

SA Heritage Register

Nomination form

HERITAGE SA

29 MAR 2021

RECEIVED

South Australian
HERITAGE COUNCIL

To help your nomination be successful, please fill out this form with as much information as possible.
Feel free to expand the answer fields as much as you require or append information to the form.

Please note that places which have been nominated during past three years will not be reconsidered by the South Australian Heritage Council unless you can provide significant new information not provided through the previous nomination and assessment.

For assistance with this form you may contact:

Your local historical society or heritage adviser may be of assistance OR you may telephone an assessment officer in Heritage South Australia on (08) 8124 4960.

A. Nominated Place

1. Name	
Name of Place / Object:	"Wattle Hills"
Any other or former name(s):	currently named Brentwood Park
Is the place already on another heritage list?	Register of Historic Places (ID# 4074) National Trust South Australia

2. Location					
Street Address:	5515 Main South Road				
	Suburb / Town:	WATTLE FLAT	Post Code:	5203	
Local Council Name:	YANKALILLA				
Land Description: (if known)	Title:	Volume:	Folio:	Parcel Type:	Parcel No:
	<u>Memorial Book No 409</u>				
	Plan Type:	Plan No:	Section:	Hundred:	
			<u>495</u>	<u>MYPONGA</u>	
GPS Location/s: (If known)	Longitude / Easting / X		Latitude / Northing / Y (Datum =)		

3. Ownership	
Name of Owner(s):	
Contact person: (if different from owner explain relationship)	
Postal Address:	Street Address:
	Suburb / Town: Post Code:
Phone Number:	
Ownership History:	

4. Nominator	
Your Name/s:	
Organisation/Position:	
Daytime Phone:	
Fax:	-

SA Heritage Register

Nomination form

South Australian
HERITAGE COUNCIL

Postal Address:	Street Address:
	Suburb / Town: Post Code:
Email Address:	

SA Heritage Register

Nomination form

South Australian
HERITAGE COUNCIL

B. Description

5. Description of nominated place or object	
Description of the nominated place or object and its current condition:	Original 'one up one down' stone and render homestead built 1838 when my great grandfather John Clarke squatted on Section 495, in excellent condition, added to in 1850s after he had made money at Victorian goldfields. Photos included in this submission. Added section also stone render, inhabited, in excellent condition, photos included in this submission, labelled on back. Apparently the cellar remains and is also usable. The stables (described on map as cowshed) down by Main South Road are also stone and render, some original iron roofing, but looking a bit neglected.
Are you aware of any modifications or additions to the place or object? Can you provide dates for these changes?	All of the interior of the house has been modernised – outside good original condition. I understand some original features remain inside the farmhouse. (Ceilings, exposed portions of stone walls etc). Older 1838 building appears to be in most original condition & well preserved.
Do you believe there may be historical items under the ground? Should an archaeological investigation be considered?	Quite possibly – their rubbish had to go somewhere!
Date you inspected the place or object:	I drive past frequently.
Have you had any contact with the Owner?	I advised the owners of my application for National Trust listing by letter and phone message & invited comment but received no reply.
Current use of the place or object:	Working farm.
Original or former use(s):	
Are there any current or long term threats to the nominated place or object?	The stables, which are small but beautiful, look in need of rather urgent restoration. Other stone sheds on the property of which I am unaware may also be in similar condition. <i>? Woodshed.</i>
Name of Builder:	John & Catherine Clarke
Any other information:	

C. History

6. Origins and history	
Years of Construction:	Start: 1838 Finish: 1850s
Name of Designer / Architect:	John and Catherine Clarke

SA Heritage Register

Nomination form

South Australian HERITAGE COUNCIL

<p>History of the nominated place or object:</p>	<p>John Clarke, from Rowalston Ireland, arrived in SA in 1836 aboard the Tam O'Shanter, See attached letter written by his son James Clarke. He attended the Proclamation Ceremony, and in 1838 squatted on Section 495 Hundred of Myponga until he could purchase it in 1848. He is said to be the first Caucasian inhabitant of the area, and learned much from the local aboriginal tribe about their interpretation of the seasons, edible food, the location of water etc. Governor Hindmarsh, whom he knew from Adelaide, is said to have visited Wattle Hills before departing the colony in 1838, naming "Lovely Valley" on his way – he then visited Arthur Lindsay at Glen Lindsay and Encounter Bay. (I am seeking personal journals of Gov Hindmarsh & Arthur Lindsay to verify this but have had no luck so far. I note a Heritage Council member has the name of Deborah Lindsay and wonder whether she may be related. Arthur Lindsay also squatted on his land in 1838.) In 1840 John Clarke married Catherine Taggart who arrived in the colony on the William Nichol, in Holy Trinity Church and they lived at Wattle Hills, Wattle Flat all their lives, having 13 children 11 of whom survived to adulthood. John was a founding member and later chairman of the Myponga Council, which reverted to the Yankalilla council in the 1860s and the first JP in the area. After John and his son Thomas successfully mined for gold in Victoria in the early 1850s there was sufficient money to extend the farmhouse; he also bought much more land in Wattle Flat, Myponga, Yankalilla and NT, and the part town acre 188 in Adelaide. The farmhouse was used for Catholic church services – mass, christenings and weddings – before and sometimes after St Peters Catholic church was built at Normanville in 1858. Sometimes when the priest from Morphett Vale was detained, John would conduct services. A hot lunch was provided for all attendees. John gave stone and building materials and lent his bullock wagon (purchased from Tasmania in 1838) to build St Peters Church.</p>
<p>Historical sources used to support your nomination: Please attach copies of pages from publications or newspaper articles as appropriate.</p>	<p>1.To Find the Way, R F Williams Pages 59, 60 & 241. 2.Essay: To What Extent did John Clarke's Leadership & Legacy Contribute to the Growth of the Yankalilla District - Caitlin Prentice 2016 – copy including Bibliography attached. 3.St Peter's Catholic Church Normanville 1858-2008 David Salkeld 4.Letter of James Clarke 8th child of John and Catherine Clarke 5.Inclusion in the Time Capsule at St Peter's Church, Normanville collated by Rae Clarke, Box 163 Pt Lincoln from articles collected by Hazel Clarke.</p>

+ Know of any journals.

D. Heritage Significance

7. Statement of State Significance - Why is the place or object important to South Australia?	
It is of State heritage significance because	It is an old house, with stables, as early as any in the state, and well preserved – possibly the oldest in the Yankalilla area – and steeped in the history of the rural development of the area, (see attached essay by Caitlin Prentice) as well as having spiritual significance for the descendants of families who attended church and were married/baptised there. John, having experienced all the hardships of those first colonists, became an important and influential landowner in the district in his time. (See attached articles).

8. Significance Criteria	
The South Australian <i>Heritage Places Act 1993</i> lists seven criteria by which places are assessed as 'State significant.' Please tick the criteria you feel the place demonstrates and explain your reasons.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> It demonstrates important aspects of the evolution or pattern of the State's history.	This substantial farmhouse still exists as an example of those built in the earliest settlement of our State. It evolved into a larger home when funds derived from the Victorian Goldfields were available in the 1850s and continues as a working, viable farm. I would like to see the stables down by Main South Road better preserved as they are looking fragile.
<input type="checkbox"/> It has rare, uncommon or endangered qualities that are of cultural significance.	
<input type="checkbox"/> It may yield information that will contribute to an understanding of the State's history, including its natural history.	
<input type="checkbox"/> It is an outstanding representative of a particular class of places of cultural significance.	
<input type="checkbox"/> It demonstrates a high degree of creative, aesthetic or technical accomplishment or is an outstanding representative of particular construction techniques or design characteristics.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> It has strong cultural or spiritual associations for the community or a group within it.	The home was used for Catholic church services for colonists in the district, until the construction of St Peters Catholic Church, Normanville, in 1858, and sometimes afterwards. The home would be of significance to descendants of those who were baptised/married there, and who attended the church services. John was significant contributor to the construction of St Peter's Church (detailed earlier). He sometimes conducted services at his home when the priest was delayed/unavailable.

SA Heritage Register

Nomination form

South Australian
HERITAGE COUNCIL

It has a special association with the life or work of a person or organisation or an event of historical importance.

It was both the life and work of John & Catherine Clarke, earliest settlers in the Wattle Flat region, who built the first section of the home, a one up one down, then added to it as funds became available from the goldfields in the 1850s. John became a successful grazier and landowner in the district, and as said before, a JP and member and chairman of the Myponga council when it existed.

E. Additional Information

9. Images/Maps/Diagrams/Site Plans

A full range of images including maps, site plans, and photographs will help your nomination.

Please provide:

- a clear outline of the place or object being nominated within any maps or plans provided
- high quality images of the place or object (please list the total number of images being provided)
- the subject of each image
- the date each image was created
- the author of each image, and
- the copyright holder of each image (if known)

Paste images here:

Photographs of the farmhouse, stables, and interior plan authored by Harcourt Brock Williams, for the last sale of the property in 2012, and who stated in the advertising spiel that the house was circa 1836. I don't actually know the movements of my great grandfather 1836-1838 – he may have gone to the Wattle Flat area before 1838. The photographs, labelled on the backs, are in enclosed envelope.

SA Heritage Register

Nomination form

South Australian HERITAGE COUNCIL

[Large empty box for nomination details]

The South Australian Heritage Council is committed to transparency in relation to the listing process and wishes to enhance public confidence in the nomination, listing and decision-making process. The Council's policy is to make nominations for State heritage listing and submissions on provisional entries publicly available via webpage or to interested parties. The Council will adhere to the Privacy Principles and your name and personal details will not be released.

I/we, :
to be heritage listed.

nominate 'Wattle Mills' now
Brentwood Park
5515 Main South Rd
Wattle Flat. S.A. 5203.
23-3-2021.

Nomination Form Checklist

Please check that your nomination includes:

- A clear indication of the location of the place or object (including map/s). Where a number of features are nominated, show the location of each and/or a boundary surrounding the significant elements of the site.
- A history of the place or object explaining important aspects relevant to the nomination.
This should generally help support arguments of cultural significance.
- A clear description of the nominated place or object/s.
- A statement of significance and indication on how the place or object satisfies one or more of the significance criteria.
- Have you taken the opportunity to discuss the nomination with a heritage assessment officer? It is strongly advised you to do so prior to submitting this nomination.

Email: DEWHeritage@sa.gov.au

Post: Executive Officer, South Australian Heritage Council

Department for Environment and Water

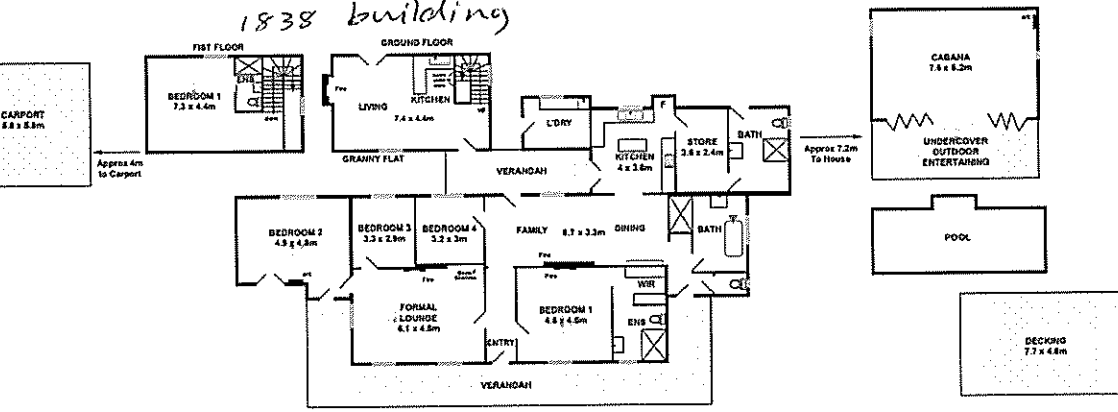
GPO Box 1047, Adelaide SA 5001

near
main south
Kd.



Larger plan in plastic sleeve

1838 building





1838 building prior renovation.

I don't know the date of this photo.

