

CHARLES THROSBY

AND

THE PASTORAL
EXPANSION
SOUTHWARD
TO CANBERRA

BY

MARK OLIVER SMITH

INTRODUCTION

This volume attempts to bring together details about the life of Charles Throsby. It is mainly based on secondary sources which are listed in the bibliography. While Throsby is known in the Illawarra region by historians, he is not so well known in the ACT where he is sometimes confused with his nephew Charles Throsby-Smith. He is virtually unknown in the Bathurst region where his exploratory achievements are almost as praiseworthy as Evans and Cox.

Charles Throsby's name is highlighted in this brief account of the pastoral expansion southward from Sydney and the Cumberland Plain. This is not intended to detract from the exploratory endeavours of Hamilton Hume, James Meehan or Joseph Wild. Indeed, they are an essential part of Throsby's story. In large part, the highlighting is to redress the neglect of Charles Throsby in the story of pastoral expansion southward and to recognise him as the leader of the first non-Aboriginal party to traverse the site of Canberra.

Charles Throsby did not have the reputation of being the most successful cattleman in the colony without antagonising and upsetting others. He even incurred the displeasure of Governor Macquarie by fighting bureaucratic indifference towards the treatment of Aborigines. Rob Webster claims that:

‘He was a busy and aggressive explorer, a life-time glory-hunter, and he used people of less assertive character such as Joseph Wild, James Meehan and Hume for his own purposes.’

The Currency Lad, see p. 29

Webster also reports that Throsby:

‘could not bear to be queried in his actions or opinions and could be quite irascible’
Ibid, p. 30

The possession of these traits suggests that he was a ‘driven’ man who was somewhat of an egotist. Yet when the whole story is told he could also be loyal and warm-hearted. While he double-crossed Meehan they were later reconciled and while William Kearns resented the alteration of his report by Throsby, Kearns was later pleased when Throsby defended him against an eviction notice. Throsby may have stolen some of the limelight from Hume but the records show that he also ‘pushed forward the young man’s interests’ with the Governor. Indeed, Macquarie later thought highly of Throsby, and in his latter years in office, Macquarie made him a magistrate. Even though Throsby and his nephew, Charles Throsby-Smith, had a bitter disagreement about the existence of the elusive ‘Murrumbidgee River’ it was Throsby who was proven to be right in his judgement. Their clash of personalities did not deter the senior Throsby from leaving his estate to his nephew.

In assessing the contribution to the colony by Charles Throsby it is necessary to take into account his loyal service in the difficult outpost at Newcastle and to concede that his educational attainments were considerably higher than those with whom he had dealings. He was greatly sympathetic to the plight of Aborigines and often championed their causes. While he may have been aggressive as an explorer seeking unknown pastures, this was also a benefaction to the colony. He may have sought the limelight from time-to-time but with the passage of the years his achievements have receded from centre stage. With the celebration

of Canberra's 100th birthday it is to be hoped that his contributions will receive the recognition they deserve.

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To
LAURIE TOLMIE

*who shared his desk with
me at Liverpool Junior Technical High
and later fostered my interest
in colonial history.*



Dr Charles Throsby's 'Glenfield', Casula (1817).

Telmie

Photograph: Laurie

Chapter 1

EARLY FARMING AND GRAZING ON THE CUMBERLAND PLAIN

Paucity of Farming Skills

In the early years of the colony the settlement barely survived several crises of starvation. The harshness of the climate, the poverty of the soils and the absence of agricultural skills in the severely degraded convict population were a constant threat to the survival of the colony. The chronic poor health of the convict population was not assisted by the intransigence of the marines and the machinations of the NSW Corps. Under such circumstances a skilled farmer was a priceless asset.

Searching for Fertile Soil around Sydney

In the search for more suitable farming soil Governor Phillip sent scouting patrols across the bay to Manly and up the coast to Broken Bay and Pittwater. He found better land along the Parramatta River. The soil at Rose Hill was more fertile than that around Sydney Town. Indeed, for some years, Parramatta drew the population away from Sydney. Successful farms were established at Rose Hill, Toongabbie and Prospect. On the northern side of the Parramatta River farms were developed at Carlingford, Ryde and Castle Hill. Later, after Watkin Tench explored west of Parramatta, a river was discovered at the foot of the Blue Mountains. This river with its mountainous backdrop marked the western extremity of the Cumberland Plain and it became the barrier to future western development. Along its northern reaches there were green hills. This region had excellent soils and it was to become the 'bread-basket' of the colony.

Four Early Primary Producers

In the early days of the colony four families achieved eminence in food production:

- James Ruse and his wife Elizabeth
- John Macarthur and his wife Elizabeth
- John Blaxland and his brother Gregory; and
- The Reverend Samuel Marsden.

Naturally, there were other important primary producers who were not in the public eye.

James Ruse

James Ruse had an interesting and eventful life which is recorded in a museum display at Surgeon John Harris' Cottage (Experiment Farm, Harris Park).

Early Life

He was born in Cornwall in 1760 of farming stock. At the age of twenty-two he was sentenced to transportation for seven years for stealing "two silver watches (value five pounds) and other goods, (value ten shillings), from the house of Thomas Olive". He spent some years on a prison hulk and in May 1787 he sailed from Spithead, aboard the *Scarborough*, one of the ships in the First Fleet. He was one of four persons to claim the honour of being the first person ashore at Sydney Cove.

Farming Success – Sydney and Parramatta

Ruse worked under the supervision of Henry Dodd, Governor Phillip's personal servant, and probably grew grain at Farm Cove, Sydney. Ruse was sent to Parramatta (Rose Hill) to work under George Sutor on the recently cleared land near the site of the Old Government Farm. This was in May 1789. Governor Phillip was impressed by Ruse's work and on the 21st November 1789 Phillip gave him 1½ acres of land and had a hut built for him. Ruse was given a few tools, two pigs, six hens and sufficient seed for the first year's sowing. He planted the seed in May 1790 and harvested it in November 1790. Ruse's crop production convinced Governor Phillip that it was possible for a family to survive off the land and not be reliant on government stores. As a reward for his labours Phillip extended Ruse's land grant to thirty acres. The grant was the first title registered (Volume 1, page 1 of the Registrar General's Title Reference, 22nd February 1792).

Ruse's Marriage to Elizabeth Perry

On the 5th September 1790 Ruse married Elizabeth Perry, a nineteen year old convict. She and Ruse were married by the Reverend Richard Johnson. She became the first woman convict to be given a warrant of emancipation (July 1792 see p. 200 of the Grants Register – Vol. 1).

Ruse at Mulgrave Place (Windsor)

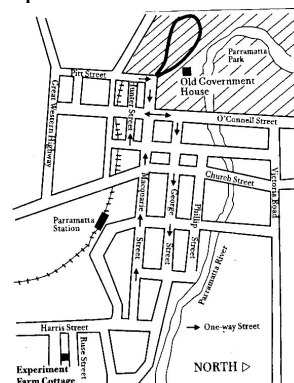
Following a disastrous drought season in 1793 Ruse sold his farm to Surgeon John Harris for forty pounds. On the 2nd January 1794 he obtained one of the twenty-two, 30 acre lots at Mulgrave Place. Ruse's block No. 6 adjoined South Creek and the Hawkesbury River. His friend, C. Williams, selected block 7 and Mr J. Acres selected Block 10 further along the Wilberforce Reach.

Ruse at Salt Pan Creek (Bankstown)

James left many of the farm duties to his wife while he provided a cash flow by working as a seaman. In 1806 the Nepean River water level rose by fifty feet and crops were lost. Flood devastation in 1808 and 1809 followed. Ruse surrendered his land on the Hawkesbury for 100 acres at Salt Pan Creek in the Bankstown area. Over a period of forty years Ruse had opened up and farmed thirteen grants or purchases. In 1828 he became overseer to Captain Brookes of Lower Minto. Ruse's final move was to a property in Macquarie Fields. On May 27th 1836 his wife Elizabeth died at the age of sixty-five having borne James three sons and five daughters. James prepared his own headstone and when he died on the 5th September, 1837 he was buried next to his wife in St. John's Cemetery, Campbelltown.

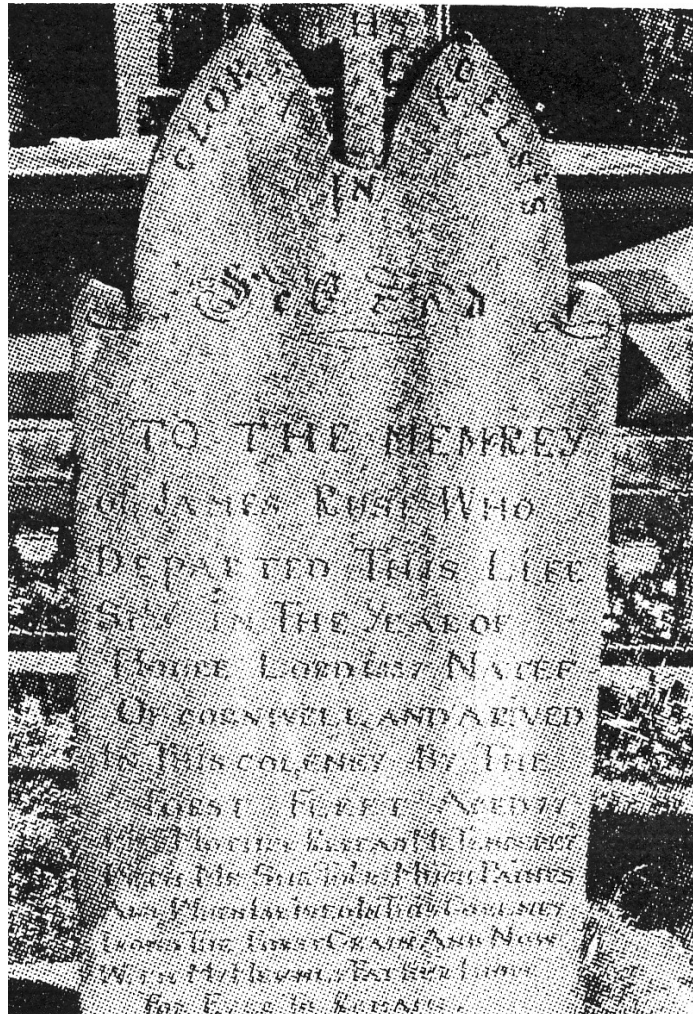


Experiment Farm Cottage built by Surgeon Harris on land farmed by James Ruse



Map of Parramatta and Harris Park

Ruse's Homemade Headstone



*Home made headstone of James Ruse
St. John's Cemetery, Campbelltown*

This headstone has been transferred from St. John's Cemetery into the safe-keeping of the Campbelltown Council.

John Macarthur



John Macarthur



Elizabeth Macarthur

Arrival

John Macarthur arrived in the colony of NSW with his wife Elizabeth and their first son Edward aboard the *Scarborough* of the ill-fated 2nd Fleet in June 1790. He originally boarded the notorious *Neptune* but quarrelled with Captain Gilbert. He

fought a duel against Gilbert who was replaced by the unscrupulous Captain Trail before *Neptune* sailed from Plymouth. Later he successfully transferred from *Neptune* to *Scarborough*.

Macarthur as Regimental Paymaster

Macarthur arrived as a Lieutenant in the NSW Corps but did not endear himself to Governor Phillip. However, Lt. Governor Grose favoured him and promoted him to Captain and appointed him to command the detachment at Parramatta. In addition, Macarthur was appointed regimental paymaster with an additional salary of £15 per month and access to the regiment's funds. Grose almost immediately appointed him Inspector of Public Works as well. Similarly Captain Foveaux of Sydney took control of Grose's administrative responsibilities in Sydney. The once civilian model of administration was replaced by a military model.

Establishment of Elizabeth Farm

In 1793 Macarthur established 'Elizabeth Farm' on 100 acres of Parramatta and progressively he became one of the biggest property owners in the colony. In 1801 Macarthur fought an illegal duel against his commanding officer William Paterson. Governor King sent Macarthur to England for a military trial. This trial never eventuated. Indeed, Macarthur obtained permission from the British government to resign from the army. He also returned to NSW with a government recommendation that he be granted an additional 5,000 acres to develop the wool industry and a further grant of 5,000 acres if successful. These outcomes for Macarthur were not expected by Governor King and he reluctantly granted the land and the 30 convicts to work it.



Complicity in the Rum Rebellion

John Macarthur had little time for most of the governors except Grose and it was not to be wondered at that it did not take long for him to quarrel with King's replacement: Captain William Bligh. Macarthur was the ring-leader in an organised attempt to depose Governor Bligh. This orchestrated event was successful and became known

as the ‘Rum Rebellion’. Macarthur conspired with the Corps Commandant Major Johnston to arrest Bligh and declare martial law. This was duly implemented on the 26th January 1808 – exactly 20 years since the establishment of the fledgling colony.

Major Johnston and Lt. Governor Foveaux

Major Johnston assumed control of the colony and appointed John Macarthur to the position of Colonial Secretary. Johnston was replaced by the more senior Major Joseph Foveaux when he returned from England in July 1808. Macarthur resigned his position at that time. Lt. Governor Foveaux and John Macarthur were both wealthy landowners. When Foveaux was transferred to Norfolk Island in 1800 Foveaux sold a lot of his holdings to Macarthur. On Norfolk Island Foveaux acquired the reputation of a sadist. In Sydney, Foveaux regarded himself as an interim Lt. Governor and he awaited the arrival of the senior Corps officer, William Paterson. Paterson was acting as Lt. Governor of Van Diemen’s Land but was delayed by the damage to the sailing ship *Porpoise*. Paterson eventually arrived on the 9th January 1809.

