



THE JOURNAL OF
 PATERSON HISTORICAL SOCIETY
 INCORPORATED

MUSEUM NEWS



SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF WILLIAM JONES of GREEN CREEK, VACY
 Who Departed This Life on
 2nd August, 1868. Aged 69 years.

Photo: Pauline Clements

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

PATERSON HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC. EXECUTIVE 2001

AFFILIATED with Royal Australian Historical Society Inc. and
Museums Australia Inc.

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Mr. S. Lowe

Mr. G. Semken

Mr. A. Fairhall.

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

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

Guest Speakers

Ed Tonks once again showed why he is one of the Hunter's premier local historians when he gave his excellent presentation of slides on the history of Cessnock and Coalfields Hotels at the Society's August meeting. Ed has been a visitor to our Society on four occasions now and would like to come again in 2002 - Anytime Ed! At our October meeting Sue and Boris Sokolof spoke about their recent trip overseas visiting WWI Australian Battlefields in France and Belgium. Their slides, commentary and table presentation were outstanding but very sobering - once again we question the futility of war.

Congratulations

to President Cameron Archer for an environment award for his visionary work being carried out on Tocal Homestead Estate - to wife Jean, for second placing in the Roland Robinson Literary Award - to Val and Bill Anderson for the Rotary Club of Paterson Community Service Award for services to Paterson Court House Museum and local history and to society supporters (and keepers of the Tillimby Estate) John and Dorothy Priestley for services to organic farm culture.

Thanks

to Pam Sivyver for naming the museum cabinet dust covers and her new initiative of minutes recording - to Barb Brown for compiling a most comprehensive Keppie Family Tree and to Shirley Threlfo, our busy treasurer, who has offered her computer typing expertise to the "Museum News" committee.

Country Directory, 1870

Harry Boyle OAM

PATERSON.
This town is situated on the river of the same name 105 miles from Sydney. Population, 241.
Magistrates—Alexander Park, Edward G. Cory, Henry J. Lindeman, James McCormick, George J. Frankland, George B. Townshend, Hon. William M. Arnold, M.P., Gilbert Cory, R. Park, William Boydell.
Clerk of Petty Sessions—Robert Studdert.
The Court meets once a fortnight for ordinary cases, and once a month as a Court of Requests. District Court Sittings held March 12th, October 22nd.
Registrar—R. Studdert. *Bailiff*—Arthur Coleman.
Crown Lands Agent—R. Studdert.
Registrar of Births, &c.—Benjamin Newberry.
Gaol—Gaoler—John Murray.
Commissioner for Affidavits—Robert Studdert.
Clergy—Church of England—F. W. Addams. *Presbyterian*—Thomas Sturton.
Surgeon—Benjamin Newberry.
Members of the District Council—Warden—Edward C. Cory. *District Councillors*—Gilbert Cory, James McCormick, Charles Reynolds, William Barker Boydell, William Corner, H. H. Brown.
Principal Storekeepers—William Corner, William Cann, Henry Fry.
Principal Hotelkeepers—James Cann, Frederick Wilson, Elphannan Puxty, J. G. Smith, John Crotty.

**1825 - JONES
WILLIAM & ELIZABETH**

Val Rudkin - Family Researcher

William and Elizabeth do not have an honoured place in Australian historical records, nor do they have the privilege of being amongst the early convicts, yet they were involved in a business venture that is well documented and played an important role in the development of Australian agriculture.

In 1824 a consortium of the gentry of early Sydney established the Australian Agricultural Company (known as the A.A. Co.) comprising 1,000,000 acres in area. The A.A. Co appointed a Mr. Robert Dawson of Essex as its Chief Agent in England to act on their behalf. Robert Dawson's job was to purchase high quality merino sheep in France for transportation to Australia in order to set up an excellent breeding strain. In England he was to purchase supplies and equipment and to select skilled indentured servants willing to settle in the new country. When this was accomplished Robert Dawson set sail from England with his previous cargo safely loaded on two ships, The York and The Brothers on 24th June, 1825.

The ships arrived at Sydney with the cargo in good condition and Robert Dawson met with his superiors to make arrangements for the next stage of the journey to Port Stephens. Dawson planned to hire boats for the journey but he was not granted permission. This resulted in the stock, provisions, equipment and indentured servants having to make the extremely difficult 5 week journey overland (the road from Sydney being the Old North Road from Windsor to Wiseman's Ferry through to Wollombi and Maitland). The effect of this journey on the stock was severe, great losses occurred and when the foot weary band of servants & overseers finally reached their destination, the number of stock was greatly depleted.

