



THE JOURNAL OF
PATERSON HISTORICAL SOCIETY
INCORPORATED
MUSEUM NEWS



FORMER COMMERCIAL BANKING COMPANY PREMISES
KING STREET - PATERSON

THE AIM OF THE PATERSON COURT HOUSE MUSEUM
IS TO HOLD ITEMS IN TRUST
FOR THE PATERSON COMMUNITY
THE HUNTER VALLEY AND AUSTRALIA

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<u>B BROWN H BOYLE J SULLIVAN C ARCHER V ANDERSON</u>			

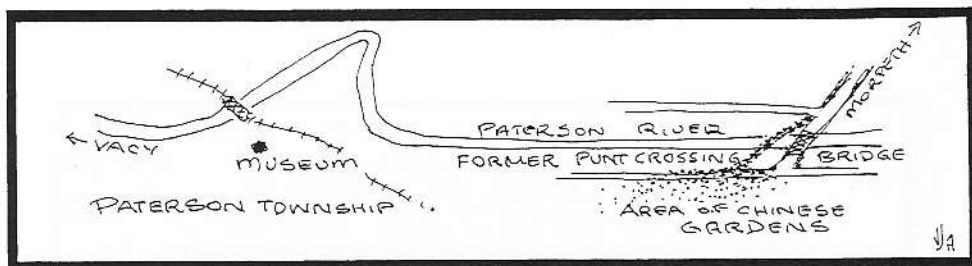
MEETINGS PHSI meets the first Thursday of each month - 7.30pm -
at the Paterson Court House Museum (Recess December/January)

MEMBERSHIP FEES Annual subscriptions due February each year
Family \$5 Single \$3 Student \$1

Chinese Industry at Paterson - CYNTHIA HUNTER

In the 1880s, two Chinese men set up a vegetable growing concern on land near the Paterson Punt and many people doubted that they would succeed at the task. However, regardless of local opinion, the men worked diligently at their enterprise and soon the two Chinese men were producing more vegetables than the townspeople needed. The principal man, named Ching, then bought a horse and cart and began taking the green groceries to families at Woodville, Hinton and Morpeth. Ching enlarged the vegetable garden and bought a second horse and cart and increased the workers to five.

The early summer of 1885 brought very dry conditions. Unfortunately the land cultivated by the men was at a little distance from water and the hard conditions forced the men to spend a lot of time carrying water from the river. To improve this laborious drudgery, Ching first set up a hand lift and force pump at the river but still the supply was inadequate so in late November 1885, he introduced a 'horse power' pump. Whether this was a steam engine pump, or a device involving the use of a horse, is not clear. However, when these events were considered interesting enough for the Paterson correspondent to the *Maitland Mercury* to tell the story of Paterson's 'Celestials', the writer had only praise for their 'industrious and persevering' habits, which he thought were 'an example in these respects to some Europeans'. (*Maitland Mercury* 21 November 1885, 'Paterson News'). Is anything further known about the Chinese vegetable gardens of Paterson?



COVER PHOTO: The refurbishment of the former Commercial Banking Company building in King Street, Paterson is nearing completion. Built in 1902 at a cost of £2285 (architect Mansfield & Son, Sydney) the transformation is being carried out with tremendous dedication by the new owners, Kevin and Moyra Hawtin, members of our society.