The Largesse of A/Governor William Paterson

Acting Governor William Paterson was an ill man but it did not prevent him from being benevolent in the granting of land to Corps officers and supporters. Johnson and Foveaux had not made excessive grants to their friends although Johnson made a large grant to his son. Other recipients included Fitz, William Lawson, William Faithfull, Anthony Fenn Kemp, Thomas Laycock, John Blaxland and Darcy Wentworth.

The Blaxland Brothers

Gregory Blaxland (Brush Farm)

Gregory Blaxland arrived in the colony in 1806. His brother John arrived in 1807. They had sold their large estates in Kent on the strength of Lord Castlereagh’s promise to give them an 8,000 acre land grant if they invested 6,000 pounds sterling in NSW. Governor Bligh did not honour Castlereagh’s promise. However, they did farm their 1200 acres of swamp land well, and they successfully established Sydney’s first dairy herd of 30 cows. In 1808 John sailed to England to seek redress for broken promises.



Gregory Blaxland



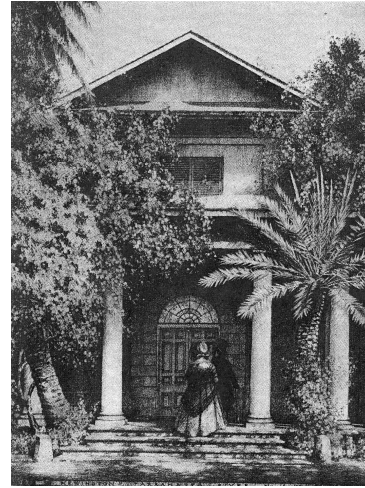
Brush Farm House

John Blaxland (Newington)

When John Blaxland returned to NSW in 1812, Bligh had been deposed and Governor Macquarie had been installed. Macquarie gave the Blaxlands additional acreage on the Nepean River but he was also critical of their preference for grazing rather than for agriculture.

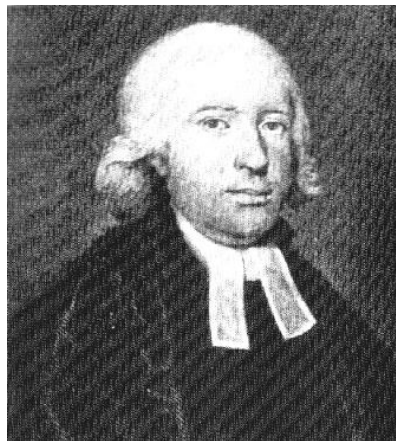


John Blaxland



*The Front Doorway, Newington House
by W. Hardy Wilson*

Reverend Samuel Marsden



Rev. Samuel Marsden

Agricultural and Pastoral Wealth

Reverend Samuel Marsden (1765-1838) arrived in Sydney in March 1794 to take up his appointment as Assistant Chaplain in Parramatta. Through grants and purchases Marsden had acquired, by his death, 11,724 acres of land from the Cumberland Plain to Wellington and at least 10,000 sheep and 1,100 cattle. The crops on his various holdings included wheat, barley, oats, hops, peas, beans, potatoes, flax and hemp. His estate was valued at 30,000 pounds making him a multi-millionaire by today's standards.

Seven Missionary Journeys to New Zealand

Although he is known as 'the flogging parson' he was also a man of great vision and extraordinary achievements. He was not only a cleric for the Parramatta region, he made seven missionary journeys to New Zealand. He also introduced sheep, horses

and cattle to New Zealand. Like Macarthur and others Marsden was amongst the first in NSW to experiment in sheep-breeding.

‘Mamre’ – Marsden’s Experimental Farm (St. Mary’s)

Marsden developed an experimental ‘model’ farm, ‘Mamre’, west of Parramatta (St. Mary’s). He began with 1030 acres in 1799 and by 1827 it had grown to 5000 acres. Marsden stocked ‘Mamre’ with Cape and Bengal sheep and some cattle. He began sheep breeding experiments in 1798. He crossed his original breeds with a Spanish Merino ram and a ewe purchased from Captain Waterhouse. He produced a dual-purpose mutton-wool sheep.



Sheep and Cattle Breeding

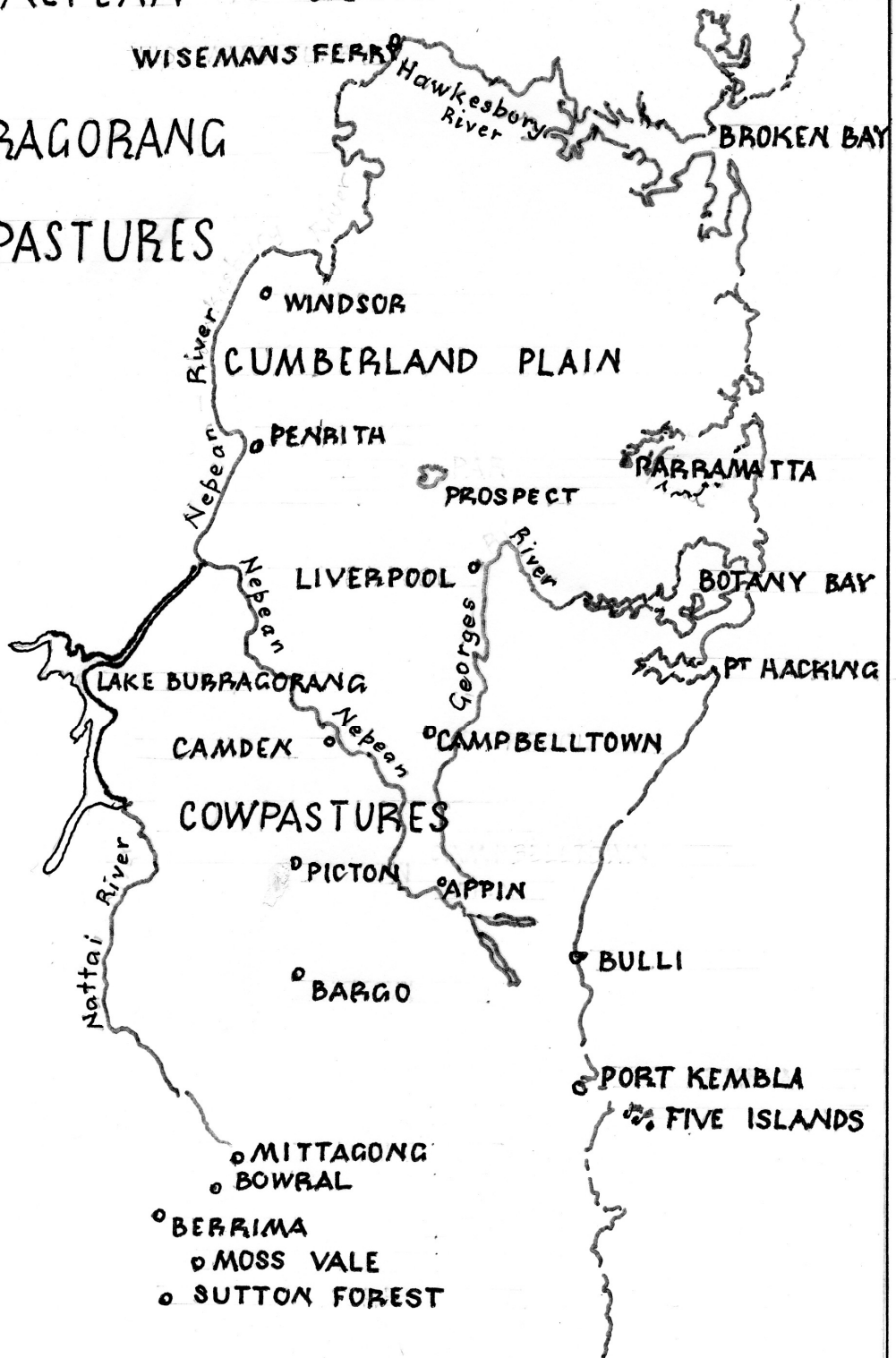
Between 1807 – 1810 Marsden visited England and purchased a pure bred Pole-Suffolk cow and bull for his breeding venture in NSW. In 1821 Marsden ran 800 head of cattle and in 1824 he won the award for the best colonial bred bull.

The Pressure for More Land

The progression from farming to mixed farming to specialisations in sheep and cattle grazing followed the demands of necessity. Grazing demanded larger and larger land-holdings. This demand spawned an increased desire to explore the regions beyond the Cumberland Plain. The most accessible of these regions lay beyond the Cowpastures in a southerly direction.

THE CUMBERLAND PLAIN
 THE NEPEAN AND GEORGES RIVERS

BURRAGORANG
 COWPASTURES



FROM PARRAMATTA TO THE COWPASTURES

Cowpastures and the Camden Area (1795+)

Six months after their arrival in July 1788 two bulls and four cows brought from the Cape of Good Hope escaped from their shepherds in Sydney. These cattle were not found until shortly after Governor Hunter's arrival in September 1795. Henry Hacking is credited with their discovery. On 18th November 1795 Hunter, Captain Waterhouse, Dr George Bass, Judge Advocate Collins and some convict servants travelled south from Prospect. After crossing the Nepean River they saw the herd which had increased to 61 cattle. In June 1796 Hunter returned to inspect the cattle. He located them at 34°09", 9 miles from Botany Bay. The area became known colloquially as "The Cow Pastures".

Preservation of Grazing Lands

Although Governor Philip King wanted to preserve the valuable cowpastures grazing lands he reluctantly obeyed a directive to grant John Macarthur two 5,000 acre parcels of land in that area. This land grant has strengthened the claim that after Sydney, Parramatta and Windsor, Camden was the fourth approved settlement on the mainland. In October 1806 Bligh visited the district with Marsden. By then the track from Warby's farm at Prospect was well defined. The track to the Cowpastures led from Prospect, today located at the junction of Chandos Road, Horsley Park, down to the present Camden Way.



Sketch of Cowpastures area

Cabramatta, Bringelly and Minto (1808)

In September 1808 Foveaux had considered settling the Cowpastures. The Hawkesbury floods in the winter of 1809 gave another reason. Paterson decided to encourage cultivation of the forest lands south-west of Parramatta in the districts of Cabramatta, Bringelly and Minto (Glenfield – Campbelltown).

Macquarie's First Visit to the South (7 November 1810)

Liverpool on the Georges River

In November 1810, Macquarie set out for the Georges River accompanied by his wife, Captain Antill and James Meehan. They crossed the river by boat arriving first at Mr Moore's house and then at Mr Laycock's.

“And having surveyed the ground and found it in every respect eligible and fit for the purpose, I determined to erect a township on it, and named it Liverpool in honour of the Earl of that title, then the Secretary of State of the Colony.” (Liston)

“The acting Surveyor, Mr Meehan, was at the same time directed to mark out the ground for the town, with a square in the centre thereof, for the purpose of having a church hereafter erected within it.”



Captain Antill

Minto Farms

During the next few days Macquarie's party inspected the farms of:

- Guise (Casula)
- Throsby (Glenfield)
- Meehan (Macquarie Fields)
- Lewin (Mount Arden)
- Brooks (At Atkins Denham Court)
- Townson (Varraville) Bunbury, Curran Hill
- Thompson's Farm ('St Andrew')



Glenfield Farm House



Macquarie Fields House

Thompson's and Townson's farms were on the best soils and bounded by a brackish creek called "Bunbury Curran".

Macquarie's Second Visit to the South (16 November 1810)

Macquarie returned to Parramatta and on the 16th November 1810 he set out a second time. This time he drove in carriages. At Prospect he was joined by John Warby as guide and Sergeant Whalan with three troopers.

Mt Hunter, Stonequarry Creek and Menangle

They travelled from Prospect along the track through the open forest of Cabramatta until they came to the government hut on the Nepean River. This took three and a half hours. They then proceeded to Mt Hunter and Stonequarry Creek where they found the straying cattle. They met up with Mrs Elizabeth Macarthur and visited the Menangle Farms of Walter Davidson.

Menangle Park, Mt Annan, Bunbury Curran

Macquarie was anxious to visit St Andrews farm. The owner, Andrew Thompson, had died the month before and had bequeathed one-quarter of his estate to the Governor. The farmhouse was under the care of Joseph Ward and his wife. They supplied the Governor and his party with victuals. The Governor also met Thompson's neighbour, Dr Robert Townson.

Macquarie Forms the New District of Airds

After inspecting Bunbury Curran, Macquarie wrote glowingly of 'the finest country I have yet seen in the colony':

"I intend forming this tract of country into a new and separate district for the accommodation of small settlers, and to name it Airds in honour of my good Elizabeth's family"

(Carol Liston's *Bicentennial History of Campbelltown*, see p. 10).

