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No. 41

Newsletter



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Editor's Note

I am delighted to continue the excellent work of Esther Davies in editing the FAHS Newsletter and disseminating the work of Australia's historical society movement.

For issue 41, a new format has been introduced reflecting the diversity of approaches to historical and heritage matters and the importance of the work of regional societies and community museums. FAHS is also proud to expand its digital presence <https://www.facebook.com/FederationAHS/> and provide a forum for emerging national news and events.

Dr Bernadette Flynn, FAHS
Online Outreach Officer

From the President

Welcome to the revived and expanded FAHS Newsletter, edited by our Online Outreach Officer, Dr Bernadette Flynn. There are many issues occupying the FAHS at present including the distribution of a survey that is intended to give us a clearer and more detailed picture of the 1,000 history and heritage societies across Australia. Please make sure that your society fills it out.

Inevitably one matter dominating our attention is the cutbacks at the National Library of Australia that are restricting many services. Arguably most worrying is the impact on TROVE which has revolutionised historical research. TROVE will no longer harvest new collections, and ongoing maintenance is uncertain. The FAHS has written to the Minister

for the Arts, Hon Senator Mitch Fifield, but received a stock answer blaming the Library. We recommend that all societies and their members write to him, speak to their local federal member and sign the online petitions. See the FAHS e-Bulletin, no 149, on our website, for further information and links.

FAHS has written to the Liberals, Labor and Greens asking for their policies for the election, both generally on Heritage and specifically on TROVE. Their responses will be published in a special edition of the e-Bulletin.

We may be heritage but we are not history yet!!

Associate Professor Don Garden
President FAHS, President RSHV



NURSES AT LEMNOS, 1915:
3rd Australian General
Hospital (3AGH) during the
Gallipoli campaign.
Photo: Patricia Blundell

Canberra Women in World War 1

<http://www.womenaustralia.info/exhib/cww1>

Members of CDHS, along with the Australian Women's Archive Project (AWAP) and many friends and supporters, attended the launch, by Gai Brodtmann MHR of the Anzac Grant Project managed by the Society: *Canberra Women in World War 1: Community at Home, Nurses Abroad*. Held at the Canberra Museum and Gallery the launch was a highly successful event, chaired by Anne Buttsworth from AWAP.

CDHS Councillor Dr Patricia Clarke prepared the material on social and political aspects of Canberra during World War 1 and the nurses. Society members will remember her report at the our June 2015 meeting and articles in the September 2015 and March 2016 issues of the Canberra Historical Journal. The nurses included three members of the Gallagher family who were born in what became the Federal Capital Territory, six who came to Canberra to nurse either at the military hospital at Duntroon or at Canberra Hospital and three who had family associations. Among them were Patricia Blundell who came from Melbourne to nurse at Duntroon and Gladys Boon and Amy Bembrick who were descendants of the pioneer Southwell family.

Dr Nikki Francis looked at the women involved in

war-related activities. They fell into four categories: those who organised support for the troops; those involved in the conscription referenda campaigns, both for and against; women from enemy alien families who were interned at the Molonglo Camp; Aboriginal women whose sons enlisted despite the bar against indigenous enlistment. Some of the women from 'enemy' families were Australian born, married to men whose families had long been naturalised as British citizens. Gai Brodtmann noted the injustice in the treatment of these families, some of whom had migrated to Australia during the mid 19th century gold rushes.

Ann Tundern-Smith, from both CDHS and AWAP prepared a powerpoint display of images from the web material which played behind the speakers, providing welcome illustrations of the research.

This project was funded by the Anzac Centenary Local Grants Program through the ACT Federal Electorates of Canberra and Fraser, awarded to the Australian Women's Archives Project and Canberra & District Historical Society.

Julia Ryan,
President, CDHS.

Darwin Waterfront's newest park, Goyder Park, commemorates the camp site which South Australian Surveyor-General George Woodroffe Goyder established when he arrived on 5 February 1869. The camp became the first permanent European settlement in northern Australia. This was the fifth, and first successful settlement attempt in North Australia which was later renamed Darwin.

The park is a replica of Goyder's original camp where he and around 128 men camped while they undertook the initial layout, planning and development of Darwin (originally called Palmerston). Many of Darwin city's streets today are named after the surveyors in the Goyder's Camp settlement.

Craig Sandy, Surveyor-General of the Northern Territory, said that thanks to Goyder's surveyors, very accurate plans showed exactly where all the structures that made up Goyder's Camp in the early 1870s were located. This led to the idea that the design of the park could reflect the original features of the camp.

The raised areas and the arrangement of seating areas represent the outline of the buildings that made up Goyder's Camp. Signs have been installed that reflect upon daily life in the camp, the work of Goyder's team and the Larrakia perspective. In a talk to the HSNT the most interesting aspects identified were the 'how and why' of the park design, and the politics of its planning and completion.

'The opening of the Goyder Park is timed to celebrate the exact day 147 years ago that South Australian Surveyor-General George Goyder, Darwin's



OPENING OF GOYDER PARK:
Mr Vern O'Brien recognised
for 60 years contribution to
NT as a licenced surveyor

The Administrator of the Northern Territory, John Hardy opens Goyder Park in memory of the surveyor who founded Darwin(1826-1898)

founder, stepped ashore,' Michael Wells, Director Heritage Branch said.

Mr Wells said that by the time Goyder's ship, Moonta, arrived at Darwin Harbour in 1869, the men had learned that Goyder was a strict disciplinarian (there was no swearing when Goyder was nearby). They had also learned that he was genuinely concerned for their welfare.

Their leader lived up to his nickname of 'Little Energy'. He organised the sinking of a well, and supervised the men as they started to land the livestock by swimming them ashore. Goyder gave strict instructions

on the way this was to be done, but he reported in his diary for 6 February, 1869 that 'Young Bobby', one of his best horses, had drowned. He also recorded that 'my English terrier dog, carelessly left on shore....was found dead on the beach'.

'This park now represents not just a pleasant place to stop and rest, but a unique opportunity to reflect on our unique and complex history. It also recognises one of the most important historical sites in the Northern Territory' Mr Wells said.

Earl James, President HSNT and extracts from Waterfront News, NT Government

Three of the SA museums managed by the History Trust



South Australia Maritime Museum



The Migration Museum



The National Motor Museum

History SA - A Model for working with History

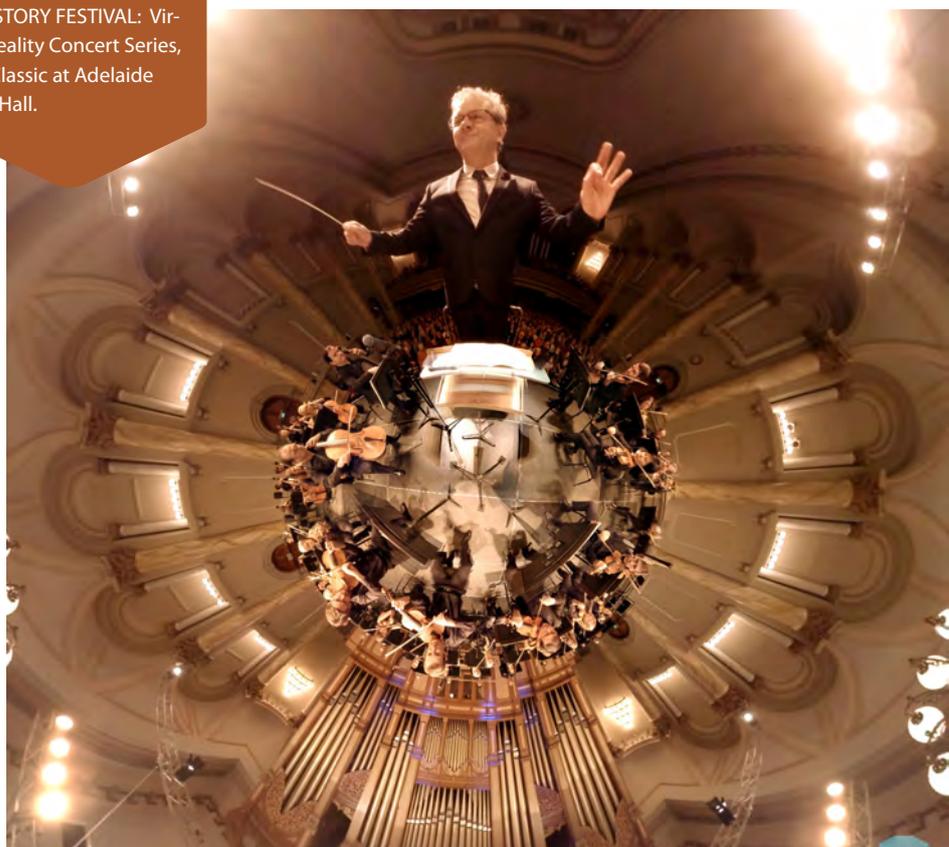
History SA is an unusual organisation in Australia: one that both manages museums of its own and assists the state's many community museums and historical societies to manage their collections.

