



THE JOURNAL OF  
 PATERSON HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
 INCORPORATED

# MUSEUM NEWS

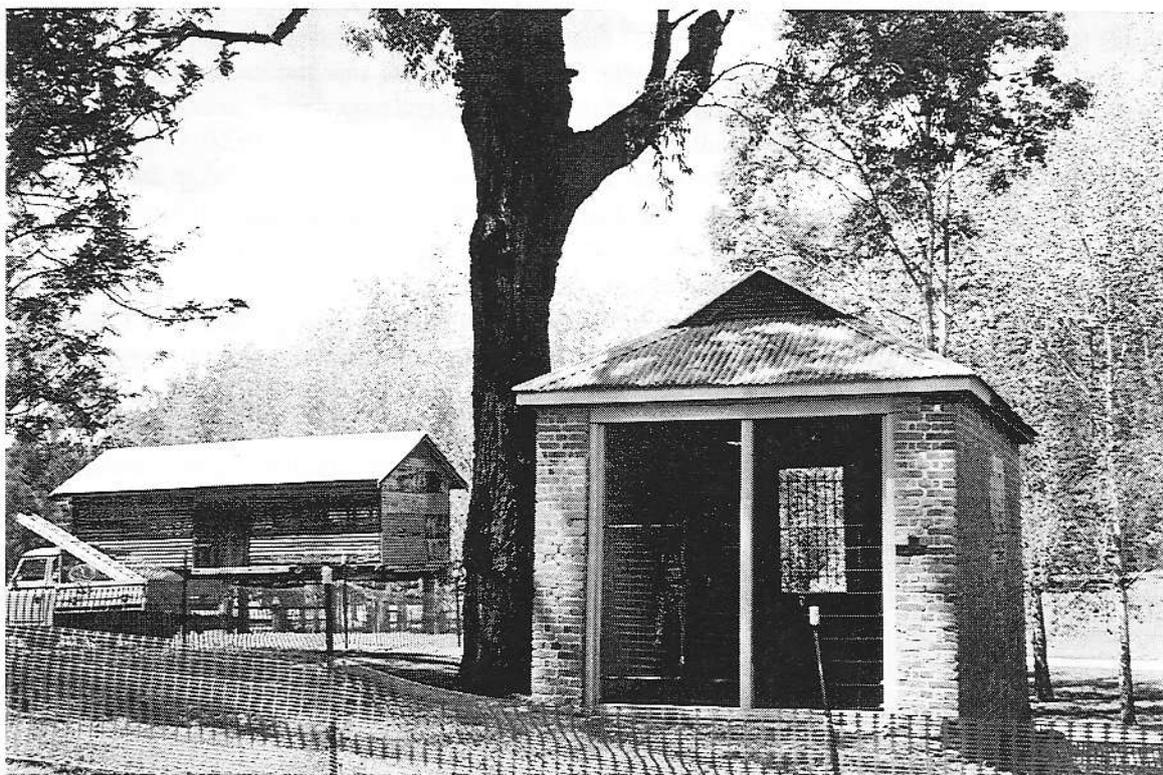


Photo: Bill Anderson

**HISTORIC HEARSE SHED AND CORN STADDLE  
 JOHN TUCKER PARK  
 PATERSON**

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 2002**

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

**PRESIDENT:** Cameron Archer

**SECRETARY:** Pauline Clements

**ASS. SECRETARY:** Pam Sivyver

**TREASURER:** Shirley Threlfo

**VICE PRESIDENT:** Maurice Dunlop

**JOURNAL:** Pauline Clements, Val Anderson & Shirley Threlfo

**MUSEUM CURATORS:** Val Anderson & Bill Keppie

**PROJECT COORDINATOR:** Bill Anderson

**RECORDER:** Mabs Keppie:

**PUBLIC OFFICER:** Cameron Archer

**RESEARCH COMMITTEE:** P. Clements, S. Threlfo, M. & B. Keppie

B. Brown, H. Boyle OAM, J. Sullivan, C. Archer, V. Anderson.

**PATRONS**

Mr. M. Morris OA

Mr. R. Baldwin MP

Mr. J. Price MP

Mr. S. Lowe AM

Mr. G. Semken

Mr. A. Fairhall.