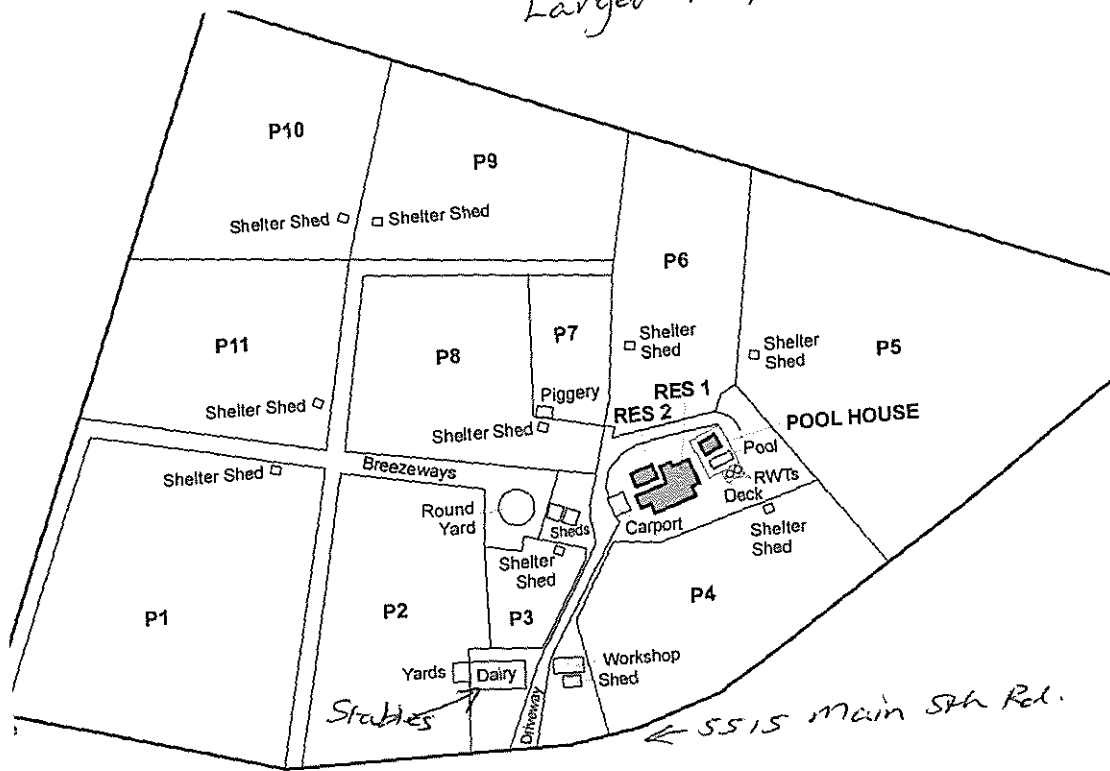
Wattle Hills Heritage application.



1838 building from east as it stands today.

Wattle Mills heritage application

Larger map in plastic sleeve

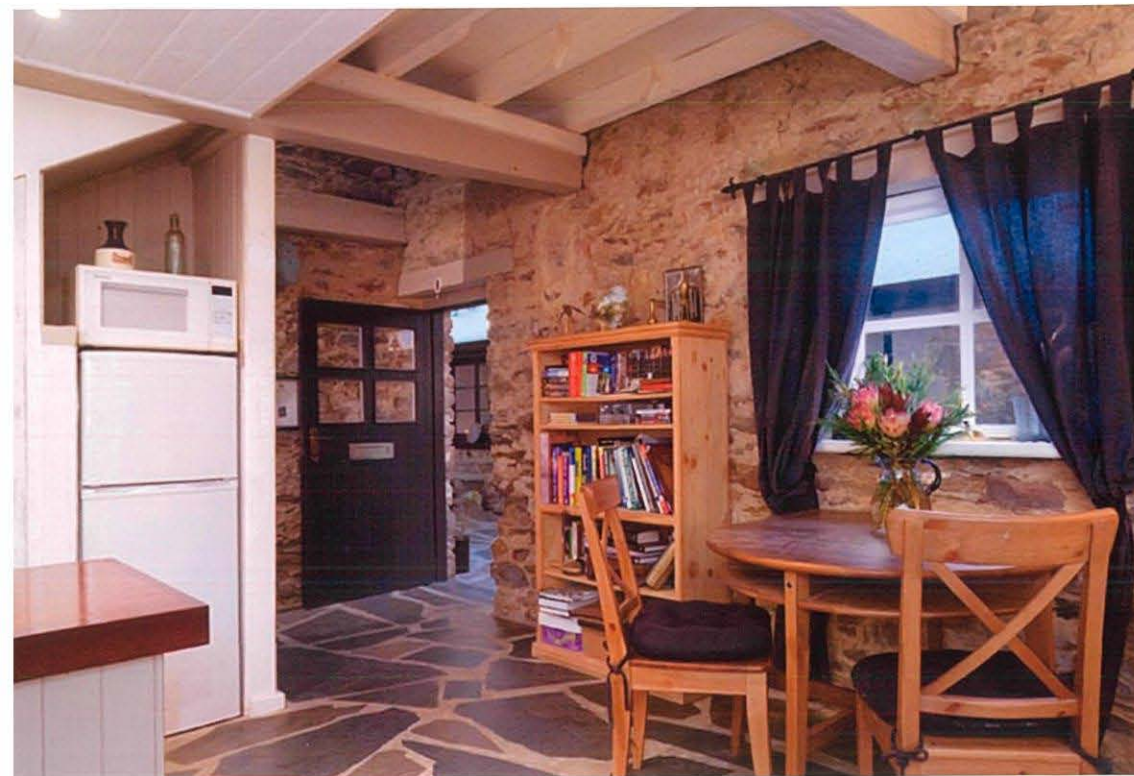


'Wattle Hills' Heritage application



1838 Farmhouse on right, looking east.

Wattle Hills heritage application



Ground Floor 1838 farmhouse.

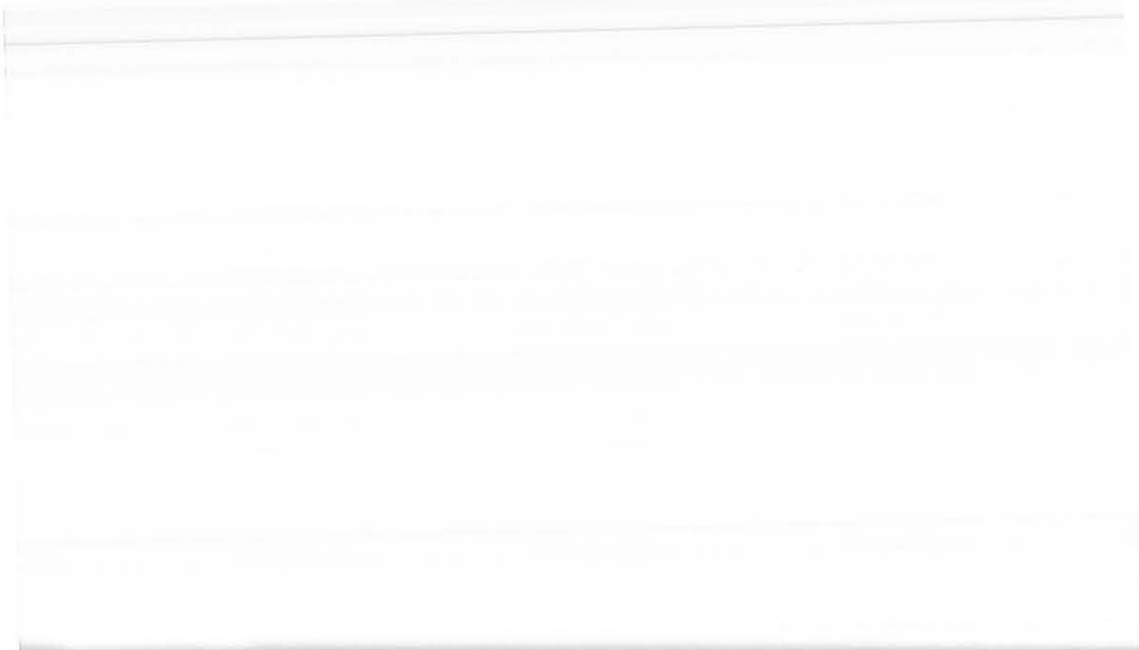
Wattle Hills Heritage application.



Aerial view, 1838 building to back left.

Wattle Mills Heritage application.





Front of 1850's addition

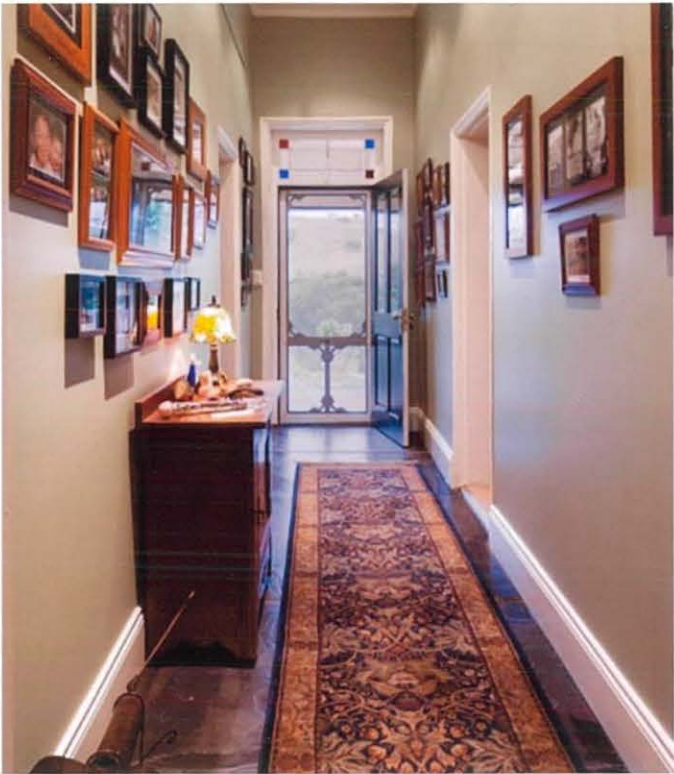
Wattle Hills Heritage application.





→ \$ addition.

→ Little Hills Heritage application.



1850's addition hallway

Wattle Mills Heritage application.



Present condition of stables by main
South Rd.

Wattle Mills Heritage application.



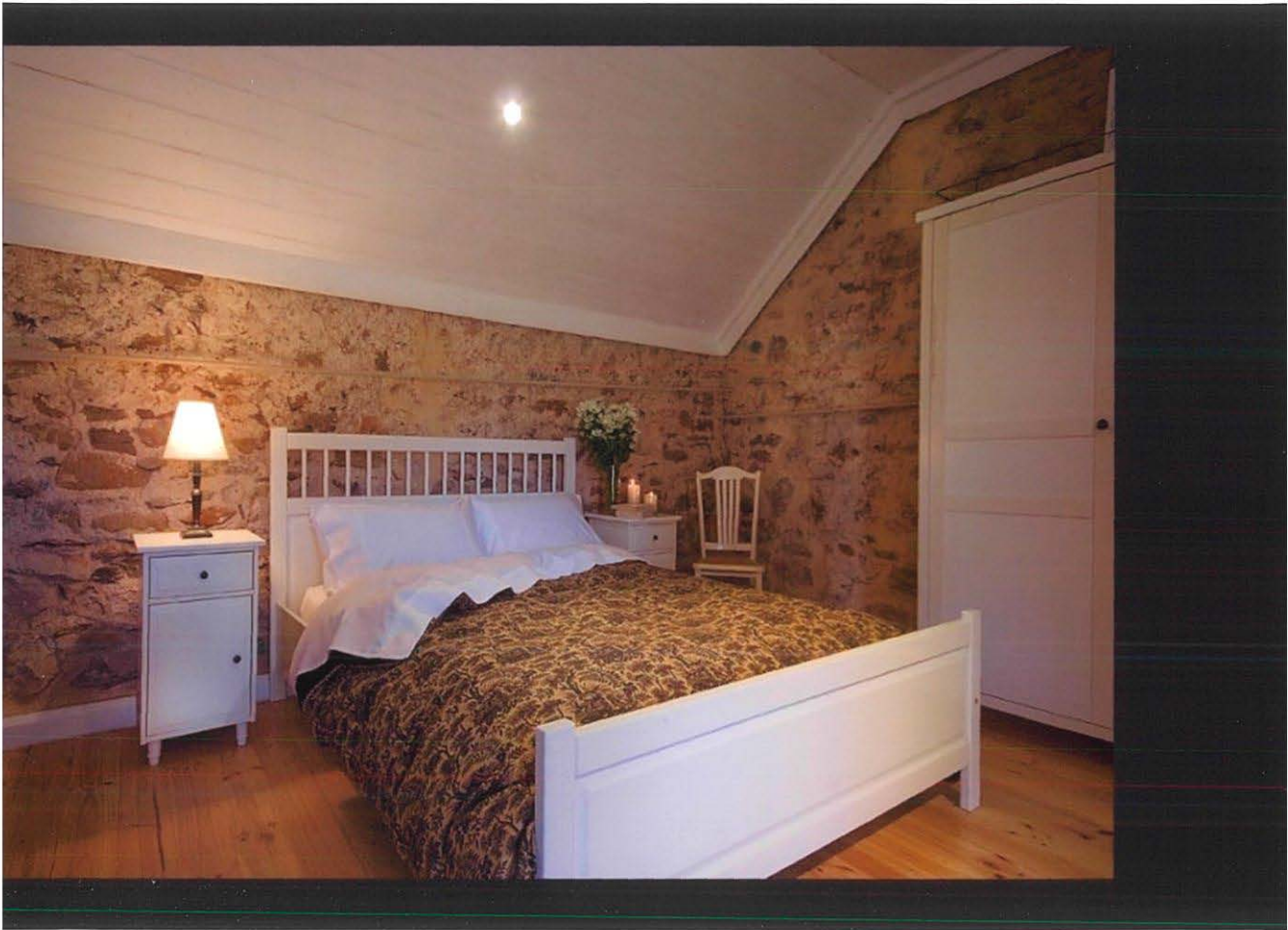
Front gate.

