

Heritage

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Acknowledgement of Country

BMACHO acknowledges and pays respect to the past, present and future Traditional Custodians and Elders of this nation and the continuation of cultural, spiritual and educational practices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

J B North's road bridge and railway siding

In 1882 John Britty North (JBN) was setting up "The Shoots", the area where the coal from his mine in the Jamison Valley would be transferred into NSWGR rail trucks to be shipped to Sydney.

This involved major earthworks and building a bridge to carry the Great Western Road (GWR) across a 10-metre-deep railway cutting near Katoomba.

Initially starting with a steeply sloping site, a large bench had to be cut to allow for the 3 railway sidings to be under the chutes. Then the siding had to be extended going slightly up hill around the hill to store the empty trucks. It was about 125M long.

The cutting under the GWR was about 100M long and 10 metres deep. Traffic on the GWR had to be maintained while the bridge and cutting were built so I surmise that the bridge was built "on the ground" beside the used road, then the road diverted over it while the cutting was dug out beneath it. I have no information as to whether the bridge was a single lane or not but getting bullock teams and stagecoaches across it would necessitate a fairly wide bridge. The bridge was known as "The Skew Bridge" because it was built straight across the siding which did not cross the road at right angles, so the bridge was "skewed" to the road direction.

Figure A shows the siding extending under the road reserve until it reached the Northern boundary of Por 64. It also shows the bridge and a level crossing across the NSWGR just to the NW of the bridge, the "Katoomba Coal Co steam sawmill" just over the boundary of Portions 64/63 within today's Lot 4 DP 707.

The next trick was to build a flat to be the upper terminus of the tramway, then two metres above that a smaller flat to accommodate the return turnwheel. Ultimately this had to also hold the clip pulley and its driving steam-engine-boiler package with a shed built over it.

Next the tramway had to pass under the railway siding on its way to the unloading flat.

All this had to be carved out of a sloping hillside covered in 30M high mountain ash trees.

We have a few maps of the siding layout, two from "The Shale Railways of NSW" by Eardley and Stephens, which are reasonably accurate representations of the layout - **Figures B & C**.

Then we have the Katoomba North's subdivision map which does show the cutting across the road as a dark blob! **Figure D**.

Then we have a Lands Dept map showing the siding after 1887, when Katoomba Coal & Shale Co was created, and the 5-acre lot was surveyed as a separate part of the mining operation - **Figure E**. A more detailed edition of this map is in the lease itself - **Figure F**. The

50-page lease document has been transcribed, and is a beautiful example of “*legalese*”, hard work to read but very educational. Complete disregard for the environment, the only concern is for maximising returns from mining and timber cutting without damaging the sales potential of building blocks. There is provision for building 12 “*overpasses or underpasses*” across the tramway demonstrating that North thought that the town would develop on both sides of the tramway and that it was a significant obstacle to traffic.

We also have some NSWGR drawings of the siding layout - **Figures G & H.**

Two documents from the Archives of the Australian Railway Historical Society detail the operational procedures for the siding – **Figures K & L.**

Comparisons of Eardley’s drawing and the NSWGR drawings show a few differences, possibly resulting from different time frames. The chutes (shoots) are different in Eardley’s drawings. The NSWGR drawing clearly shows two shoots one covering all three siding loops, and the other just on one side. This was for the coal coming back up the recovery road. The longer one went right across the three loop sidings so that excess coal or shale could be “*shot*” down the hill to be brought back up the recovery road when needed. This one is also shown narrower at the end. This outer loop was used to propel empty trucks up to the head of the siding and trucks were not loaded from the shoot on this loop. Eardley shows the “*screens*” as a T shaped building. He has incorrectly combined the shoot with the “*Power House*” that contained the boiler/steam engine for the clip pulley. The “*screens*” were above the shoots and separated the large coal from the “*nuts*” or small coal. There was a miner’s strike concerning the separation of the rails on these screens.

Page 18 of the Lease agreement allows for “*coal passing through a screen of half inch mesh*” to be free of royalty. ie. this coal was free to the miners and the Company to use for their own purposes.

This was accomplished in two ways. Firstly, in the mine by having forks with tangs with half inch separation to load the coal into the skips, thus only picking up and loading coal that was bigger than that. Secondly by the separation screens at the loading shoots. These weren’t as effective because the coal was being treated in much larger batches.

Page 21 of the Lease specifies the use of “*weighing machines*”, naturally for the calculation of Royalties owed. However, there were weighbridges for the calculation of a miner’s “*darg*” or amount paid to him for the coal that he has mined in a day.

Eardley also includes a weighbridge which does not appear in **Figures G & H.**



Figure A: Town map Katoomba 1883 Parish & Historical Maps. NSW Land Registry Services