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

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**MEMBERSHIP FEES:** Annual subscriptions due February each year.  
Family \$10. Single \$5. Student \$2.

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**FORMATION OF CWA PATERSON BRANCH**

*Maitland Mercury* 21st May 1946 - Jack Sullivan

**PATERSON:** The supper-room of the Paterson School of Arts was an ideal setting for the meeting which formed a branch of the Country Women's Association. The room was tastefully decorated with flowers of blue and gold, the official colours of CWA.

Great praise was given to the Gresford branch, whose members were present at the meeting en masse. Some members came from ten miles the other side of Gresford. This was a fine gesture on behalf of a neighbouring branch and shows the true spirit of the association.

A telegram was received from Mrs. Parker, of Newcastle branch, conveying best wishes and regret for non-attendance. A similar message came from Wallsend branch.

Mrs. R.A. Ebbeck welcomed the guests and read a long list of apologies from Paterson ladies. She then introduced Mrs. Davies, president of the Hunter River Group, who gave a brief outline of activities of the CWA, which are known far and wide, as New South Wales has 19,157 members.

Mrs. Davies stressed the need for more baby health centres, there being at present 132 in New South Wales conducted by CWA. She also suggested that young people be gathered together and given instruction in handicrafts and so make life in the country more attractive and prevent the drift to the cities.

At the conclusion of Mrs. Davies' address a branch was formally formed, and is classed in the Hunter River Group.

The election of office-bearers resulted: President, Mrs. R.A. Ebbeck (Vacy); hon. secretary, Mrs. Clifton (Paterson); hon. treasurer, Mrs. Foulcher (Paterson); vice-presidents, Mrs. S. Cox and Mrs. F. Sparke (country), Mrs. S. Priestley and Mrs. Ingram (town).

A vote of thanks to Mrs. Davies was moved by Mrs. Foulcher, and seconded by Mrs. Priestley.

At the conclusion of the meeting afternoon tea was served by Mrs. Ebbeck and Mrs. Cox.

It was decided that all members, intending members, and all women interested should meet again to-morrow (Wednesday), at 2 p.m. to arrange a regular meeting day and discuss future plans.