It was established as the History Trust of South Australia following a state government review of museums on Adelaide's North Terrace cultural precinct (Edwards report 1981) specifically to operate social history museums and to fill the gap in the state's collecting areas. Other key functions include encouraging research into and dissemination of South Australian history and the collection and conservation of historically significant items (the State History Collection).

Within a few years of establishment as a statutory authority the History Trust

opened the South Australian Maritime Museum in Port Adelaide and the Migration and Settlement Museum (Migration Museum) just off the North Terrace cultural precinct. These openings in 1986 coincided with the 150th anniversary of colonial settlement in South Australia. The History Trust also took over management of the Constitutional Museum and Birdwood Mill Museum (National Motor Museum). The Constitutional Museum (often known as Old Parliament House Museum) has since closed but History SA remains the operator of three major and very diverse museums: the South Australian Maritime Museum, the Migration Museum and the National Motor Museum. A general social history museum focused on the history of Adelaide was foreshadowed in the Edwards Report and has not yet eventuated. It remains an aspiration of the organisation,

SA HISTORY FESTIVAL: Virtual Reality Concert Series, ASO Classic at Adelaide Town Hall.



underpinned by the gradually expanding State History Collection.

As well as managing its own museums a second key function of the Trust is to assist the state's community museums and encouraging and assisting the work of South Australia's historical societies.

The History Trust of South Australia Act (1981) specifies a function of the Trust is to 'accredit or otherwise to evaluate museums' and to this end the Trust set up the Museums Accreditation and Grants Program (now Community Museums Program [CMP]) in 1982. The program is a standards and accreditation program based around providing a range of advice, assistance and practical hands-on training to assist museum to manage their collections and make them accessible.

Currently there are 65 museums involved in the CMP. They are spread throughout the state and manage collections in the many tens of thousands of items including objects, archival records and extensive photographic collections.

About half are branches of the National Trust of South Australia, while the remainder are either auspiced by local government, by a local historical society or other community organisation, or are separately incorporated. They include a handful that has one or two paid staff members, but the vast majority are entirely volunteer run.

The CMP is also an umbrella for a wide range of interactions that History SA has with the



SA MARITIME MUSEUM:
Visitors at *Wrecked! Tragedy in the Southern Seas* exhibition

The History Trust assists South Australia's community museums and historical societies.

community history sector in South Australia specifically around the collection, preservation and interpretation of moveable cultural heritage. Offering workshops, and ongoing advice and assistance are important functions of the CMP, and skills development in both history and museum practice are made available to historical societies, museums and any groups with an interest in South Australian history.

The annual South Australian History Fund helps support groups and individuals to research, preserve and publish history.

Other programs that History SA runs also support history groups and individuals to contribute to the South Australian history story, particularly the annual History Festival (all of May) which encourages the stronger development of a network of history interest groups, and the State History Conference, which brings together local historians, community museums, professional and academic historians to explore the state's history.

Amanda James,
Senior Community History
Officer, HTSA



MARTINDALE HALL,
Georgian symmetry and
proportions, 19th Century
mansion built 1878-1880.

Magnificent heritage icon Martindale Hall at risk

Martindale Hall in the picturesque Clare Valley of South Australia is one of Australia's iconic nineteenth century mansions. Immortalised in the classic 1970s film, *Picnic at Hanging Rock*, the Hall faces an uncertain future as the South Australian government considers selling the property to private investors. The National Trust is leading a campaign to prevent the Hall being converted into an exclusive luxury resort. The Trust has recently announced its own proposal for the Hall to preserve and promote its heritage and to ensure and that it remains in public hands, accessible to all.

The story of Martindale Hall really begins in Cumbria in northern England, renowned for the beauty of the famous Lake District. From at least the fifteenth century, the Bowman family had lived in the eastern side of Cumbria, bordering Westmorland. By the end of the eighteenth century, Bowmans were to be found all around this area centred on the village of Askham.

Edmund Bowman served as steward on the nearby Dalemain Estate in the late 1700s. Bowman was an able manager and much trusted by the Hasell Family who owned and still own the Dalemain estate. Unusually for those times, Bowman was entrusted with large amounts of money to purchase land and buildings. Edmund Bowman's

son, John Bowman and his family left Cumbria for Australia in 1829 and finally landed in Van Diemen's Land (Tasmania). John's eldest son (also) Edmund was just 11 when they left England. In 1838, at the age of 20, Edmund was sent from Tasmania to investigate prospects in the new settlement of South Australia.

Impressed by the opportunities of the fledgling colony, the family soon established themselves on pastoral runs north of Adelaide early in the 1840s. Their runs included the land, later named Martindale, where the Hall would one day be built. Edmund married Elizabeth Hackney in 1854 and Edmund Junior was born in 1855. Tragically, Edmund Senior drowned in 1866, when Edmund Bowman Junior was only 11 years old. Despite this loss, the Bowman family prospered in the boom decades of the 1870s and 1880s. Edmund Bowman Junior spent time at Clare College in Cambridge and also visited his ancestral home around Askham and Dalemain. It is here that the inspiration for Martindale Hall can be found.

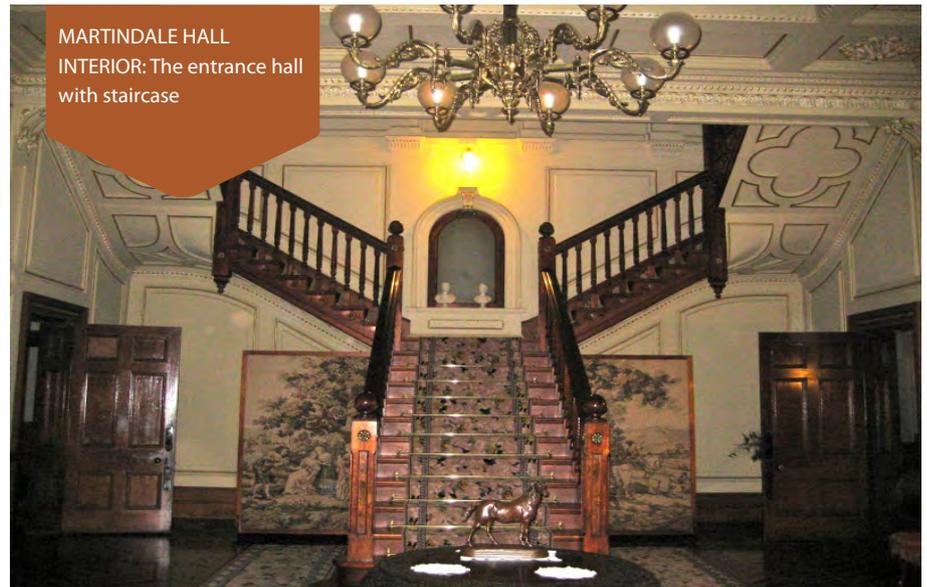
According to one account, Edmund Junior sought to win the heart of the unmarried Frances Hassel of Dalemain, vowing to woo her to Australia with the promise of a home to rival her own. Undoubtedly, the plans for Martindale Hall, which Bowman had produced in London by the architect

Ebenezer Gregg, bear a strong resemblance to the Georgian symmetry and proportions of Dalemain Estate.