Campbelltown (1820)

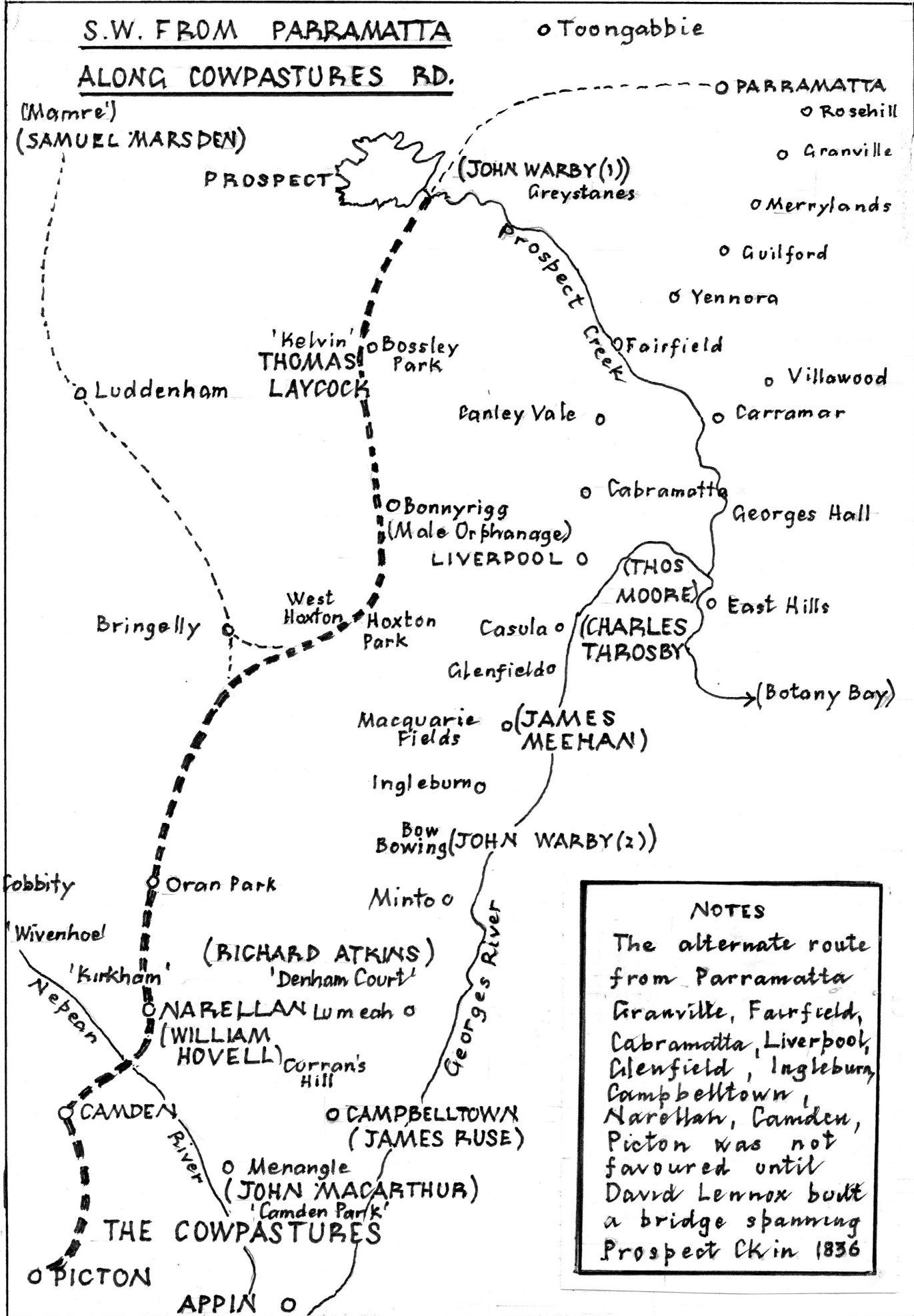
Although Meehan had reserved a site for a 'Campbelltown' township as early as 1815 (when the road from Liverpool to Appin was surveyed), the formal establishment of the boundaries of Campbelltown were not established until the 1st December 1820.

Governor Macquarie, true to his master 'design' for towns, determined the sites for the church, the future school and the cemetery. He named the town after his wife's family – "Campbell" town. In March 1821 Meehan, the Assistant Surveyor-General, was directed to set aside 400 acres for glebe land to support Reverend Reddall's church. It lay south of the town between Menangle and Narellan Roads near Mount Annan.

The Anglican Church of St Peter's was the first, and for many years, the only building within the town. Frank Lawless designed and supervised the building of the church. Its Georgian style is similar to St Luke's at Liverpool.

A second church was soon added to St. Peter's. This time it was a Roman Catholic chapel to be known as St. John's. The new chapel became the second oldest Roman Catholic Chapel in the colony. St. Mary's of Sydney had its foundations laid in October 1821. St. John's foundations were laid on the 12th December 1824.

S.W. FROM PARRAMATTA
ALONG COWPASTURES RD.



NOTES

The alternate route from Parramatta Granville, Fairfield, Cabramatta, Liverpool, Glenfield, Ingleburn, Campbelltown, Narellan, Camden, Picton was not favoured until David Lennox built a bridge spanning Prospect Ck in 1836

Chapter 3 THE EXPANSION OF THE COLONY

Part I BEYOND THE NEPEAN RIVER WESTWARD

Three Early Attempts to Cross the Mountains Westward from the Burragorang

Governor Macquarie's Reflection (1815)

In praising the success of the eventual crossing of the barrier of the Blue Mountains Range, Governor Macquarie expressed his 'astonishment and regret' that

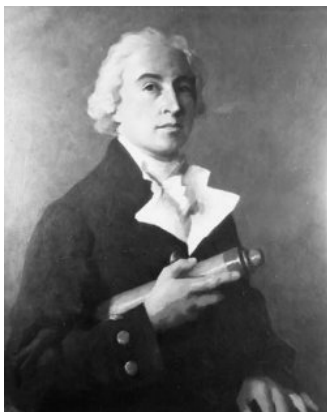
'amongst so large a population no one appeared within the first twenty-five years of the establishment of this settlement possessed of sufficient energy of mind to induce him to fully explore a passage over these mountains'.

He went on to acknowledge the efforts of Mr George Bass and Mr George Cayley but omitted reference to Francis Barrillier. (see Yvonne Birney's booklet *Road to Bathurst*, pg. 45).

George Bass (1796)

George Bass was the first European into the Burragorang Valley. Governor King, William Lawson and William Charles Wentworth all considered that the cairn of stones at 'Caley's Repulse' had been built by Bass. This cairn is named after George Caley, the naturalist (see below). It was discovered by Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson at a distance 18 miles from Emu Ford (near Springwood).

Surgeon George Bass entered the Burragorang Valley in 1796 and if Grimes and Flinders map is an accurate record he followed in a line of direction from Mount Hunter (The 'Razor Back') 34°9' for 28 miles into the mountains. One assumes that this would have taken him to the area near present day Yerranderie.



George Bass



Caley's Repulse

Francis Barrallier in October (1802)

Ensign Francis Barrallier, a French-born engineer in the New South Wales Corps sought a route across the Blue Mountains from the Cowpastures in October 1802. In the process he discovered the Nattai and Wollondilly Rivers and the Burragorang Valley. Journeying

southward he passed a swamp called ‘Manhangle’ by the natives. This was the pasture area selected by John Macarthur.

George Caley in December (1802)

The botanist George Caley crossed the Nepean River in December 1802. He followed it to Stonequarry Creek and Picton lagoon.

‘In February 1804 Caley returned to the Cowpastures, which he called Vaccary Forest, and named Mount Hunter Rivulet.’

(Campbelltown, the Bicentennial Issue, pg. 6)

Gregory Blaxland (1778-1853), William Lawson (1774-1850) and William Charles Wentworth (1790-1872)

A caterpillar plague of 1811 and a drought of 1812 gave urgency to the search for new pastures. Gregory Blaxland (35) enlisted the aid of William Charles Wentworth (23) and former Lieutenant William Lawson (39) to find a route over the impenetrable Blue Mountains. They commenced their journey from Blaxland’s farm on South Creek on 11th May 1813 with four servants, five dogs, four horses laden with provisions and ammunition, a compass, a hoe, some lopping equipment and guns.



Gregory Blaxland



William Lawson



William Charles Wentworth

They crossed the Nepean River at Emu Ford and traversed the ridge that divides the Grose and Cox Rivers. On the 31st May, i.e. after 20 days, they reached Sugar Loaf Hill (Mt Blaxland). Here they gazed upon land

“sufficient to feed the stock of the colony for the next thirty years”.

The expedition had not, in fact, crossed the range but had reached its western edge.

Strangely, Macquarie did not greet the news of the crossing with great enthusiasm. He was, possibly, suspicious about Blaxland’s cattle grazing intentions. The three men were each granted 1000 acres (405 ha).

George William Evans (1778-1852)

George William Evans was Assistant Surveyor to John Oxley. Five months after the crossing of the Blue Mountains Governor Macquarie asked that Evans follow the route and survey the track to Sugar Loaf Hill (later Mt Blaxland) and further if possible. On 9th December Evans

came to a fine river which he named the Macquarie. The land about this river was well grassed and he named the area 'The Bathurst Plains'.



George William Evans



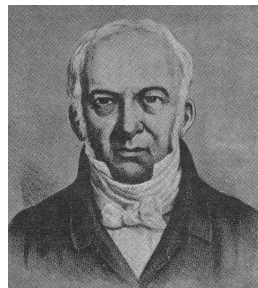
John Oxley

Evans received £100 pounds and 1000 acres of land in Van Diemen's Land. The five men who accompanied him (three were convicts) were each given £35 and a small land portion.

William Cox (1764-1837)

Paymaster of the New South Wales Corps

William Cox and his wife Rebecca and two of their five sons arrived in New South Wales aboard the *Minerva* on 11th January 1800. The *Minerva* set sail on 24th August 1799 from Cork Harbour. The ship carried a swag of Irish rebels among its 135 prisoners. They had participated in the Irish Rebellion of 1798. Cox was to command the small detachment assigned to guard the prisoners. This guard included one lieutenant (Maudrel), four sergeants and twenty-seven privates. Cox was sent to replace John Macarthur as Paymaster of the New South Wales Corps.



William Cox

Man Management Skills

Cox experienced little difficulty in the discharge of his duties. He utilised the services of Joseph ('General') Holt, an Irish rebel who had no difficulty in securing the co-operation of the prisoners. Holt was later to become a faithful employee of Cox, managing his properties and overseeing 'assigned servants'.

'Brush Farm'

When 'Brush Farm' was offered for sale Holt inspected it for Cox and subsequently managed it for Cox. Brush Farm at Ryde became a model property. Cox continually added to 'Brush Farm' by purchasing from settlers 1380 acres, 400 acres cleared, 248 acres of wheat and maize – 24 horses, 20 head of horned cattle, 1000 sheep and 200 hogs. Cox then purchased 'Canterbury Farm' next to 'Brush Farm' (Ryde) making the property one of Sydney's largest.



Brush Farm (Ryde)

Originally known as Brush Farm Estates. Purchased from Cox by G. Blaxland in 1807.

The property employed one hundred and ten men which made it the largest establishment in the colony. By 1804 Cox had sold 'Brush Farm' and his Parramatta properties. He had obtained grants of land for his two eldest sons before he adjourned to England for three years.

Chief Magistrate of the Hawkesbury

Soon after his return from England in 1810 William was made Chief Magistrate of the Hawkesbury. He held this position until his death in 1837. Cox also contracted for the building of the Greenway designed Windsor Courthouse.

William Cox as Road Builder

William Cox received a letter from Governor Macquarie dated 14th July 1814. This letter confirmed the details of the conversation that the Governor and Cox had already had concerning Cox's offer to build a road across the Blue Mountains. The letter, in effect, appointed him as Superintendent of this monumental project. He was instructed to build a road 'at least 12 feet wide ... so that a four-wheel carriage or cart may pass without difficulty'. Cox was empowered to select thirty artificers and labourers and a guard of eight soldiers. He began the task on 18th July 1814 and built the road to Bathurst by 14th January 1815. Or to express it another way: he built a road across the impassable Blue Mountains 101 ½ miles long in 180 days!

