

# *The Southon Family of Builders*

*Biographical Notes, Photographs and  
Newspaper articles*

*Transcribed and Compiled  
by Denise Porter*

*2017*

## *Introduction*

I have always known that my great grandfather, Thomas Charlton Southon, built the bank on the corner of Maitland road and Hanbury Street, Mayfield; that he built the Mayfield post office and the Adamstown post office. Thomas also told my father that he built the Mayfield Hotel (I have also found out that his brother William had the contract).

It is recorded, via word of mouth in my family, that he built the confessionals at the Monastery at Mayfield, as Thomas had this joke to tell: – quote from dad – “*the brother said, did he want to be the first one to use the confessionals? ....Thomas said that he had committed every sin bar one – murder*”. It is not known if he built the whole church or just the confessionals. (I have not been able to locate any documentation)

I didn't expect to uncover so many buildings that Thomas, his brother William, and father Richard built... many of them demolished or heritage listed. I was not prepared for 150 years of building sites from Newcastle to Singleton and beyond. I will never find them all, especially Richard's contribution, as it was early days. Mostly everything I have found has come from Trove's Digitised Newspapers, so if tenders were not called, you wouldn't know what they built.

Dad told me on several occasions that the two storey home at the corner of Elizabeth and Bull Streets, Mayfield was a school and his grandfather Thomas built it. (I have located evidence that it was indeed a school). No documentation that Thomas built it, just hearsay. This school was called, the Hunter College, and was a day and boarding school for boys. It was quietly closed after several years due to child sexual abuse by the principal and another. This was not recorded in Newcastle papers; however, the court case (in Sydney) was covered by the *Truth* newspaper. (Ref: <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article168715948> )

What does dad remember of his grandparents? He said, in February 2014, that grandmother Southon fed him. He said that Grandfather Southon used to get him to take off his work boots. He laughed and said that Grandfather stuck up his toe so he couldn't get the boot off. He said he had exotic birds in his aviary and that he had stuffed birds and carved emu eggs in their

home. Dad's grandfather took him on rides in his horse and sulky. There was a swimming pool under the house – (sandstone I think).

This Southon family of builders contributed much to the built environment of our region, as well as William's contribution as Mayor of Waratah, President of the Master Builders Association, President of the Waratah Bowling Club, President of the Waratah fire brigade, and Trustee of the Waratah School of Arts.

Denise Porter

# The Southon Family of Builders.

MY GREAT, GREAT GRANDFATHER

Richard Venor Southon

– from England. Lived in Newcastle, then Maitland before moving to Singleton.  
– Carpenter:

J A Brown Building – Cnr Scott and Brown Streets, Newcastle.(per obituary)

Associated with the residence for Mr A.A. Dangar at Singleton [Baroona]  
(obituary – but did see something years ago – can't find)

One of the first carpenters on the railway between Newcastle and Singleton

All Saints Church, Singleton. (extensions) - 1874

Priest's Residence – Catholic Presbytery, Singleton – 1876 (with Ellis) Singleton

Jockey Club –New Grandstand and Saddling Paddock – 1887 (with Ellis)

Cart Shed and tool house – Singleton – 1887 (with Winsor)

Church of England building at Glendon - 1889

## **My great grandfather – Thomas Charlton Southon**

Undocumented:

Confessionals – Monastery, Woodstock Street, Mayfield

School (cnr. Elizabeth and Bull Street Mayfield) – Hunter College (1919)

Documented:

Additions to Wickham school (1882)

Station Masters' Residence, Waratah (1886)

Maitland West Infants' School (1887)

Alterations to Maitland West public school (1882)

Addition to residence at Wickham Public School (1888)

Hanbury Water Service (1893)

Kirkdon School (1894)

Catherine Hill Bay Public School (1894)

Improvements – Raymond Terrace School (1895)

Improvements to drainage – Lambton (1897)

Built his home at 47 Woodstock Street, Mayfield (1903)

Voluntary worker to build parish hall, Waratah North (1904)

Stationmaster's residence Wyee (1911)

Alterations etc., to Killingworth School (1914)

First Lake Macquarie Council Chambers – Shire Council Chambers Speers' Point – 1915 [with Waller]

Additions to Navy Boatshed, Newcastle – Southon and Waller – 1915

Tighe's Hill School – improvements (Southon & Waller ( 1915) £905

Brick Shop and Dwelling Maitland Road, Mayfield – 1915 (Pitt & Merewether)

Row of weekend cottages at Black Ned's Bay (Swansea) (1919) – “a new type of building, and one that is likely to prove popular has been introduced by Mr. T. Southon”.

Wallarah School – new building (old name for Swansea) – 1919

Booral Public School additions – 1920

Wangi Wangi School – New school building – 1922

National Bank Mayfield cnr Maitland Road & Hanbury st (1922)

Martinsville school – additions – 1923

Cardiff Public School – additions – 1923

Young Wallsend – remodelling – 1924

Bought 5 allotments in Kitchener parade Mayfield, with partner Waller (1924)

New Infants building Cessnock West – 1926 with Waller

Lyceum Theatre Moree (1929) with Waller

Post Office Mayfield (Maitland road and Elizabeth Street) – 1937

## **Southon Brothers –**

### **Thomas Charlton Southon and William Venor Southon**

Dudley Public School – 1892

Hanbury Infant's (now Waratah public school) – 1892

Wallsend public school – improvements – 1892

Whittingham Station (Railways) Removal and re-erection of officer's house–  
1893

Alterations to Water Police Barracks, Newcastle – 1894

Post and Telegraph Office, Adamstown – 1895

Benevolent Asylum – 1896 (Now Old Western Suburbs Hospital)

Residence, Charlton Street, Wickham (Now Hunter Street West) – 1897

Post and Telegraph Office at Carrington – 1897 – tender won but possibly not  
taken up.

Repairs etc. Post and Telegraph Offices, Waratah – 1897

Manager's Residence – Sulphide Cackle creek (1897)

West Maitland Girls High School – improvements and repairs – 1898

Additions to residence and repairs – Swansea School – 1898

Station Masters' Residence at the new platform – Minimbah – 1899

G.I. Store, Boolaroo – 1899- (Yeoman's Architect)

Plattsburg School – additions & closets – 1899

Repairs etc to cottage at Lambton Reservoir – 1900

Wickham school, improvements and repairs - 1900

Boy's School, Hamilton (1900)

Newcastle Jockey Club – new committee room – 1901- tender won but  
possibly not built.

Lass O'Gowrie Hotel, Wickham – additions – 1901 – (Yeoman's)

Possible wooden lodge room at rear of Town Hall. 1901

2<sup>nd</sup> Swansea Hotel (1902)

Belmont Public School, improvements – 1902

Spiers' Point LAKE MACQUARIE. A NEW HOTEL – 1902 – Pippy's (Henderson)

Laying on Hunter Water to West Wallsend school – 1902

West Wallsend School – additions – 1902

W. Winn Esq, Brick Residence, Mayfield – 1902 –possibly Victoria Street.(Yeomans)

Repairs to Fort Scratchley and Shepherd's Hill – 1903

Empire Hotel, Kurri Kurri – 1904

Public Hall for Mr. W.J. Millgate, Kurri Kurri – 1904

Wyong Public School – additions – 1904

Adamstown Public School – additions – 1904

Additions to Reception House, Hospital for Insane Newcastle 1904

Newcastle South Public School – major revamp– 1905 (Junction)

Minmi Public School - Erection of new school building – 1906

Mayfield Monastery church built (not known apart from confessionals) 1906

High School on the Hill (Tyrrell Street) – accommodation for the high school – 1906

Brick Stores, Station Street, Waratah for Mr H.H. Anderton – 1906

Public offices, Hunter Street, general repairs – 1906

Residential Premises for A.A. Dangar, New Lambton Heights – 1907 (Menkens)

Waratah Public School, Teachers' Residence – 1908

High School on the Hill – additions and improvements – 1908

Morisset Hospital for the Insane – recreation blocks – 1908  
[And more later by W. Southon & Pearce]

Mayfield East Primary School – School Master’s House – 1909

Carrington Chambers – Watt Street – Alterations and improvements – 1909  
(Additional two floors)

Hospital for the Insane – Kitchen remodelling and store blocks – 1910

Naval Forces Newcastle – Erection of boat-shed and slip 1910

Army Drill Hall Newcastle – 1910

Shed for explosives on Wharf at Wave Trap, Newcastle – 1910

Southon Bros’ Partnership dissolved - 1911

**William Venor Southon - President of Masters’ Builders’ Association**

- life Member

**Mayor of Waratah**

- (1908 -09-10)

**Alderman for many years**

From 1904 -

**Trustee School of Arts Waratah**

- (from 1911 till his death)

**President Waratah Bowling Club**

**President Parents & Citizens Waratah School**

Moscheto Island School – repairing floor – 1891

Redhead school – new buildings including residence - 1891

Merewether school – erecting weather sheds and fencing – 1891

St Ethels, West Maitland – improvements and repairs – 1892

Aberglasslyn – improvements and repairs – 1892 [W & R Southon]

Hexham School – improvements and repairs – 1892 (W. & R. Southon)

Minmi Lock-up – additions – 1895

Presbyterian Church, Hanbury Street, Waratah – 1915 [Southon and Pearce?]

Morisset Hospital for the Insane – two large pavilions for the accommodation of 200 female patients – 1911

George Hotel, Cnr Scott and Watt Streets, Newcastle -1912

Catholic Church at the Deaf and Dumb Institution 1914 – Southon &( Pearce)

Royal Court, Scott Street, Newcastle – additional storey – 1914 – [Southon & Pearce]

Land Subdivision – Platt’s Hill 1914

Park View Subdivision –Georgetown – 1915 (with Charles Baker)

Wauchope – London Bank – premises and manager’s residence – 1906

Subdivision “Turnerville” Georgetown – 1916 (With Charles Barker)

Vacuum Oil Company Building and office– Darby & Tooke Streets, Cook’s Hill – 1917

Brick Cottage, Tighe Street - 1920

25/3/1918 – Teralba Primary School— Additions .

Brick Meat Market and Smallgoods Shop, Mayfield Terminus – 1920 – Southon & Veitch

Martinsville Teachers residence – 1920

Mayfield Hotel – 1921

“The Premier”- picture palace – Mayfield – 1921 – also part owner.

2<sup>nd</sup> Fire Brigade Station – Adamstown – 1922

Swansea public school – 1924

Coalbrook No 3 Estate Cardiff – Partner in development.

Master Builders’ first building opens – Thanks given to W.V.Southon - 1924

Cottage in Tooke Street - 1925

Worked as an insurance assessor for some years.

Death - 1936

## 1<sup>st</sup> Generation - Australian

Richard Venor Southon, our Great, Great, Grandfather, was not born in Australia. His death certificate states that his father was William. His parents would be William Southon (1803-1849) and Ann Charlton (1805-1892). Richard was a builder. Our Great Grandfather was named Thomas Charlton Southon which I believe is after his Uncle in England. William Southon & Thomas Charlton Southon were born in Maidstone, Kent and there could be further children.

1834 Born England

1855 – Unclaimed Letter

1858 4<sup>th</sup> February Married **Bridget Ryan** at Singleton RC Church, NSW Index no: 277/1858. Parents Matthew Ryan and Bridget Ryan. (Another record given to me from Singleton Historical Society says Newcastle 2277.)

Richard first lived at Wickham NSW, and was one of the first carpenters on the Great Northern Railway (obituary). Several of his children were born there.

From Trove: The Australian Joint Stock Bank a little time later sub divided the land known as Whyte's' paddock, and offered it for sale. The work men employed at the Great Northern Rail way workshop, knowing the uncertain tenure of the land on which they had built their cottages at Honeysuckle Point, and the probability of being required in a short time to remove, bought largely at the sale. The erection of houses was vigorously begun.' 'Linwood' was then sold and afterwards Dangar's paddock. "From that time to the present Wickham has steadily advanced, and it bids to become one of the most important and prosperous portions of Newcastle. In 1870 it was proclaimed a municipality.

1859 - [Leon Garde](#) sent me this: 1859 advert for Southon's cattle. Southon had a property near Dangar's.

Those magnificent and highly appreciated FATTENING STATIONS above named, the property of Messrs. Loder, situate on the Balloone River, in the Maranoa District, and adjoining the celebrated stations of Wynne Baldwin, Esq., Henry Dangar, Esq., and Mr. Southon; together with 5000 head of well-bred quiet CATTLE, which will be mustered and delivered over to the purchaser.

1872 Carpenter – George Street, Singleton (Source Grenville's Post Office Directory 1872 NSW)

23/9/1876 – Land Purchase, Singleton (Section 37. lots 9 to 13, to Richard Southon, at 6a foot -York street )

. . .NSW Government – 3 roods, 11 ½ perches in York Street, Singleton, Parish of Whittington, County Northumberland. Vol 1098, Folio 220. 1/1/1863 – 22/6/1893

1894-1895 – Carpenter, Goulburn St, Singleton\*

1899-1900-1906 Carpenter Goulburn St, Singleton

1920 – Died 27<sup>th</sup> June. Mayfield. Buried 28<sup>th</sup> June 1920 Sandgate Cemetery (C of E Section) Newcastle NSW Index 9230/1920

- Also York Street, Singleton. 7/2/1878.