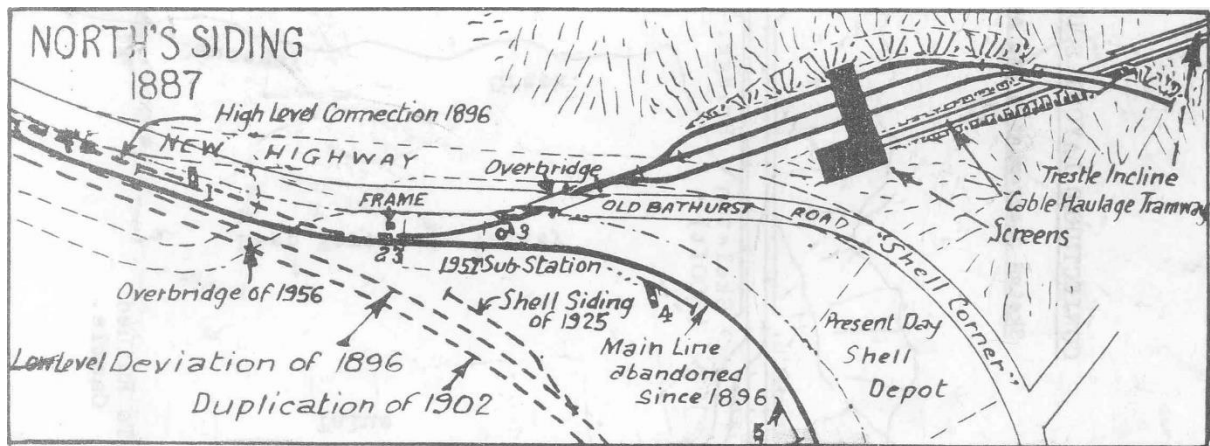


Figure B: Eardley & Stephens Shale Railways of NSW

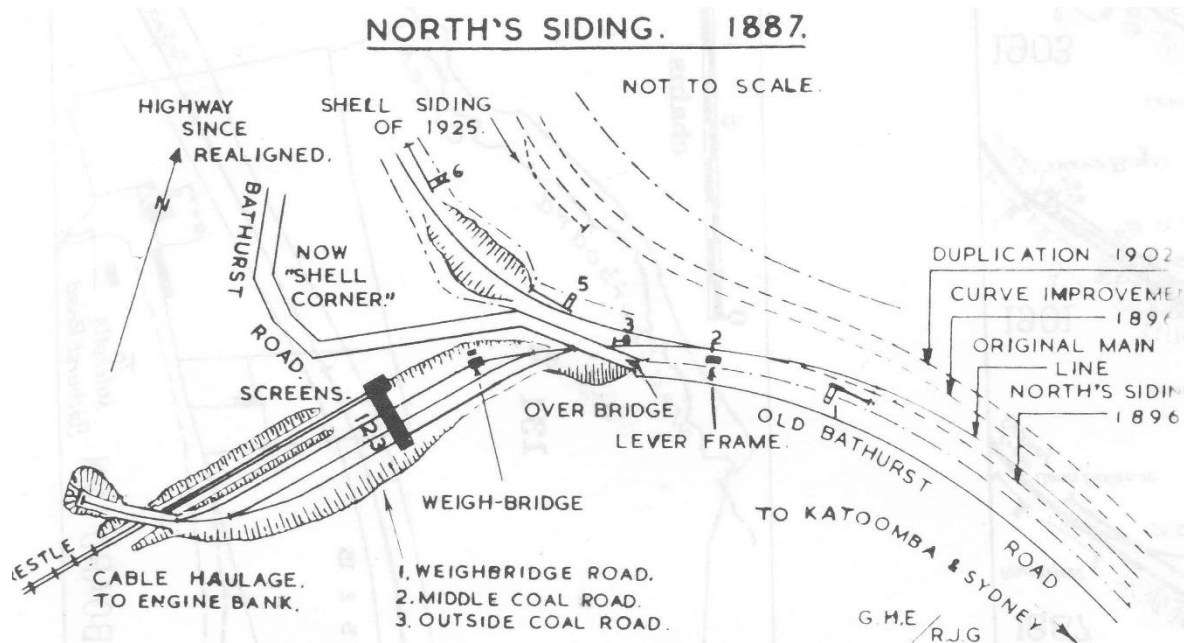


Figure C: Eardley & Stephens Shale Railways of NSW

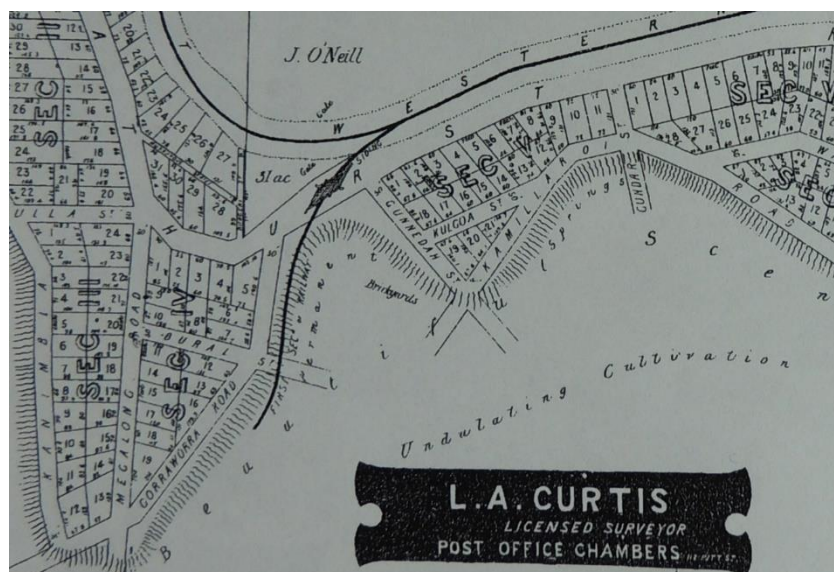


Figure D: State Library



Figure E: Leased area showing siding
Parish & Historical Maps - NSW Land Registry Services

Note misspelling of Katoomba [sic]. Bridge Street named for its proximity to the Great Western Road Bridge, was renamed Gunnedah Street. The two proposed lakes were never built. One dam was to be across what is today the bottom of Gates Avenue.

I cannot decipher what is written inside the rectangle in the middle of the 5ac lot. Just above that is a small square labelled "cottage". The remains of this cottage can be seen in Kerry's photo J.

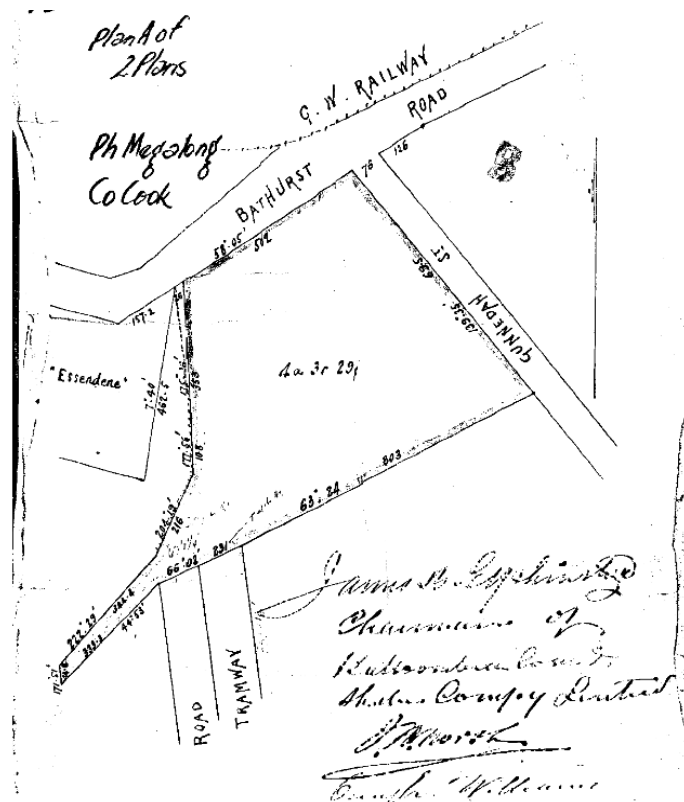


Figure F: Lease agreement Katoomba Coal & Shale Co. Signatures are James B Elphinstone, Chairman of Katoomba Coal & Shale Company Limited, J. B. North, Ralph Williams

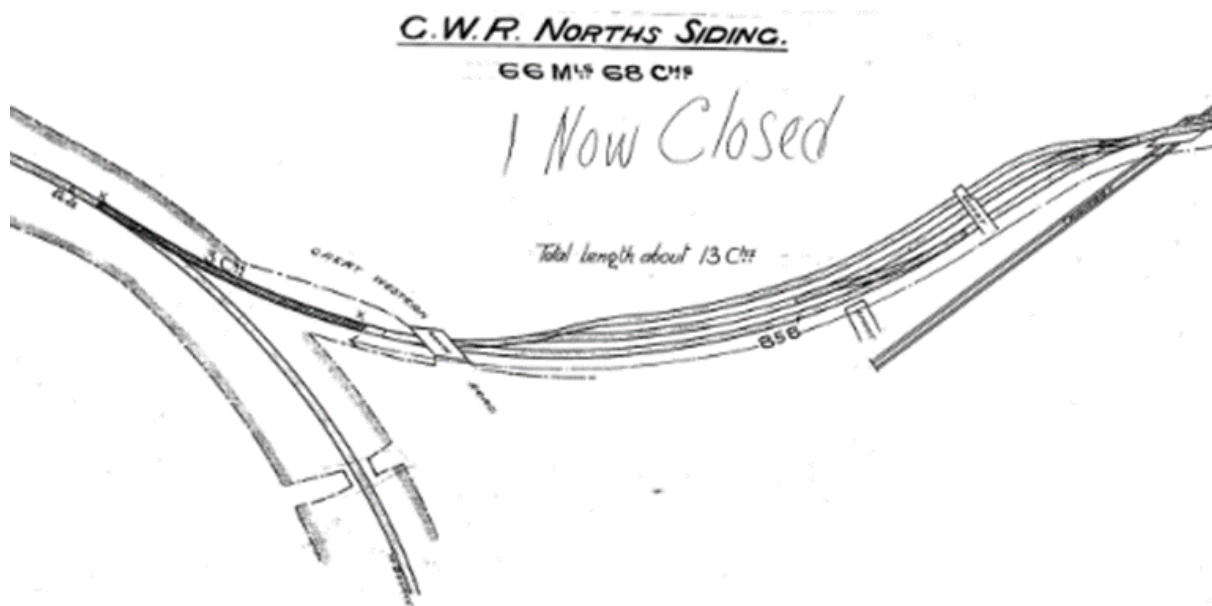


Figure G: At 66 miles and 68 chains from Sydney, showing 858 feet long siding, and two bridges, the highway crossing the cutting, and the siding crossing the tramway: Railway Archives ARHS