Governor Macquarie's Crossing of the Mountains

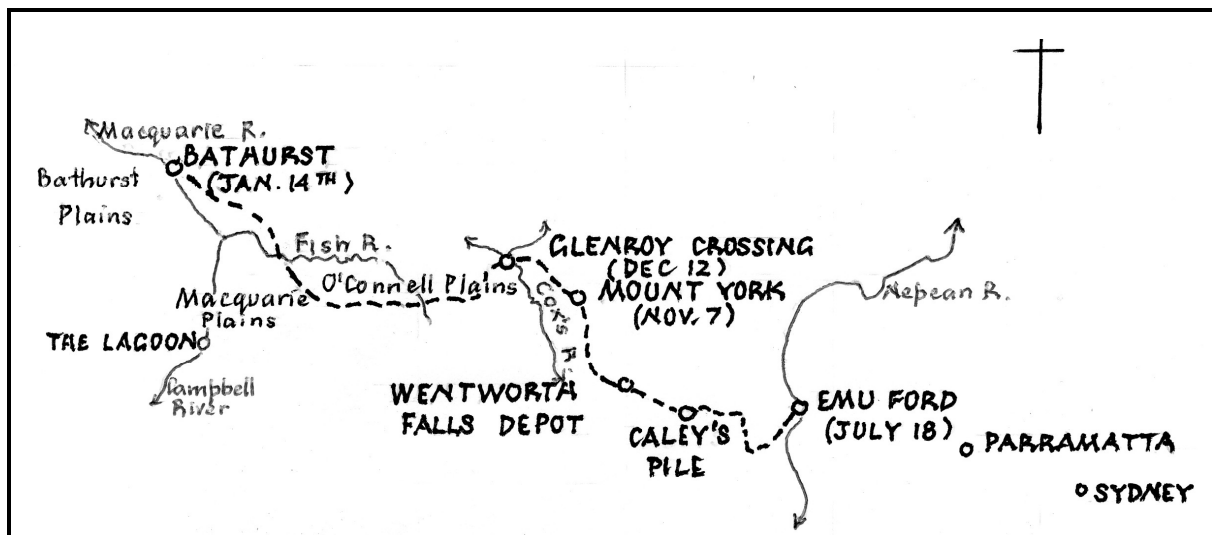
On 25th April 1815 Governor Macquarie began his formal journey across the mountains. He was accompanied by Mrs Macquarie and Mr William Cox, the road builder. Other members of the official party included:

Mr Campbell	Secretary
Captain Antill	Major of Brigade
Lt. Watts	Aide-de-camps
Mr Redfern	Asst. Surgeon
Mr Oxley	Surveyor-General
Mr Meehan	Deputy Surveyor-General
Mr Lewin	Painter and Naturalist
and Mr G.W. Evan	Deputy Surveyor of Lands

Cox's Reward

Governor Macquarie awarded William Cox a grant of land on the Bathurst Plains on the right bank of the Macquarie River. Mr Cox named the grant 'Hereford'. Official pardons were granted to the volunteer convicts.

Original Route of Cox's Road



(Based on Yvonne McBurney and David Cox's Sketch Map in 'Road to Bathurst', p. 4)

Part II
BEYOND THE NEPEAN RIVER SOUTHWARD

The Old Cowpastures Road

The track southwards from Parramatta began at Warby's farm. This farm was at Prospect and no doubt the nearby Prospect Inn was strategically located for travellers to the Narellan/Camden area. This track became known as Cowpastures Road.



*Inverted and copied from an original colonial map held by National Library of Australia
 nla.pic-vn4282047-v*

Journeys Southward by John Wilson, John Warby, James Meehan and Hamilton Hume into Argyle

The Fantasies of Irish Convicts

Governor John Hunter was often told of the forlorn plight of Irish convicts who were convinced that a colony of white settlers was living in an edenic paradise some 150-200 miles in the back country. The Governor sought to 'humour' this utopian fantasy and, if possible, even exploit it. To this end he even approved an exploratory expedition consisting of several convicts under guard. The party were to explore beyond the Nepean River at Camden. The party reported back after two days claiming they had sighted many 'whombats', 'cullawines' (koala bears), and 'emews' which they could not catch. Their edenic paradise could only provide 'a rat about the size of a small kitten'.

The Convict John Wilson's Two Southern Probes (1798)

John Wilson was also 'a wild Irish convict'. However, he did have some bush-craft skills and knowledge. He had lived among Aborigines and he made two important southern probes into unknown areas.

1. Past the Nattai to the Wollondilly River

Although this journey was only 60 miles he discovered a river 'very near as large as the Hawkesbury River which seemed to run NW to SE.' (see *Earliest Monara*, p. 76). He returned with a lyre-bird.

This journey may be said to be the first **inland** journey of exploration. It began on 24th January 1798 from Mount Hunter and arrived back at Prospect on 8th February 1798. Although the convicts and soldiers returned after ten days Wilson and his mates (Price and Roe) completed the journey after fifteen days. Wilson covered about 240 miles and managed to live off the land and wore out the boots of his party. He managed to journey to a spot about a mile above the junction of the Nepean and Bargo rivers, then on to the present sites of Bargo Township, Forest or Catherine Hill, Aylmerton, Mittagong and Bowral and the head of Joadja Creek near Bullio. They reached the farthest point on February 1st near the junction of the Wingecarribee and Wollundilly rivers. They arrived back at Prospect via Bong Bong on 8th February. (R.H. Webster – *Currency Lad – The Story of Hamilton Hume And The Explorers*, p. 11).

2. The Cowpastures, Picton Lakes, Mt Jellore (Mt Wilson), Mt Pleasant (Mt Ginginbullen) Sutton Forest, Paddy's River, Mt Towrang

This journey began on 9th March 1798, i.e. a month after Wilson returned from his first journey. Wilson was made the chief guide, Price rejoined Wilson as scribe and Collins was the third civilian member. The expedition was under the direction of Henry Hacking, quartermaster of the *Sirius*. After they had re-located the salt deposits (found on the first journey) at the Nepean/Bargo crossing, Hacking returned to Prospect. This left Wilson in command from the 14th March until the party's return to Prospect on 3rd April 1798. On their journey through the Cowpastures they noted that the original four cows and two bulls had bred up to number 178.

Wilson's journey from Jellore brought him to Mandemar and, in order to miss the gullies of Jackey Jackey's Creek, he turned down the Mandemar Range, coming on

the Wingecarribee River about six kilometres west of the present site of Berrima. He ascended Gingenbullen and named it Mount Pleasant. This was west of Sutton Forest. He then crossed Black Bob's Creek and Paddy's River and proceeded south-westerly to Mount Towrang. By 23rd March 1798 they were able to climb Mount Towrang, nine and a half kilometres east of today's Goulburn. Price's report on the prospects of the area did not excite interest and the south-westerly route dropped from consideration.

John Warby (1767? – 1851)

John Warby, an ex-convict, had been transported for seven years in 1791. He married fellow convict Sarah Bently in 1796 and farmed at Prospect. In 1806 Governor Bligh appointed Warby as Constable of the Cowpastures.

Carol Linton reports that 'much of the knowledge of the district came from his friendship with the Dharwal. As stockman in charge of the wild cattle he explored the Cowpastures, west of The Oaks, Burragorang and south to Bargo.' (see p. 15 *Campbelltown, the Bicentennial History*). Warby was given a grant of 260 acres on the flats west of Bow Bowing Creek, along Badgally Road. Linton reports that 'he did not move his family to Airds until his grant was formalised in 1816'.

Warby named his homestead 'Leumeah House' after it was built in 1820. The house was demolished in 1863. Warby turned his hand to the grazing potential of the southern districts. His squatting station at Gungadai was for many years the furthest point of European settlement. He died at Campbelltown in 1851, aged 84, and his wife Sarah died in 1869. Some of their fourteen children remained in Campbelltown while others followed the southern migratory pattern.

James Meehan (1774-1826)

James Meehan was transported to New South Wales because of his part in the Irish Rebellion of 1798. He arrived in 1800 and was assigned to Acting Surveyor-General Charles Grimes. He eventually took Grimes' position in 1808. When John Oxley was appointed Surveyor-General in 1812, Meehan was made Deputy Surveyor-General from 1812-1821. Between the years 1803-1820 Meehan engaged in extensive field work and sometimes accompanied Governor Macquarie on his inspections. In 1810 Macquarie directed Meehan to mark out the ground for a town at Liverpool. Meehan also regularised the design of the ramshackle village of Hobart in 1811. Again, at Macquarie's instruction, he reserved a site for Campbelltown township in 1815, even though the boundaries for the town were not established until 1st December 1820. Meehan travelled with both Hume and Throsby to Lake Bathurst and the Goulburn Plains. He also travelled with Oxley and Hume to the Illawarra region. Later he travelled west from Moss Vale, crossing the Lachlan and Macquarie Rivers.

'Meehan's Castle' (Macquarie Fields)

In July 1809 Meehan pegged his own grant of 110 acres in the Bunbury Curran. He was also granted 110 acres by Paterson one month later in the early Campbelltown grants. He made his home on his grant at Macquarie Fields from 1811. His brick house was known as 'Meehan's Castle'. Meehan died at Macquarie Fields on 21st April 1826 aged 52 years. His son, Thomas, was forced to sell the estate in 1831.



Meehan's Castle

Hamilton Hume (1797-1873)

Toongabbie to Appin

Hamilton Hume was born at Toongabbie in 1797. His father, Andrew, had been appointed as Superintendent of Livestock at the Toongabbie Government Farm in 1789 and had married Elizabeth Kennedy in 1796. After a period of unsatisfactory employment Andrew was given a 100 acre grant from Governor Macquarie. He took up his grant at Appin in November 1812 when his son Hamilton was fifteen years old. Mrs Hume's relatives, Elizabeth Broughton and John Kennedy, also lived in this distant farming area.

Thirteen Journeys

Young Hamilton Hume made no less than thirteen journeys between 1814 and 1821. His contribution to the drive for southward expansion is almost incalculable. Sometimes he was in the company of much older men and he probably received more credit than his due. He accompanied Dep. Surveyor Meehan, Dr Charles Throsby, John Oxley, Lt. Johnson, Captain William Hovell and Charles Sturt. Notwithstanding his lack of seniority, his bushcraft and his sound relationships with Aborigines were great assets to add to his courage, endurance and commitment to exploration.

A summary list of eight of Hume's journeys is displayed on an information board in the Museum at Cooma Cottage, Hume's Yass homestead. Hume died on 19th April 1873.

Eight Important Hume Trips

Year	Comment
1. 1814	Hamilton and his brother John Kennedy Hume, and an Aboriginal guide, Douall, of the Dharawal tribe, discovered good grazing land beyond the Bargo Brush to Bong Bong and Berrimah. Hume made two further trips to Bong Bong.
2. 1817 (Aug)	Hamilton Hume's sister, Isobel, married George Barbour who was a relative of Dr Charles Throsby's wife, Jane. Thus when Throsby asked Hamilton to accompany him he was asking a relative. With Throsby, Hume explored land to the west of Sutton Forest.

3.	1818 (March)	Hamilton Hume joined James Meehan in the Meehan and Throsby journey from The Cowpastures through Moss Vale to Bundanoon Creek. Meehan's group discovered Lake Bathurst and the Goulburn Plains.
4.	1819	With James Meehan and John Oxley, Hamilton Hume explored as far as Jervis Bay.
5.	1821	Accompanied by his new brother-in-law, George Barbour (Charles Throsby's stepson) and an Appin neighbour, William Broughton, Hamilton Hume journeyed across the Goulburn Plains and discovered the virtually treeless Yass Plains.
6.	1821 (Nov) to 1822 (Jan)	In November 1821 Hume and Mr J. Kennedy with 'Duall' and 'Cowpasture Jack' went from Lake Bathurst across to the coast and the Shoalhaven River. (Hume returned in January 1822 with merchant Alexander Berry to select Berry's Coolangatta estate).
7.		The Hume and Hovell expedition started from Appin on 2nd October 1824, when Hume set out from his home 'Humewood' in Appin. He was joined by Hovell from Narellan and they made their way to Hamilton's brother's property (John Kennedy Hume) near present day Gunning. One commentator has described this trip: <p style="padding-left: 40px;">'The worst equipped, poorest planned major expedition in Australia's history with everything apparently against its prospects of success.'</p> The journey to Port Phillip Bay and return proved a journey 'of bitter success and mutual self-destruction; their joint achievement over-shadowed by a life-long quarrel over who was leader'.
8.		Hume probably accompanied Surveyor-General Mitchell on surveys of the Great South Road. In 1829 he was second-in-command to Charles Sturt on a four-month expedition which discovered the Darling River. He declined Sturt's invitation to go on a second expedition to journey to the mouth of the Murray River.

Chapter 4
DR CHARLES THROSBY ESQ.
NAVAL SURGEON, PASTORALIST, EXPLORER AND MAGISTRATE
1777-1828

Part I
A MULTI-FACETED LIFE

Early Years as Surgeon and Magistrate

Charles Throsby began his working life as a Naval Surgeon and served in the armed transports *Coromandel* and *Calcutta* from 1797 until the peace. He arrived in Sydney aboard

the *Coromandel* in June 1802. In October 1803 he was appointed as a medical officer and magistrate at Castle Hill. In August 1804 he was sent to Newcastle as assistant surgeon. He was not long in his new position when changing circumstances obliged him to assume the role of Commandant of the whole Newcastle settlement. He gained his first interest in pastoral matters while in Newcastle by acquiring a herd of sheep and a herd of cattle.

Following the Rum Rebellion, Throsby was confirmed as Magistrate by the rebel administration. In December 1808 he returned to Sydney and by September 1809 he resigned as surgeon because of ill-health. He became an agent to Sir John Jamison in 1811. He sailed to England for a visit and on his return to Sydney he became active in pastoral matters seeking new pastures in The Illawarra, the Argyle District and the Bathurst region when it was discovered.

‘The Indulgences of a Free Settler’

Lt. Governor William Paterson must have been reluctant to accept Throsby’s resignation but also anxious to retain his services in the fledgling colony. The Acting Governor allowed Throsby to retire ‘with the indulgences of a free settler’. He also agreed to exchange his sheep and cattle at Newcastle for an equivalent number in Sydney. Earlier, in 1808, Lt. Gov. Joseph Foveaux had granted Throsby 500 acres at ‘Cabramatta’ for his services at Newcastle. In 1809 Paterson made him additional grants of 500 acres and 100 acres at ‘Minto’.

