Mr Murphy of Hat Hill

William Andrew Murphy was born in 1846 in the Maitland area of New South Wales. Late in his life, he lived near Hat Hill at Blackheath in the Blue Mountains. This would have been from around 1913 to 1925. Hat Hill was so named because it looks rather like an old felt hat.

Mr Murphy built a small dwelling and soon the local animals and birds began regular evening visits to scavenge food from him. It was not long before people heard about this. On Sundays a local bus began driving people out to Hat Hill to watch quietly as Mr Murphy fed the wildlife.
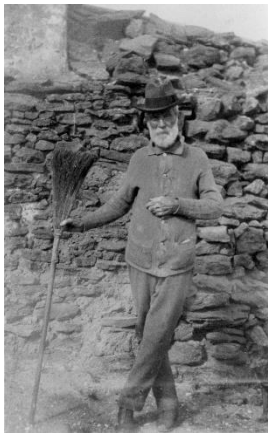
Mr Murphy

Mr Murphy's hut at Hat Hill, Blackheath

Unfortunately, a bushfire came through this area in either 1918 or 1919 and Mr Murphy's home was destroyed. After the fire had passed, Mr Murphy was found underneath a small waterfall at the back of his property. Local people helped the old man to rebuild his house. They also gave him a horse to ride. However, the shock he must have suffered during the fire meant that things at Hat Hill could never be the same for him again.

The last year or more of his life was spent at West Kogarah at the home of a friend, Mrs Helen Drain. He died there on 30 November 1927 at the age of 81. On his death certificate, his occupation is "carpenter" and he apparently never married. Reference is made to his former residence, "late of Blackheath". He was buried on 2 December 1927 in the Roman Catholic section of Woronora Cemetery.

I visited the cemetery at Woronora in August 2004. Thankfully I was given the names of neighbouring graves at the administration office, for I soon discovered that Mr Murphy's grave was unmarked. I had hoped a gravestone might have provided more

1

information. The elation felt at the realisation that I was standing next to his final resting place surpassed any initial feelings of disappointment. As I stood under the shady trees I wondered how many others had made this pilgrimage to his grave during the last 75 years.

Remains of Mr Murphy's hut at Hat Hill, Blackheath

Most of the information I know about Mr Murphy comes from the recollections of Jack and Ted Harris. In the early 1980's they were asked to record some of their memories of the Blackheath area. William Murphy obviously created a lasting impression for the brothers. They clearly remembered the old gentleman who, over sixty years ago, had lived at the end of their road when they were children.

In July 1984, after listening to the Harris brothers' recording in the Blue Mountains Oral History Collection, I wrote a song about Mr Murphy. Some years later photographs of Mr Murphy and his home were uncovered.

Sections of the stone walls of Mr Murphy's abandoned home can still be found in the bushland at Hat Hill. I have visited these ruins a number of times since writing the song. The view to the east extends as far as the Sydney skyline. It is a place made special for me by Mr Murphy's story. A story of celebration and loss, his association with this place leaves many questions unanswered. I often wonder about the events of his life and what motivated him to live in such an isolated part of the Blue Mountains. Perhaps in the future, as I keep singing my song, I will continue to discover more about him.

And despite his unmarked gravesite at Woronora, for me the ruins of his Hat Hill home serve as his monument. The ruins are slowly being reclaimed by the surrounding bush. Nature is seeing to it that this place will remain undisturbed and eventually return to how it was when Mr Murphy first arrived.   *Jim Low*

SONG LYRICS
Mr Murphy
> *Chorus:*
> *Old Mr Murphy's a friend to all*
> *Especially the animals, large and small*
> *Especially the animals, large and small.*
> *Old Mr Murphy lives all alone.*
>
> *At the bottom of a hill in a house of stone*
> *A house that he built from the things around*
> *The soil, the stones and the timber he found.*
> *Each day to Blackheath he walks the track*
> *For his daily supplies, then he's heading back*
> *A smile or a greeting along the way*
> *"How y' keeping, Mr Murphy?" and the odd "G'day".*
>
> *His blue eyes pierce the fading light*
> *He starts the fire and prepares for night*
> *Then knocks his old pipe on his dusty old heel*
> *And checks the billy and prods at his meal.*
> *A whistle is heard and the silence ends*

2

It's old Mr Murphy calling his friends
In the evening shadows the bush comes alive
As the animals and birds begin to arrive.

There's food for all creatures - the Gang Gang and quail
Brown wallabies and possums and the willy wagtail
The old man smiles broadly, his teeth displayed
As he stares at the sanctuary his kindness has made.
On Sunday the tourists would come to his door
And the people would marvel at the things they saw
A kind old man with snowy hair
Treating the animals with so much care.

Then the bushfires came and his home was destroyed
He lost the place that he once enjoyed
He returned for a while but it wasn't as before
He was taken away and heard of no more.　　　　　*© Jim Low*

Index

Food for thought .... Editor's note

The recent 2017 RAHS Conference was, as usual, a resounding success! Everyone left Cowra on information overload, knowing so much more about Cowra itself, the Prisoner of War Camp, the war cemetery and the Japanese Gardens, amongst other things! However, one of the most useful agenda items was the Business Session, which provided a handout asking questions pertinent to history/family history groups and museums, such as, should groups charge entry fees, ideas for gathering revenue, ensuring submissions on heritage matters have an impact, should your organization register for GST, the best way to manage ISBN & ISSN numbers, and the necessity for Working With Children checks.

BMACHO Secretary Jan Koperberg has emailed out the information sheet to BMACHO email contacts. However if anyone missed out, please feel free to contact BMACHO and a copy can be sent.

In particular, and relevant to the various correspondences which come across the BMACHO desk, is the subject of making a submission, and making sure your submission, whether it is on a heritage listing, other heritage issue, or on any other topic for that matter, has an impact.

We are all, as groups or individuals, asked to comment on things from time to time, and the preparation of a submission can be very time consuming. It is a pity to spend so much time preparing correspondence and supporting documentation, only to find it is relegated to the shelf and never read.

Bruce Baskerville, with considerable experience in submitting submissions, but also receiving and assessing submissions, provided some advice to ensure your submission counts. The hints are regarding heritage submissions, but could be carried across into any submission situation:

What works:

- Focus on history and historical significance, and play to your strengths. You are talking about significance of a place, emphasize this.
- Keep it short – you should be able to say on one page why a place is important enough to be listed – precision shows you know what you are talking about.
- Begin with the sentence "Harriett's Hut is significant and should be listed because ….."
- Be polite, use plain English, be helpful – offer to provide further information if requested.
- Be regularly engaged with Council's heritage advisor or committee – support them as ongoing friends or allies.
- Cherish (loudly) local heritage and history, challenge those who say "it's only local" as if that means it doesn't really matter.

What doesn't work:

- Overwhelming with too much information – it just won't be read.
- Bundling together lots of papers and pictures and expecting someone else to just "get" the point you want to make.
- Heckling, badgering, being equivocal or pointing out the serial failures of the local council to take heritage seriously (even if it might be true!)
- Not taking time to find out who matters in making LEP listing [and planning] decisions, and only finding out who is council's heritage officer at the last minute [and thereby making last minute inaccurate submissions].
- Failing to keep up to date with Council notices in local papers or on Council's website advertising changes to LEP lists, changing public land classifications, etc.

Careful consideration enables you to have an opportunity to provide additional historical information, suggest further historical values and significance, or achieve more accurate names or curtilage boundaries, but not necessarily in the first submission.

Polite persistence supported by verifiable historical research has worked for the RAHS for many years.

