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FEBRUARY 1983

NEWS SHEET

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PO BOX 57 BALMAIN 2041

the balmain association

FOUNDED 1965

THE WATCH HOUSE RE-VISITED

Among the many people who have called in to see the Watch House, some stand out because of their personalities or their connection with interesting families, or places.

Recently, we had a visitor who was delightful in herself but of great interest to us because she was a daughter of Sergeant Ira Gray whose family were the last to live in the Watch House when it was a police residence.

Jessie Gray, as she was 35 years ago when she last saw the Watch House, had a great memory for detail, and recognised hooks and holes and steps and doors. She showed us where the enclosed verandah was with its bench and swing.

She described the garden as it was, and where the gates had been. There was a shower in the exercise yard, grapevines on the trellis, and the gas stove and gas lamps inside and the laundry and bath at the back.

Jessie McMahon, as she now is, showed us where each of her eleven brothers and sisters and parents slept, comfortably and without crowding. Upstairs, our Meeting Room was divided by a partition with a little hall at the top of the stairs for access.

She remembers that the original Charge Room desk (much larger than our present one) was relegated to one of the back cells and the children used it for their homework.

On a later visit, Jessie had great pleasure in identifying one of our nameless pictures. The oval, hand-tinted print, now sadly out of its frame, was on show but we could never say who the young lady so aptly caught by the camera was.

With a triumphant cry of, "That is my mother on her engagement day", she set down for all time that

NEXT MEETING: MONDAY 7 MARCH 1983
7 30 PM WATCH HOUSE

Eliza Brotherton when 18 at Canowindra (NSW) took the first step on the path to the Balmain Watch House.

So you see, giving some of your time to help at the Watch House on Sunday afternoons can be very interesting.

HELPERS NEEDED FOR THE WATCH HOUSE

THE WATCH HOUSE REQUIRES MORE PEOPLE TO GIVE OCCASIONAL HELP ON SUNDAY AFTERNOONS BETWEEN TWO AND FOUR PM. IF YOU FIND HISTORICAL INFORMATION A BURDEN, YOU CAN GIVE CLEANING AND GARDENING ASSISTANCE INSTEAD.

PLEASE CALL IN ON SUNDAY AFTERNOONS BEFORE 4 PM AND OFFER TO HELP.

COMBINED BRIDGE ACTION GROUP

Everybody who has supported the group relished the taste of victory on the 23 December when the Min for Roads announced that the Second Crossing was "off".

Had he announced that it was "on" then all hell would have broken loose!

We must never lose sight of the fact that it can be "on" again at the drop of a hat - the old saying that "the price of liberty is eternal vigilance" applies all too well here.

OK, now its out of sight but don't let it get out of mind particularly at State election times.

CBAG still functions and is a clear affirmation of the unity of both sides of the Harbour.

The executive of the Group wishes to acknowledge with thanks all those who gave money and time to support the protest. We know that our voice was heard in the highest places.



BALMAIN GARDEN CLUB

TASKS IN THE SUMMER GARDEN Jessica Murray

WATERING: The Sydney summer is difficult for soft leaved plants such as fuchsias, dahlias, hydrangeas, etc, so it is necessary to keep the watering up, even if it seems a real chore. A good soak twice weekly is better than a daily sprinkle.

Use mulch if available, but not heavy coverings of lawn clippings as they mat down and heat up. Use ground cover plants as much as possible.

There are many available nowadays, even ground covering natives. Making channels around shrubs and through flower-beds helps to make the best use of water. Make them cross-wise if the ground is sloping.

ANNUALS: If looking tired now, can be cut back somewhat, fertilised and watered, and will give another display. Petunias, snapdragons, phlox, verbenas, etc, are all good for this.

HANGING BASKETS: Need frequent watering - do not hang above eye-level as they tend to get overlooked. If hanging close to walls, plastic or cement, tend to scorch. If not too many, basket watering is more effective; if they can be dunked in a bucket of water - this gives the root-ball a better deal.

CUTTINGS: Take these in the early morning when plants are fresh. Make some of the daisy bushes, (need renewal every two years), carnations, fuchsias, azaleas, abutilons, verbenas, etc. Put in pots in shady places at first. As they grow pinch out the centres to make bushy.

GERANIUMS AND PELS: Prune half of each plant at a time (to lessen shock) back to several nodes near base. When signs of regrowth starts to show, prune back the other half. Put prunings (about 8 cms long) in pot, in shady place to replace old plants later, as geraniums deteriorate after about two years.