From Surgeon to Pastoralist

Governor Macquarie assumed duties in January 1810 and immediately set about correcting the excesses of the rebel administration under Major Johnston and Lt. Col. Foveaux. Throsby had to surrender his grants under the new legal arrangements. The Governor granted him 1500 acres in lieu of the surrender and confirmed the validity of the cattle and sheep exchange. Throsby’s new land grant was at ‘Upper Minto’ (present-day Casula). He built an imposing 14 room colonial residence (1817) with a Georgian façade. In 1817 he named his residence ‘Glenfield House’ after his birthplace near Leicester in England. The convict-built residence had land which ran to the Georges River. The house was gradually extended to include an orchard, two-storey stables, a privy, a lawn tennis court and a dairy. The property remained in the family until the 1920s when it was sold to the Leacock family. While the size of the property has been reduced to 5.5 ha, the residence has been completely restored by the Historic Houses Trust and is now leased by them on a long-term basis.



Glenfield House
Convict-built residence of Dr. Charles Throsby, Casula, 1817.

Part II **THROSBY'S INTEREST IN THE ILLAWARRA**

Throsby's Interest in the Illawarra via Appin

Throsby's property 'Glenfield' had a frontage on the Georges River. Along with his neighbours, Throsby must have wondered where the source of the river could be located after it left Campbelltown. He did not have to look far. It was to the south of the new village of Appin. The earliest land grants in the 'Macquarie Dale' estate at Appin were made to:

Will. Broughton, 'Lachlan Vale', 1000 acres (22nd May 1811)

John Kennedy, 'Teston Farm', 200 acres (22nd May 1811)

George Best, 60 acres (25th August 1812)

Andrew Ham. Hume, 'Hume Mount', 100 acres (25th August 1812)

Alex Riley, 'Hardwicke', 1250 acres (25th August 1812)

Reuben Uther, 'Gilead', 400 acres (25th August 1812)

Geroge William Evans 1812 Journey UP the Escarpment from Illawarra to Appin

Anne-Maree Whitaker cites a journal entry of Evans for Friday 17th April 1812. Apparently Evans got lost looking for Broughton's farm.

‘About 11 o’clock mad Broughton’s Hutt the men were then supplied with Bread, Meat and Milk, and Mr Kennedy ordered a sheep to be killed, tomorrow I intend to rest being poorly from my fall, and on Sunday proceed to Headquarters [Sydney]’
Appin – The Story of a Macquarie Town
p. 13

Charles Throsby’s interest in the Illawarra Region was not awakened until 1815. A record of his interest was recorded by his nephew Charles Throsby-Smith who became a resident of Wollongong in 1823.

Charles Throsby-Smith’s 1863 Reminiscences of His Uncle Dr Charles Throsby’s Journey from Appin DOWN the Escarpment to the Illawarra in 1815

The reminiscences of Charles Throsby-Smith are quoted in an article by Dr Joseph Davies:

‘Who Came Down With Dr Charles Throsby? John Wait, Joe Wild and John Rowley as Illawarra’s 1815 White Pioneers

In the year 1815 the County of Cumberland was suffering from the effects of drought.... My late uncle, Dr Throsby ... met with some of the Aborigines who told him there was plenty of grass and water at the Five Islands. From their representations of the area he at once made up his mind to proceed hither and see for himself – and so, accompanied by a couple of men, two native blacks, and a pack horse carrying his provisions, he started on his journey’

[published in full in the Illawarra Historical Society Bulletin, May-June 1990]

Dr Davies queries the expression ‘**couple of men**’ and argues that it was most likely that there were **three** white men and two Aborigines.

Likely Members of Throsby’s Expeditionary Team Travelling from Appin to the Illawarra (1815)

- Charles Throsby
- Joseph Wild
- John Rowley
- John Wait

There has been some difference of opinion about the identity of the two Aborigines. They are most likely to have been:

- Cookoogong and
- Duall

Michael Organ ‘has suggested they might possibly have been ‘Bundle’ and ‘Broughton’, both of whom accompanied Throsby to Shoalhaven in 1818 (Jervis Bay).

see Illawarra and South Coast Aborigines 1770-1850.
Aboriginal Education Unit at University Wollongong,
1990, p. 48.

Throsby's Cattle Grazing at Five Islands (Port Kembla)

R.H. Webster records that:

‘As early as 1815 Throsby had cattle grazing at the Five Islands, the coastal area so called because of the five islands off Port Kembla’.

and

‘His servant, Joseph Wild, was appointed Constable of the Illawarra area in 1815. Surveyor-General Oxley and his assistant James Meehan also had cattle in the Five Islands district.’

see Currency Lad – The Story of Hamilton Hume and the Explorers, p. 29

The Throsby Track

In 1815 Charles Throsby blazed a ‘road’ from Appin down the escarpment to Bulli.

‘This ‘road’ was rough and steep and regarded as unsuitable for cattle and a bullock wagons carrying freight’. (*Appin – The Story of a Macquarie Town* by Anne-Maree Whittaker, p. 14)

Vivienne Parsons’ article in *The Australian Dictionary of Biography* records that:

‘in November 1816 his (Throsby’s) stockmen already had a hut built in the Illawarra. (Vol. 2, pp. 530-531).

In 1821 a more serviceable road from Appin down Mt Kiera was made by Cornelius O’Brien. It was paid for by the cattle owners in the Illawarra who needed an overland route to take their cattle to the Sydney market.

Macquarie's Use of Throsby's Track and O'Brien's Road

Governor Macquarie travelled over both Throsby’s Track and O’Brien’s alternate road to the Illawarra before he left the colony. In 1822 he went down Throsby’s Track and came back up O’Brien’s Road. He gave contrasting accounts of the old and new roads.

Governor Macquarie recorded in his journal:

‘Throsby’s very bad road commences at King’s Falls, where we crossed the head of the Georges River very near its source, and from thence nothing can be worse – it being almost impassable for a cart or gig – and I confess I wondered if my baggage drag and gig getting on at all without breaking down’.
(*Appin – The Story of a Macquarie Town*, p. 14)

The Governor returned by Cornelius O’Brien’s more serviceable road via Mt Kiera. He found that O’Brien’s road was:

‘perfectly safe and passable for cattle and is what may be termed a good bridle road; and it might be made a good cart road with very little trouble’.
(*Ibid*, p. 15)

Sydney to Illawarra via Appin

Anne-Maree Whitaker went on to add:

‘For another half-century the road from Sydney to the Illawarra passed through Appin, generating services and passing trade which ensured that the village, as well as the farms flourished. A new route from Sydney to Bulli was discovered in 1836 but the road was not built until 1868. Even then there was a ferry crossing of the Woronora River which was finally removed by the building of Tom Ugly’s Bridge in 1929.’

(Ibid, p. 15)

The Rediscovery of Throsby’s Track

The *Wollongong and Northern Leader* published an article on 29th June 2006 entitled ‘Latest technology traces oldest road’. This appeared on the internet at the link:

http://www.northernleader.com.au/article/latest_technology_traces_oldest_road
1/04/2009.

The article tells the story of an expedition which recently retraced the original route of the Throsby Track through the escarpment rainforest. Armed with a copy of a book *The Oldest Road* by McDonald, the expedition, led by bush regenerator and local historian, Peter Mooney, was able to place the track on a global positioning system (GPS).

The article goes on to say:

‘Mr Mooney has walked the track several times and has an intimate knowledge of its stone retaining walls and winding wheel ruts.’

Another local historian, Joe Davis, remembers walking the route as a primary student 40 years ago. He is quoted:

‘The two-hour walk revealed large trees with deeply etched grooves from ropes used to lower carts and other goods down the steep incline.’

Mr Mooney said:

‘The track was used extensively by the people of Sherbrooke, a fruit-growing and timber-cutting village at Bulli Tops to access the coast early last century. Dr Charles Throsby was shown the route down the escarpment at Bulli by local Aborigines in 1815 and the trail became the access road into the Illawarra for the following 30 years until other mountain passes were built.’

Conservationist Jill Walker is quoted:

‘My personal interest was basically in the exciting idea that there may be an Aboriginal heritage track.’

Ms Walker said the track began a little south of Bulli Pass and would have ended fairly close to an Aboriginal women’s site near Sandon Point. Aboriginal women elders have recently walked in the forest and declared it a sacred place, saying Queen Emma of the Gundangarra tribe walked down the dreaming track to Sandon Point for ceremonies.

The members of the expedition intend to make a formal application to State and Federal agencies to have the Throsby Track nationally heritage listed.

Part III THROSBY'S EXPLORATIONS OF THE 'NEW COUNTRY'

A. THROSBY AND HUME

The 'New Country' (1813-1817)

During 1814 there was a severe drought which affected the agricultural and pastoral production of the County of Cumberland. The road to the west over the Blue Mountains had not been effective in shifting 'the mobs as expected'. The limitation on development to the south of The Cowpastures by Governor Hunter was now seen as restrictive and inimical to the welfare of the colony. There was clamour for more land to be made available in the 'New Country' to the south.

John Oxley and William Henry Moore (1813)

In 1813 John Oxley and his business partner, William Henry Moore, had been given permission to move their starving cattle through the Cowpastures to Bargo. Oxley was Surveyor-General of the colony and Moore was a solicitor. They moved their 500-600 head of cattle to Bargo but had no success on the new pastures. After seeking the advice of Hamilton Hume, Oxley's drovers transferred the cattle from Bargo to Toom-Bong and formed a cattle run where Moss Vale is now situated.

Hamilton Hume's Two Early Journeys South

- **Toom-Bong (1814)**

Hamilton Hume and his brother, John Kennedy Hume with their Aboriginal companion, Douall, had, on his own initiative, already undertaken two journeys of exploration to the south of the Nepean River before he accompanied Throsby. The first of these was in 1814 to the

'southwest over the rocky badlands of the Nepean watershed through the dreaded Bargo Brush until they reach the fertile basalt country of Bong Bong and Berrima, the rich area on the north of the Wingecarribee River called Toom-Bong'.

See R.H. Webster's *Currency Lad*, (p. 19)

- **Bungonia (1815)**

Hume's second journey to the Wingecarribee occurred in 1815. On this occasion Hume penetrated as far south as the Shoalhaven gorges around Bungonia.

Charles Throsby and Hamilton Hume (1817)

Throsby approached his young nephew and asked him to be a guide to the rich pastures at 'Toom-Bong'. Throsby was 45 years old and his nephew was 20 years old. Although young Hamilton had some experience as an explorer so, too, had Throsby. It would be churlish to suggest that Throsby was not the leader even though Hume knew the way. Throsby's trusted servants, Joseph Wild and John Rowley, were part of the team journeying into the southern highlands.

Rob Webster records the details of this journey:

‘They travelled down the ‘road’ Hume had marked on previous trips, then went over the red basalt hills and to the south of **Sutton Forest** (Ab. Cooloorigan) and to the present **Crossroads** (Ab. Tindoonbindal). They apparently continued on to the Wollondilly River, almost on a westward course. They then proceeded through the Wombat Bush to Apple Tree Creek, which was close to Paddy’s River’.

see Currency Lad – The Story of Hamilton Hume and the Explorers p. 30

Throsby’s ‘Eye Sketch’ Map of the 1817 Journey

‘The date of this 1817 trip is confirmed by a very rough sketch map now in the Mitchell Library, entitled “An eye sketch of part of the country South West of the Cowpastures, taken by Charles Throsby between 20th July and 10th August 1817”.

The route marked on the sketch passes through Sydney, Liverpool (Redferns S.E. Corner), Hume’s South West Corner, Broughton’s S.W. Corner (off the track, Monangle, Stonequarry Creek, Benjo-ally, Killorakan (1st August 1817), Indigo Brush and three unnamed stops further on, on the 3rd, 4th and 5th.)’

Ibid, p. 30, 31.

B. THROSBY AND MEEHAN

Throsby and Meehan and the Expedition to Jervis Bay (1818)

Aim of the Expedition

Throsby recorded that the aim of the expedition was to discover a serviceable route by land from Sydney to Jervis Bay.

Members of the Expedition

James Meehan was the Assistant Surveyor-General under John Oxley. Governor Macquarie held him in high regard. Meehan was the most senior government official and his eleven-man expeditionary party contained both government and non-government components. The non-government component included two Aboriginal guides.

Governmental Members	Non-Governmental Members
James Meehan (Surveyor)	Charles Throsby (Pastoralist)
Hamilton Hume(‘Cornstalk’)	Joseph Wild (Employee of Throsby)
John Glynn (Shoemaker)	George Grimes (‘Cornstalk’)
Robert Coolan (Govt. man’)	;Bundell’ (Aboriginal guide)
John Thomas (Govt. man’)	‘Broughton’ (Aboriginal guide)
Charles Le Liver (Govt. man’)	

R.H. Webster’s Account of the Journey

“Meehan had several surveyor chores to perform on the way which took them through Bargo, Mittagong Range, and along the northside of the Wingecarribee River, which was called Toom-Bong by the natives. They were unable to proceed down the Bundanoon Valley because of flooding so they retraced their steps to Apple Tree Creek and on 17th March (St Patrick’s Day) reached a stream which Meehan called St Patrick’s River (five miles above where the present Hume Highway crosses Paddy’s River). After making their way to Wingello on the 24th March they saw the “deep

ravines running to Shoals Haven”, immense gorges about 1200 to 1500 feet deep. They then turned in a general north-westerly direction and travelled towards what is now the Tallong railway station. They went through rotten, stony, poor country over a small stream of water to a beautiful piece of forest called Moorooaulin (Marulan). Next day they again came to gorges below the junction of Bungonia Creek at a spot called by the natives Carns or Caarne. It was impossible to proceed further so they mutually agreed to divide the party.’