Bruce Baskerville is an independent public historian, has been a Senior Heritage Officer with the NSW Heritage Office, is a Royal Australian Historical Society Council Councillor, and been involved in the Professional Historians' Association in NSW & ACT Management Committee (Secretary, Treasurer, President, Chair), History Council of NSW Management Committee (Treasurer, Councillor), and The Australian Heraldry Society Management Committee (Deputy President, President and Editor). Bruce was a judge for the NSW Premier's History Prize in 2000, and for the National Trust Heritage Awards in 2008, being awarded a Centenary of Federation Medal in 2002, and was elected a Fellow of the Federation of Australian Historical Societies in 2011. Amongst other things!!

The Village of Brasfort

The following articles posted in the Sydney Morning Herald in 1881 signalled the Crown disposal of land (some 80 lots this day) in the Village of Brasfort:

> *Department of Lands, Sydney*
> *November 11, 1881*
>   *L A N D   S A L E*
> *Attention is called to a sale of Crown Lands, to be held at the Village of Brasfort, Wentworth Falls (late Weatherboard) – on the 17th DECEMBER 1881, comprising Lands, County of Cook, Parish of Jamison.*
>   *TOWN LOTS*
> *In the Village of Brasfort (at Wentworth Falls) fronting Armstrong, Parkes, Backhouse, Fletcher and Wentworth Streets, and Pritchard, Day, Cascade, Boomara, Wilson and Jamison Streets. For further particulars see Gazette of November 10, 1881, No. 449 at Police Office or Local Land Office.*
> *Lithographs price shilling each showing the land for sale, can be obtained at the Land Offices, Penrith and Hartley, and the Surveyor-General's Office, Sydney.*
>   *JAMES HOSKINS*
>
>
> *Department of Lands, Sydney*
> *November 17, 1881*
> *ATTENTION IS CALLED to a sale of CROWN LANDS. TO BE HELD ON THE GROUND, at the VILLAGE OF BRASFORT on SATURDAY, 17TH DECEMBER NEXT, at two o'clock p.p., Comprising lands in the Parish of Jamisson, County of Cook, as per the schedule appended.*
> *The VILLAGE OF BRASFORT EXTENDS FROM THE Wentworth Falls (late Weatherboard) Railway Station to the Falls.*
> *LITHOGRAPHS (price one shilling each), showing the land for sale, can be obtained at the Land Offices at Penrith and Hartley, and at the Surveyor-General's Office, Sydney.*
>   *JAMES HOSKINS*

Early beginnings

Although the streets and lots were soon settled, the name of Brasfort did not survive progress in the development of the town of Wentworth Falls.

Wentworth Falls was barely in existence in terms of subdivision as a village until well after the coming of the railway. Prior to this there were a handful of farming families in the vicinity, teamsters along the western road, which then was what we know as Blaxland Road, and then railway gangs from 1863, who were served for many years by the Weatherboard Inn until the 1860s. The Weatherboard Hut was set up by Cox in 1814, and the Inn in the 1820s. Robyn Ridge, in her book "Once Upon a Time in History", notes that Governor Macquarie renamed the waterfalls "Campbell's Cataract", after his secretary, but "Weatherboard" persisted for some time.

Once the government chose the Nepean Valley for the city's new water supply, things began to change and restrictions on residential development in the Blue Mountains were removed. The town name was changed from Weatherboard to Wentworth Falls to remember William Charles Wentworth of explorer fame.

Once the rail came through, Sydney inhabitants began to seek holiday accommodation and mountain retreats, hotels, boarding houses, holiday houses, services and guest houses sprang up. Social reformers in Sydney were renouncing the unhealthy living conditions in the city, and people sought access to the mountains and the pure mountain air via the railway.

Brasfort is gazetted

However, in between Weatherboard and Wentworth Falls, the town had another name – Brasfort. In 1881 the Village of Brasfort was set out in a grid pattern of 28 sections on some 24 hectares (61 acres) along and around what we now know as Falls Road, to the south of the current Great Western Highway, and gazetted in 1885. The subdivision allowed for a buffer along Armstrong Street and along the highway. Government reserves were included

and in 1889 the cemetery reserve was separated out; but not all of the gazetted streets were formed at first.
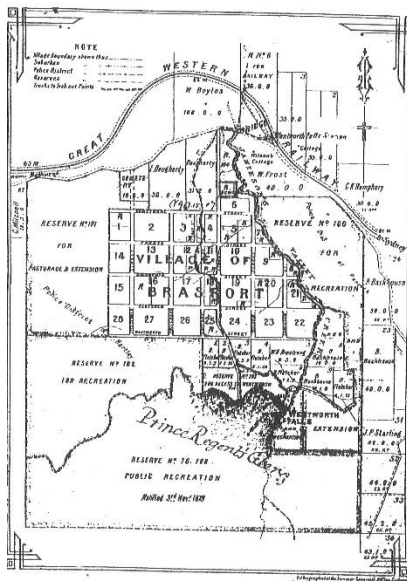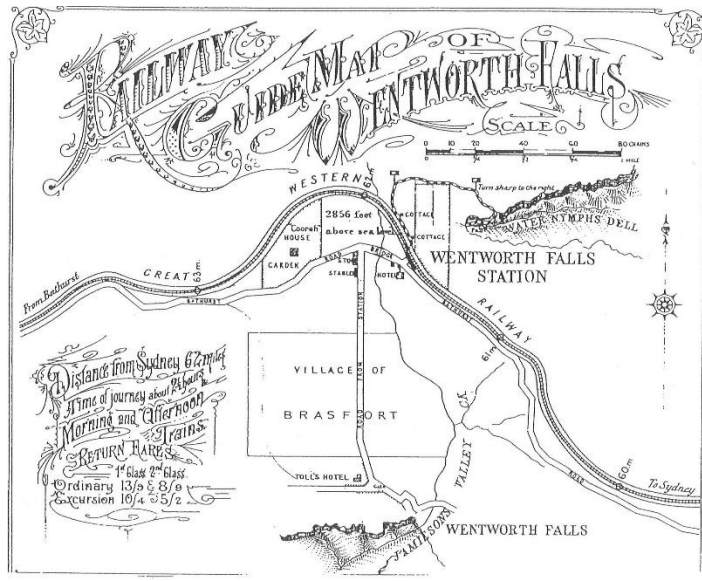
1887	*1894*

By 1889 Wentworth Falls consisted of about forty homes, with a population of about 150 people. The school was erected in 1887 and Peter Mulheran was running his Mount Allen Hotel, which included livery stables. This hotel became a boarding house and then a private residence. He later built a boarding house in Wilson Street, called "Rockwall".

Brasfort however, although it was proclaimed a village in 1885, was absorbed into Wentworth Falls in 1896, even though by 1892 it already had 24 homes erected. These residences within the subdivision served professional people from Sydney as mountain holiday homes.

Elsewhere, settlement was by local workers on the railway and on farms, and it was these who became the first permanent residents of Wentworth Falls.
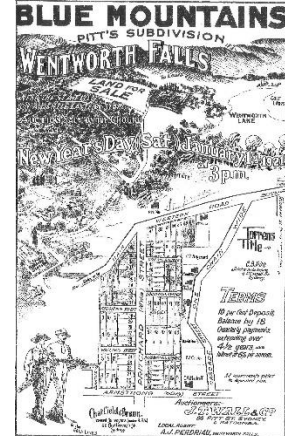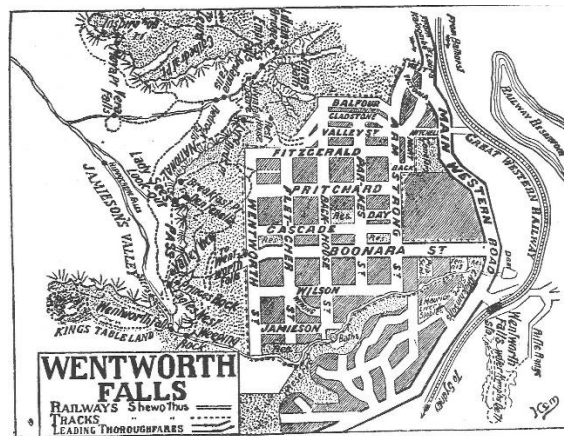
Over time, further subdivision within the village, with elaborate invitations to mountain living!