Children: 10 Children **Thomas Charlton (1866)** – the line we follow – possibly named after his uncle in England.? And -

Annie (1858), Female(1860). Marion (1862),

Helena B (1867), William Venor (1869), Arthur Matthew (1871), Herbert John (1875), Clara Omega (1878).

Annie, Marion, Lydia, Richard and Thomas were born in Newcastle NSW.

Helena, and William were born at Patrick Plains, the old name for Singleton. Arthur, Herbert and Clara are not recorded, though I believe all at Singleton.

### **Bridget Ryan.**

Father: Matthew

Mother: Bridget

Married 4<sup>th</sup> Feb. 1858 Catholic Church, Singleton or Newcastle.

Elect Roll 1903 – living with son, Herbert John at Bishopgate Street, Singleton

Died 1904 Newcastle NSW

Timeline:

1853 – 1864 Richard was one of the first carpenters on the Great North Line between Newcastle and Singleton.

Wikipedia: The first section of the Main North line was built from the port of [Newcastle](#) to [Victoria Street, Maitland](#) in 1857<sup>[5]</sup> and extended to [Singleton](#) in 1863.

### **1874 - St Patrick's Catholic Church, Queen Street, Singleton**

Singleton Catholic Church.....A gallery was added in 1874 above the western end of the nave to accommodate the increasing number of parishioners.[33] Daniel Morrison of Singleton was responsible for the plans and specifications whilst the builder was **Richard Southon**. The cost of the works was three hundred and sixty pounds. Benefactor A.A. Dangar who died several days after it was built.

### **AND:**

The first gallery was added in 1874 above the western end of the nave to accommodate the increasing number of parishioners. It is three metres from the floor, the same width as the nave and five and a half metre deep. Its facade was in polished cedar with Gothic panels which has now been painted over. Cedar was the main wood used throughout for the church, including the pews which have since gone. A Mr. Daniel Morrison of Singleton was responsible for the plans and specifications whilst the builder was a Mr. Richard Southon. The cost of the works was three hundred and sixty six pounds.

6/12/1873 – Freeman's Journal (Sydney)

### SINGLETON -NEW CATHOLIC PRESBYTERY.

A few months ago a great bustle was commenced in the direction of the Roman Catholic church. The pleasing noise of the bricklayer's trowel could be heard a long way off, and as the sound died away the carpenter's hammer took up the chorus, until at last the ordinary silence of the place has been resumed. We delayed for a time, before gratifying our curiosity, paying a visit to this scene of labour. We were satisfied to know that good work was being done, and that the tradesmen of the town were busily engaged, except when an inclement day obliged them to take rest. The worthy clergyman who has presided over the Roman Catholic community of the district for the last ten years is indeed a man of progress. It is his custom to be always doing something for his congregation — building a church or a school, or raising the money with which to erect them. The work, which Father Leonard has just now finished, is of no less importance than a church or school ; for if a clergyman has not a healthy, comfortable residence it is impossible for him to discharge his duty towards his flock with the necessary vigour. The presbytery of Singleton is, without exception, one of the finest in the colony. A portion of the original building having been removed, a handsome verandah, five feet broad, surrounds that part, which is now designated the old cottage, the entire length of which, front and rear, measures over 100 feet. From the back of this verandah we were led into the hall of the substantial two storey building just completed. On the right hand side are the kitchen and housekeeper's room, and on the left are a man-servant's room, a pantry, and store-rooms. After ascending two flights of stairs we reached the second storey, when we were shown three fine sleeping apartments, about twelve feet square and a bath room, which is supplied, by means of a force pump, with water from a capacious underground tank. The grounds outside have been nicely levelled, and will, no doubt, at the proper season, be planted with trees and shrubs. The plan was prepared by Mr. Pender, of Maitland, and the joiner's work and superintendence was carried on by **Mr. Southon, of Singleton**\*. The building, viewed from any point around, is handsome-looking, and is estimated to have cost nearly £1000. Whatever may be the expenses incurred, the work is well done, and the congregation of Singleton is satisfied that, from the foresight and prudence heretofore displayed by Father Leonard, little or no debt will remain when all will be wound up. \* (Richard Southon Snr).

25/1/1875 – Singleton Argus

A meeting was held at Mr- E. Clark's Bridge Inn for the purpose of selecting two persons for nomination as candidates, for places left open in the Municipal Council by two of the retiring aldermen. **The chair was occupied by Mr Richard Southon.** It was eventually decided to requisition Messrs John Campbell and Joseph Parr to stand as candidates.

Thursday 18/5/1876 – The Maitland Mercury and Hunter River General Advertiser

..... A spacious **two-story residence** is now being erected by **the Roman Catholics for their clergymen**.....The walls are up and the roof is being proceeded with; the work appears to be well and faithfully executed by the contractors **Messrs Southon and Ellis**.....etc.

1875- Singleton Argus (from Singleton 60 years ago – 17/4/1935) At a meeting of Patrick's Plains Jockey Club, to consider the tenders submitted for the **erection of a new grandstand and saddling yards, Messrs. Southon and Ellis**, of Singleton, were the successful tenderers.

23 September 1876 -Maitland Mercury and Hunter River General Advertiser (NSW : 1843 - 1893), Saturday, page 11

THE GREAT LAND| SALE AT SINGLETON. The largest, and, we believe the most successful sale of allotments ever held in the town of Singleton was conducted by Mr. James P. Quinn, on Thursday, the 21st Instant, at his rooms in George-street. The land offered comprised the unsold portion of the unimproved freehold property of the Burdekin family in this borough, and the auctioneer succeeded to sell the whole at highly satisfactory rates, not a single allotment being left unsold. The attendance in the sale room was very large, and besides several of our leading residents, we noticed amongst the purchasers, gentlemen from Maitland and Newcastle, thus showing the confidence men of enterprise in the district certain of the progress of Singleton. A first-rate luncheon had been provided by Mr. Quinn, which was done full justice to, and with a short respite necessary to refresh the inner man. Mr. Quinn wielded the hammer incessantly and most successfully from 12o'clock until nearly 6\*o'clock in the evening. The result of the sale was as follows:

Section 37. lots 9 to 13, to Richard Southon, at 6s foot –**York Street.**

7 February 1878 Maitland Mercury and Hunter River General Advertiser (NSW : 1843 - 1893), Thursday, page 7

**Nominations for Alderman** – Singleton Council. Richard Southon, Builder, York Street, Singleton.

13/2/1878 – Singleton Argus

Advertisement: - WANTED a BOAT, suitable for street use in Singleton. R. Southon.

30/10/1878 – Singleton Argus

Singleton Police Court.

Monday, Oct. 25 , 1878 (Before Mr. J. N. Brooks, P.M.) DRUNKENNESS James Smith, For the above offence was fined 1s, or two hours in the lockup. ILLEGALLY ON PREMISES

Robert Ray was charged with being illegally on the premises of Richard Southon. Constable Thomas Linn deposed : About half-past three o'clock on Sunday morning, the 27th inst, I was aroused by Mr. Southon's son, and from something he told me. I

went across to Southon's place and found the prisoner underneath the verandah. Southon accused him of breaking into the house, to which he gave no reply. He appeared to be under the influence of liquor, but could walk right ; I brought him to the lockup ; when Southon gave prisoner in custody, he said he had missed his way and did not know where he was . Prisoner threatened what he would do with Southon. while going to the lockup ; Southon gave Prisoner in charge for being illegally on his premises, and he made up reply. Thomas Southon deposed: I live with my father, near Edward's public house, in Singleton; yesterday morning at about half past three times o'clock, I was in bed; four of my brothers were sleeping in the same room ; the door was shut, and fastened with a bolt at the top, that secures both sides of the folding doors ; when we went to bed the doors were fastened; at half-part three o'clock I heard someone in the verandah ; he pushed against the door, and it opened; I saw prisoner come into the room ; he said he had come from Twofold Bay and Jarvis's Bay, and then lay down on the floor ; he did not attempt to steal anything ; I called my father, and he sent for the police ; prisoner was drunk at the time. By prisoner: You did not ask me for your scarf or belt. Prisoner was discharged.

30/10/1880 – Singleton Argus

DISPUTED JURISDICTION, Storey and Crago **sued Richard Southon** for £5 6s. 81., less 9s. 9d., admitted overcharge, for goods supplied. Defendant pleaded never indebted, and that the Court had no jurisdiction. Mr. J. Elliott appeared for plaintiffs, and Mr. A. J. Gould for defendant. From the evidence, it appeared that goods had been supplied to the amount of £35 19s. 11d., to **defendant's wife, who kept a small store**. The defendant had contracted to do certain work for Mr. Crago privately, and for this and certain extras an account for £38 18s. 6d. had been rendered to Mr. Crago. This account was disputed, and referred to Mr. Burnett for re-arrangement. He reduced it by £5 10s. Mr. Crago, however, only deducted £5 0s. 6d, leaving a balance of £31, after a will account of £2 13s. had been deducted. This amount, £31, Mr. Crago had headed to Mr. Storey, as part liquidation of the store account. A credit for returns, 3s., was also allowed, but there yet remained unpaid £4 16s. 11d., which was now sued for. To make up this amount, certain items had been selected from the original account, and were charged in the plaint. Mr. Crago swore positively that defendant had consented to the store account being paid by contract account. Mr. Southon, on the other hand, swore that he did not consent to this arrangement.

Something appears to have been said by the defendant about the store account having been "salted" and that he had made his up to it. Defendant denied this; moreover, he declined to accept M., Burnett's reduction. Mr. Elliott, in support of his case, called the plaintiffs and also the defendant. At this stage the question of jurisdiction was gone into. Mr. Gould contended that Mr. Crago had no right to liquidate a debt done to the partnership by money which he personally owed the defendant. The amount owing was still £35 19s. 11d. that is; over £10, and therefore could not be recovered in "that Court. Mr. Elliott replied, opposing this view, and pointed out that there was no splitting of the cause of action. The amount had been all paid except £4 16s 11d. Mr. Gould having replied, The P.M. said he had great doubts as to whether he had jurisdiction in the case. The case therefore fell through.

*[It appears by this newspaper post that Bridgett Southon, Richard's wife, kept a small store]*

28 May 1892 - Singleton Argus (NSW : 1880 - 1954) , Saturday, page 3

Notice under Real Property Act, APPLICATIONS having been made to bring the lands hereunder described under the provisions of the Real Property Act, Certificates of Indefensible Title will issue, unless Caveats be lodged in Form B of the said Act, on or before the date named opposite each case respectively. Property.—No. 8,533, Singleton, 3 roods 11 1/2 perches, in York-street, adjoining the properties of W. Foster, C. H. Dight, and land occupied by the Police. Name of Applicant.—Richard Southon. Residence.—Singleton. Date up to and inclusive of which Caveats may be lodged.—28th July, 1892. Diagrams delineating these lands may be inspected at the Land Titles Office, in Elizabeth-street, Sydney. Dated at Sydney, this 19th day of May, 1892, at the Registrar General's Department. CHARLES PINHEY, Registrar General.

1 January 1887 - Singleton Argus (NSW : 1880 - 1954) , Saturday, page 2

IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT. The Improvement Committee reported that according to instructions from the Council an arrangement had been come to with Messrs. Winsor and Southon for the erection of **a cart-shed and tool house**, 24 feet by 12, and for the placing of a ceiling in the engine house and boat shed ....Ald Bower said he was glad to be able to vouch for what others had said as to the satisfactory way in which the work had been performed by **Messrs. Winsor and Southon**.

2/6/1889 - Singleton Argus - SINGLETON JOCKEY CLUB.-A meeting of the committee of this Club was held at Nichol's Commercial Hotel, on Wednesday evening, Dr. Bowman in the chair. Tenders were opened for the proposed **improvements to Grandstand and Saddling Paddock**. Three tenders had been sent in and that **of Richard Southon was accepted** for the sum of £117 10s. These improvements will be of much convenience to horse owners and visitors to the races, and will doubtless be fully appreciated at the ensuing spring meeting. The Saddling Paddock is to be enlarged, horse-stalls will be erected therein, also a new Stewards' room will be built, a picket fence will enclose a lawn in front of grandstand, and flights of steps for the use of lady visitors will lead from the lawn to the stand in front. It is also proposed to exclude the pencil gentlemen from the stand in future and provide other quarters for them.