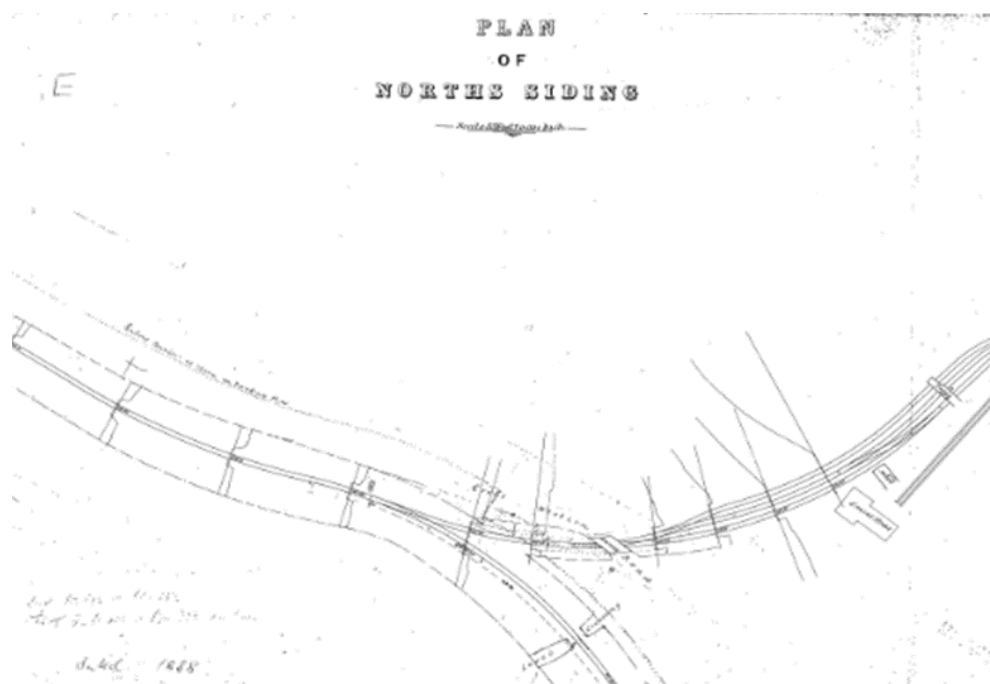


Figure H: This drawing has not translated from pdf to word very well. The light "Y" shaped lines are indicating the slope of the ground down to the right, and the depth of the cutting either side of the skew bridge. The numbers beside each one are the track levels in feet. This shows a "hump" just before the bridge, then relatively flat under the shoots. The Tee shaped building is labelled "Engine House". The surviving concrete foundation does not agree with this layout: Railway Archives ARHS

From Up Refuge siding to No. 1 Up siding ... 3 long.

NORTH'S SIDING.

A catch point has been provided in this siding near the overbridge, and is fitted with a bracket-lock. The key to unlock same will be kept in possession of the Station Master at Katoomba. When it is required to work this siding the key to unlock this catch point must be obtained from station and returned when shunting is completed. Drivers must be careful in going along this siding not to run through the catch points until they have been unlocked. Trucks for loading shale at the siding must always be left inside the catch points. In shunting this siding the trucks must always be propelled when proceeding to the siding from Katoomba Station, and the engine also kept in front on return journey.

Acknowledge receipt by first train.

H. RICHARDSON,
Superintendent of the Lines.

Sydney, 17th September, 1901.

NSWGR

The above is transcribed as follows:

NORTH'S SIDING

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Sydney 17th September 1901

Figure J: Railway Archives ARH: NSWGRS

PENRITH AND BATHURST DIVISION.

39.

North's Siding.

The interlocking frame will only have two levers for working points, and lock bolt to same. The lock bolt lever is fitted with a lock which can only be unlocked by key attached to the Electric Train Staff for the section Katoomba—Blackheath.

The guard on any train requiring to shunt the siding must on arrival at same obtain the staff with key attached from the driver, and with it unlock the lock bolt lever, the bolt can then be withdrawn, and the points worked by the point lever as required. When shunting is completed, the points must be set correctly and bolted, after which the staff with key attached can be taken from the lock, and returned to the driver, but before leaving, the guard must examine the facing and catch points, to see that they are in perfect order.

The engine driver of the train must on no account proceed on his journey again unless the Electric Train Staff with key attached has been returned to him, and is in his possession.

The key attached to this staff is also common to the lock on lever frame at Medlow.

Main line at this siding is on a grade of 1 in 66 falling towards Katoomba. Trucks for this siding are propelled from Katoomba to siding, and guard or shunter in charge must ride upon leading vehicle provided with a red and green flag by day, and hand signal lamp by night, and must keep a sharp look out ahead for danger or obstruction so as to signal driver to stop if required. When returning from siding to Katoomba with a load, guard or shunter in charge must ride on the last vehicle, and will also be responsible for seeing that sufficient brakes on trucks are pinned down or screwed on to properly hold the train while running from siding to station.

In order that the work at this siding may be conducted with safety, it will be necessary for three men to be in attendance during all shunting operations. One man will place himself on the overhead bridge before the train enters the siding, and repeat all signals from the shunters to the driver; after the engine has passed the bridge, he will take up a position in an empty waggon, and continue to transmit all signals from the shunters, taking care that he is always in view of both driver and shunters.

Six sprags must be provided to cover the heavy grade.

Figure K: Railway Archives ARHS: NSWGR



Figure L: The remains of the cottage in Figure E are marked with an arrow
Source: Kerry – MAAS

Great Western Road - Road Bridge

The road bridge over the railway cutting gradually became a noteworthy item, with comments about its state of repair. It had been built in 1882 from locally cut mountain ash, and probably designed by Norman Selfe. In 1889 officers from the Roads and Bridges Department inspected the bridge, but nothing was done. In 1889 and 1890 Council made motions concerning the bridge.

In 1894 Katoomba Council took over responsibility for six miles of the GWR which included the bridge. The Australian Kerosine Oil and Mineral Co (AKO&M) refused to have anything to do with it, as their lease from JBN was for the mine infrastructure and mineral seams. The legal obligation of bridge failure lay with Council. Eventually the State Government agreed to pay for the rebuild of the bridge and tenders were called in Jan to March 1894. The lowest tender was from J Hawkins for £642/4/6 which was accepted. In the tender documents the bridge was mostly called "*North's Crossing*" or "*North-siding Bridge*".