Early development

In Brasfort, a general store was established on the corner of Boonara Road (now Falls Road) by Thomas Cale in 1887 and the Highway. A second general store was opened on the highway between the hotel and the creek. Land was reserved for future public buildings, but few were developed, and were eventually sold off. The corner of Armstrong and Robinson/Cascade Streets was dedicated for a Mechanics Institute in 1899, and a School of Arts was erected there in 1902.

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In the 1890s Joseph Toll built a hotel, Toll's Hotel on Falls Road. In 1891 he bought Mt Allen Hotel and transferred its licence to his new Wentworth Hotel, which burnt down in 1932.The Holy Trinity Church was built on Falls Road in 1888-89. Prior to this services were held in Cale's store. Other churches included the original Catholic and Presbyterian churches.

The railway had been surveyed in 1862 and reserves for platforms and station were created throughout the mountains soon after. The reserve was created at Weatherboard in 1866, and the platform was built in 1867, retaining a substantial portion of land around it. This reserve was not released until 1906, which inhibited development, particularly a commercial precinct, which did not take off until 1910. Eventually the reserve was subdivided into residential lots which included parks and recreation areas.

By 1900 most of the population still lived in Brasfort, but following WW1 the move was more to the north into what we know as Wentworth Falls. By the time the commercial area of today was established, the community's means of transport had turned again, and there was a shift away from rail to road, and the upgrading of the highway took place over time.

Land ownership and streets

The land which encompassed Brasfort was originally "owned" by Walter D. Armstrong a draftsman in the Lands Department (probably leased from the Crown), from whose name the village received its name: a French adaptation, "bras" meaning arm and "fort" meaning strong, or the Saxon "strongitharm". The name was originally given to the gully into which Falls Road dips beyond Armstrong Street.
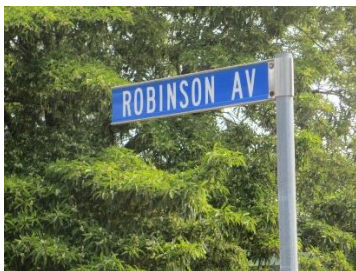
The streets were named after prominent local people who had purchased land in the subdivision at the time. Benjamin Backhouse was a prominent Sydney architect and William Pritchard was a Sydney auctioneer and real estate agent, and others included Henry Parkes, Horden brothers, George and Robert Pitt, John McLaughlin, Captain John Charles Smith of Goodlet and Smith, and Captain James Somerville Murray. The Murrays built homes for themselves as well as rental houses, and donated land for Murray Park.

Other early Brasfort Village landowners included Edward Dougherty and David Davis.

Early significant homes

("**Davisville**"). "Davisville", on Falls Road, was purchased by the YWCA in 1920 and later by the Anglican Church. It was located on part of the original land grant in the area to Doherty in 1857. Davis was a Sydney builder.

The property "**Eurona**" was first bought in 1881 in Brasfort by John Hawksford, and the Federation house was built by Sydney merchant Arthur Pearce in 1900. It was later used by the Sisters of Mercy as their mountain retreat for some 50 years.

Walter Armstrong built "**Green Gables"** (formerly named "**Gila**", and later "**Minniewanka**") in about 1880 on Railway Parade. This land was originally fronting the railway to the south, and was granted to Robert Stubbs, Thomas Boland, David Fletcher (a Sydney dentist) and Walter Armstrong. The land was immediately subdivided for the four, with Armstrong maintaining his share whilst also being instrumental in the development of the main village. The house was named "Green Gables" in 1919 by the then owner William Wood, and has been rebuilt and extended over time, passing through many hands. An Anglican minister associated with the Hordern empire held the house for from 1930 to 1952, when it was bought by the Mather family, who retained ownership until 2003.

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Verna

Etheldale

Inglewood

"Verna" is located on the Great Western Highway, and was built in the late 1890s by John Farrell of Manly, or his daughters, and was bought in 1895 by Dora (Dolly) Boulton. The house was originally known as **"Clunes**", and the land was subdivided in 1900, and sold to Rev E Claydon and the Anglican church. Later, the Claydon family used the place as a mountain holiday home, and it has had a number of owners since then.

"Inglewood" is located in Pritchard Street, and was built between 1880-1890. The house was shown on a subdivision plan of 1912, although significant changes have occurred to the building since then. It was owned by the Murphy family for 99 years until it was sold in 1992.

"Etheldale" is located in Falls Road, (formerly Boonara Street), and is a significant home, claiming associations with prominent families such as the Heney-Gullett family of journalistic and literary distinction, and with General Stewart an early Bathurst settler, and his descendants. Dr Charles McKay first bought the land, but sold it to David Davis in 1889 without developing it. In 1919 Davis sold to Amy Heney, and she and her husband built the house, naming it "**Lymdale**". They moved to Queensland only a few years later, selling the property to the Stewarts. A number of lots were added to the property over the next 10 years, to enhance the garden. On one allotment was built the cottage **"Amiens",** by the Stewarts. In 1962 "Lymdale" was sold to Derek Howlett, an archaeologist. In 1977 Howlett sold to Margaret Ethel Henderson, who renamed the property "Etheldale". In 1987 it was bought by James Meadows and Marlie Rendel.

Another mountain residence was "**Raleighville"**, home of the summer residence of the Simmons family. This home burnt to the ground in August 1899.

Joseph Bowes built **"Strathmore",** and the Reverend Stephen Childe built "**Chalet Fontanelle**" which was changed to "**Whispering Pines**".

Early boarding houses included **"Berry Lodge"** in Pritchard Street, **"The Pines"** in Boonara Street, and **"Rotorua"** in Pritchard Street. CW Medcalf was a carpenter who built several of the houses west of the Holy Trinity Church in Armstrong Street in the 1880s.

St Andrews Presbyterian

Holy Trinity Anglican

St Francis Xavier Catholic

Brasfort today

There are many other significant homes and tree lined streetscapes within the Brasfort Village area, which demonstrate the 19th century ideal of a mountain escape on spacious grounds, within reach of the rail line, the Falls, and the beginnings of the small commercial centre and other services. Activities included flower and vegetable gardens, orchards, dairies and poultry, all of which demonstrated a need to be self-sufficient until the development of the railway enabled better access to markets in Sydney.
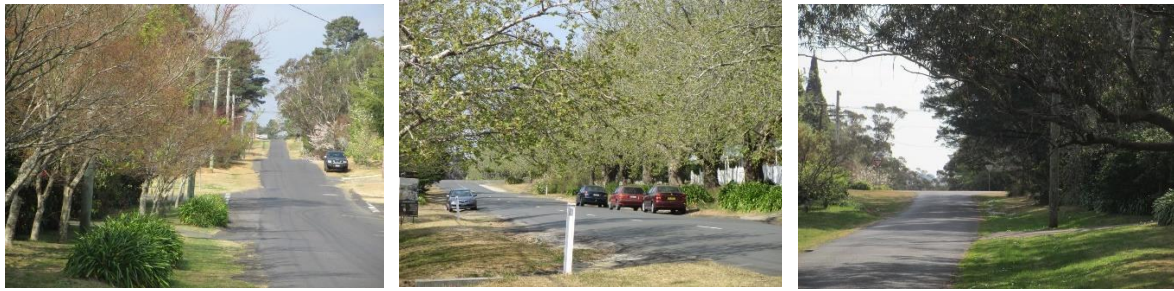
The leafy streets of Brasfort today

Wentworth Falls has therefore had two previous lives, as the simple Weatherboard, and then the residential estate of Brasfort. The changing modes of transport and servicing did the most to alter the character of the town we know today. The Weatherboard name is familiar to many, with its associations to William Cox and the building of the first road. The name Brasfort, however, has faded in familiarity especially for the younger generation, and to folk from beyond the mountains who were not aware of its existence.