Wattle Hills Heritage application.



1st floor 1838 farmhouse

Wattle Hills Heritage application



· Bedroom 1838 home

Wattle Hills Heritage application.



Stables by Main South Rd.

Wattle Hills Heritage application.



Wattle Mills Heritage application.

Bedroom, 1850s addition.



1838 Farmhouse ground floor.

Wattle Mills Heritage application



Wattle Mills Heritage application.

Lounge of 1850s addition.



Southern wall of stables looking towards
Main South Road.

Wattle Hills Heritage application.



Looking towards 1838 house from
southerly direction.

Wattle Hills Heritage application.

To What Extent Did John Clarke's Leadership and Legacy Contribute to the Growth of the Yankalilla District?

John Clarke left Ireland in 1836 and became the first white resident in Wattle Flat (Williams, 1986). He initially survived in a tent on a diet of native animals, but later raised a family of 13 children and established himself as a wealthy land owner. Clarke embodied the pioneering spirit and became a community leader assisting the growth of the district. His leadership gathered a group of Catholic pioneer farmers who literally cultivated the district's expanding agricultural sector (Salkeld, 2016). Clarke was a leader in public life and his actions led to the development of the local economy and contributed to the wellbeing of early settlers (Morgan, 2016). Whilst Clarke's leadership made an important contribution to the growth of the Yankalilla district in its early years, his massive dream for the potential of the district could not be completed throughout his lifetime. Since his death, Clarke's descendants and the local community inspired by his vision, continue his legacy. Many believe that Clarke's leadership and legacy made a significant contribution to the growth of the Yankalilla District, although Clarke's story remains largely unknown in South Australia and he lacks recognition as an influential pioneer.

John Clarke's leadership of Catholic pioneer farmers resulted in the development of a community necessary for the post-colonial growth of the Yankalilla district. Due to multifactorial setbacks in Ireland during the 1850s, the district witnessed significant immigration of Irish farmers, eager for a new beginning. As Clarke had lived in the district for approximately 10 years, the new arrivals looked to him for guidance (Salkeld, 2016). Clarke utilised his connections, wealth and energy to develop the community. When many of the pioneers sought the emotional comforts of home, Clarke supported them in a faith-filled community. He welcomed them to his home for Mass and a hot meal before a Church was built in Willunga, organising for a priest to travel from Morphett Vale to preside (Williams, 1986). Occasionally when there was no priest, Clarke performed the rituals of communion service and is known to have performed baptisms and marriages (Salkeld, 2008). Using his connections with Bishop Murphey, Clarke led the movement to build St Peter's Catholic Church, Normanville, providing building and transportation materials (Salkeld, 2016). Clarke's leadership in the creation of a Church clearly contributed to a fledgling sense of unity which he nurtured. His tireless work made the district more attractive to Irish Catholic pioneers, knowing they would not be so isolated in their ventures. As such, Clarke's mentoring and efforts where "he fed the hungry and clothed the poor", increased the number of Irish Pioneers whose agricultural backgrounds were vital for the growth of the district (Anon., 1890). They adapted their rural knowledge and skills to develop the most important sector of the Yankalilla district, agriculture. Practically, the community Clarke fostered assisted the pioneers through difficult periods for the benefit of the district, instead

of moving to more profitable districts as some did during the 1870s (Salkeld, 2016). I attended Good Friday Mass in St Peter's Church Normanville this year and witnessed the Church is well maintained and observed a strong and resilient functioning parish. John Clarke's leadership in the Catholic Community, can be seen in the sound buildings and thriving parish life of this community today.

Clarke's leadership in Yankalilla public life was extremely beneficial for the growth of the district. In 1856 Clarke accepted a request by the Myponga community to become a forming member of the District Council of Myponga (Trove, 1856). In 1864 he became the Chairman of the Council and only resigned from this position due to age regulations (Clarke & Clarke, 2016). In council, Clarke championed many initiatives, including a transcontinental railway to transport the district's produce, increasing trade and employment possibilities (Trove, 1887). By becoming the first Justice of the Peace in the district, Clarke oversaw legal and official processes that otherwise would have occurred in Adelaide, increasing the district's independence. Clarke also assisted organisation of community fundraising events, the proceeds of which were directed towards local schools (Trove, 1928). The education of the district's children was vital to keep families in the area and for the future prosperity of the district. In supporting these social services, Clarke assisted the wellbeing of the early settlers. As an isolated community, it was important that the pioneers could rely upon each other for support during difficult periods and for companionship (Morgan, 2016). Family events and meetings were the perfect opportunity for people to meet and form relationships. Thus, Clarke's actions in forming a strong, resilient community were vital for the viability of the Yankalilla District.

Initially, Clarke's interactions with the local Aboriginal people were turbulent as retold in memoir notes of his son, James Clarke circa 1880-1930. Clarke's son, Thomas was kidnapped by a group of Aboriginal people who were in need of food. Thomas was returned and Clarke provided them with food and clothing and then informed them that they were welcome to his home if in need (Clarke, n.d.). A similar conflict occurred later with another family, however, Clarke intervened and peacefully resolved it, establishing a trusting relationship with the Aboriginal people of the area (most likely to have been the Kurna People according to the Tindale Map – Figure 1). Clarke gained important geographical information from local Aborigines, such as local food, water sources and seasonal weather patterns needed to understand the strengths and limitations of the land (Clarke, n.d.). This information helped others to develop prosperous businesses, necessary for the growth of the district.

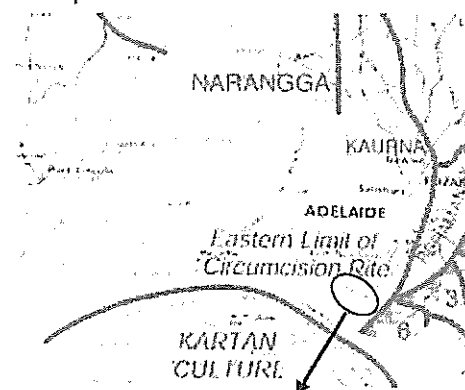


Figure 1 Tribal Boundaries in Aboriginal Australia (Tindale, 1974). Yankalilla lies in the region of the Kurna People.

Clarke created his own large successful grazing business, owning 25 rural sections of land in the Myponga District Council, 4 allotments at Myponga and some land in the Northern Territory (Clarke, 2008). As 'agriculture... provided the impetus for settlement in the Yankalilla area', Clarke assisted the birth of what is the district's most valuable sector today (Yankalilla Area School, 1986). Clarke's successful grazing business attracted interest to the district, inspired new settlers, created employment opportunities, provided food and brought money to the local economy (Clarke & Clarke, 2016). His work in this area led to a section of land in the Myponga district being named Clarke Hill. Clarke's enthusiastic work in the public life of Yankalilla was extremely important in developing the district.

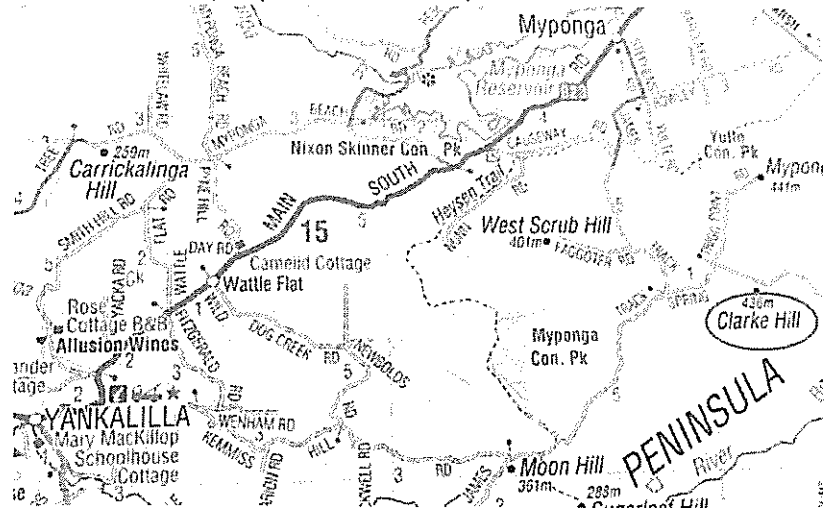


Figure 2 Depicts Clarke's Hill (RAA, n.d.)

Whilst Clarke made a significant impact in the district, his dreams for its potential could not be realised in one lifetime. His descendants and others in the community worked to continue to fulfil his vision and realise the district's potential. At the 150th celebrations of St Peter's Catholic Church at Normanville, Bishop Greg O'Kelly highlighted how the legacy of pioneers continues today. O'Kelly honoured the pioneers' work, recognising the importance of their actions in inspiring others to continue celebrating their faith (O'Kelly, 2008). Similarly, Mr David Salkeld, a current leader at St Peter's Church, believes the legacy of Clarke and other pioneers is significant in driving the community today. He stated that "today's Catholic community draws strength from the knowledge of its pioneers and in keeping with broad Christian principles, involves itself in combined denominational programs aimed at supporting the less well off in the wider local population" (Salkeld, 2016). Consequently, the Normanville Catholic Community contributes to the viability of the district as it continues Clarke's generosity by working to support those in need in the wider local population. The community also continues providing strength to one another through their faith and relationships. Clarke's descendants are now involved in various Christian Churches where their work assists the formation of resilient and welcoming communities, necessary for a prosperous future (Lush, 1979). Clarke's descendants remain involved in the community by working in the council and continuing family farms. Many descendants were at the forefront of council initiatives including implementing programs to assist preserve the environment (Trove, 1978). These will assist the district's tourism sector - a major source of future income. The continuation of the family farm

in the district continues supporting the local economy. The fact that multiple descendants have created businesses in this sector greatly contributes to supplying food and employment for others in the district and the state. The discovery of Uranium at Wild Dog Creek by Clarke's grandsons, W.F and J.J Wenham, brought publicity and revenue to the district with the South Australian mines department extracting 340 tonnes of ore 1953-55 (Williams, 1986). Clarke's generous spirit was also continued by the work of his son George and his wife Ellen, who were involved in caring for orphans of the district. Mr and Mrs Ken and Rae Clarke, descendants of John Clarke, today also reflect with pride, claiming that "Clarke...inspired...his grandchildren... to continue his work ethic and of particular note..." were those who fought and lost their lives in war to ensure the future of the district (Clarke & Clarke, 2016). Conversely, member of the Yankalilla Historical Society, Mr Bob Fairchild believes that war did not contribute to the district as men were removed from farms and during that period, the local economy suffered due to a lower workforce (Salkeld, 2016). As the district was not involved in weapons manufacture he views war as a hindrance to the growth of district. Whilst in the short-term, war may have not been beneficial for the district, Yankalilla is clearly proud of its heroes who fought for a peaceful future as evidenced by the local War Memorial and Jetty Road Memorial Trees, planted by Mr R Clarke, a descendant of Clarke (Russo, 2015). Whilst Clarke's dreams were only partially realised in his lifetime, his legacy has greatly contributed to the district's growth and viability through the work of his descendants.

Despite the achievements of Clarke and his descendants, there is controversy surrounding how significantly Clarke contributed to the growth of the Yankalilla District, as he remains unrecognised in wider South Australia. Books on South Australian history and its pioneers fail to recognise Clarke. *Pastoral Pioneers of SA* contains 300 biographies of this state's pioneers and colonists and is believed to be the 'most comprehensive collection of biographies ever produced in relation to the pastoral industry of any state' (Cockburn, 1974). Clarke however, does not make a single entry. As a direct descendant of Clarke, I was unaware of his actions and legacy until researching my family tree this year. Clarke made a significant contribution to the growth of the district and it is disappointing such pioneers are not well documented. Books such as *Pastoral Pioneers of SA* overlook the contributions of *all* the pioneers who worked for benefit of state. Rather, the author selected the pioneers whom he considered to have made the most outstanding contribution to the state. As Clarke was also raising a large family, he was unable to dedicate all of his time to realising his dream. Even then his vision for the growth of the district required a massive amount of work that could only be completed by a dedicated group of pioneers, descendants and others inspired by Clarke to continue his legacy. Whilst Clarke was able to make a significant contribution to the district, it is clear that to fulfil his desires, his work will need to be continued by future generations.

Through his leadership and legacy, John Clarke worked tirelessly to realise some of his dreams for the potential of the Yankalilla District. Perhaps because he worked for the betterment of others and did not seek self-promotion his contribution was minimised with time. His vision for the district was enormous, making it extremely difficult to realise all of his aspirations within his lifetime.

