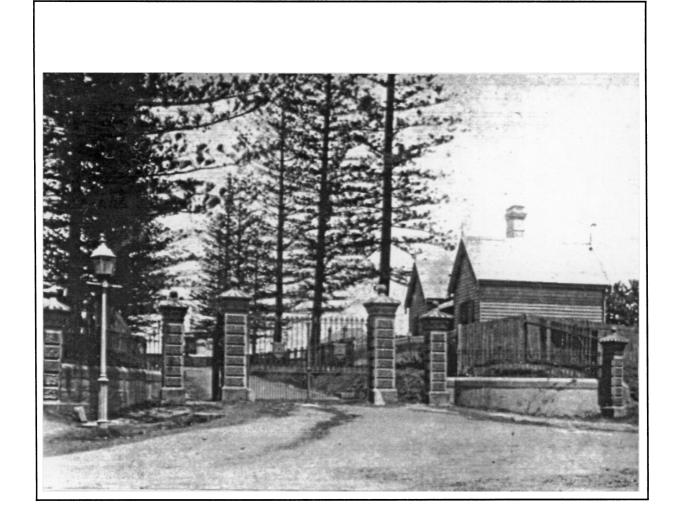


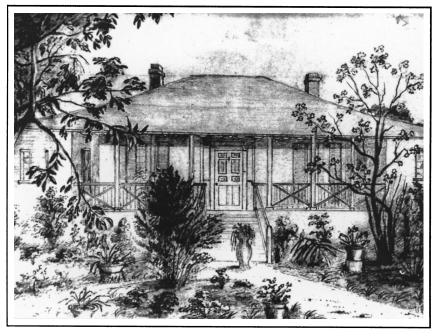
Leichhardt Historical Journal 2

Reprinted 1993

Annandale's Johnston Era Glebe: Lyndhurst, Its History, Architecture and Furniture Source Material and the Value of Local Studies



Annandale Balmain Glebe Leichhardt Lilyfield Rozelle



Waterview House, Caroline St and Colgate Av, Balmain, in 1875 (Mary Stephen, pencil sketch, Wilkinson Family papers, Vol 4, No 13, Mitchell Library. See Leichhardt Hist J No 10, p7).

Editor's Note

The Leichhardt Historical Journal was founded in 1971 to encourage the reading, writing and researching of the history of the Municipality. The demand for out-of-print issues prompted the reprinting of No 2, July 1972, in a new format. The cover has been redesigned in this reprinting and the page format enlarged to correspond with later issues. The layout has been re-designed and illustrations have been added to the cover, and to pages 2, 3, 5-10, 14, 16-18, 21-27, 29-33.

Peter Reynolds, September 1993

A Note on Contributors

Kevin Fahy is an authority on nineteenth-century furniture. Clive Lucas is a conservation architect and a member of the Historic Buildings Committee of the National Trust. Freda MacDonnell is writing a history of Glebe. Alan Roberts, Convenor of the Annandale Association's History Sub-Committee, has completed a BA Hons thesis on Annandale. Max Solling, Convenor of the Glebe Society's History Sub-Committee, is a solicitor and wrote a MA thesis on Glebe.

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An index to Leichhardt Historical Journal Nos 1 to 16 appears on page 91 of Leichhardt Historical Journal No 17.

Acknowledgements 1972

We wish to acknowledge with gratitude the assistance of Julie Soltan for typing the Journal and Albert Mispel. Nigel Coates designed the Cover which was chosen from 180 entrants in the First Year Graphic Communication Exercise at the School of Architecture, University of New South Wales, 1972.

Acknowledgements 1993

Additional illustrations for the Lyndhurst articles were supplied by the Historic Houses Trust of New South Wales from its library at Lyndhurst for which the Editor is grateful. Ron Peck, Historical Research Officer, Water Board, helpfully located PWD Detail Sheets for site of Annandale House. Alan Roberts provided the additional photographs for the Annandale article.

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Cover

Entrance to Annandale [House, on Parramatta Road], (Foster Collection, vol 10, p 94, Royal Aust Hist Soc Library).

Editors

Peter Reynolds, Alan Roberts & Max Solling

ISSN 0155-484

© P Reynolds, A Roberts, M Solling July 1972

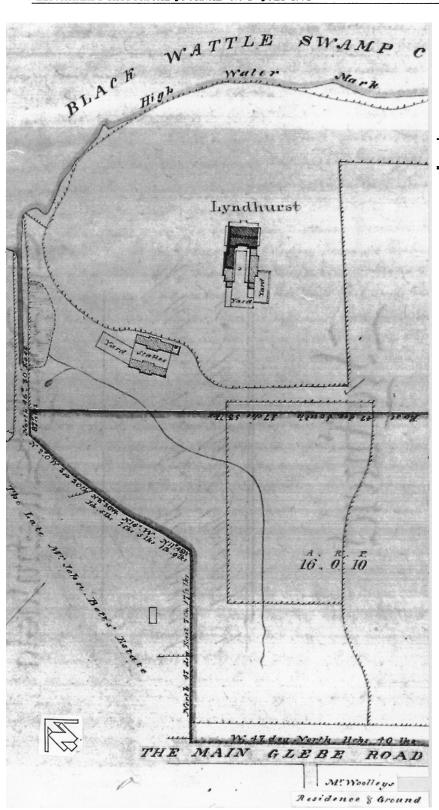
Issue No 2 of the Leichhardt Historical Journal was first published by the Annandale Association, the Balmain Association, and the Glebe Society.

Revised second edition, 1993.

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9 The Avenue Balmain, 2041



Lyndhurst, Survey Plan, 1853

Detailed survey plans rarely occur on Old System deeds but when they do the researcher will often be rewarded. The above plan shown in Land Titles Office Register Book 27 Deed No 96, dated 4 June 1853 delineates sale of the 16a 0r 10p allotment. The plan is a strong link in Lyndhurst's chain of title.

Important references such as high water mark, bearings and distances of boundaries, frontage to "Glebe Road" and outlines of buildings and yards and the identity of the adjoining owner are useful in understanding the historical development of Lyndhurst in its local context.

(Copy held by Historic Houses Trust)

EDITORIAL

SOURCE MATERIAL AND THE VALUE OF LOCAL STUDIES

MAX SOLLING

In the past, Australian historical studies, on the whole, have been concerned with definition and investigation of main themes or topics of national significance, rarely seeking explanations for national phenomena at the level of the individual and his locality. The upsurge in writing of local histories in recent years is indicative of the historian's growing awareness of the value of studies at the grass roots.

Clearly the minute investigation of detail made possible by local studies may serve to refine or alter prevailing general conclusions, on subjects previously viewed within a much broader context. Local studies have not only become respectable but also vital to sound studies at any level and the collaboration of the general and the particular should logically produce more balanced historical works.

While the bulk of these local or regional works have been compiled with greater enthusiasm than accuracy and are lacking in historical method and objectivity, they nevertheless are valuable to an "outsider" who wishes to learn something of local development and achievement.

Recently published, fine, analytical, local and regional studies such as T M Perry Australia's First Frontier: the Spread of Settlement in NSW, 1788-1829, W Bate The History of Brighton, R L Heathcote Back of Bourke and D L Meining On the Margins of the Good Earth have made significant contributions to Australian historical research and serve as useful models for the local enthusiast to follow.

The local studies, being more specialised, are more dependent on local source material. Nevertheless, if the study is to have logic and depth, the historian must build up an imposing mass of information. In effect, he must build an iceberg; below the surface lies the process of construction and only a fraction of his labour appears above the surface.

In New South Wales a mass of raw historical data has been collected by governmental and municipal bodies over a long period and preserved in recognised repositories. These public offices, by simply recording information which can be treated at face value, are the most useful source of accurate information to the local historian. The amount of error in this type of information is small and, unlike much narrative material, it is not biased.

This factual information is often the product of a bureaucratic system. Therefore, an understanding of the structure of the statutory bodies producing the data, their purpose and functions, is essential if the historian is to get some idea of the type of information that will be useful in his research.

Data on population, habitations, occupations and religion, collected by the census enumerator and printed in the Votes and Proceedings of the NSW Legislative Assembly, provides a basic framework within which the magnitude of suburban growth can be evaluated. While some census reports contain information on wards within a municipality, the absence of locational references is a serious defect in this type of historical evidence. Other deficiencies inherent in census material are the looseness of definitions, changes in methods of categorising occupations and problems of interpretation.

Other useful basic information, such as a breakdown of municipal expenditure, wage levels, agricultural and livestock returns and lists of "manufactories", can be found in Statistical Registers.

The local council rate book especially contains a rich lode of documentary material and its preservation is crucial to any detailed historical study of the inner suburban districts of Sydney during the nineteenth century.

While census figures only give a statistical picture of a suburb's evolution, rate books, used in conjunction with directories and subdivision plans, enables one to identify individuals by name and place them on the map.

The rate book, by providing the names of land owner, the size and assessed annual value of allotments, a brief description of houses and the names of occupants, permits accurate reconstruction of the suburban landscape. However, it is difficult to interpret rate books correctly. Their obscurity is often greatest during the early years of the building of a new street which is also the time their evidence is most valuable. Wide gaps exist between the different ranges of houses in an uncompleted street and many early occupants only remain for a short time before moving elsewhere.

The assessment figures can sometimes be used to help sort out these difficulties, but they often fluctuate too and the problems of interpretation are occasionally insoluble.

The records of the Registrar General's Department are of great value to the historian.

Lithographs prepared by auctioneers, series of plans provided by surveyors Armstrong, Norton and Wells, miscellaneous, roll, deposited and primary application plans provide a ready means of access to the departmental records of land held under Torrens title and Old System title. While tracing a chain of title deeds is an exceedingly laborious method of re-

search, it nevertheless unearths a mass of documentary evidence not available elsewhere.

The General Register of Deeds is a veritable mine of information. Although deeds and instruments affecting land do not usually give a reference to the construction of buildings and other improvements, it is often possible to determine whether, and at what period, buildings were erected on a particular allotment by comparing the consideration shown in a conveyance with that shown in a preceding conveyance. Conveyances also usually record the occupation or designation of the parties at that time.

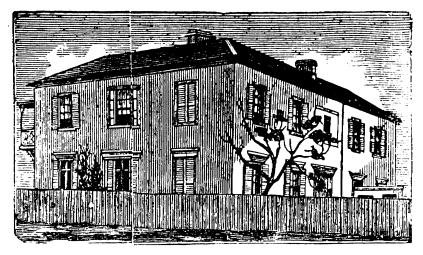
Recitals in deeds relating to insolvencies, family histories and facts about the surrounding district are very detailed and comprehensive, often providing missing links vital to a chain of historical research.

Dealings with land under the other major system of registration of title, the Torrens System, are also of value to the historian, but entries on the Certificates of Title in the Register Book do not contain the wealth of historical evidence found in Old System conveyances.

There is an infinite variety of raw historical data relating to social conditions. Ideas and beliefs illustrating social conditions are broadly derived from two main sources, the official and the popular. Official concepts can be established from minutes and reports of Parliamentary Select Committees, on such items as housing, poverty, industry and employment, Royal Commission findings and other "official" printed material.

In an effort to deepen understanding of how the suburban dweller perceived the social environment, "popular concepts" are obtained from diaries, private letters, personal papers, reminiscences and from writings of nineteenth century observers.

Lyndhurst Hall, Darghan-st., Glebe.



LYNDHURST HALL, DARGHAN-ST., GLEBF.

A fine healthy deformerly Lyndhurst 30 rooms, overlood Park and the Bay, he four years a superior Invalids.

Mrs. Lever wishes men that the best po tion and Nursing ma their patients, kindl gentlemen for their ing seven years resid

Ladies from the Co on careful Nursing Charges.

Mrs. Lever has bee teen years engaged i has made Surgical wifery her special str Diplomas from Quee British and Univers pitals, London.

Established in

Lyndhurst Hall, Darghan Street, Glebe A fine healthy detached residence, formerly Lyndhurst College, containing 30 rooms, overlooking Wentworth Park and the Bay, has been for the last four years a superior private home for Invalids.