8/8/1889 – Letter to Richard from his brother in England  
(Transcribed from original letter in the possession of Marie Fitzsimmons)

Canterbury Cottage  
Sandgate,  
Kent  
8<sup>th</sup> Aug 1889

My dear brother

I was very glad to hear from you for we were anxiously waiting. I wrote you in Feb and March but not since until now as I did not where you might be located. When - you write again please address as above as Anne is going to move soon – but I do not know where to – of course you were much grieved to hear of the death of our dear

mother so were we all – but we must remember our loss is her gain. We had a very plain and simple funeral and through the kindness of Mr J. Cross she was buried in the Quaker's grounds at Colchester thus saving a lot of expense. The ceremony at the grave was plain, solemn and impressive. We had a hearse, two mourning coaches and the mourners were Alfred, Mr Brown the Minister, William, Arthur Pettenger and myself and I think another one. OF course there were plenty.....at the grave side. I believe there is a head stone put up which is all the Quakers allow.

Now about the Maidstone property it is all sold and I am told that everything will be settled sometime in October next, but you know there may be delays in the matters as the property is so mixed up – there being so many separate interests. The whole of it was sold for £4,100, which Alfred considers a good price for it and he has been told by others it is well sold.

It is very fortunate I had a letter from you last week as the solicitors thought of advertising for you in the Australian papers. I at once sent them your address and I understand they wrote to you directly and that the letter was posted August 1<sup>st</sup>. So you will be made acquainted with all the particulars of which I may have forgotten to allude to, I enclose you a lock of your dear mother's hair which was cut off after death. Now dear Richard I .....

All here join me in dear love to you. [*illegible*] . I remain, your affectionate Bro,  
Thos. Charlton Southon

2/12/1889 – Maitland Daily Mercury

OUR SINGLETON LETTER. {From our Representatives]

OPENING A CHURCH.

The **new Church of England building at Glendon**, was opened on Thursday with due eclat by the Reverend J. Chaffers-Welsh, Rector of All Saints, Singleton. The structure is of pure Gothic architecture, 30 feet long, and 16 feet wide. Gunnedah pine is used to a great extent in the building, an entrance to which is gained by a porch of neat design. The church is well lighted and ventilated by nine lancet windows, the eastern being triplet. **The work was carried out by Mr. R. Southon** to plans prepared by Messrs. Anderson and White, architects. The ground -1 3/4 acres — was set apart in the thirties by the late Mr. Helenus Scott, of Glendon, and consecrated by Bishop Broughton. To assist to raise funds to liquidate the debt on the building a monster picnic was held in connection with Thursday's opening ceremony. A large crowd assembled; abundance of edibles and beverages were supplied; and a most enjoyable day, was spent. Prior to the close of the festivities the Rev. Mr. Welsh paid a worthy tribute to the valuable services rendered by the ladies, the treasurers (Messrs. H. Horadam and D. Shearer), and the Secretary (Mr. Birley Thorsby.) . Special thanks were also due to Mrs.McDouall for her generosity in giving an organ to the church.

8/11/1892 – Sydney Morning Herald

Supreme Court – Law Notices: Motions Generally. Motions on Notice -In re Walter Shaw and another, Auguste Bonton caveator, to remove caveat in re Richard Southon, Henri Linton and another, caveators to remove caveat.

28/5/1892 – Singleton Argus

Notice under Real Property Act, APPLICATIONS having been made to bring the lands hereunder described under the provisions of the Real Property Act, Certificates of Indefensible Title will issue, unless Caveats be lodged in Form B of the said Act, on or before the date named opposite each case respectively. Property.—No. 8,533, Singleton, 3 roods 11 1/2 perches, in York-street, adjoining the properties of W. Foster, C. H. Dight, and land occupied by the Police. Name of Applicant.—**Richard Southon. Residence.—Singleton.** Date up to and inclusive of which Caveats may be lodged.—28th July, 1892. Diagrams delineating these lands may be inspected at the Land Titles Office, in Elizabeth-street, Sydney. Dated at Sydney, this 19th day of May, 1892, at the Registrar General's Department.

27/3/1893 –Singleton Argus

TITLE OF LAND. A Singleton Case [BY TELEGRAPH]. SYDNEY, Tuesday.

In the Supreme Court, the Singleton case, Southon v. Linton, was began and concluded. to-day, before Judge Innes and a jury. Mr Ralston instructed by Mr V. W. Robinson, appeared for Southon. This was a case of plaintiff claiming title by possession for 21 years as to **land adjoining the White Swan Hotel**, and the issue for decision was whether Southon had held undisputed possession for 20 years. The defendant stated that Southon in 1876 paid ten shillings as acknowledgement of defendant's title, but this was denied. The defendant also stated that he held a title for part of the White Swan property. The evidence of several witnesses was taken, after which **the jury gave a verdict for Southon.**

29/3/1893 – Sydney Morning Herald SOUTHON V. LINTON

Mr Ralston instructed by Messrs Gould and Shaw appeared for the Plaintiff and Mr Rolin instructed by Messrs Lawrence and Rich, for the defendant. This was an action bought by Richard Southon against Henry Linton to decide an issue which the Full Court remitted to a jury to be tried as **to the ownership of 3 roods 11 1/2 perches of land at York street Singleton.** The plaintiff, it appears, sought to bring the land in question under the provisions of the Real Property Act but the present defendant having lodged a caveat the matter came before the Full Court which settled the following issue for the determination of a jury -" Whether at the time of filing his application to bring the land under the provisions of the Real Property Act the applicant Richard Southon had in him the title by possession to the land described in the application or any part of the said land "The jury found the issue in favour of the plaintiff.

Singleton Argus – 29/4/1899

**SALES BY AUCTION Valuable Town Property.** FOR SALE. H BAILEY & SON have received instructions from Mr Richard Southon to sell by Auction at the Royal Hotel, Singleton, THIS DAY AT 12 O'CLOCK. All that valuable and well situated piece of **Land adjoining Mr W. Foster's Hotel and Saleyards, having a frontage of about 135 feet to York-street by a depth of about 290 feet.** TERMS AT SALE.

27/2/1901 – SMH

Tenders accepted: **Dunolly school**, improvements , R.Southon & Son, Singleton £63 10s.

30/7/1904 – Maitland Weekly Mercury

SINGLETON. In the Roman Catholic cemetery on Monday the remains of Mrs. R. Southon, an old and much respected resident of Singleton, were interred. Deceased, who was 69 years of age, is survived by a husband and a grown-up family. The Messrs. Southon Brothers, the well-known building contractors of the Newcastle district, and Mr. Arthur Southon, of Singleton, are sons of the deceased.

Singleton Argus (NSW : 1880 - 1954) , Tuesday 26 July 1904, page 2

Death. Mrs R. Southon, an old and respected resident of Singleton, died at her residence near Howe Park on Saturday last, after an illness which the deceased had born with Christian resignation. The late Mrs Southon leaves a husband and grown up family to deplore their loss. The remains of the deceased were interned in the Catholic Cemetery yesterday afternoon, the funeral being attended by sorrowing relatives and old friends.

1906 – **Richard Venor Southon** moved from Singleton to live with his son Thomas at Mayfield.

8/5/1920 – Singleton Argus

Council Meeting - OUTSTANDING RATES. The Town Clerk reported that the outstanding rates on December 31 last amounted to £86/10/. Since then £24 5/3 had been paid and £5/10/ abandoned, leaving a balance of £56/16/9. Of this amount £16/10/1 was due on **land in the name of R. Southon, in York-st.**; on which a charging order had been issued, but no sale had been effected. Deducting this the amount due at end of last year, and which will be paid this year, will total £10/6/8. Alderman O 'Halloran asked if the land for which no owner could be found could not be sold. The Mayor said - the price offered was too low Alderman M'Gowen said the land was next the old White Swan Hotel, and was a very good block indeed, quite 240 ft. deep.

29/6/1920 – Newcastle Morning Herald

WARATAH. DEATH OF MR. R. V. SOUTHON. The death occurred on Sunday at the residence of his son, of Mr. R. Southon, at an age of 86 years. Deceased 62 years ago was **identified with the building of the premises for Messrs. J. and A. Brown, and now occupied by them as stores and offices at the corner of Bolton and Scott streets, Newcastle.** At that time the harbour extended to Messrs. Brown's building, and boats used to draw alongside the store.

**Deceased was later one of the first carpenters on the railway from Newcastle to Singleton. Later he was associated with the erection of the residence for Mr A. A. Dangar at Singleton.** The land it may be recalled, was previously occupied by Mr. Larnack, director of convict settlement. Deceased was born in Bexley, England and for the past 15 years has been living a retired life with his son, Thomas in Mayfield. Mr. William Southon, an ex-Mayor of Waratah and president of the Master Builders' Association of the Newcastle district, and president of the Waratah Bowling Club is also a son of deceased. There are three other sons, and two daughters. The funeral took place in the Sandgate cemetery yesterday afternoon. The pall bearers were Messrs. Judge, Alderson, Bailey, and Fitzsimmons. Wreaths were received by the family from Master Builders, Waratah Bowling Club, W. V. Southon and family, H. Southon and family Mr. and Mrs. H. Pender and family, Mr. and Mrs. Millgate, Tom and Lil, "The Boys," grandchildren, "Do-us Boys"

*(Belltrees – tower, staircase and stables)?*

Saturday 3 July 1920 (Daily Observer Tamworth)

Mr Richard Southon, Snr, a former well-known Singleton identity, passed away on Sunday morning at the residence of his son, Mr Thomas Southon, Mayfield, with whom he had been living for the past 14 years. The deceased, who had attained the advanced age of 86 years, was a native of Kent (Eng.). He received a chill on Wednesday last which was the immediate cause of death. The deceased lived in Singleton for a great number of years, where he followed the occupation of a building contractor. His wife predeceased him 16 years ago and he leaves five sons and two daughters, including Mr Arthur M. Southon of Singleton and Mrs E. L. Dawes of Newington Singleton. The remains were interred in the Sandgate cemetery on Monday afternoon.

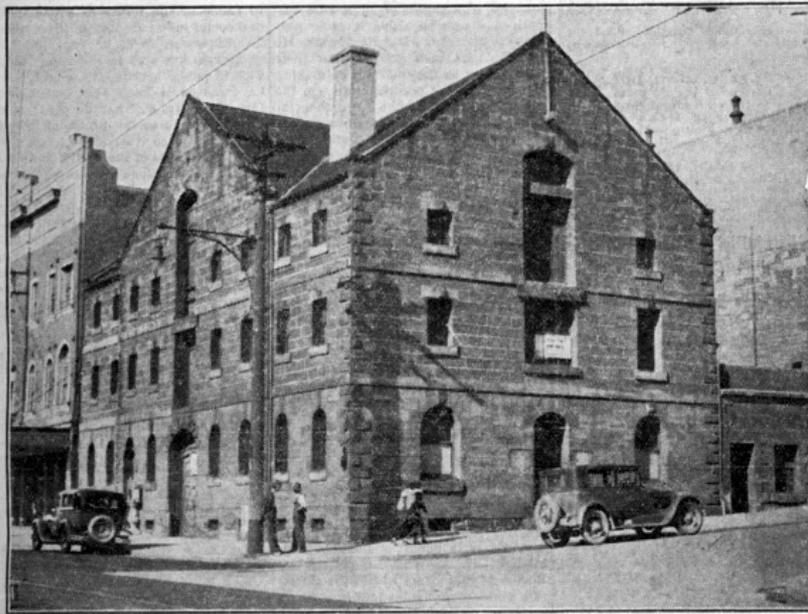
30 June 1920, Daily Observer (Tamworth, NSW : 1917 - 1920), Wednesday page 1

A former- well-known identity of Singleton, in the person of Mr. Richard Southon, senior, passed away on Sun day morning at the residence of his son, Mr. Thomas Southon, Mayfield, with whom he had been living for the past 14 years. The deceased, who had reached the age of 86 years, was a native of Kent (England). He received a chill on Wednesday last, which 'was the immediate cause of death. He lived in Singleton for a great number of years, where he followed the occupation of a building contractor. His wife predeceased him 16 years ago, and he leaves five sons, viz., Richard, Thomas, William, Arthur (Singleton), and Bert, and two daughters, Mrs. E. E. Dawes (Newington, Singleton) , and Mrs. J. Ryan (Sydney) .

Singleton Argus – 11/12/1920

REPORTS. The Town Clerk reported that late R. Southon's land in York-street had been submitted to auction some time ago, but no acceptable offer was received. As the rates were mounting up, he recommended that the land be advertised for sale, as there had been some enquiries. This was practically the only property in the municipality in arrears of rates.—Adopted.

## HISTORIC NEWCASTLE BUILDING



This old Newcastle building, occupied for many years as the headquarters of the firm of J. and A. Brown, may change hands as the result of submission to public auction. It stands at the corner of Bolton and Scott Streets, and has been unoccupied since the merger of the firm with Abermain and Seaham Collieries Ltd. (See story.)