BOUGANVILLEAS: Cut back rampant canes and shorten growing tips. The modern varieties, especially the doubles, grow less vigorously and can be kept in large pots but they are all large growers if they get their own way. Sometimes small plants sold in full flower can grow to ten feet in a year.

HYDRANGEAS: Prune all flowered stems in February and remove any very old wood. Fertilise and keep watered.

(continued p 4)

THE BALMAIN ASSOCIATION IS FOR PEOPLE IN BALMAIN BIRCHGROVE ROZELLE

Uncovering Our Past



PETER REYNOLDS

AREA BOUNDED BY JOHNSTON'S BAY, PEACOCK POINT, DARLING HARBOUR, DARLING STREET AND JOHNSTON STREET

Part I of a study of this area is in Leichhardt Historical Journal No 11 1982 under the heading PEACOCK, WESTON, PEARSON AND PAUL: How "suburbanisation" began in Balmain - From Peacock Point to Darling Street Wharf

Part II will continue in Leichhardt Historical Journal No 12 1983 which should appear before next April.

The study is in four main sections under the names of the speculators who first developed the land - Peacock, Weston, Pearson and Paul.

The aims of the study were: 1) build up a mosaic of changing land-use for Balmain East; 2) record the history of the area; 3) collate family history details; 3) determine possible dates of when buildings were constructed; 4) derive origin of street names; 5) record condition of existing buildings; 6) compile a card index summarising information gathered.

Owners, dates of buildings and occupations were tabulated and are reproduced here as an overflow from the LHJ published articles. Members are urged to contact Peter Reynolds on 827 3560 if they have any information or alterations which could be added to the tables.

AREA BOUNDED BY DARLING ST, JOHNSTON ST, PAUL ST AND DARLING HARBOUR = PAUL

DARLING STREET DEVELOPMENT SOUTH SIDE SOUTH SIDE, HARBOUR TO JOHNSTON ST

STREET NUMBER	YEAR WHEN BUILT	BUILT BY	OCCUPATION	1982 DESCRIPTION
10	1840	J Bell	shipwright	2s stone Shipwrights Arms
12	1841	J Cavill	stonemason	2s stone Waterman's Cottage
14	c1850	WJ Wright	insp police	2s w/b altered
16	c1874	JT Lawson	boatbuilder	" " "
18	c1850	E Cromie	dressmaker	" " "
22	c1925	G Elliott	carpenter	" " "
24	1841-44	W Turley	shoemaker	stone Carysfort
26	1840	H Davy	auctioneer	stone, attic storey
28	"	"	"	"
30	c1885	TT Butement	architect	2s brick stucco terrace
32	"	"	"	"
34	"	"	"	"
36	1868	C Harrold	m mariner	ditto (Rhodesia)
38	"	"	"	"
40	1883	W Miller	comm agent	2s brick stucco Eastview
42	"	"	"	2s brick stucco Richmond
44	1870	E Robertson	licensed	2s brick stucco
46	"	"	victualler	Brighton Terrace
48	"	"	"	"
50	c1845	C Bullivant	"	2s stone Waterford Arms
52-56	1888	JJ Wheeler	butcher	2s brick stucco shops/residences

JOHNSTON STREET, EAST SIDE DARLING ST TO PAUL ST

4	c1905	—	—	w/b
6	1840-53	E Robertson	publican	brick stucco
8	"	"	"	"
10	c1870	J Donovan	gent	"
				shop/residence

PAUL STREET, NORTH SIDE, WESTON ST TO JOHNSTON ST

1	1841-4	T Leggat	publican	w/b Uxbridge Cottage
			demolished	1982 & new house built
3	1842-4	J Millar	agent	2s stone
5	1843-4	Jon. Bell	storekpr	"
7	1844-52	JB Darvall	gent	stone Fern Villa
9	c1902	TT Butement	architect	brick
11	"	"	"	"
13	1842-4	H Davy	bookkpr	stone Sunnyside
15	1886	W Miller	comm agent	2s brick stucco
17	"	"	"	terrace
19	"	"	"	"
21	c1870	E Robertson	publican	brick stucco Poplar Cottage
23	"	"	"	brick stucco Kent Cottage

WESTON STREET WEST SIDE, DARLING ST TO PAUL ST

1	c1841	W Todd	gent	2s w/b brick front
3	"	"	originally ss w/b and rebuilt 2s by WJ Wright c1881, brick front added c 1975.	

