and buyers can attend the sale with confidence.

For the convenience of buyers, a conveyance will meet the trains arriving at Yallah at 8.15 from the south and 11.30 from the north.

NOTE: MONDAY, 30th INSTANT.

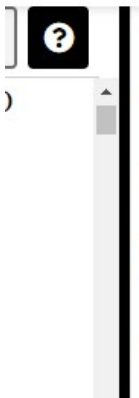
J. Cropper

Has been instructed by Mr. A. E. Penno to sell Household Furniture and Effects comprising kitchen tables, dressers, sideboard, round table, dining table, double and single bedsteads, mattress and numerous other articles.

AT THE MART, MAIN ROAD,
CORRIMAL, 1.30 P.M.

Frank Bevan

Begs to announce to residents of Wollongong and surrounding districts that he has taken into partnership his son, **A. R. BEVAN** (late Assistant and



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THE SOUTH COAST TIMES.

ALBION PARK

An average of two block days per week are at present being experienced at the local milk receiving depot, but during the past fortnight there has been a noticeable decrease in the quantity of milk coming forward. The want of a good downpour of rain is being freely commented upon by farmers, most of whom anticipate a rather trying time for the approaching winter if a change does not shortly occur. Already there is a slight fall in the prices paid for dairy cattle, and it is feared that by the end of March the decrease will be much more pronounced.

Sir Ross Smith's aeroplane on Monday was plainly visible from Albion Park. A story is going the rounds that a farmer out Marshall Mount way, upon hearing the engine of the aeroplane working, but not noticing the machine overhead, remarked to his son that the chaffcutter in the barn was running smoothly.

Persons on the lookout for a snug little dairy farm should not miss the auction sale of four farms on the Weston Estate, to be disposed of by O'Gorman and Burns, auctioneers, tomorrow (Saturday), at the Town Hall, Albion Park, at 2 o'clock. There have been hundreds of inquiries in regard to the properties, and a big attendance is expected.

A buyer representing the Military

Wollongong Show

The hon. secretary writes: Wollongong Show will take place on 4th, 5th and 6th next, and as the society has progressed wonderful the three years it has possessed ground, its 1920 fixture promises a record. It will be the last of the shows, and every show so far has been most successful, on account wonderful season the South Coast district has experienced.

Wollongong Agricultural Association is the largest society south of Sydney having over 425 members, and £572 in prize-money. Owing to its being in the centre of the dairy and mining industries, its ring, both cattle and horses, stands equal any country show in the State. The ring has been extensively altered year for trotting and jumping. It will be exhibited on the second day this year, and the innovation promises to be a success. On the Saturday from the ring programme, there will be Highland dancing and piping. Last year over 8000 people were present at the show, and given fine weather the record should be easily broken. Entries are coming in very freely.

W. WARD,
BUILDER AND CONTRACTOR

All kinds of Joinery work to order

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THE SOUTH COAST

ALBION PARK

The district is beginning to present a well-groomed appearance, while the ground is very hard. Three inches of rain would say to the men, be welcome.

One of the most successful land sales of the district was conducted by Mr. O'Gorman and Burns, auctioneers, on Saturday last, in the Weston Estate. The attendance of buyers at the Albion Park Town Hall, where were representatives from the coast and all portions of the Illawarra district. Sales were: Farm, 130 acres, occupied by Robert Dawes, sold to Mr. Charlesworth, of Dorrigo, at £20 per acre. Farm, 140 acres, occupied by Purdie, purchased by Johnson. Farm, 103 acres, occupied by Condon, purchased by H. Gilroy at £20 per acre. Applications are commanded daily for properties in this

for the praiseworthy manner in which he had performed the multifarious duties in connection with the show.

C. O'Keefe, returning officer, announced the result of the ballot for the 1920-21 committee as follows: Number of ballot papers printed 457, issued 356, returned 356, informal 5. C. Johns 350, J. Dawes 347, H. R. Hobart 340, W. Dunster 340, J. C. Grabam 338, Gower 337, G. Langley 334, A. H. Watson 331, T. A. Bateman 328, W. Norris 325, A. Wright 325, W. Chapman 324, J. W. Musgrave 322, A. T. F. 321, C. B. Dawes 319, H. G. Fraser 313, P. Hurley 313, J. Timbs 311, D. Dan 279, W. J. Healey 250, J. R. Ander 240 (elected). The unsuccessful candidates were: J. T. Faulks 233, E. Ma 223, M. Pearson 206. After the usual vote of thanks the meeting was adjourned for a month to allow for preparation of a finance statement.

PINKETTES

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MARSHALL MOUNT

(Our Correspondent.)

Mr. T. A. Condon has secured for a period of three months the farm purchased by Mr. H. Stevenson, of Gerrin-gong, while Mr. H. Gilroy takes possession of the farm vacated by Mr. Condon, having purchased it at the Weston Estate sale. Mr. R. Dawes, another tenant of the estate, removed to Dapto, where he has secured a residence.

The starving stock depasturing at Calderwood are being removed back to Narromine, where, as the result of recent rains, there is a good shoot in the pastures.

Mr. J. T. Geeson has secured and planted a large number of ornamental trees at the Public School grounds.

Mr. Alfred Brown, who has been on a six months' sojourn with his brothers at Yallah, departed with wife and family on Monday for Lismore, travelling in his motor car which he journeyed down in.

MOUNT KEM

(Our Correspondent.)
The mine is still idle. There are many concerned over the stoppage. Some have left for other districts.

Frost Brothers made a deal with the company to employ shiftmen nine days per fortnight to clean up the shaft district. The mine has been idle for a considerable time. Union officials refused to work; many of the shiftmen are in action of the Union very un-



PHILIP LAMP

Shine after hours. Save 75 per cent. Current Consumption. Perfect distribution of clear light.

