MAC BRIDGE HANDWRITTEN DOCUMENTS

1. The Gardner Family Rouchel. 22 pages. This appears not to be the complete original. In the current edition I used this and a typed version which contained many misinterpretations of Mac Bridge's handwriting.

2. Notes added to the original story and submitted to the Scone Historical Society. Typed on page 36 of the current version.

3. Continuation of the Gardner story. This forms pages 37-38 of the current version. The original was in the possession of Evelyn Collison and photocopied from that by Heather Ashford.

4. Evelyn Collison. In your letter .... Photocopy of his handwritten letter. Retyped as pages 39-41 in the current document.

5. Obituary of Mrs. F. Adams. Copied from the Scone Advocate, July 1940. Typed on page 42 of the current version.

6. "The following is taken from an extract from the Scone Advocate ..." Mac Bridge wrote this information for the Advocate and then hand copied the printed version. This forms pages 44-45 of the current document.

(1)

The Gardner family Rouchel 1957

Written by Malcolm Henry Bridge from memory & hearsay

The late heads of the family who were Inneskillens born in the County Fermanagh Northern Ireland as was their four children. Three daughters & one Son namely Eliza, William Irvine, Mary, and Anne. Not definitely known by present generations but it is believed Mrs Gardners maiden name was * Irvine. * Irwin * However the family decided to sail for Australia They left Ireland about the year 1840 when ~~their eldest child~~ Eliza was about 12 years of age The boat whose name I don't Know sailed at Glasgow. And before sailing from that port a lady came to the Wharf. And asked the head of the family to deliver a letter to her son. Telling him he was sure to see him as he had some time previously sailed to Australia. Of course at that time it appeared as though the people of the home countries must have thought Australia was somebodys back yard. ~~Of course~~ The letter was addrised to John morrison. But no locality was mentioned. When the family arrived and disembarked in Sydney and started to travel north. They learned to realise that Australia was a pretty extensive country. And by the time they arrived at Maswellbrook in July 1843 had practically given up hopes of finding John morrison But after being in Maswellbrook some time

They Arrived in Maswellbrook in ~~October~~ June or July 1843.

The son William came in one day and told his parents that he believed he had found the whereabouts of John Morrison. So investigations were made and John Morrison was located working as Engineer for people by name Chivers who owned and were operating a tweed factory in Muswellbrook. Located at the end of what is now Mill Street a branch off Sydney St. In the building now Occupied by the Commercial freezing Company for the purpose of freezing rabbits. This building was opened as a tweed factory about 1841. So therefore is at least 116 years old and still pretty solid. So returning to the Gardner family. They ~~made~~ delivered the said letter, And struck up a friendship with the recipient. And later I believe about the year 1846. The said John Morrison & Eliza Gardner, became man and wife And resided in rooms that were attached to the factory. Where at least one of their children were born name Mary Ann. Previous to her marriage Eliza when only quite a girl was employed by the Late Bookie Nowland. The Great-Grandfather of the present Clifford Parkinson Head of the present firm of Edward Higgens — Parkinson & Coy Auctioneers in Parkinsons chambers in Bridge st Muswellbrook The only three storeyed building in the Brook

The said Mary Ann Morrison was the first child Baptised in what is now the old Presbyterian Church Muswellbrook NSW

Ritualed in Hill at (3) Muswellbrook and used as a
Sunday School that would be 109 years ago this 1957
The said Boshie Nowland at that time
was keeping an hotel on the spot where the
commercial Banking boy of Sydney now stands
At that time the Nowlands owned an almost
unbroken strip of land from Bridge St ~~Muswellbrook~~
Muswellbrook to the Wybong creek a distance of
about 16 miles with Overton fronting the river
at Muswellbrook and Ballatoota at the Wybong
end. Anyway one little story that Eliza used to
tell about her duties at the hotel ~~was~~ one of them
was to keep the proprietor informed as to the time
of day. So pretty often during the day he would
call Eliza. Please go and see what time it is.
This entailed a trot down the street to the front
of a store kept by a man by name
Stringhaul situated on the spot where
Coroneo's Niagra Cafe now stands, fortunately
~~The clock~~ Stringhaul had a clock in a position
where the time could be seen from the street
So she would have a look and return and tell
him the time. One day one of his customers
could see what was doing. So he said
Nowland why don't you buy a clock and
save all this trouble. His reply was No
I wont have anything about the place that
won't breed. So he didn't buy a clock and the
trotting still went on.

The Gardners then I believe shifted to Aberdeen and later to Rouchel. Whilst in Aberdeen William Kept a store and also owned and Kept The Segenhoe Hotel. William married Ellen Mitchell Mary married John McMullin and Ann became Mrs Brown. The latter couple went into The North west to a place by name Bryon situated about 36 miles on The Narrabri side of Walgett. Mrs Brown died whilst living at Bryon. The writer was at Bryon for The lamb shearing in 1907 or 1908. Bryon was at that time owned by J.K. and W.H. McKay. Whilst there and was one day searching for young Galahs. I saw a lonely Grave 1/2 say about a mile west of Bryon homestead. I mentioned it when I returned to Muswellbrook and was then told that it was most likely The Grave of Mrs Brown But at the time I was there. I didn't know that Mrs Brown had some years before died and was buried at Bryon So ~~was unable to~~ I don't know if it was her grave or not. The Morrisons also shifted to Aberdeen where John Morrison acquired and conducted The flour mill at Aberdeen The old Mill building still stands I believe with all The old machinery still in position The grinding of wheat for flour at that time was done with stone rollers.