Currency Lad – R.H. Webster, p. 34

The Journey of Meehan’s Government Team

After separating from Throsby’s team Meehan followed the highland to the west of the watershed of the Shoalhaven River then moved south-westerly over Jacqua, Bogungra and Windella creeks. Two days later they went through marshes and were surprised to discover a lake. He circled the lake and named it Lake Bathurst after Earl Bathurst, Secretary of State. He was unaware that the Aborigines called the lake ‘Bundong’.

Meehan’s Return Journey and the Discovery of the Goulburn Plains

Meehan returned in a circular manner to the north-west after leaving Lake Bathurst. After travelling through the Mulwaree Ponds, and near today’s Inverloch Bridge where the Goulburn-Braidwood Road now crosses the ponds, Meehan found the skeleton of an unknown pre-historic animal. He was impressed with the beauty about Springfield which they passed on Monday 16th April 1818. After camping at Terranna and mapping the landscape he designated the area ‘Goulborne Plains’ which he named after Henry Goulburn, Undersecretary of State for the Colonies. After climbing a small hillock (5-6 miles south of Goulburn) he crossed the Bungonia Road and moved northerly towards Mt Towrang. They reached their outward track about Caarne and reached Exeter on the 11th April. They had arranged to rendezvous with Throsby at Exeter but he had left the day before. They then proceeded home via Stonequarry Creek (Picton).

The Journey of Throsby’s Non-Government Team

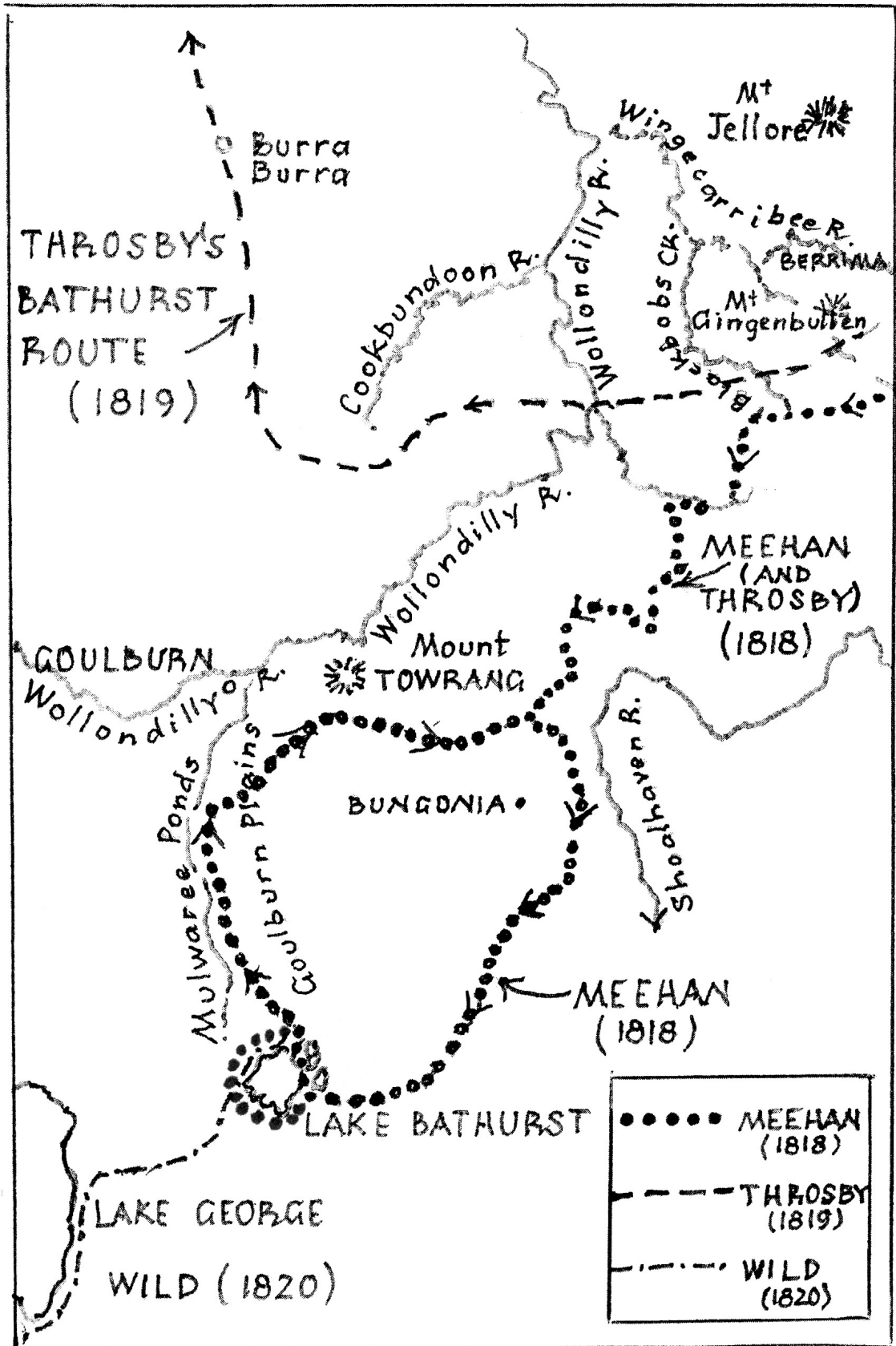
Meehan had agreed that Throsby’s party should take the carts and attempt to find a passage to the coast by the route first intended. With the assistance of the two Aboriginal guides, ‘Bundell’ and ‘Broughton’, Throsby was able to find his way down the Kangaroo Valley. He forded the Shoalhaven River west of Nowra and arrived at Jervis Bay on 3rd April 1818. Throsby and his men returned via Kangaroo Valley. Throsby’s journey thus fulfilled the original intention of the expedition.

Kangaroo Valley Pass (1819)

Vivienne Parsons records that in 1819 Throsby drove a herd of cattle through Kangaroo Valley (Aust. Dictionary of Biography).

‘In 1819 Throsby discovered a pass between Illawarra and Robertson districts and successfully drove a herd of cattle through it.’

INTO ARGYLE COUNTRY 1818-19-20.



Part IV
**THROSBY'S ALTERNATIVE ROUTE TO BATHURST (1819) WITH ROWLEY,
WILD, WAIT, COOKOOGONG AND DUALL**

Cowpastures to Bathurst Region (April/May 1819)

In April Throsby, with Thomas Rowley of Holsworthy, Joseph Wild, John Wait, Cookoogong (of the Burrah Burrah) and Duall (of the Dharawal) set off from the Cowpastures to Bathurst. Throsby's journey to 'Bathurst' was accomplished in 15 days and opened up an alternative route to that opened up by Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson. *The Times* of London reported:

'The colonists are indebted for this acquisition to their resources to the exertions of C. Throsby, Esq. a large land and stock-holder, many years resident in New South Wales, who, after two preceding attempts, succeeded in May last in passing from the Cowpastures to Bathurst.'

London, 1 Nov. 1819

Meeting Lt. William Lawson at The Lagoon

Throsby and his companions departed from the Cowpastures on the 25th April 1819. They travelled to the junction of the Wollondilly River and Paddy's River. They then headed west in the Taralga region crossing the Cookbundoon River. They proceeded in a North Westerly direction and crossed the Dividing Range at Burra Burra Lagoon. With the assistance of their Aboriginal guides the party found its way to The Lagoon near O'Connell on the Campbell River. This was within a short distance of where Bathurst was later located. The journey had taken 15 days.

Macquarie's Delight and Tributes

Manning Clark records:

'Macquarie was so delighted that he offered the following public tributes of acknowledgement'

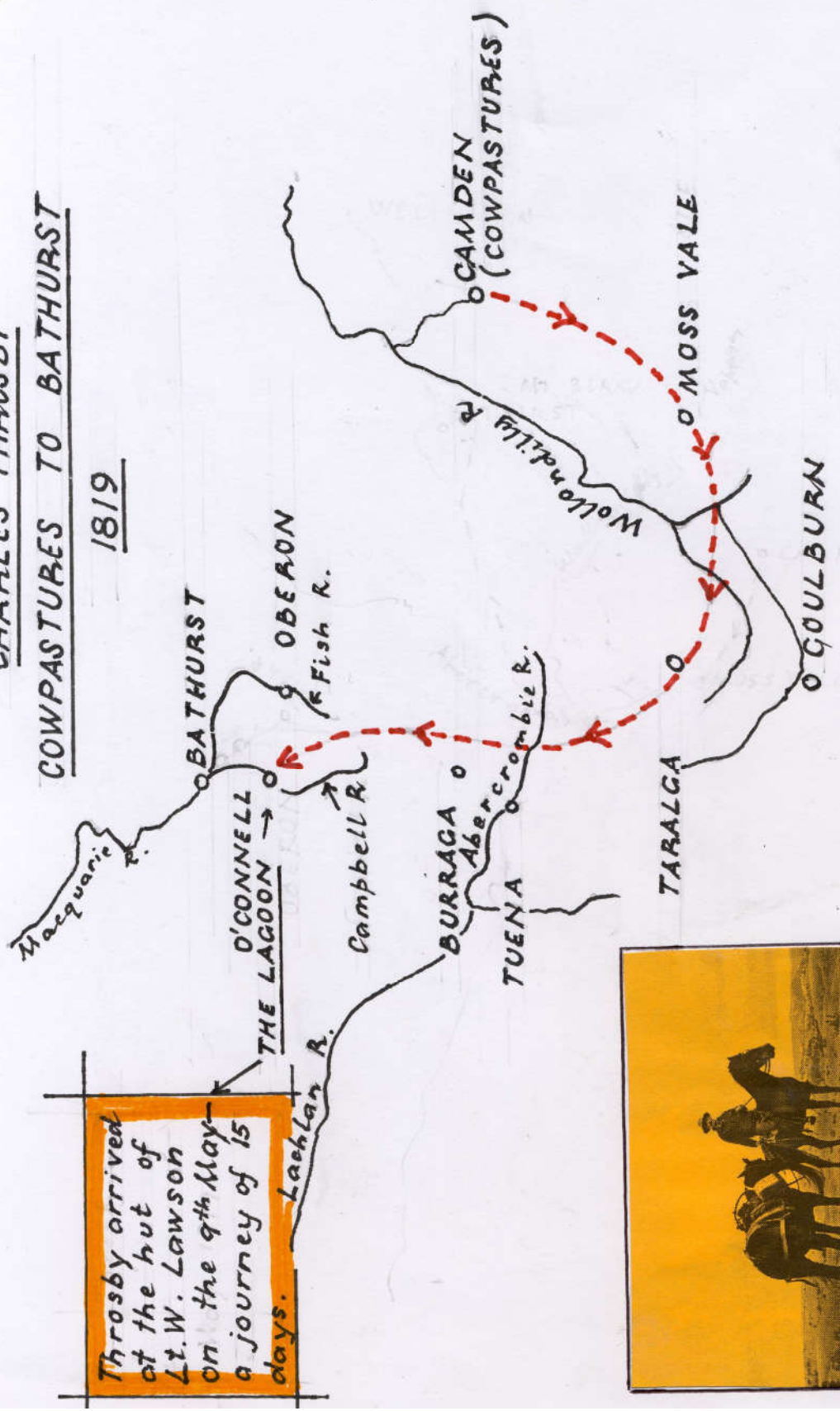
Name	Tribute
Charles Throsby	1000 acres in any part of the new country
John Rowley	200 acres
Joseph Wait (servant)	100 acres
John Wild (servant)	100 acres
Cookoogong of the Burrah Burrah	Appointed Tribal Chief and a Badge of Distinction. He also received an issue of bedding and clothing
Duall of the Dharawal	A Badge of Merit and an issue of bedding and clothing

'Sydney Gazette' Report

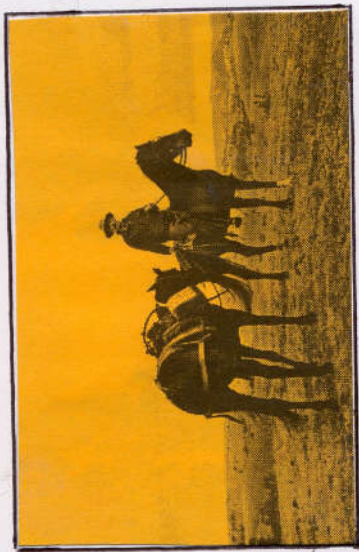
Report of the 'Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser', Saturday 5th June 1819, page 1:

CHARLES THROSBY COWPASTURES TO BATHURST

1819



Throsby arrived at the hut of Lt. W. Lawson on the 9th May - a journey of 15 days.



(After M. Clark's 'Hist. of Aust' p 301.)

GOVERNMENT AND GENERAL ORDERS.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE, SYDNEY,
31st MAY, 1619.

CIVIL DEPARTMENT.

HIS EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR, having received and perused the Journal of a Tour lately made by CHARLES THROSBY, Esq. by the Way of the Cow Pastures to Bathurst in the New discovered Country Westward of the Blue Mountains, takes this early Opportunity publicly to announce the happy Result of an Enterprize which promises to conduce in a very eminent Degree to the future Interests and Prosperity of the Colony.