The way an individual sees his social environment depends very much on his attitudes, levels of aspiration and personality. The different versions and interpretations of facts at an individual level will, of course, have to be examined separately from the actions and publications of colonial and state governments since the two will not necessarily coincide and are often at odds with each other.

Directories when followed from one issue to the next provide a most detailed picture of suburban growth. The approximate date of appearance of new streets, dwelling houses and shops, as well as residents' names and changes in occupation, can be ascertained from the various issues.

Mrs Lever wishes to inform Medical men that the best possible accommodation and Nursing may be relied on for their patients, kindly thanking those gentlemen for their past support during seven years residence in Sydney. Ladies from the Country may depend on careful Nursing and Moderate Charges.

Information in handbooks, estate agents' contracts books, sewered area sheets and plans of gas connections also help give a further understanding of different aspects of suburban growth.

Newspapers are a valuable source of information and have the virtue of being more or less contemporary with events. Events of public importance at the time, like the incorporation of a municipality or the establishment of a school, fall into place as part of the experiences of people rather than something that took place without any human motivation or divorced from the daily life of the inhabitants.

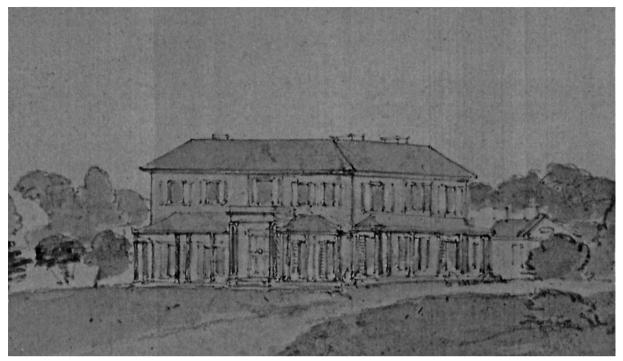
Newspapers, however, are not a reliable source of evidence. Much newspaper material is inaccurate or even false as proprietors are invariably more Mrs Lever has been for the last sixteen years engaged in Hospital Work, has made Surgical Nursing and Midwifery her special study and takes here Diplomas from Queen Charlotte's the British and University College Hospitals, London.

Éstablished in Sydney 1878. (The Express, 15 June 1887, p15)

concerned with news value than accuracy. All newspapers also exhibit some degree of editorial or proprietal bias.

An historical society wishing to collect information on individuals who lived within what is now the Municipality of Leichhardt and record this data in a card index, will have to examine the grants of Probate and Letters of Administration kept at the Probate Office and the Burial Registers of Balmain, Camperdown and Petersham cemeteries if it is intended to build up a detailed biographical register.

Clearly, then, there are many avenues and a vast amount of material to investigate in local history and those undertaking such research are sure to find it fascinating and rewarding.



Lyndhurst from the North-east in 1853 "Lyndhurst College nr Sydney Nov 14/53", William Leigh, Sketches in New South Wales, pencil and watercolour, ML PXA1988.

The house was named after Sir John Singleton Copley (1772-1862), first Baron Lyndhurst (see Lyndhurst, a Brief History, Historic Houses Trust of NSW, 1984).

LYNDHURST GLEBE

1 Its History

FREDA MACDONNELL

The interest and enthusiasm aroused in the fate of Lyndhurst is a welcome sign of our growing awareness of the value of our historical buildings.¹ But the story of the grand old mansion is more than the tale of a fashionable town house built by James Bowman, Principal surgeon of Governor Macquarie's Rum Hospital and Member of the Legislative Council. The fascination of Lyndhurst is the kaleidoscope of personalities and events covering nearly a century and a half, when startling social changes and attitudes to deep-rooted prejudices and convictions were played out.

Bowman² was a strange mixture, a superb organiser and skilled doctor whose regime is sometimes quoted as the golden age of the convict period of that institution, but he was a man of his time with an arrogance that saw nothing amiss in shooting at a trespasser during his occupation of Woolloomooloo House.³ His marriage in 1823 to

John Macarthur's second daughter, Mary, brought him an impressive dowry of 2,000 sheep and 200 cattle, which together with his subsequent substantial land grant in the Hunter River District gave him a splendid stepping-stone to a wealthy colonial life.

After ten years of marriage, Bowman instructed John Verge in 1833 to value a parcel of land on the shores of Blackwattle Bay, comprising in all 36 acres 2 roods and 29 perches for which he paid to Charles Cowper of Sydney and Eliza his wife "One thousand five hundred Pounds of lawful Money of Great Britain".4 Verge, then at the height of his popularity, was engaged to design the stately sandstock brick-rendered Regency villa, known as Lyndhurst, with its slate roof (the present roof is iron), stone-faced windows and louvered shutters. It is impossible to spend some moments in the old dilapidated mansion without being aware of a sense of history. The grand entrance hall with its bays of groin vaulted ceiling, the spaciousness of the rooms are all a symbol of the wealthy aristocrats of the period. The Bowmans probably only lived at Lyndhurst from 1834 until 1838 when the doctor retired from his official duties to his grant at Ravensworth, near Singleton. It may have been used occasionally as their town house and is certainly listed under Dr Bowman's name in the 1839 Directory. No authority could be traced by this writer to explain the naming of Lyndhurst. It may have been named after Lord Lyndhurst, the prominent and sinister Lord Chancellor, a close friend of the Macarthur family, or there is a possibility that John Verge, who called his own property near Dungog, Lyndhurst Vale, suggested the name to his client.

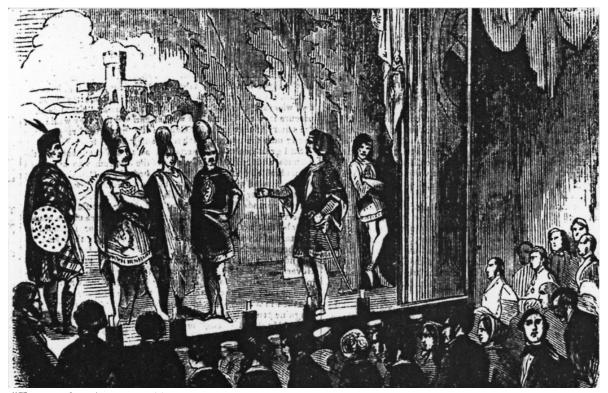


St Mary's College, Lyndhurst, Glebe, 1874 (Historic Houses Trust of NSW)

The Bowmans, who were both keen gardeners and tree lovers, employed Thomas Shepherd of the Darling Nursery to lay out the landscaped garden, shrubberies and parklands. Shepherd was well-known to the Bowmans, because both the Macarthurs and Mr Alexander Macleay had assisted him in establishing his nursery by giving him plants and cuttings from their own properties. Shepherd describes the property, emphasising the considerable skill and imagination employed in giving the impression of broken ground divided by water. There was nearly a mile of beautifully wooded parklands, glades and lawns. The rose garden was frequently spoken of with admiration and possibly a little envy. The house itself follows a similar pattern to that of Camden Park which John Verge was building for Mary Bowman's brothers.

John Macarthur was not the only man who considered Bowman "a respectable, prudent man". Sir Francis Forbes, writing privately to Mr R Wilmot Horton in 1825, spoke of his assistance on the Legislative Council. This first Legislative Council was proclaimed on 11 August 1824. Six of the seven members took their oath on 24 August 1824. Lt Governor William Stewart, although a member, had not at that time arrived in the Colony. The other members were: Francis Forbes, Chief Justice; Frederick Goulburn, Colonial Secretary; James Bowman, Principal Surgeon; and John Oxley, Surveyor-General.5 Forbes described Goulburn as a "very cautious and very independent...and scrupulously upright", yet it was "Messrs Oxley and Bowman [who] have both much local and useful knowledge".6

Bowman's introduction to commerce met with far less success and his handling of the affairs of the Australian Agricultural Company, in which the Macarthurs were also heavily involved, tainted his reputation. He lacked experience, caution and economic ability, though it was the drought and depression of the 1840s that lost him his properties and caused his ruin. In 1842 his Ravensworth, Waverley and Lyndhurst estates were conveyed to James and William Macarthur

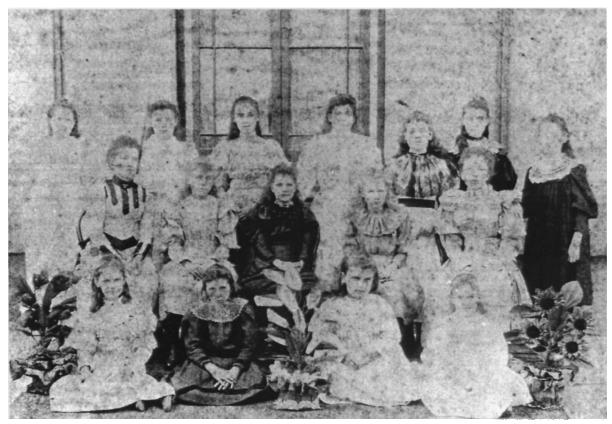


"Hotspur found a most able representative in the person of Mr Kean"
"Scene from Henry IV, Performed at St Mary's College, Lyndhurst", Illustrated Sydney News, 30 December 1854.

who took over Bowman's liabilities to the Bank of Australasia and were allowed five years by the Bank to pay off his debts. In 1846 Bowman expressed regret that Lyndhurst was again vacant, but later in the same year was glad that the Bishop was to occupy Lyndhurst, thinking it possible that this might lead to its ultimate purchase. The Macarthur brothers, however, were unable to repay the debt, and so the estates were conveyed to the Bank in settlement of the account.

The Memorandum of Agreement deeded to the bank "All that Mansion house estate and property heretofore belonging to Dr Bowman known as Lyndhurst Estate containing 40 acres at the Glebe ... together with all fixtures and other articles and things thereon belonging to the said James Macarthur and William Macarthur, and also all that Estate called Ravensworth ...".9 Floods and droughts may have contributed to his debacle, but when he died of an apoplectic seizure on 23 August 1846 he must have realised the enormity of his commitments. The closely-knit Macarthur family rallied to their sister's rescue and generously offered a home and protection to Mary Bowman and her five children.¹⁰ Ravensworth was eventually bought by Captain Russell, but the story of Lyndhurst was really just beginning.

In the year of Dr Bowman's death the Church of England, which was looking for land for suitable college premises, leased a portion of the Lyndhurst estate, including the mansion from the Bank. It was primarily a theological college, which included regular classical studies as well, from which four men were ordained for the ministry. Its importance lay in the fact that it was a real break-through for training of local men for the ministry. Bishop Broughton, a keen educationist, had already opened a small college at St James Parsonage, Sydney, and St James Lyndhurst was to be a continuation of that school. It was a courageous attempt in a difficult decade to establish a nucleus of Anglican priests locally. The alternative lay in sending men abroad, an expensive and often impracticable choice. Dr Broughton was an able and energetic organiser and a firm believer in a classical education but he found little enthusiasm for his plan in Sydney though he warned his diocese that without providing for it he "could not help thinking learning would be banished and letters cashiered". The College was under the direction of the Rev Robert Allwood who was assisted by two scholarly men, the Rev R K Sconce and the Rev T Makinson who were both keen adherents to Oxford University's Tracterian movement. But the type of religious teaching at Lyndhurst did not commend itself to the people of Sydney, and when both Sconce and Makinson announced their intention of joining the Roman Catholic Church it dealt a traumatic blow to Broughton's college, though other factors also contributed to its fail-Sydney College and Lang's Australian College had already closed.