Nevertheless, he contributed to the formation of a strong Catholic Community which is continuing to benefit the lives of residents and visitors. Additionally, he contributed to public life where he improved the local economy. Clarke bequeathed a lasting legacy and continues to be a positive role model for his descendants and the local community who continue to work towards realising his dreams. Although Clarke is not officially recognised as a South Australian Pioneer, it is clear that through his leadership and legacy, he has made a significant contribution to the growth of the Yankalilla district. Hopefully other researchers will uncover similar unsung stories of the many intrepid pioneers who emigrated to our fledging settlement to establish a new colony, which was so unfamiliar compared to the homeland they knew. Such stories need to be documented to bring a depth of understanding to our own State's history.

Bibliography

- Anon., 1890. *Gravestone of John Clarke*. Normanville, South Australia, Australia: St Peter's Church.
- Clarke, J., n.d. *Personal Memoir of John Clarke*. :Clarke Family History Documents.
- Clarke, R., 2008. *John Clarke and Catherine Taggart*, Normanville: Time Capsule at St Peter's Church.
- Clarke, R. & Clarke, K., 2016. *The Leadership and Legacy of John Clarke in the Yankalilla District* [Interview] (15 March 2016).
- Cockburn, R., 1974. *Pastoral Pioneers of SA*. Blackwood: Lynton Publications.
- Lush, A., 1979. *Churches of the Fleurieu Peninsula*. Yankalilla: Yankalilla and District Historical Society Inc..
- Morgan, M., 2016. *The Impact of John Clarke's Leadership and Legacy on the Yankalilla District* [Interview] (20 April 2016).
- O'Kelly, G., 2008. *Speech for St Peter's Church Normanville Sesiquicentenary Celebrations*, Normanville, SA, Australia: St Peter's Church Billboard.
- RAA, n.d. *SA Regional Road Map*. Australia: s.n.
- Russo, S., 2015. "Clark's Living Roll of Honour" Centenary at Normanville. *Yankalilla Regional News*, November, p. 29.
- Salkeld, D., 2008. *St Peter's Catholic Church, Normanville: from its foundation to the celebration of its sesquicentenary, 1858-2008*. Australia: Yankalilla Historical Society.
- Salkeld, D., 2016. *John Clarke and the St Peter's Catholic Community* [Interview] (10 4 2016).

Tindale, N., 1974. *Aboriginal Tribes of Australia*.

<http://www.samuseum.sa.gov.au/collections/information-resources/archives/catalog-of-australian-aboriginal-tribes> ed. s.l.:South Australian Museum

Trove, 1856. District of Myponga. *South Australian Register*, 25 July, p. 3.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/49757145> [accessed 24 March 2016].

Trove, 1887. To Correspondents: John Clarke. *The Express and Telegraph*, 5 July, p. 2.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/207694171?searchTerm=john%20clarke&searchLimits=l-state=South+Australia||l-title=1093||l-decade=188||l-year=1887||l-month=7> [accessed 23 March 2016]

Trove, 1928. Yankalilla in 1858. *The Victor Harbour Times and Encounter Bay and Lower Murray Pilot*, 25 May, p. 1.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/167134980?searchTerm=council%20yankalilla%20john%20clarke&searchLimits=l-state=South+Australia> [accessed 27 March 2016]

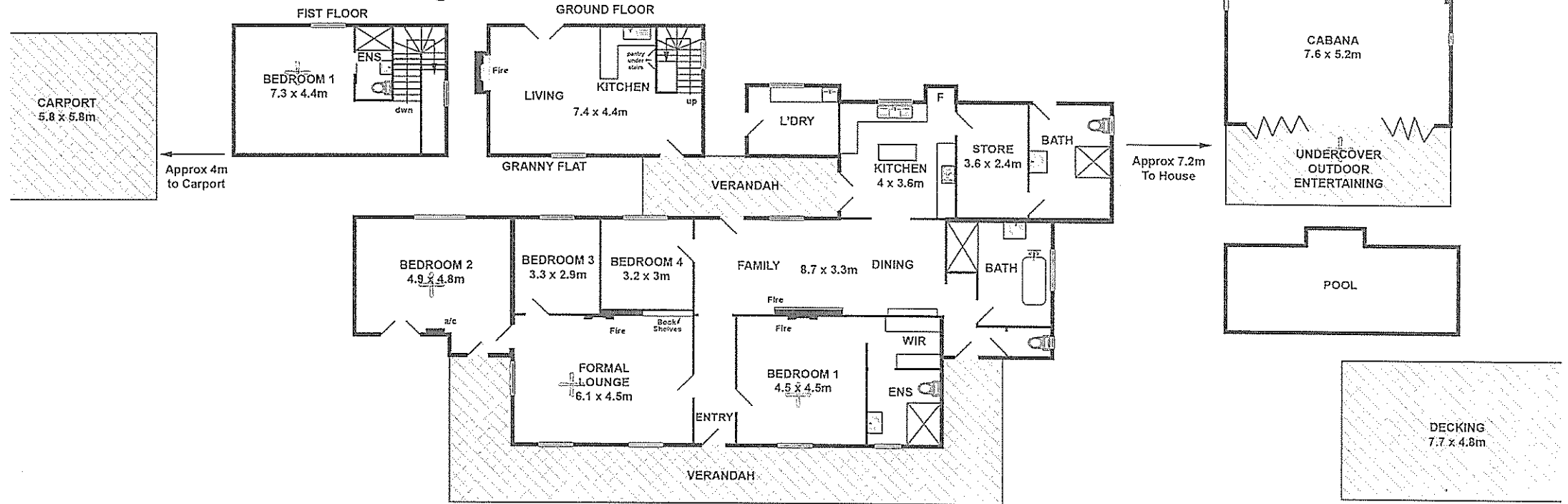
Trove, 1978. District Council of Yankalilla: July Meeting. *The Victor Harbor Times*, 9 August, p. 2.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/186915382?searchTerm=council%20yankalilla%20john%20clarke&searchLimits=l-state=South+Australia> [accessed 31 March 2016]

Williams, R., 1986. *To Find the Way: Yankalilla and District 1836-1986*. 2 ed. Adelaide: Lutheran Publishing Home in conjunction with Yankalilla District Historical Society Inc..

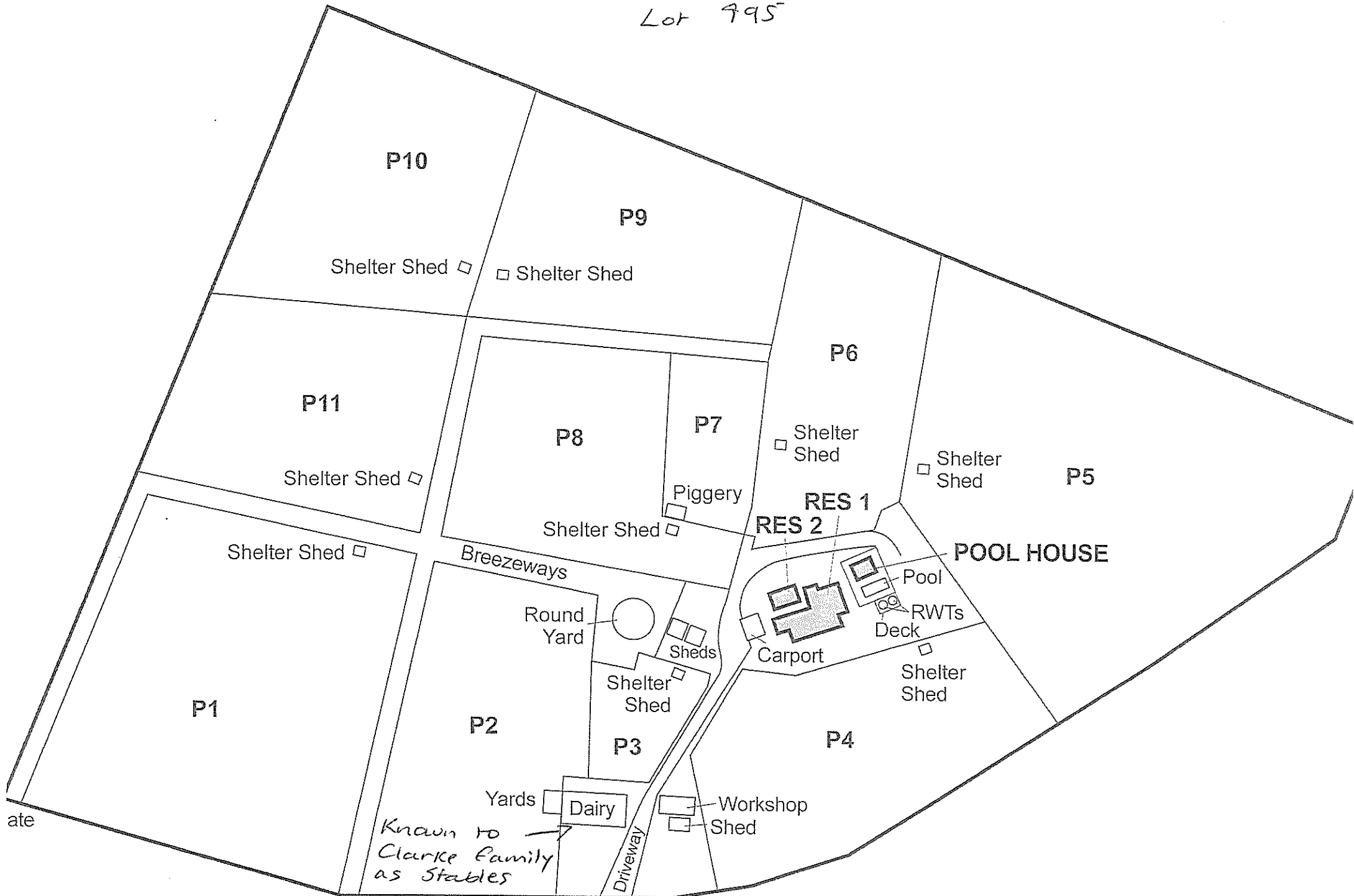
Yankalilla Area School., 1986. *Yesteryear in Yankalilla*. Yankalilla: Yankalilla Area School.

Original section of house



□ Stables

Lot 795



ate

5515

MAIN SOUTH ROAD

Known to Clarke Family as Stables

Chapter 2.

JOHN CLARKE was the first known white resident at Wattle Flat. He arrived in the colony from Ireland on the *Tam-o'-Shanter* in November, 1836, purchased a town acre in Adelaide, imported a horse and dray, which cost £35 (\$70) each, from Tasmania, and came to Wattle Flat in 1838.

He built a home, which he called "Wattle Hills", and returned to Adelaide in 1840 to meet and marry Catherine Taggart, who had arrived from Cork, Ireland. They returned to "Wattle Hills" and lived there for the rest of their lives.

Seven sons and four daughters were born to them at "Wattle Hills".

John, a well educated man, was the first Justice of the Peace in the district and also became a member of the District Council. Before Willunga had a Catholic Church the priest would ride from Morphett Vale and Mass was held in John's home. On these occasions a hot midday dinner would be served. It is known that John christened several babes and that weddings were celebrated in the home.

A story is told that one day while Mass was being held the young children disappeared. When dinner was ready not a child could be found. A frantic search was made and the children were found unconsciously drunk in John's cellar.

It was a grand sight to see John, Catherine, the four daughters and the maids in the wagonette and the seven sons on horseback on their way to Mass at Normanville. One Parish Priest, Father O'Donnell, was often late for Mass and sometimes never arrived and on these occasions John would serve Mass.

John owned 21 Sections of land in Wattle Flat and as each of his children married he gave them several Sections. He used to send to Ireland for his household linen, which was embossed with the Clarke crest.

The seven sons were tall, handsome men, full of laughter and good humour. George, the fourth son, walking across to visit his brother Jim, who lived near "Wild Dog Gully", came upon a huge black snake. He picked up a stick and hit it on the head. When he arrived at his brother's home he said, "I saw a big black snake on the sand track, this morning. I picked up a stick to kill it and when I saw the blood flow from its nostrils I thought of Good Friday and let it go."

A son, George, married Ellen Walsh from Second Valley. They had no family, but cared for other children who needed homes. Matthew and his wife were accidentally burned to death in 1914 when their home caught alight at night.

Son James married Ada Berry and eight sons and four daughters were born to them. Their eldest son James Junior and Hartley Newbold grew up together at Wattle Flat, went to the Boer War and fought at Ladysmith and Mafeking. After the war they were chosen to represent Australia at the Coronation of King Edward VII in 1902, and were entertained at Buckingham Palace.

Three of James and Ada's sons enlisted in World War I. Francis lost his life at Gallipoli at the age of 30 years and Arthur was killed at Lone Pine in France, aged 25 years. Sydney, a lad of 17 years, unbeknown to his parents joined the 9th Light Horse Regiment. He was well on his way to the front before his parents were aware of his action.

In 1902 James' wife Ada died suddenly and later James married Rose Mundy. Another four sons and four daughters were born making James the father of 20, with sons serving in the Boer War, World War I and World War II.

Two sons from the second marriage and fifteen grandsons from the first marriage served in World War II, one great-grandson fought in Korea and two in the Vietnam War.

Pioneer John Clarke gave generously to St. Peters Church, Normanville. The plaque on his grave reads:—

"He fed the hungry and clothed the poor".