Robert Dawson was then forced to replace his stock losses from other settlers who seized the opportunity to rid themselves of their inferior stock at inflated prices. The sheep were delivered shorn to further add to Dawson's woes, (Info from "Hunter's River")

In the midst of this trouble, were William and Elizabeth Jones. How many times did they wish they were safely back in England, not embarking on this horrific journey enduring the heat and insects. Yet, when they decided to partake of this adventure, it must have seemed very exciting - a new land, a new life. They came as indentured servants of the A.A. Co. for a set time, probably 5 to 7 years. William's occupation was a gardener, and responsible for establishing the gardens to grow vegetables for the new community. Elizabeth probably worked in the fields or was a dairy maid. After completing their time they were free to work where they chose and it is possible that they were entitled to some assistance in establishing themselves after their term of employment was complete.

Carrington on Port Stephens was a dry and rather infertile area and all agricultural pursuits failed. The only remnants of the A.A. Co's settlement there is the small stone church at Tahlee and the cemetery. New land was selected at Stroud and here the Company resettled and prospered. The country was good for sheep and cattle, fertile grasslands provided good fodder and the soil was rich and crops productive. At last it seems that William and Elizabeth would have settled into a better life with plenty of hard work and children to look after, their first child, Mary Ann was born at Tahlee in 1826. The A.A. Company settlement would have been a close community, dependant on one another and working together, seemingly cut off from the rest of the world because of the distance from Sydney.

William, Elizabeth and family left the A.A. Co. and settled in the Paterson district. Their youngest child Sophia was born in 1840 and the birth appears in the Paterson Register. William's last will and testament left property to his family at Vacy named "Kilburn" and "Green Creek". William was buried in the

cemetery behind St. Paul's Church of England at Paterson and the headstone still stands. Elizabeth was buried in the same Grave, but her name was never added to the stone.

William and Elizabeth left a legacy of hard work and endurance, they accepted an opportunity and founded a new lifestyle with rewards not possible in England.

Samuel Jones

(Carpenter)

William Jones

Born: 1799
Lewes, England
Died: 2nd August, 1868
Interred: St. Paul's Anglican
Churchyard, Paterson

Elizabeth Knight

Born: 1802
Maidstone, Kent, England
Died: 4th January, 1885
Interred: St. Paul's Anglican
Churchyard, Paterson

Married at London circa 1820

William and Elizabeth were employed as Indentured Servants of the Australian Agricultural Company and arrived at Sydney in 1825 on "The York". They then travelled overland to Tahlee, on Port Stephens.

Mary Ann

Born: 1826
Tahlee, NSW

*Thomas
Henry*

Born: 1829

Edward

Born: 1830
Died: 21/10/1898
Kilburn, Gresford
m. 1853 Allynbrook
Catherine Steer

Elizabeth

Born: 1832

*Frances
Susannah*

Born: 1834

*Sarah
Ann*

Born: 1838

Sophia

Born: 1840
Paterson
Died: 1923
m. 1860
*William Hugh
Walker*

Edward (1854)
William (1857)
Stephen S. (1860)
Mary C. (1862)
Louisa A. (1864)
William T. (1869)
(1 male decd.)

Alfred
Charles
George
John
Alice
Theresa
William
Austin
Clarence

- ❖ Our Society is participating in the travelling exhibition "A Sense of Place", now into its second viewing venue.
- ❖ Bill and Mabs Keppie are continuing their native orchid interest and have found an endangered species *Chiloglottis formicifera*, on "Glenlossie".
- ❖ A \$2,500.00 Fund allocation and computer donation from Dungog Shire Council was unexpected but well received. The Society has a good working relationship with the Council and welcome this support.
- ❖ The Society hosted the Museums Australia (Hunter Chapter) September meeting at the new Tocal Visitors Centre.

