

MAITLAND AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 333,
MAITLAND.

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June/July, 1978.

Committee:

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Vice Presidents	- Graham Dunlop	336221
	- Nellie Bligh	305332
Secretary	- Geoff Cannon	
Publicity	- Barry Alsop	301646
Treasurer	- Lyn Dolan	334104
Recorder	- Val Hamson	301420
Bulletin Editor	- Henry Armstrong	

Meetings:

Monthly meetings of the Society are held on the first Monday evening of each month at the East Maitland Primary School, commencing at 7.30 p.m. Intending members and interested persons are especially welcome.

Apology:

The Committee wishes to apologise for the confusion and inconvenience incurred by some members regarding the date of our June meeting. Kindly note that our July meeting will be held on Monday, 3rd July.

Excursions:

Our next excursion will be centred on High Street, Maitland and will take place on Sunday afternoon, 30th July, commencing at 2 p.m. from Maitland Town Hall.

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"THE YOUNGS OF UMBERCOLLIE."

by Alison E. Tonge.

Johnathon and Margaret Young were married at St. Mary's Church of England, Maitland on October 28th, 1841 by the Rev. W. Slack - and left by wagon for Pullamore Station on the Namoi River. At that time there were only a dozen houses in Maitland.

Harry Reeves owned the only public house near the Long Bridge. William Posey owned the only general store.

The Youngs lived at Pullamore Station for 3 years, but decided to strike out for themselves, so in 1845 they and two infant daughters set out by wagon plus their few possessions and animals for Queensland.

After many long weary months they finally arrived at the McIntyre River. Johnathon realised this was good sheep country plus unlimited water and decided to remain and took up Umbercollie Station in June, 1845. They were the first

white family to settle on the McIntyre River and as the very hostile natives had driven all others out, they were now faced with crossing the wide river and with no bridge, only a bath tub to relay their belongings across, plus swimming their horses and wagon with the help of three black boys. The two tiny children sitting in front of their father on his horse, Margaret also riding and terrified, poorgirl, in such deep water. After they had all safely arrived on the Queensland side, they set to and built a small bush cottage, which was to be their house for the next thirteen years and to escape from being murdered on several occasions.

Johnathon Young always treated his natives well, which was to save their lives in the years ahead. To-day "Umbercollie" is one of the best known and most successful grazing properties in South-West Queensland. The town of Goondiwindi later developed on portion of "Umbercollie" in 1862. Their third daughter, Margaret (my grandmother) was the first white child born there on the McIntyre River in 1847 and was to become a pioneer herself in later years, while living in North Queensland as Mrs. John Shannon of "Saltbush Park" Mackay, rearing a large family of 7 sons and 4 daughters. (Olive was my mother.)

Two more young daughters were born at "Umbercollie." However in 1858 the Youngs decided to sell out and return to Maitland to educate their five daughters, where they all went to a private school of Rev. and Mrs. Eaddes, West Maitland. Also they wanted to escape the ever increasing threats and dangers from the natives who were becoming increasingly hostile to the white settlers, and had already murdered one family (the Marks boys.)

So Johnathon Young and his family returned to Maitland and purchased "Lochgoyle" farm near Woodville in 1858 where they lived for many years.

Their five daughters were:

- Mary Ann - Mrs. John Bolton of "Burren Junction Station" and Sydney, rearing a large family.
- Jane - Mrs. Taylor, 2 sons.
- Margaret - Mrs. John Shannon of Queensland, 11 children.
- Matilda - Mrs. Raymond Swan, no children.
- Kate - Mrs. Will Swan, no children.

Old Johnathon Young died suddenly in December, 1873 aged 77 years. He was sixteen years older than his wife and came to Australia in 1826 as an Army Officer with Major Lochyene in the "S.S. Charlotte." He came from a military family in Northhamptonshire and his only sister Jane, was the mother of General French. Old Mrs. Young enjoyed good health and remained at "Lochgoyle" with her daughter and son-in-law, Raymond Swan until she died suddenly, aged 87 years, in 1902.

All the Youngs (excepting Mrs. John Shannon) are buried in the family grave in the old cemetery behind St. John's Church of England, Hinton.

Mrs. Johnathon Young was Margaret Chapman, a young English girl who came to Australia in 1839 to stay with her cousin, Sir James Martin of Sydney, her mother having died. Her father Anthony Chapman re-married and came out later. She met Johnathon in Sydney and after a courtship were married. Her two brothers, Richard and Michael also worked at Pullamore Station under Mr. Young who was manager. Poor Michael was to meet a tragic death, in a record Namoi flood, being caught in a tree and dying of pneumonia. He is buried at Pullamore beside the Young's infant son, in two lonely bush graves. I think there must be many descendants of Richard Chapman in N.S.W. as he lived in Maitland and had a large family.

There is a Memorial in the Church of England at Goondiwindi to the Youngs of Umbercollie, the first white settlers in South West Queensland - a hand carved cedar alter. All the family names are on it excepting Margaret (Mrs. Shannon) She died in Toowoomba, 1916 and the pulpit in St. Luke's Church of England is a memorial given by the eleven children to their wonderful mother.

Properties owned by Johnathon Young, 1858 to 1877 in Maitland:

Hinton Hotel - 3 ac. leased by Blyson.

Morpeth Hotel - leased.

5 ac. at Riverview with house at Oakhampton Road.

2 stone cottages in Abbott Street, Maitland.

Albion Estate farm at Paterson.