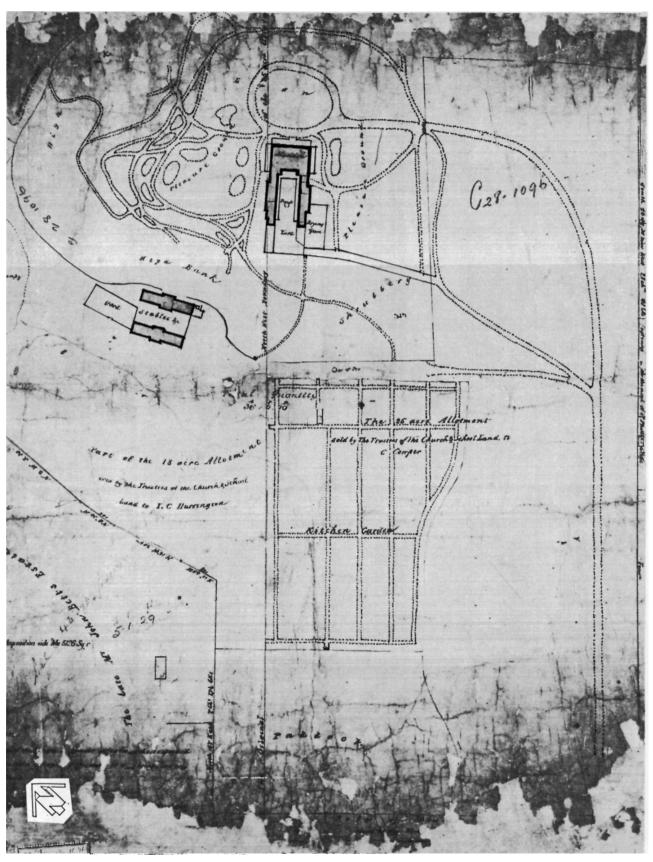
The Misses Clare and Agnes Watt with their Students at Lyndhurst College in about 1900. (Original owned by the author).

Meanwhile, though Dr Broughton's "germ of a future university" did not eventuate, the Roman Catholic Archbishop, Dr Polding, purchased 20 acres including the Lyndhurst mansion for which he paid a little more than £4,000. As with the Anglican College which developed from the small college at St James' Parsonage so it was with St Mary's Lyndhurst that the College had begun in St Mary's Cathedral in 1835, the year of Archbishop Polding's arrival in Australia. St Mary's Lyndhurst was opened on 10 February 1852 for theological students and the education of Roman Catholic youth generally. Bishop Charles Davis, a Benedictine consecrated in Bath, England in 1848, was in charge of the College which enjoyed a high reputation for scholarship, with the greatest number of matriculation passes of any school.

The Sydney Mail, 4 July 1874, described St Mary's Lyndhurst with its handsome chapel and magnificent library. One likes to visualise the first boy, John Williamson, enrolled at the school and it of course follows that he was the first president of Lyndhurst Union. The College produced some of our foremost public men, including John Lane Mullins, a prominent member of the Legislative Council, Thomas Butler, first Australianborn professor of Latin at the University of Sydney, F B Freehill of a well-known legal firm and Walter Edmunds, who became a Justice of the

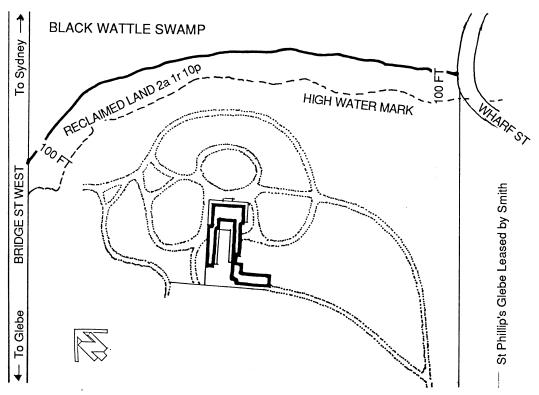
Industrial Court. The College plays reached a high standard, sufficient to attract the interest of both Dr Badham and Mr W Bede Dalley who sometimes wrote prologues and epilogues for the plays. In 1853 a new wing was built at a cost of £6,000, probably helped in part by the large amount of stone on the estate and an inexhaustible bed of shells from which lime was made. Perhaps this new wing did attract both curiosity and attention because for the first time St Mary's Lyndhurst found a place in Moore's 1854 Almanac. The Benedictine community resided in the original mansion and the school, consisting of three class rooms, a large study and a stage at one end on the ground floor, with dormitories upstairs, was a separate building.

Archbishop Polding's highest hopes were reached by the standard of Greek and Latin at the college. but though it did produce a commendable number of graduates this fine college had its enemies and sadly they were from within its own church, and, like Bishop Broughton's St James' college, St Mary's College declined because of the antagonism of an increasing number of Irish bishops who openly urged parents to send their sons to the schools at Bathurst and Maitland. Lyndhurst, they declared, produced snobbery, and sadly their efforts to "white-ant" the great school did contribute to its downfall. When Archbishop Polding died on 16 March 1877 his successor Archbishop Roger Bede Vaughan closed the College later in the same year, and the following year had the property surveyed and subdivided.



The Lyndhurst Estate in 1849 As well as the outline of the buildings, the plan shows the the carriage drive, pathways, kitchen garden etc.

AO Map 2247, J Armstrong, April 1849, Surveyor General, Church Lands, Petersham. Old plan number C28.1096



Lyndhurst in 1862 (From a plan by BT Dowd in the Lands Department)

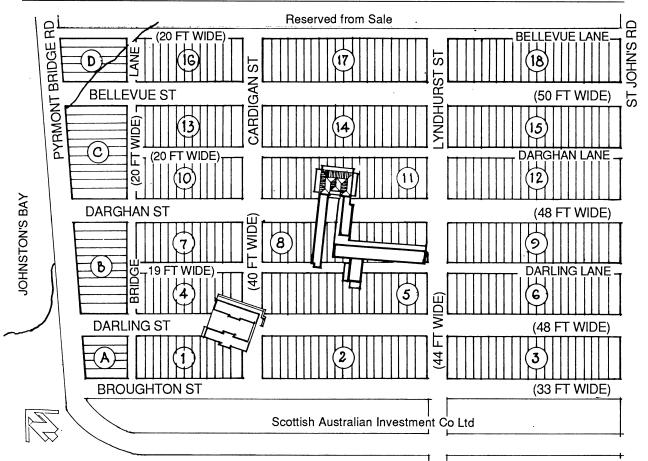
The auction sale was held in September 1878, whereby Archbishop Vaughan realised £30,000 on the house and part of the land thereby conveyed. A second auction took place in 1885. Dr Vaughan gave £6,000 to the Jesuit Order towards the cost of establishing Riverview and banked the remainder. Nothing spectacular happened until his successor, Cardinal Moran, had his attention drawn to the conditions of the Manly land grant by Mr W B Dalley, a keen educationist and churchman. Land under a grant was not allowed to remain unimproved, and of course nothing was simpler than to apply the substantial sum standing to the credit of the Church from the sale of Lyndhurst, permitting an immediate start to be made on St Patrick's College, Manly where the fine library built up at Lyndhurst is now housed.

Doctrinal clashes were not the only evidence of intolerance in that stormy period. The *Herald* of 7 July 1848 gives an extraordinary example of what was then probably a normal procedure:

CAUTION: Whereas Lucy Paterson, a coloured girl, a native of the Paterson River, having left her place, Lyndhurst at the Glebe on Wednesday morning about twelve o'clock, all parties are cautioned against employing or harbouring her after this date. She has taken with her some wearing apparel and books with her name in. Any person bringing her to the undersigned, Lyndhurst, Glebe will receive a reward of one pound ... Mr Robert Woods.

The first subdivisions of Lyndhurst estate would appear to have been made in 1851 when portions were sold to Messrs Morehead and Young of the Scottish Australian Investment Company and to John Terry Hughes. Archbishop Polding's first purchase was 20 acres which included the Lyndhurst mansion. Further purchases were made subsequently, and with the reclamation of land around Blackwattle Bay, the value of the property greatly increased. The auction sale held on 2 September 1878 was to have a profound effect on the whole neighbourhood. Lots offered for sale measured from 22 feet 6 inches to 30 feet, such being considered adequate space for the building of working class domiciles. Huddled cottages sprang up along narrow streets in what was once one of the show places of Sydney.

The mansion became many things before it was bought by a prominent Sydney developer Mr Morris Asher who converted it into three houses. It had at one time been a hospital which according to some old colonists gained a certain amount of notoriety but despite its checkered career Lyndhurst's story continued to be an interesting In 1900 Mr Edward Watt conducted a school for girls there. He was assisted by the Misses Clare and Agnes Watt, presumably his daughters. At least one lady cherishes a prize she won at Lyndhurst School 70 years ago, when the fee charged was sixpence per week. By 1927 Lyndhurst's function had slid further down the social scale and was used by Messrs Rose & Todd, broom manufacturers, after which several small commercial enterprises leased the premises.



Plan of the Lyndhurst College Estate Subdivision in September 1878

For land sale advertisements see SMH 2 September 1878

For land-sale advertisements see SMH, 2 September 1878, p7f and many subsequent issues.

Some seven years ago a group of young people belonging to the various free churches in Glebe, met to discuss what might be done to attract the non-churchgoer to the half empty pews in the fine old churches, where the congregations were chiefly made up of the comfortable middleincome members of the neighbourhood. They believed that they had a call to the poor and destitute, the delinquent and those who had served prison sentences. A lay ministry, free of the problems of church upkeep, might make some impact and with this theme in mind they set out to live among the people they intended to serve, leasing the first floor of Lyndhurst for their Christian Centre, getting to know the children and living on the same level as the people around them. The results were encouraging, as many as 60 children attended Sunday School classes. Adults, usually suspicious of religious involvement, became interested and turned up to evening meetings. For various reasons this fine little group gradually broke up, but the work so well begun was continued in another phase by Mr Kevin Garner, a one-time postman, now a cleaning contractor to a government department.

Mr Garner's Lyndhurst Christian Centre is a hostel where he accepts three or four men at a time.

Some of them were boys from Royleston, not the easiest of youngsters to handle, with a distaste for regular employment. Guests at the hostel pay a little towards running costs, but Mr Garner does not turn anyone away because of his inability to pay. At one time he began training for the Baptist ministry but he has a deep conviction that his role is rather outside the traditional church. He receives no outside funds to run his hostel which is clean and tastefully though sparsely furnished. A large picture of the Crucifixion dominates one of the spacious rooms, a reminder to his guests and visitors alike of the purpose of his hostel. The present owner of Lyndhurst is the estate of the late A C Bartlett. Whatever is the fate in store for the old mansion, one hopes that Garner's work will be continued in the neighbourhood where it has shown such worthwhile results. Clive Lucas and his Save Lyndhurst Committee deserve the gratitude of the community and the respect and consideration of statutory bodies.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I wish to express my gratitude to Professor Cable for his assistance and to Mr Quentin Stanham for permission to refer to the "Restricted Issue" of the Macarthur Papers; to Mr Kevin Fahy and Mr David Young for their advice and to Mr J McCloy for discovering the interesting engraving of the St Mary's Lyndhurst Players.

FOR REFERENCES SEE PAGE 36

\boxtimes X 3'-11/2

Door and door case in the Reception Rooms of Lyndhurst (Drawn by Clive Lucas)

LYNDHURST GLEBE

2 Its Architecture

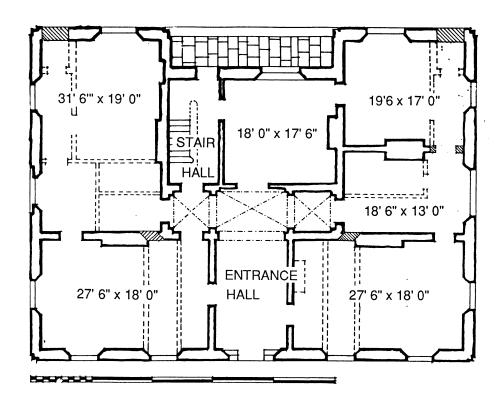
CLIVE LUCAS

John Verge (1782-1861) arrived in NSW in December 1828, not to practise architecture but to follow pastoral pursuits. This venture proved unsuccessful and the Hampshire born builder embarked on an architectural career which was to make him one of the most respected figures in Australian architectural history. During his short professional life from 1830 to 1837, he produced houses of such quality as to make him undoubtedly the best domestic architect of his epoch. With the exception of Francis Greenway and possibly of Sir George Kingston, and James Blackburn, Verge is the most important neo-classical architect ever to practise in this country. That is, neo-classical in the manner of Soane and Wyatt rather than the later purism of Smirke and Wilkins.