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CENTRAL ILLAWARRA

The usual monthly meeting on Wednesday was attended by the Mayor (Ald. Gorrell), Aldermen Lindsay, McPhail, Woodyatt, Shipp, Currey, Jarvis, Cowain, Stevenson, Thomas, Swan and Martin.

appointed delegates to the Conference.
From Director of Public Health, forwarding communication received from W. G. Robb complaining re condition of residence on farm leased by him from trustees of Estate of E. H. Weston.—Received.
From North Illawarra Council, declining to accede to request to place

CORRESPONDENCE.

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THE WESTON AND JOHNSTONE ESTATES.

When we touch the history of the Johnston and Weston Estates we go very far back into the history of Illawarra, and also the history of New South Wales. To commence the history of these wonderful Crown grants, known as Johnston's Meadows and Weston's Meadows, we must hark back to a period at and before the birth of Illawarra. About January, 1910, Governor Macquarie came to New South Wales to relieve Governor Bligh. One Major Johnston, with Mr. McArthur, was making history in New South Wales at this date. Major Johnston had two daughters living in Sydney at the time, and when the Bligh trouble was over the then Governor, Lachlan Macquarie, by the consent of the King, granted to the Miss Johnstons all that area of land at Marshall Mount and Albion Park, known in late years as Johnston and Weston Meadows, but at the time and, for many years after, as Governor's Macquarie's Grant.

At the time there was also living at Horsley, near Prospect, one Captain Weston. He also held a grant of land from the King, through Governor Lachlan Macquarie. Later Captain Weston married one of the Johnston sisters. The grant at Albion Park and Marshall Mount was divided and afterwards became known as Weston's Meadows and Johnston's Meadows. Both of the Meadows contain very rich land, and, as the grants were fenced into farms of considerable size, there were many successful tenant farmers on the Estate. Captain Weston did not live permanently on the Estate. He had a nice cottage erected and he paid many visits to the property, and during the shooting season quite a number of friends joined him at the Meadows. Large drafting stock yards were erected and an overseer's cottage was also built. Mr. R. P. Ball was the overseer during Captain Weston's time. At a later period the eldest son of Captain Weston married, and he and his wife and one son came down from Horsley to live on the Estate. E. H. Weston was a fine stamp of man, and he reared a family who were much respected in the district. It is many years since Captain Weston found his bride at the Johnston Meadows, and most of the second generation have passed away. To-day the youngest son occupies the acres of his grandfather. Right through the range of years the Weston people have proved themselves to be wise and considerate landlords. The tenants have been on the various farms for long periods, and in many cases even leases did not exist.

The late E. H. Weston was a tall, thin man and a splendid horseman. His mother lived to be a great age, being over 96 years. Her sister, Miss Johnston, died, and the Estate was cut up into farms and sold at big prices.

One of the early overseers of the Johnston Estate was Mr. Rafferty, father of Mr. P. Rafferty, who is still living, aged about 85 years. There was a school on the Johnston Estate. The teacher was an old gentleman named Peopell. A great many children came to the school—this was seventy-five or eighty years ago. This school was situated on a portion of the Johnston Estate, which was later bought by Mr. Tom Armstrong, when the Estate was cut up. Standing recently close to the position of the old school I thought of the changes that had taken place. It is about one hundred years since Hamilton Hume came into Illawarra to report to Governor Macquarie on the land to be made Crown Grants. In that century what a change has taken place. First came Hume and the surveyors to map out a description of the grants. Later, about 1830, came the settlers, with all their difficulties before them. To-day the timber has gone. The whistle of the engines as the trains tear north and south echo in the mountains. The motor car cuts up the distance along the country lanes. Change "follows fast and follows faster," and the end of the change is not yet with us.

all her numbers, and more especially as in "Will o' the Wisp." Mr. Martin Curtis, who is now an established favorite with Wollongong audiences, was in better voice than on any previous occasion since appearing at local concerts, and his rendition of "Revenge" was very effective, and he was even more successful in his encore number "In Happy Moments." Mr. H. B. Bond gave a splendid rendition of "The Lost Chord," and his encore number "Oh Rest in the Lord" was also very fine. Mr. Frank Benson was in good voice in the solo "Thou Shalt the Righteous Shine." Miss Millie Hughes, Mr. Martin Curtis and the Choir gave an effective rendition of Scene I and 2, Act III, of "Tannhauser," a sympathetic organ accompaniment being contributed by Mr. Platts.

Miss Dwyer, as usual, was a tower of strength to the Choir in the role of accompanist.

REVIEW.

With the approach of the Christmas season the question of suitable presents itself. We have before us several books received from Messrs. Angus and Robertson, Sydney, which should prove suitable presents for friends at the Xmas season.

"A Perfect Tribute" is a story woven about Lincoln's famous oration at the dedication of the Gettysburg battlefield. The authoress, Mary Raymond Shipman Andrews, has given us a story that should be widely read, as it presents an historic incident in a new light.

"The Bar Sinister," by Richard Harding Davis, is a story of dog life, written in a manner that gives it almost a human touch. The interest is sustained to the very last.

"Bushman's Babies," by Charles Barrett, should prove a most acceptable Xmas present for a child. It contains 15 illustrations, and a lot of natural history is presented in a manner readily understood by children.

"Gem of the Flat," by Constance Mackness, is another Australian story that will delight children. It is profusely illustrated with true Australian

MARSHALL MOUNT.