(Not on his grave - his memorial).

St. Peters Church have lost location of vault.

became home to great numbers of these Irish emigrants, South Australia received a relatively small proportion, and so the many who came to this region signifies a quite remarkable event. From those who found their way to our district, their legacy includes our parish community and the church building we still use today, largely unchanged from its original form.

From the diocesan archives, the cemetery records, the existing histories and other sources, the following individuals or families have been recorded as being resident in the district at the beginnings of the church and arguably, can be regarded as our pioneers.

Ahern	Honner	Murphy
Callaghan	Hefferan	O'Connor
Carroll	Hickey	O'Donoghue
Clarke	Kearney	Pyne
Cleary	Kelly	Quinn
Comerford	Kenny	Sheehan
Dahill	Lawless	Tomney
Feehan	Leonard	
Ferguson	Meegher	

These Irish settlers brought with them an abundance of the characteristics long attributed to their homeland; a capacity for hard work, doses of piety and humility, but in turn an enthusiasm for life and colour and no lack of rollicking good humour. The annual celebration of St Patrick's Day at Normanville was an occasion of great jubilation and involved the whole town. The location was an area just north of Ferguson's mill, located across the road from the church, where a marquee was erected for the festivities. Sports events occupied the afternoon and a grand ball took place in the evening.

In those early days, many parishioners would walk to mass from as far away as Second Valley and the Myponga Jetty area, some carrying young children with them. Such was the dedication of those pioneers for the expression of their faith.

It is not easy today to determine if this list of pioneers is complete or if others were here then but who now have been overlooked or forgotten. Even with respect to the names preserved, there is little

documented about the lives and what legacies they left. A few, however, have left something of their times, their families or their lives.

Cameos of a few of the pioneers

Clarke

John Clarke emerges as a very significant beneficiary of the early Normanville church as well as an important figure in the local community. He arrived in the colony in 1836 from Rowalstown in Dublin, Ireland and ultimately settled at Wattle Flat. He married Catherine Taggart, also from the Dublin area, in 1840, and they built their home which still stands today, in an elevated position above the main South Road. Prior to the building of the church, their house often became the site for mass, as well as for baptisms and marriages. Later, his three sons also provided their homes as places for religious celebrations, even after the construction of the church.

John was a successful farmer and grazier and became a very substantial landowner. He was also appointed one of the very early JPs in the area and was a member of the District Council. His contribution to the building of the church has been noted earlier and from his family records we are told that he remained an involved member of the church throughout his life. John Clarke died in 1890 and the report of his funeral in *The Southern Cross*, makes interesting reading. It is appended to this document.

Ahern

The contribution of the Ahern family to the church and to civic affairs was quite outstanding. The catholic archives state that the family (probably William and Mary) arrived from Lismore in County Cork in 1855. From the church cemetery records it appears that they had 9 children, the first of whom was Patrick, born in 1862 and who was possibly the only one to marry. Four of the family died relatively young. John Francis, the second son of William and Mary, born in 1863, eventually became clerk of the Yankalilla Council and held that position for a great many years. Two of his many sisters were (from archival notes) employed in the Posts and Telegraphs Department. These may have been Honorah and Catherine, both of whom lived

- Clarke -

John

409	13.	* Section 495 Hundred of Naponga *
35	51	* Section 494 " " " "
36	51	Section 498 " " " "
483	53	Part Section 5500 " " Yatata
484	53	" " 5500 " " "
521	55	" " 1014 Survey D.
88	56	" " 407 Hundred of Belvidere
89	56	" " 407 " " "
503	57	* Section 491 Hundred of Naponga
503	57	Section 500 " " " "
504	57	Section 500 " " " "
504	57	Section 497, 499, " " " "
585	58	Section 500, 497, 499, 491, Hundred of Naponga
53	77	Part Section 407 Hundred of Belvidere
255	84	Part Section 409 " " " "
259	84	Part Section 407 " " " "
31	85	Part Section 407 " " Light
83	85	Part Section 407 " " Light
486	93	Section 653 " " Naponga
487	93	Section 659 " " " "
488	93	Section 250 " " " "
489	93	Section 653 " " " "
490	93	Section 411 " " " "
491	93	* Sections 496, 654 " " " "
73	121	Part Town Area 188
217	149	Sections 651, 653, part 654, Survey D.
253	196	Lots 1, 2, of Block 25 Township of Section 250
224	210	Sections 491, 497, 499, 500 Hundred of Naponga
25	238	Section 660. Hundred of Naponga
28	271	Part Section 570 Hundred of Lacpede Bay
126	290	Part Section 570 Hundred of Lacpede Bay
210	324	Part Section 570 " " " "
196	381	Selectors List 1878
147	406	Probate of Will of John Clarke of Hattle Farm, Hat-Farmer
163	408	Letters of Administration of John Clarke the Younger of Yankalilla

Wife:

MEMORIAL.

1109

Date of Instrument.	Names of Parties.	Names of Witnesses.	Nature of Instrument.	Description of the Property Conveyed.	If a Conveyance or Mortgage, Consideration, and how paid. Or if a lease, the amount of rent.	Any other particulars the case may require.
<p>20 1894</p>	<p>Mr Henry Howard, Clerk of the Court, City of New York, Plaintiff, vs The Trustees of the City of New York, Defendants.</p>	<p>John A. ... John B. ...</p>	<p>Deed</p>	<p>Lot 10 of Block 10 of ...</p>	<p>...</p>	<p>...</p>

1109

This Memorial was received into the Registry Office this 20th day of January 1894.

The below resume was written by James Clarke, son of John Clarke. The paper is fragile and faded. The writing in parts is unreadable These dots represent the missing words and sometimes whole sentences.

John Clarke

Father left Ireland July 1836, for all his belongings he was allowed twenty cubic feet of space (equal to 4 feet long, 2 feet wide and 2 feet six inches deep). Extra freight had to be paid for. When he arrived at Holdfast Bay in December 1836, he had to carry his belongings through the water to the beach, then through the sand hills to the new settlement. At the settlement he and others from the ship had to organise their tents or, build reed huts - in fact they had to learn to survive. There were no shops or farms, there were no sheep or cattle for meat, milk or butter, no bread, no vegetables, nothing was as they knew it. Everyone had to walk and with basic equipment he and his friends had to cut their way through the thick bush to get anywhere. They often suffered from heat exhaustion that first summer in 1836/37.

When Governor Hindmarsh arrived, father attended the Proclamation Ceremony. They all enjoyed a meal of salted meat and ale from the ship.

Kangaroos, fish and parrots became their main diet. He spoke of the forty whales seen playing in the gulf not far from the shore and how they all enjoyed fishing after they made rods and nets to fish with. Fishing became a sport as well as a necessity.

He had a great sense of humour, was a fun loving man and could laugh and joke about most things.

He had a beautiful singing voice, we would all sing along with him and really enjoy ourselves. We had mouth organs, accordions, as well as theMy mother could

My mother Catherine Taggart arrived from Ireland in 1840 with her parents, brother John, sisters Margaret and Mary. She married my father in September that year at the Holy Trinity Church, the first Church built in SA.

They came a long way from those early days to farm at Wattle Hills. Firstly father built a slab hut with a thatched roof, next he built a stone and slab shed, then they built their dream homestead.

Father valued his tools which were very important for survival. His gun was also a valued possession. He only used it to kill kangaroos, emus or any animal or bird for food. No one knew when the next shipment of shot would arrive. Money couldn't buy what was not available.

Two shepherd boys came home with my father when he bought his first sheep. He already had the holding yards built which were used during the night. There was a little slab hut built at each end of the yards. Also places where fires were lit each night to keep the wild dogs away.

Dad had already worked out a way to catch these animals. He invented a trap, using meat as a bait. He hung it in a little slab hut built in the corner of a yard. When the wild dogs came in and took hold of the meat, the trap door would close behind them. He caught many dogs this way.

The Government in 1837 put out a reward for catching and killing wild dogs. Seven shillings for every female, five shillings for the males and two shillings for every pup taken to the colonial secretary's office. I do not know for how long this lasted. The dogs eventually all died out from distemper.

The little well kept cemetery with a railing fence around it, had beautiful carving on the crosses in the form of an angel with flowers. They always had fresh fern or wild flowers on the graves. My father gave the price of the land for a Catholic Church to be built at Normanville. Mass was held in our home until.....

We loved to ride our horses to the beach where we fished from the rocks and when the tide went out we could reach down and pick the cray fish off the rocks. We had some wonderful days with

I have a great love for the birds. I've studied them well. I know their breeding habits, nests and can identify any of their eggs. The yellow tailed black cockatoos always fly in pairs and the native hen seems to breed in the hundreds. There's the wedge tailed eagles, the sea eagles, the whistling eagle hawk, chicken hawk, spotted swamp hawk and crows. There's various ducks, spoonbills, ibis, then there's the night birds. The Mopoke owl, that makes a mopoke sound, the barking owl that barks and sometimes screams and like the parrots they build their nest in a hollow in a tree. The herons make a loud croak at night, the curlews all gather together at night to make a hideous wailing sound. I saw the cheeky little whistling Golden Ring bird, with it's yellow collar and breast feathers, mesmerised by a snake, then eaten. There's the pretty little kingfishers that fly along the creeks. There's the larks, reed warblers, spotted thrush, magpies, honey eaters, red robins, tom-tits, blue wrens, wattle birds, willy wagtails and the list goes on..... We always wake up to the laughter of kookaburras.

One of our neighbours had whiskers growing down to his knees. We often wondered what birds built their nests in his beard. It fascinated us to see his wife smoking a clay pipe.

The spotted cat is not one of my favourite animals. They killed the bandicoots, kangaroo rats and they used to get under the wings of the geese and suck the blood out and kill them.....

The Aborigines roamed from one place to another, we would hear that they were at Inman Valley, next Yankalilla, then to our place. My father and a friend told how during the early days they saw the local Aborigines carrying their dead and wounded after they had a war with an up Murray tribe. They didn't know what the battle was about but to them it was a dreadful massacre. Apparently they killed each other with spears and waddys. Their injuries were horrific and some of the wounded died later from infections. That war reduced the number of black people in the tribe, not that there were that many to start with.

An event that my parents witnessed was when some men had a tribal fight near our place. They actually threw spears at each other. A spear entered one man's throat and he died instantly. The Aborigines later built a structure using forked wattle sticks and rushes they laid the dead man on this then the Aborigine wailing echoed around the hills. After this ceremony they all disappeared. We never went near that place - ever.

In all the years that our family have lived in the district there was only one incident with the Aborigines and that happened during the early days when my brother Tom was a baby. The elder of the tribe kidnapped him from his pram and he wouldn't return him until father gave him blankets and food. While this was going on mother clung to my brother John in case he took him. After dad gave him what he wanted he handed Tom back. The old man tried this trick with someone else. They didn't appreciate it and father rescued him. They became good friends after that, we always fed and clothed them whenever they wandered our way. The old man and his tribe knew that they had a good friend in father and all our family.

Bullocks pulled our wagons filled with goods. They plodded along for miles, it took hours to get anywhere. Horses were our greatest help.

The first coach ride I ever ventured on took ten times longer than I could have ridden my horse to our destination. After weeks of heavy rain and floods the weather cleared and the creeks were supposed to be passable, but the rain fell down and by the time we'd travelled through mud and slush, then up the steep Clarke's Hill, down the other side to the flooded creek, we had to push the coach and horses through this, then through the mud and slush again. We had to get out and push once more when the coach and horses became bogged. By the time we reached the Myponga Hotel we were wet through and covered in mud and muck. When.....

We used to cut hay with and then tie it up with a piece of hay made into twine.

Ada and I lived at Honey Suckle Flat where Lil, Jim, Tom and Min were born. We

We hope that your book will be a success. We will all look forward to reading the

The other pages are now fragments of paper and the writing undecipherable

Copied by Hazel Clarke (dec'd).

(C)
A. 3611



(CERTIFICATE OF TITLE.

Register Book.