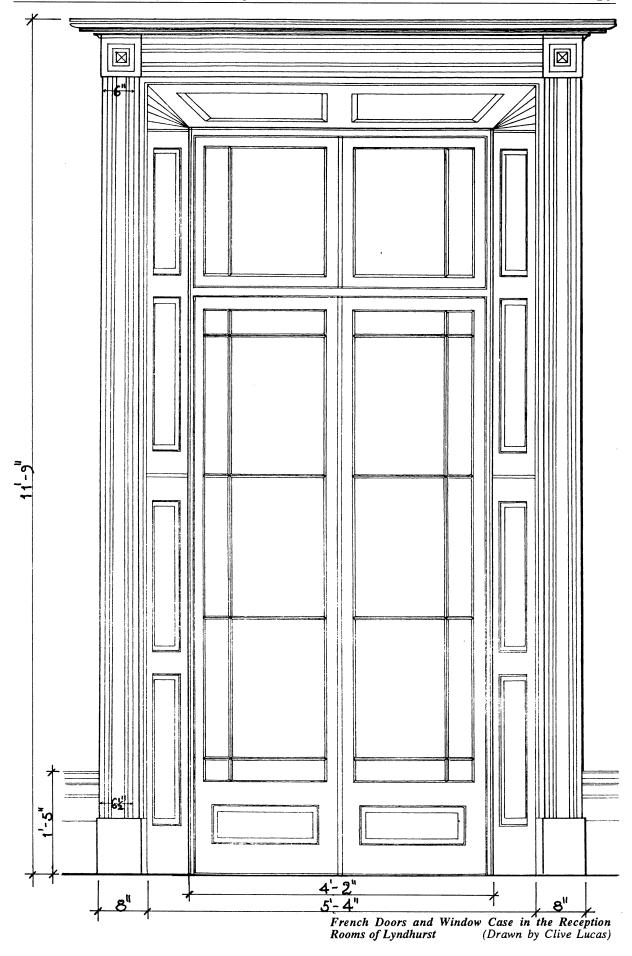
In 1832 Verge employed a young English trained architect, John Bibb (1810-1862) to assist How important Bibb's contribution was to his employer's great success, can now only be guessed at? By 1832 Verge had designed the majority of his villas on Woolloomooloo Hill which include the still extant Tusculum (for A B Spark, 1830, now much altered) and Rockwall (for John Busby, 1830, now mutilated) and Camden Park (for Sir William Macarthur, 1831) his pre-eminent country house, was under construction. other large houses, The Vineyard (later Subiaco for Hannibal Macarthur, demolished 1961), Engehurst (for Frederick Hely, partly demolished c1880), Elizabeth Bay (for Hon Alexander Macleay, never completed) and



Lyndhurst in 1976
The portico and verandahs have gone and the east facade is derelict.
(Photograph by Bruce Pollack Management, held by Historic Houses Trust of NSW)



Ground Floor Plan of Lyndhurst in about 1972 (Drawn by Clive Lucas)





Lyndhurst in 1988
The portico and verandahs have been reinstated in a manner consistent with Verge's design.
(Photograph held by Historic Houses Trust of NSW)

Lyndhurst were all being designed the year after Bibb joined the practice.

Because of the strong family connection certain elements in the design of Lyndhurst are undoubtedly influenced by Camden Park. The three main reception rooms are almost exactly the same size and proportion; the joinery is similar with internal shutters; and the plaster groined ceiling in the back hall at Lyndhurst is otherwise found only at Camden where the same detail is used to ceil the dining room alcove. All the external corners of the house have the same recessed margins and the same deep eaves. By contrast with Camden's Greek Doric order Lyndhurst has Roman details. The main portico, demolished in the 1880s, had coupled Tuscan columns, and appears quite similar to the still existing portico of Wivenhoe (for Sir Charles Cowper, c1835), a house which can quite reasonably be attributed to Verge.

At Lyndhurst he does not employ the device of balancing single storeyed pavilions, incorporated not only at Camden, but also in the design of the partly demolished Engehurst and in the alterations at Denham Court (for Captain Richard Brooks 1832). Lyndhurst has three main elevations in the manner of Elizabeth Bay House with

the fourth elevation take up by the service yard and single storeyed domestic wings which at Camden are attached at the side. The house is raised on a semi-basement and the three fronts, two of which are identical, open on to terraces which seem to have been removed with the portico, during the alterations of the 1880s.

The Sydney Mail in 1874 illustrated the house with the terraces covered by a light iron verandah. This may have been an addition as to some extent, a verandah would have hidden the important Roman Doric doorcases to the central doors on the side elevations.

Thomas Shepherd in his lectures on landscape architecture in 1835 described the three fronts and the service wings behind a wall at the back, around a courtyard under which was a large well. He fully described the layout of the grounds, shrubberies, the drives and mentions that the stables had been built out of sight of the "pleasure grounds". These facts are confirmed by the subdivision plan of 1878 which shows the service yard and the stables at the bottom of the hill near the present north east corner of Cardigan and Darling Streets. There is however no real evidence to support the theory that Shepherd was responsible for the layout of the estate.

With the subdivisions of 1878 and 1885 the house lost not only its grounds but also its outbuildings. Only a Tudor-style school-room survives



The Portico Reinstated at Lyndhurst, 1986 (Photograph by David Liddle, held by Historic Houses Trust of NSW)

at the north east corner of Lyndhurst Street and Darling Lane. During the 1880s the house was subdivided into three and this necessitated several brick party walls which divide the main rooms, but otherwise the divisions were all lath and plaster. At this time, the main stair was rebuilt and reorientated for the centre house and two additional staircases provided for the balancing dwellings. Subsequent uses necessitated new openings which were knocked in at random creating the existing maze of rooms which can now only really be understood from a ground plan.

Despite its abuse the house retains the majority of its joinery including skirtings and architraves and enough plaster work to make restoration feasible. Unfortunately while almost all the fireplaces retain their fine Regency iron grates, the chimney pieces have with two minor exceptions been replaced or else disappeared.

The plan, unlike some of Verge's designs, is competent and not wasteful. Although Verge's drawings for the house are not known to exist, its construction is nevertheless most thoroughly documented in the Bowman papers now in the Mitchell Library.

Lyndhurst's history has been unimportant since 1877, and this accounts for its having become so neglected and forgotten. Yet, with Elizabeth Bay House it is the most substantial of Sydney's extant

near-town residences built before 1840. Little is left of Verge's important architectural output. His work can only really be appreciated at Camden Park. Subiaco has gone, Elizabeth Bay was never completed, Denham Court is only really an addition and without exception all his other domestic work has been much altered or mutilated.

Historically the house is significant not only as a colonial gentleman's substantial residence but more importantly as an educational institution of great consequence to Australian church history. Lyndhurst is a great house architecturally comparable to any house of its date in the United Kingdom and as there are so few extant houses of this scale and quality left in Australia it is, considering its history, of the utmost importance.

As Macquarie Field House was saved, so too can Lyndhurst.

EDITORS' NOTE

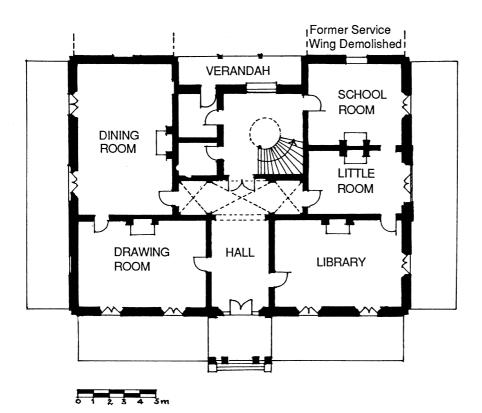
July 1972
The Editors express their thanks for permission by the Proprietors to reprint this article, slightly altered, from The Australian, 24 March 1972.

EDITOR'S NOTE

September 1993

The plans shown on pages 11 and 12 have been reorientated to conform with the more detailed plan on page 10.

FOR REFERENCES SEE PAGE 36



Lyndhurst Ground Floor Plan, 1988 Compare with the plan shown on page 14. The central staircase has been painstakingly reconstructed in its original position to replicate in form and detail the original stair. Skilled conservation work on Lyndhurst has been executed by Clive Lucas Stapleton & Partners, Sydney (Drawn by Clive Lucas)

LYNDHURST GLEBE

3 Its Furniture

KEVIN FAHY

Among the Bowman papers in the Mitchell Library are a large number of receipts and accounts for repairs and other work done at Lyndhurst as late as 1846.1 Included in these papers is an extensive furniture inventory of a large but unnamed establishment. We can reasonably assume that it refers to Lyndhurst because of the size of the inventory, which would be appropriate for Lyndhurst, whereas it would be too large for Bowman's other houses at Ravensworth and Waverley. As the Bowman papers are with the Macarthur papers, it is possible that the inventory refers to one of the Macarthur mansions, but it seems unlikely that they would let Bowman make an inventory for them. A connection with Lyndhurst is made more certain by the identification of nine painted chairs in the inventory with a receipt for them among the other Bowman papers.

While contemporary auction catalogues listing the contents of are known, few furniture inventories from the early nineteenth century have survived.² Although the furniture is never described in detail in these inventories, they are valuable guides to the domestic habits of our forbears and provide us with an impression of the colonial domestic interior. Outside of a few historic restorations, few interiors have survived which have not suffered a mixture of styles over the years making it difficult for us to visualize what they were originally like. From this inventory it is possible to envisage Lyndhurst during its occupation by the Bowman family. The items listed show that the house was in permanent occupation at the time of the inventory and references such as "matting worn-out" would indicate that it had been for some time. It was probably made in about 1838 prior to the Bowmans departure for Ravensworth. While much of the furnishings would have been of English manufacture, several receipts from Sydney cabinetmakers show that locally made furniture was also used.³

A table and two chairs stood in the hall which was lit by two lamps. This was the usual furniture found in the colonial entrance hall. The lamps would have been Argand lamps burning either whale or colza oil. The floor was covered with an oil cloth, the forerunner of the present-day linoleum, which was widely used in the colo-

nial interior despite the waspish comment that it "has always a kind of hairdresser's-shop look about it which not the most elegant furniture of every other description could reconcile".4

The drawing room centred around the fireplace with its fender and fire irons and a framed chimney mirror. A pair of chintz covered sofas with pillows or bolsters, a stool and nine painted chairs provided the seating. Painted chairs describe those of a cheap wood painted or grained to imitate a finer timber. Among the Bowman papers is a receipt dated 14 October 1835 from the Sydney cabinetmakers, Charles and Thomas Roberts. The account includes the entry "May 1st - recovering, repairing and cleaning 9 painted chairs £1.2.6".5 Miscellaneous tables included a centre table, a pair of card tables and a nest of three tables. The most elaborate piece of furniture in the room was a marbletopped chiffonier with a drawer and folding glass doors. The floor covering consisted of a Brussels carpet and a hearth rug over an oil cloth. A circular lamp with a glass or shade provided the lighting.

The dining room furniture included a large mahogany extension dining table and ten chairs with horsehair upholstery. On the sideboard stood a pair of sideboard lamps. A side serving table and an easy chair together with several smaller items which were also listed completed the furniture of the room. The contents of bedrooms and dressing rooms, the library and the service rooms were also included, not forgetting the bathroom in which "the Italian marble bath, hot and cold water supplied" and the adjoining water closet and cistern appear to have been removed during the inventory leaving only a thermometer and a chain.

The kitchen seems to have been well equipped with several forerunners of today's appliances. Included in the inventory were "7 Black Tin Covers; 7 Wire Covers; 8 Moulds for Puddings, jelly etc; 24 Hours Clock; Coffee Roasters, Mill and Pots; Chocolate Pots – Cheese Toaster; Spice Mill, Skewers, Warming Pan, Jars, Tea Kettles, Fountain, Stock Pots, Fish Kettle, 8 Black Tin Sauce Pans, Dripping Pan, Grid Irons, Frying Pans, Steak Tongs; 3 dressers and Tables, Forms and Service of Blue Crockery complete".