At the time the Morrisons had three daughters Mary, Margret & Elizabeth. When the children were still small it was the duty for one of them to feed the mill. From the top floor with a scraper. As a precaution that the child wouldn't fall in with the wheat She was strapped so she couldn't fall in. At the time the stoking of the boiler at the Mill was done with wood. which the Miller had to cart by horse & dray from the surrounding hills. Whilst returning one day with a load of wood he was sitting on the shaft of the dray. Something happened to the harness and the horse kicked and broke one of John Morrisons legs. At the time the nearest Hospital & doctor was at Maitland So a stretcher was rigged in a spring cart and he was taken to Maitland and admitted to hospital, where he died from the effects of a broken leg and was buried in the *old East Maitland Cemetery. In 1852 His Grave can be seen a short distance from the Tomb of the Brownie of coal fame Mary Gardner married John McMullin. and settled for some time at Oswald, which is situated on the Hunter river between Greta & Lochinvar. And later settled on the Rouchel I believe at Bingleberry. And later

* The old East Maitland Cemetery is situated about half-way on the road from East Maitland leading to Morpeth.

to Half Moon. Which is now known as Brooklyn the home of the present George McMullin. The old lady had a cottage on a hill near George McMullins wool shed and always called it Oswald cottage. And I believe it has in later years been rebuild and still retains the name of Oswald cottage.
Eliza Gardner had three daughters of her first marriage to John Morrison. Margret Mrs Geo Lambert Belford
Mary. Mrs William Bridge. Bridgland Rouchel
Elizabeth. Mrs Fred Adam Willowburn, Rouchel
And to her second husband by name Walker two daughters Emma. Mrs Mat Spencer and Ellen Walker. Now all deceased
Mary McMullin (Nee Gardner) had a family of Two sons and Six Daughters They were
1 John. I. McMullin Late of Bingeberry Rouchel Brook
2 William G. McMullin Late of Brooklyn Rouchel Brook
3 Elizabeth (Betsy) Mrs Donald Cameron Rouchel
4 Mary, Ann. Mrs Kenneth Cameron Davis Creek
5 Sarah. Mrs Thomas Caban Davis Creek
6 Beckie Mrs Billy Madden Davis Creek
7 Emma (Emmie) Mrs Andy Pinkerton Gundy
8 Ellen (Nellie) Mrs Tom Jones Muscle Creek
The last named (Nellie) Born in 1865. Now in 1957 Has gained the ripe old age of 92 years. And lives in Scone with two of her daughters Mrs Allyn Brooker and Miss Ellie Jones.

Ann Gardner. Mrs Brown I haven't any particulars of her family. All I know as before said she died and was buried at Cryon William. Irvin. Gardner. ~~Married~~ Whose first wife was. Ellen. Mitchell. Raised a first family of ~~four~~ five sons and two daughters

Andrew. George. Gardner
William. Irvin. Do | Ellen Mrs Alf Stafford
Malcolm. Henry. Do | Elizabeth Mrs Jim Smith
George. Mitchell. Do
John. Ernest. Vavaseur. &

After the death of Mrs Ellen Gardner William J. Senr married Margaret. Cameron. One son of that marriage Sydney. Lane. Gardner. Still Survives and resides at his fathers old home Rose. Vale. Rouchel 9 miles from Aberdeen

The Original Gardner who came with his wife & four children from Ireland about 1840. was married a second time and the three children of the latter marriage. were. James. John. & a sister Jennie. Mrs George Mitchell. John (Jack) who was known as the Hercules of Aberdeen. Had three in family. John. I believe. Walter (Toss) & Winifred. James left these parts and settled in the Manilla district. As far as I know his decendents are still about Manilla & Gunnedah

Jenny Mrs George Mitchell. Had Nine children
John. William. George. Irwin. Arthur. Bert.
Rowley. (Seven Sons two daughters)
Elizabeth Mrs W. (Bill) Tilse, Stewarts Brook
Nellie Mrs - W. H. (Harry) Bone Stewarts Brook
The two youngest of the Mitchell family still survive
Bert Stewarts Brook & Rowley Tamworth -
The Original Gardner whose Christain name is unknown
to the writer. Must have lived about or in Scone
at the time of his death, was buried in the
St Lukes Churchyard at the corner of Hill and
Liverpool Streets Scone. Arrangements were
made to erect a headstone. And the stone was
made at Thorntwaite 12 miles west of Scone
and when being brought to Scone for erection
by dray something happened crossing Middle-Brook
Creek and the stone got broken. And there never
was a stone erected. However. When St Lukes
was to be rebuilt Some where towards the end
of last century The new Church was built over his
Grave unfortunately there is no mark on the Church
to varify this. But I well remember in 1896
hearing the late (Jenny) Mrs Geo Mitchell loking at
the church from Hill St near St Aubins st and
telling of this happening. And saying what a
wonderful Monument to my father. Counting from
head of the Gardner family six generations of the
Gardner stock have at some time lived in Scone
The count on to the sixth Generation. In the children

of Mrs Elsie Crackett at Present 166 Susan Street
Mrs Mary Baker (9) same address - Mrs Daphne Reed
Hill Street and Mrs Heather Ashford 32 New England Hwy
all in Scone.

