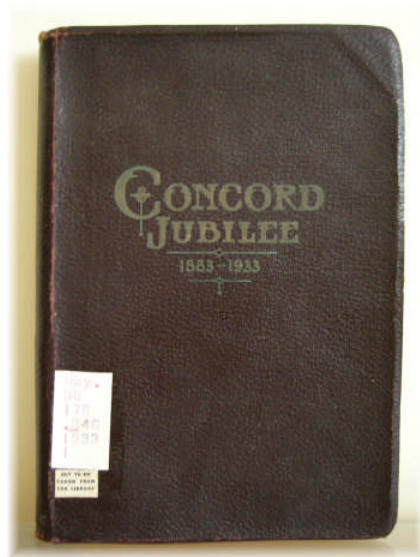


Concord Jubilee 1883-1933 - A History of the Municipality of Concord

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CONCORD JUBILEE 1883 - 1933

A HISTORY OF THE
MUNICIPALITY OF
CONCORD

With Illustrations

Compiled by

GEO. M. SHAW

TOWN CLERK, CONCORD

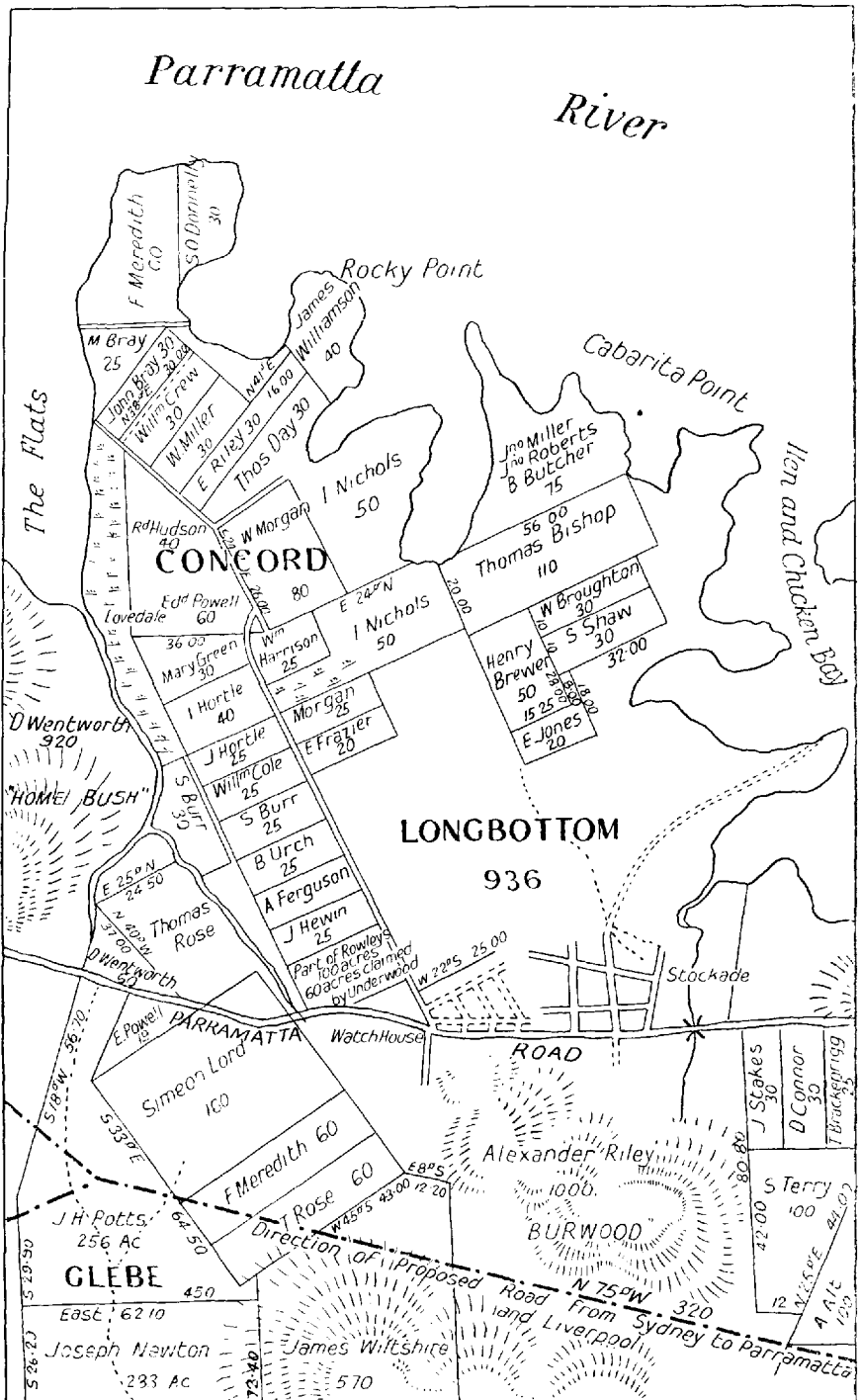
SYDNEY, N.S.W.