In 1910 Messers Jones Brothers, Coal Merchants of Sydney, purchased from J B North the slack coal and shale which was lying down the hill from the shoots to the recovery road. Many "*thousands of tons have been washed away by storms*" [probably an exaggeration] but 3000 to 4000 tons remained. They erected an engine [probably a traction engine equipped with a winch], installed a temporary incline and skip, shovelled the slack into the skip, [a difficult task on the steep and slippery slope] and winched the slack up the hill, then shovelled into horse drawn drays to be transferred to the Railway Station [probably to the Goods Yard] then shovelled it into railway trucks for transshipping to Sydney. They did a good job, as there is very little slack there today.

In 1918 a gang removed the rails and sleeper from the siding, which by then extended all the way to Katoomba Station, as curve improvements in 1896 had made that necessary. A 1907 report stated that "*the trade from North's Siding had fallen to nil*".

In 1922 Council made inquiries as to its power to "*fill in the old tram cutting*". In 30 years, it had been forgotten that it was a NSWGR siding. In 1924 the appointment of a Mr Heffernan as Council Engineer brought the issue of the deteriorating bridge to a head, and he had the cutting filled in with 400 tons of fill, complete with road widening, and so the bridge disappeared at a further cost of £550.

Phil Hammon

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Food for thought Editor's note

Reflections: I often wonder how different our world would be if a simple event had not occurred, if a particular person had not been there at that particular time, if a different decision had been made and so on.

If JB North had decided to go to Newcastle or the Hunter Valley or the south coast, where would that have left Katoomba and its industry? Admittedly another would have stepped up and many of the same industrial activities and developments would probably have occurred anyway. But would they have had the same impact as JB North.

If the Maddox and Gardiner families had settled elsewhere, other than Lidsdale or Blackman's Flat and Cullen Bullen, who else would have taken up the opportunities that they exploited in both farming and mining in that area.

If the Carlon's had not chosen Megalong Valley to come to from Ireland but had headed south to Joadja or out to Newnes and Glen Davis, would the Irish roots evident in those communities be as strong as in the Valley. Many of these communities had Scottish or Welsh origins, so how would those societies have developed if a different nationality had taken on the risks of mining out in the bush? Many migrants and emancipists headed out to where they already had family connections, which resulted in enclaves of particular nationalities characterising each particular area.

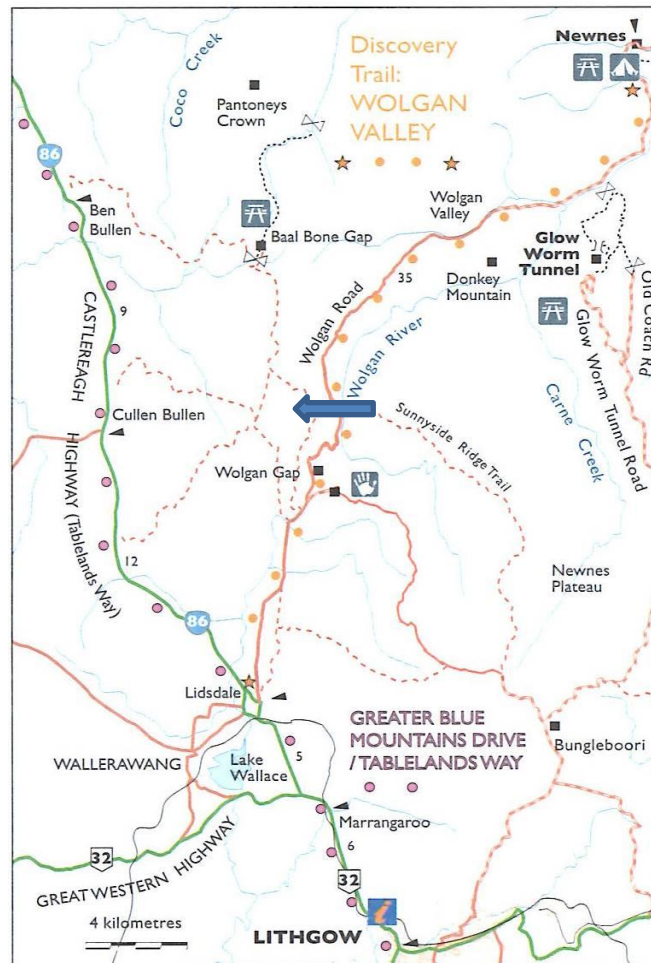
And the patriots from Canada who were sent to the colony as convicts – their impact on our settlement is at first thought to be minimal as most of them headed back home once their time was up - except Joseph Marceau, who married and settled at Dapto. But the wider situation relating their impact relates to the effect on the achievements of both the Canadian and the Australian colonies.

I suppose we can only surmise. But looking around, we can see the roots of tomorrow's heritage settling all around us now. We should be aware and remain vigilant, in recognising the impacts of our actions today on our children's heritage. Both family history and government policy show us that we tend to concentrate on the now, often of necessity, making short term decisions, with little regard for where it will lead. Today's society needs to widen its horizons, and in our heritage world we can still do our bit!

William Wolf(e) Gardiner

In the May-June issue of *Heritage* and in our article regarding the Maddox Line of Road, it was outlined that stock routes in the 1800s seeking to avoid the toll bar at Blackman's Flat on the Castlereagh Highway from Mudgee, deviated from the Highway from around Ben Bullen and Cullen Bullen and traversed across via the Maddox Line of Road to Gardiner's Gap, on down to the Wolgan Road, and from there to Bell and Windsor. Gardiner's Gap lies along the Bicentennial National Trail on the main range, just off the Wolgan Road, north of Lidsdale.

We examined who Maddox was, but the question then arises as to who Gardiner was, after whom the Gap was named.



Location of Gardiner's Gap

The Bush Explorers record that a William Wolf Gardiner took out a Conditional Purchase for 40ac in the area of the Gap in 1867. Later his descendants, Thomas William Gardiner and Charles Livingstone Gardiner also, purchased land in the vicinity in 1883 and 1913 respectively. The original purchases were within the Parish of Ben Bullen just to the northwest of what we know as Gardiner's Gap.

An examination of the family history of the Gardiners shows their activities in the district of Ben Bullen which would have led to the naming of the Gap. Records show that one David Gardener [sic] married an Elizabeth Gow (Kay?) in about 1800. It is possible that they were not married in Australia but appear to have settled in Bathurst. David's death certificate gives no further details as to his origins.

When David died in Bathurst in 1845, he was 65 years old. David and Elizabeth had a number of children, one of who was the above William Wolfe Gardiner. The spelling of

Gardiner/Gardener appears to vary somewhat, and Wolfe was also spelt "Wolfy", Wolf and Wolfrey.

William was born in Bathurst in 1838 and in 1869 he married Eliza Case. Eliza was born in 1844, her family coming from the Thorpes' Pinch area (Mt Lambie).

However, William was a victim of a terrible accident which claimed his life in 1891:

Serious Accident: On Wednesday night a farmer and grazier of Ben Bullen named William Gardiner was driving some stock home from Bathurst with his son. After they passed Moore's Hotel at Raglan, Mr Gardiner's horse shied and threw its rider. On coming up young Gardiner found his father unconscious, and summoning assistance, he was brought back to Moore's Hotel. Meantime, a hasty messenger was dispatched to Dr Kirkland who set out at 11pm. He found the unfortunate man suffering from a fracture at the base of the skull. Yesterday when the doctor was out Mr Gardiner was still unconscious and his chances of recovery are doubtful.