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Maxwell's Hut, Burragorang Valley

Chris Banffy of NSW National Parks is heading a restoration team for Billy Maxwell's Hut in the Burragorang Valley.

The hut, built in 1925 using the methods of his father William Maxwell, and expanded over time by William (Billy) Maxwell, has been abandoned since 1943.

A very detailed document by Ian Jack is available at:

http://www.asha.org.au/pdf/australasian_historical_archaeology/27_04_Jack.pdf

The hut is well documented because of a shooting accident on Boxing Day of 1926, where Alan Crago was shot, and his kidney damaged. A hospital was set up in Maxwell's Hut and photographed by Horace Milton.

Because of this detailed documentation, Chris believes he has a good case to have the hut restored, and has formed a committee to raise funds for the project.

So far there has been considerable work done to protect the remaining timbers from white ants, and some protection of remnant timbers from the hut, and an enclosing fence has been erected to unsuccessfully keep the wombats out and stop them from undermining the foundations.

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Maxwell's hut 2017

Some of the locals

Site visit April 2017

Chris hopes to restore the hut to a habitable state, and have it used by bushwalkers, using a booking system. On 5th April 2017 I visited the hut with Chris, Jan Koperberg, and Ian Jack his wife Jan. It stands in a large paddock frequented by kangaroos, wombats and echidnas.
Philip Hammon

The search for the recovery road, Katoomba coal mine

Once again, Phil Hammon has been analysing old photographs! However, this time he follows it up with some ground truthing

"The search for the Recovery Road began with the finding of this photo in MAAS website which showed in the far background, J B Norths house Essendene, and a small shed at the top of the Tramway.

I had seen references to it but never took it seriously, as I had no idea where it was or how it could work. My mother had told me tales of sliding down the "mullock heaps" on sheets of galvanised iron when she was a child, so I knew that they had existed. The only other reference was a mention in Bennett's paper of the crews building the Catalina racetrack coming across heavy timbers in this area and assuming that they were something to do with the tramway. However, searching Google Earth and SIX Maps for land boundaries of the tramway at its northern end, the road which runs west from the intersection of Kulgoa and Gundar Street in the 1943 aerial photos of the area looked like it could be a suitable candidate, as it curves under the hill in what would be just in the right place.

The coal and shale that was brought up the tramway from the top of the incline, at what today is the Scenic Railway, was tipped across screens, which sized the coal and dropped it into bins for loading into rail wagons. If the bins were full or the coal was oversized it passed across the top of the screens and went into the bypass chutes. At present I have no detail on these chutes, be they wooden troughs or simply dividing fences on the ground, but they were needed to separate, shale from coal, and to feed a loading chute at the bottom.

410 Katoomba N.S.W. (H.King. Photo Syd)

A site survey on 29 May 2017 with Patrick Leonard and myself, armed with the trusty Garmin GPS, followed the road from Kulgoa St. There is a steel gate across the road with a BMCC padlock. It is obviously a well made road, cut and benched across the hillside, sloping gently downhill, and following the side of the hill around towards the NW. My conversations with "horsey" people had told me of the necessity for a turning circle for the horse and cart to turn around, then a means of backing the cart under the chute. Horses don't back carts very well, especially downhill!

Sure enough there is a turning circle 10-12 metres in diameter with the remains of a hitching post in its centre. From here the road slopes more steeply into the bottom of a small waterfall and terminates.

It seems to me that the 3 metre high cliff formed by the waterfall was perfect to give the loading chute some elevation, and allow the coal to slide into the dray. I conclude that the driver would bring the cart to the turning circle, turn it around, unhitch the horse and tie him to the hitching post, then manually walk the dray downhill to run up against the stop under the end of the chute. He then brings the horse down, turns him, and backs him into the shafts.

The dray is then loaded from the chute, and the horse pulls the dray all the way around the recovery road, into Gundar St, up onto the highway,and around to the top of the screens where the coal or shale was again screened. I am assuming that the large lumps of coal and shale which had bypassed the screens, were manually broken down whilst lying on the ground awaiting reloading.

Picture from 1943 SIX Maps showing the remains of the Recovery Road

Patrick under the loading chute for the tip dray

Round footing for a post beam, part of loading chute

Coal and shale recovered from the creek bed

Post hole recess, with small objects placed in it

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Remains of an iron box up on the bank

Two post holes above creek bed

There were the remains of an iron box on the bank, perhaps formerly a horse feed or water trough. There were two post holes on the slope 2 metres apart, 10 metres above the creek bed, they appear to be post hole footings, and have recently been used by animals, evidenced by the pile of fresh earth outside the holes.

Our explorations carried us up to the railway siding, which we followed to the south west. I was looking to prove or disprove the statement from Bennett's paper that the tramway went over the railway siding on a bridge. It is quite obvious, from the earthworks that the tramway passed under the NSWGR rails. The tramway only being 12ft wide, and the skips 3ft high, it was a not a long span for standard gauge rail.

The hold down bolt for the return wheel of tramway
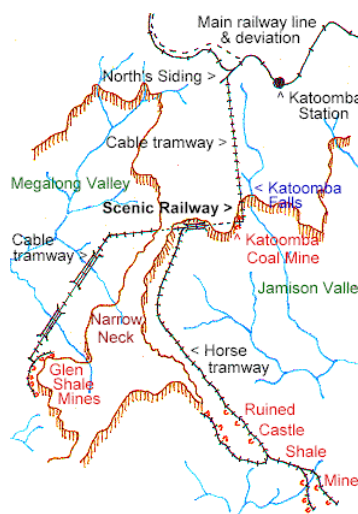
Katoomba mining tramlines

This also answered another question, on how were the rail trucks moved along under the chutes as they were being loaded, then moved to await pickup by a locomotive. This is answered by the siding being on a slight gradient, the locomotive pushing the empty trucks right up the siding, then individual trucks being rolled back down the slope using sprags and pinchbars, to be loaded.

Now proceeding up the tramway to the North, looking for the site of the shed that can be seen in the first photograph. There has been a lot of site disturbance by the RFS, cutting up the large pine tree logs that were growing on the site from John Britty North's time, but we did manage to fine one 1 1/4" diameter hold down bolt, which probably held the return wheel for the tramway. There is also a substantial concrete footing here, which has coal and goolies for aggregate dating it to the 1880's."

Philip Hammon

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The Technical Side

Heritage Gardens

Creation of a garden takes time, and its establishment and development over time demonstrate the vision of the designer. To reach a mature state may take decades, but the garden by then may have reached a stage when it requires redevelopment, adaptation, amendment, when its original perceived character is altering and it needs reinvigorating. This redevelopment may require more regular maintenance than the maintenance of the building/s around which the garden sits.

| Leuralla, Leura | Paul Sorensen 1936 | Everglades, Leura |

However, events and landuses that created the site took place in a certain physical environment. The investigation of the history of the site, the assessment of the significance and a review of events which have shaped the place over time, may enable the current owner to decide how to undertake future land management.

The conservation, care and restoration of a heritage garden will always follow some basic principles:

1. Condition assessment:

The curtilage around the built elements is integral to the heritage significance of the items, and this is usually the garden setting. Assess the existing nature and condition of the garden, describing it through drawings, plans, maps and photographs. Any description will include buildings, works, relics, trees or places and their setting. Records should note contours, species and species maturity, and location, height and foliage cover, location and nature of features such as grassed areas and garden bed form, cottage gardens, hedging, tree avenues, water features, tennis courts, garden edging, orchards and vegetable gardens, gates and fencing, paths and patios, retaining walls, pergolas and statuary.

Note other features such as the nature and location of services. Take photographs, and use aerial photography. Identify areas which might require urgent attention – stabilization, weeds, tree surgery, impacts from stock grazing, plants which are impacting upon building stability, and areas of erosion.