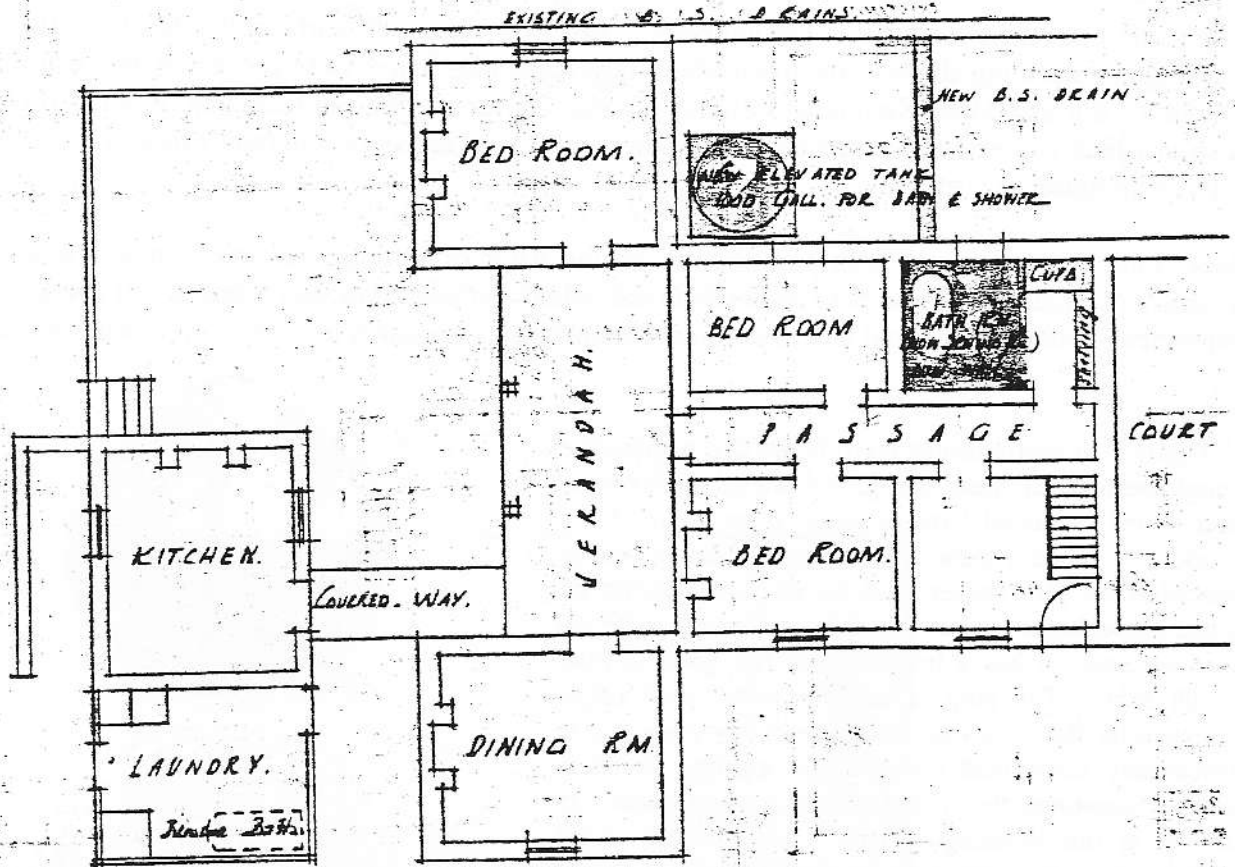
This is the original Will marked 'A' executed by and referred to in the affidavits of Robert Park and James McCormack sworn before me this thirtieth day of October 1868
Attest
A Commissioner for Affidavits

A 11/2 7834

This is the last Will and Testament of me William Jones of Green Creek, Vacy, near Petersen in the County of Durham, in the Colony of New South Wales. Farmer. After payment of all my just debts, Funeral and Testamentary expenses, I give, devise and bequeath all my Real and Personal Estate to my Wife, Elizabeth Jones for her sole use and benefit during her lifetime, but not to be disposed of to any other person. Upon the decease of my said Wife, I give, devise and bequeath the Lands and Tenements of my Farm named 'Kellbourne', consisting of 320 Acres (more or less) to my second Son Edward Jones, and his Wife Catharine, jointly for the Term of their Natural lives and upon the decease of him the said Edward Jones and her the said Catharine, his Wife, the above named Lands and Tenements of 'Kellbourne' are to descend to their eldest son male, to be enjoyed by him and his heirs, if any, in perpetuity. Upon the decease of my said Wife, I give, devise and bequeath the Lands and Tenements of my Farm, named Green Creek, consisting of Twenty two Acres, to my Son-in-law Alfred Sherman, and his Wife, Sarah Ann, my fourth daughter, jointly, for the Term of their Natural lives, and upon the decease of him the said Alfred

❖ The Annual Heritage Address for 2002 will be delivered by Pauline Clements - a long overdue compilation of nearby Vacy's history. The museum made available Vacy artifacts for display during the recent Vacy Federation School of Arts Hall Centenary Celebrations. Kevin Hawtin co-ordinated a successful Lions Club visit to the Museum and Bill Anderson hosted Harry Boyle's coach group of war widows.

29/F7249/1414.



H.C. Craun
 Superinsg. Architect.
 10-1-19

Court House Building Plan made available in 1990 from the Paterson Police Constable, Ian Muir showing the only record to date of the Kitchen and Laundry location for the Court House. Foundations for this area were uncovered in 1992 when ground work to relieve building under floor ventilation was carried out.