Some of the Decendents of the Gardner family

Seemed to Have distinguished Themselves I refer to
The late Lieutenant. Colonel. Don. Cameron. D.S.O & Bar
Lieutenant Colonel A.O. McMullin D.S.O. Now residing in Tamworth
The Late Bill Cameron. M.L.A. for upwards of 12 years
Sydney. L. Gardner M.H.R for ~~[illegible]~~ ~~The same time~~ 18"
~~And~~ Alister McMullin at present President of the Senate at Now Sir Alister Canberra
Harry Spencer commissioner ~~Chairman~~ of the Western Lands of
Commission.

Of coure There may be others of younger Generations
That The writer is unacquainted with. And doesn't know
Them or Their whereabouts.

In ~~The~~ business as far as I know. The late
W.J. Gardner Sen. carried on The combined business's
Of HotelKeeper in The Segenhoe Hotel Aberdeen
And Store Keeper & Butcher at The same place
Mrs Eliza Walker (nee Gardner) also Kept a store
in Aberdeen. Then I believe the next was
W.J. Gardner Junr Who Kept a store at Roucel-
Brook ~~towards~~ in The 1890s. George. M. Gardner
Went into a butchering business in Scone
~~And later~~ in The Mid 1890s And later
Was a Milk vendor in Scone. He delivered milk in
The Town from Milton farm at that time about
one mile on The Northern side of The town. The
price of milk was 2 (two pence) a quart
What a difference Now The Price is 2/- (two Shillings)
Per Quart And The measures never seem to run over

About The year 1903. (Donald ~~Lin~~ & Andrew Ernest Bridge (Decendants on the maternal side from Eliza Gardner) The brothers had their business training under Alfred Stafford at Manilla where he was manager for N.B. McKenzie and later Albert Stafford of Narrabri & Moree.) However The Bridge brothers started a General store in Gunnedah And were the foundation members of the Northwestern Milling Company. But that venture apparently was too much for their finances So what was their loss apparently was some one elses gain As the Milling company still ~~ass~~ carries on I think under the name of Namoi Flour Mills. When the original Mill was opened about 1905 Andy Bridge was asked to ~~choose~~ a name for the flour. And he being a believer in the saying or slogan that nothing succeeds like Success chose ~~that name~~ Success for the name which was registered And I occasionally see Mill products with the Success brand on them Milton Budden ~~after learning~~ A decendent of of Eliza Gardner after learning the trade as a motor mechanic at Campbells Garage in Scone started a motor Business at Dungog And later at Dubbo where he took his brother Keith in with him. They later formed a company of which Milton Budden is the Manager, ~~and he~~ Trading as Budden Brothers, Dubbo

And from outward appearances The company which is run under to name of Budden Brothers ~~appears~~ seems to be in a fair way.

Tom Jones Grandson of Mary McMullin (Nee Gardner) Is at present Manager of ~~Co~~ Farmers & Graziers branch at Dubbo. Freeman Laban another Grandson of the same Mary Gardner. Now in the vicinity of the four score years mark. Still carries on grazing permits at Davis Creek and Red Bank. Noted as a Stock Judge at Agricultural Shows and Rodaos throughout The Greater part of the State. And I think he Holds The record of being a member of The Upper Hunter Pastoral & Agricultural Society longer than any living Person. Bye the way His brother Edgar now deceased was a retired ~~Inspector~~ Superintendent of Police. The present-Generations of McMullins. Are pretty Successful Graziers at Rouchel. Denman & Wybong & Scone

Colonel Cameron's family Still carries on at The old home on the Rouchel. Colonel Cameron's Brother Allan Now lives retired in Muswellbrook I don't Know The where abouts of his brother Ken. I think The youngest brother Malcolm is in New Guinea or some of The Islands The sons of The late Doug. & Ellie Cumming

Doug

Decendents in The same line Are still carrying on at Stellenbosch Elbow Creek on Rouchel side and Malumla and their late fathers Property both on Kains Creek on the Davis Creek side. Returning to The decendents of Eliza Gardner. Through her daughter Elizabeth Whose sons Gordon, ~~and~~ Frazer and Margret Adams. Still carry on at The old home Willow-burn upper Rouchel and Back Creek.
One brother Arthur lives ~~in~~ in The Liverpool district. Ettie Chalk granddaughter of Eliza resides in Sydney Her brother John Lambert met with a motor Accident in Maitland some ten or twelve years ago and died from The effects
The surviving ~~of the~~ members of The Bridge family Grandchildren of Eliza Gardner through her daughter Mary are Ellen ~~widow~~ widow of the late George Budden Dubbo.
Malcolm & Jessie (Mrs Ernie Budden) Muswellbrook
Percy and Archie 46 Nancy St North Bondi
That is five survivers of a family of Twelve.
The youngest Archie Was Thirty six years of age when The first break in the family came by the death at Goondiwindi of William (Biff) in 1931. The point in mentioning this. Is that The family of twelve never were together at any one time. That should be a record. Anyway among the decendents of The Gardner family Don Bridge's eldest son. I Believe 9 of The Bridge family attended the ~~main Creek~~ Rouchel School