*[ J & A Brown had a Ship Chandlery at 103 Scott Street and a Shipping Agency at No 1 Bolton Street Newcastle. –Snowball photo. ]*



*[Baroona is A.A. Dangar's most magnificent home – a photo is in the cultural collections University of Newcastle website ]*



**Thomas Charlton Southon**  
**Son of Richard Venor Southon. (Our Line)**

Born 1866 in Newcastle District, NSW. – (Wickham)

Died 1936, March 10<sup>th</sup>

Buried March 12<sup>th</sup> Sandgate Cemetery

1887 Married Eveline Lily Judge at Maitland.

**Eveline Lily Judge**

1887 Married **Thomas Charlton Southon**, Maitland

Father- Thomas Judge – Livery Stables

Mother: Sarah Annie Simpson

1869 Born: West Maitland

1954, Died 26<sup>th</sup> September. 47 Woodstock St, Mayfield

Thomas Charlton Southon was born in Wickham. Later the family moved to Singleton. He followed his father into the building trade. Later Thomas and his brother William moved to Newcastle and commenced work either together as Southon Brothers, separately or with other partners. Census records have Thomas at 37 Woodstock Street, Mayfield but home was at 47 Woodstock Street, Mayfield?

Thomas Charlton and Eveline Lily had 10 Children:

**Thomas George (Budge) Southon** (1888 – 1 August 1941)

(Employed at the Central Hotel Newcastle 17/7/1907)

Married Lillian Abell (About 1066 – 9 March 1974)

(1 daughter Jean Ellen Southon (1911-) Married Kenneth F. Charters

**Lyall (Lyle) William Southon** (1890 – 19 June 1947)

**Richard (Dick) Venor Southon** (1893 – 16<sup>th</sup> August 1965) – Uncle Dick.  
 Never Married. Lived with parents at 47 Woodstock St, Mayfield.  
 World War 1 service record NAA: B2455  
 Age: 22 – Occupation- carpenter.  
 Embarked Sydney “Borda” – 17-10-1916.  
 Proceeded to France.  
 9<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde – 35<sup>th</sup> Batt. - wounded in action – 2/10/17 - Etaples  
 Returned HMAT “Karoo” – 30-7-1918.  
 Discharged – eye and right leg.  
 (Dad says he got hit in the leg, when he looked down, his eye fell out. He wore a patch for a long time).

**Minnie Evelyn Southon** (1896 -)  
 Married Leslie C. Fitzsimmons  
 6 Children - Jack, Dick, Ronnie, Max, Betty, Marie

**Cyril Spencer Southon** (1889 – Oct 1964)  
 Married - Lilian Meal (- after 1958)  
 Margaret Meal  
 Bobby Meal

**Amy Lilian Southon** (23 April 1917 – 2003)  
 Married Allan Douglas Jack  
 Died 28<sup>th</sup> July, 1951

**Darrel Spencer Southon** (About 1929 – June 1939)  
 Mavis Evelyn Southon (?22 Mar – 1 Feb 1964)  
 Suffered brain damage when kicked by a horse

**Eleanor Simpson Southon (22 September 1900 – 1990)**  
**Married Thomas Croese 19<sup>th</sup> November 1925 Mayfield Monastery**

**Sarah (Sadie) Simpson Southon** (1903 – Waratah)  
 Married Claude V. Wilkins – 1934 Mayfield.  
 Adopted daughter Wilkins

**Eveline Lily (Eva) Southon** (1906 -) Married Cecil T. L. Holmes  
 2 Children Barbara & Cecily

**Ida May Southon** (1908 -) Married Stanley T. Maher ( - 29 June 1973)  
 2 Children Kenneth & Rhelma  
 Lived at Ash Island, Newcastle  
 Involved in greyhound racing

**Amy Miriam Mercia Southon** (1912 – 28<sup>th</sup> July 1951)  
 Married Robert Allan Mordue  
 1 daughter, Elaine



Eveline Southon far left, Thomas Charlton Southon far right. I think Nanna (Eleanor Croese is the bridesmaid)

**21/6/1988** - [from Mrs Downie's walk – Mayfield history]

RE Bank Building



Cnr Maitland Road and Hanbury Streets Mayfield.

Mrs Downie Oh yes. We got a chemist, the side where the National Bank, you know the National Bank.

Judith Hughes I do indeed, a very fine building.

Mrs Downie Yes, well a chemist shop is next to it, built exactly the same, well the chemist shop was on the corner so the chemist sold it on condition they built his shop for nothing and if you look on one side you can see the Bank and the chemist shop both have the same architecture.

Judith Hughes And the chemist shop has been there all these years, the same with the National Bank?

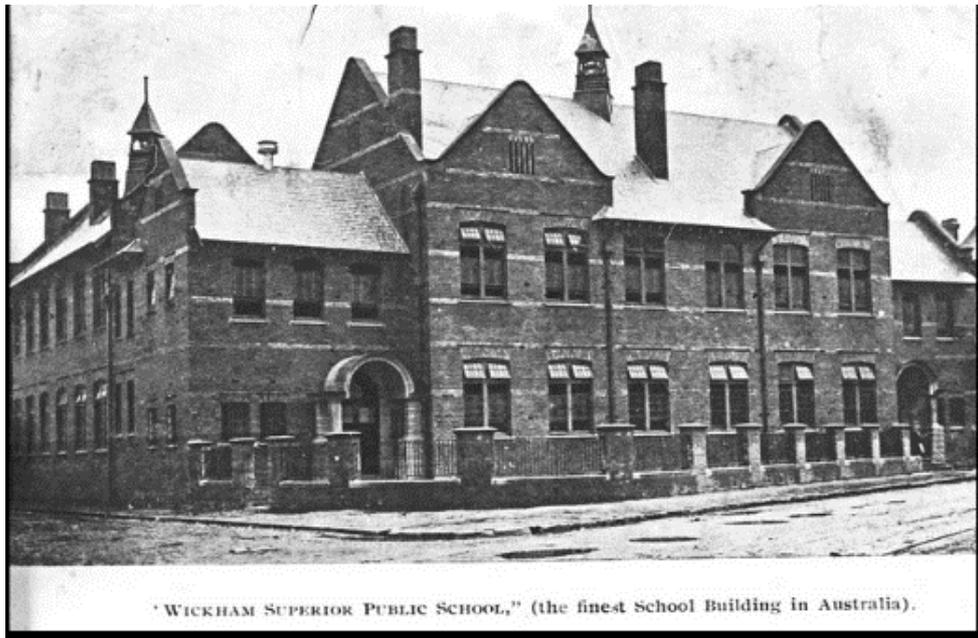
## **Timeline:**

Wednesday 9 April 1879 (The Singleton Argus and Upper Hunter General Advocate)

Before Mr. J. N. Brooks P.M. – Bathing during prohibited hours.

Ten boys, named John Davor, John Paton, **THOMAS SOUTHON**, Albert Braderlin, William Braderlin, Charles Braderlin, John Churchland, William Leon, High Devor, and David Bishop were charged with bathing in the Hunter River within view of the bridge during prohibited hours and were each fined 6d and 2s and 6d costs, or to remain in the lockup until twelve o'clock. They all chose the latter. A charge against Thomas Ellis for a similar offence was withdrawn

3/1882- Additions to **Wickham School** –T. Southon £355. (NMH – History of School – 3/3/1906)



Sydney Morning Herald (NSW : 1842 - 1954), Wednesday 28 July 1886, page 6

ACCEPTED TENDERS.—The undermentioned tenders in connection with Public schools have been accepted : Wallsend, additions and improvements-T. Southon, £394 10s

5/8/1886 – Government gazette. Tenders accepted. **Station-Master's residence at Waratah**, Great Northern Railway. (SMH)



16/6/1887 – The tender of Mr Thomas Southon has been accepted for the erection of **Maitland West Infant's School** and alterations to Maitland West public school – 625 pounds.

18/6/1887 – Government Gazette (SMH) **Galgabba Public School** and Residence – 595 pounds (Galgabba changed name to Swansea in 1889)

24/3/1888 - Addition to residence at **Public School Wickham** – 170 pounds (NMH)

21/1/1893 – Gvt Gazette (SMH) – Hanbury Water Service 10 pounds, 10 shillings.

18/1/1890 -In the Supreme Court of New South Wales. In Bankruptcy.-No. 1969. Re **THOMAS SOUTHON**, of Wickham, near Newcastle, Contractor. NOTICE is hereby given that the SINGLE MEETING of Creditors in the above matter will be held at the Court House, Newcastle, before the District Registrar in Bankruptcy, on the 6th day of February, 1890, at 11 a.m., or as soon after as the course of business will permit. To entitle a Creditor to vote thereat, his proof must be lodged with the Registrar in Bankruptcy, Chancery Square, Sydney, not later than the 29th day of January, 1890.

7/2/1890 -RE SOUTHON. Re **Thomas Southon**, contractor, of Wickham. An examination was held and the report of the official assignee was presented. The statement of affairs filed by the bankrupt showed the liabilities to be £200 8s 10d and the assets as £10. No creditors being in attendance the meeting was closed.

13/1/1894 - Gvt Gazette (SMH) – Kirkton – 79 pounds.

6/2/1895 – Gvt Gazette (SMH) Improvements and repairs – Raymond Terrace school.

16/1/1897 – Improvements to drainage – Lambton. (SMH)

6/12/1900 – Newcastle Morning Herald

New Boys' School at Hamilton. THE FORMAL OPENING CEREMONY The new brick-built and commodious boys' school at Hamilton, to replace the old wooden building which has done duty for some 14 years, was gaily decorated with flags yesterday, on the occasion of the formal opening ceremony. The new school is a substantial and commodious brick building, well built by Messrs. Southon Bros., contractors, at a cost of something over £2500. It is probably the largest boys' school in the northern district, certainly the largest class-rooms, and everything is fitted up according to modern ideas. The children will have every comfort and convenience, and the same will apply to the teaching staff, the building being splendidly ventilated and well lighted. It will be a pleasant change to teachers and scholars to have cool class-rooms for the hot summer months. There are two floors, and on each floor there is a large class-room (divided by glass partitions), measuring 72 x 25 feet, the upstairs' room affording a commanding view of Hamilton. The school will accommodate 500 scholars, the number of boys, exclusive of infants, at pre sent attending the school being about 360. A feature in the building is the spacious corridors, which are from 12 to 20 feet wide, and extend around three of the four sides, a distance of nearly 100 feet. A complete description of the building was given in the "Newcastle Herald" of 26th September.

Thanks to the Mayor having been carried, at the instance of Mr. Griffith, an adjournment was made to the school. The new building was tastefully decorated with flags and greenery, and the whole surroundings evidenced a gala day in Hamilton. The ceremony took place in the big class-room of the new school, which, though crowded to the very utmost, was all the while pleasant to sit in, the ventilation being perfect. Among those present, in addition to those mentioned, were Alderman D. Miller (the Mayor of Newcastle) - and Mrs. Miller, and a number of local residents. Apologies were made for the non-attendance of the Hon. J. I. Fegan. Messrs. Maynard, Bridges, and M'Intyre (Department of Education). The Mayor thought it was gratifying to see so many parents present. He was pleased also to see old residents, who remembered the time of the old slab school. Things were very different to-day and Hamilton had now one of the finest schools in the colony. Hamilton, with a population of 6000 or 7000, deserved the good school accommodation it now had. Master Redleff Janssen then played an excellent violin solo, entitled Rode's "6th Concerto." Mr. A. Griffith, M.P., who was called upon to perform the opening ceremony, stated that it was particularly pleasing for him to be present, though he regretted the absence of the Minister for Education. When he was elected to Parliament six years ago he saw that the old wooden building had served its purpose. He had agitated for the new building, and nothing pleased him better than to be still the member at the time of the formal opening, and, better still, to have the honour of declaring it open. He was glad to notice the bricks left projecting at one end. This was a clear indication that the department was ready to extend the building when Hamilton's requirements demanded it. **He concluded by paying a high compliment**

**to the contractors, Messrs. Southon Bros., of whom the Colonial Architect had said there were none better in the colony**

Mr. Crighton, who had supervised the construction of the school, paid a **compliment** to the **work of the contractors**, and then the inside proceedings terminated by a vote of thanks to the Mayor.

1903 – NMH

DISTRICT NEWS. (From Our Various Correspondents.) WARATAH. GENERAL IMPROVEMENTS. Progress has been very marked in Mayfield the completion of the tramway, and a number of houses have also gone up in other parts of the municipality. During last year it is estimated that fifty new buildings have been erected, and many others are in contemplation. **Mr. W. Winn** is completing a handsome brick residence at Mayfield, and Mr. W. Winn, junr., is also building a substantial brick place on these i. A Methodist parsonage is in course of construction. Buildings erected by Mrs. Smith and the late Mr. Enos Webb are now occupied. Mr. S. Butterworth, late of Islington, is occupying a new place at Mayfield.