Mr. James Ellison, who died in Wollongong Hospital, on Wednesday of last week, was a native of this locality, where he was born 56 years ago. He was an old employee of the **Weston Estate**. Mr. H. Ellison, of Dapto, is a brother, and a sister resides in Wollongong. The funeral took place at St. Luke's cemetery, Brownsville, Rev. G. P. Birk, officiating.

An Orange service was conducted by Rev. R. H. Doust, in the Methodist Church on Sunday, there being a good attendance of members of the L.O.L.

Just as the dayman was getting in some repair work on the roads he has been removed to another ward of Central Illawarra, when there is plenty to engage his attention locally for some time to come.

MARSHALL MOUNT

Marshall Mount is to have a public tennis court as a meeting held at the public school decided to initiate the project and on Tuesday evening a sub-committee laid out a site in Ald. J. Stevenson's field not far from the public school and by means of working bees the formation of the court will be carried out. It has been decided to, at an early date, conduct an entertainment towards the cost of materials for the court, this to take the form of a social evening and euchre party at which a programme of elocutionary and other items will be included. A sub-committee of ladies has this matter in hand and a definite date will be announced in the next day or two.

A cricket pitch in connection with the school is also projected.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Greig are leaving this locality.

At Marshall Mount Methodist

TOWN THEATRE

SATURDAY, 3rd

At 2.30

Nita Naldi in

"THE MASKE"

Charles Chaplin in

"The Adventu"

MAJORA Paint

square feet to

sold for 22/9 cash.

Send to Herb. Buck

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Stevenson James, Myala, Marshall Mount, Dapto	72677
Sullivan John Jr., Tottenham	72339
Warren William, Lennon's Lease, Ganmain	72629
King Roderick Kenneth, Tikumbi, Box 22, Byron Bay	72633
Hilton Daniel Les, Inglelands, Megalong	72760

DEATH OF COUNCILLOR JAMES STEVENSON, J.P.

The rapid and widespread dissemination late on Saturday of the news of the sudden demise of Councillor James Stevenson, of the Shire of Central Illawarra, who has been in the forefront of public life and more particularly in the Dapto district for about 30 years, caused a profound shock to the community at large, for it was entirely unexpected, and in his home circle it was even more so, for that morning, when he had departed in the best of spirits driving his car to Albion Park, with the intention of proceeding later to Kiama to transact some business in connection with a dry run, he held for his stock at Jamboonah. This programme he had carried out in full, and was on the return journey home.

The first intimation that anything untoward had happened was conveyed in an urgent phone message to his home to the effect that he had taken a very bad turn on the roadside of the Prince's Highway on the top of Stoney Flange, near the turn off that leads to Shellharbour on the one side and up to Dunster's on the other. Receipt of this coincided with the arrival by car on a visit to Marshall Mount of his only sister and a brother from Wollongong, and various members of the Stevenson families, including his wife, lost no time in reaching the scene in a car driven by his brother, Mr. H. A. Stevenson, of Marshall Mount, but death had already supervened when they arrived.

It appears deceased when he felt the attack coming on, retained the presence of mind to stop the car on the side of the road and after alighting reclined on the grass seeking to attract attention by beckoning with his hand to passing cars, but none heeded, until Mr. Ray Carmody, who knew him well, was driving past.

The deceased described the pain he was suffering and acquiesced to the suggestion by Mr. Carmody that his family be notified and a request made that some person be sent to drive the car home.

The phone at Mr. Albert Timbs' residence nearby offered this facility and Mrs. Timbs who had a little brandy in the house, suggested this might be of benefit to the sufferer. When Mr. Carmody arrived back at the roadside, Mr. Stevenson agreed to try the stimulant as it might afford him some measure of relief. Mrs. Timbs was then about half way down from the house hastening with the brandy, but before she could reach the roadside death had taken place. It is surmised he must have lain at the roadside for about an hour prior to Mr. Ray Carmody's passing. A medical man had been summoned from Kiama, and the

in ebullient of spirits at the more prosperous outlook. He exclaimed that he thought he would never see the pump again at the bore. This was truly prophetic, but in a different sense to that intended. It seems indeed hard that after surmounting difficulties and a brighter period was dawning for his industry he did not live to enjoy it.

Deceased, who was 51 years of age, was the oldest son of Mrs. Jane Elizabeth Stevenson, of Berry, and the late Mr. Hugh Stevenson, but at the period of his birth his parents were engaged in dairy farming at Barrangarry and the Kangaroo Valley district. He was wedded to Miss Susanah Harris, whose family was then residing on Stoney Mountain, and later came to be associated with Marshall Mount. The early years of his married life were spent in the Valley and he later carried on dairy farming at Barrangarry, and subsequently on Cleveland-road, Dapto. He purchased what is now his home farm at Marshall Mount, and moved there. He is survived by his wife and a family of four adults, Hugh, Margaret (Mrs. G. Smith), Lyle and Jean (Mrs. A. Bowley), all of Marshall Mount.

Sympathy is also extended towards the aged mother at Berry, who lately has not been enjoying the best of health and who keenly felt the sudden shock.

Brothers of the late Mr. Stevenson are Stanley (Wollongong), Wallace (Figtree), Hugh Alexander (Marshall Mount), Charles and Norman (Berry) and Robert (Clunes, R.R.), and his only sister, Mrs. Crispin, of Geard's Hill, Wollongong. Others who will feel the loss are Miss Emily Harris, sister-in-law, who has been for long years a member of the household, and Mr. John G. Harris, brother-in-law, who since relinquishing dairy farming has made his home with the Stevensons, who had acquired his farm.