National Advocate, Friday 30th October 1891, page 2

Mr Gardiner died on 3rd November at Raglan, aged 54. His death was informed by his son Thomas, who had come upon the accident. He was buried at Thorpe's Pinch Cemetery at Mt Lambie on 6th November. Sadly, although probate was granted to Eliza in 1891, in 1893 she was obliged to file for bankruptcy on his estate. William had not left a will and his creditors approached the courts. Eliza died at Portland in 1921.

William (1) and Eliza had sixteen children, fourteen of who survived to adulthood. The eldest of these was a second William Wolfe, born in October 1864 at Ben Bullen, being 27 when his father died. He had two brothers, Charles Livingstone and Thomas William Wolf.

In 1890 William (2) married Maria Ann Sherwood Smith of Mudgee who was at the time aged 19, which at the time was under age, and she had received her mother's consent.

However, by 1906 she was suing him for divorce on the grounds of desertion. They had several children and he spent a lot of time away from home looking for work, with her consent. He dealt in stock and they had spent some time living on an outback station. Once they returned to Mudgee she stayed at her mother's home, where her last child was born. She had approached William several times for child support but with no response, having told him that if he could not support her, she would rather he stayed away! The court found that she was not against his going away to search for work, but he could not pay if he was unemployed. The court dismissed the case for divorce, referring her to the police court. However, some resolution must have occurred, as in 1908 William (2) remarried, to Catherine Hannah Lyons in Lithgow. Ultimately, William had daughters Dulcie, Nora, Eliza and Annie, and sons Lancelot and Hilton. This William died in 1945 in Lithgow and is buried in the General Cemetery there. Catherine Lyons had been born in 1865 at Broke and died in 1936 in Lithgow. William's obituary stated that he was one of the better known residents of the Ben Bullen and Blackman's Flat district. He went droving early in life, was a miner at Airly and Wallerawang, and a keen horseman. It is noted that on one of his local title deeds Wolf is conveyed as "Wolfrey".



William Wolf Gardiner - died 1891



William Wolf Gardiner - died 1945



Charles Livingstone Gardiner



Thomas Gardiner

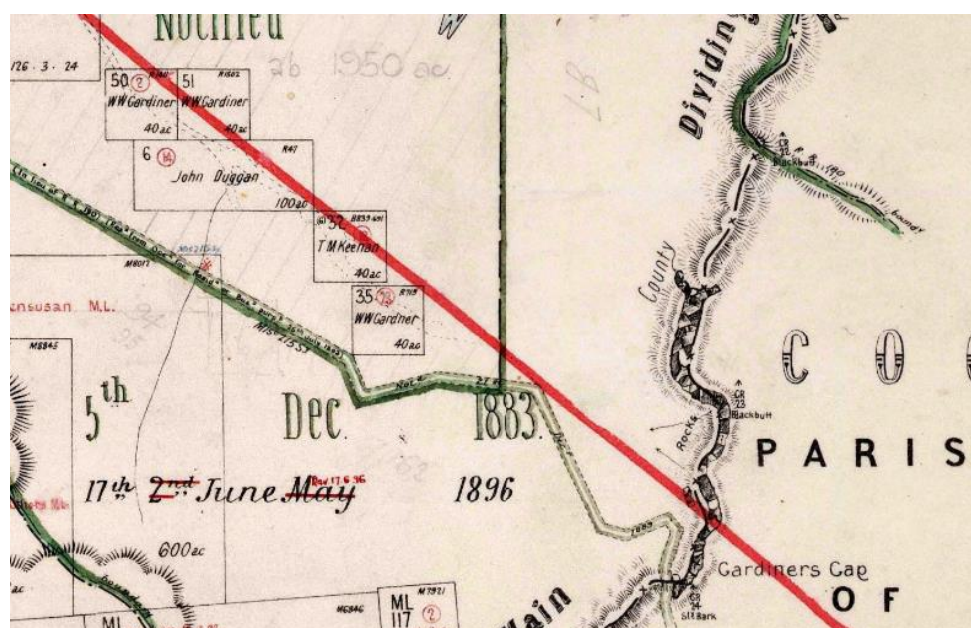


William (Winky) Gardiner

William (2)'s first wife Marie Ann Sherwood Smith appears to have remarried in 1923 to Walter Bourke in Sydney.

A further William (Winky) Edward (or Edward William) Gardiner was born in 1909 to John James Gardiner (brother of the first William Wolf) and Alice. He died in 1987 and is buried in Cullen Bullen Cemetery.

Gardiners Gap is shown on the map below, an extract from the Parish of Ben Bullen. In the vicinity and to the northwest of the Gap was Portion 35 (40 acres) owned by WW Gardiner. The Maddox Line of Road (shown in green) touches the corner of Portion 35, thus passing the Gardiner property and suggesting the naming of the Gap. Portions 50 and 51 shown on the map are also shown as owned by WW Gardiner, and another Gardiner parcel, Portion 25 is located further again to the northwest towards Ben Bullen. Although these are specific parcels of land located within large areas of Crown land, it could reasonably be assumed that the Gardiners were running stock on the neighbouring Crown land.



The Gardiners would then appear to be owning/leasing land in the vicinity of the Gap since at least the 1860s, all lots in the Parish of Ben Bullen being up along the Maddox Line of Road alignment. Given that it has been established that the Maddox Line of Road was in existence since at least 1869 (see *Heritage* May-June 2022), this would fit neatly with Gardiner's first foray into the region. They would have occupied the lots in some capacity, as improvement of the land with a dwelling of some kind was a condition of many of the early leases.

Some of their various land dealings can be summarized as follows:

- William Wolf Gardiner (1) took out a Conditional Purchase of Portion 35 (40ac) on the 28th February 1867.
- William Wolf Gardiner (2) took up land grants in 1893, Portions 50 and 51 (also each of 40 acres) in the Parish of Ben Bullen.
- Later his descendants, Thomas William Gardiner and Charles Livingstone Gardiner, purchased land in the vicinity in 1883 and 1913 respectively.
- In 1924 Thomas sought to bring his leased land, Portion 25 Parish of Ben Bullen, under the Real Property Act, claiming that the title deeds were handed to him by his father William Wolf Gardiner, and he provided *evidence of possession and occupation*.
- It was noted in the Lithgow Mercury in 1931 that a land application was made by William Wolf Gardiner for 38 acres in the Parish of Cox, to the east.

So, the Gardiners were yet another early pioneering family who contributed to the opening up of the western regions. Gardiner's Swamp in the nearby district is also named for the family. Along with the Maddox family, the Mullins and many others they were still exploring and settling well into the second half of the 19th century, and evidence of them and their descendants can be found in all the local cemeteries. Where the Maddox family are principally buried in Blackman's Flat Cemetery, there are many Gardiner graves in the Cullen Bullen Cemetery. The above family account traces a direct line from David Gardener [sic] and does not account for the many other members of the family who settled in the area and contributed to local communities in so many ways.