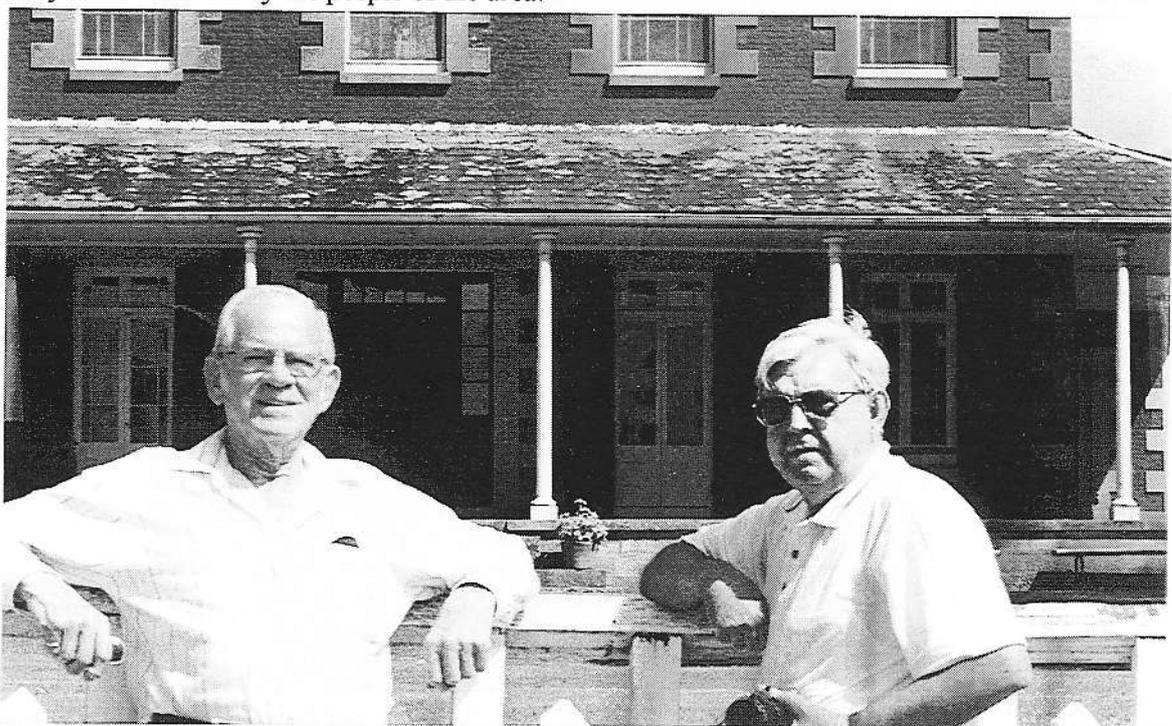
### VISIT OF CANADIANS TO PATERSON AND GRESFORD

Recently, on 17th November, 2002, Paterson and Gresford received a fleeting visit of three people from Canada. Lewis Hughes, from Alberta, along with his daughter Cathy Rogers and her husband David made a stopover in Newcastle before travelling to South Australia. Portion of the trip was to be a nostalgic visit to Gresford for Lewis whose late wife Sue was a direct descendant of George Townshend of Trevallyn through his second son Charles William who had remained in Wales after travelling there with his parents in 1862 and was destined never to return to Australia which meant that virtually nothing was known of him here.

In 1995, Lewis Hughes, intending to research his wife's antecedents, forwarded a letter to the Cessnock Historical Society, which was the closest centre he could find to Gresford. His letter was passed on to Val Anderson who, in turn, gave it to Jack Sullivan who found it most interesting. Jack, whose interest in the Paterson and Allyn River districts is well known, was happy to reply to Lewis as he had no knowledge of Charles William Townshend's life, and Lewis' family had a vague reference to Australia but no information on the Townshend family in the lower Hunter at Trevallyn and Orindinna. All this resulted in a lengthy correspondence between Jack and Lewis, resulting in Jack's 1996 heritage address on Townshend and the publishing of an enlarged version of the address by our Society in 1996. Lewis in turn completed an impressive family history which naturally covered more generations in Wales and in Canada.

Lewis and his family arrived in Newcastle on Saturday, 16th November, and were entertained at a typical pool-side BBQ at the home of Jack's son Mark, his wife Dianne in charge of the catering which naturally included Hunter wine. Arrangements had been made for the party to travel to the Paterson District the following day and with the assistance of Helen Masson and Sue Sokoloff (Catering Corps) and Boris Sokoloff (Driver) the Bolwarra lookout was the first point of call. With suitable warnings, that due to the drought the country was at its worst. Tocal was then visited to allow the visitors to gain some idea of how Trevallyn would have looked, both buildings said to have been similar in design. With the full co-operation of the owners, other relative sites such as Lewinsbrook, Clevedon, Orindinna and Cawarra were visited as well as St Ann's Church, Gresford and St Mary's Church, Allynbrook, with Chris Fibbens specially travelling from his home at Gresford to open the latter. The highlight of the day was the visit to Camyr Allyn Vineyard where Judith and John Evers proved to be most hospitable. As the day was extremely hot, all enjoyed sitting on the verandah at Camyr Allyn, looking over the vineyard while sampling the fruit of the vines. A number of bottles were purchased to make the long journey back to Canada. An Aussie picnic lunch was then enjoyed at Gresford Showground. The day was hectic and unfortunately time did not permit to inspect the Court House Museum as originally intended.

Lewis and party were extremely grateful for the opportunity of visiting sites related to George Townshend and his friend Charles Boydell, which up to that time they had only read about. They were also very grateful for the courtesy extended them by the people of the area.