ABBREVIATIONS: ss = single storey
2s = 2 storey
w/b = weather board

AREA BOUNDED BY PAUL ST, JOHNSTON ST, PEARSON ST, AND DARLING HARBOUR = PEARSON

PAUL STREET, SOUTH SIDE, WESTON ST TO JOHNSTON ST

2	1881-3	DR Edwards	med pract	2s brick
4-14	1879	AT Jaques	gent	2s brick Eastcliff Terrace
16-20	c1940	M Freeman	m woman	2s brick flats
22-26	c1966	—	—	2s brick home units

JOHNSTON STREET, EAST SIDE, PAUL ST TO PEARSON ST

12	c1865 & c1870	F Hixson & J Lyons	m mariner m mariner	originally ss, upper storey added by Lyons c1870 and named Branksea, re-named Onkaparinga in 1920 by W R Snow.
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PEARSON STREET, NORTH SIDE, WESTON ST TO JOHNSTON ST

1-9	c1940	M Freeman	m woman	2s brick flats
11	1836-44	J Pearson	m mariner	stone attic storey called Hillside House (1853), Sea-view House (1857), Eastcliff and Eastcliff House (c1864). Altered by E T Blacket c1864
13	1836-44	"	m mariner	w/b ss Derwent Cottage demolished 1980

WESTON STREET, WEST SIDE, PAUL ST TO PEARSON ST

5-7	c1940	M Freeman	m woman	2s brick flats
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AREA BOUNDED BY PEARSON ST, JOHNSTON ST, FENCED LINE, AND DARLING HARBOUR (INCLUDING ST MARY'S ST) = WESTON

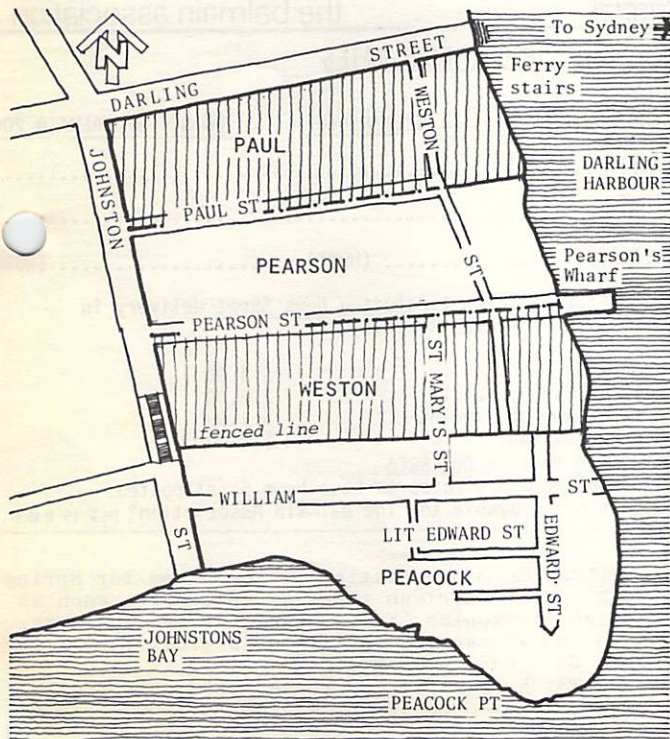
PEARSON STREET, SOUTH SIDE, ST MARY'S ST TO JOHNSTON ST

2	1863	Rev W Stack	Anglican minister	2s brick St Mary's Parsonage, demolished 1965 and replaced by new flats
4	1865-7	R Phegan	shipwright	w/b later named Finsbury Villa
6	c1864	T Cosgrove	shipwright	w/b later named Eyre
8	1864-69	T Robertson	shipwright	2s brick, St Abbs
10	1886-94	W McGrath	grazier	2s brick, St Aubyns
12	c1885	AJ Scott	lithogr	2s brick stucco later named Roslyn
14	"	"	"	2s brick stucco later named Austral
16	c1890	"	"	w/b
18	c1885	W Marr	engineer	2s brick stucco
20	"	"	"	" " "
22	c1885	T Cromack	"	later named Pomeroy
24a	c1968			2s brick
24	1869-74	G Etheridge	warehsemn	Rothsay Flats
26	c1968			2s brick first Eric Villa re-named Rothsays by A Fenwick in 1909
				2s brick, car park below, home units

ST MARY'S STREET, EAST SIDE, PEARSON ST TO WILLIAM ST

c1866	C McBurney	m mariner	w/b burnt down 1977
4 c1866	L Castle	m mariner	ditto but one new house built replacing Nos 2-4
6 c1875	C McBurney	" "	w/b burnt down 1977 and new brick house built
8 "	"	"	part of No6 also burnt down in 1977
10 c1871	W Kennedy	engineer	brick 2s
12 c1870	W Fairweather	"	" "
14 c1867	J Fenwick	waterman	2s stone
16 "	"	"	" "
18 c1869	L Truscott	m mariner	2s brick later named Gertrude Cottage