Patsy Moppett

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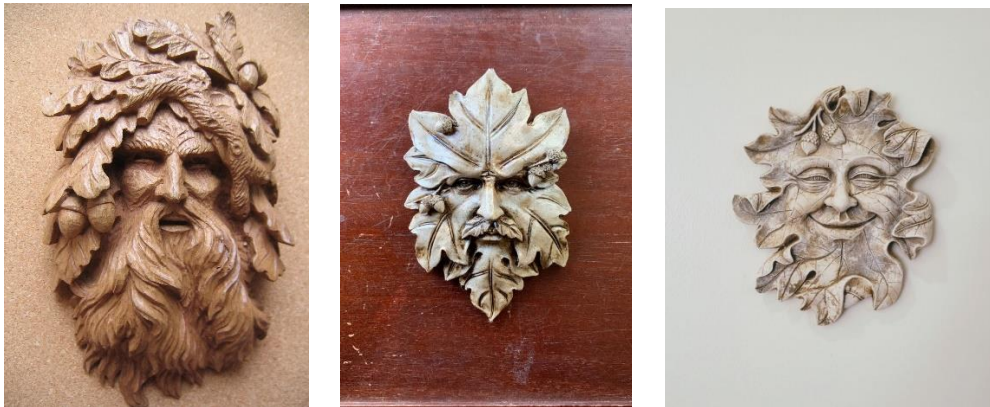
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NSW Births, Deaths and Marriages

The Green Man

The Green Man most commonly seen in Australia is to be found as an ornamental garden feature, decorating walls and gates, appearing to bring a mythological air to the surrounding greenery. But what are his origins?

Many cultures have a tale about a spirit that lives in the forest or in the trees. In ancient Europe this spirit represented the new life of spring - the voice of the primordial forest. The

Green Man is a name given to the representations of this forest spirit. It was known as a legendary being primarily interpreted as a symbol of rebirth, representing the cycle of new growth that occurs every spring. The Green Man is usually depicted in a sculpture, or other representation of a face which is made of, or completely surrounded by, leaves. The simplest depict a man's face peering out of dense foliage. Some may have leaves for hair, perhaps with a leafy beard. Often leaves or leafy shoots are shown growing from his open mouth and sometimes even from the nose and eyes as well. In the most abstract examples, the carving at first glance appears to be merely stylised foliage, with the facial element only becoming apparent on closer examination. The face is almost always male; green women are rare.



In the late sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries a Green Man was a type of whiffler, someone who walked in front of important processions, banquets and pageants to clear the way, or to clear space for plays to be performed. The whifflers were known as being quite loud and boisterous and became a major attraction themselves, dressing in elaborate costumes and carrying swords, clubs and even fireworks. They often dressed as wild characters with shaggy hair and beards and were also known as the Wild Men, Wodehouses or Woudmen. The Green Man whifflers added to their costumes painting their skin green wearing leaves or greenery and garlands on their heads.

But why is the Green Man (a pagan feature) also found on churches and abbeys, as well as secular buildings? Were stone carvers looking back to a pre-Christian time, with a reminder that we all come from the earth and will one day return?

Back in England in around 1839, a Lady Raglan used the term in her book "*A Green Man in Church Architecture*". She saw the Green Man where it was carved on churches and abbeys as the figure known also as the Green Man, Jack in the Green, Robin Hood, the King of the May, and the Garland who is the central figure in the May Day celebrations throughout northern and central Europe, possibly having spiritual links to an ancient time when the Greenwoods covered most of Britain. On this basis the term may not date back any further than the sweeps processions of the late eighteenth century.

However, some speculate that the mythology of the Green Man developed independently in the traditions of separate ancient cultures and evolved into the wide variety of examples found throughout history. Similar images can be found from the first century BC as images of folkloric and pagan belief systems – representations of the forest. The earliest example of a green man disgorging vegetation from his mouth is from St. Abre, in St. Hilaire-le-grand, c. 400 AD. These early examples were intended to ward off evil: they were pagan images of worship and may have been signs of bacchanalian revelry, associations to appease or honour nature. It was a plea to Mother Nature to bring good seasons, without pestilence or flood.

Other examples include a Roman 6th Century mosaic at the Museum of Istanbul, a 2nd Century Green Man in the ruins of Hatra in modern Iraq, and Romanesque foliate heads in 11th Century Templar churches in Jerusalem. It is tentatively suggested that the symbol may have originated in Asia Minor and been brought to Europe by travelling stone carvers.

The Wild Man began to appear on inn and tavern signs in the seventeenth century, and over time many pubs called *The Wild Man* seem to have also become known as *The Green Man*, and still exist across Britain. As well as pubs The Green Man also became a symbol for distillers.

In modern times the Green Man is usually reproduced in stone, wood, art, song, story and poem – and he is not always “green”! He may be found in his guise as dusty stone or wood carvings looking down from on high in churches, cathedrals and abbeys throughout Britain and Europe. He can be seen as a sometimes mischievous, sometimes dark figure found in Morris dances.

We certainly see examples of the feature in nurseries, designed for us to decorate our garden spaces with a benevolent spirit. So, what about Australian architecture? Are there examples of this leafy gargoyle on heritage buildings across the Blue Mountains?



Lithgow's Green Men at Hoskins Memorial Church, completed 1928

The only one I can track down so far would appear to be on the Hoskins Memorial Church at Lithgow. But there must be more. It is time to look up! Look up towards the roof of churches and halls in your village or town and see what there is to be discovered. What the significance of the Green Man sculptures are at Lithgow remains to be seen! *Patsy Moppett*

References:

www.thecompanyofthegreenman.wordpress.com

www.greenmnagifts.co.uk

Prue Gibson on the Green Man 2021

Green Man: Wikipedia

Land of a Thousand Sorrows: Revisited

The exclusive first Australian screening of *Land of a Thousand Sorrows: Revisited*, a documentary film, written, produced and directed by Canadian filmmaker Deke Richards (Pierre Marcoux), was screened at the Reading Cinemas Rhodes, NSW, Australia on Wednesday 18th May 2022. The screening was opened by Deputy Mayor of the City of Canada Bay, Stephanie Di Pasqua, with introduction by Pierre Marcoux.

The documentary uses interviews, news stories, photographs and illustrations to bring to life the dramatic stories of the Canadian and American Patriot (political) prisoners, who were exiled to Australia between 1840 and 1848. The documentary takes its name from the book *Land of a Thousand Sorrows*, written secretly by a French-Canadian political prisoner, Francois Lepailleur, at the Longbottom stockade in Concord, where two of the prisoners died. The legacy of these prisoners lives on in the name of Canada Bay in Sydney, NSW, Australia.

This was to be followed up by a screening in Wollongong, NSW, Australia with the family of Joseph Marceau in attendance. Joseph was the only Canadian Patriot prisoner to remain and make Australia home after he received his pardon. He settled in the NSW settlement of Dapto as a farmer. He married a local woman, Mary, and he died in Dapto in 1883 aged 76. In the documentary, Tony Moore, Monash University's Conviction Politics Chief Investigator and author of *Death or Liberty: Rebels and radicals transported to Australia 1788-1868*, visits the graves of Joseph and Mary Marceau in Dapto and he explains the contribution of

the Canadian revolutionaries to the achievement of responsible and representative government in both the Canadian and the Australian colonies.



This documentary film was to have been shown in Australia earlier, but it had to be put off due to COVID-19 complications. Not only were residents in Australia not able to attend cinemas, but Pierre Marcoux, who lives in Canada, was unable to travel. Pierre is the son of the late Kathie McMahon-Nolf, who was the inaugural President of the Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society and a former BMACHO Treasurer.

Jan Koperberg

PLEASE NOTE THE CLOSING DATE FOR ARTICLES AND NOTIFICATIONS TO THE EDITOR FOR THE MARCH-APRIL 2022 ISSUE OF *HERITAGE* is Thursday 25th August 2022

Community events & updates



Ancestral Homes Network (AHN)

Ancestral Homes Network (AHN) was registered as a Canadian not-for-profit corporation in December 2020. The concept was developed by the founder, Philip Donnelly, while he was researching and writing his own memoirs regarding his family history in Ireland and Canada. During his research, Philip realised that it is easier to find the burial places of one's ancestors in genealogical records, than it is to find the place where those ancestors lived. The need to create the Ancestral Homes Network was recognized. Given that AHN's roots were in Ireland and Canada, the founding motivation of the Network was to forge bonds across the global Irish diaspora by recording the memories, both genealogical and historical, of their ancestral homes.