LEWIS HUGHES and JACK SULLIVAN visiting Tocal Homestead - 17.11.2002  
Photo: Helen Masson

In 1996 our Society published "BURIALS IN ST PAUL'S CHURCH CEMETERY" - PART 1 - Listings from 1839 to 1900 compiled by Pauline Clements and ably assisted by Shirley Threlfo. PART 2 - Listings from 1901 to 1986 was published the following year. Pauline and Shirley spent many hours transferring more than seven hundred burials recorded in the Church Burial Register held in the Archives Department at the University of Newcastle. Further family research and headstone photographs by Pauline were added to the entries and we now have a comprehensive chronicle of those buried in St Paul's cemetery. Both books are popular sellers in our literature program. An occasional article, "KNOW OUR SETTLERS" by Pauline Clements, will feature pioneers of early Paterson and district.

#### KNOW OUR SETTLERS

**JOHN MARTIN**, Farmer, Gostwyck died 28 March 1848 - aged 56

**JEMIMA MARTIN**, Farmers wife - Paterson River died 16 January 1872 - aged 75

**JOHN MARTIN** arrived in the Colony in 1818 after being convicted of sheep stealing at the age of 24 years. Upon arrival he was assigned to work as a Government Overseer on the road gangs at Parramatta, and later with a clearing party at the Cabramatta Orphan Farm.

On 3rd November, 1823, John married a Free Woman by the name of Jemima Rayne, and shortly afterwards he was assigned to G.J. Frankland, at "Mowbray", Paterson. By the time of the 1828 Census they had transferred to employment with G.A. Middleton, "Glenrose", Moneybung, Paterson. By the time John received his conditions Pardon the family had taken employment with E.G. Cory at "Gostwyck."

**JEMIMA MARTIN** was the wife of John Martin, who died in 1848.

Jemima had come to the Colony as a Free Woman and married John at Bathurst on 3rd November, 1823. John, who at that time was still serving his Life Sentence for Sheep-Stealing in England, was assigned to Jemima after their marriage, and the young couple set about building their life together.

In 1840 Jemima bought part of the land which had belonged to Mary Cann (on the Martin's Creek road), and purchased further land in 1854, where they built their home. When Jemima died she left 160 acres to her sons.

There were eleven children born to John and Jemima, some of whom left the district to pursue their life's work, but several stayed in the area to watch the little area of Martin's creek, named by their parents, continue to prosper.

There is no inscription on John's grave to mark Jemima's death, but we can only hope that his wish (on the inscription) "But when you died, let in my grave, Your body lie" was fulfilled.



JOHN MARTIN'S HEADSTONE  
Photo: Pauline Clements

- **WELCOME** to Michell Ellicott of Webbers creek who has joined our Sunday Museum Duty Roster.
- **SPECIAL THANKS** to Mabs Keppie, our recorder who for many years has read, cut and filed newspaper reference to Paterson and district. These are made readily available to appreciative visitors who visit the Museum and are invaluable to members who do not have access to upper Hunter news.

**TOWN PLAN APPROVED  
BUILDING ALLOTMENTS FOR SALE**

Government Gazette 15 October 1833- Harry Boyle OAM  
COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,  
SYDNEY, 15th October, 1833.

**TOWNSHIP OF PATERSON.  
ALLOTMENTS FOR SALE**

HIS Excellency the GOVERNOR directs it to be notified, that the Plan for the Township of Paterson having been approved, copies of the same are deposited for the public inspection at the Office of the Surveyor General in Sydney, and with the clerk of the Bench.

Persons, therefore desirous of purchasing Building Allotments, are requested to apply at the Office of the Surveyor General, where every information will be afforded to enable them to make their applications in the prescribed form in order that, if approved, the Ground may be put to sale according to the Regulations.

*By His Excellency's Command,*  
**ALEXANDER M'LEAY**

**EARLY POLICE APPOINTMENTS**

NSW Government Gazette 23 June 1835 - Jack Sullivan  
PATERSON—William Devigne and John Lombard, holding Tickets of Leave, to be Constables, from the 1st Instant, in the room of John Bath and Thomas Phillips, dismissed.