The funeral on Monday was a remarkable public tribute in which leading and representative citizens from all quarters assembled and many fine tributes to his public services were heard from men like Mr. Howard Forester, M.L.A., Cr. I. Mayne (Shire President), S. Cook (president Dapto A. & H. Society), and others who expressed deep and sincere regret at his passing and the difficulty of finding any single personage willing to perform such a multiplicity of public duties. Prior to the departure of the funeral from the Presbyterian Church, Dapto, a short service was conducted by Rev. C. E. Turnbull (Wollongong) and in the course of his remarks Rev. Turnbull said they had gathered to pay a last tribute of respect to the late Mr. James Stevenson. About his public activities he would not speak, as his congregation was more conversant with these over the many years deceased had lived amongst them, but he wished to emphasise another phase of his service—he was a com-

ILLAWARRA AMBULANCE

MEETING OF NEW COMMITTEE

The newly elected committee of the Illawarra Ambulance met on Wednesday night. Present: Messrs. Musgrave, Ewan, Simpson, Hart, Dunne, Didden, Houghton, Hayes, May, Collings and Supt. Brown.

Supt. Brown presided for the election of president.

Mr. Musgrave said that he did not wish the committee to think that he had a monopoly of the position of chairman. He would not be hurt if another member of the committee was elected to the position.

Mr. Musgrave's name was the only one submitted for the position, and Supt. Brown declared him elected.

Mr. Musgrave, in returning thanks said he would continue to act as he had done in the past, endeavour to maintain the service at a high state of efficiency in aid of the sick and injured.

Mr. A. R. Ewan was re-elected treasurer.

The various committees were elected.

The following were elected as delegates on the deputation to the Minister for Health, regarding the question of altering the franchise of industrial subscribers: T. Dunne, Musgrave, Longhurst and May.

FUNERAL

JOHNSON. — The friends of Amelia Johnson, of 59 Smith-st., invited to attend her funeral at St. Michael's Church tomorrow, Saturday, commencing at 11 o'clock.

H. Parsons.

ROLL OF FUND

GRANT.—Sept. 2. Sergt. Theo Leo Grant, from abroad, died at Brisbane, Queensland, of malaria, and of Jeanette, of Pierson, brother of Grant, and Herbert Grant, son-in-law of Mr. Grant, of Bundano.

RETURN

Mrs. FLORENCE FARMLEY, of 318 Croft-st., and Staff of the Wollongong Hospital, also Wollongong, relative telegrams, cards and expressions of sympathy, recent and herewith sent this as our personal thanks.

MISCELLANEOUS

A MUSICAL EVENING. Male Voice Chorus visiting artists, at CONCERT OF THE St. Michael's Hall.

CHARCOAL FOR WOOD. Herrs Coy., Falls Creek, v.

FOR SALE—Secum sr. Apply Post Office, Port Kembla.

ALBERTO CA. Italian National Italy, and resident in Australia, now residing Wollongong, in the State of New South Wales, intend to apply for naturalisation under the NAT. 1932.

SEATING IS LIMITED. Tickets early for or at PALINGS, present at the BEE THE YEAR, SATU

Continued over...

been summoned from Kiama, and the police were notified, but it was subsequently learned deceased had consulted a Wollongong medical practitioner some three weeks previously, who was in a position to certify as to the cause of death.

The circumstances of his passing caused a wave of sympathy with the widow and family and to those who had come in contact with him on Saturday morning in Albion Park, and later at Kiama, news of his death seemed incredible.

The late Mr. **Stevenson** leaves behind him a record of public service that would be difficult to surpass. Twenty seven years ago he became an alderman of the Central Illawarra Municipality, and when later when it was converted into a Shire he continued to serve the people. The Dapto A. & H. Society had his active support over a long period of years. Also the Junior Farmers' movement. He was a delegate to the South Coast & Tablelands Agricultural Union. The Dapto School of Arts found in him a staunch supporter. He was president of that institution at the time it was decided the War Memorial should take the form of a new School of Arts. During the years Dapto Progress Assn. was active he was an active member.

At an earlier period he was prominently associated with the Dapto I.O.O.F., of which he was a P.G., and as a Mason was a member of Lodge King Edward of which he was a former W.M. and was a Justice of the Peace for many years.

In the dairying industry with which he was successfully associated, he was interested in organisation in the interests of the milk suppliers and formerly played an active part in meetings at Dapto, but when at a later period he dispatched his product through the Albion Park Factory, he transferred his attention to the organisation in that centre and when Colonel Fuller resigned his seat on the Board of Directors of the Illawarra Central Co-operative Dairy Co. to become a candidate for election as suppliers' representative on the present Milk Board, the Board of Directors in seeking for a representative dairyman singled out Mr. **Stevenson** to fill the vacancy for the balance of the year, and the board's action was confirmed when he was re-elected unopposed. As a member of that board he was lately keenly interested in the mechanised farming scheme which the company had adopted and desired to see it a company had adopted and desired to see it a complete success with the district farmers making full use of the modern equipment—not that he would have call to use it personally as he had lately acquired a tractor and plant for use on his farms.

On Wednesday of last week he participated in the meeting of directors and the District War Agricultural Committee when with the first unit of the plant on hand the scheme was to be put into active operation, and the

phase of his service—he was a communicant of the Presbyterian Church; and for about 20 years served on the committee of management of the Presbyterian Church of Albion Park and Dapto. In adding to his tribute, Rev. Turnbull said he was a good man gone to his reward—gone to be "Forever with the Lord"—as in the hymn sung at the opening. He commended to their sympathy the bereaved ones present, his wife, sons and daughters, and added a short prayer that these might receive the divine comfort to strengthen them in their time of need and they might be sustained by the certainty the day was coming when they would meet again.