Reginald carries on a ~~hard~~ Wholesale hardware business on Wheels. And Tours most of the state He carries on under the name R. I. Bridge Propriatary Ltd. Andy Bridge's youngest son Norman ~~Holds~~ down the position of Manager of the ~~C.B.A.~~ National Bank of Australia Ltd at Glen Innes Percy only son of Malcolm (Mac) A Bridge for the past six years has been a traveller representing The Olympic Rubber Company with a territory extending to Boggabri in north west Tamworth Manilla and Wakcha in the North Lassilis in the west Taree Telegraph point on the North coast & Maitland and Coalfields in the South Reg Mc Mullin was for a time Manager of the Rouched store for M. Campbell & Coy. The writer was employed by the Singer Sewing machine Coy as Salesman and collector on four occasions between the years 1904 & 1918. And represented that Company in the districts of Inverell, Gunnedah & Muswellbrook Aubrey Bridge Had a store in Singha about the year 1907. Syd Gardner was a partner in an accountancy business in Singleton under the name Gardner & Key. I have an idea he is interested in a business in ~~Ta~~ Sydney at the present time. Aubrey Spencer is interested in an estate agency also in Sydney. One of his sons was manager of broadcasting station 2 L M. Lismore not sure if he is still There

About the year 1893. An Arbor day celebration was held at the ~~main Camp~~ Rouchel School. ~~Rouchel~~ And as Mr W. I. Gardner sen had given the land on which the School was build. The honor of planting the first tree was given to the donors wife The late Mrs W. I. Gardner senr Mother of ~~the~~ Sydney L. Gaidner. The Tree was a Camphor Laurel I think it has long since disappeared. Then the mothers of Children ~~he~~ who had or were attending the School followed in Alphabetical order beginning with Mrs Adam and then followed Mrs Bridge Then Camerons Caban + so on Of course There was McMullins Millers Londsdale Carter Hindmarsh McCabe ~~McCabe~~ Kennedy Etc. There was a terrific storm including Hail broke just prior to the planting ceremony And some of the ladies were almost bogged down Till some planks were brought into play. Any way As each tree was planted the husbands were asked to say a few words. I remember my father saying he hoped the tree my mother planted would make good headway. But hoped that it wouldn't become a nuisance the same As Mrs Sutton's prickly pear That being the lady who first introduced the Prickly pear to the upper Hunter. And now after 64 years It dosen't look as if it ever will. This particular tree a pepper. Bears a plate setting out the date and by whom it was planted

(15) ~~(17)~~

As far as I can Remember. The members or decendents of the Gardner family who planted trees that day,

Mrs W.L. Gardner sens	Rose Vale	Rouchel
Mrs Fred Adam	Willowburn	Rouchel
Mrs William (Billy) Bridge	Bridgland	Rouchel
Mrs Donald Cameron.		Rouchel
Mrs Kenneth Cameron	Davis Creek	Rouchel
Mrs Thomas Caban.	Poplar Valley Davis Creek	Rouchel
~~Mrs George Carter~~	~~Oakfield~~	~~Rouchel~~

~~Mrs~~ Not too sure of Mrs Andy Pinkerton then at Bingeberry There would be the ~~wife~~ wives of at least two of the decendents. Mrs J.S. and W.G. McMullin Rouchel Referring to the Arrival of the Gardner family in Muswellbrook. I don't Know if it was June or July 1843. The only guide I have. Is that Eliza Gardner said that they came to Muswellbrook, two day before the death of Lewis Ward. His tomb which is ~~the~~ in the Catholic Cemetery in Muswellbrook gives the ~~date~~ time of his death as July 1843

The Above account of the Gardner family and some of their decendents was written by Malcolm Henry Bridge, Decendant of Eliza Gardner from memory and what I've been told. By earlier decendents of the family who was born. At what was then called Half Moon (now Brooklyn, Present owner George McMullin) on May fifth 1883. Same year as the main camp School was opened although the year on the School Sign Board is 1882.

(16) ~~(15)~~

As mentioned earlier there were six generations of the decendents of the Gardner family who at some time or another lived in Leone. Six Generations also at some time lived in Muswellbrook. ~~Co~~ The sixth Generation in Muswellbrook are my 5 Grand children at present living with Their parents Percy Bridge & his wife at 883 Barrett street. Muswellbrook

As far as I know Including the original old couple there are seven generations The seventh generation would be my brother Johns (Jacks) Great Grand children living in The Lismore district There may be others. They would be Great. Great, Great, Great, Grand children of the originals

There are two small rocky knobs one each side of the Rouchel road leading from aberdeen near the 6½ mile peg. When the Gardners saw them they reminded them so much of two hills they had known in Ireland that they named them after them Bessie Bell and Mary Gray. The hills in Ireland were the burial places of these two women not known which is which.