A residence has been completed to the order of Miss Reville; and Mr. S. J. Harvey is now in occupation of a house which has just been completed for him. Mr. Hardyman and Mr. Harkin have brick houses in course of erection, and **Mr. Southon**, Mr. Alfred Ingall, Mr. H. Storey, junr. and Mr. H. J. Cannington are **building modern villas**. Several other places are also in course of erection in Mayfield. On the Hanbury side, the Mayor, Alderman. T. A. Braye is building a substantial wooden residence. Mr. E. A. J. Helmore is now in occupation of a place built for him recently. A brick dwelling has lately been finished for Mr. Allan Gane, has the Hunter River for its boundary is a picturesque part of the district. It commands, too, a fine view of the ocean and the harbour. It is regarded as a very healthy spot, and is likely to remain so while the residential areas are large. In most cases the new buildings have been connected with the local gas supply, a great quantity of new service pipes having had to be laid. In the course of time the gas plant will more than pay interest on its capital cost, which was £9000. The matter of obtaining flood relief for the private property owners in Hanbury is now nearly settled, men being at work cleaning out the old watercourse. and two weatherboard places built to the order of Mr. Michael Foley are tenanted. Alderman J. Paton is building in brick, and Mr. T. A. Braye, senr., has let several places which were constructed some months ago. These and other places increase the number of dwellings in the municipality to about 700. The total population is about 3200 souls, the average, therefore, being nearly five people to each dwelling. Mayfield will always be a favourite residential place.

*[The villa referred to would be 47 Woodstock Street, Mayfield, the first home of Thomas Charlton Southon or else the street numbers changed over time].*

8/8/1903 – The World's News (Sydney)

HOUSE MOVING EXTRAORDINARY. HOW HAMILTON BOYS' SCHOOL WAS SHIFTED.

**Thos. Southon (Waratah)** writes:

"On reading in the last issue of 'The World's News' about house-moving extraordinary, I thought it might interest your readers to know how the Boys' School at Hamilton was shifted. The old building, in which J. J. Callaghan (the present teacher) and Owen Gilbert, M.L.A., taught for many years, had to be removed from the site of the new building, and to act as a temporary school until the present one was completed. It was 100ft. long, 24ft. wide, with a hat lobby 8ft. wide nearly the full length, and it had to be shifted 150ft. uphill. After the building had been screw-jacked to the required height, 6ft. at one end and 2ft. at the other, old double faced railway rails were placed on the flat underneath. 9ft. apart, the full length of the building. Old iron cannon balls, 6in. in diameter. which fitted the rails nicely, were then placed 4ft. apart the full width of the building on each rail. Then other rails were placed on top of the balls, the building lowered on to the rails, a rope fixed, and two men on the handles of a winch shifted the building to its place without the slightest accident. I planned the whole thing out myself. The friction was so small that the only fear was that the rope might part, when the building would have gone backwards."

16/7/1904 – Newcastle Morning Herald

Parish Hall Waratah North. Rev/ Canon Luscombe thanked **voluntary building works including T. Southon.** (*This hall is at the back of the Anglican church in Church Street, Mayfield*)



8/2/1905 Newcastle Morning Herald

**BANKRUPTCY COURT. FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17th.** (Before Mr. G. F. Scott, District Registrar). A single meeting of creditors and public examination in the estate of **Thomas C. Southon**, was held upon his own application. The meeting of creditors had been fixed for the 6th February, 1890--15 years ago--before Mr. J. Mair, District Registrar. Bankrupt was not in attendance when the court opened on that day, and the examination was adjourned sine die. An hour or two later he appeared, but, as the creditors had gone away, Mr. Mair declined to enter upon the examination. Yesterday, Mr. T. A. Bray (Messrs. Bray and Cohen) appeared for bankrupt. The debts

admitted on the 11th February, 1905, amounted to R50 18s. **Southon attributed his bankruptcy to losses on contracts.** The meeting and examination were declared closed.

10/4/1906 – Sydney Morning Herald

#### CERTIFICATE APPLICATIONS

Re Thomas Southon. Mr Asher appeared for bankrupt and asked for an adjournment to answer the report of the official assignee - Adjourned to May 7

8/5/1906 – Sydney Morning Herald

#### BANKRUPTCY COURT (Before the Registrar, Mr. A. Henry.) CERTIFICATE APPLICATIONS.

Re Thomas Southon. Mr. Asher appeared for bankrupt. The report was read and an affidavit in reply. The Registrar said that no books had been handed to the official assignee, and bankrupt had failed to attend the public examination. The statement of affairs was also incomplete, and the accounts required had not been filed. The certificate was suspended for 12 months.

#### **29/1/1910 – Newcastle Morning Herald**

Joseph Brindley and Thomas Southon were charged with being found on licenced premises, known as the Wallarah Hotel, at Catherine Hill Bay, on Christmas Day during prohibited hours. Joseph Brindley was fined 10s & costs. The case against Thomas Southon was dismissed. MR T.A. Braye appeared for the defendant Southon, and Constable Cooper conducted the prosecution.

25/8/1911 – Gosford Times and Wyong District Advocate

Mr. Tom Southon made a good hit with a Morisset property which he purchased a couple of months ago for about £500 and has now sold for £1200

#### **27/10/1911 – Gosford Times and Wyong District Advocate**

Mr. Tom Southon has the contract for the erection of a stationmaster's residence at Wyee.



27/1/1914 – **Killingworth** – Alterations etc. school. T. Southon, Mayfield - 295 pound 10 shillings (construction and local Gvt. Journal)

3/12/1913 – Construction and Local Government

The Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Board - (N.S.W.) has accepted the tender of Southon and Waller at £ 346 for the supply of two Timber Tubes for Sewer vent-shafts.

27/5/1915. Shire Council Chambers, Speers' Point (First Lake Macquarie Council Chambers) – *first Lake Macquarie council chambers - [photo on flickr]*

**SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS.** The officials of the Lake Macquarie Shire Council have been installed in the new offices, which are situated on the main road between Boolaroo and Speers' Point. The building, which corners a ground space of 65ft by 69ft. is a handsome brick structure, designed upon attractive lines. It stands within about two acres of ground. The building contains council chamber 39ft by 20ft. general office 25ft by 15ft, shire clerk's room 20ft by 13ft, engineer's room 14ft by 14ft, sanitary inspector's room 14ft by 12f, contractors' room 9ft by 8ft., and a strong room 7ft by 7ft. A main passage 14ft 7in wide leads into a back passage 14ft wide, from which access is given to the engineer's and sanitary inspector's offices. There are also engineer's and clerk's store room, and stairs lead to an attic room of 15ft by 14ft. Provision has also been made for fire hydrants. The interior appointments are plain, but of a serviceable character, and in every essential the officers are accommodated to meet the large amount of work entailed in the administration of such an extensive area as governed by the council. The new edifice is far a remove from the old wooden

four-roomed building in Cardiff in which the staff laboured since the inception of shire government, and the officers are now enabled to comply with the provisions of the Local Government Act by having the records in safe custody and protected from destruction by fire. The position, it is claimed, could not be more suitable as far as the shire is concerned, being centrally situated, and accessible by steamers to the lake, and by tram, train and road to the various towns within the shire's boundaries. The chambers were designed by Mr. A. H. Lowry, the shire engineer, and **Messrs. Southon and Waller** were the contractors. The cost of the building was £2300, the payment of which covers a period of seven years.



11/10/1915 – Construction & local government journal.

**Additions to Naval Boatshed** – Southon & Waller -2552 pound.

9/11/1915 – Sydney Morning Herald

Tighes Hill, improvements-Southon and Waller, Hamilton, £905; (School)

5/6/1916 - Newcastle Morning Herald

COMMONWEALTH PATENTS. SYDNEY, Sunday. Messrs. Griffith and Hassel, patent attorneys, of 77 Castlereagh-street, Sydney, report that the following applications for **patents** have been lodged at the Commonwealth Patent Office, Melbourne: T. C. Southon: **Movable box framing for concrete wall construction**; filed 19th May.

16/4/1919 – NMH

RAILWAY FOR SWANSEA. The question of the extension of the railway line from Belmont continues to interest the residents of Swansea, who, during the past three or four years, have pressed forward their claims for better transit facilities between Newcastle and the entrance to the lake. It was recently pointed out to Mr. Ball, the Minister for Works that the increase in the value of Crown lands which would follow the extension of the line, would go far towards paying the cost of the working. It was then stated that the increase in value would amount to nearly £20,000. It is now estimated that the increase would be more likely £30,000, and justification for this

belief is given by the sale of the Lewers estate, at Belmont, on Saturday, when forty-five blocks, with water frontage, brought from £3 to £5 5s per foot. The other blocks in the rear also brought good prices. To many people these values may seem remarkable, but there are places around the lake where values have attained even double the highest figure which the land realised at Belmont. At Toronto, water frontage blocks within walking distance of the railway station have been sold at over £10 per foot. The increased values are due to the railway. Each year Lake Macquarie is becoming more and more popular. People are anxious to have week end or permanent homes on the water side, but they desire to reach them quickly, cheaply, and comfortably. A railway is the only means which provides these facilities, and it is the extension of the line from Redhead, which has made such a difference in land values at Belmont. The benefits which have accrued to Belmont by the coming of the railway would be realised by Swansea if the line were extended. The line would benefit those who have homes at Marks' Point, Pelican Flat, and other places extending to the channel, as well as those actually living at or visiting Swansea. On the northern side of the Swansea channel are vast stretches of low-lying lands. It is claimed that by the erection of a retaining wall, and the use of a sand pump, the low-lying areas could be reclaimed, and the channel deepened. Under present conditions, the dredging of the channel is frequently necessary for the passage of the vessels which trade between Sydney and Lake Macquarie. The erosion of the banks on the southern side of the channel also calls for attention. In many places the water has bitten out huge gaps causing the banks to fall in, and be taken up by the scour. **Swansea** has many attractions. The vicinity of Margaret's Bay abounds in luxuriant vegetation, and palms, ferns, and wild flowers grow in profusion. The bay itself is very pretty, and safe for bathing. **Black Ned's Bay**, around which are many fine residences, the Caves Beach, the Lake Heads, the Nine-Mile Beach, and various other attractive places are all within reach of the visitor. In spite of inadequate means of communication, land values have shown a good increase recently, and there have been many sales effected. Building operations have been moderate, but the transactions in land point to a revival.

**A new type of building, and one that is likely to prove popular, has been introduced by Mr. T. Southon, who is erecting a row of week end cottages, each of two rooms, with verandah, etc., upon his land adjoining Black Ned's Bay. The walls are concrete four inches in thickness, the outside walls being rough cast, and the inside walls smoothed. The ceilings are lined and the first cottage to be completed presents a neat and comfortable appearance.**



**Thomas Southon's holiday house, Bowman Street Swansea – Black Ned's Bay**



**Original Painting by Bill Freedman of Southon Swansea holiday cottage, Bowman Street – Black Ned's Bay, Swansea. (Home by then passed down to E. Croese - nana)**

**Mr. Southon has commenced the building of a large concrete boatshed for a Newcastle resident, and concrete for buildings is likely to find a good deal of acceptance.** Boat building has been an industry which has given Swansea an enviable standing. Mr. T. Humphries has erected shops and slips for boat building and repair work. He has just completed a 23 feet fishing launch, with 7 feet beam and 2 feet draught, for Mr. J. Campbell of Belmont, who recently returned from active service. The boat will be driven by a 6 hp oil engine. The launch Toronto, which piles between Swansea and Cockle Creek, was built about a year ago by Mr. Humphries for its owner, Mr. J. H. Richardson. The vessel is 46 feet overall of 13 feet beam, and 4 feet

6 inches moulded depth. It was built of kauri pine and spotted gum. It is driven by two 12 h.p. Acme oil engines, and carries 95 passengers. Mr. Humphries has turned out a number of pleasure launches and sailing and pulling craft. Allusion has been made in the past to fine craft which have been constructed by Mr. J. L. Boyd and Messrs. Woodward and Sons.

18/6/1919 NMH **HUNTER COLLEGE**, NEWCASTLE. The situation of the new day and boarding school for boys at Newcastle has been decided upon. The college will be situated at the corner of Bull and Elizabeth streets, Mayfield. The school is on elevated ground, just beyond the Waratah golf links, and only 7 minutes from the Mayfield tram terminus. It stands considerably above the surrounding houses, and commands a fine view of the Hunter River, and the whole of Newcastle. There is, approximately, an acre and a half of ground round the house, and, adjacent thereto is a paddock of over three acres for the boys to play in. The attention of parents is called to the fact that the school is advertised to open on Wednesday, July 23rd.

*(Douglas Croese said his grandfather, T.C.Southon told him that he built this school).*

6/9/1919 – NMH -Wallahah, new building, T. C. Southon, Swansea, £345; [school] Construction and Local Government: New South Wales Government has let a contract to T. C. Southon at £345, for the erection, of a new school building at Wallarah.

5/3/1920 - **BOORAL PUBLIC SCHOOL**. Hon W. Bennett is in receipt of the following: — Following my letter of 23rd January last, I have to inform you that the Minister for Education has accepted the tender of **Mr T. Southon**, 37 Woodstock Street, Mayfield, for additions to the public school at Booral. — P. Board, Under, Secretary.