CANBERRA PRESS

Publishers

42 MARKET STREET, SYDNEY

1933



Concord in 1833.

Educational

Educational requirements of Concord were commenced in a private school conducted by Mr. Love, near Bray Grove. On Mr. Love's demise, his daughter continued the school, with the address on her letters: "Miss Love, 'Love Dale,' Concord, opposite Kissing Point." Some few years prior to 1843 the building was burned down and never replaced. Authentic records are not available as to where the children received their schooling until 1843, when, in consequence of the efforts of Sir William Westbrooke Burton (Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of N.S.W. from 1832 to 1844) and other gentlemen, what was known as the Burwood Parochial School, Longbottom, was constructed by Mr. John Lucas, and opened on the 29th May, 1843, by Lady Gipps (wife of Governor Gipps), in the presence of a large and representative gathering.

First Trustees were Messrs. Thomas Bray, of Concord, John Rowley, of Burwood Park, and James Edrop, of Burwood; first teachers, Mr. George Davis and his wife, followed by Mr. Watts and his daughter (Mrs. Moffatt). This school was continued until 1880, when a provisional school was opened under the control of the Department of Education, and conducted in temporary premises owned by Mr. Thomas Walker. During the first year of operation the school was converted to

CONCORD PUBLIC SCHOOL

Owing to the rapid progress made by the school it soon became necessary to have a larger and permanent building. In 1881 a site of 1 acre, 3 roods, 26 perches was resumed, and of the six cottages imported from America on the land, three were altered to form a schoolroom and the remainder were converted into a teacher's residence. The cost of the property was £2,079.

In 1891 an additional 3 roods, 25 perches of land was resumed at a cost of £509, and in 1893 the existing school buildings were replaced by a new building, at a cost of £1,478.

Many alterations and additions have been carried out since that time, and in 1928 a new building for the infants was completed at a cost of £8,200.

The enrolment of pupils at Concord Public School at the end of the first term of 1933 was 931. The school is graded, on attendance, in the second class.

The Headmaster is Mr. C. V. T. Rowsel, and he has an assisting staff of 20 teachers.

MORTLAKE PUBLIC SCHOOL

The establishment of Mortlake Public School was first applied for on 25th September, 1886, when the names of



MASONIC HALL, CONCORD WEST.

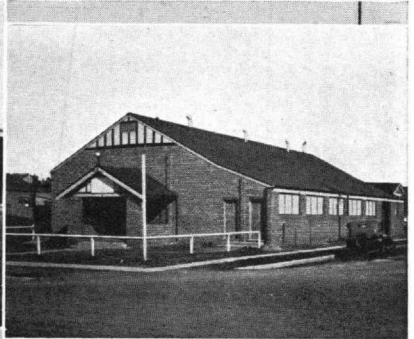
CONCORD
HALLS



GAS EMPLOYEES UNION HALL
MORTLAKE.



ARDILL HOME
CLAREMONT AV.



EX-SERVICE MENS HALL.
CENTRAL CONCORD.



R. S. & S. I. L. A. MEMORIAL HALL.

Sporting Organisations

WESTERN SUBURBS AMATEUR ATHLETIC CLUB.

Headquarters, Concord Oval. Established in 1904.

During the years of the Great War, 1914-1918, the club though continuing to exist, was inactive, owing to the enlistment of large numbers of its members.

Many records are held by the Club, notably 10,000 metres Cross Country Championship, 1928, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933. W. B. Alexander Cup, 10 miles (teams), 1932, 1933. Secretary, A. N. Button.



Western Suburbs District Cricket Club

WESTERN SUBURBS DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB CONCORD OVAL

Established in 1895. Premiers in 1905-6 season.

Many members of this Club have been selected to play in Interstate matches, and have been represented in International cricket by Messrs. H. Donnan, J. O'Connor and Warren Bardsley. A performance never equalled is that of Warren Bardsley, whose figures are.

Innings: 287. Not Out: 47. Highest Score. 217 n.o
Total: 12,110. Average: 50.45.

A. W. Green, President since 1922.

R. G. Herford, Hon. Secretary since 1921.

E. A. Paton, Hon. Treasurer since 1921.

THE AUSTRALIAN GAS LIGHT COMPANY

(Established by Royal Charter, 1837)

With a history extending back over nearly 100 years and a record of public service not surpassed by any other public utility, The Australian Gas Light Company ranks as one of the oldest and most important organisations of its kind in the Commonwealth. Its formation was authorised by a quaintly worded Royal Charter, dated September 7, 1837, for the purpose of "effectually lighting the said town of Sydney." The original works of the Company were erected on the shore of Darling Harbour—the site being only a stone's throw from what is now the southern approach to the majestic Sydney Harbour Bridge. In 1884 works were opened at Mortlake, and, with the closing down of the original works at Kent Street in 1916 Mortlake became the manufacturing centre of the Company.