2. Historical research:

Carry out historical research based on the physical and documentary evidence available. Your research may relate to soil types, and condition, regional climate, and access to light, historical research of the property itself, the buildings and the owners. Analysis of old photographs, sketches and paintings, reviewing oral histories and inventory sheets will assist, as well as consultation with bodies such as the Australian Garden History Society, and the various Botanic Gardens. Investigate if significant people such as Paul Sorensen were connected to the garden, to obtain some insight as to its original establishment.

This site investigation may result in the discovery of archaeological remains, former outbuildings and /or relics. These should be documented, especially where the garden is of known significance, and should involve minimal excavation until an archaeologist can be brought on site.

3. Significant values and constraints:

Prioritise what is important about a surviving garden. What is it about the garden which gives it its significance, what was the original concept and character? It may be the garden design, the context, the trees, mature plantings or stone walling, heritage associations such as with people, buildings or events, or a rare surviving example of a garden type or period of time. The place may contain research value in terms of plants or plant remains of historical and horticultural value.

Determine what features should be incorporated into the restored garden. Prepare a policy for the ongoing conservation and restoration of the garden. Identify the constraints such as budget, climate, zoning, significance, encroaching landuses, road widening and service upgrades. Consider risks to neighbouring properties, and also to public access to the garden, such as limb/tree fall or root invasion.

4. Prepare the management documents:

From the above research and analysis, a statement of significance should be prepared for future planning and development.

Undertake preparation of plans and heritage management documents for construction and ongoing maintenance. The plans and heritage management documents should show the existing condition of the garden, the research undertaken, and allowance made for limiting criteria such as servicing and costing.

Original curtilage of the property should be plotted, and the remaining area available for restoration defined.

It should include a planting scheme, and garden layout and planting/maintenance calendar, looking for appropriate species where original ones are unavailable. Some species might be obtained over time, and be subject to development in nurseries. Cuttings and seeds from other similar period gardens are an option, as is propagation on site where species can be cultivated for replacement.

Where gardens are open for public inspection, a range of other measures may have to be set down in regard to public safety, signage, insurance, amenities and parking.

Critically, the heritage management documents should be regularly reviewed and amended to reflect changes over time.

Conclusions:

Gardens are organic, plants grow, climate and landuses changes and species die. Many aspects cause change over time, such as the setting, light and shade, growth of species and views, landuse change, subdivision, disaster such as fire or flood, change of ownership, zoning laws, bad management and neglect.

Heritage garden restoration may come down to attempting to recreate the original character, style and personality of the garden, rather than repetition of the original garden per se. There is also a difference in outlook and planning if the garden is a remnant bushland pocket, or it is a broadly exotic garden.

Norman Lindsay garden, Faulconbridge   Lidsdale House, Lithgow   Hoskins Church, Lithgow

Although for substantial restoration it is preferable to have the works overseen by a landscape architect along with knowledgeable horticulturalists, most gardens were created by the former occupants of the property, and the current occupants are usually most capable of managing and carrying out restoration work themselves, with guidance and research.

The changes in the garden must be accepted, although the function of the garden may not have changed. Management techniques might include reducing flower beds, and using low maintenance species etc, and it is important to retain evidence of the changes you make. Mowing, pruning and weeding take time, and the original garden may have had the benefit of paid help to assist, so time saving techniques and low cost may be paramount.

Above all, monitor seasonal changes, and hasten slowly. Have patience and undertake observation to understand the place and how it has changed over time. It is said we are but land managers not land owners, and the continuity may not benefit us directly now, but be a garden for future generations to enjoy. It may have taken 50 years for the garden to mature, and the new restoration work may not mature for another 50 years! So the restoration process is not a stop/start activity, rather than a continual process of adaptation to change over time.

The above is a very brief description of techniques which might be applied to heritage garden restoration.

HOWEVER! This is only the start of information which is out there to help you with your project. The following references are highly recommended as well.

In addition, the **BMACHO Conference 2018** will feature keynote speaker **Stuart Read** from the Department of Environment and Heritage, NSW Heritage Branch. Stuart will present an address on "Succession Planting", which is expected to be a thorough and informed account of how to proceed with the task of heritage restoration. So save the date, *12 May 2018 at Mount Victoria Manor, Mount Victoria.*

References:
Heritage Curtilages, Dept of Urban Affairs & Planning,1996
Looking after Heritage Places, M Pearson & S Sullivan 1995
Getting the Details Right, Ian Evans 2010
Paul Sorensen, Ian Rufus 1996
Federation Gardens: Conservation of Federation Houses, Chris Betteridge & NSW Heritage Council 1980s
Technical Note: Managing risk with heritage trees, Stuart Read & Elisha Long, Heritage Branch, Dept of Planning 2010
The Maintenance of Heritage Assets: Heritage Gardens and Grounds, Heritage Council of NSW, 1998

Community events & updates

Thank you, Scott Pollock!

Scott Pollock, former Manager of Everglades Historic House and Gardens, served on the Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations (BMACHO) committee from 2013. During that time Scott helped launch and maintain the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail and managed our website. Scott did not accept nomination for the committee in March 2017, but he did remain on the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail sub-committee.

GBM Heritage Trail launch

At Everglades

Scott leads the BMACHO group

Before James Fairfax died in January 2017 at the age of 83, he bequeathed to the National Trust his sumptuous Victorian estate, Retford Park, in the NSW Southern Highlands, to be opened as a house museum.

Scott has now been appointed Manager of Retford Park at Bowral, by the National Trust of Australia (NSW), and has moved to Bowral. This is the National Trust's gain and BMACHO's loss.

We wish to thank Scott sincerely for all the enthusiastic help and support provided during his time with BMACHO and we wish him all the very best for his new appointment.

The new Manager of Everglades Historic House and Gardens is the former head gardener, Guy McIlrath.   *Jan Koperberg*

St Thomas Anglican Church, Hampton

St Thomas Anglican Church Hampton will celebrate its 120th Anniversary on Sunday 12th November 2017. Hampton is an area rich in the history of pioneer farmers and timber cutters dating back to the 1840s. For many years there was no Anglican Church. In 1813 only eight kilometres up the Hampton Road from the site later chosen for the church, Deputy Surveyor George Evans was the first known European to have crossed the Great Divide. In 1892 The Rev Thomas J Heffernan from Mt Victoria was ministering to parishioners at Hampton and arranged for a site for a church to be donated. The donor was P H Chauncy, the land being a subsection of one of the Wilson family paddocks now on Wicketty War Road.

Hampton Church 2017

Rev. Heffernan's father, Rev W Heffernan, laid a foundation stone on 9 November 1897 but building did not begin until 1905. Using stone quarried at Norman Lea on the Hampton/Rydal Road by Macarthur, and cut by local stonemason, Billy Boyd, the contractor E Cooke of Jenolan Caves and the foreman, D Chalmers, completed the church early in 1907. The wife of the donor Mrs Chauncy was presented with "a beautiful gold brooch, set with pearls and sapphires" when Canon Boyce opened the church on 23 February 1907. The hall adjacent was opened on 8 March 1964, donated by Mr and Mrs J Finlay and in the same year the church was finally cleared of debt and consecrated. It is now part of the Parish of Blackheath administered by the Anglican Diocese of Sydney but also cared for by Oberon ministers and lay ministers who officiate at the services.

Sadly congregations are dwindling; but the sense of heritage remains with the early endeavours to establish schools, places of worship etc in our villages, the hotels of necessity getting there first! Many families here are fifth generation - the same names on the same properties and roads.

The celebration will commence at 11.30am, and will be followed by refreshments. All are welcome to revisit and share old friendships and memories with the congregation.

Celia Ravisi

For further information contact Celia at: cerav@bigpond.com

Glenbrook History Walks – 2018

Planning ahead, the Glenbrook group has their programme for next year all sorted. Book in early!