The capacity of the church was altogether too small to contain more than a fragment of the assemblage awaiting for the funeral. The pallbearers as the coffin was borne from the church to the waiting hearse were representative of the family. These comprised four of his brothers, Hugh, Alexander, Robert, Stanley and Wallace, with William Parnell, nephew of Mrs. **Stevenson**, and Robert, nephew of deceased. The hearse was preceded out of the church yard by representatives of Dapto I.O.O.F., who marched in regalia to their waiting cars. As the cortege left Dapto it must have ranked as one of the largest ever witnessed in the district, but at each road junction its length was increased until about a mile from Albion Park its proportions were swelled by a waiting contingent of cars, while at the graveside at the Presbyterian cemetery, Albion Park, many local citizens awaited its arrival. The pallbearers who bore the coffin from the hearse were representative of the Central Illawarra Shire Council, Masons and I.O.O.F. These comprised Cr. Lindsay Maynes (Shire President), and Cr. Matthews, Messrs. Lindsay Evans and Robert Fairley (Masons) and Cr. Duley and Maurice Seldon (I.O.O.F.). Mr. Lindsay Evans is a former president of Dapto A. & H. Society, president of Dapto branch of P.P. Union and district representative on the Milk Sectional Committee of the P.P.U., so apart from representing the Masons was intimately associated with deceased in other directions. The same applied to Cr. Duley, who was a contemporary with him when on the S. of A. Committee, while Robert Fairley is a member of Dapto S. of A. Committee. In addition to the Presbyterian form of burial service a Masonic service was conducted by Very Wor. Bro. McCloy, of Lodge King Edward, while on behalf of the Dapto I.O.O.F., Bro. J. E. Duley read its service. Rev. Childs, Presbyterian minister at Kiama, whose charge covers Albion Park, was in attendance.

Included amongst those noted present, in addition to Mr. Howard Fowles, M.L.A., were all councillors of the Shire of Central Illawarra, with the exception of Cr. Lane, who was absent from the district, namely, L. Maynes, Matthews, Lewis, Graham,

Continued over...

be put into active operation, and the news of his death was startling to all who had been present on that occasion.

In his home location at **Marshall Mount**, he was an active member of the P. and C., when this was functioning, and was for a period its president, and for many years he has officiated as chairman of the Empire Day Celebrations held at the Public School. When the Albion Park Cricket Assn. was formed, he was one of those associated with the foundation of a club at **Marshall Mount**, to participate in the competition and at the commencement was on occasions a player. In this sport he had maintained the keenest of interest.

As a dairy farmer the action which caused most comment was his change over to the Friesian breed for his dairy herd and in the course of a few years he had bred up enough to to stock his properties almost in full. There is no doubt that with the drought years, and consequent shortage of fodder, he passed through a particularly strenuous time, due to water giving out almost completely on his farms, and was in desperate straits until the sinking of a bore relieved the situation. His good neighbourly qualities, so warmly recognised at **Marshall Mount**, were on that occasion borne out when from his bore he freely provided the essential water for another unfortunate farmer during the periods water supplies were exhausted. This was just an example of kindly acts. With the backing up falls of rain that have maintained the best flow of good water in the streams for years, Mr. **Stevenson** was in a jolly frame of mind last week, and

Maynes, Matthews, Lewis, Graham, Cook, McPhail, and Daley, T. W. Martin (Shire Clerk), Robert Shipp (Chief Warden of Central Illawarra) and A. G. Martin (Wollongong), a former Mayor and councillor of C.I. Cr. Cook, as its president, also represented Dapto A. & H. Society, as did also Mr. P. J. Field, vice-president; Mr. H. H. Beattie (secretary), with many members of the committee; E. G. Cochran (secretary of S.C. & T. Agricultural Union, and former secretary of Dapto A. & H. Society); Mr. P. Webb (a former president of the Society, and president Dapto C.M.S.A.), J. H. Lindsay (secretary, Lodge King Edward, also a former president and secretary of Dapto A. & H. Society), A. McPhail (general president of C.M.S.A. and prominent member of Dapto A. & H. Committee), Mr. W. Arthur (secretary Dapto I.O.O.F.) and a former secretary Dapto S. of A., an associate of deceased since he entered public life), Mr. E. Armstrong (secretary Dapto P.P.U., and president of Avondale J.F.C. Advisory Committee), A. Duncan (secretary, Avondale J.F.C. Advisory Committee), Roy Drury (secretary Dapto C.M.S.A.), Haid (Dapto R.S. & S.I. League), Messrs. H. G. Fraser (chairman of directors of Illawarra Central Dairy Co., and president of Albion Park-Shellharbour P.P.U.) and the directors), Messrs. Carmody, Johnston and McInerney, J. R. Graham (J.C.D. Co. manager of the company, as president, also represented Albion Park A.H. & I. Assn., H. R. Hobart (sec., Albion Park A.H. & I. Assn.), D. McInnes (sec., Wollongong District Hospital), J. N. King (J. N. King & Sons, president, Wollongong A.H. & I. Assn. and member of com-

transports 86, office 31; total, 169; mileage 1881. Volunteers worked 135 hours at Bull.

District Totals: Cases, 1206; mileage, 9756; hon. hours, 412.

The Indiana Department of Public Safety, which has experimented with synthetic tyres on police cars, reports that one-third of the tyres were unusable after 1200 miles.

Committee of Kiama Agricultural Committee), A. Lee (Wollongong A.H. & I. Assn.), Colonel Fuller and various aldermen of Shellharbour Council, Fred East (secy., Albion Park-Shellharbour P.P.U.), L. Snodgrass (Albion Park Cricket Assn.) and various members Albion Park District War Agricultural Committee.