Whatever transpired between Edmund and Frances, he returned to South Australia in 1878 and commenced construction of Martindale Hall the following year. The Hall was completed in 1880 at a cost equivalent to more than \$5m today. The Hall and its grounds, featuring a polo field, boating lake, cricket pitch and extensive gardens, were an impressive testament to the success of early Australian pastoralists. However, by the end of the 1880s, drought had brought the wool industry to a point of crisis. After over extending themselves in accumulating land holdings and debt, the Bowmans were forced to relinquish Martindale Hall in a fire sale of assets in 1891.

William Ranson Mortlock acquired the property and it remained in the hands of the Mortlock family for the next seventy years. The Mortlocks also enjoyed prosperous times at Martindale Hall. John Andrew Tennant Mortlock succeeded his father in 1913. In 1948 he married Dorothy Beech, but sadly, in 1950, he died.

In his will Mortlock bequeathed 400 acres of farmland and the Hall to the University of Adelaide and the Libraries Board of South Australia, while providing a life interest in the estate to his widow Dorothy Mortlock. She also made a number of generous bequests. After her death in 1979 the Hall came under the exclusive management of the University of Adelaide. However, the university's plans for using the Hall as a conference centre proved unsuccessful. After some negotiation it was resolved that



MARTINDALE HALL
INTERIOR: The entrance hall
with staircase

In 2015 the government received a bid to turn the hall into an exclusive private resort

the Hall and 19.5 hectares of land would be passed to the South Australian Government in trust for the people of South Australia.

Beside the Hall is a plaque which states the intention for the transfer of property. Cast in bronze- so it would be remembered in the future- are the following words: 'In the State's sesquicentenary year, 1986, the University gave Martindale Hall to the Government in trust for the people of South Australia, to ensure its preservation as a place of heritage significance.'

For thirty years the Hall has been managed as a museum and bed and breakfast accommodation. In 2014 the government ran an expression of interest process for the future management of the Hall and grounds. Since that process failed to produce a new plan for the Hall, its future has been in doubt. Last year the government received an unsolicited bid to turn the Hall into an exclusive private resort. Despite overwhelming public

opposition to the proposal, the Government has not revealed its intentions. The National Trust has been leading a campaign to keep the Hall for the people as intended by the Mortlock bequest and in the transfer from the University.

The National Trust has submitted its vision for Martindale Hall to Government, proposing to create a world class heritage based tourist attraction that utilises the whole site and keeps it accessible to all.

You can find out more about the proposal and show your support by visiting the website www.nationaltrust.org.au/sa/martindalehall or emailing martindalehall@nationaltrustsa.org.au

Or spread the word on Facebook by liking and sharing our page: <https://www.facebook.com/sharethelovemartindalehall/>

Dr Darren Peacock, Chief Executive Officer, National Trust of South Australia



HOWE HOUSE, Hawkesbury Regional Museum, built in the late 1820s by John Howe.

Hawkesbury Historical Society Collection forms basis of the Hawkesbury Regional Museum

Members of the long-established families along the upper Hawkesbury Valley were well aware that they lived in the first settled area of New South Wales outside Sydney and Parramatta, aware that for half a century after 1794 the alluvial soils of the Hawkesbury flood-plain had produced abundant wheat, maize and vegetables for the young colony. They were aware too that the small eighteenth-century farms and the towns like Windsor and Richmond established by Governor Macquarie in 1810 remained exceptionally legible: maize still flourishes today on 30-acre farms as it has for 222 years, Ebenezer church passed its bicentenary six years ago, Greenway's court-house in Windsor still hears local cases.

But an historical society was not mooted until 1947 and it took nine more years for the Hawkesbury Historical Society to be formed, through the advocacy of Doug Bowd, a member of a very old family and later the author of the two best-known books about the district. From 1957 onwards the Society actively solicited significant artefacts from its members and their wider circle. The first display of museum objects was at the local Agricultural Show in 1958 and in 1961 the Society accepted the lease of the upper storey of an historic building from one of its members.

Through volunteer labour, the Museum of the Society was created in this fine building, originally the home of a prominent entrepreneur and chief constable John Howe in the 1820s and 1830s, and later an inn and a newspaper printery. The Windsor Municipal Council then bought Howe House in 1968 at the Society's request and thenceforward the entire house was made available to the Society: the Hawkesbury District Tourism Association set up an information centre in the wide entry foyer. The museum collection expanded to around 5,000 local items including many of state and national significance, domestic and industrial. All were donated freely by the community, all were collected, accessioned and displayed by Society members. Much help was given by the Museums' Association of NSW, including the verification of the national significance of the collection.

The cellar, which had been full of silt since it had been flooded in 1867, was archaeologically excavated in 1985 and thereafter used for displaying large objects such as the original wooden cross from St Matthew's Anglican church. Detailed submissions, rather than simple requests, to Windsor Municipal Council by the Society over many years achieved good results, with a new covered internal entry to the cellar, and acceptance that the Bicentennial funding for 1988 should be

focused on conserving and painting the external façades of the buildings of the state-listed Heritage Conservation Area of Thompson Square, including Howe House, the Society's Museum.

In the 1990s what had then become Hawkesbury City Council moved towards establishing a museum and art gallery on a larger site. To this end it purchased the historic hospital site in Windsor in 1998. This proved unsuitable, but a new Library and Regional Art Gallery were built close by. A further submission by the Society in 2003 saw the Council accept a \$1.15m grant from the State Government on a dollar for dollar arrangement to build a separate Regional Museum on a site immediately behind Howe House and incorporating the old building within the new complex. After protracted negotiations between the Historical Society and the Council, it was agreed that the Society's collections should form the basis of the new Museum, that the Society should continue to own all the artefacts but that the administration of the Museum be taken over by the Council, which would employ professional staff in the Museum and Art Gallery.

One crucial factor in the continued success of the arrangement between Society and Council has been the Memorandum of Agreement, which both partners worked out before proceeding. It provides for the Society's representatives to meet with the professional staff to discuss projects, for the professional Director or Curator to attend a Society meeting annually to talk

Exhibition pays tribute to Hawkesbury Historical Society

MINUTES OF FIRST MEETING OF HAWKESBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY: Mayor Kim Ford with museum curator Rebecca Turnbull



EXHIBITION: *Interesting Objects: 60 years of the Hawkesbury Historical Society.* Hand made lace collected by Carol Curruthers.



to help with the conservation of the Society's artefacts. Some Society members continue to volunteer to work at the Museum within the Council's program.

The Regional Museum opened in 2008 and the Historical society holds its monthly meetings within the modern building, while Howe House has been extensively conserved and is an integral part of the visitor's experience.

Through the means of the Memorandum of Agreement, it has been possible through ongoing respect and commitment to the common goals, to achieve co-operation that has led to a successful facility benefitting Hawkesbury Historical Society, Hawkesbury City Council and visitors to the Hawkesbury Regional Museum.

Professor Ian Jack
RAHS Committee Member



Areas of the Parramatta Female Factory in need of critical conservation, ongoing maintenance and heritage informed renovations include:

- The Greenway hospital building (first female health service in Australia)
- The Greenway Matron's quarters, meeting rooms and administration rooms
- A 19th century building on the third class dining room footprint
- The second class workshop area
- The Walter Liberty Vernon designed building on the footprint of the first class workshop area
- The Governor Gipps compound also known as 'crime class'
- 1818 exterior walls to the north and south
- 1830's courtyard walls
- Third class sleeping quarters and workrooms
- Catholic orphanage which later became the Parramatta Girls Home
- Extensive archaeological sites

Parramatta Female Factory - The earliest convict women's site in Australia.