BOUNDARIES OF PEACOCK, WESTON, PEARSON AND PAUL



AREA BOUNDED BY FENCED LINE, JOHNSTON ST, JOHNSTON'S BAY, PEACOCK POINT, AND DARLING HARBOUR = PEACOCK

WILLIAM STREET, NORTH SIDE, FROM ST MARY'S ST

1a	1982			new house
1	c1912	T Holdsworth	stonemason	stone, Oldcliff
3	1956			w/b ss
15	c1927	J Zihurul	wharflab	" " "
17	c1887	EH Gardner	boatbldr	2s brick stucco
19	"	"	"	" " "
21	c1884	"	"	" " "
23	c1883	T Buxton	tobacco manufr	" " "
25	1850-8	J Sims	publican	Glenville
27	"	"	"	stone attic storey
				later named Elizabeth's Villas
29	"	"	"	stone attic storey
31	"	"	"	" " "
				later named Charles' Villas

WILLIAM STREET, SOUTH SIDE, FROM EDWARD STREET

4	1878-85	L Gardner	widow	2s wb terrace
6	"	"	"	" " "
8	c1980	"	"	new house
8a	"	"	"	" " "
				original No8, stone attic storey built by E Gardner, boatbldr, 1857-67, demolished c1965.
10	1857-67	T Rose	boatbldr	stone, attic storey
10a	c1975	"	"	new house
12	c1962	"	"	" " "
14	"	"	"	" " "
16	"	"	"	" " "
18	c1847	H Gardner	boatbldr	stone, attic storey renovated/alted 1962
20	1841-44	H Gardner	boatbldr	w/b "hut" later demolished
22	c1860	J Rose	farmer	stone ss

EDWARD STREET, WEST SIDE, WESTON'S SUB TO PEACOCK PT

1-3	c1870	F Smith jnr	landholder	2 w/b houses demolished after 1914 when sold to Sydney Harbour Trust (MSB)
5	1870	F Smith jnr	landholder	ss brick built for W D Cruikshank, engineer, later named Roxburgh Cottage
7-				
17	c1870	F Smith snr	freeholder	2s stone stucco Harbour View Terrace
19	c1855	P Hanson		ss stone? attic storey replaced by 2s brick stucco by E Boulton, jeweller, in 1902
21	c1978	"	"	new house
23	"	"	"	" " "
25	1982	"	"	" " "

LITTLE EDWARD STREET, NORTH SIDE, FROM EDWARD STREET

2	1844	W Dennis	butcher	2s stone terrace
4	"	"	"	" " "
6	"	"	"	" " "
8	"	"	"	" " "
10	1846-53	J Suddy	slater	stone ss now altered
12	"	"	"	" " "

LITTLE EDWARD STREET, SOUTH SIDE, FROM EDWARD STREET

3	c1978	"	"	new house
5	"	vacant	"	"
7	c1978	"	"	new house

JOHNSTON STREET, EAST SIDE, TO JOHNSTON'S BAY

14	1852-75	H Gardner	boatbldr	ss w/b later named Ellenville
16	"	"	boatbldr	ss w/b
18	1856-85	WH Rose	shipwright	"

For PEACOCK, WESTON, PEARSON and PAUL see Parts I and II of the article in Leichhardt Historical Journal Nos 11 and 12.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING 7 FEBRUARY 1983

T Begbie, G Chanter, P Crawford, F Heathfield, R Linklater, S Lynch, L McDermott, R Norman, P Reynolds, and S Waks met at the Watch House on the above date. Apology received from P Ryan.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:

- 1 P Durlacher re Dumaesque family & origin of name Rozelle.
- 2 LJ McMahon, MP for Sydney, re National Estate Programme.
- 3 Hon DT McVeigh, Min for Environment, per LJ McMahon re 2.
- 4 Leichhardt Council re proposed amalgamation.
- 5 DA Spinney ordering copies of Leichhardt Historical Journal.
- 6 Ashfield Council re Draft Planning Scheme for Ashfield.
- 7 RAHS encl Journal etc - subscription due.
- 8 HMA Naval Dockyard, Garden Island, re conducted tours.
- 9 Drill Hall Co-ordinating Committee, Leichhardt, re use of Drill Hall.
- 10 National Trust re Heritage Week programme.
- 11 Leichhardt Council encl Development Control Plan.