Tender to Demolish Gostwyck House
 Maitland Mercury 30th April, 1874

TENDERS are invited until 9 May for the LABOUR OF TAKING DOWN "GOSTWYCK HOUSE", Paterson Specification and particulars at the office N WHITE - Church Street

THE SECOND "GOSTWYCK HOUSE"
 Harry Boyle-Maitland Mercury 2nd November, 1876

Some time ago, I noticed that the Old Gostwyck House, on the Gostwyck estate, had been pulled down, with the intention of erecting a more commodious dwelling. Since that notice appeared, the new house has been erected, and is now just about being finished. It is a capacious and handsome building of two stories, and we learn the proprietor of Gostwyck, Mr. J.P. Luke will remove to his new residence before Christmas

Sydney Gazette 19th June, 1830. Jack Sullivan

Government Notice.
 COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
 SYDNEY, 18th JUNE, 1830.
HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR has been pleased to approve of the following Alterations in the Police of the Colony, namely—
Paterson's Plains, Hunter's River.—N.icholas Healy, holding a Ticket of Leave, to be Constable, from the 25th Ultimo, in the Room of George Berwick, resigned; and Johnson Brothers, free, to be Constable, from the 17th Ultimo, in the Room of John Boardman, dismissed for Disobedience of Orders.
 By His Excellency's Command,
ALEXANDER M'LEAY.

PATERSON ORANGE

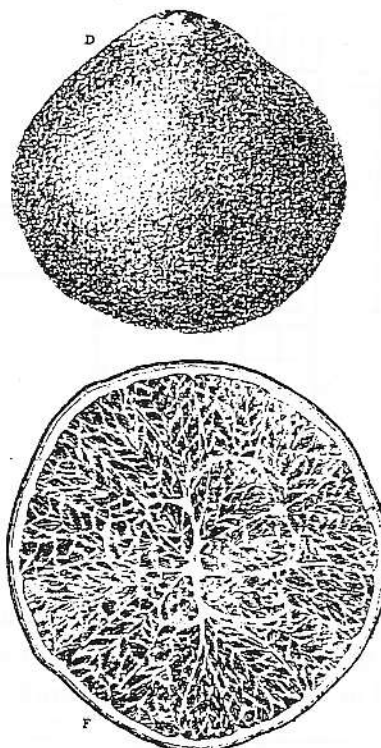
The fame of the Paterson Orange is synonymous with the history of Paterson.

For some time the museum has had on display excellent photos of early orchards of the district and the packing and handling sheds in the town where thousands of oranges were processed and sent on to various markets. Bill and Mabs Keppie and Shirley Threlfo are identifying the locations of citrus orchards in our district which will extend the present display showing a rural aspect of Paterson's history which is always of interest to museum visitors.

Jack Sullivan's recent research contribution on the Paterson Orange, an article in an 1890's *Town and Country Journal*, draws comparison between the Australian and American oranges and gives an interesting reference to John Tucker and an extraordinary navel orange grown in his Paterson orchard at that time.

“ Figure D in contradistinction to figure C is perhaps the finest specimen of Australian-grown orange in existence, and it will be found hard to excel in any part of the world. It is the Paterson River type of navel orange described by Mr. Tucker, and the engraving shows its exact shape, but the figure represented is rather under the medium size. It has a bright, clear, fine grained, thin, tough skin. The pulp is of a beautiful pink color, delicious in flavor, sweet, and exceedingly juicy. It is elaborately convoluted towards the opening, which is small. Sometimes the pulp is quartered into segments as shown in the Washington navel, and at other times convoluted or segregated as shown in figure F. The internal arrangement of the pulp seen in figure F, I believe, to represent the highest quality of fruit, and showing the least pith. It is a prolific bearer, some of the trees in the Paterson River country being 20 years old, and still in robust health and fructification, and the fruit is absolutely seedless. It is by far the finest and most delicious orange of which I have any knowledge. There are, however, not more than 50 trees of it in existence”

Town and Country Journal 20th May, 1893



Section of Australian Navel Orange,
Grown in New South Wales.

- ❖ A Display in Webbers Cottage c.1823 by the Society proved most popular at the recent Total "Peek into the Past" Open Days. (Mary and Pam's entry figures were 280 + visitors!)
- ❖ We concluded a busy Federation Year with our usual Christmas gathering in November. Sue and Boris Sokolof presented an excellent slide evening on Canada and Hawaii - our new catering committee excelled (Thanks Mary, Pam and Kathy - but please, please, peanuts for Jack next year!) and already thoughts, plans and ideas for 2002 are being tossed about!

TO MEMBERS, FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS

SEASONS' GREETINGS TO ALL