In December 1799 Parramatta's log and thatch gaol burnt down and was replaced by a stone gaol under the direction of the Reverend Samuel Marsden, acting as Superintendent of Public Works. The building commenced in 1802 and sometime in 1803 it was decided to add a second storey as a linen and woollen manufactory. This was the first female factory but only Joseph Lycett's painting of it remains. Built less than skilfully, it was soon in very poor condition and far too small for the accommodation needs of convict women.

The second Parramatta Female Factory was instigated by Governor Macquarie, designed by Francis Greenway and built by Watkins and Payten, local Parramatta builders, between

1818 and 1821. Although it was definitely a gaol, women being sent there from the courts as a place of secondary punishment, it had multiple other purposes.

It was a house of asylum as convict women too sick or infirm to work could find shelter there. The first dedicated women's health service in the colony was erected within its walls. It was the first colonial home for newly arrived convicts, yet to be assigned. Convict women whose jobs ended, were returned to the factory to await further assignment, so it also became a labour exchange. Marriage fairs were held there making it a marriage bureau and the work performed designated it a viable manufactory, despite the women being described as having, 'no commercial value'. Work

PAINTING, AUGUSTUS EARLE, 1826: Depiction of the second Female Factory, Parramatta (Image: NLA)

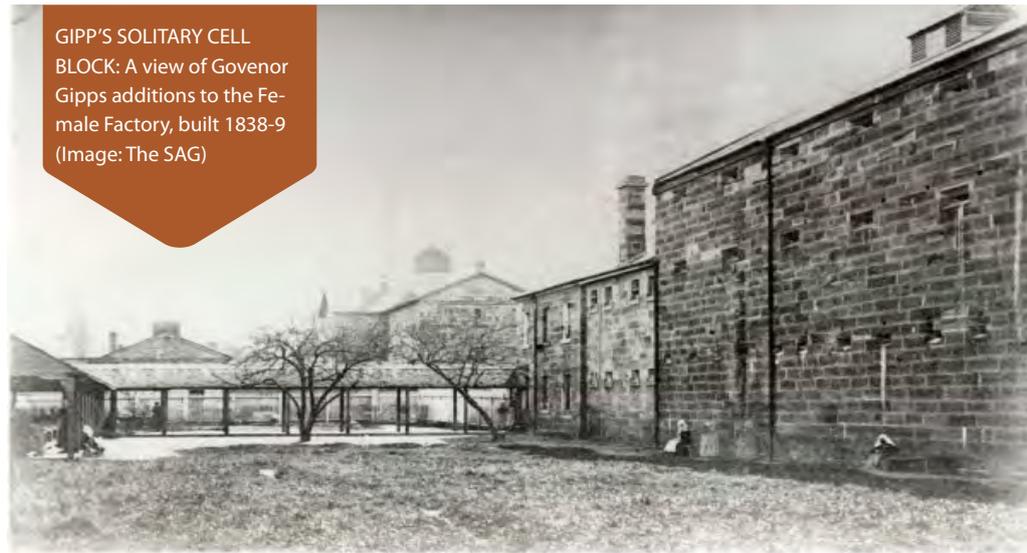


conditions led to the first known, female workers riots in Australia in 1827.

This second Factory is the earliest convict women's site still in existence in Australia. Besides the building phase of Lachlan Macquarie, Governor Brisbane commissioned the third class additions while Governor Gipps additions included a three storey, solitary cell block and large courtyard. Many parts of the factory remain but need to be teased out of surrounding buildings, extensions and alterations. Enclosure walls 20 feet high, matrons residence, hospital, dead house, workrooms, a building for refractory women c1823 and the massive Gipps compound are all extant. In a refurbished building, which recycled the original factory stone, are the bell dated 1820 and a Thwaites and Reed clock which ordered the convict women's days. Closed by 1849, the factory reopened as the Parramatta Lunatic Asylum and is still a mental health facility to this day.

Parramatta Female Factory Friends Inc has developed from community response to the tenuous future of the Factory. Their group action aims to ensure this internationally significant site firstly gains National Heritage Listing, then World Heritage Listing. The current Factory replaced the first factory and was the model for all eleven succeeding factories. It predates all but three of the UNESCO world heritage listed items.

These sites and buildings are under threat from an Urban Growth plan to erect high rise housing in the factory and surrounding hospital area. The threat is not from demolition



Governor Gipps three storey cell block and large courtyard

but from entirely inappropriate development including two high rise residential buildings scheduled for inside the Governor Gipps compound. To accommodate the easy flow of residents it is proposed to put five entries in the currently intact compound walls. After much pressure from the Female Factory Friends and 10,000 signatures delivered to Parliament, Dr Geoff Lee, Local Member of Parliament, has given a verbal account that these two buildings will be deleted from the Urban Growth design. We still await written confirmation of this so remain wary. The initial design was for 6,000 units in high rise up to 30 stories to be built in the immediate area. Continued pressure has reduced the unit numbers to approximately 4,000.

Two large community groups, Female Factory Friends and North Parramatta Residents Action Group (NPRAG) have recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding to work together to protect and enhance the historic buildings

and sites of the Parramatta Local Government area with a particular focus on North Parramatta's heritage and its natural and built environment. They seek to achieve the creation of a master plan that is informed by the site, its current buildings and narrative as an alternative to the urban densification proposal by Urban Growth NSW that is driven by a policy mandate of fulfilling housing targets. The MoU has increased the strength of their advocacy. NAPRAG is consistent in keeping the issue before local residents, Government, newspapers and radio stations. The Parramatta Female Factory friends continue with site monitoring, research, tours, talks, education activities and events.

It is hoped the combined strength of the two groups will encourage Governments, Local State and National to protect, preserve and conserve the site for future generations.

Judith Dunn,
Councillor, RAHS



Government Printing Office, 1887



The Mansions, 1889



Queensland Club, 1884

Images © Trevor Newman, 2009

Queens Wharf Precinct, Brisbane

The Destination Brisbane Consortium is proceeding with Queensland government support with the redevelopment of the old Government sector on the north bank of the Brisbane River. This location now known as the Queens Wharf Brisbane Precinct runs east from Queen Street and is bounded by Queens Wharf Road, George Street and Alice Street.

This precinct contains nine important and heritage listed buildings:

WILLIAM Street:

- The Commissariat Store built by convicts in 1829 under the command of Captain Patrick Logan.
- The Immigration depot from 1866 (now known as National Trust House) designed by Charles Tiffin and further extended in 1898.
- The Old Government Printing Office built in 1874 by John Petrie from the designs of architect F.D.G. Stanley. It was the first building powered by electricity in Brisbane in 1883.
- The former Land Administration Building built in 1905 by Arthur Midson from the designs of

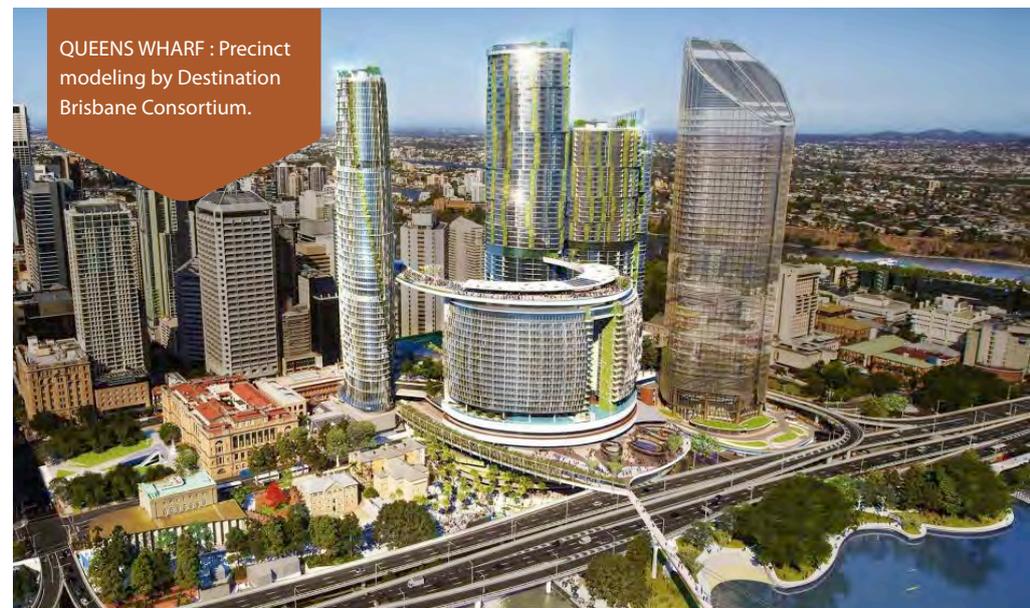
Government architect Thomas Pye.