Although the furniture inventory enables us to reconstruct the furnished appearance of Lyndhurst in only a general way, it is nevertheless valuable in demonstrating that Lyndhurst was comparable in all respects with the major contemporary mansions such as Elizabeth Bay House and Camden Park.

ANNANDALE'S JOHNSTON ERA

ALAN ROBERTS

Annandale is now 179 years old, only five years less than white settlement in Australia. For about half of that time it was owned by the Johnstons who are naturally an important part of its history, both for their intrinsic interest and for the degree to which they influenced its subsequent development as a suburb. This article outlines the phases of Annandale's history during its ownership by the grantee family.

Like many of their early colonial contemporaries, the Johnstons received a number of land grants. George Johnston, by virtue of his position in the NSW Corps, was particularly fortunate, and received a total of 4,162 acres, though government policy at first did not favour granting land to the military. Food production, during the first few years, was a government enterprise, which did not prove to be very successful. Following the departure of Arthur Phillip, Lt Governor Francis Grose changed the policy towards encouraging private enterprise in food production by granting land to members of the Corps. The colony's economy then improved considerably. Johnston's first grant of 100 acres was received from Grose in 1793 and formed the nucleus of the Annandale estate. In the following year he was granted 18 acres, and then a further 22. These three grants lay on the south side of Parramatta Road, in present-day Stanmore. In 1799, Johnston was granted 290 acres on the north side of Parramatta Road, stretching up to Rozelle Bay. 1 He called this four-grant-property "Annandale" after his home town, Annan in Dumfriesshire, Scotland.² In time, the estate came to be known as South Annandale, ie, the three grants on the south side of Parramatta Road, and North Annandale, the single grant on the north side. It is this last grant which forms the present-day suburb of Annandale.

Information concerning the utilization of the Annandale Estate during the whole period of its ownership by the Johnstons is, unfortunately, rather sketchy. It would seem obvious that at least part of it was cleared early, for farming, but how much of it was cleared is not known. However, we do know that of the 602 acres he held at Annandale and Bankstown in 1801, 160 acres were sown with wheat and maize, and he had 7 horses, 27 horned cattle, 136 sheep, 85 goats and 29 hogs. Johnston's farming activities were considerably aided by his patron in Eng-

land, the second Duke of Northumberland. The Duke's attention had been drawn to Johnston by his bravery in saving the Regiment's colours at the Battle of Bunker's Hill in the American War of Independence. Northumberland sent Johnston the first pure-bred merino sheep in Australia, several years before Macarthur imported them, the first throroughbred stallion, and other items including seed and farm equipment.³

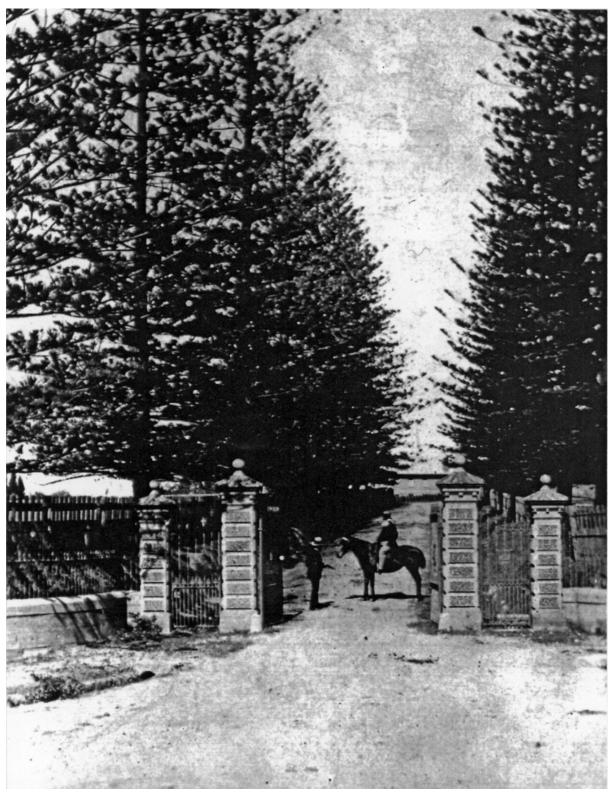
Annandale House

No definite date has been established for the commencement of construction of Annandale House, though one report said it "was begun about the year 1799".4 Like Johnston, Macarthur received his first grant in 1793, at Parramatta, and built the nucleus of Elizabeth Farmhouse in that year. Thus it is possible that Johnston did the same at Annandale, though if he were living in a military barracks in Sydney, there would not have been the same need to erect accommodation speedily at Annandale, which is so close to Sydney, as there was for Macarthur at Parramatta. Annandale House lay in the south, in what is now Macaulay Street, about half-way between Northumberland Road and Percival Street, Stanmore. Medium in size, the house was designed in the vernacular Georgian style, and was noted for its fine hall.⁵ The plan was an "H" shape, so that it had two main facades, each with a verandah supported by turned wood Doric columns. One of these facades was terminated at each end by projecting rooms, an unusual feature which, because of their uneven sizes, disrupted the symmetry. It was built of cedar cut within a mile or two, and of bricks baked on the property.6 The bed of clay extended into Camperdown, and was used almost continuously by the Fowlers and other pottery manufacturers till after 1890.

As a group of buildings, Annandale House had a rather untidy appearance, and seems to have "growed like Topsy". Behind the formal front lay a number of out-houses, each with a specialised purpose. They included a slaughter yard and butchery, a bakery, smithy and wheelwright's shop, a corn mill and store. There was also accommodation for soldiers and assigned convicts.⁷ A legend had grown that, in his handling of convicts, Johnston was a sadistic monster, a kind of James Mudie of the Western Suburbs. One story, for instance, tells of a very tall blackbutt standing on Parramatta Road, which was known as the "Gallows tree" from which hung "a class of 'suspended fruit' which was never intended by Nature". 8 So far as is known, there is no reliable evidence to corroborate such stories.

The Gates and Gatehouse

Annandale House was approached, along an avenue of Norfolk Island pines, from the Gates on Parramatta Road, which stood on the site of



The Gates of Annandale House with Robert Johnston [possibly] on Horseback The gates on were located on the south side of Parramatta Road where now stands the Stanmore Cinema Centre (200 Parramatta Road, Stanmore). (Original owned by Gallagher's Estate Agency, Annandale)



The Garden Front (East Elevation) of Annandale House from the East in 1901
The house probably had the same elevation on both sides with the verandah sitting between the end wings forming an H-shaped plan. The entry steps led down to the garden paths from a semicircular terrace.

(Foster Collection, vol 10. p58, RAHS Library)

the present-day Stanmore Cinema. The pines were a famous landmark, and "could be picked up from the heights around any part of Sydney".9 It is said that these pines were the first to be planted on the Australian mainland, and that the seeds for them were given to Johnston by Captain (later Governor) Hunter, though Johnston was stationed for a while at Norfolk Island, and could have got them himself. Possibly a Gatehouse was built early in the nineteenth century, but if so it was replaced later by a wooden Gatehouse which unfortunately is the only intact Johnston structure at Annandale extant. Its design is interesting in that it is bi-axially symmetrical. Its front and rear elevations are identical, and each elevation is symmetrical. Philip Cox, part-author of Rude Timber Buildings in Australia, has tentatively dated the Gatehouse to 1870-1880.10 Probably the main clue to its date is that each of the four gables was decorated with intricately cut barge boards which have since been disfigured. Surprisingly this building has been moved from its original position. It first stood beside the Gates, on Parramatta Road, and faced east-west. It now faces north-south, and stands on a lane behind 96-98 Corunna Road. Other changes include the recent dismantling of the brick chimney and the removal of the shutters.

Old illustrations of the Gatehouse also show that the Gates were of a simple "spear" cast iron design, supported by four stone piers. 11 Each of the two central gates was mounted with an iron cast of the Johnston family crest. It was a pleasant surprise to discover recently that these gates still exist, and are in storage at the Liverpool Council's Rose Street Depot. At least one of the crests has also survived, and is in the possession of Mr Lorimer Johnston of Ringwood, Victoria.

Johnston and the Rum Rebellion

George Johnston's activities were not confined to farming. He was primarily an officer of the NSW Corps, in which he rose in rank, and on the departure of Colonel Paterson for Tasmania, he became the commanding officer of the Corps in Sydney. As such, it was logically only he who could assume control of the civil administration when the friction between Bligh and the Corps officers and certain eminent citizens culminated in the Rum Rebellion of 1808. The precise nature and importance of Johnston's motivations are an open, though neglected, question. At least four major motivations were possible:

- 1 Anger against and fear of being economically hamstrung by Bligh's "reforms",
- 2 Anger against Bligh's insulting conduct and public impugning of the authority of Johnston and other officers,
- 3 Manipulation by Macarthur, and
- 4 Johnston's concern for the authority of the Corps in the colony, which was threatened by Bligh and which was in grave jeopardy owing to the high-handed attitude of the six officers



Annandale House from the Carriage Loop (?) in 1901 (?)
The moderately-steep pitched roof, broken-backed over the verandah, and tall chimneys are evident.
(Foster Collection, vol 10, p 94 RAHS Library)

who were to judge Macarthur and Bligh's imminent retaliation. Johnston is usually passed over lightly by historians of this episode in favour of the two more colourful and dynamic, apparently principal, protagonists, Bligh and Macarthur, and because of Johnston's evident vacillation in the events leading to his decision to arrest Bligh. But Johnston played a key role, and was the only person with sufficient legal authority in the colony to attempt a "loyal rebellion". It seems very probably that he took the decision primarily for reasons of his own and the Corps' welfare, and not because he was manipulated by Macarthur. Whatever the reasons, the simple fact is that he did arrest Bligh, and assumed the office of Lt Governor for six months. He then travelled to England with some of the other leading rebels to explain their actions. He was court-martialled, found guilty, and cashiered from the Army in 1811.

Considering the "crime" and the verdict, Johnston was treated leniently. He remained in possession of his grants and, under Macquarie, received further grants. But the grant by Johnston (as Lt Governor) to his eldest son George junior, was disallowed, as was a grant to his de-facto wife Esther in 1809, though the latter was later confirmed by Macquarie. Johnston returned to Sydney in 1813, intent on devoting his "life work" to Annandale and on making it a "model farm". Thus it became "one of the most complete farms in the neighbourhood of Sydney". 12

Death of George Junior

Governor Macquarie had known Johnston in the American War of Independence, but when he became Governor of New South Wales, he viewed Johnston with some suspicion and definite disapproval of the events of 1808. In time this relationship changed to one of close friendship. Macquarie was also deeply impressed by the abilities of George junior, and after Johnston had failed to get his son into the Army, Macquarie appointed him Superintendent of Government Flocks and Herds in 1819. One of his responsibilities was to recapture and tame the escaped government cattle which had multiplied in the Cowpastures district. While doing this, he was fatally injured when his horse threw him against a tree in 1820.13

George's highly regrettable death, at the age of 30, had two interesting results for Annandale. Firstly, it gained a Greenway building, and secondly, Annandale eventually passed to the second son, Robert. Macquarie was deeply disturbed by the death of George junior, and he instructed the Civil Architect, Francis Greenway, to design a burial vault for the Johnstons. The vault consisted of a rectangular sarcophagusshaped monument, mounted on a podium on top of a small mound. To one side of this, a flight of steps led down into the mound to the door of the subterranean chamber.¹⁴ This vault stood in a corner of the garden of Annandale House, approximately on the site of the present day intersection of Northumberland and Corunna Roads, Stanmore. It was used until about 1884, when the remains of the Johnstons buried there were re-interred in a new vault at Waverley Cemetery. So far as is known, nothing remains of the vault designed by Greenway.