The Communication with the Western Country having been heretofore over a long and difficult Range of Mountains, alike ungenial to Man and Cattle, from their parched and barren State, it became an Object of great Importance to discover another Route whereby those almost insurmountable Barriers would be avoided, and a more practicable and consequently less hazardous Access effected to the rich and extensive

<http://ndpbeta.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/printArticleJpg/2178735/3?print=y>

22/08/2008

The discovery of large pastures and grazing land to the south of the settlement added immeasurably to the confidence of the settlers. It opened up opportunities for settlement and economic opportunity that small-scale farming could never envisage.

Aboriginal Trekker Guides

The contribution made by Aboriginal trekkers should not be overlooked in the history of inland exploration. White European explorers were not the first persons to traverse the landscape. The degree to which tribal boundaries were impermeable may need further research. Charles Throsby certainly understood the wisdom of using Aborigines as guides. He probably employed Cookoogong and Duall on a number of occasions. Aboriginal guides were probably useful linguistically. They also possessed trekking skills and could detect existing paths used by tribal groups when hunting or moving to new camp sites.

Cookoogong

In an article by Dr Joseph Davies, Cookoogong is described as 'an Aboriginal guide on Charles Throsby's expedition in 1819'. Macquarie had him 'appointed Chief of the Burrah-Burrah tribe' (Reel 6038; SZ1044, p. 50). Dr Davies says that he received 'a breast plate for his part in Charles Throsby's expedition' (Reel 6020; 2/8130 pp. 238, 48).

Duall

Krystyn Harman

(http://epress.anu.edu.au/aborig_history/indigenous_biog/mobile_devices/ch04.html)

has written a 10 page article entitled *Multiple subjectivities: writing Duall's life as social biography*. The Aboriginal Duall of the Dharawal tribe is mentioned quite often in the colonial records. He was well known to Hamilton Hume and his uncle John Kennedy of Appin. Indeed Duall sought refuge at Kennedy's farm following the massacre of the Daley children at Bringelly (July 1814) and the murder of three of Mrs Macarthur's men (March 1816). Fearing retaliation many Aborigines sought refuge at Kennedy's farm. Eventually Duall and Quayat were captured at Kennedy's farm and sent to Liverpool. Carol Liston also records a subsequent misdemeanour of Duall:

‘In early August (1816) Duall was arrested for encouraging robbery. Because of his ignorance of law the death penalty was remitted and he was sentenced to seven years’ transportation to Van Diemen’s Land. In November amnesty was offered to the survivors to allow them to attend the governor’s meeting with the tribes in December.’

(*Campbelltown – The Bicentennial History*, 1988, see p. 23).

It should be noted that Charles Throsby had written to the *Sydney Gazette* in March 1816. He believed that Bitugally, Duall and Yelooming had not murdered Daley’s children though Yelooming’s child and Bitugally’s wife had been murdered by stockmen.

Carolyn Liston claims that Duall and Biang (Cookoogong?) accompanied Throsby from the Cowpastures to Bathurst in 1819.

Wild’s Roadbuilding to Bathurst

According to Alan E.J. Andrews:

‘The Governor set Throsby the task to form a road ‘towards Bathurst’. This was not to be a repeat of Cox’s stupendous achievement, but Throsby did pass on the job to Joe Wild, who got on with it.’

(*Earliest Monaro and Burragorang 1790 to 1840*, p. 80).

James Meehan’s Journey from the Wingecarribee to Wellington

In April 1820 James Meehan made another survey trip. Starting at the Wingecarribee and, following the pathway of Throsby over the Cookbundoon Range, Meehan eventually followed a section of the Lachlan River in a westerly direction. He then went north as far as today’s Wellington.

Hannibal Hawkins Macarthur and ‘Arthursleigh’

Hannibal Macarthur established himself on a thousand acre grant on the Wollondilly at its junction with Paddy’s River in September 1819. He was using 16,000 acres by 1825. His property was called ‘Arthursleigh’.

Throsby Park (Bong Bong)

Throsby took up his land grant of 1000 acres in the ‘New Country’, as it was then called. Throsby formed a ‘stock station’ on the Wingecarribee River near Moss Vale. Joseph Wild located at ‘Wilds Meadow’ near Moss Vale. In 1820 Macquarie visited the ‘New Country’ and gave Throsby’s estate the name of ‘Throsby Park’.

MOSS VALE



Distant view of 'Throsby Park' built by Charles Throsby-Smith in 1834.

Chapter 5 BUNDONG (Lake Bathurst), WEE-REE-WAA (Lake George) and the MURRUM-BIDGEE

Part I

THROSBY THE ROAD-BUILDER

A Road to the Goulburn Plains

In 1820 Macquarie decided to make a road to the Goulburn Plains. He gave Throsby superintendency of the project. The 'road' was to proceed from the Cowpastures at Picton. Throsby appointed his 'servant' Joseph Wild to be the Overseer.

In August 1820 the road had been constructed a little to the south of the Wollondilly River – possibly near present-day Brayton.

Throsby's Men Discover 'Wee-ree-waa'

Throsby learned of the existence of a much larger lake than 'Bundong' (Lake Bathurst) from the Aborigines. This larger lake they called 'Wee-ree-waa'. Throsby decided to send Joseph Wild and two men of the road party to search for the reported lake. Wild discovered the northern extremity of this lake on the 19th August 1820. Wild and his two companions followed the eastern shore of Wee-ree-waa to its southern end and camped at Turallo Creek (near Bungendore) on the 20th and 21st August. On the 22nd August, while the men rested, Wild ascended a hill about four miles distant and caught a glimpse of the 'Snowy Mountains to the SW'.

On the 23rd they commenced their return journey and arrived at their road construction camp on the Wollondilly River on the 28th August 1820.



Author at the Weereewaa Lookout, Federal Highway, Lake George

Part II

THE FIRST CHRISTIAN SERVICE IN THE NEW COUNTRY

The Rendezvous of Commissioner J.T. Bigge and Governor Macquarie at Lake Bathurst on the 26th October 1820

Governor Macquarie had taken up his appointment in January 1810 and in October 1820 he was in the last 14 months of his tenure. Although Macquarie had achieved an enormous amount during his term of office he had incurred an intolerable debt burden on the mother country. The Colonial Office in London appointed John Bigge as a Commissioner of Inquiry into the Macquarie administration and have him report on possible future directions. Bigge was intent on visiting all of the outposts developed by Macquarie. When he heard about Macquarie's visit to the south he arranged to travel overland from the Bathurst settlement with John Oxley, the Surveyor-General, and rendezvous at Lake Bathurst with the Governor. Presumably Bigge and Oxley followed Throsby's trail of the previous year. While Governor Macquarie reached Lake Bathurst with his entourage on Monday 23rd October 1820, Commissioner Bigge and John Oxley did not arrive until Thursday 26th October 1820. Macquarie's entourage included the Rev. Robert Cartwright, Charles Throsby, Joseph Wild and James Vaughan, a police constable.

The day after Macquarie arrived Throsby, Wild and Vaughan set off for Wee-ree-waa. It was not far distant from Lake Bathurst.

A Brief Two-day Visit to Wee-ree-waa

On Friday 27th October 1820 Macquarie and Bigge visited the nearby Lake Wee-ree-waa discovered by Joseph Wild on 19 August. The party camped on Taylor's Creek, on the east side of the lake, near Mount Ellendon or Governor's Hill. When Macquarie arrived at the lake they met Joseph Wild. Wild reported that Throsby and Vaughan had left the camp that morning to find some Aboriginal guides to lead them to an undiscovered river which the Aborigines called the 'Murrumbidgee'. Throsby was hoping to be able to announce its discovery and to escort the Governor to it. However, the Aboriginal guides stated that it was three days distant. Throsby and Vaughan abandoned the project and returned to Wee-ree-waa the next day (Saturday 28th October). On the following day, Macquarie rode around the southern end of the lake and about one mile up the western shore of the lake, which he named Lake George in honour of His Majesty King George III.

The Governor wrote glowingly of Lake George

'we were all most highly gratified with this noble expanse of water, and the surrounding scenery..... ponds were full of black swans, native companions, and ducks ... We tasted the water and it was quite fresh'

Journals of His Tours, 1810-1822

The First Christian Service in the 'New Country'

On the return journey from Lake George to the Lake Bathurst camp on Sunday 29th October, at 4.00 pm Macquarie invited the Reverend Robert Cartwright to conduct Divine Worship beside the shores of Lake Bathurst. Macquarie's Journal records:

'The Revd. Mr Cartwright performed Divine Worship ... under the fly of my large tent ... He gave us a very excellent appropriate sermon.'

L. Macquarie

A Christian memorial to this service was erected on the spot where the service was conducted. It was dedicated on St Andrew's Day, 30 November 1934, and is on 'Bundong Station' on private property.

Part III

IN SEARCH OF THE MURRUM-BIDGEE

In Search of the Murrum-bidgee (River)

Governor Macquarie issued an order before he returned to Government House. It was an instruction that Throsby's search for the Murrumbidgee River be continued. Macquarie made one month's provision available for the search party. Charles Throsby selected his trusted aide Joseph Wild, James Vaughan a police constable and his nephew Charles Throsby-Smith to be the search party. Throsby gave them instructions to proceed to Lake George and thence to the spot where he and Vaughan had visited in October. This spot was known by the Aborigines as 'Boongaroon'.

Journey of Wild, Vaughan and Throsby-Smith (Lake George to the junction of the Queanbeyan and Molonglo River)

Summary of Charles Throsby-Smith's Diary Notes Based on Errol Lea-Scarlett's Book

Day	Comment
2 December 1820	Camped at south end of Lake George, a little to west of Turallo Creek near Bungendore
3 December 1820	Travelled along W side of Lake George to Silver Wattle point then W to Shinglehouse Creek
4 December 1820	Camp bound because of heavy rain
5 December 1820	Reached Yass R. midway between Candairo (Gundaroo) and Sutton (Camp)
6 December 1820	Followed Yass R. north-westward for some miles but returned to last camp
7 December 1820 (Thursday) North of Gungahlin (?)	Time, ½ past 6, Course S.b.W. 3 miles; ¼ past 7, S.W. 9 miles; 11 am S.b.E. 12 miles. (Probably some hill north of Gungahlin)
8 December 1820 (Friday)	Fine forest country 3 miles, ascending a Stony Range, Iron Stone and Barren Scrubby timber, Stringy Bark, Gum and Box, from this Range, we had a view of some clear grassy hills, bearing N by West, Distant about 8 miles. Crossed a chain of ponds. At 11, on top of the hill, some beautiful clear plain in sight, bearing S by E. AN EXTENSIVE CHAIN OF MOUNTAINS RUNNING SSE AND NNW (Ch. Throsby's later comment concurs). We then descended the range into scrubby country for about ½ mile, then into a most beautiful forest country, gentle hills and valleys well watered by streams, and a fine Black Soil.

Queanbeyan River?	At ½ past 1 came to a Beautiful River (C. Throsby says in a notation that the natives called this river YEAL-AM-BID-GIE) that was running thro the plains in a SW direction. This afternoon, myself and Wild went about 5 miles up the East part of the plains by the side of the river and FOUND TWO BRANCHES, the one coming from the NE and the other from the southward.
Junction of Queanbeyan and Molonglo Rivers	It is thought that when they returned to their hut they camped in the vicinity of Duntroon.
Duntroon (?)	
9 December 1820 (Saturday) Black Mountain (?)	At 10 o'clock C. Throsby-Smith and Vaughan ascended 'a very high hill', presumably BLACK MOUNTAIN. They saw 'the waters' still continue to run in a SW direction but declined to continue going down the River. They then returned to their hut (near Duntroon). This return was the beginning of their homeward journey.

Charles Throsby-Smith's Quarrel with Charles Throsby

Although the trio sent by Charles Throsby had failed to find the Murrumbidgee River their exploration had been worthwhile. Joseph Wild, James Vaughan and Charles Throsby-Smith were the first non-Aboriginal people to discover the sites of Queanbeyan and Canberra. The honour of this discovery is usually accorded to Charles Throsby. This can be justified on the grounds that the three men acted on instructions from Charles Throsby even though he was not personally present. The 'jury is still out' on whether Charles Throsby and James Vaughan were first to set foot into the boundaries of the present site of the ACT. They certainly discovered the Yass River and a portion of it is in the ACT. Notwithstanding the successes of the journey, Charles Throsby and his nephew quarrelled. Young Throsby-Smith thought that the search for the Murrumbidgee River was a search for a non-existent stream. The nephew left his uncle's house at Glenfield, and rented a farm at Appin. In 1823, he obtained land and settled at Wollongong.