NSW Government Gazette 11 May 1836 - Jack Sullivan  
PATERSON—Nathaniel Nixon, free, to be Watch-house Keeper, from the 1st February.

*Sydney Morning Herald* 29 March 1856 - Jack Sullivan  
**OUTCRY OVER BOY APPOINTED POLICE  
CONSTABLE**

PATERSON—A PUBLIC meeting was held on Monday night last, in this township, for the purpose of petitioning for the removal of "a mere boy," who has been appointed constable by our Bench of Magistrates! I cannot help thinking that the act empowering magistrates to appoint constables, distinctly states that they are to be "able men."

**REFERENCE TO THE OLD SLAB COURT HOUSE**

Next Friday will be the day of nomination for Durham, at our "beautiful Court House," which, I am sorry to say, is not in any respect like the "singed cat,"—"better than it looks," —for there is too much that is rotten connected with it: and the sooner we have a new house of it, and a few articles of new furniture in it too, the public will be accommodated.

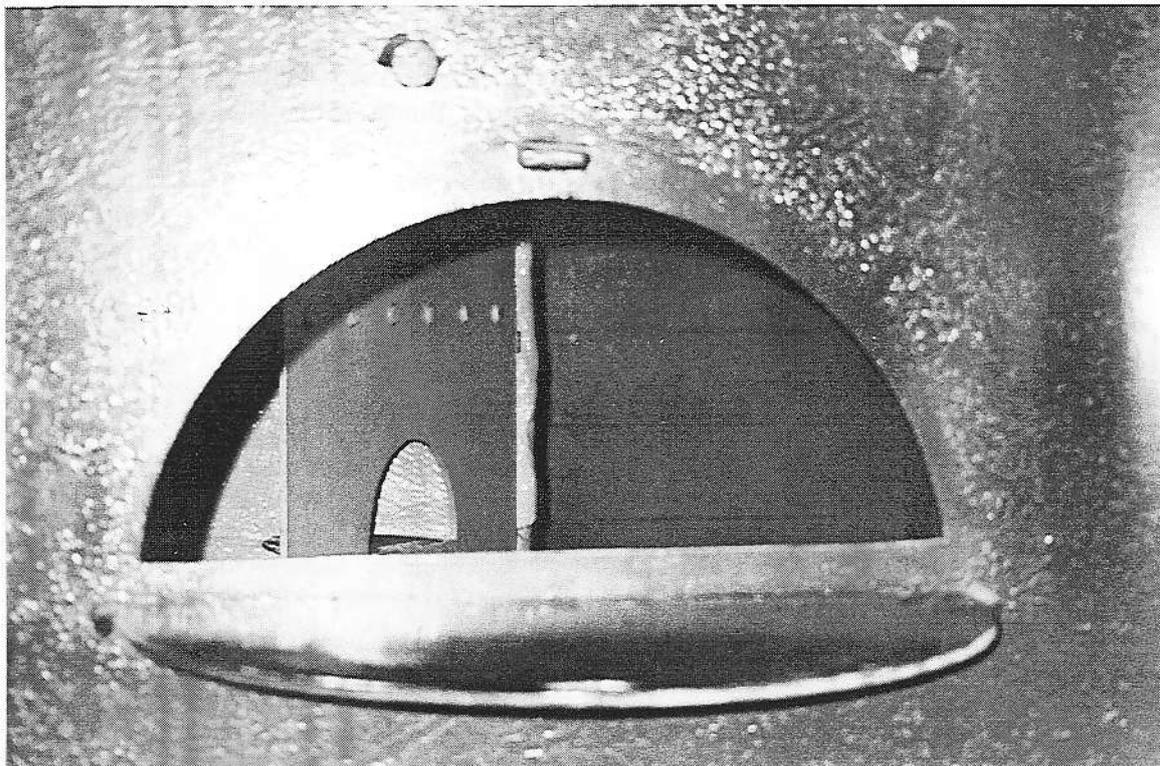


Photo: Bill Anderson 1995

PATERSON POLICE STATION CELL DOOR FOOD HATCHES  
looking through the 1983 hatch to the original 1882 Cell Door.