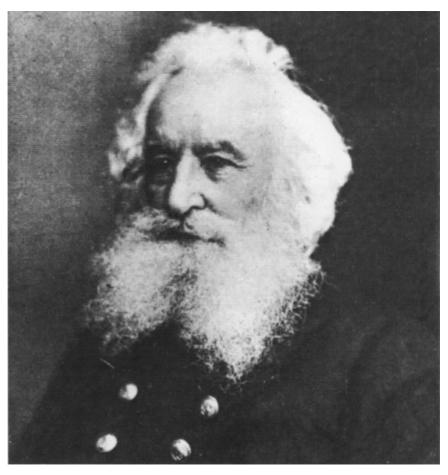
The Garden-front Verandah of Annandale House in 1901
Beyond the classical timber columns is the semicircular terrace with steps down to the garden.
(Foster Collection, vol 10, p58, RAHS Library)

Death of George Senior

In 1823 George Johnston senior died. This precipitated some family conflict over the inheritance of Annandale which was a second result of George junior's death. In 1811, George senior settled Annandale on George junior and Esther, though in trust for Esther for her lifetime. George also settled his other estates on the six children as tenants in common. George junior died intestate, but Macquarie promised that his property (he had several grants of his own) would remain in the family and from then on it was treated as part of George senior's estate. In 1821 George senior made a new will without cancelling his settlement of 1811.

By his new will he left his property to the surviving five children, of whom Robert, the second son, was to receive Annandale, subject to a life estate in Esther. There were a series of technical flaws in all of this which came to light much later, in 1867, when Robert applied for the Annandale Estate to be converted to Torrens Title.¹⁵

The report on these flaws is so badly expressed that its grammatical sense, logic and law are virtually impossible to understand. However, the report concluded that since George senior's settlement of 1811 had never been revoked, and that two of the beneficiaries were dead by 1867, and the inheritance of their shares was not effective, the Crown was legally entitled to a two-sixths share of the Annandale Estate. Nevertheless the Commissioners recommended that "Having reference to all the circumstances and especially to the promise of Governor Macquarie it does not appear...that any government would hesitate to confirm title" in Robert Johnston. The Attorney-General, Sir James Martin, agreed. All of this was not of course realised in 1823, when Johnston died. Esther was regarded legally as the Mistress of Annandale, and upon her death it was to pass to Robert.

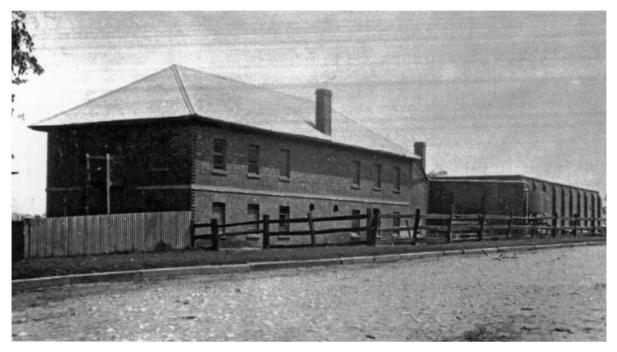


Robert Johnston

Robert's life, especially the earlier part, was full of interest.¹⁶ Born in 1792, he went with his father to England to be educated at the age of seven. One day, as he passed by the Admiralty, he noticed a naval officer with only one arm and one eye. When Robert asked the identity of this man, he was told the obvious answer - Lord Nelson. This incident, and his later service with the Royal Navy, explains why he named two streets in Annandale, Nelson and Trafalgar Streets. He also named one of his sons George Horatio Johnston. Robert joined the Royal Navy in 1807, and was the first native-born Australian to do so. He may also have been Australia's first exserviceman.¹⁷ He saw considerable active service during the Napoleonic Wars for instance serving off the coast of Spain and Portugal. He was present at the British capture of Washington and at the repulse of the British at New Orleans in the War of 1812. Later he proceeded to England, was paid off, was granted leave of absence and returned to New South Wales in 1816. Here he accompanied Macquarie to Port Macquarie, and joined Sir John Jamison's exploring trip to ascertain the source of the Warragamba River. After the death of his elder brother, he decided to stay in New South Wales and joined his brother David at George's Hall.

It was hardly satisfying to Robert that he should have to wait for his mother's death before he could inherit Annandale, while David was in full possession of George's Hall all the time. Relations with his mother deteriorated to the point of physical violence. Perhaps to escape this situation, Esther decided in 1829 to return to England, and to finance the trip, advertised that she wanted to "mortgage her property for her lifetime". Safeguarding his rightful future inheritance, Robert decided to counter-attack by issuing a writ against his mother, claiming that she was insane.

In the litigation that followed, the jury found that "Mrs Esther Johnston is not of sound mind, not capable of managing her affairs", though she had lucid intervals. The verdict also stated that Robert was not heir of Annandale at law which, as Dr Bergman points out in his excellent article, 18 Robert's main purpose was to gain control of Annandale, as Esther herself claimed. 19 Nevertheless Robert did prevent his mother's mortgaging Annandale and he also effectively achieved control of it before his mother's death because she went to Lockwood some months after the trial, and later went to George's Hall, where she died in 1846 at the approximate age of 75.20



The Stables on the Western Side of Annandale House in 1901(?)

The carriage loop and house were to the left. The buttresswalled building at right contained sheds (see page 33) (Foster Collection, vol 10, p93, RAHS Library)

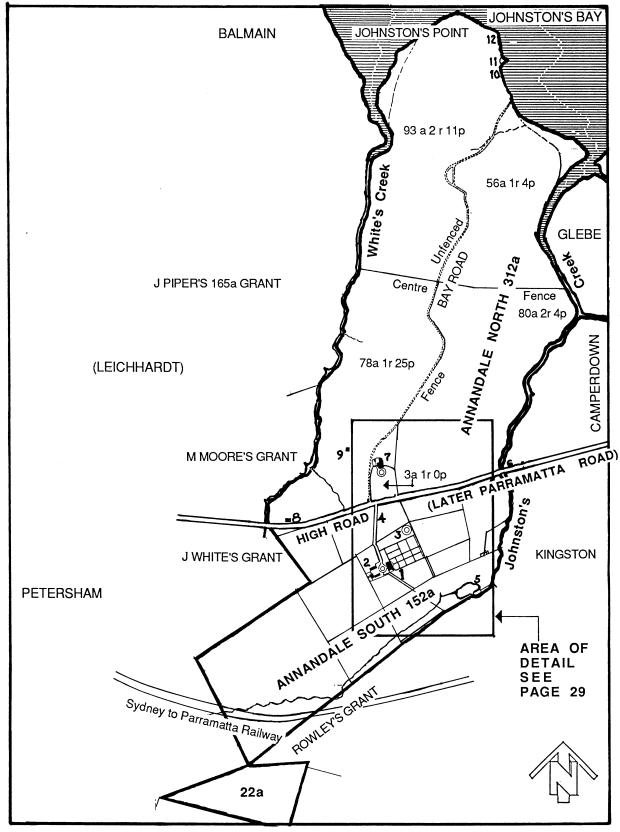
Robert Johnston lived on at Annandale for many years, and had a large family. He appears to have been content to remain a country squire, and refused requests that he become a member of the Legislative Council.²¹ He maintained some contact with the Royal Navy, for in 1865 he was promoted to the rank of Commander.

South Annandale

Our knowledge of the utilization of Annandale, even at this time, is very incomplete. There is a manuscript map of South Annandale (undated but drawn before the railway to Parramatta was constructed) showing that it was divided into large paddocks for livestock and fields of barley, and there was two stockyards and a piggery.²² The House stood in a large and beautiful garden containing an orange orchard and vineyard. would appear that brick production continued at Annandale, for this map shows a "brick entrance road" leading south from Parramatta Road, just within the boundary formed by Johnston's Creek, and in North Annandale there lay a brick maker's cottage near White's Creek. Two paintings of South Annandale in 1876 by Elyard, in the Mitchell Library, confirm that it was used predominantly for farming.

North Annandale

Information on North Annandale is similarly slight. It was apparently the area known as "Johnston's Bush".23 After the initial clearing of Annandale, it must have been realised that North Annandale was not suitable for agriculture, owing to its rockiness and geographical precipitateness. It was then left relatively untouched, and the natural vegetation grew again. There is no evidence that it was ever used substantially for farming. But it was profitable to the Johnstons in other ways. At some unknown date, Robert built two houses in North Annandale. The first was Annan Grove which stood on Parramatta Road beside what later became Macquarie Street. The second was Macquarie Lodge which stood further back from Parramatta Road on what later became Albion Street between Johnston and Annandale Streets. The present Queen Victoria Hospital for Women, on this site, has been built around Macquarie Lodge, but nothing of the original fabric is discernible externally.24 Robert leased these two houses.²⁵ Then in 1862 he leased 100 acres about a third of North Annandale – to the Sydney Salting Company for their establishment for 14 years.²⁶ As salting is one stage in the process of tanning hides, this company probably sited its establishment at Annandale because of its accessibility to the Glebe Island Abattoirs. Then in 1875 he leased a little over one acre to the Chemical Copper Works "for the purpose of manufacture and smelting of copper and other metals, and the manufacture of other chemicals".27



Plan of the Annandale Estate in 1843 Annandale House stood on the estate south of Parramatta
Road which was called South Annandale. North Annandale
is the present-day suburb of Annandale. (From "Map of the
Estate Named Annandale ... the Property of Robert Johnston Esq: RN., 1843", (ML M3 8211.1823/1843/4)

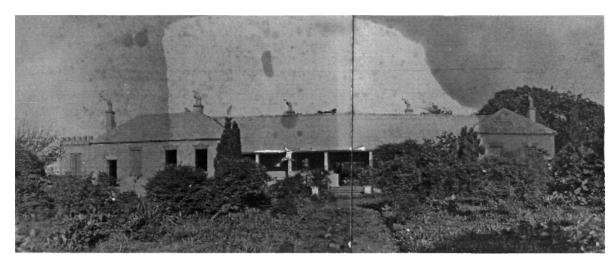
Annandale House, Garden and Orchard.

Stables, Yard and "Offices".

- "The Family Cemetery.

- "Annandale Road, later Pine Tree Avenue.

- Pond and Pump on Johnston's Creek.
 "Johnston's Bridge" and "Sydney Turnpike" gate.
 "Cottage and Offices", later Macquarie Lodge.
- Brick Cottage with Verandah.
- Cottage.
- 10 Boat Shed.
- 11 Cave.
- 12 Quarry.