10/5/1922

**MAYFIELD. BANKING PREMISES OPENED.** The new premises of the **National Bank of Australia, Limited, at Mayfield**, situated on a corner at the intersection of Maitland-road and Hanbury street, opposite the post office, were opened yesterday. The block of ground has a front age of 36 feet 6 inches to Maitland road, and a depth of 65 feet to Hanbury street. The building is of two storeys with facades to both thoroughfares. The ground floor is finished in blocked masonry, and the first floor with columns in the Ionic order, the effect being enhanced by bold cornices and parapets and a recessed balcony on the Maitland-road frontage. The handsome block of buildings forms a striking landmark in the locality. The entrances to the banking premises is at the angle of the two streets and is through a recessed lobby, which leads into a main business chamber, 25 feet square. This chamber is handsomely appointed with fit tings of Queensland maple, which give excellent relief to the fibrous plaster ceilings. Direct access to the manager's office is provided from the banking chamber. Queensland maple has also been largely used in fitting up the accountant's office and the spaces allotted for the teller and the ledger keepers. The entrance to the manager's quarters is from Hanbury-street. The quarters embrace a living-room, two bedrooms, sitting-room, pantry, linen cupboard, kitchen, and bath room, all having fibrous plaster ceilings and joinery finished in stain and dull varnish. Adjoining the bank and facing Maitland-road are a suite of offices which are for letting purposes. The

architects were Messrs. F. G. and A. C. Castleden, of Newcastle, and the contractor for the erection of the buildings, **Mr. T. Southon, Mayfield.** The opening ceremony was performed by Mr. R. S. Gregson, general manager in New South Wales of the National Bank of Australia, Ltd. Subsequently a number of appropriate toasts were honoured by the representative gathering, and in proposing one of these Mr. Gregson spoke of the possibilities of Newcastle, which must eventually become the port of the northern districts. The erection of the new building was an instance of the confidence in the northern district of the National Bank. He urged everybody present to further the interests of their districts by every means possible.

15/5/1922 – The Newcastle Sun

**NATIONAL BANK AT MAYFIELD** The site of the newly-erected National Bank property at Mayfield is on the most prominent corner, immediately opposite the post office, at the junction of the principal thoroughfares in the district, and at the termination of the tram line, and has a frontage of 36ft 6in to Maitland-road, and a depth of 63ft to Hanbury-street. The new building is two stories in height, with facades to Maitland-road and Hanbury-street. The ground floor is finished in blocked masonry, and the first floor with columns in the Ionic order, with bold cornices and parapets, and recessed balcony on the Maitland-road frontage, the handsome block of buildings forming a striking landmark in the locality. The entrance to the bank is at the angle of the two streets, and has a recessed lobby opening into a banking chamber 25ft x 25ft, with Queensland maple fittings and handsome fibrous plaster ceilings. The strong room measures 10ft x 6ft, and is fitted with steel shelving and fittings, as well as a large safe. The manager's office opens directly from the banking chamber, and is enclosed with Queensland maple screens. The accountant's office, ledger, and teller's spaces are all fitted with polished Queensland maple fittings, lavatory accommodation for the male and female staff, and a store-room for vouchers, are situated at the rear of the banking chamber. The entrance to the manager's residence is from Hanbury-street, arranged on the first floor, with living room 19ft 6in x 12ft. two bedrooms, sitting-room, pantry, linen cupboards, kitchen and bathroom, all having fibrous plaster ceilings and joinery finished in stain and dull varnish. The contractor for the building was Mr. T. Southon. of Mayfield, and the architects Messrs. F. G. and A. C. Castleden, of Bolton-street, Newcastle.

10/5/1922 – Construction & Local Government

Wangi Wangi – New School building – T.C. Southon - £538

23/9/1922 – NMH

**To Let:**

COMFORTABLE, 6-roomed House, elec. light, sewer, glassed-in verandah. 39 Woodstock-street, Mayfield. Apply next door, to Mrs. Southon. 9326

10/11/1922 – NMH

17/1/1923 – Construction & Local Journal

WANGI WANGI FOR HOLIDAYS Elsewhere during last weekend and I on the holiday, whilst a relentless sun| shone and a westerly scorched the parched places close to the city, crowds journeyed across the lake to Wangi, where they betook themselves to the cool waters, or sought the shaded areas of dancing groves of trees that fringe the sandy beaches of these favoured picnic grounds, A few venturesome spirits with cars and sulkies risked the rocky route of the new high-road that is being carved from Cessnock to Wangi, and they assert that thousands will follow in their wake as soon as the road has been made more trafficable. Many parties report good fishing and catches of \*10 and upwards were quite common. Fine squire and whiting are biting particularly well, and old hands say that it is hard to recall having had such an attractive time with the line. On the return Journeys the Wangi Ferry Company's officials were set a difficult problem to handle the traffic, but with the running of additional trips the inconvenience of waiting disappeared. **The Lake View Estate**, which is being sold in subdivision blocks, was the centre of considerable interest on the part of holiday makers.

**Martinsville** school – additions – T. Southon, Mayfield – 497 pounds

26/7/1923 – Newcastle Morning Herald.

Mr. H. Connell, M.P., stated yesterday that the Under-Secretary of the Education Department had notified him that the Minister for Education had accepted the tender of Mr. T. C. Southon, of Mayfield, for the work in connection with the proposed additions, etc. to the public **school at Cardiff**.

26/3/1924 –Construction and local Gvt. Journal)

Department of Education - **Young Wallsend**, Additions 399 pound .(Edgeworth)

3/7/1924 – NMH

YOUNG WALLSEND- A contract for the remodelling of the Young Wallsend Public School has been let to **Mr. T. Southon, who** is now engaged on the work. The alterations include much improved lighting and ventilation. The galleries have been lowered and the classrooms will be divided by glass partitions, with folding doors, in place of the old brick partitions. Dual desks are to be placed in the infants' department. The enrolment, which has within the past few years increased 50 per cent, is now 125, with a daily average attendance of 100. The staff comprises Mr. D. Walker, the principal, and two assistant teachers. During the alterations the school will be held in Smith's Hall. This hall, which is used for entertainments and other public purposes, has been lately improved by interior alterations and the installation of new gas lights.[*Young Wallsend is now Edgeworth*]

**24/7/1924 – Newcastle Herald**

AGENTS, please note, that our five Allotments in Kitchener-parade, Mayfield, sold by Ewart Lewis, Roslyn-avenue, Islington. T. C. Southon, T. H. Waller.

**23/12/1924**

NOTICE UNDER REAL PROPERTY ACT. APPLICATION by the undermentioned has been made to bring the land described under the provisions of the Real Property Act. Caveats may be lodged in accordance with the Third Schedule to the said Act, on or before the 23rd JANUARY, 195: No. 26,303.-Alfred Francis Hall and Thomas Charlton Southon, la. 2r, 181/2p., site of closed rd., in por. 45 (ph.), ph, Wallarah,co. Northumberland. Diagram delineating this land may be inspected at the Land Titles Office, Sydney. W. G. H. WILIAMS, Registrar-General. 19th December, 1924. (B.1066).

20/3/1925

Work has been commenced in connection with the erection of the **new post and telegraph office at the corner of Maitland road and Elizabeth street.**(Mayfield) The building, which will be of brick, will be confined to the ground floor, and will contain a general office 31 feet 6 inches by 17 feet, public counter space of 13 feet by 17ft, a porch with two telephone cabinets, strong room and store. There will be a frontage of 66 feet to Maitland road; and 130 feet to Elizabeth-street. The building will cost about £2000. **Messrs T. Southon and T. H. Waller** are the contractors.



3/7/1925 – Newcastle Morning Herald

The erection of the new **Post and Telegraph Office at Mayfield** is nearing completion, and it will probably be taken possession of by the department before the end of the month. It is an attractive single-storied brick structure, situated at the corner of Maitland road and Elizabeth street. The front is semi-circular, with two pillars at the entrance. The accommodation consists of a staff room, 18f by 34ft; counter space of 17ft by 15ft, and two telephone bureaus, private letter boxes, a strong room, and small storeroom. **Mr. T. Southon** is the contractor.

30/11/1926 - **Daily Commercial News and Shipping List (Sydney)**

Cessnock West. — New infants' building, Southon & Waller (Hamilton), £5300

9/9/1929 –Moree Gwydir Examiner - New Lyceum Theatre.

Last week's notable event proved to be the initial opening of Moree's new and up-to-date theatre, the Lyceum Theatre. Although the opening was not characterised by grandiloquent oratory it was nevertheless unique inasmuch that it conveyed impressively the trend of private enterprise in the creation of a new and up-to-date Moree endeavouring to obliterate the scars of disaster suffered at the latter end of last year, and furthermore the progressive enterprise displayed by far seeing citizens of business ability. It has been evident in the past week or two that the public of Moree were indeed interested in the final completion and alternate opening for patronage of the Lyceum Theatre and it was a pleasure to survey the concourse of happy and interested faces, and to hear the expression of satisfaction of the irrepressible picture fans. When approaching the theatre on the opening night, one was reminded of the brilliancy of metropolitan theatres by the flood of light from the top of the awning bathing the facade of the building and imbuing it with a distinction all its own. The entrance certainly invited patronage with its terrazzo floor, neat ticket box and elegant staircase newels with their illuminated lead lights. Ultimately settled in a comfortable seat, one could survey the auditorium with pleasing satisfaction embracing the distinctive colour scheme executed by Mr. B. Page, and the lighting effectively carried out by the Moree Electric Light Co. The dominating colour in the decoration is blue, which is toned down by splashes of gold, artistic floral panels and the panels of the piers embellished by a modern and hitherto little known, medium for mural decoration known as 'Tex.' The design of the proscenium is decorative and refined on pale blue picked out in gold and graced with a drafted curtain of blue trimmed with gold. The stage is wide and roomy and make provision for the rendition of vaudeville review when warranted. Special care has attended the system of ventilation, and patrons can be assured of getting the greatest comfort in this respect during the summer months. In keeping with the progress displayed in metropolitan areas, the musical programme was effectively presented by a Brunswick Panetnope, which excellently portrayed the variations of musical synchronisation so necessary to the perfect picturisation of drama and comedy, the machine is located and electrically controlled in the operation box in the dress circle, but the music is transmitted through wires distributed by loud speakers (almost indiscernible to the eye) set in the screen on the stage. The acoustic properties of the theatre leave nothing to be desired in this respect. The programme provided two good features, and their projection by the cinema projectors, two of which have been installed, was very good. The whole equipment, including a Max Levy converter, is claimed to be the most up-to-date outside of Sydney. The Lyceum Theatre is indeed a credit to Moree, and Mr. Munro is to be complimented on his successful effort to satisfy the requirements of the picture going public. Mr. H McCourt was responsible for the design and supervision of the work, which has been completed with so much good taste and architectural effect, while the contractors, **Messrs. Southon and Waller**, have not failed in their effort to produce workmanship of a superior quality.



(Heritage Listed)

28/11/1923 – Maitland Daily Mercury.

JUDGE — In loving memory of my dear friend, Thomas Judge, who died 28th November, 1922. Inserted by his loving friend, **Wally Waller**.

*(So, is Wally Waller (Thomas's partner) a friend of his father in law from Maitland?)*

1936- Singleton Argus - Mr **Thomas Southon**, of Mayfield, a native of Singleton, and brother of Mrs E. L. Dawes, of Singleton, died last night. His sister, Mrs Ryan [Thomas was not a native of Singleton, he was born in Wickham]

13/7/1937 – Tuesday week at 3 0'clock at the rooms 9-11 Wolfe Street (Newcastle) to wind up the estate of the late **Thomas Southon**, deceased, by order of the Executrix.

2nd House“:

“We walk up the lane to a green house, No.47 Woodstock Street]H.M. This was an old house built by a man named Southern . . . . .But, it one of those houses that's been added onto to. . . . .” (From Helen Marshall's Mayfield Walk 2)

24/3/1936 – Newcastle Morning Herald

MR. T. C. SOUTHON. The funeral took place on March 12 of Mr. Thomas Charlton Southon, a well-known resident of Mayfield, who died at a private hospital after a brief illness. Mr. Southon., who was 71 years old, was born at Wickham, and spent

his life in the Newcastle district. He lived for 45 years at Woodstock street, Mayfield. The funeral was preceded by short services at the home and graveside, conducted by Rev. H. Marshall. He is survived by his widow, four sons and six daughters. Messrs. Thomas (Hamilton), Lyle, Richard, and Cyril (Mayfield), and Mesdames L. C. Fitzsimmons, T. Croese, and C. V. Wilkins (Mayfield), C. Holmes (Tanilba). S. T. Maher (Lambton), and Miss A. Southon (Mayfield (nee Miss Nellie Southon), of Sydney, died a fortnight ago.