GLENBROOK & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY Inc.

'HISTORY WALKS' PROGRAMME for 2018.

All on Saturdays: Walks led by Doug. Knowles & Team.

March 3rd: 9.00am "**Glenbrook Lagoon Precinct.**" Early campside and railway dam construction 1880 for Water Supply to Glenbrook Station.

24th: 9.00am "**The Descent to the West:**" Mt. York : Three short return walks on the three most historic roads to the West: Cox's Pass 1815:   Lawsons Road 1822 and newest: Berghofer's Pass 1909. Includes Tea/coffee, biscuits.
Special Walk: $12.00 Adults.

April 14th: 9.00am "**Faulconbridge Steam Sawmill Site.**" Engine remnants and other relics. Operated 1914-1925.

May 5th: 1.30pm "**The Mountains Murders.**" Captain Lee Weller's grave site and rock in scriptions.

26th: 1.30pm "**Cox's Road.**" Walk along a section of this historic road following the ridge top from Linden to Woodford Trig.

June 9th: 1.30pm "**Lapstone Construction Railway.**" 1910--1913 and east portal of Lapstone Hill Tunnel 1892.

23rd: 1.30pm "**Duck Hole--Glenbrook Creek.**" Old Roadway construction and pump site for railway water supply to old Glenbrook Station.

July 14th: 1.30pm "**Dunn's Steam Sawmill Site**" **and earth dam.** Brookside Creek, Lennox Bridge and the old stone quarry.

Aug. 4th: 9.00am "**Bull's Creek.**" Railway relics:- Stone dam and steam pump relics.

Sept. 1st: 9.00am "**Eastern Zig Zag Railway 1867**" and the first improvement: The Lapstone Hill Tunnel route. 1892.

Sept. 29th: 9.00am "**Glenbrook Heritage Walk.**" Historic sites, houses and West Portal of Lapstone Hill Tunnel--1892.
(**Last Walk for the year**.)

Adults: $10 (Except for Special Walk.) **Accompanied Children under 16yrs. Free**

BOOKINGS are ESSENTIAL: Phone Doug on **4751 3275**. Please allow the phone to ring longer than usual, for details re meeting place, time and grade of walk. Good walking shoes are essential. Please bring a hat and drinking water. (No dogs please.)

BAD WEATHER ON THE DAY: Excessive wind or rain could cause cancellation due to hazardous conditions.

The Great Western Walk

Four years ago, Dr David Goldney asked fellow ecologist, Wyn Jones, to be involved in creating the Great Western Walk across the World Heritage Listed Blue Mountains from Emu Ford on the Nepean River at Emu Plains to Bathurst, NSW.

It is a 200km walk that follows (as near as possible) the 1814-1815 Cox's Road, commissioned by Governor Lachlan Macquarie, and built by William Cox and his team of convicts over six months.

David Goldney's publication, Cox's Road Dreaming Guide Book", produced in 2015 by David Goldney and Greening Bathurst, which won the 2017 Chifley Heritage Award in May, is still being distributed widely and the sub-title is "History With Your Boots On".

The 100-page book provides information about 116 sites and their natural and cultural significance. It brings together stories of the three Aboriginal nations (the Dharug, Gundungurra and Wiradjuri) who first walked the land and held their meetings on the ridges of the Blue Mountains. It also tells the stories of the Europeans, and the flora and fauna of the region.

Emu Plains   *Bathurst*
Paintings by John Lewin naturalist and artist (1770-1819)

The Great Western Walk is planning to start from the new Green Bridge being built over the Nepean River at Penrith, which is expected to open in 2018.
The whole walk will take about two weeks for people with moderate fitness. However, it has been designed to cater for all levels of fitness and interest. People will be able to slip in and out at various sections, using assisted transport. Wyn Jones said it would take about one week from Emu Plains to Mount York, and one week from Mount York to Bathurst.
The walk winds through wilderness, urban, village and rural environments. It travels across sandstone and granite country. It includes great views, east and west flowing rivers, hanging swamps and waterfalls, where Aboriginals sourced the grasses they ground for their food.
It will be a good opportunity for people to slow down and reconnect with nature, history, culture, local communities and themselves.
To complete the project, signage needs to be put up, pathways cleared, legal access obtained through private owned land west of Mount York, Council support sought to maintain the tracks and most importantly funding found for the project. All of this seems like an impossible dream, but the Great Western Walk committee hopes to launch the first stage of the walk, ie. from Penrith to Glenbrook, at the time of the opening of the Green bridge for pedestrians and cyclists.
Dame Marie Bashir AD,CVO has become the Patron, brochures are being produced, the support of politicians sought and funding is being sourced.   *Jan Koperberg*

Cox's Road Dreaming Website: http://coxsroaddreaming.org.au
Email: coxsroaddreaming@gmail.com
Or email for a brochure to David Goldney, Chair, Greening Bathurst Bicentennial Sub-committee, Adjunct Professor, Charles Sturt University dgoldney@bigpond.net.au

Changing of the guard
BMACHO would like to offer congratulations to several member groups on the recent election of their new committees.
The incoming committees are comprised as follows:

Mount Victoria & District Historical Society 2017-18
    President: Tim Jones
    Vice-President: Geoff Bates
    Treasurer: Jack Thompson
    Minute Secretary: Peter Lammiman
  Committee:
    Jean Winston, Roy Bennett, Stephen Davis, Cheryl Bawhey

Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society 2017 - 2018
    President – David Griffiths
    Vice-President – Steve Rawling
    Treasurer – Pat O'Toole
    Secretary – Marguerite Wyborn
Committee:
    Suzanne Smith – Millstone Newsletter
    Jenny Griffiths – Digital Archivist
    Deborah Hallam

Colo Shire Family History Group 2017 – 2018
    President – Carolynne Cooper
    Vice-President – Paul McDonald
    Treasurer – Joy Shepherd
    Secretary – Neil Renaud
Committee:
    Wanda Deacon
    Carol Roberts (Grants Officer)
    Jill Renaud (Public Officer)
    Chris Upton (Newsletter Editor)

It is understood that Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum and Mt Wilson/Mt Irvine Historical Society will both be undertaking their Annual General Meetings in the coming weeks.   *Patsy Moppett*

Crossing the Divide - George Evans Memorial sign

[George Evans (1780-1852) (surveyor, explorer, artist, draftsman)]
The conventional line taught to most of us at school was that a bloke called Blaxland, accompanied by Lawson and Wentworth (BLW), found the way to the west. Not so. They may have paved the way across the difficulties of the sandstone plateau, but they ended their exploration short of the Great Dividing Range. The real honours went to another fellow, George W Evans, who retraced the route of the BLW expedition some five months after the earlier party's return. George successfully crossed the watershed of the Great Dividing Range near Mt Cheetham just South of Rydal on 30th November 1813.
Evans' reason for undertaking his trip was not in the interest of personal gain, the often-speculated motivation for Blaxland. Evans, acting in the public interest, under the direction of Governor Macquarie, was to explore to the west of BLW's endpoint and to cross the watershed. Taking as a guide James Byrne, one of the BLW expedition's members, Evans arrived on 25th November 2013 at the distinctive hill that represented the terminus of the BLW expedition, naming that hill Mt Blaxland. Five days later, after an arduous few days negotiating the steep country up onto the line of the Great Dividing Range, Evans crested the range and crossed into the western watershed and down to the Fish River. The first European to cross the Divide and enter the territory of the Wiradjuri people.
From this point on, Evans' journal of the trip reads with an ascending excitement about a land of true plenty, a land that progressively got richer; the grass more sumptuous, the wildlife more prolific and the fish and fishing beyond belief. "Nothing can exceed the fine appearance of this country" he extols in his journal on Wednesday 22nd December 1813, as they returned from the end point of their journey somewhere near present day Molong.
This was the pinnacle of Evans' early achievements. After this journey Evans settled in Tasmania but was regularly recalled by Macquarie, first to accompany Governor Macquarie and his party to the site of present day Bathurst in 1815 and then to accompany the Surveyor John Oxley as second in command in expanding the known horizon of the Colony northwest from Bathurst. Subsequently, Evans sold up in Tasmania and returned to England

before coming back to Australia where he conducted a retail business before joining the Kings School in Parramatta as an art teacher, ultimately retiring to Tasmania.