Annandale House Viewed from the Garden Just Before Its Demolition in 1905 (Original owned by Mrs Gaze (address unknown) and in the custody of Mrs Goodger of the Bankstown Historical Society [May 1972])

There is also evidence of a third lease, to the Albion Soap Works, but no legal record of this lease was traced.²⁸ It may have been a part of the Sydney Salting Company, as another subsidiary industry based on the Abattoirs. All three establishments were set up on the waterfront of Rozelle Bay, and a small jetty was built at the foot of the later Johnston Street and a jetty remains there to this day. Nevertheless, apparently the major part of North Annandale remained wooded. A contemporary eye witness published a description of this scene some years later:

Passing between the Abattoirs and Glebe Point we enter upon a sheet of water spreading out to the south and west. This is Johnston's Bay proper. There is little to remark in connection with it, save that the whole aspect of the place is now changed. Five and twenty years ago (ie, 1863) it was a secluded nook of rock and forest, and, when the tide came in, its mangrove-skirted shores presented a very pleasant outline. It was in a state of nature, with the exception of some prosaiclooking buildings on its western edge, devoted to the production of soap and candles, in the interests of Messrs Cowan and Israel. But despite the presence of the "chandlery" business, there was enough of nature left about the head of Johnston's Bay a quarter of a century ago to render a bush ramble in that locality a pleasure....²⁹

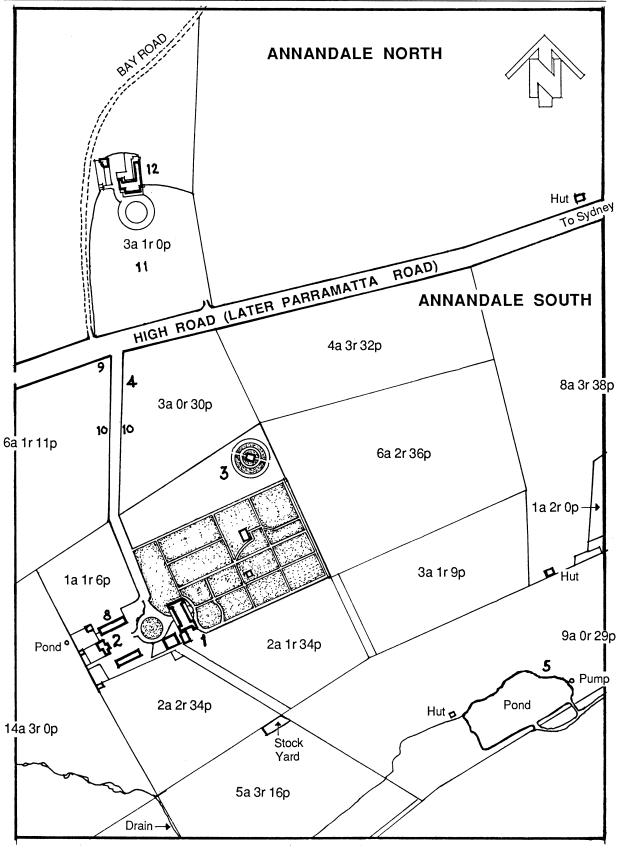
Suburbanisation Begins

Other changes were also happening in and around Annandale. The deeds of the most southern of the Annandale grants – that of 22 acres in 1794 – had been lost by the Johnston family, who thereby lost the land "through the effluxion of

time".³⁰ When the railway line, on which Stanmore Station stands, was built, an arc was resumed which cut through the southern end of the 100-acre grant of 1793. Subsequently the triangular piece of this grant, lying on the south side of the railway line, was subdivided and sold. So, by the 1860s, Annandale had been trimmed and partly industrialised.

At the same time, the area around Annandale was changing from rural to suburban. Up to the 1860s, the main population of Sydney was confined to the present "city centre". There were some suburbs such as Balmain which had water transport to the city and Glebe, Paddington and Redfern which were within walking distance of the city. In the 1856 Census each of these suburbs had populations in excess of 2,000. From then on, the suburban population of Sydney began to grow fast, and within a couple of decades had far surpassed that of the centre of the city. A number of factors were involved, which are too complex to go into here: the physical growth of Sydney's population and the overcrowding of the centre, improvements in transport, and investment and speculation in land and building.

By 1876 the Annandale Estate was part of a changing scene in which neither rural usage nor suburban habitation predominated, but the trend toward the latter was unmistakable. The areas along the railway line were now suburban, as were Camperdown, parts of Glebe, Balmain and Leichhardt. Rural Annandale was complemented by other "manors" such as Toxteth, Helsarmel, Elswick and Garryowen.³¹ But with the erosion of the former rural landscape, the pressures for this trend to become complete were very great. The landscape was no longer as attractive as formerly, and the pressure of people, problems with trespassers and poachers made life less pleasant. On the other hand, the growth of population and residential investment made estates like Annandale extremely valuable real estate.



Detail from Plan of the Annandale Estate in 1843 (See page 27)

1 Annandale House, Garden and Orchard.

2 Yard and "Offices".

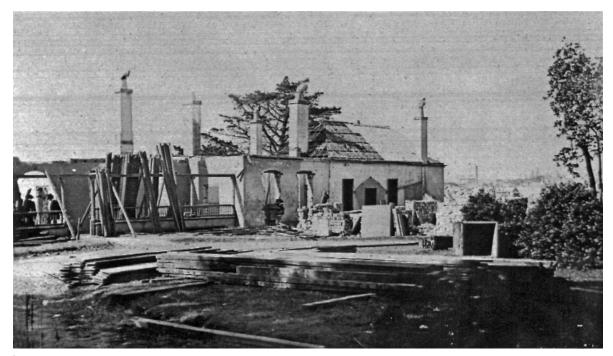
3 "The Family Cemetery.

4 "Annandale Road, later Pine Tree Avenue.

5 Pand and Pump on Johnston's Creek.

- Pond and Pump on Johnston's Creek.

- Beehives.
- Garden House.
- 8 Stables.
- 9 Gates and Gatehouse.
- 10 Avenue of Norfolk Island Pines.
- 11 Garden and Orchard Enclosed
 12 "Cottage and Offices", later Macquarie Lodge.



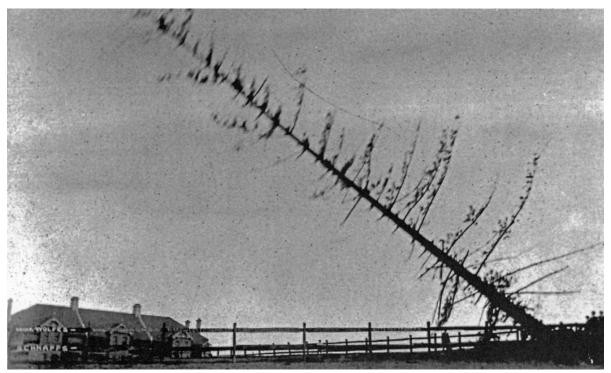
Annandale House being Demolished in 1905 as Seen from the Carriage Loop (?), (Foster Collection, vol 10, p94, RAHS Library)

These factors explain the general circumstances of the strong likelihood that Annandale would soon be subdivided. Other factors relate to Robert Johnston himself. Firstly, he appears to have had some financial difficulties, for between 1870 and 1872 he borrowed £15,000 from William Moffitt. In December 1876 he borrowed a further £15,000 from John Williams.32 The particular purposes of these loans is not known though the second may have been incurred to repay the first. Secondly, he was obliged to pay rates to the Boroughs of Leichhardt and Petersham which had been incorporated simultaneously late in 1871. South Annandale was a part of Petersham and North Annandale was a part of Leichhardt. No member of the Johnston family appears to have played any part in the politics of the incorporation of Leichhardt, such as in signing petitions,³³ but Captain Johnston objected to the amount of his first rate assessment by Leichhardt.34 Thirdly, there may have been some friction within the Johnston family over the inheritance. There is no evidence for this but Robert was 84 in 1876 and his approaching death must have been apparent. The sale of the land and division of the proceeds among his large family may have seemed more equitable than trying to divide the land or willing it to only one member of the family. In the absence of explicit evidence regarding Johnston's decision, the most likely explanation of Robert's decision, to subdivide probably lies in a combination of two factors: financial embarrassment and the opportunity to resolve it with a substantial profit.

North Annandale Subdivided

Still, why did Robert decide to subdivide in 1876, and did he intend to sell all or part of North Annandale? His leasing of a small area at the extreme north end of the estate to the Chemical Copper Works in 1875, for 21 years, suggests either that, at that time, he had no intention of subdividing part only. Perhaps the decision to subdivide was reached suddenly. In any case it would probably have been impractical to subdivide earlier than 1876 because it was not till then that the lease of a third of the North Annandale estate, to the Sydney Salting Co expired. Possibly he intended to subdivide the estate in stages. Another question is whether the Johnstons intended to subdivide and sell the estate in stages, by themselves or dispose of it as a whole.

The course of events during 1876-8, which are beyond doubt, are as follows: in June 1876 Robert Johnston transferred to his son, George Horatio Johnston the title to the part of Annandale bounded by Parramatta Road, Johnston, Collins and Nelson Streets, which he began selling in November 1876. In June 1877 Robert also transferred to his son that part bounded by Collins, Johnston, Booth and Nelson Streets.³⁵ Between November 1876 and October 1877, approximately half the lots were bought by various individuals. A few of these individual lots had been bought by the eminent contractor John Young who, in October 1877, bought the remaining unsold lots from George Horatio, and the residue of the North Annandale estate from Robert Johnston, for £120,996/1/11.36 The legal records give no indication of the negotiations between Young and the two Johnstons which must have preceded such a large transaction. An unsub-



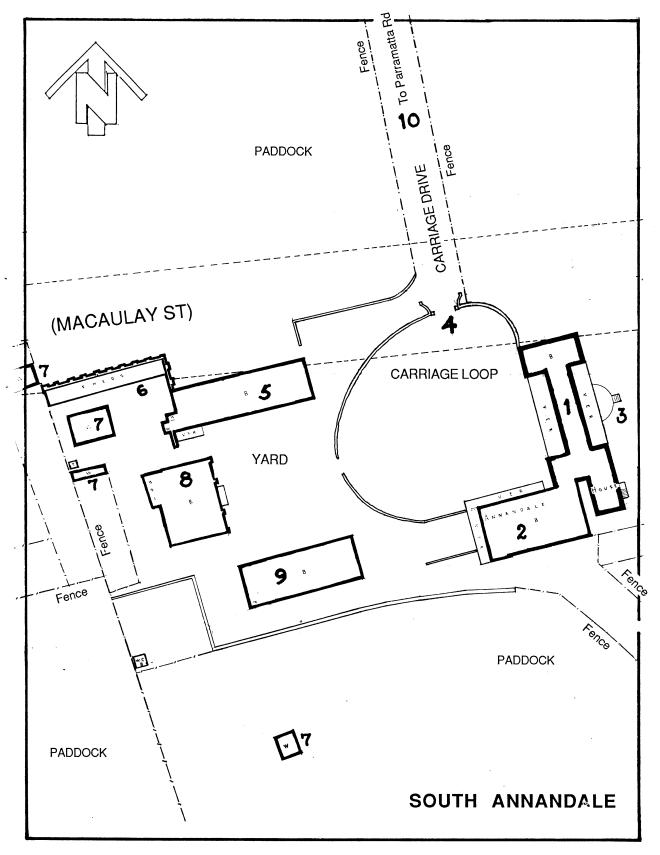
The Last Norfolk Island Pine Tree Falling at South Annandale in about 1904 (Foster Collection, vol 10, p95, RAHS Library

stantiated account, however, records that "Mr Anthony Hordern had the first offer to purchase the lot for £100,000. He looked upon the offer with favour, but requested the agent selling the land to consult Mr John Booth, of Dowling Street, who was the Horderns' advisor in such matters. But the agent, by mistake, consulted Mr John Booth, of Balmain, who, with Mr John Young and another, inspected the land, and they stepped right in and purchased the property".37 Young paid a deposit and mortgaged the land to the vendors, agreeing to pay the full amount by instalments over a period of ten years.³⁸ By December 1877, the Sydney Freehold Land Building and Investment Co Ltd had been formed and registered, of which Young was the second largest shareholder and the Chairman of Directors from its creation until his death in 1907.39 After selling five lots, Young sold his title to the remainder of the land to the Company, which took over the mortgage, in 1878.40 The Company then began to subdivide and sell the estate until its voluntary liquidation, when all the land was sold in 1916. But that is another story.41

Annandale House Demolished

After 1876 the Johnstons still possessed most of the original South Annandale, and now had a large fortune. How the money was distributed after Robert's death is not known. The course of events in the gradual whittling away of South Annandale is known only superficially. After Robert's death in 1882, the fine care of the property and the house was no longer lavished to the same extent. The pines, which had been such a vigorous landmark, grew old and shabby in the 1890s. Gradually South Annandale came to look dilapidated. The pines were cut down in about 1904, the house was demolished in 1905, and the estate subdivided and built on. Building materials from the "14 roomed cottage" were remorselessly catalogued in an auction notice thus: "40 cedar doors, jambs, architraves; 40 cedar boxframes and sashes; Box shutters and Venetian shutters; 12 marble mantels and superior grates; 500 sheets of galvanised tile iron; large cooking range; 6 pairs heavy coach and stable doors; 20 solid louvre frames; Stable and cowshed fittings; 250,000 sandstock bricks".42 But the passing of this tangible link with the colony's earliest days was recorded with regret in several contemporary newspaper articles. One of them noted that "the house was a worthy specimen of the old colonial mansion, the number yet intact of these interesting abodes now becoming smaller and smaller as the years progress".43 Such an appreciative comment at that time is significant in the casting off of the Victorian contempt for things Georgian and in the growing pride and interest in Australia's past that was also manifested in the establishment of the Mitchell Library a couple of years later. Nevertheless the pathetic ring of that comment is even stronger today, when real architectural treasures like Lyndhurst appear destined for destruction like Annandale House.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 34



Detail from Plan of South Annandale in 1889

(Redrawn from Public Works Dept Detail Sheet 486)
1 Annandale House, brick.