**COURT HOUSE USED FOR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SERVICES.**

Cameron Archer

In October 1876, a large patch of plaster ceiling, including a length of the large cornice fell in St Ann's Church. The condition of the Church was of great concern and application was made to use the Court House opposite. This was granted and continued to be used as a place of worship until August 1878 when sufficient restoration was completed enabling the Church to be used once more.

**31st ANNUAL HUNTER AND COASTAL REGION HISTORICAL CONVENTION**

**1 MARCH 2003**

Hosts - Stockton Historical Society Inc. This industrious society, not having a museum, have concentrated on researching and recording their district (known to the indigenous people as Burringigon, a land of plenty). PHS members were well rewarded by their attendance.



Photo: Bill Anderson

**SHIPWRECK WALK** - Margaret Dent (Gresford), Jean Purchell (Stockton), Brian Andrews (Coalfields Group)  
Mari Metzki (RAHS), Val Anderson (Paterson)

**PATERSON HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.**

**S.O.S. COMMITTEE**

(Save our Shed)

A sense of responsibility to the condition of the HEARSE SHED in John Tucker Park has been awakened. Our Society, townspeople and Council have realised what the loss of this historic building would mean to us all. President, Cameron Archer has drawn together these parties with much enthusiasm and our society applauds this. Given time and collaboration from all, it is hoped the future of this Heritage Listed building will be assured.