Vol. XXXVII Folio. 226

John Clarke of Yankalilla Farmer is now seized of an estate in fee simple subject nevertheless to such encumbrances liens and interests as are notified by memorial underwritten or endorsed hereon in that section of land situated in the Hundred of Yankalilla county of Hindmarsh numbered 1007 containing eighty acres or thereabouts and bounded as appears in the plan in the margin hereof Except nevertheless out of this Certificate of Title a piece of land containing two acres or thereabouts and colored green in the said plan and measuring as well on the north easterly side next a Government road forming the north westerly boundary of the said section as on the south westerly side next other part of the said section severally five chains and five links or thereabouts and as well on the north westerly side next another Government road forming the north westerly boundary of the said section as on the south easterly side next other part of the said section severally four chains and three links or thereabouts. Which said section is delineated in the Public map of the said Hundred deposited in the Office of the Surveyor General and was originally granted the thirteenth day of August 1855 under the hand and seal of Sir Henry Edward Fox Young Lieutenant Governor of the said Province to John Becker

In witness whereof, I have herewith signed my name and affixed my seal this twenty fifth day of February one thousand eight hundred and sixty three

Signed, the 25th day of Feb^y 1863, in presence of

W. F. J. Andrew S.
Acting Registrar-General



W. F. J. Andrew S.

Pursuant to Application No. 245735
Thomas Clarke of Yankalilla Farmer
James Regan of Wallington Hill
Flourshopper and Henry Seymour
of Yankalilla farmer are proprietors of an estate in fee simple in the within land as the executors or assigns in the will dated the 9 day December 1885 of the within named John Clarke who died on the 28 day November 1890 as appears by Probate dated the 17 day December 1890. Paid up for residue the 16 day January 1891 at 2.50 per cent. J. Heath Deputy

Transfer No. 246047 from Thomas Clarke
James Regan and Henry Seymour
to
John Patrick O'Neill of Waller Flat
Farmer and Matilda Harrington wife
of Walter Harrington of Broken Hill in the Colony
of New South Wales Licensed Victuallers of an estate
in fee simple in the above land (for her sole
and separate use as regards the share of the said
Matilda Harrington) as tenants in common.
Produced for registration the 1st day of April
1891 at 10/10 per cent. J. Heath Deputy

Mortgage No 293740 from John Patrick O'Neill to George Dowling and Celia Harriet Ewins of his estate and interest in the within land. Produced for registration the 4 day July 1895 at 2:30 pm
J. Heath Dep Reg Genl

Mortgage No 370474 from Henry Symonds to Joseph Grundy Richard Lovelock and John Woods Clayton. Produced for registration the 3 day August 1901 at 11:30 am (includes this land)
J. Heath Dep Reg Genl

Transfer No 311021 from George Dowling and Celia Harriet Ewins to Sarah Annis Cornish the wife of John Cornish of Normansville. Produced for registration the 21 day December 1896 at 2:30 pm
J. Heath Dep Reg Genl

Mortgage No 422413 (including other land) from Henry Symonds to Joseph Grundy Richard Lovelock and John Woods Clayton. Produced for registration the 18 day of April 1905 at 2:45 pm
Vernont Edwards Dep Reg Genl

Mortgage No 311022 from Sarah Annis Cornish to The Audubon Loan and Building and Investment Society. Produced for registration the 11 day August 1896 at 2:25 pm
J. Heath Dep Reg Genl

The time for the payment of the extended mortgage No 370474 is extended for three years and eight months with interest at the rate of 4.10 per centum per annum as appears by endorsement thereon produced for registration the 13 day of May 1905 at 11:40 am
W. J. Heath Dep Reg Genl

Transfer No 319237 from Sarah Annis Cornish wife of John Cornish of Normansville. Produced for registration the 7 day August 1897 at 11:30 pm
J. Heath Dep Reg Genl

Transfer No 423712 from Henry Symonds to John Overstaymonds of the within land produced for registration the 23 day of May 1905 at 11:55 am
W. J. Heath Dep Reg Genl

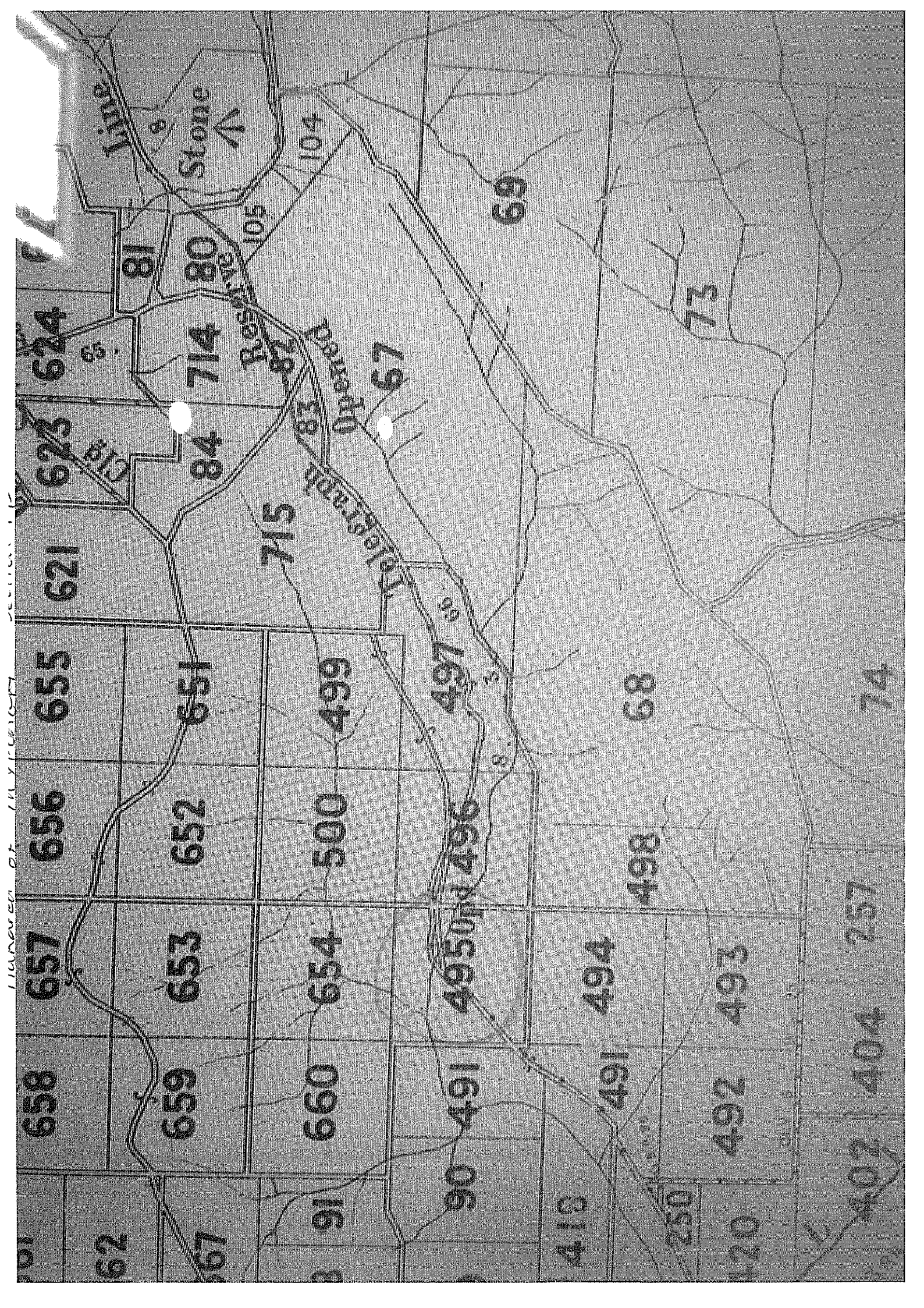
Mortgage No 319688 from Sarah Annis Cornish to Audubon Loan and Building and Investment Society. Produced for registration the 20 day August 1897 at 11:30 am
J. Heath Dep Reg Genl

Cancelled and a new Certificate of title issued No 724 Vol 9a
W. J. Heath Dep Reg Genl

Mortgage No 356906 from Sarah Annis Cornish to The Audubon Loan and Building and Investment Society. Produced for registration the 6 day August 1902 at 2:45 pm
J. Heath Dep Reg Genl

DISCHARGE OF THE WITHIN MORTGAGES Nos 311022, 319688 + 356906 BY RECEIPTS THEREON PRODUCED FOR REGISTRATION THIS 3 DAY OF August 1901 AT 11:30 am
J. Heath Dep Reg Genl

Transfer No 370473 from Sarah Annis Cornish to Henry Symonds of Battle Flat near Audubon. Produced for registration the 3 day August 1901 at 11:30 am
J. Heath Dep Reg Genl



601
62
67

658
657
656
655

621
623
624

659
653
652
651

715
714
80
84
81

104
105

91
660
654
500
499

90
491
495
496

497
67
69

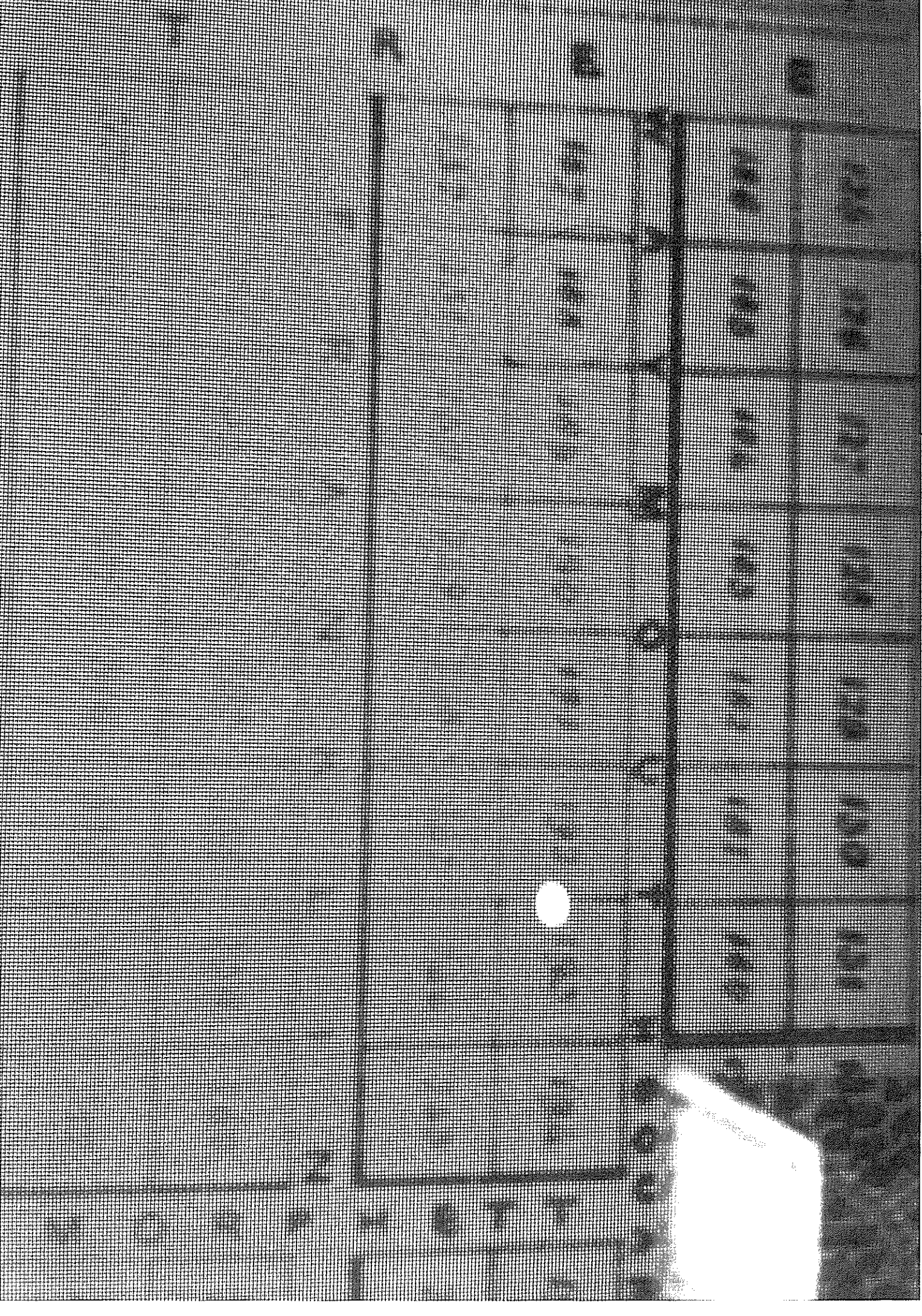
413
491
494
498
68

250
492
493
73

402
404
257
74

Line
Stone
Telegraph
Dorset
Yonge Ave
Clay St

Town Acre - part.



Palmerston
land.

Northern Territory
South Australia.

Register Book

Fol. III Folia



Ex^t

Surveyor General

Access Reg. Book

Land Grant

In Duplicate



Know All Men by these Presents that I The Right Honorable
Sir James Fergusson Bart^t Governor of the Province of South
Australia in consideration of the sum of Five shillings and one penny
Sterling to the Treasurer of the
said Province on behalf of Her Majesty paid by John Clarke

do hereby in
the name and on behalf of Her Majesty Grant unto the said
John Clarke

All that Section of land containing ten acres
be the same a little more or less and
numbered 176 in the Parish of St. Peter's
County of Adelaide and delineated in the Public
Maps deposited in the Survey Office at Adelaide and in the Plan in
the margin hereof together with all Timber Minerals and Appurten-
ances To Hold unto the said John Clarke

Heirs and Assigns for ever In witness whereof I the said Governor
have hereunto set my hand and the Public Seal of the said Province
at Adelaide this fourteenth day of October
One thousand Eight hundred and eighty seven

Signed sealed and delivered in the presence of
A. Stewart & Co.