Amongst a wealth of floral tributes wreaths from public bodies included Council of Shire of Central Illawarra, Staff of the Council, Dapto A. & H. Society, fellow members of Board of Directors of Illawarra Central Dairy Co., members and staff of Illawarra Central Dairy Co., Lodge King Edward, Wollongong Show Society and Illawarra Racing Club.

Numerous messages of sympathy have been received by the family in their great loss of the director of its affairs, a considerate and kind husband and father, as well as one whose public integrity was universally recognised and who leaves behind a wonderful tradition of voluntary public service well worthy of emulation, which leaves the public life all the poorer for his passing. To many it means the loss of a true friend.

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Mr. JAMES STEVENSON

The death occurred suddenly on Saturday afternoon of Mr. James Stevenson, a widely known and popular resident of Marshall Mt. and Dapto.

He was returning by car from Kiama when he took ill, so pulled up near the Shellharbour turn-off. For some time he endeavored to attract the attention of passers-by and finally Mr. Ray Carmody came along. The latter rang for assistance but Mr. Stevenson passed away before the arrival of the doctor.

Aged 61 years, he was a son of Mrs. Stevenson, of Berry and the late Mr. Hugh Stevenson. He had been associated with dairy farming all his life and his cheerful personality and bright disposition had won the respect and esteem of a wide circle of friends.

He settled first at Dapto, but nineteen years ago moved to Marshall Mount.

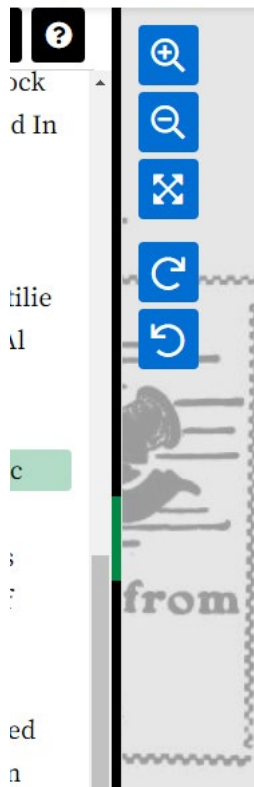
Always to the forefront in any movement having for its object the progress of this district, he had given valuable service to a number of public organisations.

He had been a councillor of the the Central Illawarra Shire for a number of years, having been president when the municipality was changed to a shire.

As a committeeman of the Dapto A.H. and I. Association he had been a tireless worker and he served the society well as president for seven years. He had also been on the committee of the Dapto School of Arts.

Latterly he had acted as a member of the Board of Directors of the Illawarra Central Dairy Coy. at Albion Park.

He was a Past Master of the Masonic Lodge King Edward, Dapto, and had also been a Past Grand of the Independent Order of



On a visit to this country he met and married Blanche, a daughter of Col. Johnston leaving India he settled at King's Gift which he renamed Horsley after the Weston family seat in England and amongst his sporting activities introduced the first pack of hounds to Australia.

FIRST SETTLERS

It was their eldest son, Major Edward Henry Weston, born at Horsley in 1833 who was given the Illawarra Gift to which he came in 1864.

Today there are too many descendants of the original owners to continue the estate under joint ownership—hence the sale

It was a serious drought in 1815 that directed large landholders in the county of Cumberland towards Illawarra as a source of relief

Dr. Throsby, then located at Glenfield, led a party which hacked its way from Appin and made a track down the mountain to investigate the accuracy of a story told him by natives that there was plenty of grass and water at Five Islands (now Port Kembla)

He found this was so and brought down his stock to that area.

Colonel Johnston located his stock on the Macquarie Rivulet on the opposite side of which in a great sweep to the south were those of Samuel Terry the ex-convict millionaire stock owner whose name is perpetuated in

Cordial Manufacturers
DUNGOG AND GLOUCESTER
 ALL FLAVOURS STOCKED
 Customers are requested to return all empty bottles
 — PHONE 193 —
 Printed by Charles Edward Bennett at his Registered Printing Works, Dowling Street, Dungog, N.S.W.

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Mount Terry and Terry St. Albion Park
 Early comers saw in the open spaces here some resemblance to the parklands of far away England or Albion, hence the name Albion Park
 The 400-acre balance of the estate will be submitted by public auction at Wollongong by J. N King & Sons on Saturday, March 8 and this will mean the passing of the last of the Illawarra estates.
 Interest runs high as to what a meadow property like that occupied by Mr Faulks will realise by auction on the open market in these days.
 — "Farmer & Settler."



Last Sections of Historic Property to be Sold

SERIOUS drought, which in the early days of the colony gripped the County of Cumberland, directed the attention of large landholders to the Illawarra district as an area that might afford relief to the stock which were perishing daily.

So, hard on the wake of the cedar getters, who first penetrated it, came the herds of the large land-owners.

From Five Islands, as it was then known, the herds spread out southwards to encompass the whole Illawarra.

That of Colonel Johnston was located on one bank of the Macquarie Rivulet, while on the southern side, covering a great sweep of country was that of Samuel Terry, the millionaire ex-convict stock owner whose name is perpetuated in Mt. Terry and Terry Street, Albion Park—earlycomers had discovered in the open spaces of the meadows some resemblance to the open spaces of their homeland England, or Albion—hence the name Albion Park.

A system of making grants of the various areas on which the stock ranged led to the building-up of the large landed estates that marked the early development of Illawarra. Small holdings were the exception.

Vast changes have come since then.

Five Islands, now Port Kembla, where first the lands of Mr. Charles Throsby grazed, has become a great and expanding industrial centre whose potential is greater than any previously visualised in the Commonwealth, while the 300 acre Bustle farm of his nephew, Mr. Charles Throsby Smith—Wollongong's first permanent settler—has long since been absorbed in the bustling city of Wollongong which is also growing at a rate hitherto unprecedented.