- Unknown addition to Annandale House, brick.
- Semicircular Terrace and Steps to Garden. Entry gateposts to Carriage Loop.

- Stables, brick (see photograph, page 26). Sheds, brick (see photograph, page 26). Unknown building, weatherboard. Unknown building, brick. Unknown building, brick. Annandale Rd, (called "Pine Tree Avenue" in SP: A4/43, 30 Nov 1901).

The Johnston family had little to do with the growing suburb of Annandale. One enduring effect they have had is that the street plan adopted by the Company and for which Annandale has a Sydney-wide reputation – was basically set by the small area subdivided by Robert and George Horatio Johnston. Another link, less tangible, is that a Johnston descendant, W J Johnston was Mayor of the Municipality of Annandale in 1937.

This article has attempted to trace the usage of an estate during the century it was owned by the grantee family. Their first job was to clear, build, and create an environment that was both habitable by the standards of late Georgian England and economically profitable. land's value at first lay in what it could produce as a farm. At an unknown date, the economic utilization of North Annandale changed to rent from leases and to slight industrialisation, while that of South Annandale remained residential and agricultural. The years around 1880 mark the major water-shed in Annandale's history: the transformation of North Annandale into a new suburb and the subdividing of South Annandale until it too, as was economically imperative, became a suburb.

EDITOR'S NOTE September 1993

The additional photographs were supplied by the author.

For S Elyard's painting [from the rear] of Annandale House, 18/4/1877, see B Dyster, Servant and Master, Building and Running the Grand Houses of Sydney 1877-1850 (Historic Houses Trust, Sydney 1989), p29.

K J Cable's short biography of Robert Johnston appears in *Leichhardt Hist J*

For reference to North Annandale see A Roberts, "Kentville and the Annandale Bowling Club, in Leichhardt Hist J No 9.

The 1843 plan of the Annandale Estate and the 1889 and 1895 detail survey plans of South Annandale were redrawn by the Editor.

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- ATCJ, 19 Apr 1905.
- Subdivision Plans, Annandale, Z811.1421, SP A4/38, ML.
- The Echo and SMH, op cit. Another account, given by William Freame in the Evening News, 3 Aug 1925, p8, states that "John-ston's Bush" lay to the south of Annandale. The use of this name elsewhere, however, does not invalidate its appropriateness to North Annandale.
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- Soc of Genealogists, Sydney. PA 1794. Also see "Leichhardt", The Echo, 17 July 1890.
- PA 1794.
- LTO, Mem of Lease 17388.
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- pp10-3. 30 "Petersham", Echo, 24 Jul 1890. Sands "Six Mile Circuit Map of the
 - City and Suburbs of Sydney, 1876-7
- 32 LTO, Memoranda of Mortgage 4941,7858, 21469.
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- vol 1, p37. CT 274/44, 284/162. CT 315/134.
- 36 37
- SMH, op cit. 38
- Mem of Mortgage 25701. Memorandum and Rules of the ...
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- 42 SMH, 8 Apr 1905, p18. 43 FW "Annandale House" op cit.

ABBREVIATIONS

- Acre.
- ADBAustralian Dictionary of
- Biography.
- Archives Office of NSW. **AONSW** ATCJ Australian Town and
- Country Journal.
- Bk Old System Register Book (LTO).
- CT Certificate of Title (LTO). DP Deposited Plan, (LTO).
- Detail Survey (Department of Public Works Metropolitan DS
- Detail Series, ML). ISN Illustrated Sydney News.
- LTO Land Titles Office, NSW.
- Mem Memorandum (LTO). ML Mitchell Library, Sydney.
- No Old System Deed Number (LTO).
- Perch.
- PA Primary Application, (LTO). PΙ
 - Probate Index, NSW Supreme Court.
 - Rood.
- **RAHS** Royal Aust Hist Soc. SMHSydney Morning Herald.
- SP Subdivision Plans.

CONVERSION **TABLE**

- 1 link = 8 inches.100 links = 1 chain.
- 1 chain = 66 feet.80 chains = 1 mile.
- 1 sq chain = 4356 sq ft.
- 10 sq chains
- (1 acre) = 43560 sq ft.1 foot (12 inches) = 0.3048 metre. 1 mile = 1.60 kilometres.
- perch $(272.25 \text{ sq ft}) = 25.29 \text{m}^2$.
- $1 \text{ rood } (40 \text{ perches}) = 1011.73 \text{ m}^2.$ 1 acre (4 roods) = 4.046.9m² = 0.40 hectare.
- 1d (penny) = 0.83 cent.1s (shilling = 10 cents. £1(pound = \$2.00.

NOTES AND QUERIES

NAKED IN ROZELLE

It was 1933, and for several years we had been selling, well below cost, stock and crops from our station in north-west New South Wales, and also battling with droughts.

The inevitable end had come, and I was house hunting for the family, in Sydney. The Estate Agent riffled his books. "You want a house, as cheap as possible, somewhere in Sydney", he said. "I have one for a pound a week at Rozelle."

Rozelle, I thought, wherever is that? Anyway I went there, and found the house, and felt I would rather die than live in such surroundings. Most of the women wore some sort of apron in the street, bedroom slippers on their feet, and curlers in their hair.

I myself was gowned (suitable for mid-depression years) in a home-made cotton suit, much bewashed, and a large hat that had once been smart and black, but had recently taken on curious shades of brown and garden.

I wouldn't have rated a second glance at Narrabri, Boggabri, Gunnedah or even Pitt Street but in Rozelle everyone stared at me in helpless astonishment.

You know those dreams where you go to some formal do, and suddenly find you are wearing only panty-hose and singlet? That is how the Rozelle populace quite wordlessly made me feel.

I staggered to the nearest tram, and fled.

Maureen Greene.

LILYFIELD

HOW WAS ITS NAME DERIVED?

Mr M G Horsley writes:

"The earliest use of the name that I have been able to find is the appearance in the 1893 Sands Directory of Lilyfield Post Office at 53 Lamb Street, Leichhardt: this must be fairly close to where the present post office is. Robert Ralph, draper, was the postmaster. A few years earlier in 1887, we may assume (Sands records this) he was at 21 Brougham Street, Glebe; but a Brownrigg's 1850 Parish map seems to show that a Ralph held 50 acres close by, adjoining F Lloyd's 50 acres and Garryowen - and this is the Lilyfield area.

1893, when the name first appears in Sands, (and I realise that publication dates of Sands could be at least a few years out of date) was about seven years after the subdivision of Garryowen started; and possibly the subdivision of the adjoining Ralph and Lloyd areas of Brownrigg's map occurred at about the same time. A conveyance dated 1896 (relative to land in the Orange Grove Estate) describes one of the parties as Robert Millett of Lilyfield, Leichhardt: so the locality name had become established.

The GPO tells me that the name Lilyfield was in existence before the post office was established there. They have no record of why the name was originally chosen".

Mr Bill Graham has heard three accounts of the origin of the name, but has not yet been able to verify any of them:

A 92-year old man told Bill a few years ago that there was originally an estate, owned by a man called Lily, which was known as Lily's

- Field, and hence Lilyfield.
- 2 That a man grew lilies there, and people would say "Let's go over to the lily field and buy lilies".
- That the name was given by the government to the new terminus when it extended the tramway from Johnston Street to present-day Lilyfield.

If any reader has information on this point, please inform one of the Editors.

HAUNTED HOUSE

Does anyone know about the Haunted House, on the corner of White and Piper Streets, Leichhardt? Legend has it that it was built as a hotel, but the owner committed suicide because he didn't get a licence or because Johnston Street became the major road and not his street.

Charlie Ivory remembers that when he was a boy, it had no floor and no roof. Ted Warden stables his trotters there and raced them at Epping. His horses included Prince Charming and Tarana, and the feed and harness room was located in the original stables which have been used, since 1929, by F J Hickey Pty Ltd, Carriers.

The main building was then used by Regal Sprays, and for the last 30-odd years it has been leased from the Perpetual Trustee Co by Australian Consolidated Press. It has just been sold.

CORRECTION

In the first paragraph of the article "Robert James Stuart-Robertson", in the first issue of this *Journal*, it is stated that his parents were married in the 1830s. This should read the 1850s.

HORSLEY, PART 1

Mr Bert Weston has published "Horsley, Part 1" in The 1788-1820 Gazette, pp4-5. Horsley, classified A by the National Trust, was the home of Captain George Edward Nicholas Weston, whose father-in-law was Colonel George Johnston of Annandale.

JOHNSTON RELICS

Two Johnston relics have recently come to light. The original gates of Annandale House have been located in the Liverpool City Council's Rose Street depot, in storage. Leichhardt Council is trying to obtain these gates for re-erection in Annandale as part of the municipal centenary celebrations.

Recent work on the Queen Victoria Hospital for Women in Albion Street has revealed that Macquarie Lodge, one of the Johnston houses, is substantially It appears that the intact. central block, facing Albion Street, dates from c1830, and the two adjoining wings which project at the front probably date from the 1850s. This was discovered after Alan Roberts' article, which appears in this issue, was written.

EDITOR'S NOTES September 1993

Lilyfield

The Ralph mentioned as owning 50 acres near Garryowen was not the same as Postmaster Ralph. See K Leong, "Garry Owen and Callan Park", in Leichhardt Hist J, No 14.

The tramway was extended from Short Street, Leichhardt, to Darley Road Leichhardt, on 10 December 1887 and from thence to Balmain Road Leichhardt on 6 May 1912. There is no mention of the name Lily-field. See D R Keenan, Tramways of Sydney (Transit Press, Sydney, 1979), p69.

I have not been able to add anything more on the derivation of the name Lilyfield.

Haunted House

There was never any question that White Street would have competed with Johnston Street as the main road. There was, however, a short-lived scheme to build a tramway along the banks of White's Creek. See A Roberts, The Development of the Suburb of Annandale, 1876-1889 (BA Hons Thesis, Univ of Sydney, 1970),

Epping Racecourse was one of the early names for the Harold Park Paceway. Lilybridge Race-course was an earlier name. See M Quinn, Leichhardt Hist J No 3, p17.

Johnston Relics See A Roberts, "The Annandale Gates re-erected", in *Leichhardt Hist J* No 7.

The Queen Victoria Hospital for Women was known as the Holy Family Convent, 61 Albion Street, in 1990.

Officer of the Leg Council; and produced by Mr JL McCall of the Leg Council.

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- 4368-3 Macarthur Papers Descriptive List.
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LYNDHURST 1 ITS HISTORY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

- Several articles have been published, giving brief histories (with some errors) and photographs of Lyndhurst. They include a) Michael Richardson "Lyndhurst Goes to The Dogs", Antiques and Art, Australasia, vol 2, No 8, April 1972, p1; b) The Glebe Society Bulletin, No 9, 1971 and No 3, 1972; c) Bernard Smith "A House With a History", Smith "A House with a History, SMH, 26 February 1972, p20; d) (Lindsay Smith) "Historic Home to Meet Tragic End", The Glebe, 27 January 1972, p7; e) C O'Carrigan "Lyndhurst ... Is It Worth It?", The Union Recorder (Uni of Sydney), 13 April 1972, p72.
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LYNDHURST 2 ITS ARCHITECTURE

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LYNDHURST 3 ITS FURNITURE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19

- Bowman Papers (Macarthur Papers, Part 6) ML A4262.
- Furniture inventories of Elizabeth Farm, Government House, Sydney, and Government House, Parramatta, can be found in the Mitchell Library.
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- Bowman Papers (Macarthur Papers, Part 6) ML A4290. 4 July 1874.