From further information received from Sydney R. Gardner only surviving member of of the family of W.J. Gardner and others re ages and doings of some children of the Gardner family. Especially those who came to Australia from Northern Ireland in about the year 1840. Mary born 1822. Eliza born 1828 William J. was 83 years of age when he passed away in July 1914 So therefore he would be born in 1831. The age of Ann is unknown and James a half brother arrived as a baby born about 1840. The births of John (Jack) and Jane (Jenny) full brother and sister to James are unknown to Syd or the writer. James Gardner was a carrier as well as a noted horseman in the early days of Aberdeen. And was the owner of a horse that was a great swimmer. On one occasion when the Hunter was in flood Mr. Madden was marooned on the roof of a building somewhere about the middle of what is now the Aberdeen recreation ground. James Gardner swam his horse to where Mr Madden was marooned and had a rope fastened round Mr Madden's body. And then carried the other end of the rope back and handed it to some waiters at the edge of the water So they could haul him across. They were not conversant with the handling of a life line So when all was ready. Instead of pulling in the

Orthodox manner of hand over hand. They took the end of the rope and all hands ran away up the hill. Withe result that the weight of the rope pulled the one being rescued under the water till the edge was reached and landed him in a half drowned condition however he revived and lived to a good old age. On another occasion in ~~a flood in~~ Aberdeen Two men by name Asser brother to the late N.F. Asser, Storekeeper Scone, and the other by name Livingstone attempted to cross the hunter when in flood. They were both washed off their horses. Jimmy Gardner. On the same horse went to their rescue. And came out with Livingston clinging to his horse. Sad to say Mr Asser was drowned. That would be in the 1860's. Later James Gardner went north and settled in the Kelvin district some twenty or so miles from manilla. Kelvin is situated on the Namoi river about midway between manilla & Gunnedah. Where he owned a sheep and wheat property. Now carried on by one of his sons. Other sons of the family also have properties in the Gunnedah and Manilla districts.

As mentioned in these writings Sydney L. Gardner was a member of the Federal parliament.

He represented Robertson in the Federal Parliament for 18 years. For several years was Government Whip. And for some years was a member of Joint Committee of Public accounts in the Federal parliament

Bill Cameron also mentioned elsewhere. as member of N.S.W. State parliament for upwards of 12 years was for some years ~~was~~ on the Public Works Committee a portion of the time as chairman. He was still a member at the time of his death about the late 1920s or early 1930s.

Bill was also a great allround cricketer and played in Australia Ceylon And also in England. His playing in England took place during the time when he was chosen as one of the representatives of New South Wales to attend the coronation ceremony of the late King Edward 7th in 1902. One of Bills greatest innings in cricket was when he played with a northern team against a Sydney team. Match played in Howe Park Kingston where he hit seventeen fivers off seventeen consecutive Balls. Bill's brother Alex. Cameron, was also a great allrounder. He both Batted and bowled left handed. At the end of a match played at Scone. The late Dr H.J.H. Scott who was one of the first Australians to captain an Australian ~~team~~ test team To England

approached him and said Alex. If the right people (meaning test cricket selectors.) had seen you play today you would have no trouble in being selected to play international cricket.

On Bill Cameron's coronation tours in 1902 he played for and against county teams his top score in those matches was 250. When reminded of it on his return, he said remember it was county cricket not test. It used to be said during his hey day as a big hitter that he could just about hit a ball off the map. About the nearest he got to this was when playing in a match in Muswellbrook on what is now Olympic Park. He hit a ball and it was later found in Scone. Fact was that he opened his shoulders and got right under the ball and hit it right out of the ground and it landed in an empty open goods truck attached to a passing train and the ball was retrieved from the truck when it reached Scone and sent back to Muswellbrook. No evidence to say whether the game was held up pending the return of the lost ball.

Writing of W.J. Gardners businesses at Aberdeen He also had possession of a considerable amount of the Segenhoe country. and Grazed

Sheep which were shorn by hand at the old flour mill at Aberdeen. During this period he had Malcomb homestead erected. The old homestead still stands on the old road leading to Scone about 2 miles from Aberdeen. Believe it is occupied by a Mr Day, it is now 1958. The late M.b. McKenzie, founder of the well known firm of M.b. McKenzie & Sons Storekeepers of Aberdeen Manilla and Glen Innes. They still carry on at Glen Innes. Started business in a room at the Segenhoe Hotel, Aberdeen. Leased from W.I. Gardner at 2/6 per week. As mentioned elsewhere W.I. Gardner gave the ground for a School an amount of two acres situated on Main camp station then owned by him. Sons of the late W.I. Gardner and Son in law James Smith all had properties each in their own right and disposed of them before leaving Rowkel. The sons were, Andrew G. George M. and John E.V. Malcolm H. as mentioned elsewhere in this script. Had a property on Back Creek by name Lemon Grove or Dignum. And on his death in March 1893. It passed on to his two sons Cyrus M. and Wilfred H. Gardner who still carry it on.

Aubrey Spencer mentioned earlier as being a partner in an estate agency in Sydney. A decendent of Eliza Gardner. Was in 1937 Adujant to a rifle team that visited Bisley England. And on the same tour was Commandent of the first Australian rifle team to visit Canada.

Referring to the first Public School on Rouchel Brook. Situated on main Camp Estate 15 miles from Aberdeen. The following information was gained from Dpt of Education on February 3rd 1958. Original name of School Rouchell. Situation.
Part of W. J. Gardner's 846 acres known as main Camps Estate. Formerly owned by J. T. Hughes Area 2 acres acquired July 8th 1881. On 31-10-1929 The name of School was changed to Rouchel — It is well known that the two acres was a gift by W. J. Gardner. to dpt of Education.
The present Plan shows that a small portion of the Ground was taken off one corner and given or sold to Shire Council for road purp-oses.