- The former Museum later State Library building erected in 1878 and designed by F.D.G. Stanley.
- The former Treasury Building built in stages from 1885 to 1928 from the designs of architect John James Clark.

GEORGE Street:

- Government Printing Office completed by builder John Petrie in 1887 from the designs of architect Edwin Evan Smith and further extended in 1911.
- Harris Terrace, a group of six town houses built in 1866 from the designs of architect George Cowlshaw. This was nearly demolished in 1970.
- The Mansions. Consisting of six two storied town houses it was completed in 1888 from the designs of George H.M. Addison. One town house was once occupied by Australia's first female surgeon Dr. Lillian Violet Cooper.

These structures will be subject to direct impact from the development by way of reduced access and traffic disruption as well as vibration and excavation for the foundations of the

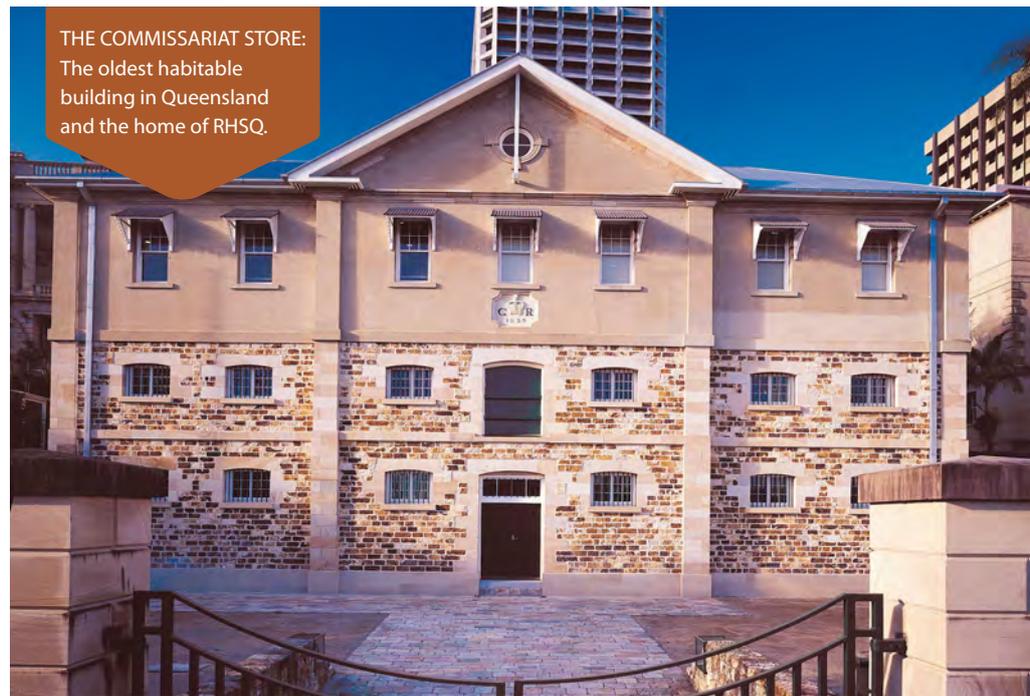


development. Other important structures which exist in the precinct include:

- The portion of original convict stone wall in Queens Wharf Road dating from 1826/7.
- The retaining wall on William Street from 1889.
- Queens Park and associated statues.
- The Queens Wharf road air raid shelter from 1942.
- The original foundations of the Commandant's cottage behind the printing building in William Street.

The Royal Historical Society of Queensland is vitally interested in the protection of this important precinct and is maintaining constant contact with representatives of the Department of State Development and the Destination Brisbane Consortium. In a letter to the Department of State Development in September 2015 the Society through its Honorary Secretary Dr Ruth Kerr expressed its views that although the proposed development is considered important to the economic future of the City and the enhancement of the north bank of the river it is particularly important to preserve and enhance the heritage precinct and all structures therein.

The Royal Historical Society of Queensland has its headquarters in the Commissariat Store at the 'heart' of the Queen's Wharf Brisbane Priority Development Area. The Society is vitally interested in the protection of the heritage values of the Queens Wharf Brisbane Precinct, and the Commissariat Store in particular. It is essential that the Commissariat Store building and surrounding boundary walls and



THE COMMISSARIAT STORE:
The oldest habitable building in Queensland and the home of RHSQ.

The RHSQ is vitally interested in the preservation of the Queens Wharf Brisbane heritage buildings

courtyard be preserved in their entirety and not disturbed in any way by surrounding construction work.

The Commissariat Store built in 1829 is the oldest habitable building in Queensland and is the most significant heritage building in the state. Protection of pedestrian and vehicle access arrangements to the Commissariat Store during and after the casino development project will enable the preservation of the historical and cultural heritage values of the building, which include the work of the convicts in the Moreton Bay settlement.

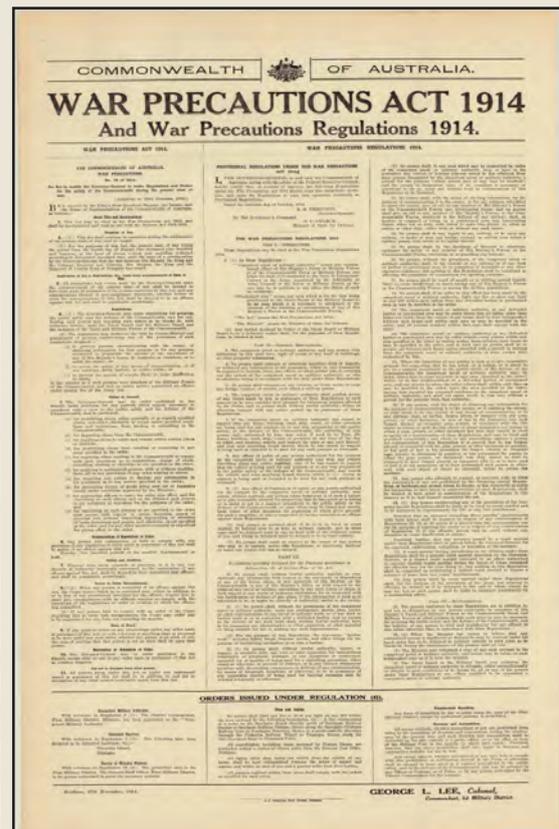
Most of the heritage buildings in the precinct are in good condition and appear externally as they would have on completion. All of them over the

years have been remodelled internally with many converted to air conditioned office space and other uses such as restaurants and coffee outlets. The Destination Brisbane Consortium already leases the old Treasury Building which is the current Casino and also the Star Treasury Hotel which has been established in the old Land Administration building for many years.

The next six years represent a challenging and exciting time for the precinct and the RHSQ will be much involved in discussion with all parties to ensure that the final result will reflect the values of this most historic sector of Brisbane and enhance the attraction of the North bank to all locals and tourists alike.

Dean Prangley, President RHSQ

The Bolsheviks of Brisbane: The Red Flag Riots, 1919



Standing on the upper floors of the Commissariat Store, the home of the Royal Queensland Historical Society, and looking directly across the Brisbane River past Southbank a discerning viewer can catch glimpses of the location of one of Australia's most intriguing events. Now largely forgotten, except by historians concerned with radical protest and activity in World War 1, the Red Flag riots on Sunday 24 March 1919 were remarkable events which saw the Queensland Police Commissioner, William Urquhart seriously wounded and fifteen Russian residents given up to seven years' imprisonment for flying the Red Flag, an act prohibited against the War Precautions Act.