The old time estates have been dismembered and, with one exception, are only a memory—now this last is in the process of dissolution—the far-famed Weston Estate, Albion

The last remaining sections are to be sold of an historic property that has been in the possession of the one family for 135 years.

The final winding-up sale of the property, the well-known Weston Estate at Albion Park, will be conducted by J. N. King and Sons, on March 8.

One farm and a grazing area — 400 acres in all — are to be sold.

The Weston Estate originally comprised 1,500 acres, but several sections have been sold privately.

The history of the property goes back to the very first settlement in the district.

The last of the family of the late Major Edward H. Weston, under whose direction in another age the estate reached the heyday of its glory, died some years ago and today with so many descendants it was realised joint ownership is no longer practicable—hence the sale.

While awaiting the expiry of existing leases, a new subdivisional plan was instituted to better apportion the richer soil amongst the farms to be put on the market. However, tenants like Mr. Theo Grey, former president of the N.S.W. Jersey Herd Book Society and proprietor of the Meadows stud, which provides the townships of Albion Park and Oak Flats with an abundance of milk (no rationing whatever) and the Stephens family with a high producing Ayrshire stud herd, have exercised an option given to every tenant to buy the farm attached to their homes under the new plan.

Mr. C. R. Weston, grandson of the late Major Weston, who has also been following dairying pursuits on the estate, retains a small but fertile block.

This leaves but one of the richly productive meadow farms 120 acres and two runs of 180 acres and 100 acres respectively, to be offered

and embarked extensively on the breeding of high class blood stock — he even laid out his own private race track on the estate where periodically picnic race meetings were held.

These lent colour to the life of the homestead, to which the whole district flocked, for it was a red letter day. His colours were carried to victory in both flat and hurdle races on various tracks and one handsome horse whose name is still echoed amongst the older hands who recall the picnic race days that have gone, was Creamy Jack — a dual performer, who on December 26, 1831, at Handwick, put up the great performance of contesting three long distance events in the one afternoon.

After a comparatively easy win in the open-hurdle race of 2½ miles, in which he covered the distance in 5 min. 10 secs. — first class time for those days — Creamy Jack was later saddled up for the Amateur Handicap of 1¼ miles, in which there were 10 starters.

Ridden by his owner, Mr. E. H. Weston (10st 7lb) who was one of the finest amateur riders on the South Coast a striding finish in a race evenly contested all the way resulted in a hand beat between Creamy Jack and Hambour — ridden by Dr. Curtis of Bathurst, while

The Weston team was to the forefront in Albion Park's first show in a great exhibition of horses.

Major Weston was one of the founders of the N.S.W. Lancers and, as Captain Weston, attended numerous reviews and manoeuvres in the colony in command of the crack Albion Park troop, which he had formed and which in martial tournaments displayed outstanding skill.

During the Boer War he conducted the riding tests for recruits for enrolment in the Bushmen's contingent — over 2000 passing through his hands while his knowledge of horses was utilised in the selection of Army remounts.

During the early days of his Illawarra life his services were in demand for the purpose of setting fractured limbs at which task he possessed no small skill.

Dairying and agriculture filled an important role in the life of the estate and one family devoted special attention to this while a small army of retainers covered the duties appertaining to horse breeding and racing.

As was the case with other similar estates, some portions were early let to tenants on clearing leases and farms were developed in the wheat growing area through the various vicissitudes until dairying became the primary industry.

Since the retirement of Moorman where he died at the estate had been leased farms under a policy by which was guarded against default.

Of the numerous tenants names which can be recalled, ham, Couch, Swan, Norris, Boles, Walker, Fleming, Keys, Faulks, Simpson, G. Mack, Moor, Stephens, Morley, Frost, Lynch,



centre whose potential is greater than any previously visualised in the Commonwealth, while the 300-acre Bustle farms of his nephew, Mr. Charles Throsby Smith—Wollongong's first permanent settler—has long since been absorbed in the bustling city of Wollongong which is also growing at a rate hitherto unprecedented.

The old time estates have been dismembered and, with one exception, are only a memory—now this last is in the process of dissolution—the far-famed Weston Estate, Albion Park.

In the earlier times it was notable in addition for its agricultural production such as wheat, maize, potatoes, but in more recent days this last of the Illawarra estates has gained a high reputation for heavy milk yields, particularly on the meadow farms of its tenants.

Research Ninety Feet Inside a Glacier

There are no glaciers in Britain to-day although there were plenty of them about six to seven hundred million years ago, but those who come from Britain does not prevent scientists from wishing to investigate the nature and behaviour of modern glaciers.

A party of scientists, just returned from boring into the heart of a Norwegian glacier, to find out what went on inside, and one of them, Roy Wood, told what tunnelling some ninety feet into a glacier was like.

It was, as might readily be imagined, not only cold but distinctly uncomfortable work. Water streamed along the tunnel's floor and soaked their feet, and at one point the walls cracked and let through jets of water, which

damppness and intense discomfort.

They used a special machine designed for the purpose of recording the movement of ice and this proved that the ice in this Norwegian glacier at any rate was rotating, for as they tunnelled they constantly broke through bands of rock debris, the angle at which it lay changing very clearly that the ice rotated.

Now the scientists are back in England studying the data that they collected, but their most certain discovery, which required no proving, was the intensity of the persistent cold which ate into their bones, plus a frozen dampness and intense discomfort.

Despite all these drawbacks they all considered the hazardous and uncomfortable expedition to have been worth while.

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(no publishing necessary) and their family with a high producing Ayrshire stud herd, have exercised an option given to every tenant to buy the farm attached to their homes under the new plan.