1

The following is taken from an extract from The Scone Advocate which appeared under my name dated September 25th 1964 under a heading Early settlers of Rouchel recalled From information I received from Aubrey Spencer, Now residing at 22 Lawson St Mosman who gained the information from The Registrar Generals office in Sydney, and is set out in the form of questions and answers.

Quote Where was the first European habitation erected in the Rouchel Valley?

Answer: Singleton.

2 For what purpose was the habitation erected?

Answer: Shepherds quaters for the Ravensworth Company which had been granted a vast tract of grazing land extending from near Singleton to and including the Rouchel Valley.

3 Then, who were the first occupants?

Answer: Thomas Spencer and his wife, Mary, who came to Australia in 1840, under contract as Shepherd for the Ravensworth Company at a salary of £10 per annum and a ration and a half. Thomas Spencer

appears to be incomplete

hailed from Surrey, England, and his wife from the Vale of Avon, County Wicklow, Ireland. Their first son, Thomas, was born at Bingeberrie in 1841, followed by Matthew, 1843, John 1845, Absolom and twin Mary 1846, & all they reared a family of six sons and five daughters. With the exception of Edward their youngest son all were born at Bingeberrie.

Four. On what year was the Rouchel land, first made available for occupation?

Answer, 1855, when 16 small holdings in the lower portion of the Valley were made available as freehold grants.

Five. To whom was the first of these holdings ~~made available~~ actually allotted?

Answer Thomas Spencer, senior, area 152 acres, location: The present homestead stands on this area. It was originally called Rouchel Vale, but during the Holmes occupation which took place about 1889 the word "Rouchel" was deleted and became "The Vale".

Six. How was the original Rouchel Vale area increased?

Answer. In 1861 the John Robertson land act came into operation in N.S.W. and under its provision, other lands in the Rouchel Valley became available as conditional Purchase areas. The first of these C.P. holdings were recorded to Thomas Spencer senior, 160 acres and 40 acres to Thomas Spencer junior, both in January 1862. Subsequently further areas were allotted to Thomas, Matthew, John and Absolom Spencer. end of quote.

Of course the original Alexander Cameron and the original Donald Kennedy. whose wife was a sister of Alexander Cameron. Were among early settlers on Rouchel Alexander Cameron at Glen Earne and Donald Kennedy at Dalney These holdings probably embraced some of the 16 holdings mentioned earlier

In 1861 William Gardner acquired Rose Vale This must have ~~to~~ embraced portions also of the 16 holdings made available. As it was 1862 when the first land was available under the John Robertson act

M. H. (Mac) Bridge
16 Skellatar Street
Muswellbrook 3N.
27-6-1967

Photo-copied from Original owned by
Mrs. Evelyn Collison
24.3.1979.

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Continuation of Gardner Story.

Whilst writing of what came to mind regarding the Gardner family (in 1958) I made several unsuccessful attempts to get in touch with members of the descendents of the late James (Jimmie) Gardner, Son of the original head of the Gardner family, Natives of the County Fermanagh Northern Ireland, who came to Australia in 1840. Then after a brief article dealing with the Gardner family, appeared in the Scone Advocate in March 1964, under or over the writers name, and through the courtesy of the Advocate, I have been able to contact one who had asked the Advocate to supply her with several copys of the paper containing the Article. She is mrs H.A. Bodbeck (nee Izetta Gardner) who resides at 37 Rodney street Barraba. In a letter received from her dated 14th Oct. 1964, the following information was gained.

My grandfather James Gardner, married Dora Dixon and raised a family of 9 sons and 5 daughters. Sons names, Bill, Tom, Jack, Jim, Abb, Bob, (who was thrown from a horse and killed aged 17 years,) then followed Frank, Archie, and Walter, (The last two being twins) Daughters names, Laura, Emma, Lily, Nell and Ethel. They being the father, and uncles and aunts of Izetta Bradbeck (nee Gardner) of Barraba. One only of the Sons are still living. He is Archie, residing at Barraba aged 82 years, He married Daisy Thoms, and has two Married daughters. One in Tamworth one at Guilford

I

The eldest son of James senr was William (Bill) who married Mary Costello, and till his death owned a property Coolnadatta in the Manilla district.

2, Tom Gardner who was (father) of Izetta Brodbeck, He married Salina Fletcher in 1887, died Sept 1949 aged 85 years, had 10 in family (His Wife died 1930 aged 59 years) had six daughters (one died in infancy) and three sons. Izetta one of two girls of twins, One twin of the eldest girl; died aged 6 months. The others are living in Sydney and Ettalong. Two daughters died, one being a cripple from the age of 11 yrs with Rheumatoid arthritis. But could paint beautifully. Her pictures won Prizes throughout the State, and she was well known for her paintings. Izetta daughter of Tom Gardner, married Horace Brodbeck. Has two children (married) Son Wesley is civil defence controller at Barraba where he resides, Daughter Elinor married Bob Allen, a school teacher, residing at Gosford.

3, Jim Gardner jun. married Lydia Coote of Manilla had a family of 7 sons and 2 daughters, And owned a property "Newry Park" upper Manilla.