I have to disclose a personal interest in these events as my family were deeply involved in the proceedings. My paternal great uncle, Hubert Sizer, one of

the first to land at Gallipoli was the member for Nundah and one of the leaders of the ultra-Loyalist Returned Sailors, Soldiers and Citizens Loyalty League. A fervent pro-conscriptionist, Sizer used parliamentary debate to denounce socialists, largely meaning the government under T. J. Ryan and the new global enemy, the Bolsheviks who had overthrown the Czar in November 1917. My grandfather, Frank Saunders who had studied with Rupert Brooke at Kings College, Cambridge records in his diary that he took part in the nefarious Red Flag riots.

Queensland during World War 1 possessed the only socialist government ever elected in Australia. Moreover it did not support conscription placing it at odds with the federal government under W. M. Hughes. The state provided a refuge for a variety of national and international dissidents

Poster displaying the War Precautions Act, 1914.

including the rebellious IWW, anarchists and (initially) the Bolshevik supporters as well as local activists such as Ernie Lane, Jennie Scott-Griffith and pacifists in the Women's Peace Army like Margaret Thorp. Queensland and South Brisbane in particular was the home of many radical Russians who came after escaping incarceration in Siberia after the failed 1905 revolution. Tom Sergeev (aka Artem") arrived in Brisbane in 1911 in these circumstances. He returned to Russia in 1917 where he helped plan the revolution with Lenin.

Antagonism between the Empire Loyalists and the various coalitions of the Left was thus far more pronounced and prolonged in the northern

state than anywhere else in the Commonwealth. Hostilities continued after the Armistice with many ex-servicemen deeply resentful that their return did not herald prosperity and good fortune while dissidents felt intimidated by continued state surveillance and persecution. Enmities came to a head on Sunday afternoon of 24 March 1919 when a group of around 350 trade unionists and radicals attempted to march from the Trades Hall in Upper Edward Brisbane on their way to the Domain, the area of public forum where QUT and Old Government House now stand at the end of William Street. Somewhat provocatively they held the banner of the Red Flag, a proscribed emblem under the War Precautions Act. Word soon spread among the Loyalist community. The year before the Sinn Fein green, white and orange flag was banned. By nightfall over 8000 anti – Bolsheviks gathered along North Quay spilling over past Queen Street to the western end of William Street containing the Commissariat Store. Many ex-servicemen carried firearms, bottles and homemade bombs.

They marched across the Victoria Bridge right near the Commissariat Store's riverfront entrance on Queens Wharf singing "Keep the Home Fires Burning" and "Australia Will be There". Their intention was to destroy the Russian Club over the river in Merivale Street and attack as many Russian dissidents and their supporters as possible. As the police had time to organise their resources to prevent the literally warring parties meeting they stood in formation over the south side of the river. Shots were fired, small bombs went off and many bottles were hurled by



resented the police action. In the initial melee lasting over two hours seven mounted police were shot as well as numerous horses, one sustaining nine bullets. In all 19 police were injured, some by bayonets, some seriously by men who had recently seen military action in the Western Front.

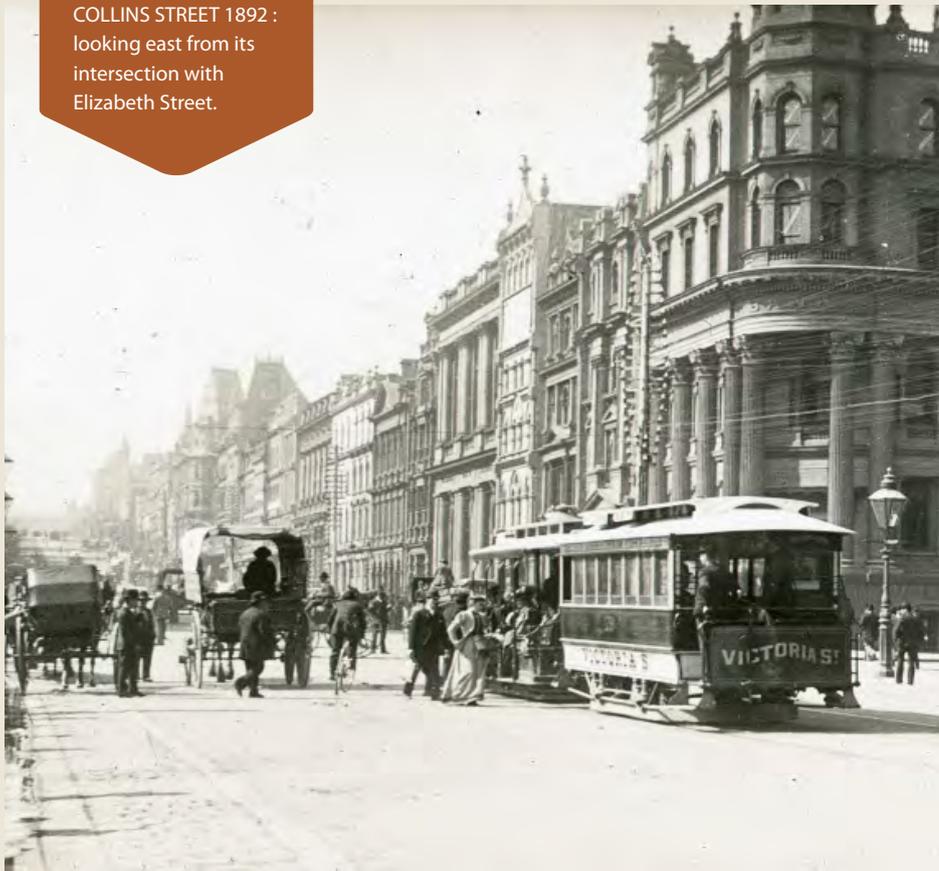
Police could not maintain their lines as they were overwhelmed by the sheer numbers of agitated protestors who may have wondered what they had fought for and why were detested Bolsheviks allowed to live among them. Considerable property was destroyed or looted along Melbourne Street running perpendicular to Merivale Street. Many Russians were similarly attacked and injured.

In the aftermath 15 Russians were incarcerated for

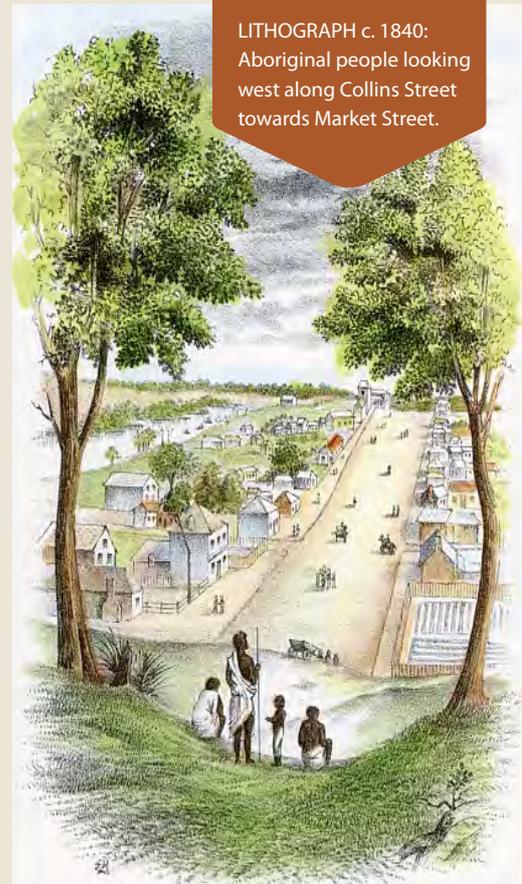
security regulations. The annual May Day marchers were attacked by war veterans. In September 1919 the federal government ordered groups of Russian dissidents to be deported from Australia to Odessa. Many of those active in Brisbane in 1919 died in the purges of 1936 -37. Peter Simonoff was appointed by Leo Trotsky as the Bolshevik Government's first ambassador to Australia, a position that was not recognised by the Commonwealth. Alexander Zuzenko undertook the important position of Comptroller of Comintern activities in the British Empire. It is hard to imagine that Tom Sergeev helped plan the Bolshevik revolution from Merivale Street in South Brisbane.