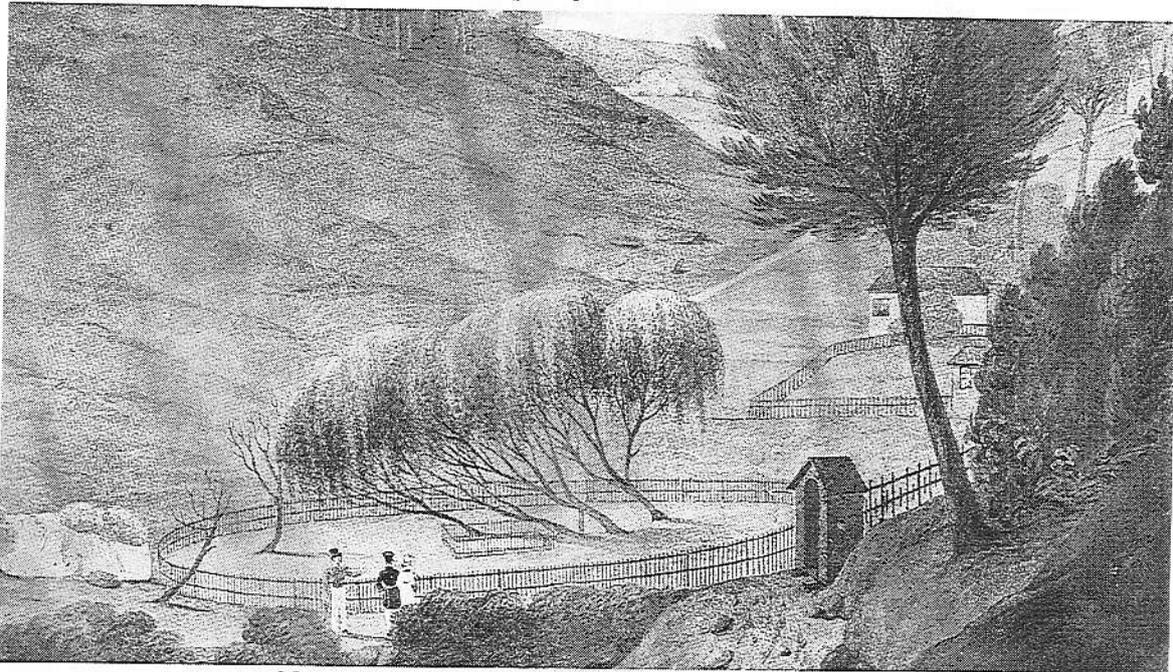


Photo: Bill Anderson

Jennifer Dunn – Maurice & Mary Dunlop – Bill & Mabs Keppie – Allan Fairhall –  
Pauline Clements (Sec) – Allan Dunlop – Cameron Archer (Chair) – Lindsay Kidd  
(Co-ord. With Bill Anderson) – Val Anderson – Absent – Shirley Threlfo (WT) –  
Pam Sivyier (NZ) – Kathy Lyall (Syd)

### PATERSON RIVER WILLOWS

It is widely accepted that Lt Frederick Bedwell who was with Napoleon Bonaparte during his exile on the Island of St Helena, returned to Australia with willow tree cuttings from the grave of Napoleon and planted them on the river bank in front of his home "Valentia" a short distance from the village of Paterson. In due course foliage broke from these trees and subsequently embedded and thrived on the surrounding river banks giving Paterson and the river its renowned tranquillity.



NAPOLEON'S TOMB on the Island of St Helena c1829

Augustus Earle (1793-1838)

Courtesy Pictorial Collection - National Library of Australia  
(Earle visited Paterson in 1826 as guest of James Phillips of Bona Vista)

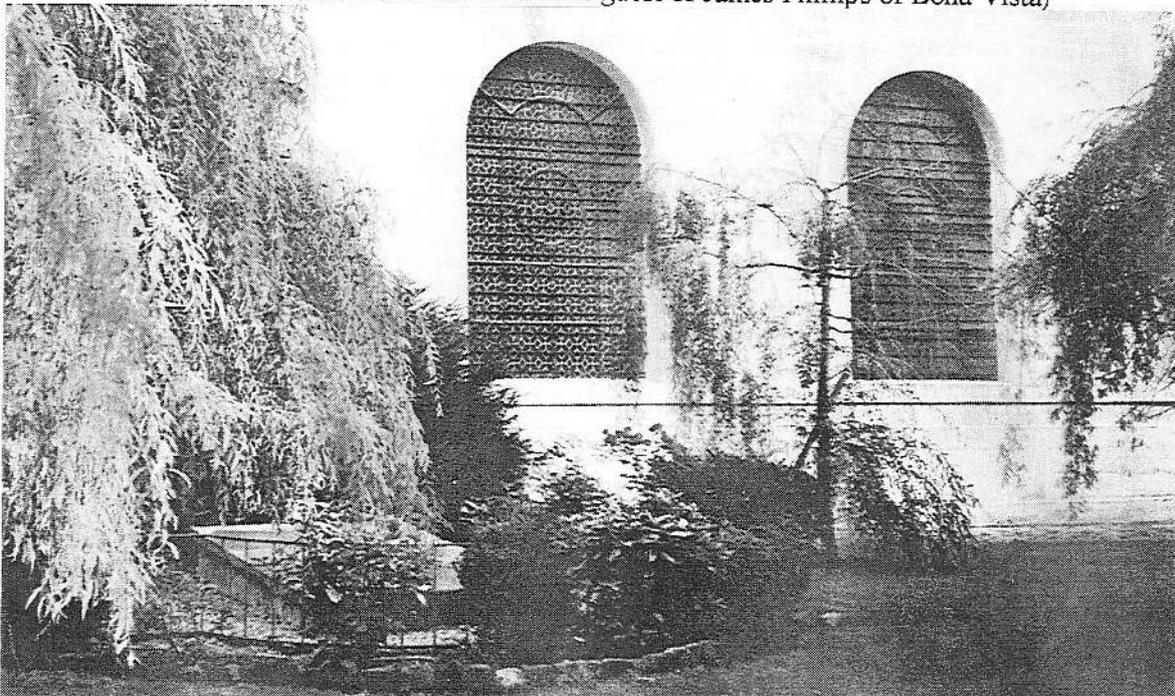


Photo: Cameron Archer

NAPOLEON'S TOMB AND WILLOWS AT LES INVALIDES, PARIS

(The tomb was returned to Paris in 1840 from St Helena)



How privileged we are at Paterson to be in "Mackellar Country", so dear to the author in her youth. We have been coping with one of our worst droughts on record, watched our pasture die, our cattle suffer, dams and tanks run dry with morale at an all time low. At last the rain has come - beautiful, fresh constant rain - such bliss and contentment. Yes, Dorothea, we too love our Sunburnt Country!