Less than four years after the granting of the Royal Charter gas was supplied in Sydney for the first time—under somewhat auspicious circumstances—on May 24, 1841—Queen Victoria's birthday.

Gas was first used for lighting the streets of the city and at the commencement of operations it was supplied to 181 "lights." Meters were not then in use, the total length of gas mains did not exceed 3 or 4 miles, and the price of gas was 25/- per 1,000 cubic feet—charges being based upon a schedule of hours.

From these modest beginnings—when the total population of Sydney did not exceed 25,000—The Australian Gas Light Company has grown to be the largest gas undertaking Australia and the sixth largest in the British Empire. Its operations now cover an area of approximately 200 square miles; its gas service provides many of the daily necessities for more than a million people and by nearly two thousand factories and workshops. Its activities, however, go far beyond the supply of gas, for by scientifically treating the coal it uses, it helps to conserve the nation's fuel resources and makes available large quantities of by-products which are essential to other industries and play an important part in the everyday life of the community.

The Company's customers now exceed a quarter of a million, its capital is approximately £7,000,000, its works cover an area of more than 100 acres, and its employees total nearly 3,000.

Well might it be claimed, therefore, that The Australian Gas Light Company is a great key industry, an essential link in the chain of community service and a great national bulwark.

The Thomas Walker Convalescent Hospital

This Hospital was opened in 1893, in accordance with the wishes of the donor, the late Mr. Thomas Walker, a copy of whose codical to the will is as follows:—

Extracts from Codicil to the Will, dated 6th August, 1886, of the late THOMAS WALKER, Esq., of Yaralla, Concord, near Sydney, in the Colony of New South Wales:—

“For a considerable time past I have had it in my mind to establish on part of my land here (Yaralla) a hospital on a somewhat extensive scale for the reception and restoration to health of convalescent patients from the hospitals of Sydney or elsewhere. . . . But the pressure of other claims on my time has prevented me from carrying this project into effect. Should this still be the state of the case at the time of my death, then I hereby enjoin the Trustees of my Will and my daughter to accomplish my design as soon after my decease as it may be practicable to do so. With a view to enable them to do so, I hereby direct my Trustees to appropriate and set aside out of my estate not less than one hundred thousand pounds, for I assume that this sum may be sufficient for the building and maintenance of the hospital I have in view to establish.”

“My idea is that the hospital and other buildings connected therewith should be erected on that part of my land known as the Rocky Point, on the Parramatta River.”

The building was erected under the supervision of Mr. (now Sir) John Sulman, architect, with accommodation for 32 male, 32 female, and 12 children, as well as staff quarters and offices.

Since its inception this Hospital has been maintained from the funds of the Thos. Walker Trust, appreciably assisted by Dame Eadith Walker, D.B.E., whose philanthropy is so well known.

Trustees:

A. CONSETT STEPHEN, Esq., Perpetual Trustee Co. Ltd.

Committee:

DAME EADITH WALKER, D.B.E., LADY SULMAN,

A. CONSETT STEPHEN, Esq., Chairman,

H. V. DOUGLASS, Esq., E. P. WALKER, Esq.

Secretary:

G. W. WALKER, Esq.

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- update to version 6 or later of Adobe Reader at www.adobe.com for the best searching capability.
- enter the MINIMUM number of characters needed to bring up the search results required
- use Adobe Reader to do some trial searches to try to identify the characters that may be misread. These can show up in the extra text in the search results list. A few minutes trial will help you to avoid using characters that are more prone to being misread, e.g. try entering "rederi" if you want "Frederick", but find that the letters "F" "c" and "k" are sometimes misread.
- use the "Match whole word" option to eliminate unnecessary items in your results list, e.g. to eliminate all the blacksmiths and tinsmiths etc when you only want the name Smith
- use the "Match case" option when you want to eliminate all the occupations "smith" if you only want the name "Smith"
- Don't just search for names. Search the book for other names, places and subjects of interest:
 - look for others of the same name
 - look for others who lived in the same place or street
 - who was the postmaster or police officer in the town?
 - how often and at what time did the coach arrive in town?
 - what churches were there and what time were services held?
 - what other activities were there in the community?
 - look for others who had the same occupation or other interests

All of this and more may be available in a seemingly mundane book such as a directory. Learn much of the background of life at the time, even if your ancestor is not listed there.