The goal, over time, is to build the International Archive of Ancestral Homes (IAAH) by adding one ancestral home at a time to the archive by the volunteer contributions of many motivated individuals, genealogical and historical societies, heritage programs, educational institutions, and other community-based partners.

Ancestral homes can be a valuable source of historical and genealogical information, acting as reminders of a region's past and offering glimpses into their inhabitants' way of life. Sadly, due to decay or modernization, these structures often vanish over time, disappearing from both landscape and living memory as the years go by.

The Ancestral Homes platform can be used to both search for and record information about these homes and the families who lived in them, counting on users' input to help create records designed to survive the passage of time: a digital collection of photos, stories, census documents, and geographical information.

The goal of this project is to provide researchers, whether professional or amateur, with an ever-growing archive of information on ancestral homes in regions and countries around the world.



Green Gully, Megalong Valley 2017



Carlon family home, Ireland

Recently the group, through Philip Donnelly, contacted BMACHO in regard to information about Carlon's farm, *Green Gully*, in Megalong Valley. Given the place's Irish roots, this was relevant to Philip's research. As a result, *Green Gully* has now been listed on the Network, as the first entry in the southern hemisphere! Subsequently, information has been added by BMACHO members Jan Koperberg, Phil Hammon and Dr Peter Rickwood. Conversely, information held by the Network about the Carlons in Ireland is now available to family researchers in Australia. A second home is soon to be added, when a member of the family descended from the Carlons of Burragorang Valley, south west of Sydney, contacted Philip. So, are you a member of a historical or genealogical society? A student of history or architecture? An avid researcher of your family tree? Join AHN as a volunteer ambassador to share information about the Network with your friends, family, and community. You can also submit your name to serve on the AHN Board of Directors. Once you set up an account you are able to add and edit information about an ancestral home.

For more information, please contact one of the team members:

Team Members:

- *Philip Donnelly – founder*
- *Nancy Donnelly – Director, President & CEO*
- *Marlee Donnelly – Vice-President, Technological Development*

info@ancestralhomes.net

www.ancestralhomes.net

Also Instagram, Facebook, YouTube and LinkedIn

Mountain Tales

If you think you have learnt all there is to know about Leura and Katoomba, think again! How did Katoomba become the "Playground of the Commonwealth", and Australia's honeymoon capital? What hidden gems lie down the streets of Leura?



Journey with Sue Collins back into the beginnings of these Blue Mountains towns, and hear stories of the places, people and events that shaped their histories.

Sue holds regular two hour walking tours around the streets of Leura and Katoomba at an easy pace. The Leura tour commences at Leura Railway Station, and the Katoomba tour starts at the Hotel Gearin, on the north side of the Railway Station.

Individual costs: Adults \$40, Seniors \$30, accompanied children under 17 are free. Private groups are welcome – please call to arrange.

Mountain Tales can be found on all social media. To book, call Sue on 0410 600 224.

Brochures detailing the tours are found at various venues in the Mountains, on which the QR code will also provide access for booking.

Closure of Leuralla NSW Toy and Railway Museum, Leura

BMACHO is sad to advise that Sunday May 1st 2022 marked the day when the fabulous Leuralla NSW Toy and Railway Museum and BMACHO member, closed its doors to the public for the last time.

They stated in a post on 27th April that they had been pleased to welcome many visitors over the years to this grand old house and its beautiful gardens, and to what is considered the finest collection of 20th Century toys, trains and associated memorabilia anywhere in the world. The displays have been housed in an historic early 20th century mansion, set in five hectares of award-winning gardens.



Whether you were a family or a serious collector, the world class displays of 20th century toys, from Barbie, Popeye, Tintin to Alice in Wonderland were set to captivate and entertain. Floods, fires and Covid have made it impossible to continue, and Leuralla will become once again a private home.

Blue Mountains Association of Cultural and Heritage Organisations (BMACHO) Bi-annual Conference 2023

Save the date! BMACHO confirms the date for this Bi-Annual Conference for **Saturday 6th May 2023** and initial preparations are underway.



The theme this time will be the railways through the Blue Mountains region and how they opened up the countryside for western settlement. Railway organisations and experts will be consulted from within the region and beyond, and it is hoped we will be able to provide an excursion or two on the Sunday.

The venue is expected to be the Springwood Sports Club. This venue provides onsite parking and close access to the railway station. Considerable accommodation opportunities are available in the vicinity.

Watch this space for further details!!!

Australasian Engineering Heritage Conference 2022

The AEH Conference for 2022 will be run by Engineers Australia in Sydney from 12th October to 13th October under the theme, *Transport and Communications: Looking Forward - Looking Back*. The Conference will bring together like-minded people with an interest in engineering heritage.

Colonial Australian history was dominated by the themes of transportation and communications. From the Overland Telegraph to modern fibre optic networks and satellites, communications have assisted in shrinking our vast country. Our progress on initiatives moving forward is built on our past achievements in these fields. The presentations will focus on engineering heritage to bring these two aspects together, emphasizing how the past determines the future.



Further details will be available from the Conference Managers closer to the date.

Registration

Early bird registrations open 27th June 2022, and close 18th August 2022

Standard registrations open 19th August 2022, and close 13th October 2022

Event Date Time

9am 12th October 2022, to 5pm 13th October 2022

Event Contact: Conference Managers

Ph: 1300 653 113

Email: heritage@engineersaustralia.org.au

Penrith Walk

With the help of grant funding from the Australian Government, Penrith Council has just launched a new historical walking trail, the Penrith Heritage Walk, a mobile-friendly interactive map that guides walkers to twenty two points of historical interest on an eleven kilometre trail.

Discover more about the city's history through this fascinating walk which takes you from Penrith to Emu Plains. Go at your own pace, complete the walk in one day, or break it into sections – it's up to you!



Starting from the historic Penrith Train Station, you'll learn about some of the most treasured sites in the city. The walk will take you through Penrith, along the beautiful Nepean River and across to Emu Plains and include such features as Penrith and Emu Plains Railway Stations, the Red Cow Hotel, churches, halls, recreations areas, museums and a gallery, the weir and the Nepean River, the Penrith Rail and Victoria bridges, and historic homes. Get the mobile-friendly Penrith Heritage Walk interactive map and step into the City's rich past.

Head to the Visit Penrith website to get the mobile-friendly interactive map – your guide to discovery! Start the journey here <https://www.visitpenrith.com.au/heritagewalk>

For further information contact Ruth Hart, Marketing and Partnerships Officer:

Email: Ruth.Hart@penrith.city.nsw.gov.au

Ph: +61247328131

Fax: +612 4732 7958 | M

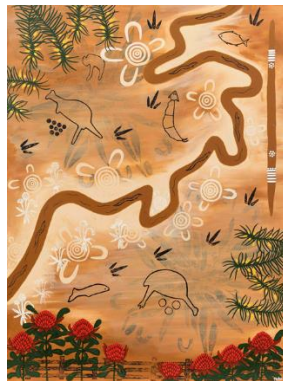
PO Box 60, PENRITH NSW 2751

www.visitpenrith.com.au

www.penrithcity.nsw.gov.au

11 stories from the River Dyarubbin

11 Stories from the River Dyarubbin is a series of 11 audio walks, narrated by Rhiannon Wright, Dharug educator, sharing stories of the river at the places where they happened, streamable from your mobile phone at 11 public locations along Dyarubbin/the Hawkesbury River between Yarramundi and Sackville, or streamable from where you are.