Back in 1963, the Lithgow Historical Society took an enlightened decision to erect a small monument on Hampton Road incorporating a plaque acknowledging Evans and the members of his party. Building on an original idea of Hampton resident, Ian Litchfield, this memorial is now being enhanced with an interpretive sign that incorporates a copy of the map that Evans created in 1813 showing the precise line of his survey, a brief biography of Evans and a summary of other earlier attempts to reach the inland.   *Ramsay Moodie*

George Evans, with a party of five, two freemen and three convicts, was the first European to cross the Great Dividing Range NSW on November 30th 1813. The site is marked on the Hampton Road near Rydal NSW.
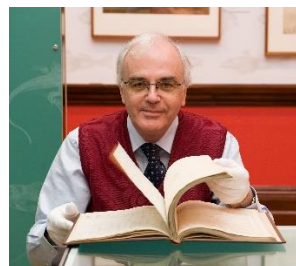
An illustrated interpretive sign acknowledging this achievement will be dedicated on November 25th 2017 at 10.30am.

George Evans	*Evans Memorial, Bathurst*	*Paul Brunton OAM*

GUEST SPEAKER: Paul Brunton OAM FAHA Emeritus Curator of the State Library.
DATE: Saturday November 25th 2017 at 10.30am.
SITE: The Evans Crossing Memorial, Antonio Reserve next to 1202 Hampton Road, 16km from the Great Western Highway, Lithgow. Turn off at Magpie Hollow Road, Lithgow, OR travel 12km from the Hampton Halfway Hotel.
Morning Tea is optional, with a gold coin donation, at *Bark Ridge* at 11.30am*,* 707 Hampton Road. BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL for morning tea.
For details, bookings and a map contact: Lithgow Regional Branch of the National Trust (NSW): Ph: 02 6359 3109 or Celia Ravisi at cerav@bigpond.com

The interpretive sign is funded by Bill Hoolihan of Rydal, Lithgow Regional Branch of the National Trust (NSW) & Lithgow City Council.   *Celia Ravisi*

Exhibition: Explorers: Narratives of Site in Contemporary Art Practices

The current exhibition at **Woodford Academy** is to be featured again on the Academy open day of 18 November 2017, following its viewings on the open days of 7 and 21st October.

"The idea of "exploration'" has been a strong narrative associated with the Blue Mountains and predominant discourses on colonialist Australia. Artists and curators will explore other, lesser-known narratives, including pre-colonial perspectives and traditional cultural stories, historic accounts and urban myths. "Explorers: Narratives of Site in Contemporary Art Practices" is an extended, multilayered, accumulative exhibition project where new artists and new and altered works are added over the duration of the show. This layering of narratives, through the accumulation of work in the space, mirrors the complex, layered and overlapping narratives of the historic Woodford Academy site."
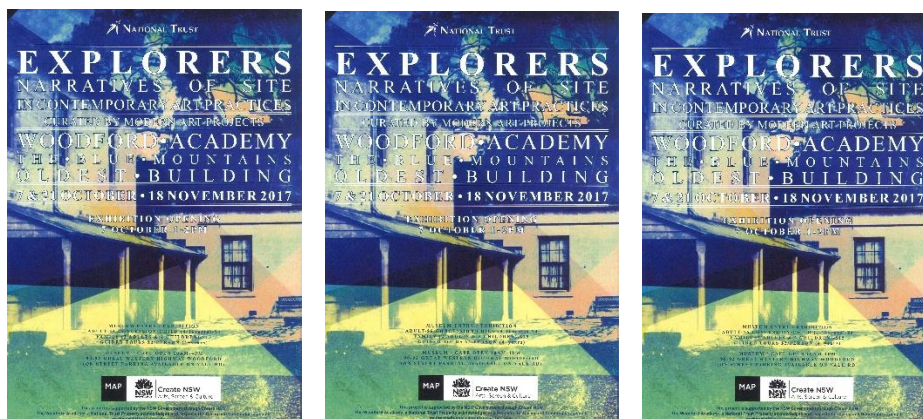
The exhibition is curated by Modern Art Projects Blue Mountains Beata Geyer and Mahalya Middlemist, and includes many exhibiting artists.

More information about the exhibition program is available at *www.explorersnarrativesofsite.org* and *www.modernartprojects.org*

"Explorers: Narratives of Site in Contemporary Art Practices" project is supported by the NSW Government through Create NSW.

Museum Entry & Exhibition
Adults $6, Concession/Child (4-16yrs) $4, Family $15 (2 adults, 2 children)
Guided Tours - $2/Person (4+years)
Woodford Academy 90-92 Great Western Highway, Woodford
(on street parking available on Vale Rd)

Collections MOZAiC software

A request has been directed to BMACHO to inquire of members whether organisations have Collections MOSAiC software installed and if it is used regularly. If yes, would they be prepared to demonstrate its use.   *Stephen Davis, BMHS and MV DHS.*

"Collections MOZAiC is a collections management system that is simple enough to use for anyone, affordable enough for everyone, sophisticated enough for the most discerning and flexible enough to suit collections of any size.
Fully searchable data, with built-in and user-definable reports and data export functions. Pre-loaded with industry standard validation lists, but fully customizable by yourself.

An internet connection is not required, but if available, your collection data can be easily uploaded to the internet for searching by the public (or just your staff)."

Responses can be directed to BMACHO.

People moving on

BMACHO has been advised in recent weeks of two people who are set to open new chapters in their lives, moving away from their Blue Mountains associations from previous times.

Rosemary Weaver, editor of The Arms Chronicles, and Vice President of the Nepean District Historical Society, leaves Emu Plains and the Arms of Australia Museum group to head north, and thanks everyone for their support and kinds words regarding the Chronicles over the past 107 issues. It is to be hoped that the newsletter will continue on under new management within the group, carrying on where Rosemary has left off.

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Lynn Collins, Museums Advisor Blue Mountains City Council and formerly advisor to Lithgow City Council, has decided to up stumps and leave his museums advisory role. He intends to pursue his writing and painting, and tending to a boy now heading towards 8 years old. Sounds like he will have his hands full! Lynn will be sorely missed by many, and BMACHO will feel the loss from his valuable input on our GBM Heritage Trail Committee. BMACHO wishes them both well, and hope they will experience deserved satisfaction from their new experiences, and hope they stay in touch with their former heritage communities.

BMACHO receives RAHS Create NSW Cultural Heritage Grant

BMACHO were recent recipients of a 2017 Create NSW Cultural Heritage Grant from the Royal Australian Historical Society. The Grants were presented to recipients at the recent RAHS Conference in Cowra. BMACHO received a grant of $800.00 towards the publication of the 2018 issue of the Blue Mountains History Journal.

"The program is designed to facilitate the dissemination of local Australian stories, expression of the diversity of Australian culture as it impacts on communities, and to highlight and localise pivotal Australian historical events and issues."   RAHS

Presentation by RHAS President Associate Professor Carol Liston to Jan Koperberg

BMACHO was ably represented by Secretary Jan Koperberg, who received the grant on our behalf.   *Patsy Moppett*

BMACHO Conference 2018: Heritage Landscapes

Plans are well under way for the 2018 Conference, *"Heritage Landscapes"*. The Conference will be held on Saturday 12 May 2018, at Mount Victoria Manor, 11 Montgomery Street, Mount Victoria.