### **GOSTWYCK BRIDGE PUMPING STATION - Bill Keppie**

A pumping station was built on the eastern bank of the Paterson river on the northern side of Gostwyck Bridge to pump water to an elevated tank at Martins Creek Railway Station for the steam train engines to take on water for their boilers, also to supply water to the blue metal quarry and some of the houses in the area.

One of the pump attendants in the 1930s was Andy Lowe who lived in William Street, Paterson and rode a push bike to work.

### **THE WATER PUMP HOUSE AT GOSTWYCK BRIDGE - Graeme Martin**

Martins Creek was the only station between Telarah and Dungog where watering facilities were available. They were mainly used by the ballast train locomotive which often spent several hours at the quarry awaiting a path between other trains on the main line.

The station tank had a capacity of 20,000 gallons and was fed from a nearby creek. Two tanks had been constructed - one was provided when the line opened and in 1949 approval was given to construct an additional water tank. The first tank was then demolished. The second tank was fed from the river by way of a pump.

The pump house had a wooden frame clad with corrugated iron and a gable roof, two wooden doors, three windows and a work bench with a vice. The building also had a heavy wooden floor which covered a well with a trap door. The well measured approximately six feet across by thirty to forty feet deep with a steel ladder attached to the wall. At the bottom was the pump which consisted of three piston chambers. The driving mechanism sat on top of the well, it consisted of an electric motor which had a V pulley on its shaft which in turn drove another V pulley on the pump connected to a crank-shaft which was cast in such a way that when it revolved the three pistons went up and down in sequence. Attached to the crankshaft were 3 x 1½ steam pipe rods, they were attached to the pistons. The pump was driven by steam originally and later converted to electricity. The gear shafts had oil cups above the bearings which were filled with oil prior to starting.

When water was required the pump was started about 10 a.m. and was on a timer to stop pumping by 10 p.m. The operator had to climb down the ladder with a spanner to nip up the nuts holding the gland packing around the shafts to stop excessive water leaks - also check the rods that they weren't broken and then walk down to the river to check that the foot valve was clear and free of sand. The pump couldn't operate in flood time because of the sand chopping out the leather cups on the pistons.

Prior to starting the pump, on the main line from the pump was a valve which was turned on to prime the pump when the water ran out of another pipe which had a hose attached, the pump was started. When a steady stream of water ran out of the hose and the pressure on the gauge built up the valve was turned off, the pump would then be operating satisfactory. If the pressure on the gauge would not build up it indicated that the leather cups needed replacing. The fitters at Broadmeadow Loco would be notified about the problem, they would come up and replace them. In earlier times the driver was deeper and it wasn't a problem for the foot valve to pick up sand, as time went by the river silted up making it hard to maintain a suitable hole for the foot valve. The foot valve was chained to an oak tree to keep it off the river bottom - sometimes when the river was in flood the foot valve would be washed away.

The starting switch for the electric motor was in two stages (soft start) because of the weight of water it had to push. The water pipe from the pump to the water tanks was made of cast iron approximately 4" in diameter. It followed the left hand side of the road approximately ½ kilometer to the bend of the road then went across through the paddocks to the station tank.

Martins Creek railway quarry also had a 17,000 gallon water tank which was connected to the station tank. When the station tank filled up the float valve shut the supply off sending it on up to the quarry tank - also at the station tank there was a valve which could be turned manually to fill either tank. A number of houses in Martins Creek were also connected to the river water supply. The river pump ended its life after water from Chichester Dam became available.