CORRESPONDENCE SENT:

- 12 Replies to 1-5 above
- 13 Mrs Jessie McMahon (nee Gray) with thanks for donation of key to Watch House Charge Room door, atlas and documents, and offer to pay cost of framing picture of her mother now in our collection.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

- 14 Subscriptions of K Knight, M Cowan, J McMahon.
- 15 Mrs McMahon's visit to Watch House last month.
- 16 Annual General Meeting 1983.
- 17 NEWS SHEET delivery - 126 not delivered in some areas.
- 18 Mrs McMahon and Garden Club re Watch House plants.
- 19 Benefit dinner for Mick O'Brien, 26.2.83, 26 Dock Rd, \$8 head
- 20 CBAG Report. Second Crossing proposal abandoned 23 December last.
- 21 Dickson Primer site. Maritime Services Board agreed to open access road from Darling Street to allow entry to site and to new waterfront park.

WELCOME

We Welcome new members Mrs J McMahon, M D Allt, L and M Lynch, J and A Miller and M Hannon.

(continued from pl)

CAMELLIAS, AZALEAS AND GARDENIAS: May be looking tired and perhaps yellowing from lime leaching out of cement paths and walls. Give iron chelates and Epsom salts and plenty of water.

LAWNS: Do not cut too short to avoid sunburn. May need stimulation with a lawn fertiliser.

ROSES: Tidy up plants - cut out any die-back and old seed heads. Spray with a fungicide for mildew and black spot. Fertilise for autumn display.

CHRISTMAS BUSH: Cut back now give blood and bone, and iron chelates to improve next year's colour.

BOTTLEBRUSH: Cut off all dead flower heads to increase next year's flowering. Give blood and bone.

CHRYSANTHUS: Keep pinching out centre tips until March to increase flowering and lessen lankiness. Fertilise and treat pests.

CREPE MYRTLES: Take out all suckers at base. Treat mildew with Benlate.

EVERGREEN SHRUBS: Prune after flowering - may wish to try layering for more plants. Pull down a low branch and make slanting cut underneath the stem about halfway through and prop open with a small stick. Peg down with a piece of wire or stone. Leave until following summer before cutting away from main plant.

DAPHNE: Try cuttings four inches long of new growth made since Spring, which has now hardened up.

IRISES: Can be taken up and old part of tuber discarded. Plant remainder in full sun with most of timber exposed. Fasten down roots with hairpin or bent wire and a little soil. Give lime and superphosphate.

ORCHIDS: Feed monthly with liquid fertiliser until April. Keep in sunlight at least one-third of each day.

WATCH THESE DATES

1983 MEETINGS DIARY*****
To simplify arrangements for Management Meetings, General Meetings and History Meetings, one meeting combining all these functions will be held on the first Monday of each month - except public holidays.

Monday	7 March	Monday	1 August
Monday	4 April	Monday	5 September
Monday	2 May	Tuesday	4 October
Monday	6 June	Monday	7 November
Monday	4 July	Monday	5 December

Remember - first Monday in each month at the Watch House at 7 30 pm. ALL WELCOME*****

JOIN the balmain association

meaning BALMAIN BIRCHGROVE ROZELLE

OUR AIMS ARE TO:

- * improve the living working and recreational amenity of our area
- * maintain all features having natural architectural and/or historical value
- * compile and record the history of the area/keep a permanent collection of items of historical interest
- * seek the co-operation of everyone concerned in the realization of the above

For further information please contact:

PETER REYNOLDS

827 3560

AMENDED SUBSCRIPTION RATES

MEMBERSHIP FORM (OPEN/RENEW) PO BOX 57 BALMAIN 2041

NAME:

ADDRESS:

TELEPHONE: (HOME) (WORK)

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION (including News Sheet delivery in Balmain Birchgrove Rozelle)

Single	\$ 4.00
Family or Household	\$ 6.00
Pensioner or Student	\$ 1.00
Organization	\$12.00

DELIVERED FREE IN OUR AREA

Add \$3.00 to above rates to have News Sheet posted.

Cheques made payable to "The Balmain Association" PLP 15-2-83

BULBS: Commence putting in these now for Spring growth. South African types do best here, such as freezias, tritonias, ixias, babianas and sparaxias. Use no animal manures. A little chemical fertiliser helps. Must have good drainage.

PESTS: Keep alert for these - Red spider mite is most troublesome in hot weather - impossible to see. Leaves shrivel and die off, especially low on the plant. Kelthane is the best for these as they are most resistant pests. Spray underneath leaves.

SEEDS: Start putting a few around now for late Winter and Spring. Dianthus, foxgloves, forget-me-nots, aquilegias and heartsease are just a few.