Most speakers have been confirmed and the Committee is quite excited about the quality of input that we are anticipating being presented. The key note address will be on the subject of "Succession Planting", a topic dear to the hearts, and a worry to the planning, of anyone with a heritage listed or significant garden. What happens when certain species, trees or shrubs die? What happens when alternate landuses begin to compete with and threaten the character of the particular landscape? How do you move on to retain the significance of the landscape?

Mt Wilson landscape
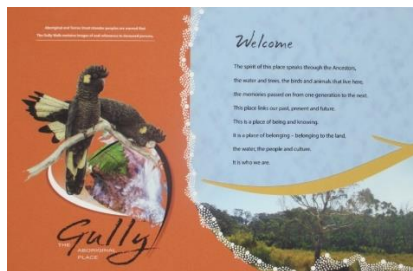
The Gully landscape

Eurama landscape

Other subjects include Mt Wilson Gardens, The Blue Labyrinth, The Gully, "Eurama", Sorensen gardens, and Woodford Reserve. Each of these landscapes is precious for very different and significant reasons, and how to perpetuate that is always a challenge. Accommodation for the Conference is available within Mount Victoria and at the Manor, and train access takes you to within walking distance of the venue. Trade tables will be available. Costs and booking details will be published in the New Year via the BMACHO website and within the first Newsletter issues of 2018.   *Patsy Moppett*

Position available – Honorary Auditor

Blue Mountains Association of Cultural Heritage Organisations Inc (BMACHO) is seeking administrative assistance.

Prior to 2013, BMACHO were able to apply for funding for administrative expenses from the Federal Government's Grants for Voluntary Environment, Sustainability and Heritage Organizations (GVESHO), but this funding was discontinued with the 2013-2014 round of funding.

Blue Mountains City Council recently provided a $400.00 Community Assistance Donation, which was much appreciated and helpful.

However, BMACHO is wondering if there is an accountant available who is prepared to act annually in an honorary capacity to provide the annual financial report. The BMACHO financial year ends on 31 December.   *Jan Koperberg*
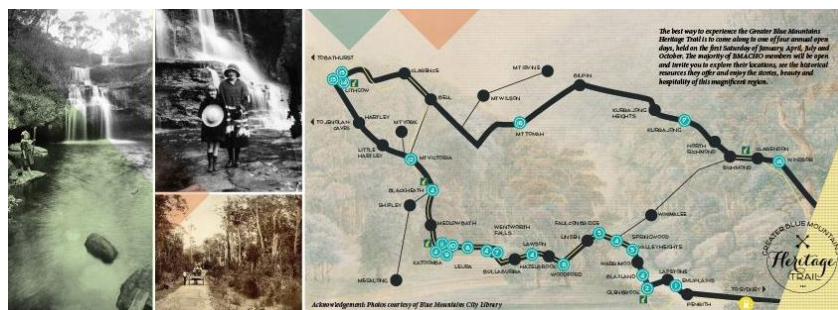
Responses and inquiries may be directed to the Secretary, Jan Koperberg, on:
committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au
j.koperberg@bigpond.com
Or phone: 0410 198 737

Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail Update

BMACHO continues to promote the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail and members' upcoming events. BMACHO have reprinted the Heritage Trail brochure which has now been distributed. During 2017 BMACHO are holding a competition to encourage visitation to Trail participant properties, and the competition entry forms are incorporated into the brochure.

Visitors to any of the participating venues as identified on the Trail brochure can either answer the set-out questions or obtain a stamp showing they have been to a venue. BMACHO will hold a prize draw approximately every six months.

So - Heritage with Altitude!!

The Trail is an ideal activity for the kids and grandkids, be it in the school holidays or any weekend! Collect the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail brochure with the "Passport Competition and entry for" insert, and discover artifacts with altitude!

Great prizes to be won and the next draw will be December 2017. Check our website http://heritagedrive.com.au for the brochure, form and list of prizes, or collect the brochure and insert from visitor centres at Glenbrook, Katoomba, Lithgow, Clarendon, Bathurst, Oberon, and Orange. Trail participants will also have brochures and forms available. Email committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au if you would like a brochure and form posted to you.

If you are a member and you would like further information, or if you would like to become a member, please email the BMACHO Secretary at committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au

For general information about BMACHO and the Trail, see heritagedrive.com.au or www.facebook.com/GBMHeritageTrail

To find out more about BMACHO visit www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au

Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year

BLUE MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS INC.

Registered office: 1/19 Stypandra Place, Springwood 2777. (02) 4751 5834
Email: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au or j.koperberg@bigpond.com
Website: www.bluemountainsheritage.com.au   **ABN**: 53 994 839 952

The organisation: Blue Mountains Association of Cultural & Heritage Organisations Inc. (BMACHO) was established in April 2006 after local historical and heritage societies and individuals recognised the need for the creation of a cultural heritage strategy for the local government area (LGA) of Blue Mountains City Council. The constituency now embraces but is not limited to, the LGAs of Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Hawkesbury and Penrith. BMACHO membership includes historical and heritage groups, museums, commercial enterprises with an historical or heritage component in its core business, local government (local studies units, library collections) and a limited number of individual members by invitation such as but not necessarily academics. The objectives of the organisation are:
1.   To raise public consciousness of the value of cultural heritage
2.   To encourage and assist cultural heritage
3.   To initiate and support cultural heritage activities not already covered by member organisations.
One of the aims of BMACHO is to bring the various bodies into closer contact to encourage them to work more closely together and to provide a combined voice on matters of importance within the heritage sector.

Affiliations: BMACHO is a member of the Royal Australian Historical Society and is affiliated with the Better Planning Network.

Publications: BMACHO's official newsletter *Heritage* is edited by Patsy Moppett. The annual refereed *Blue Mountains History Journal* is edited by Dr Peter Rickwood and occasional papers are published from time to time.

Membership: The following organisations are members of BMACHO: Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mt Tomah; Blue Mountains City Library; Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre; Blue Mountain Education & Research Trust; Blue Mountains Family History Society Inc; Blue Mountains Historical Society; Bygone Beautys Treasured Teapot Museum and Tearooms; City of Lithgow Mining Museum Inc; Colo Shire Family History Group; Eskbank Rail Heritage Centre; Everglades Historic House & Gardens; Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc; Hartley Valley District Progress Association; Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc; Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc; Leuralla NSW Toy & Railway Museum; Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc; Lithgow Regional Library – Local Studies; Mt Victoria & District Historical Society Inc; Mt Wilson & Mt Irvine Historical Society Inc (including Turkish Bath Museum); National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Blue Mountains Branch; National Trust of Australia (NSW) – Lithgow Branch; Nepean District Historical Society Inc; Norman Lindsay Gallery and Museum; Paragon Cafe, Katoomba; Scenic World Blue Mountains Limited; Springwood Historical Society Inc; Springwood Historians Inc; Transport Signal Communication Museum Inc; Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum, Woodford Academy Management Committee, Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd. The following are individual members: Wendy Blaxland, Fiona Burn, Ray Christison, Dr Wayne Hanley, Associate Professor Ian Jack, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Keith Painter and Dr Peter Rickwood.

Committee: The management committee for 2016-2017 (from April 2016) is: Patsy Moppett (President and *Heritage* Newsletter Editor), Ian Jack (Vice President), Jan Koperberg (Secretary), Philip Hammon (Treasurer), Jan Koperberg (web sites), Dick Morony (Public Officer/Membership Secretary/ Calendar Editor), Suzanne Smith (Events and Venue Co-ordinator), Fiona Burn, Peter Brownlee and Roy Bennett.
Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail sub-committee: Peter Brownlee, Fiona Burn, Jan Koperberg, Suzanne Smith, & Lynn Collins, Museums and Galleries Adviser.

Disclaimer: views and opinions expressed in Heritage originate from many sources and contributors. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy of material. Content does not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of BMACHO, its committee or its members. If errors are found feedback is most welcome.