Mr. C. B. Weston, grandson of the late Major Weston, who has also been following dairying pursuits on the estate, retains a small but fertile block.

This leaves but one of the richly productive meadow farms 120 acres and two runs of 180 acres and 100 acres respectively, to be offered by public auction or 400 acres all told.

That farm is the holding of Mr. J. F. Faulks—a lover of a good farm and a good herd whose Meadowbrook A.F.S. stud herd has gained a widespread reputation for productive capacity—a heifer of his recently realised 150 guineas.

Due to advancing years, Mr. Faulks did not exercise the option to buy and interest will be keen to see what a highly productive farm will bring on the open market and now particularly so, as under the new lay-out some fifty acres of inferior land has been detached and compensation more than made by the inclusion of better class and meadow land.

A stream now runs right through the holding in addition to frontage to the Macquarie Rivulet.

The excellent grazing land enjoys access from a public road.

This forthcoming sale will mark the complete passing into other hands of the grant of 1500 acres made in January 1817 by Governor Lachlan Macquarie to Lieut. Colonel George Johnston—the one time commandant of the N.S.W. Corps, who had figured so prominently in the Bligh rebellion when that governor was deposed.

Earlier he had been presented with 2000 acres near Prospect in the County of Cumberland as a reward for his services in quelling a serious insurrection of convicts at Vinegar Hill, beyond Parramatta.

Made by Governor King this was known

as Macquarie's Gift. In the course of his service when a young man this same Colonel Johnston had, as Ensign Johnston, at the Battle of Bunker's Hill in the War of American Independence, distinguished himself by saving the colors from the enemy and in the same battle his father was mortally wounded.

As Lieut. Johnston he came to Australia under Governor Phillip and in 1788 was made A.D.C. to the Governor.

Captain Weston progenitor of the Weston family, after retirement as a British Army officer in India, became a Judge. During a visit to this country he met and married Blanche—a daughter of Colonel Johnston and, after a period in India, returned to settle at King's Weston family seat in England.

Here he erected a new home, lived the life of a country gentleman, introduced the first pack of hounds into Australia that were kept at a place on the Western Road, later called the T— Kennels, and was a steward at Parramatta Race Club.

Mrs. Weston lived on under 19 governors to die at the great age of 88 years.

It was their eldest son Edward Henry Weston, born at Horsley in 1833, who was given the Macquarie Gift property, to which he came in 1864, and after the death of his wife retired to Mosman in 1900.

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musical race of 2½ miles, in which he covered the distance in 5 min. 10 sec. — first class time for those days — Creamy Jack was later saddled up for the Amateur Handicap of 1½ miles, in which there were 10 starters.

Ridden by his owner, Mr. E. H. Weston (lost 70s) who was one of the finest amateur riders on the South Coast a stirring finish in a race closely contested all the way resulted in a dead heat between Creamy Jack and Rain-bow—seen by Dr. Curtis of Bathurst, while Rauger and McKay) that had been in the running all the way was placed third.

In the run-off the same afternoon, Creamy Jack triumphed, and a sporting writer in later years queried "How many in these days of greater speed could contest three long distance events in the same afternoon covering in all 5 miles?" and added "Those were the days when a horse could run long distances and saddle up again and without faltering."

Creamy Jack was acquired by an enterprising circus proprietor named J. Wilson, and paid his way as a hurdler while being tutored for life in the circus ring.

He was raced by his proprietor at Flemington and also won races in South Australia before the circus went abroad.

In India he attracted the attention of Lord Charles Bessford—a "prince of sportsmen", who paid £1500 for the Australian wonder and his continued success was responsible for much good Indian money coming to Australia in the hope of getting another Creamy Jack.

Incidentally Mr. C. B. Weston of Albion Park displays with pride trophies won through Creamy Jack including the Amateur Cup, subject of the dead-heat run-off and so prized by gentlemen riders of that day.

Mr. Weston's horses ridden by his two sons and two daughters won conspicuous success in South Coast show rings while his team of hunters were famous.

According to a tradition in the Weston family the Colonel had, in Governor King's time, during a dire drought in about 1804, despatched yearlings by sea, which were brought ashore at Five Islands and this would precede the later, regular occupation of the district. These were despatched in what was later Albion Park district.

J. N. King and Sons at Wollongong on Saturday March 8, will submit by public auction this 400 acres balance

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Since the retirement of the Major to Mosman where he died at the age of 79 years the estate had been leased in smaller dairy farms under a policy by which careful supervision guarded against deterioration.

Of the numerous tenants over the years names which can be recalled include Markham, Couch, Swan, Norris, Brown Thomas, Boles, Walker, Fleming, Dennis, Purdie, Keys, Faulks, Simpson, Grey, Sharpe, Fenwick, Piper, Stephens, Moresby, Frost, Lynch, Dymock, Pearson and Robb.

About 26 years ago a section of the estate, mainly north of Marshall Mount road was disposed of and now the principal portion follows.

The Westons over the years played an important part in the life of the district, as did also members of its tenantry.

It is quite possible that Colonel Johnston may have been responsible for sending the first stock to Illawarra.

It was the drought in 1815 that caused the enterprising Dr. Thorsby, then located at Glenfield to lead a party which hacked its way through the bush from Appin and made a track down the mountain to investigate a story told him by natives that there was plenty of grass and water at Five Islands.

The story confirmed, he brought his stock down to that area and erected his stockyards at what is now Wollongong.

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Rockefeller Center unique 15-building development in New York City, covers an area of more than 12 acres in the heart of the city's business district.

In the foreground of this striking ariel view are four 7-story structures. The tallest building in the 70-story Corporation America Constructed Rockefeller began in 1924, and the most recent addition was completed in 1947.