Emerita Professor, Kay Saunders, RSHQ Delegate

COLLINS STREET 1892 :
looking east from its
intersection with
Elizabeth Street.



LITHOGRAPH c. 1840:
Aboriginal people looking
west along Collins Street
towards Market Street.



Remembering Melbourne - A history of Melbourne produced by the RHSV with 33 experts, 75 volunteers and 21 historical societies.

In late 2014 the Royal Historical Society of Victoria (RHSV) was approached by Queensland Book Depot to partner in a publishing project modelled on the successful book *Lost Brisbane and Surrounding Areas, 1860-1960* (2014) produced by the Royal Historical Society of Queensland. This book itself emulated a previous work, *Lost London* (2009). The proposed publication that would contain about 800 captioned images, was an immense task. However, after deliberation an agreement was struck in early 2015, whereby for a modest sum, the RHSV would provide camera ready art to QBD by mid-2016.

A team of six set to work planning the book. It was decided to introduce some innovations over the approach in the excellent *Lost Brisbane* book. First, half the book would be devoted to suburban images and local historical societies would be invited to contribute fifteen captioned images each illustrating their suburb, and its iconic or

lost character. Second, the other half of the book would be of Melbourne city streetscapes and buildings, arranged on a street by street basis, and drawn mostly from the RHSV's large collection of images. Third, each suburb or city street would be introduced by an expert overview, separate from the individual captions under each and every image. Over thirty historians were enlisted pro bono for this task.

The fourth innovation was to commission three introductory chapters by experts in the field, again on a pro bono basis. The first would discuss 'Aboriginal Melbourne', for a book of photographs that represents Melbourne from the 1850s would silence the Aboriginal presence, unless it was featured in at least this way. A second chapter, 'Shaping Melbourne' would explain the materials from which the city was built, their origins and the forms and styles into which they were shaped to create the character of the city. A third chapter,

'Picturing Melbourne', would explain the evolving camera technology that lay behind all the images displayed in the book. All three commissions were accepted.

Twenty-one of Melbourne's key historical societies responded to the invitation to be involved, only one was not able to submit material, due to health concerns of several key members. The response from local societies was extremely enthusiastic, and led to many animated and joyous debates about which fifteen images best captured their local area.

The efficiency with which all societies met the deadline was amazing, and all groups managed to master the digital skills needed to supply camera ready art and concise captions. This part of the project has been extremely beneficial to relations between societies and their umbrella body, the RHSV. It is likely these good relations will be continued by exhibitions at the RHSV using the artwork created for the book.

Remembering Melbourne reveals the work of the history movement at its best. It has been a magnificent voluntary effort. The introductions have been written by 33 experts, and the captions by 75 volunteers, several of them students from Deakin University completing outplacements for their BA degree. Caption writing can take 1-3 hours and there are approximately 800 of them. Chapters and introductions of course take longer. All writers of chapters, introductions and captions will be acknowledged beside their words.

The guiding team of six at the



MYER EMPORIUM AND
BUCKLEY AND NUNN:
Bourke Street, c. 1930

Twenty of Melbourne's historical societies contributed images from their collections to *Remembering Melbourne*

RHSV will have met over twenty times by the completion of the project in July 2016 and each meeting has built on many preparatory hours of selecting and editing. The RHSV image team had to sift through about 50,000 images to make the final selection for each of seventeen city precincts. Because of the time demands on the project, captioning proceeded alongside image selection.

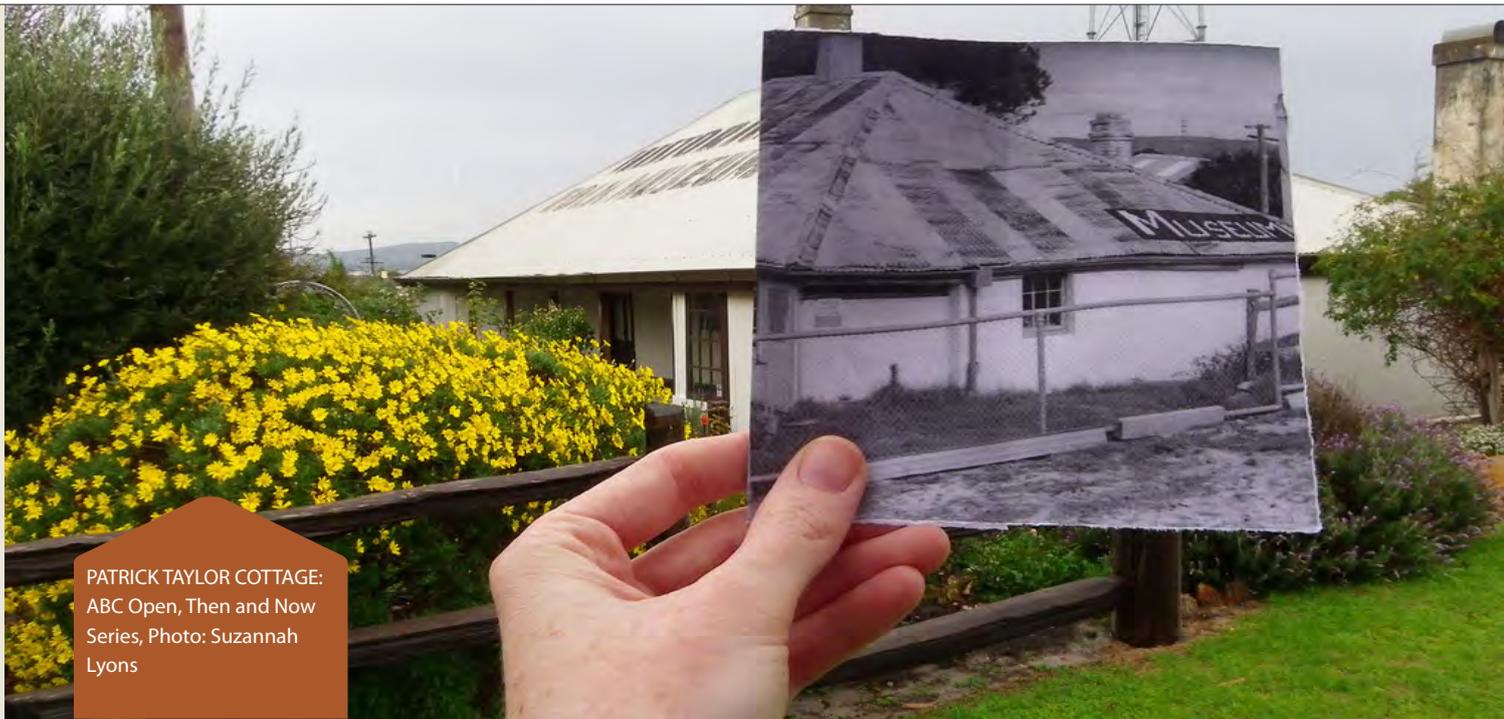
Some images that were captioned did not make the final cut, but work done on these un-selected images will enrich the collection's database for the future.

The book will be published, launched and on sale in November 2016. The whole project has and will enhance

the RHSV and its member societies. They will be seen by funding bodies to be producing significant cultural resources. It will be clear they are digitising and sharing their collections with a wider audience. And finally they will demonstrate the level of their interaction and cooperation with other like-minded bodies to the development of the whole sector. Melbourne will be showcased and remembered, but so will the history society movement!

Images from the RHSV Collection (GS-CS-35; NP-0270; PHN-001023)

Emeritus Professor Richard Broome, Vice-President RHSV; co-editor with Judith Smart (FAHS Vice President) of *Remembering Melbourne*.