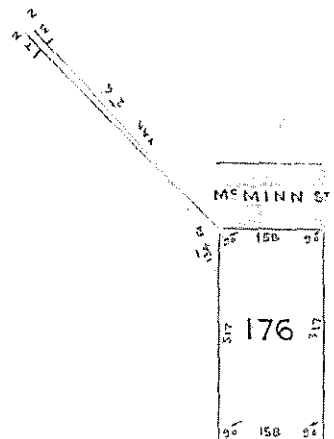
I acknowledge to have received from the above
mentioned John Clarke

the before
mentioned sum of Five shillings and
one penny

Signed by the Treasurer this fourteenth day
of October 1887
in the presence of

J. B. Clarke
Treasurer

By Command
John H. P.
Commissioner of Crown Lands
and Immigration



Pursuant to application I 1230
Thomas Clarke
James Rogers
John H. P.
...
J. H. P.

This document is a copy of that included in the Jimmie Capsule at St Peter's Church Normanville 2008.

John Clarke

Born: Abt. 1812; Died: 28th November 1890 (Aged 78yrs)

Married: 1840

Catherine Taggart

Born: Abt. 1821; Died: 13th May, 1893 (Aged 73yrs)

Children

1. John Clarke
2. Thomas Lawrence Clarke
3. Catherine Clarke
4. Mary Jane Clarke
5. Matthew Michael Clarke
6. Emma Clarke
7. George Clarke
8. James Andrew Clarke
9. Charles Clarke
10. Peter Clarke
11. Susan Ann Clarke
12. Elizabeth Clarke
13. Margaret Alice Clarke

John Clarke arrived in South Australia from Ireland aboard the *Tam O'Shanter*, a three masted barque, under the command of Captain Whiteman Freeman. The *Tam O'Shanter* departed London on 20th July 1836, loaded with timber for Government House, iron bedsteads, building materials, provisions and huts for the emigrants. Passengers consisted of 57 adults and 17 children. After a voyage of 123 days the vessel arrived, via Kangaroo Island, in Holdfast Bay (Glenelg) on the 16th December, 1836. She discharged her main cargo and then proceeded to try to enter the port but got stuck on a sand spit where she remained for three days. When the ship struck the sand bar many things were washed overboard, including building materials. The wood was collected later as it washed ashore. Much of the cargo in the hold was also spoilt due to flooding. The *Tam O'Shanter* was the 8th ship to arrive in South Australia and the first ship, along with the *Rapid*, to enter the tidal inlet of the Port River on 22nd December 1836. The two boats were preceded by Colonel Light in a small boat.

James Clarke, 8th child of John Clarke, recorded the following of these early days: 'He had to carry his belongings through the water to the beach, then through the sand hills to the new settlement. At the settlement he and others from the ship had to organise their tents or build reed huts – in fact they had to learn to survive. There were no shops or farms, there was nothing as they knew it. Everyone had to walk and with basic equipment he and his friends had to cut their way through the thick bush to get anywhere. They often suffered from heat exhaustion the first summer in 1836/37. Kangaroos, fish and parrots became their main diet. He spoke of the forty whales seen playing in the gulf not far from the shore and how they all enjoyed fishing after they made rods and nets to fish with. Fishing became a sport as well as a necessity.'

John Clarke was among the 200 colonists assembled to hear Captain John Hindmarsh announce the commencement of government in South Australia on 28th December, 1836. 'They all enjoyed a meal of salted meat and ale from the ship.'

Being the only member of the Clarke family to arrive in South Australia and with no details other than his name on the passenger list of the *Tam O'Shanter*, no definite information on his life in Ireland previous to this time has been located.

On 7th July, 1840 Catherine Taggart, accompanied by her family, arrived in South Australia aboard the *William Nichol*. They had sailed from Dublin, a voyage of 96 days. The Taggarts' had registered as Emigrant Labourers under the 'Free Passage to South Australia' scheme. Records under this scheme list the family as Michael, aged 38, labourer; his wife, aged 37 (Catherine nee Fagan), and a young child (Margaret). The other members of the family were Mary, aged 19, farm servant; Catherine, aged 18, farm servant and John, aged 17, labourer. The address in Ireland for the family was recorded as Yellow Walls.

John Clarke and Catherine Taggart were married in the Holy Trinity Church, Adelaide, (built 1838) on 7th September, 1840. Catherine signed with an X. John records his last address as late of the Parish of Rowlaston, County Dublin, Ireland and Catherine's is recorded as late of the Parish of Swords, County Dublin.

It is believed that by 1838 John Clarke had 'squatted' on land at Boords Flat, later known as Wattle Flat, situated between Yankalilla and Myponga. During that year Governor Hindmarsh, whom he had known in Adelaide, called in on his way to 'Glen Lindsay' and Encounter Bay before he left the colony in July 1838. It was on his way to visit John Clarke that Governor Hindmarsh named 'Lovely Valley'. John purchased a horse and dray from Tasmania which he had shipped over in 1838 at a cost of 35 pound each. *

Land surveyed by the 17th May, 1838 included 5,400 acres in the vicinity of Yankalilla. Due to wrangles and delays it was to be some years before the purchase of many sections in the district were finally settled. John Clarke's home block, Section 495, was purchased for one pound per acre in 1848. He used to send to Ireland for his household linen, which was embossed with the Clarke crest. John Clarke's reputation for being a fair man is reflected in his will. Not only had he helped each child as they married but also included his wife and all living children as well as the grandchildren of his deceased daughter in this document. All received a share of the land and other assets which he had accumulated over the years. His land consisted of 25 rural sections in the District Council of Myponga, four allotments at Myponga (including one rural) as well as land in the Northern Territory. No doubt unusual for the time his will also stated: 'I direct that the share of all females of or under this my will shall be for their sole and separate use free from the control of any husband whom they may marry'.

Of those early years James Clarke's memories of his parents state: 'They came a long way from those early days to farm at 'Wattle Hills'. Firstly father built a slab hut with a thatched roof, next he built a stone and slab shed, then they built their dream homestead. Father valued his tools which were very important for survival. His gun was also a valued possession. He only used it to kill kangaroos, emus or any animal or bird for food. No one knew when the next shipment of shot would arrive. Money couldn't buy what was not available.

Two shepherd boys came home with my father when he bought his first sheep. He already had the holding yards also places where fires were lit each night to keep the wild dogs away. Dad had already worked out a way to catch these animals. He invented a trap, using meat as a bait. He hung it in a little slab hut built in the corner of a yard. When the wild dogs came in and took hold of the meat, the trap door would

close behind them. He caught many dogs this way. The Government in 1837 put out a reward for catching and killing wild dogs. Seven shillings for every female, five shillings for the males and two shillings for every pup taken to the colonial secretary's office. I do not know how long this lasted. The dogs eventually all died out from distemper.

In all the years that our family have lived in the district there was only one incident with the Aborigines and that happened during the early years when my brother Tom was a baby. The elder of the tribe kidnapped him from his pram and he wouldn't return him until father gave him blankets and food. While this was going on mother clung to my brother John in case he took him. After dad gave him what he wanted he handed Tom back. The old man tried this trick with someone else. They didn't appreciate it and father rescued him. They became good friends after that, we always fed and clothed them whenever they wandered our way. The old man and his tribe knew that they had a good friend in father and all our family.'

The Myponga District Council was formed in 1856 with John Clarke selected as a member. It is also said that he was the first Justice of the Peace in the district.

The funeral of John Clarke was used to further the case for a new Catholic Church to be built in Yankalilla, as per the following article from 'The Southern Cross' newspaper, dated 19th December, 1890:

YANKALILLA – Our correspondent, writing on December 8, says:-“On November 28 one of our oldest Catholic residents, John Clarke, died. The funeral was one of the largest ever held in the district. Punctually at 2 p.m. the funeral arrived at the very inconveniently situated church three miles outside the township. Part of the burial service having been read in the church, the coffin was borne to the family vault. It speaks well for the faith of the Catholic people that so many feeble old people walk such a distance regularly to Mass. No person is inconvenienced by the present church, so it is to be hoped that a church will soon be started in the township. Were this done, and accommodation provided for the visiting priest instead of being compelled to stop in the hotel, we might reasonably expect that we would get Mass oftener than once a month on Sundays.”

John Clarke and Catherine Clarke (nee Taggart) are both buried in the cemetery of the little Roman Catholic Church of St Peters, Normanville, South Australia which had been built by the early Irish settlers of Yankalilla. John Clarke gave stone and other materials for its construction and lent his bullock wagon for the cartage. Their headstone inscription ends with –

THEY FED THE HUNGRY AND CLOTHED THE POOR
RIP

This memorial was erected by their grand children in 1980s, in

References: Articles collected by Hazel Clarke (great grand-daughter of John Clarke. *random location in graveyard.*)
'To Find the Way' – Yankalilla and District 1836-1986 (R.F. Williams).
Collated by: Rae Clarke, Box 163, Port Lincoln SA 5606 Phone: 08 86822357 or 0428822359

mystery surrounds location of family vault.

HARCOURTS BROCK WILLIAMS ADVERTISEMENT FOR 2012 SALE OF "WATTLE HILLS"

A magnificently restored, refurbished and renovated farm house and cottage

An award winning Pool House overlooking a stunning black granite pool with infinite rural views

A renowned Arabian horse stud with stables, tack room, 11 paddocks and historic barn.

Either of these 3 options would raise the stimulation levels alone, but when all unite as 'Brentwood Park', they become an exceptional property worthy of your close consideration.

'Brentwood Park' formerly 'Wattle Hills' is one of the Fleurieu Peninsulas most significant historic homesteads. Located at Wattle Flat, its an easy commute along the southern express way via the southern wine growing region and between the country townships of Yankallila and Myponga.

There are 3 distinct "homes" within this property. The original two storey cottage was established in 1843 as the first home for the Clarke family immigrating from Ireland. As the Clarke family expanded the homestead was created with room for the clan of 11 children and a plethora of stories, adventures and warm memories. After recent full restoration of the cottage and homestead the current owner established a romantic, guest room / pool house to further add to this unique offering.

Finally; the fences, stables and stud operating facilities were created and this magnetic property was complete.

Words and pictures fail to describe the fixtures , features and ambience of Brentwood Park, so let's leave that for your on-site inspection. Take a drive of discovery to this enchanting lifestyle property on 25 acres and all it's glory.

'Brentwood Park' - Circa 1843 - Renovated 2006 to 2010

- 10 Main Rooms. Constructed from Stone and Render.
- Original ceilings, Jarrah floors, open fireplaces, leadlight windows.
- French Provincial kitchen with walk through store room, European commercial grade gas oven and cook top, Miele dishwasher, black granite benchtops.
- 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms (Master suite with walk in robes and ensuite).
- Formal lounge, dining and family rooms.

'WATTLE HILL COTTAGE' - CIRCA 1836

- Original stone building over two levels.
- Kitchen, living room, gas heating and open fireplace.
- Bedroom with ensuite, ceiling fans.

OUTBUILDINGS

The old stone dairy.

Original stone shearing shed, storing up to 1000 bales of hay.

Foaling stable with direct access to foaling paddock.

12m x 30m implement shed.

Tool shed.

All outbuildings have power, lights and concrete floors.

POOL HOUSE/ RETREAT/ CABANA

- 7.6 x 5.2 Open plan living and accommodation, timber ceilings and floors, R/C Air Cond.
- Alfresco entertaining area overlooking stunning black granite in ground salt water pool.
- Observation deck with night lights.

THE LAND

Approximately 25 acres divided into 9 paddocks and 2 smaller holding yards.
Lined colour bond horse shelters and watering troughs to each paddock.
Post and rail fencing, 4 strand sita-wire, 2 x electric fencing, units.
4 metre breezeways.
Running up to 15 horses at a time.
2009 - Limed, fertilized and re seeded with hill horse mix.
2009 - Producing 1200 bales of hay. Excellent weed control principles applied.