*(William died September 1936)*

13/7/1937 – Tuesday week at 3 o'clock at the rooms 9-11 Wolfe Street (Newcastle) to wind up the estate of the late **Thomas Southon**, deceased, by order of the Executrix.

3/7/1937 – Newcastle Morning Herald

TUESDAY, 13th JULY, AT 3 O'CLOCK. AT THE ROOMS. 9 & 11 WOLFE STREET. **To wind up the Estate of the late Thomas Southon**, deceased, by order of the Executrix. WARATAH, SWANSEA, WANGI AND NELSON S BAY ALLOTMENTS WARATAH. -Prince street,' adjoining Waratah 'Engineering Works, Allotment Land ,38ft. to Prince St, by a depth of 99ft. 6in., near Waratah railway Station. Land;,Prince Street and Turton road, 148ft. and 75ft., front ages, depth 72ft .and on rear line 117ft; SWANSEA.-Main-road, adjoining Hotel,39ft. to Main-road, by a depth of 295ft., return frontage to Wood-st., at rear.SWANSEA- Black Ned's Bay: a Weekend or Home Site, 50ft. to Bowman St., depths of-183 and 157ft., return frontage to Black. Ned's' Bay at rear. WANGI WANGI. No. 2 Estate, Lot:227a. fronting Wangi Point-road, depths of 122 and 13 feet. SWANSEA-.Lot 9, Sec: B, Taffe Estate, frontages to Catherine Hill Bay road and Wallace-street. NELSONS BAY . PORT STEPHENS:, Village of TERAMBY; Lot 2 Sec. 6 near Town and Main Road. Plans can be inspected at our offices. Further particulars apply to CREER & BERKELEY , Auctioneers 9 & 11 WOLFE-ST. Messrs. JOHNSON & O'NEILL Solicitors to the Estate

25/2/1938 - Government Gazette

Overdue Rates - Lake Macquarie council  
Alfred Francis Hall of Newcastle, and Thomas Charlton

Southon, of Waratah; overdue rates, £6 4s. 10d.; land, part of portion 45 (of parish), Parbury-road and Bowman-street, Swansea.

## Southon Bros.

### Thomas and William SOUTHON

#### Tenders won:

1/1/1887 – The Improvement Committee reported that according to instructions from the council, an arrangement has been come to with Messrs. Winsor and Southon (Jnr) for the erection of a **cart-shed and tool-house** 24 feet by 12 and for the placing of a ceiling in the engine house and boat shed. (Singleton Borough Council)

*(I don't know which brother this is)*

10/8/1887 -The tenders of Southon Bros. and T. and .J. W. P. Blick have been accepted for carrying out improvements and repairs at the **Charlestown and Singleton public schools**, at £189 and £76 respectively.

1892. – **Dudley Public School** – Newcastle Morning Herald.

Tenders were called for, and that of Messrs. **Southon Bros.** accepted. A slight delay was caused in connection with the land, which, however, was got over. - The cost of the new building when completed would approach £3000. It will accommodate 200 children, and is being erected in such a way that additions can be made with but little expense or difficulty. [*Now heritage listed*].



24/5/1892 – **Hanbury** (*now Waratah Public School*) erecting buildings (infants' department – 900 pound (Maitland Mercury)

1/12/1892 – Waratah. The new **infant school** building in course of erection is now assuming a finished appearance and **Messrs Southon Bros**, contractors of Singleton expect to have it completed about Christmas. The building consists of three commodious classrooms, spacious verandah and out offices and when completed will form a handsome addition to the Public School buildings (NMH).

16/5/1892 **Wallsend** Public School improvements – 97 pounds. (Evening News)

21/5/1892 – NMH - Hanbury, painting and repairs, Southon Brothers, £97; **Hanbury**, erecting building (Infants department), Southon Brothers, £900;

16/8/1893 -According to the last Government Gazette, the Railway Commissioners have accepted the tender of Messrs Southon Brothers for the removal and re-erection of the **house for the officer in charge at Whittingham station**, the price being £163.

30/6/1894 -Alterations to **Water Police Barracks, Newcastle** – 6199 pounds & 10 shillings (Australian Town and Country) -*[The barracks to the water police residence was on Scott st if correct.]*

2/6/1894 – (SMH) Catherine Hill Bay Public School – erecting new buildings – 725 pound.



22/12/1894 Fencing – **Catherine Hill Bay**. (Australian Town & Country)

23/3/1895 – NMH

MESSRS. SOUTHON BROS. Tender has been ACCEPTED for PAINTING, etc. at my residence. **W. J. Ellis**. 9443- (Was an Alderman on NCC)

17/6/1895 – **Court House, Greta** – 900 pounds. [ *See below*]

27/6/1895 – NMH

**THE GRETA COURTHOUSE.** It is stated on the best authority that **Messrs. Southon Bros.**, the successful tenderers for the work of erecting the new Courthouse at Greta, **have decided not to go on with the contract.** The firm have another contract in hand which will, it is presumed, keep them engaged for some time. It will be remembered that the Government originally accepted the tender of another firm for the erection of the courthouse, and that circumstances arose owing to which the contract was not carried out. It is hoped, in the interests of the little town, that the work will not be held in abeyance by recent political developments, as the employment of even a small number of hands would be of considerable local advantage.

10/10/1896 – Newcastle Morning Herald

**NEW BENEVOLENT ASLYUM** The work of erecting the now Benevolent Asylum buildings is in active progress, and the committee of the institution are to be congratulated on the handsome pile. The buildings will undoubtedly add to the importance of The Georgetown district of the municipality, and probably before long

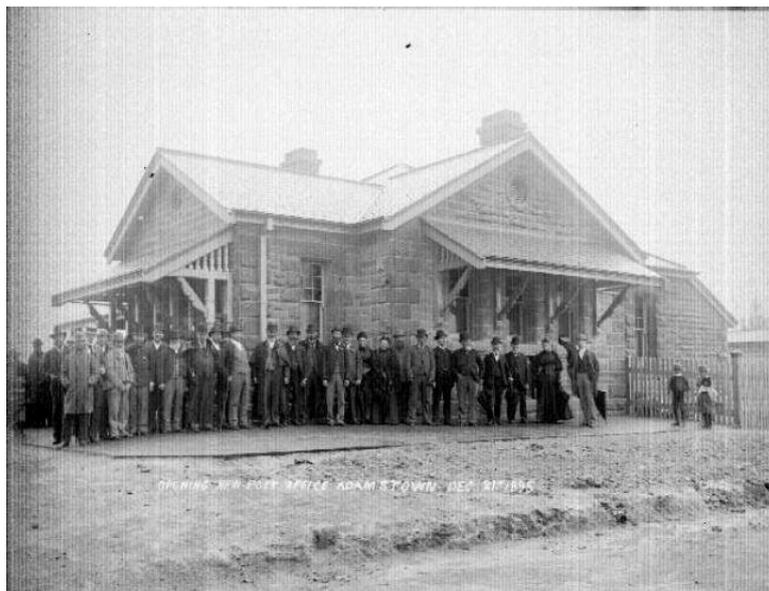
this will become a well-populated neighbourhood, apart from the institution. The contractors, Messrs. Southon Bros , are hopeful that the building will be completed within the contract time.

*[Was later named **Western Suburbs Maternity Hospital**]*



23/12/1895 – NMH

**THE NEW POST OFFICE AT ADAMSTOWN.** Opened by the Postmaster-General. THE new post and telegraph office at Adams town was formally opened to the public on Saturday afternoon by Mr. J. Cook, Post master-General, in the presence of a large number of people. The building is situated in the main thoroughfare, and is of blue and white stone and attractive design. The office is 29ft by 19ft, with a lobby 14ft by 8ft. There are seven rooms in addition to the office. The contractors for the building were Messrs. **Southon** Brothers, and the cost of the building was £1200.



*1/5/1895 – Tender Accepted: Erection of post & telegraph office, Adamstown – 1,143 pounds (NMH)*

The Mayor (Alderman Thwaites), in calling on the Postmaster-General to perform the opening ceremony, said that although they had had to wait some time for the post-office, it was worthwhile, as they had now an office equal to any in the district. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Cook said he was delighted to be present as head of the postal department to open a building which was both useful and an ornament to the district. To show the growth of the postal business he might mention that a post-office was established in Adamstown on April 16th, 1877, and a money order office and savings bank in 1886. The telephone office was opened in December, 1889. It was of interest to note the progress of the department under the Postmaster General, and he had had a return showing what had been done from 1884 to 1894. By that return he found the number of post - offices and receiving offices established in 1884 was 1291, and in 1894 the number had increased to 1895. The number of mail contractors in 1884 was 549, and in 1894 there were 754. The extent of the postal lines, including railways, was 20,430 miles, and in 1894 there were 33,064. The number of letters posted in 1884 was 39,644,700, and in 1894 the number that passed through the General Post-office was 62,446,565. The number of packets posted in 1884 was 2,791,700, and in 1894 12,760,224 were delivered. In connection with that branch of the postal business he might mention that for the carriage of mail matter alone the department paid the railways £80,000 per annum. Then there were the newspapers, which had to be carried free throughout the colony. In 1884 the number of newspapers posted was 23,393,900, and in 1894 it had increased to 38,142,200. They should remember these facts when they heard the cry about cutting down the expenditure of the post-office. They could do so, but only by reducing the facilities enjoyed by the people. Let them take their own case. The revenue of the Adamstown office did not nearly cover the expenditure. He might cut the expenditure down by making the telegraph boy walk by taking away his horse. The people, however, would not stand the delay. They had to remember that this was a young country, and the reduced expenditure in connection with postal matters would only come with increased population. In England they had penny postage, but then there was seventeen millions of a population to work on, whilst here there was only one million. They might remember a short time ago that he prosecuted a carrying company in Sydney for delivering letters in the city for 5s per hundred instead of 8s 4d as the Postal Department charged. That company confined their operations to the city, but the department had to carry letters into the country where the receipts could not meet the expenditure. It was only right, therefore, that they should take the good with the bad so that they could balance matters. He concluded by expressing the hope that the business of the office would increase. (Hear, hear ) Mr. Edden, M P., said that on behalf of the citizens he had great pleasure in presenting Mr. Cook with a photo of the building. Mr. Cook briefly responded.

Mr. W. L. Vernon, the Government architect, said the building was built of Waratah stone, which was really a first-class article. In connection with the building he had to compliment the contractor on the manner in which the work had been done. There had not been any extras on the job, which was one of the most satisfactory he had been connected with. (Hear, hear.) Alderman Thomas moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Cook for performing the opening ceremony. Alderman Mowbray seconded the motion, which was carried with acclamation. The gathering then adjourned to the council chambers, where luncheon was served. All arrangements, however, for the

admission and convenience of the press were neglected, and we are consequently unable to give a report of the proceedings.

4/3/1897

TO BUILDERS. MESSRS. SOUTHON BROS. Tender has been accepted for the Erection and Completion of a **Residence** in Charlton Street. G. SANDERS & SON, Architects, 7 Watt-street, Newcastle.

[ *Charlton Street appears to be now Hunter Street West....trove mentions the store, the brewery, Shedden's buildings, Alhambra Hall & Mercy Convent, Public Telephone bureau etc. Mr Hannell lived in Charlton St, but before this date*].

29/4/1897 – Evening News – Tenders **Opened**.

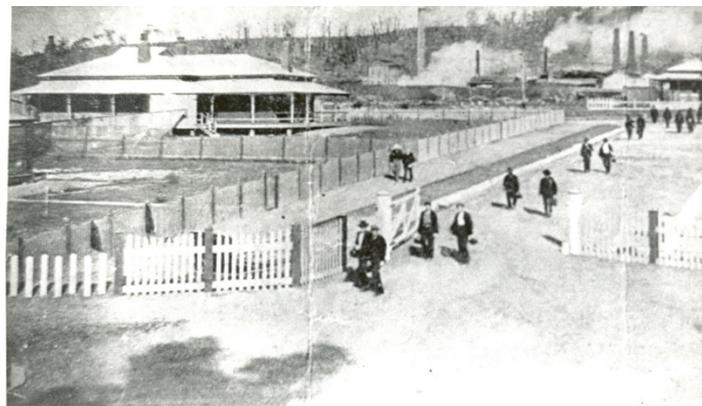
Erection of Post and Telegraph Office at Carrington —Eight tenders, Southon Brothers lowest, £1010. [ *I can't find evidence that they built this one*]

3/5/1897 – Maitland Daily Mercury

Repairs, etc., to the **Post and Telegraph Offices, Waratah**, Southon Brothers.

17/3/1897 – Newcastle Morning Herald

BRICKLAYERS.-Tenders Wanted (labour only), for Piers and Chimneys, residence, Newcastle, and manager's residence, **Cockle-creek**. Southon Bros., Waratah.