Underscored by original music, the audio walks share stories of the history of Dyarubbin's first people, the Dharug, colonial contact, settlement and frontier violence, floods and farming, geology, ecology and sustainability, told by over 100 participants.

11 Stories From the River Dyarubbin is a collaborative public art work led by composer/producer Oonagh Sherrard with Hawkesbury Regional Museum, Dharug Custodian Aboriginal Corporation, Western Sydney University Sustainable Futures and Hawkesbury Historical Society.

The project has been created with support from the NSW Government through Create NSW, Museums and Galleries NSW and assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its Arts funding and advisory body.

Starting on the Balga, the hill on Thompson Square, you will walk down to the wharf via the viewing platform, then back along the riverside path through Howe Park, across Rickaby's Creek into Deerubbin Park then return to the Museum.

Hawkesbury Historical Society president Jan Barkley-Jack features in this audio walk, telling a story of frontier violence in Cornwallis, along with over 20 guests including Emeritus Professor of History UNSW Grace Karskens, who talks about the history of flooding; Associate Professor of Geology at University of Sydney Tom Hubble talks about his work on riverbanks and erosion; Professor of Geomorphology at Macquarie University Kirstie Fryirs shares how the number 11 relates to rivers mathematically; Ted Books talks about his boatbuilding ancestors; Dharug custodians Erin Wilkins and Jasmine Seymour talk about how the Dharug used the river traditionally and how their culture has endured; Kate Mackaness from Community Action for Windsor Bridge tells us about the Thompson Square occupation; Sharon Lamb talks about her ancestor Henry Kable; and from the archives of Hawkesbury Library's *On the Record* oral history project, we hear from farmer Bruce Gardiner. We also hear from children from Windsor Public who participated in workshops along the river in 2019. The audio walk is narrated by Dharug educator Rhiannon Wright, who is the Aboriginal Education Officer at Windsor South public and shares her story of reviving language with children there. Start listening today:

<https://www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/museum/historical-walks/11-stories-from-the-river>

For further information contact Oonagh Sherrard:

www.oonaghsherrard.com

Mobile: 0416 239 745

Museums Muse Workshops

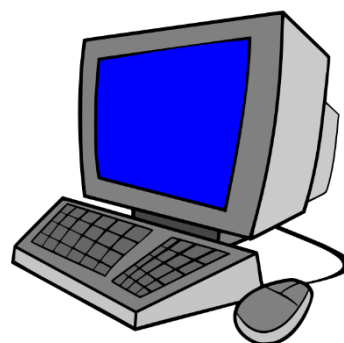
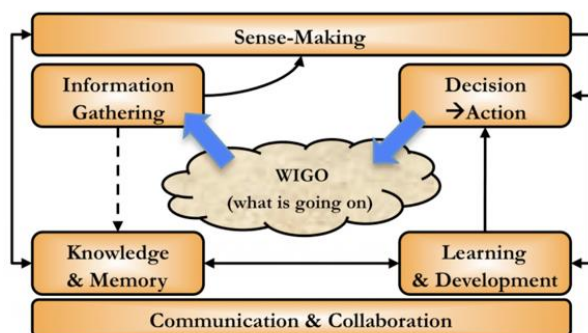
The most recent Muse workshop held on 13th April 2022 entitled *Your Museum and the Digital World*, was hailed a success. Attendees looked at digitisation projects highlighting the processes, challenges and benefits of digitization, planning, and methods to enable any collecting institution to benefit from this aspect of museums, including visitor engagement through, research, education, conservation and collection management. One focus was on designing a photo digitisation program covering collection development, significance assessment, standards, preservation and curating images.

The next workshop is scheduled for 12th August 2022 with regard to *Education and Volunteering*.

Further details will be provided closer to the date, or for information contact Gay Hendriksen, Blue Mountains City Council's Museums Advisor on rowantree.hc@gmail.com

These workshops are a Museum Advisor Program and BMACHO collaboration event supported and funded by Blue Mountains City Council and Museums Galleries NSW Museums

BMACHO Workshop: Use of Microsoft and Google free products for not-for-profit organisations, and managing websites generally



BMACHO have scheduled a workshop as described above, which would include grants and discounts, to improve productivity, communication, and collaboration within your organization while keeping you secure.

It is expected to be held at the Cultural Centre at Katoomba on 9th November 2022. The presenter will be announced closer to the date. Numbers are limited so get in early.

For further information contact BMACHO:

Website: <http://bluemountainsheritage.com.au>

Email: committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au

Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail Update

BMACHO continues to promote the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail and members' upcoming events.

The Trail is an ideal activity for the kids and grandkids, be it in the school holidays or any weekend, so plan ahead now!

The 2019 trail brochures can still be collected at participating venues and Visitor Information Centres. The brochure is currently being reviewed and is due for reissue in late 2022.

It should be noted that due to a number of reasons such as Covid, fires and floods, some of the venues displayed on the current brochure may no longer be available. Two in particular are the Leuralla NSW Toy and Railway Museum at Leura and Ambergere Restaurant at Little Hartley. It should also be noted that Blue Mountain Education and Research Trust (BMERT) have changed their website and email address and although this cannot be updated as yet on the brochure, it has been updated on the GBMHT website.

Should any business wish to be considered for inclusion in the next brochure, as a place of accommodation or an eating house along the trail route, please contact BMACHO at committee@bluemountainsheritage.com.au

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

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

To find out more about BMACHO visit <http://bluemountainsheritage.com.au>



Winter in the Blue Mountains 1910

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: <http://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.

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 Mountain Education & Research Trust; Blue Mountains Botanic Garden, Mt Tomah; Blue Mountains City Library; Blue Mountains Cultural Heritage Centre; 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; Everglades Historic House & Gardens; Friends of the Paragon Inc; Gang Gang Gallery, Lithgow; Glenbrook & District Historical Society Inc; Hawkesbury Historical Society Inc; Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society Inc; Lithgow & District Family History Society Inc; Lithgow – Eskbank House Museum and 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; Scenic World Blue Mountains Limited; Springwood Historical Society Inc; The Eleanor Dark Foundation Ltd; Valley Heights Locomotive Depot Heritage Museum; Woodford Academy Management Committee; Zig Zag Railway Co-op Ltd.

The following are individual members: Wendy Blaxland, Vaughan Bryers, Fiona Burn, Philip Hammon, Dr Wayne Hanley, Gay Hendriksen, Michael Keats, Ian Milliss, Patsy Moppett, Keith Painter, Barbara Palmer, Dr Peter Rickwood, and Dr Robert Strange.

Committee: The management committee for 2022-2023 (from March 2022) is: Rod Stowe (President); Patsy Moppett (Vice President and Newsletter Editor), Fiona Burn (Secretary), Philip Hammon (Treasurer), Dick Morony (Membership Secretary/Calendar Editor/), Jan Koperberg (Public Officer/Correspondence Secretary/Events and Venue Co-ordinator), Roy Bennett.

Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Trail sub-committee: Fiona Burn, Jan Koperberg.

Blue Mountains History Conference sub-committee: Patsy Moppett, Jan Koperberg, Phil Hammon, Rod Stowe.

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.