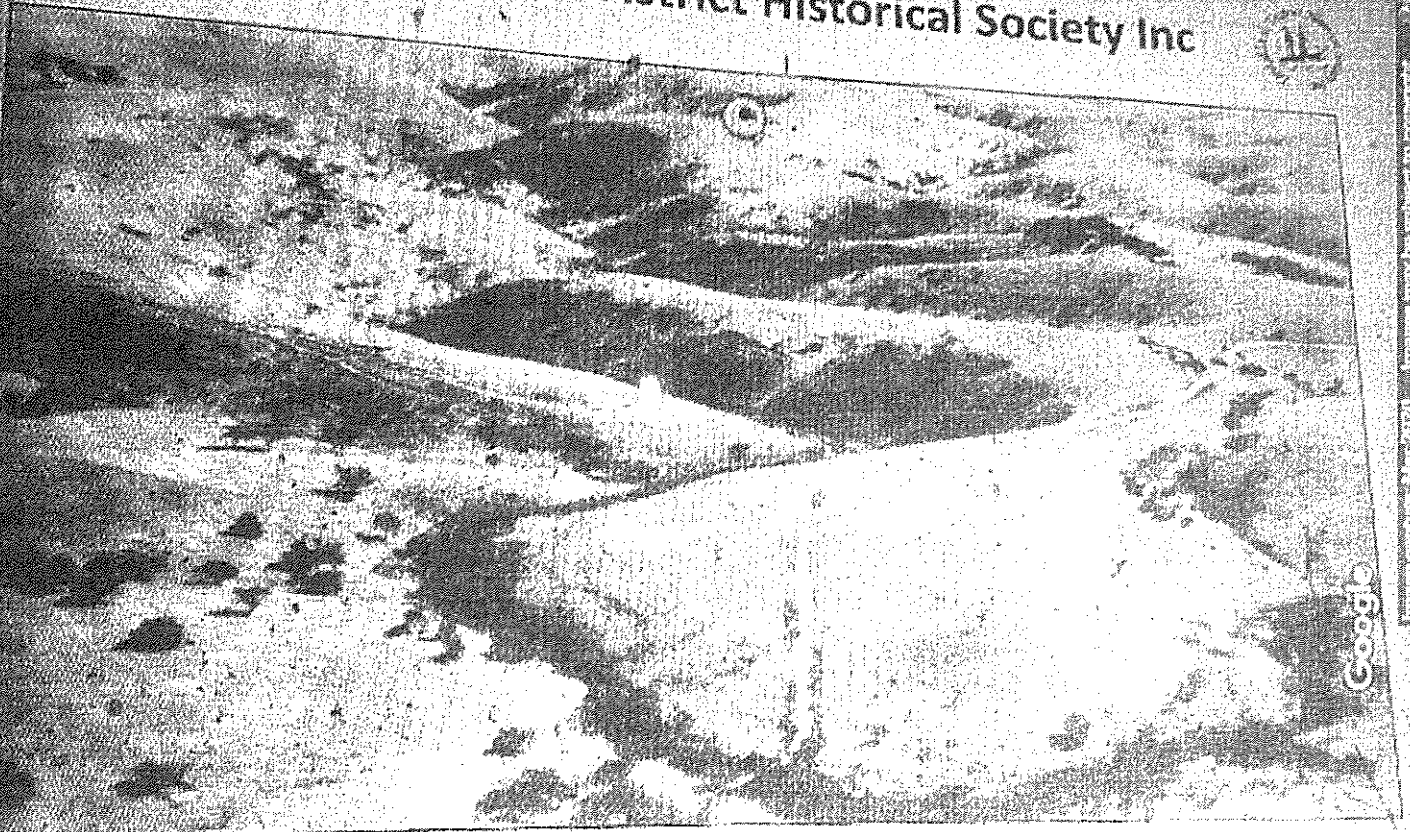
WATER SUPPLY

Mains water to all paddocks, domestic buildings and grounds.
50,000 litres of rainwater for gardens.
Bio Cycle system to grounds.

POWER SUPPLY

Mains power and lighting to all buildings other than horse shelters.
Shearing shed with separate power metre.
Automatic entrance gates with lighting.
Ground lighting by solar power.

Yankalilla & District Historical Society Inc



Lovely Valley

This photograph shows Lovely Valley before it was flooded by the waters of Myponga Reservoir. It is said that the valley was named "Lovely Valley" by Governor Hindmarsh on his way through the district in 1838. The name was definitely in use by 1851. Early settlers in the valley included Edward Best, John Garrett, and John and Charles Lemon. The Lovely Valley School, a small stone building, was opened in 1865 under school master William Hamlyn, but only operated for a few years. A later building in Lovely Valley was the Lovely Valley creamery or butter factory. Built in 1891 by the Southern Co-operative Produce Company, the factory operated from December 1891 to February 1901. The construction of the Myponga dam began in 1957 and was completed in 1962, and eight homes were then submerged by the reservoir.

YANKALILLA.

The following report has been forwarded to us with request for its insertion. It is very much out of date, but as the sender explains that this is the result of some mistake, we give publicity to it now; but our correspondents should endeavor to favor us with their news letters as promptly as possible. The report is as follows:—"On Saturday evening, June 12, His Lordship Bishop Sheil arrived in Yankalilla, having been previously met near Myponga by a large number of well mounted horsemen, including Messrs. John Clarke, Richard Walsh, James Honour, Thomas Ahearn, Patrick Ahearn, Cornelius Hannan, Michael Smyth, Michael Leonard, Michael McCarthy, and many others. His Lordship made a short stay at the residence of Mr. Clarke, Wattle Hill, then started for Yankalilla. Near the township the crowd of men, women, and children greatly increased, and there was a number of gentlemen of various creeds. On Sunday, 13th, His Lordship gave confirmation to 59 people of all ages, then proceeded to lay the foundation stone of the new schools, on the corner stone over £34 (since augmented) was collected. The Bishop then proceeded to Wattle Hill, made a short stay at Mr. Clarke's, then with Father Kennedy started for Willunga, all wishing him well on his remaining journey. At Yankalilla the following address was presented:—"May it please your Lordship—Animated with feelings of profound respect and veneration for your Lordship's sacred character, and influenced by the highest esteem for your Lordship's person, we, the Catholics of Yankalilla and the surrounding districts, offer your Lordship a most hearty welcome on your arrival amongst us. This is the first time that we have had the honor of seeing a Bishop with us, no wonder, then, that our hearts are overflowing with joy. We approach your Lordship as affectionate and obedient children, and recognize in your Lordship our pastor and spiritual Father, whom the Vicar of Jesus Christ has appointed to govern, guide, and lead us in the paths of justice. It has been a source of great joy and consolation for us to see how the blessings of the Almighty have accompanied all your Lordship's undertakings in this diocese, and how our religion is prospering under your Lordship's wise and paternal care; and we ardently pray that the Lord may continue to shower His choicest blessings on your Lordship. We cannot part without again assuring your Lordship of our profound respect, and our entire readiness to give your Lordship all assistance in our power to carry out any object which your Lordship may deem advisable, to promote the interest of our holy religion; and now allow us to beg your Lordship's blessing for ourselves and our children. Signed on behalf of the Catholics of Yankalilla and the surrounding districts. John Clarke, Michael Smyth, Michael Baker, Michael Leonard."

Gold Escort from Victoria

Arrived in Adelaide 5th May 1852

John Clarke to Catherine Clarke - 5 ozs 15 dwt.

Thomas Clarke to T. Clarke - 139 ozs

Family of Clarke/Donagan

ke b. Dublin, Ireland
married
atherine Donagan

Margaret Clarke b. 1803 chr. 27.11.1803 Dublin, Ireland d. before 1809
atherine Clarke b. 5.5.1807 chr. 10.5.1807 St. Catherine Church, Dublin
married 28.4.1827, St. Catherine Church, Dublin
James McDonnell
24.10.1800 St. Catherine Church

well as the
re severely
ers Messrs.
ll, and it is
te' of no-
at the next
The latter
urnment of
he close of
s of thanks
aker (Hon.
is officiated
l well, and
ial way.

ESAN COL-
tual canvass
ork of the
the present,
ormed, still
rious parties
ie Bishop at
eir districts.
abarra, has
rt payment)
goes to the
vie church.
has been in-
of £5 from
Wilmington,
r. W. Tally.
ands higher
h (who was
y generously
tribution to
published in
an error to
w attention.
hra Church
ed with the
should have
ne Brown
corrected in

in the habit of expending from
their incidental fund more than their
income. They trusted that the hopeful
outlook, as predicted by the Secretary,
would be accomplished. Bro. W. O'S.
Brooke stated that it was the intention
of the Juvenile Superintendent to pay
a visit shortly to the Juvenile Branch.

YANKALILLA. — Our correspondent,
writing on December 8, says:—
"On November 28 one of our oldest
Catholic residents, John Clarke, died.
The funeral was one of the largest ever
held in the district. Punctually at
2 p.m. the funeral arrived at the very
inconveniently situated church three
miles outside the township. Part of
the burial service having been read in
the church, the coffin was borne to the
family vault. It speaks well for the
faith of the Catholic people that so
many feeble old people walk such a dis-
tance regularly to Mass. No person is
convenienced by the present church, so
it is to be hoped that a church will
soon be started in the township. Were
this done, and accommodation pro-
vided for the visiting priest instead
of being compelled to stop in the hotel,
we might reasonably expect that we
would get Mass oftener than once a
month on Sundays."

THE HOLIDAYS. — Christmas Day
falling on Thursday all communications
for publication in *The Southern Cross*
must be sent in a day earlier than
usual, viz., not later than Tuesday.
The same will apply with reference to
New Year's Day the following week.
The office will be closed — Christmas
Day, December 25, Saturday, December

THE SOUTHERN CROSS
12/12/1890

St Peters Normanville
can give no
indication of location
of family vault.
Memorial erected at
another site in 1980s
by his grandchildren
(in cemetery)

1856: South Australian Register 31 October 1856

MYPONGA

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28.

The first District Council of Myponga was held on Tuesday, the 28th October. Present at the meeting— Messrs. Archibald Greenshields, John Clark, C. T. Hewett. and John Tapley.

Resolved, that C T. Hewett be Chairman. Mr. Hewett was called to the chair. Resolved, that the Chairman do procure the necessary stationery. Resolved, that the Chairman do apply to the Government for the Acts necessary for the Council; also, for a sum as given to other districts to proceed to business with. Resolved, that the meetings of this Council be on the second and last Monday in each month, at 1 pm.

Resolved, that the Clerk do write to the District Council of Yankalilla, requesting them to furnish the District Council of Myponga with the names of persons in this district who have taken depasturing, timber, or slaughtering licenses, and what amount has been received for each for the present year. Resolved, that the Clerk write to inform His Excellency the Governor and the Central Board of Main Roads of the election of Mr. C. T. Hewett as Chairman of this Council for this year. Resolved, that Mr. Tilly be Clerk, as per agreement, till the 1st of March 1857, and that he be gazetted to that office. Resolved, that the Clerk- write to the Observer and Dispatch newspapers the minutes of this meeting; also, to give the regular notice of the public meeting to be held in November. Resolved, that the Council do bank with the Union Bank in Adelaide. Resolved, that the Chairman enquire the price of a map of the district. Resolved, that the Chairman attend the next meeting of the Board of Main Roads. Adjourned till Monday, the 11th of November.

1874: Residents of Myponga: As per S.A. Almanac - District of Myponga.

Budd, William Alfred			
Cameron, Alexander, pound-keeper		Cameron, John - storekeeper	
Clarke, George.	Clarke, James.	Clarke, John	Clarke, John jnr.
Doke, Joseph - school teacher		Everard, William - Hillsley	
Foggo, George		Forbes, Charles - store & post office	
Forrest, Helen	Forrest, James	Harrison, James - clerk D.C.	
Hewett, E.E		Hoskins, Charles - blacksmith	
Hunt, John	Hunt, James	Hunt, Matthew	
Jeffries, Richard		Johnston, John	
McCarthy, Michael		McCormack, James - shoemaker	
McGuinness, Thomas - station man	?	Oldfield, Henry	Oldfield, John
Palmer, Robert		Paul, George	Paul, F Paul, Matthew
Pavy, Richard		Polden, Robert	
Rogers, Oliver		Rowley, Maria	
Spencer, James - farmer		Stacey, George	
Strudewicke, Alfred		Symonds, Henry	
Vanstone, John	Vanstone, Philip	Wakeley, John - bailiff	

District Council of Myponga: Robert Palmer (chairman) Councillors - John Clarke, Robert Polden, James Forrest, Matthew McGuinness Auditors - F.G.H Boys & J. Doke Clerk - James Harrison
Royal Mail Coaches: John Hill & Co.

Adelaide to Normanville - once daily, leaves 2.45 pm. Normanville to Adelaide - leaves at 3.30 a.m.

1876: Residents of Myponga:

Budd, William Alfred			Cameron, Alexander, pound keeper
Clarke, Charles.	Clarke, George.	Clarke, James.	Clarke, John jnr. Clarke, Thomas.
Doke, Joseph - school teacher			Everard, William - Hillsley
Foggo, George			Forbes, Charles - store & post office
Forrest, Helen	Forrest, Thomas jnr		Harrison, James - Mt Terrible
Hunt, John snr	Hunt, Matthew		Jeffries, Richard
Johnston, John			McCarthy, Michael
McCormack, James - shoemaker			McGuinness, Thomas - station man
Oldfield, Henry	Oldfield, John		Palmer, Robert
Paul, Elizabeth	Paul, Matthew		Rowley, Maria
Sampson, Alexander			Spencer, James - farmer

Stacey, George Stacey, Thomas - Myp Jetty
Symonds, Henry
Vanstone, Simon
Whitelaw, Robert - Myp Jetty

Strudewicke, Alfred
Vanstone, John Vanstone, Philip
Wakeley, John - bailiff

District Council of Myponga: Oliver Rogers - Lovely Valley (chairman) Councillors - Matthew Hunt, John Clarke,
Robert Polden, F. Stacey Auditors - C.W. Hoskin & J Tyson Clerk - Charles Forbes

Royal Mail Coaches: John Hill & Co.
Adelaide to Normanville - once daily

Normanville to Adelaide - leaves at 3.00 a.m.