PATRICK TAYLOR COTTAGE:
ABC Open, Then and Now
Series, Photo: Suzannah
Lyons

Albany Historical Society (inc.)

www.historicalbany.com.au

Since its inception at the inaugural meeting of concerned townspeople on 1 June 1962, several factors have contributed to the success of the Albany Historical Society (Inc) ('the Society'). It is interesting to note that this intrepid group of people became its first Volunteers!

There are several factors that make the Society rather special. Firstly, its registered office is situated in Western Australia's first settlement. Albany (originally called 'Frederickstown') is gloriously situated on the shores of King George Sound and Princess Royal Harbour and is sheltered by the stately Mounts Melville, Clarence and Adelaide.

Secondly, the Society has two venues of immeasurable importance to the town (now a City), Patrick Taylor Cottage ('the Cottage') and the Albany Convict Gaol ('the Gaol').

And thirdly, the Society is fortunate to have had at its helm for many years, Chief Executive Officer, Andrew Eyden, who is ably supported by the 74 volunteers who comprise its President and Executive Committee, the Administration Team and the people of all ages who staff its venues. (The Society would be unable to function without its wonderful Volunteers who have a passionate interest in - and fondness for - the venues.)

Patrick Taylor Cottage: The Cottage is the jewel in the Society's crown. Originally built by John Laurence Morley around 1832, it was constructed of wattle and daub and is the oldest surviving dwelling in Western Australia. The original dwelling had two rooms. The Cottage of today has nine rooms plus laundry and bathroom. Western Australian Land records for June 1835 show that Morley sold the building with its enclosures and sundries at public auction to Patrick Taylor for £400.

Patrick Taylor, a Scot, was brought up by his guardian at Kirktonhill, near Montrose. Being young, of good family, considerable means, a keen churchman and a vigorous participant in public affairs, he may have been persuaded by an acquaintance, Captain James Stirling, to travel to Western Australia at a time when new settlers were desperately required. He sailed on the 'James Pattison' in 1833 and later married a young lady who also sailed on the vessel, Mary Bussell (whose family settled the town of Busselton). Patrick and Mary had many children and their descendants occupied the Cottage until the 1940s.

Society Members, Judith Gleeson and Bonnie and Adeline Hicks were instrumental in saving the Cottage from demolition by the Albany Town Council. The Cottage was later furnished with

items and artefacts from the 19th Century donated by members of the public.

The Society first opened the Cottage to the public in 1962. Its Volunteers still open the building daily between the hours of 11.00am and 3.00pm.

Albany Convict Gaol: In 1873, work commenced on the buildings that now comprise the Albany Convict Gaol ('the Gaol').

Initially, the intention was to house Imperial Convicts from Britain within its walls. The accommodation included gaoler's quarters, a convict depot building, and a timber-lined cell for Aboriginals, as well as female cells, a day room, a kitchen and wash-house. There were two separate walled exercise yards for male and female prisoners. The buildings had solid brick walls on stone foundations, brick chimneys and timber joinery, roof framing, floors and roof shingles. The boundary walls were built of brick. Additions to the Gaol were made between 1878 and 1882.

In 1967, The Society obtained a management order for the Gaol from the Town of Albany and opened the Gaol to the public in 1968.

The Gaol is a fascinating part of Albany's history and is open seven days a week manned by its Volunteers. It draws visitors from all parts of the world.

The Society's Group Tour Programme: The Society has a successful Group Tour Programme, offering a Tour Guide service or self-guided group tours of the venues. Registered on the WA Education Website, the Society accepts

ALBANY CONVICT GAOL:
Built 1873-1882. Managed
by the Albany Historical
Society.



Albany Convict Gaol opened to the public as a museum in 1968.

bookings from local and interstate schools. The Society also provides group tours for passengers from the many cruise ships visiting Albany. Other interstate and local groups make bookings and there is the passing trade of daily tourists.

Historic Photograph Collection: The Society holds copyright over the 12,000 historic photographs in its Collection. Its Photography Department has catalogued and digitally stored these important relics of the past.

Any photograph in the Collection can be printed on request. Various sizes are available for purchase, framed or unframed. Sample framed photographs are displayed for sale in the Great Hall at the Gaol. The Photography Department also has a range of Greetings Cards depicting many of the photographs in the Collection. These are also on sale at the Gaol.

Work for the Dole Volunteers: The Society currently has 28 unemployed people on the Government 'Work for the Dole' Scheme working as Volunteers at its venues. 23 of those Volunteers enthusiastically work in the Cottage gardens. The other 5 Volunteers work at the Cottage and the Gaol.

Over recent years, the Society has published several books in-house, which are on sale at its venues and are listed on the web site. These include a history of the Gaol and the Cottage.

Visit <http://www.historicalbany.com.au/>

<https://www.facebook.com/AlbanyHistoricalSociety/>

Now image: Suzannah Lyons, ABC Open. Then image courtesy of the Albany Historical Society

Andrew Eyden, CEO, Albany Historical Society (inc.)



Michael Roe, Tasmania Historian and Life Member of THRA

Born in 1931 in Melbourne, and educated at the Caulfield Grammar School (dux of the school in 1948), Michael attended the University of Melbourne, and continued to study history at Peterhouse at the University of Cambridge. He then completed a PhD in history at the University of Australia. This led to the publication in 1965 of his seminal work, *Quest for Authority in Eastern Australia, 1835–1851*.

Michael has published many works since 1966:

Keneally and the Tichborne cause: A Study in Mid-Victorian Populism (1974),

Nine Australian Progressives: Vitalism in Bourgeois Social Thought, 1890–1960 (1984),

Australia, Britain, and Migration, 1915–1940: A Study of Desperate Hopes (1995),

The State of Tasmania: Identity at Federation Time (2001),

An Imperial Disaster: The Wreck of George the Third (2006).

A tribute to Michael Roe THRA historian - Celebratory Issue

Readers who have visited Tasmania or know anything about Tasmanian historians will know of Michael Roe, who has been a leader in this field since his arrival at the University of Tasmania in 1966.

Fortunately for Tasmanians, Michael obtained a position in the History Department at the University of Tasmania, where he remained thirty years. He quickly came to specialise in Tasmanian history, and soon joined the committee of the Tasmanian Historical Research Association. He has sat on this committee from 1966 until 2015 (with a few years off when he was on study leave), and has made a huge contribution to the Association, acting as chairman, secretary and many other positions.

His opinion was often sought on historical matters, and people seldom questioned his answer, because we all knew that Michael was a fount of knowledge on all aspects of Tasmanian history. Not that he was a know-all, far from it; on the rare occasions that someone did question anything or offer an additional or alternative explanation, he was the first to consider it gravely, and discuss the question from all aspects.

Michael brought to the THRA committee something beyond knowledge. He is such a civilised person, so far beyond anything petty or mean, that no one wants to look petty or mean in his presence. Bob Brown and I imagined Sir John Franklin had this ambience, encouraging (by their personality, not their words) people to perform at their best. During the more

than thirty years that I served on the THRA committee with Michael, I can seldom remember anyone saying a cross word, surely some sort of record for a committee, and I put it down to this presence of Michael's. He has written numerous excellent articles for THRA Papers and Publications, and as editor I always welcomed them, as so little editing was ever needed.

When Michael retired from the University of Tasmania, the university published a volume celebrating his contribution to Australian history. When he retires from THRA, we are publishing a celebratory issue of Papers and Proceedings, to appear in August this year. It contains Michael's latest paper, and the three papers he feels to have been most significant, as well as tributes from a number of people. If anyone would like to contribute to this volume, or order a copy, please contact the secretary via the THRA website. http://www.thra.org.au/papers_guidelines.html

Michael has not entirely left THRA, however. During the past decade he has become famous for his minutes of meetings, with the highlight his summary of the papers presented at the meetings. As several speakers have said to me, 'He makes me sound much more intelligent than I did on the night'. Michael is continuing to perform this role, and we all know that when the President asks if anyone has any corrections, there will never be any, for Michael's scholarship remains superb.

Dr Alison Alexander, editor
THRA Papers and Proceedings.