4 Abb Gardner married Annie Honnery, had a property at Kelvin in the Gunnedah district, His son Irwin is still on the property.

5 Jack Gardner, died many years ago

6 Bob Gardner thrown from a horse and killed aged 17 years.

7 Frank Gardner married Kate Byrnes, died 1926.
8 and 9 were twins Walter and Archie Gardner.

8. Walter Gardner a twin died when a young man.

4. Archie Gardner a twin, mentioned earlier, is the only surviving son of James Gardner senior, and Wife nee Dora Dixon, Resides in Barraba. Following ar the daughtes of above mentioned James and Wife Dora Gardners.

1 Lenna Gardner married Jim MacDonnack, both have passed on, as have most of their family.

2 Emma Gardner married Bill Billings. Had a son who lost his life in World War I.

3 Vell Gardner, married Jack West of Tamworth.

4 Lily Gardner married his brother Bob West, and years later when a Widow married John MacRitchie, and died 19th March 1964 at her daughters home in Maitland, aged 84 years.

5 Ethel Gardner, youngest daughter of James Gardner senr, married Jack *McClelland of Tamworth, and is now living with her daughter in Perth, only surviving daughter

As far as the Writer is aware at present-1964, There are three There are Three of the third generation of the Gardner family in Australia who are still living, They are Sydney Lane Gardner, of Rose Vale Rouchel, son of the late William J Gardner senr, Archie Gardner of Barraba, and Ethel Mac Clelland nee Gardner of Perth. The latter two are son and daughter respectively of James Gardner senior and Wife nee Dora Dixon. If There are more of that generation, they would be descendents of Ann Brown nee Gardner, who died at Cryon station between Wee Waa and Walgett. Whilst doing the Writings re The Gardner family in 1958, I failed to get tidings of Ann Browns family but live in hopes.

* McClelland (See above)

(See over)

Evelyn Collison

1

In your letter you expressed the hope that I would not find your questions in any way boring certainly they are not boring. And I'm always pleased to answer any questions providing I an able to give a satisfactory answer. Yes my Grandmother on the maternal side was Eliza Gardner. The original head of the Gardner family I believe, arrived in Australia in 1840 [?] 1842 with four children of his first marriages. Along with his second wife and one son born to that marriage. Two more children were born after their arrival. The four of first family born in Ireland were. Mary. ~~Ann~~ Eliza. Ann, and. William. Of the second family James arrived as a baby, then John and Jane were born later.

Mary married John. McMullin. To them 6 daughters and two sons were born, they were William. married Kitty McDonald. John married. Bella. Jones.

Betsy. m. Donald Cameron. Mary. m. ~~Tom C~~ Kenneth Cameron

Sarah. m. Tom Cahan. Beckie. m. Billy Madden.

Emmie. m. Andy Pinkerton. Ellen. m. Tom Jones. —

Eliza's first Husband was John Morrison. To that union 4 children (one son and three daughters) were born Son Adam. died in infancy

Margret. m. George Lambert. Mary. m. William Bridge.

Elizabeth. m. Fred Adam.

Eliza then married William Walker. Two daughters were born to latter union Emma. m. Mat Spencer

Ellen remained single.
Ann married name Brown. died at Cryon in the North West, No particulars of family –
William (x) (m) Ellen Mitchell. Their family were
Andrew (m) Ellen Cameron, William Jr (m) Kate Ball
George (m) Jennie Chue nee Ball, Malcolm (m)
Sarah Carter. John (m) Miss Holmes. Ellen (m) Alf
Stafford. Elizabeth (m) James Smith.
William (x) Senior After the death of his wife Ellen.
married Margaret Cameron, One son born to this union
Sydney: Who lives at the old home Rose. Wifes name
unknown to self. She was born in England
Then our Great Grandfather Gardners second family
Was James. born about 1840. In the 1880s James
went to Manilla district and remained there till
his death about 1937 at the age of 97 years.
I do not know his Wife's maiden name, all I
know there was a family mostly sons the only
names I know, are William and Albert.
Then John. Married a Widow Mrs. Cundy. Three children
were born to them Toss believe his name Walter, wifes name Flynn or
Herbert, John, Went to boer War never returned.
and Winifred who remained single.
And Jane, who married George Mitchell. You would
know more of the latter than I do.
After the death of Great Grand father Gardner his
widow married a man by name Arnold. And was
called by the families Granny Arnold. She was
buried at Main Camp cemetery

my grandmother was Jane Gardner
to C Cellnor

buried in the Main Camps cemetery at Upper Rouchel. A headstone marks the spot.
Then you ask of or about Granny Mitchell I know very little about the old lady, Believe her maiden name was Lane not sure. I never saw her. I remember hearing a lot about her funeral. A message was sent to your Grandfather after her death at Rose Vale. He set off with buggy and pair not knowing the time of burial. He expected to cross the Hunter at the Brook crossing 5 miles past Aberdeen on Rouchel road on arrival the Water was too deep to cross so had to go to Aberdeen to cross and when about a mile from Rose Vale saw the funeral leaving about sundown. It turned out that a couple of busy bodys had taken the arrangements out of the hands of the Gardeners. Jack Gardner did not attend the funeral, and when asked why his reply was, There are no race horses on Rose Vale. So it appeared that the pace was pretty fast Candles had to be lit and held so the Rev Norman could see to read the service. Of course that is now in the dim and distant past. I know it greatly upset your Grandfather. You said in letter your mother was loved by all. I think this could be said of the whole Mitchell family. And for your father wasn't he a grand man, I well remember your family shifting to Anderson. I was the boy at Mrs Lowe's at Myles Valley at the time, and it was her buggy and