48 ac. leased by Benjamin Long.
 48 ac. leased by John Pearce.
 27 ac. leased by Benjamin Long.
 2 stone cottages, Steam Street, Morpeth - leased by R. Chapman.
 "Lochgoyle" farm, home and cattle - Woodville.
 Trustees of Will, 1874 (William Clift and John Bolton)

Footnote: Mrs. Tonge is writing a historical book about her great-grandparents - The Youngs of Umbercollie from information taken from old diaries and letters which were left to her. She has given to our Society, family photographs of Mrs. Young and her daughters.

** "Umbercollie Homestead" drawn by Val Anderson (member)**

OLD MAITLAND.

by W.J. Gould, F.R.A.H.S.

Continued

House rents were very low but wages were on the same scale, 5/6 per week was asked for a cottage in Albert Street, Horseshoe Bend, containing four rooms, detached kitchen and brick oven, and 10/- per week was possible to secure a very fair residence. Rents paid for shops, even in the busiest portion of High Street, were not high compared with modern rates. For a shop with a 29 feet frontage to High Street and living quarters on the second floor, the rent was \$80.00 per annum.

The principal business section of the township was, as now, in High Street, Maitland, and here was situated some extensive stores and warehouses doing a thriving trade with the settlers from the outback stations. These were the days of teams and bullock drays bringing wool and produce from the far north for shipment to the Sydney markets, and on their return journey being loaded with supplies purchased from the stores to last for many months.

David Cohen & Co. had the biggest establishment in the town and were one of the largest importers in the Colony.

In 1851 they were engaged in building their new stores, nearly opposite Devonshire Street. In those days the firm did an extensive trade in wool buying and many bales of wool from the far northern stations were consigned to "D.C. & Co., Maitland." Laurence Potts & Co., afterwards Austen & Co., had stores situated near Church Street, and the store of D. & J. Dickson was near the present "Mercury" buildings.

John Rickard's store was a commodious brick building of two storeys with a frontage of 90 feet to High Street. It was afterwards taken over by the manager, Mr. R.M. Paulovitch and conducted under his name.

Owen & Beckett's was another of these old-time stores, but there were many others too numerous to mention strung out along High Street up to the Long Bridge.

C. Prentice was the principal butcher in the early days. In December, 1847 his business was transferred to Nott & Pearce, who on opening advertised that "they cannot do any business on the Sabbath Day, but will endeavour to supply the wants of their customers on Saturday evenings." It was a custom in the old days for butchers, bakers, fishmongers and greengrocers to open their shops until 10 a.m. on Sundays, and bakers were also allowed to open between 1 and 2. Chemists were open at all hours.

The bakers in Maitland were John Davies, Henry Vincer, Joseph Allwright, Robert Smith and James Fullford.

W. Lipscombe was the leading stationer, bookseller and druggist of the district and was noted for his quaint method of advertising. C.V. Earle had the London Medical Hall, and W.T. Pinhey was another chemist. Henry Rourke, saddler and E.P. Capper, ironmonger, were well established businesses in these days.

Joseph Bridekirk and Henry Iken were cabinetmakers and upholsterers, both in High Street. Iken's shop being next to Rickard's store. Henry Hopkins, E.M. Street and Frederick Curry were watchmakers and C. Randell (opp. D. Cohen & Co.) and J. Bromhead (opp. Capper's) hairdressers. J. Broderick had a book shop and a circulating library opposite the

"Mercury," and Matthew Shaw's boot and shoe store was also in High Street.

These are but a few of the tradespeople conducting businesses in the 1840's. It is difficult to trace them all as the businesses were constantly changing hands. There were also many blacksmiths, wheelwrights, tanners, carpenters etc., along the old road.

In East Maitland, Peek & Calvert's Union Stores and E. & W. Ogg were probably the largest storekeepers. Samuel Clift had a butcher's shop at Lawes and Bank Streets, which in 1851 was taken over by James Brunner. Thomas Dowdle and George Dickson were the bakers in the East.

Some of the market prices for basic commodities in 1848 were: Bread, 4d. for a 2lb. loaf; bacon, 3d. a lb.; butter, 1/-; eggs, 3d. to 5d. dozen; milk, 2d. quart; sugar, 3½d. lb.; tea, 1/4 lb.; ham, 6d. to 9d.; cheese, 3½d.; rice, 2d. sago, 8d.; raisins, 6d.; starch, 8d.; coffee, 9d.; candles, 6d.; beef and mutton, 1½d. lb.; pork and veal 4d. lb.

Jeremiah Ledsam and A. Dodds were the leading auctioneers and both did an extensive business in stock and property sales throughout the district.

The medical profession was presented by Dr. Michael McCartney, Dr. Liddell, Dr. Sloan, Dr. Beardsmore and Dr. S. Scott, whilst among the legal fraternity were Messrs. Thomas Ward, C. Nichols, Baker and many others.

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Morpeth Walk.

The first of a series of outings by the Society, was held on 25th June at Morpeth, where a walk was enjoyed by more than 100 people. Special thanks must go to Mr. Graham Dunlop and Mr. Hector Arkell, our speakers for the tour and to Morpeth Progress Association for their help. The committee hopes similar days will be enjoyed by members and friends.

Future Bulletins.

The Editor requests suitable articles to be used in future bulletins. These items should be approximately 750 words and be members research or from newspaper stories.

Enquiries:

The Editor has received a letter and a visit from Mr. Arthur Maunder of 21 Napier St., Tamworth.

Mr. Maunder is interested in the history of "Homeville House" in Wollombi Road, Rutherford, particularly the Ferrier family who he understands gave "Homeville" its name.

Please forward any information to the editor.

Request:

Historical items and copies of early records are required for our display rooms at Maitland Antique Gallery. It is hoped to open these rooms sometime in July.

If you can help, please phone Nellie Bligh, Lyn Dolan or Val Hamson.