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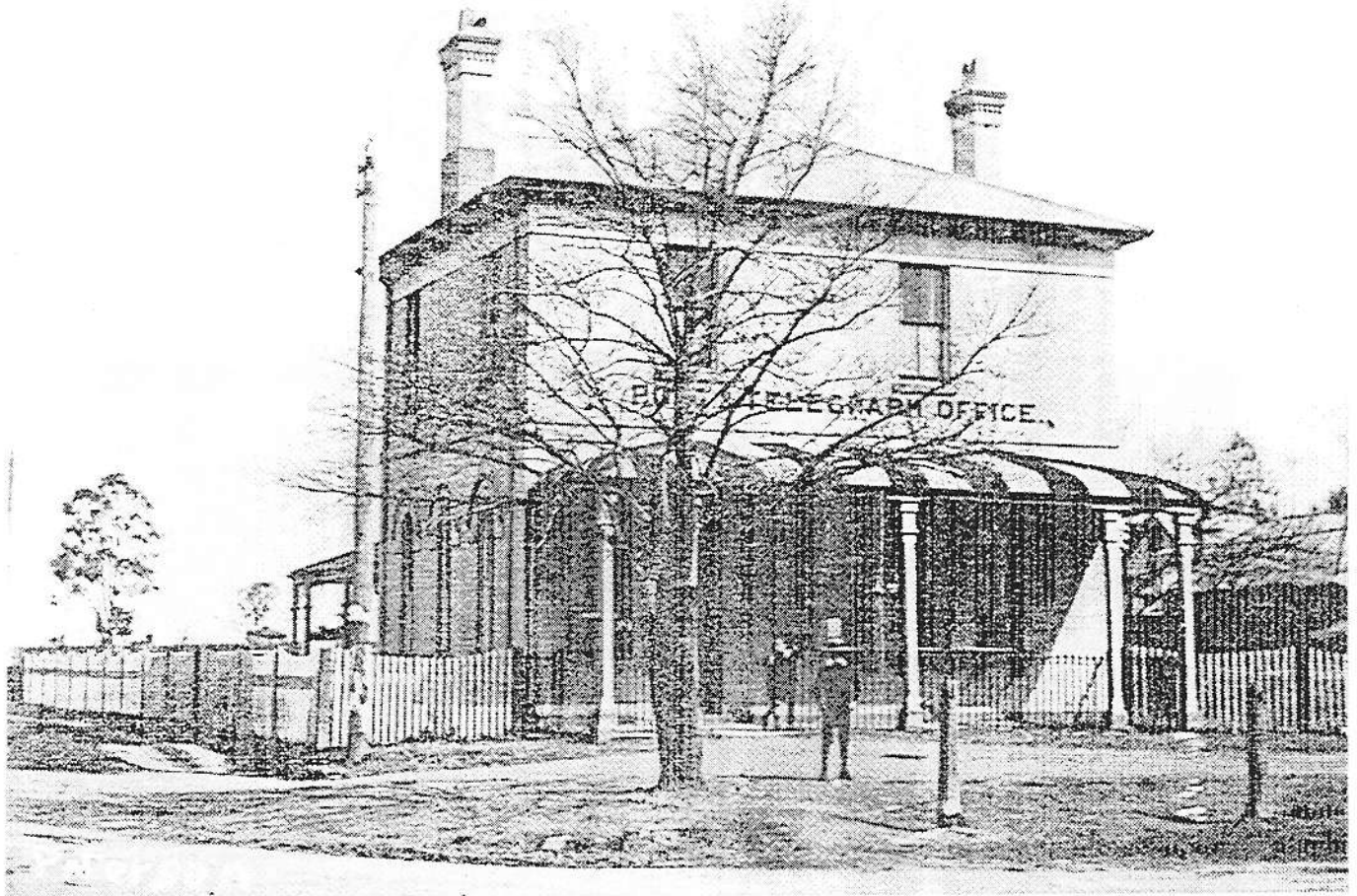


Photo: National Library of Australia - Pictorial Section

FROM SOCIETY ARCHIVES: SHIRLEY THRELFORD
PATERSON POST OFFICE

EXTRACT - PATERSON POST OFFICE HISTORY - Vann Cremer - 1988 - p23 24
POST OFFICE BUILDING

"On 13 August 1883 the Public Works Department advised that the tender of Alex McLaren had been accepted for the erection of a new office at a cost of £1,650, the building to be completed in ten months. Shortly after this the Governor's assent was also received for the necessary resumption of the land for the new office.

On 28th April 1884 the Postmaster at Paterson requested that some provision be made for painting the outside of the building, and for a range for the kitchen and grates etc for the fireplaces. On 18th October 1884 Inspector Davis recommended the necessity for a verandah in front of the building and this was approved by Postmaster-General Norton. On 9th December 1884 the architect submitted another tender from Alex McLaren for £44.12.6 which was to cover the following-

- 4 horse posts, rails etc, 7 blinds, lettering walls,
- 50 cubic yards of gravel, and 24 holland blinds etc

The new building was reported occupied on 4th May 1885 and the file does not state if any ceremony was conducted to mark this event.

On 13th October 1885 the Postmaster requested that the verandah might be fenced in, and the Inspector agreed. The architect advised that the cost of a paling fence would be about £12 but he thought an iron railing at a cost of £22 would be better. Although funds were not immediately available this was approved by Postmaster See on 17th November 1885.

There were no other major items concerning the building in the current Australia Post Historical file on Paterson, other than the fact that the building was sold to the non-official Postmaster in 1976."



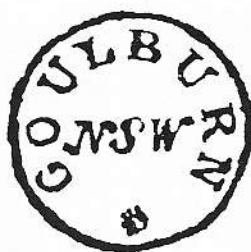
C13
7.8.1838
5.9.1838



C14
8.10.1832
6.5.1834



C15
24.5.1832
2.8.1835



C16
26.3.1832
6.10.1840



C17
14.11.1837
12.11.1838



C18
13.9.1832
26.5.1841



C19
17.8.1832
10.6.1840

UNDATED POST OFFICE HANDSTAMPS - HARRY BOYLE OAM
PATERSON OPENED 1.8.1832

1.8.1832 J J Allman - 1.3.1835 E Hardy - 1.9.1835 W T Phillips
(Postal History of NSW)

MUSEUMS ACCESSIONS:

Hotels of South Maitland Coalfields - Tonks - by purchase
Telephone Insulators - Bill Keppie - Paterson
OAK 60th Ann PAST TRIBUTE - 50th Ann Hunter Valley Co - Olga Marquet
County & Parish Maps of NSW - Jansen by purchase Paterson
Maiden Lady's Trip to Aust - Gres Hist Soc Inc - by purchase
Bucknell Family History - T & B Waddingham
1926.27 Magazines - Michelle Ellicott - Webbers Creek
Fluted Glass Fruit Bowls - Lyn Jackson - Charlsetown
Singleton Floods - Singleton Hist Soc Inc - by purchase
Maitland On The Hunter - Walsh/Archer - Tocal Foundation
History Iona School - Hunter - by purchase
Family Bible 1856 & Prayer Book 1896 - Munday Estate
Jones & Walker Family Research - Rudkin - Cooks Hill

TOTAL FAMILY HISTORY FAIR - 22 APRIL 2001
VISITORS CENTRE - Tocal Homestead

The inaugural gathering of family history groups and historical societies at the new Tocal Visitors Centre was a resounding success. Well before the scheduled opening time, eager interested parties arrived quickly filling this wonderful venue, buzzing with energy and very willing to buy our literature!

Our society gives special thanks to Kay Ingle who upgraded her former booklet on Summer Hill Church and Cemetery Listing at very short notice. The launching by President Cameron during the afternoon of this fine publication climaxed a memorable day for all.



PATERSON HISTORICAL SOCIETY LITERATURE STALL

Val Anderson Pauline Clements Dulcie Hartley Shirley Threlfo
Phillip Leak



BOOK LAUNCH - "SACRED HEART CHURCH and CEMETERY - SUMMER HILL,
PATERSON VALLEY" Kay Ingle

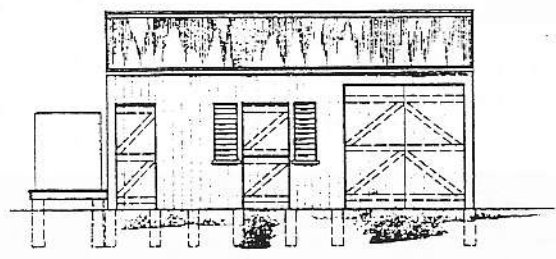
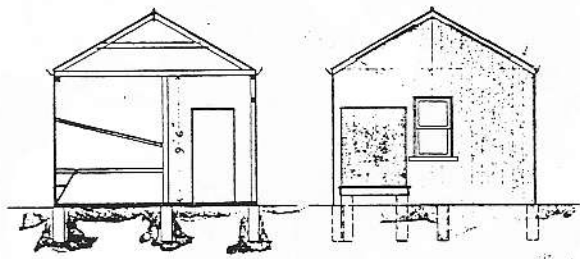
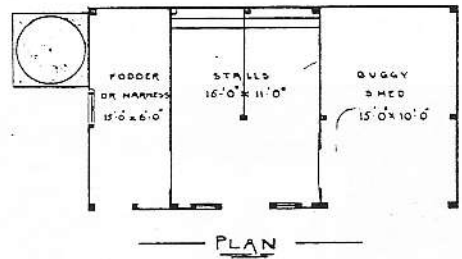
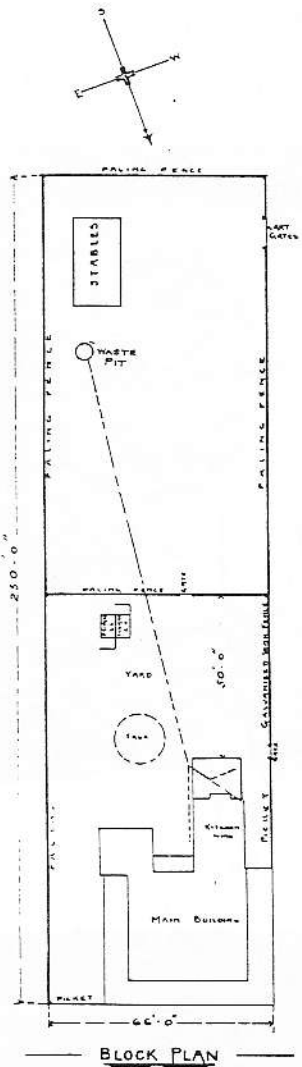
Brian Walsh Cameron Archer Kay Ingle Faith Banister Edward Kealy

COMMERCIAL BANK PREMISES at PATERSON - Plan of Stables and Block Plan

PLAN OF
COMMERCIAL BANK PREMISES
AT PATERSON

These are the plans referred to in a Memorandum of Agreement marked 'A' and made the 31st day of January 1912 between the Commercial Banking Company of Sydney Limited of the one part and George Parker Jones of the other part and the same are approved and accepted by both parties.

L. Mansfield & Son
PLANS OF STABLES &c *G. Jones*



PLAN - COURTESY KEVIN & MOYRA HAWTIN



PHOTO - BILL ANDERSON

PHOTO of Commercial Bank Stables c1998 - now demolished.