Pair of horses your father borrowed to shift the family. I also had a letter from Ernie Bone of Middle Brook. He wanted to know something of the Bone family so I wrote and told him what I know of them. If you care to I'll leave with you what I had written of the Gardner family I expected to have a typewritten copy to lend you but it is out on loan. but there is very little difference, in the typed and hand written copys. I had 4 copys typed. One is in the hands of Syd Gardner one Aubrey Spencer has in Sydney one in the Scone and Upper Hunter Historical Society and the other is on loan locally to one who is going to try and straighten it up a bit. The Writings are almost all out of my head, and perhaps could do with some straightening out. But to anyone like yourself who knows the family it is readable. Each one of the families who have read it say it is a good effort

Mac. Bridge 29/8/1962

If Glen Bone went to World War 1 as did Ernie his name should be added to the Service list.

8.

Copied from

Scone Advocate, July 1940

Obituary. The late Mrs J. Adam.

The late Mrs Adam wife of Mr Frederick Adam of "Willow Burn" Upper Rouchel, who passed on in the Scott Memorial Hospital (Scone) on Thursday last in her 90th year, will be missed, yet affectionately remembered by not a few friends and acquaintances as well as those who comprise the family circle. Deeply read and informed her reminiscences of the early days in the district were invariably interesting, as they also were related with a redolence, and colour that made them all the more fascinating. Each mile stone of her long and useful life, had associated with it kindly thoughts for others, Born at the old and historic John Morrison, Scone hill as Aberdeen, on April 4th 1851, Her father who was an Engineer, and a native of Glasgow, Scotland, came to Australia over 100, years ago, and for some years on his own behalf conducted "The hill". The historic hand work and building still standing on the outskirts of Aberdeen, and still in a remarkable state of preservation. For some 55 years the late Mrs Adam resided on the Rouchel, and where the old home was the centre of hospitality, and where a fervent welcome was always to be had, Her husband now in the octogenerian stage of life, and himself a worthy

Mac Bridge.

member of the community survives, as also do three sons and one daughter, Namely, Messrs Arthur (Fairfield) Gordon, David F. and Miss Margret, Mr. Ad of Upper Rouchel, One son (Gordon) saw ~~sam~~ acti service on the Western front in the 1914-18 great W The old lady was, almost needless to add, the last of her generation, was a sister of the late Mrs William Bridge of Scone, whose husband was some years since a prodigious contributor to "The Advocate" of early happenings hereabout, When the Upper Hunter was swaddling clothes as it were. The funeral took pla on Friday morning and was largely attended, Rev D. Hamilton (Aberdeen) took the service in the Rouchel Presbyterian church, as he also did in the main Camp cemetery (Upper Rouchel) a little later. (end of article)

The following, did not appear in Advocate but written by Mrs Bro
The late Mrs Frederick Adam (Aunt Lizzie) nee Elizabeth morrison, was born at the old flour mill at Aberdeen on 4 April 1851, and often said that the year of her birth should be easy to remember, as that was the year in which Harga first found payable gold in N.S.W.
On her maternal side the late Elizabeth Adam nee Morris was a descendent of the original Gardner family, who were born at Inneskillen, in the county Fermanagh Northern Ireland, and came to Australia in ~~1940~~ 1840
Elizabeth was the third daughter of John Morrison and his Wife nee Eliza Gardner, the late John Morrison fo a number of years before going to Aberdeen was Engineer at Chiners tweed factory in Mus Brook which opened 184
M.A. Bridge 28/11/19

~~The Scone Advocate January 1927, written by that paper~~

Personal. Her and Mrs W. Bridge formerly of Mus' Brook

Copied from records in The Scone Historical Society

M.H. BRIDGE. MSS.

Please attach to writings Re Gardner family

These writings concerning The Gardner family and descendents. are not meant to be history of family tree.
With exception of a few details supplied by, Sydney. Gardner. of Rose Vale. Rouchel. and. Aubrey. Spencer. of Mossman.
The whole account written is from memory. If more or less details are written of some of the descendents than others. It has only been through lack of knowledge of some of the families. What gave the writer the idea of writings came from the Scone and Upper Hunter Historical Society. Their Secretary Wilfred. Green. asked me to pick on at least one family among the early Settlers of the Upper Hunter. And write all I could about them. My reply was If I pick a family I may find that I know more

(also next Page)

details of some branches than others.
His reply was. Write the facts as
you know them. What we would like
is truth a far as you can write it
Which I have endeavored to do.
It will be noticed that two branches
of the family received very little mention
They are. Ann Brown. nee Gardner. Who
many years ago
died at bryon in the North west.
No details of her family.
And James Gardner. Who went to the Manilla
district in the 1880s. Endeavour was
made to contact members of his family
without result. What little I know of
the latter two families is included in
the writings.
So knowing more about the Gardner family
of whom the writer is a descendent. than
any others of among the early settlers decided
on that family. they having been settlers for 118 years
1840 to 1958.