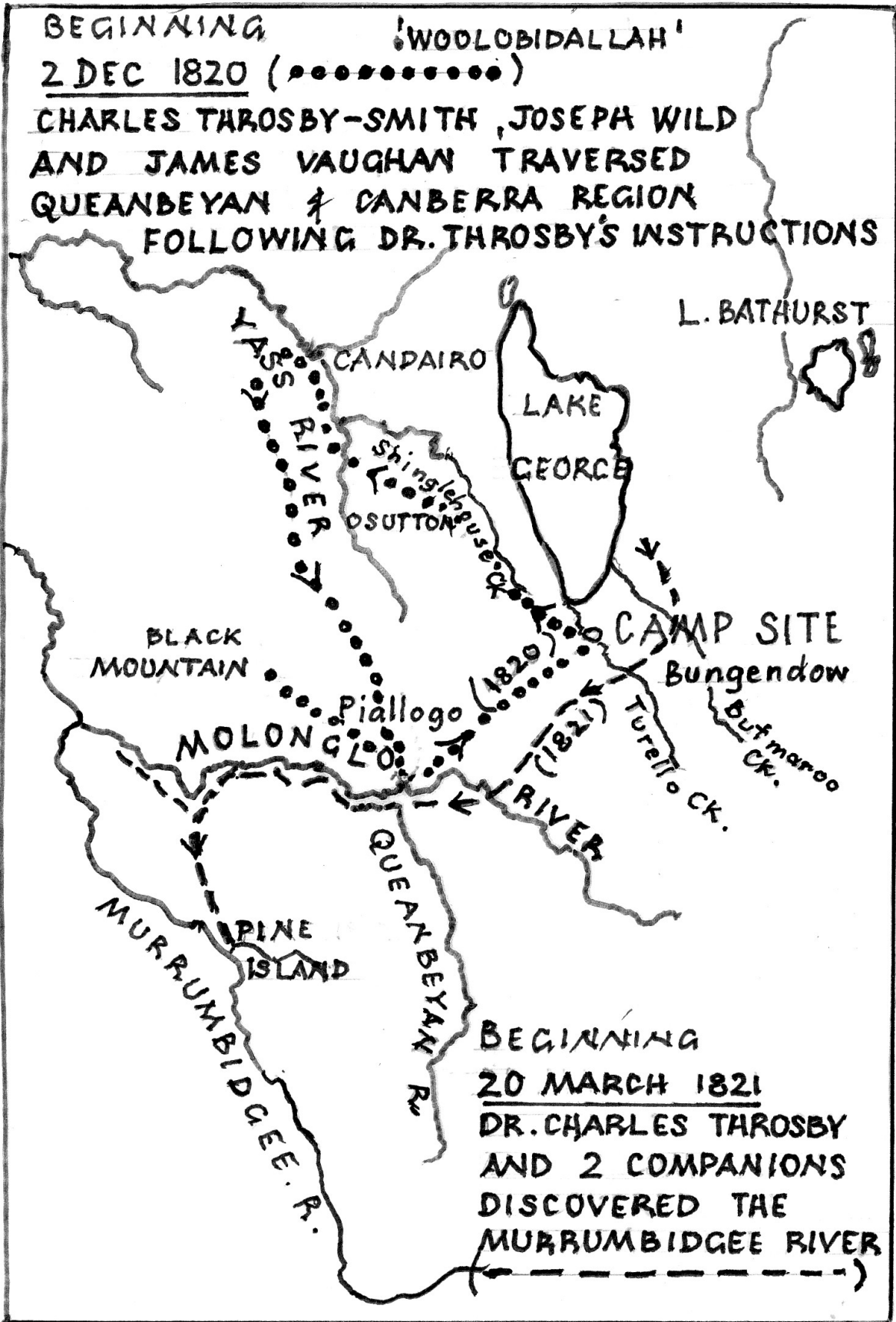
Charles Throsby's Personal Attempt to Discover the Murrumbidgee River

On the 20th March 1821, Charles Throsby and two companions left 'Throsby Park' at Moss Vale and travelled to Lake Bathurst and thence to Lake George. The party was intent on discovering the river known only to Aborigines by the name 'Murrumbidgee'.

Charles Throsby traversed the route of his three associates and travelled through where Bungendore and Queanbeyan stand today. On this journey he traversed much of the Limestone Plains where Canberra stands today. He located the elusive Murrumbidgee River at Pine Island near the suburb known today as Wanniasa.

Within the next two years, Surveyor William Harper touched on the fringe of Queanbeyan while working in the vicinity of Braidwood.

TWO JOURNEYS BETWEEN TWO LAKES



The Three ‘Cornstalks’ Cross the Molonglo Plains to Bateman’s Bay

At Gov. Brisbane’s direction three native born colonials

William Kearns

Captain Marsh

William James Packer

travelled from Lake George on 30th January 1822 to the Molonglo Plains. They arrived on Friday 1st February 1822. They arrived at the coast on the 11th February 1822. The tour concluded with their arrival in Sydney on 21st February 1822 when Kearns submitted his journal to Charles Throsby. Kearns objected to the emendations of the headings in the Journal by Throsby.

Charles Throsby Appointed Magistrate

Although Macquarie regarded Throsby as a troublemaker for his persistent protestations about the mistreatment of the Aborigines around Minto and Airds, Macquarie, nevertheless, appointed Throsby as Magistrate in 1821. Gov. Macquarie also granted him 700 acres to adjoin Throsby Park or an other part of the country he desired.

Charles Throsby Appointed to First Legislative Council

In 1824 Charles Throsby was appointed to the first Legislative Council.

Charles Throsby’s Financial Worries

At the time he became an M.L.C. Throsby was embroiled in a prolonged litigation battle. In 1817 he had undertaken surety for 5000 pounds for Garnham Blaxcell. Blaxcell had absconded from the colony and died on board ship, leaving Throsby at the mercy of his creditors. After 10 years the litigation battle ended in an adverse verdict for Throsby.

Death

With his financial worries and falling wool prices as a result of drought, Throsby committed suicide on 2 April 1828, aged 51. He was buried in Liverpool cemetery.

Charles Throsby’s wife, Jane, died on 4 November 1838. They had no children and the estate passed to his nephew Charles Throsby Smith.



APPENDIX A

CHARLES THROSBY SMITH

Charles Throsby-Smith

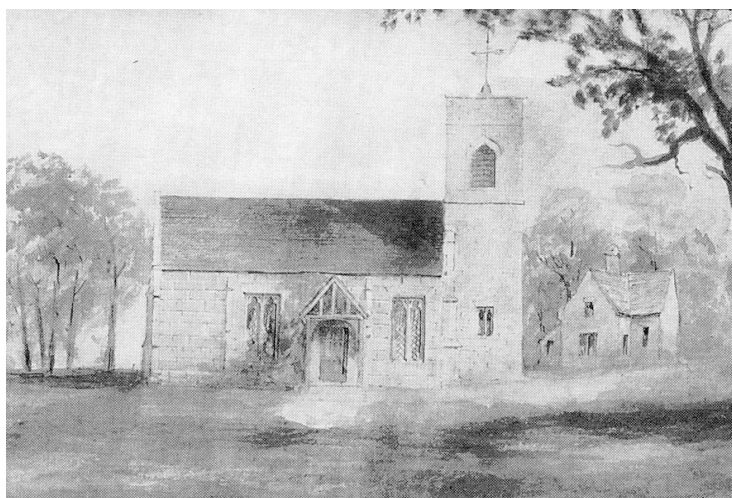
Charles Throsby-Smith is sometimes confused with his uncle Dr Charles Throsby. The confusion has probably arisen because of the similarity of their names and their common association with 'Throsby Park' at Moss Vale. Dr Charles Throsby was born in 1777 whereas his nephew Charles Throsby-Smith was not born until 1800. Dr Throsby arrived in the Colony in 1802 whereas his younger nephew did not arrive until 1816. The young man did not accompany his uncle on the expedition to Bathurst in 1819 but did accompany Joseph Wild and James Vaughan (at Dr Throsby's request) on a journey to find the 'Murrumbidgee' River. They did not find the river but traversed the site of present-day Queanbeyan and much of the Limestone Plains where Canberra is sited. On the return of the party to Dr Throsby the young man, Charles Throsby-Smith, had an acrimonious argument with his uncle and they left each other's company in bad grace. Charles Throsby-Smith apparently settled in Wollongong in 1823.

The Death of Dr Charles Throsby

The death of Dr Charles Throsby occurred on the 2nd April 1828 when he was 51 years of age. His wife did not die until the 4th November 1838. Dr Throsby and his wife Jane had no children and the estate then passed to Dr Throsby's nephew, Charles Throsby-Smith.

The Christ Church, Bong Bong

Charles Throsby-Smith (1800-1854), the nephew of Dr Charles Throsby the explorer, gave the land and largely financed and erected Christ Church Bong Bong. It was consecrated on 31st December 1845 by Dr William Grant Broughton, the first and only Bishop of Australia (1836-1853) assisted by the Rector of Sutton Forest, Rev. William Stone. In 1837 the early colonial architect and pioneer John Verge was paid £8 for the design plans of the church. Later in 1884 Messrs Blackett Bros were appointed architects to design substantial improvements and renovations, both internally and externally.



The Christ Church, Bong Bong

Sketch from a painting by unknown artist 1883. Courtesy of Mrs. Nora Throsby Young, Moss Vale.



(1)



(2)

Picture 1:

Title: SMITH, Charles Throsby

Photodate: 1866; 1860-1870

Notes: Charles Throsby Smith with his third wife Rhoda Wilmot Fry.

Access: For reproduction apply to Wollongong City Library

Source: cited at

<http://illawarraimages.wollongong.nsw.gov.au/IllaWeb/scripts/ExtSearch.asp?SearchTerm=P06213>

Picture 2:

Title: SMITH, Charles Throsby

Notes: Charles Throsby Smith settled in Wollongong in 1823.

Access: For reproduction apply to Wollongong City Library

Source: cited at

<http://illawarraimages.wollongong.nsw.gov.au/IllaWeb/scripts/ExtSearch.asp?SearchTerm=P02603>



National Library of Australia

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

The present volume has been based on secondary sources. Occasionally there are some differences in dates and some uncertainty about the sequence of events. I am not completely sure of the date Throsby found his way to the coast via Kangaroo Valley. I have settled on

1818. It is known that he followed the Kangaroo River and the Lower Shoalhaven River when he found his way to Jervis Bay in March/April 1818.

Books Consulted

1. Clark, Manning; *A History of Australia*, 6 Volumes; Melbourne University Press; 1962. (see pps. 300-302).
2. Watson, Fred K; *A Brief History of Canberra, the capital city of Australia*; Canberra Federal Capital Press of Australia Ltd, 1927.

This work provides a valuable account of Throsby's explorations. Watson was 'Editor of the Historical Records of Australia' but he omitted references to Throsby's trail-blazing from Appin to Bulli and of his discovery of the Kangaroo Valley Pass from Robertson to the Illawarra.

3. Liston, Carol; *Campbelltown – The Bicentennial History*; Allen and Unwin; 1988; The Macarthur Press.

This book draws attention to details about Throsby's defence of the Aboriginal people against 'the fears and aversions of the ignorant part of white people'. Its account of the early history of the Liverpool/Campbelltown/Cowpastures region is very valuable.

4. Cannon, Michael; *The Exploration of Australia*; Readers Digest; Sydney; 1987.
5. Crawley, Frank; *A Documentary History of Australia – Colonial Australia 1788-1840*; Nelson Press. (See p. 249 Inland Explorations and pps. 270-271 Widening Horizons).
6. Chronicle of Australia – *The Complete Story of Our Nation*; (see p. 192 Throsby finds a new route to Bathurst and pps. 201 and 202 Explorer Throsby discovers big river).

7. Lea-Scarlett, Errol; *Queanbeyan District and People*. Queanbeyan City Council, 1968.

8. Webster, R.H. *Currency Lad – The Story of Hamilton Hume*; Leisure Magazines Pty Ltd; 1982.

This is a very valuable historical resource for those interested in the exploration south of Sydney. It includes many references to Throsby and Meehan with whom Hume was associated. It certainly establishes Hume as Australia's 'first and greatest bushman'.

9. Andrews, Alan E.J. *Earliest Monaro and Burratorang 1790-1840*, Tabletop Press; 1998.

Andrews' book combines historical research with cartographic skill. He traces the history of colonial expansion southwards and draws attention to the lesser known contributions made by Wilson, Bass, Barrallier, Caley, Lhotsky, Jauncey, Lambie and

Ryrie. Andrews traces the route of exploration from Sydney through the Argyle into Cooma and the Monaro and into the Southern Alps.

10. Whitaker, Anne-Marie. *Appin – The Story of an Appin Town*; Kingsclear Books, 2005.

Articles

1. Who Came Down with Dr Charles Throsby? John Wait, Joe Wild and John Rowley As Illawarra's 1815 White Pioneers. Paper by Dr Joseph Davies.
2. Newspaper Article in the Wollongong and Northern Leader, 29th June 2006 entitled 'Latest Technology Traces Oldest Road'.
3. Multiple Subjectivities: Writing Duall's Life As Social Biography by Kristyn Harman http://epress.anu.edu.au/aborig_history/indigenous_biog/mobile_devices/ch04.html 09/04/2009.
4. Parsons, Vivienne; *Throsby Charles (1777-1828)*; Australian Dictionary of Biography, Online Edition, Copyright 2006.

This is a précis account of Throsby's life. It does not amplify his successful crossing of the Blue Mountains via an alternate route. Her account also conflates the record of the discovery of Queanbeyan by Wild, Vaughan and Charles Throsby-Smith, and Throsby's own discovery of the Murrumbidgee River three months later. Charles Throsby-Smith was a nephew of Charles Throsby and his journey to the Queanbeyan district, Bungendore, Yass River and Candairo (Gundaroo) can easily be confused with the later journey by Throsby himself.

5. Argyle County, New South Wales – Wikipedia, the free encyclopaedia. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argyle_County_New_South_Wales 11/05/2009.
6. *Road to Bathurst* by Yvonne McBirney and David Cox. Privately published booklet, ISBN 0 908053 28 2.