I think you are correct in assuming that the managers house at Cockle Creek refers to the Sulphide (Pasminco), who were still setting up at that stage. It may be the building depicted in this photograph from our collection.( Lake Macquarie Library)

10/1/1898 – **West Maitland Girls High School** – improvements and repairs 153 pound 10 shillings (Maitland Daily Mercury)

30/4/1898 – Evening News

**Swansea School** - additions to residence and repairs, Southon Brothers, Waratah, £205 10s

1/4/1899 – The work of building a **station master's residence at the new platform – Minimbah** – has been completed in a very satisfactory by Southon Brothers,

contractors, and Mr. H. Hewitt has been appointed to take charge of the Station (Maitland Weekly Mercury)

4/11/1899 – **G. I. Store, Boolaroo**, GE.G. Yeomans, Architect. 8,310 pound.

the G.I. Store refers to a Galvanised Iron store - there were lots of these around in that time period as this was a major building material. I haven't been able to determine it's exact location. It was possibly part of the Cockle Creek works, though I haven't been able to verify this.- ( from Lake Macquarie Library)

6/12/1899 – **Plattsburg** School, additions, etc. to closets – 69 pound

Tuesday 20 February 1900 - Australian Star (Sydney, NSW : 1887 - 1909), , page8 - THE PUBLIC SERVICE -Wickham, improvements and repairs, Southon Bros., Waratah, £366;

24/4/1900 - repairs, etc., to **cottage at Lambton reservoir**, Messrs. Southon Bros., contractors, balance due, £13 11s 6d;

5/1/1901 – Newcastle Morning Herald and Miner's Advocate:

**NEWCASTLE JOCKEY CLUB.** The usual monthly meeting of the committee of the Newcastle Jockey Club was held at the rooms last evening, the president, Mr. C. H. Hannell, is the chair. There were also present Messrs. F. Garnham, N. Steele, D. Fisher, J. G. Gameson, H. Cameron, and the secretary, J. Grisdale. A number of accounts were passed for payment, and plans and specifications of the proposed new **committee room** were laid on the table, the tender of **Southon Bros** being accepted.

*After some research, it is thought that this committee room maybe didn't get built. Mr A.A.Danger offered the turf club 6 acres of land just after the meeting and they bought it to add to the racecourse.*

11/5/1901 – Newcastle Morning Herald

TENDERS. TENDERS Accepted. **Lass O' Gowrie Hotel.** Additions, Wickham, Southon Bros., Builders.. E. G. Yeomens, Architect. [at this time, *the licencee was Thomas' son*]

3 April 1901 - Newcastle Morning Herald and Miners' Advocate (NSW : 1876 - 1954) , Wednesday, page 3

WARATAH .COUNCIL - From the secretary of Lodge Waratah, forwarding an estimate of cost supplied by Messrs. Southon Bros., for the erection of a wooden

lodge-room for the exclusive use of the lodge. The room was proposed to be erected at the rear of the Town Hall, and would cost £220. Alderman Braye moved, "that the lodge be requested to state what amount of additional rent they would pay, also whether they would take a 10 years' lease of the room in consideration of the council providing the increased accommodation." Seconded by Alderman Langwell. Alderman Miller moved an amendment, "That the council reply 'that the construction of such a building is outside the functions of a municipal council.'" Seconded by Alderman Creer. Considerable discussion followed, the question of the exclusiveness of the proposed room being the chief objection. Eventually the motion of Alderman Braye was carried.

16/1/1902 – Newcastle Morning Herald

#### SWANSEA. POSCATORIAL

Several splendid catches of fish, including bream, whiting and flathead, are being taken in the river at present, and old fishermen assert that it is years since flathead have been so plentiful, especially about the bridge.

**BUILDING.** A large two storey **hotel** has been erected on the site of the old premises, containing 27 rooms, with a balcony 52ft long x 12ft wide. It looks an imposing structure, with all the latest improvements. Mr Henderson, of Newcastle was the architect, **and Southon Bros., of Waratah, the contractors.**

**THE FERRY SERVICE** There is an everyday service of ferry boats here from Cockle Creek, which has already proved to be a boon to residents and visitors.

**THE ROADS.** Residents of Swansea and Catherine Hill Bay have for years agitated to have the road between here and Belmont completed, it being nothing but a sand bed. At last a start is being made to gravel it right through, and for this thanks are due to the road superintendent, Mr. Grant for this much-needed improvement.

22/1/1902 – **Belmont** Public School improvements etc – 245 pound (Evening News Sydney)

22/3/1902 – NMH

#### SPIERS', LAKE MACQUARIE. A NEW HOTEL.

A two-storied brick hotel has just been completed at Spiers' Point, one of the chief pleasure resorts of Lake Macquarie. The building is in the Swiss style of architecture, and its balconette elevations at front and side, with a tiled roof, give it a fine appearance. The entire structure cost Mr. Thomas Williams, the proprietor about £3500. **It was built by Messrs. Southon Bros.,** to designs by and under the supervision of Mr. J. Henderson, architect, of Newcastle. It is situated next to the Wallsend and Plattsburg Park, and commands a magnificent view of the Lake. Hot and cold water is provided throughout, and the chief rooms are lit up with acetylene gas. The dining room is large, measuring 31 1/2 by 16feet. When Mr. Williams had his license confirmed on Thursday Sub-Inspector M'Vane told the presiding magistrate that this hotel was a credit to the district. By advertisement Mr. Williams announces that the formal opening will take place to-day.



[*Spiers Point Hotel – Pippy's*]

2/8/1902 – Newcastle Morning Herald.

SOUTHON BROS'. Tender accepted for **Brick Residence** for **W. Winn**, Esq, Waratah. E. G. Yeomans, Architect. (*Believed to be located in Victoria Street, now aged care units*).

7/11/1902 =-laying on Hunter River water to West Wallsend School, Southon Bros., Waratah; £38 12s.

22/11/1902 – **West Wallsend** additions – 574 pound, 18 shillings. (NMH)

21/7/1903 -**repairs at Fort Scratchley and Shepherd's Hill**, Newcastle, Southon Brothers, Waratah , 99 pound, 10s;

16/1/1904 -Good progress is being made with the three large **hotels** in **Kurri Kurri**. Mr. W. J. Millgate's hotel in Railway-street; the roofing of Millgate's hotel was commenced this week. **Messrs. Southon Brothers** are erecting Millgate's, the architects being Messrs. Sheerin and Hennessy, of Sydney. Messrs. Southon do not expect to have Millgate's completed for about three months. This hotel is a fine two story brick structure, containing 28 rooms, and will cost about £4000. The rooms are spacious especially the bar and dining rooms, a large colonnade will be erected in front, and there is extensive cellarage and stabling accommodation provided for. The bricks used in its construction were made locally, and as the work was only commenced three months ago, the progress made has been, very rapid. ...(*Empire Hotel*).



14/9/1904 – The Maitland Daily Mercury - KURRI KURRI

The **large public hall** which is being erected for Mr. W. J. Milgate, of the Empire Hotel, is fast approaching completion, and is expected to be completed in about a fortnight. The building is situated close to the hotel, and presents a handsome appearance. The size of the structure is 70 feet by 10 feet, and the walls are 15 feet high from floor to ceiling. The roof, which is of iron, is supported by massive principles. The floor is laid with 4-inch by 1-inch tallow wood boards, tongued and grooved. There are also 13 large window openings, and light and ventilation have been well studied. The front of the hall is finished with artistic ornament dressings, and is fitted with ornamental barge boards. A stage 13 feet wide is to be constructed at the northern end of the building, which will be provided with dressing rooms and every convenience. It is also intended to illuminate the building by electricity. The contractors for the erection are **Messrs. Southon Bros.**, of Newcastle, who were the contractors for the Empire Hotel, and whose name is sufficient guarantee of the quality of work executed. The hall will be completed at a cost of about £550, and as it will accommodate any ordinary theatrical company it should be well patronised.

7/7/1904 – Evening News, Sydney

Government Architect's. — **Additions to Reception House**, Hospital for Insane, Newcastle, Southon Brothers, Waratah, £794 5s

16/11/1905 – Major revamp **Newcastle South Public School [Junction Public]**  
DISTRICT BUILDING OPERATIONS. The work of renovating Newcastle South Public School has been practically completed by the contractors, **Messrs. Southon Bros., of Waratah**. The infants' school building has been painted within and without, and the windows here and in the other buildings renewed and painted, so as to prevent any possible leakage in wet weather. Wire netting has also been placed on some of the windows to protect them. The buildings of the boys' and girls' school were also painted in part, and the floor laid on one level. On the first-named building the old shingle roof has been replaced by one of iron. This was much needed, as the old roof was in a leaky condition. The weather-sheds have been treated in the same way, and painted. New floors have also been laid in the boys' weather shed and lavatory. In the girls' lavatory, and in the porches, the stone floor has been replaced by one of cement. The sheds the seats were securely re-fixed. In the boys' hat-room, the white ants had damaged the lining-boards very much, and the lining has been renewed.

The outbuildings have also received attention in the way of painting, etc. The old palisading fence along the frontage of portion of the school ground has been replaced with a galvanised iron fence; and two new gates have been set up. In the playground, the drains leading from the lavatories were pulled up and cleaned. A sump has been placed in the ground and both drains now run to it, and from thence to the street. This portion of the ground is also being filled up with gravel to prevent water lying there in the wet weather. It will be graded down to the sump, to which the water will run and be carried away. In other parts of the school grounds gravel is also being spread. The work done has made a big and much-needed improvement in the appearance of the school, and should also make it much healthier for the children in wet weather; but, as has previously been pointed out, the buildings are over-crowded by the number of children attending, and a new school building is required.

11/10/1904 Additions to **Wyong** Public School – 164 pound.

25/10/1914 – NMH

BY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

The undermentioned tenders in connection with **public schools** have been accepted the Government - **Adamstown**, additions, Messrs Southon Bros. £430.

1906 – Mayfield Monastery Church (no evidence)

14/5/1906 – Erection of new school buildings etc , at **Minmi** – 529 pound. (Evening News, Sydney)

30/4/1906 – The tender of **Messrs. Southon Bros** of Waratah has been accepted for work in connection with providing **accommodation for the high school in Tyrrell Street, Newcastle** (Sydney Morning Herald)

AND

30/4/1906 – NMH

On Saturday, Mr. MacTaggart, District Architect, Newcastle, opened tenders for the work to be done at **the Newcastle Superior Public School**, in order to make certain rooms ready for the High School. The lowest tender for the work was that of Messrs. Southon Brothers, of Waratah, for £367. The work includes the turning of an outside wooden building into a classroom. In the infants department, the galleries will be taken out, and the floor put on one level. A new weather shed will be built for the girls' department, and a lavatory and conveniences will be provided on the basement for the High School pupils. The whole of the buildings to be occupied by them will be renovated, and a proper system of sewerage and drainage adopted. That portion of the building will also be isolated by fencing it off. The large room will be divided by a glass partition. The ventilation is to have special attention, and the yard will be gravelled and levelled. The school will be ready for occupation on the 1st June.

19/6/1906 –Alterations and additions, to the **police station, Hamilton**, Messrs Southon Brothers, Waratah, £204 (See below 0 cancellation of contract)

<p>Erection of New School Building, do, Araluen—A. Allen, Geulburn. Alterations and Additions to the <b>Police Station, Hamilton</b>—Southon Bros., Waratah. Unsuccessful Tenderers for the above are requested to accept this intimation. W. J. HANNA, Acting Under Secretary.</p>	<p>A. BRUCEWATER, Secretary and Executive Member.</p> <hr/> <p>[9959] Stores Supply and Tender Board, 15, Young-street, Sydney, 23rd June, 1906. CANCELLATION OF CONTRACTS. It is hereby notified, for the information of Departments and persons concerned, that the undermentioned Contracts have been cancelled :—</p>
<p>[9958] Stores Supply and Tender Board.</p>	

7/6/1906 – Tender accepted for additional **brick store** for Messrs. J. H. Anderton, Waratah. Robert Wilkins Architect (Newcastle Morning Herald). [*Station Street, Waratah- was demolished to make way for the Rugby Club. Mr Anderton supplied horse fodder and I believe it was a general store*]

4/12/1906 – General repairs **to public offices**, Hunter Street, Newcastle – 300 pound.

1/5/1907. Residential Premises, New Lambton Heights. For A.A. Dangar, Esquire. The Tender **of Messrs. Southon Bros**, Waratah, has been accepted for above work. List of tenders received may be seen at our office Menkens & Castleden, Architects, Wood's chambers, Scott St, Newcastle. [*Believed to be a home on Russell Road – "Tulloch"*]

2/3/1908 – Erection – **Teacher's Residence, Public School Waratah** – 779 pounds (Evening News, Sydney). [*This residence is now a child care centre for Dale College and run by St Phillip,s*]

4/2/1908 – Maitland Daily - for Public Works.- Tenders have been accepted for the following public works :— Additions and improvements, **High School on the Hill**, Newcastle. Southon Bros., Newcastle, 287 pounds: [*Newcastle East*]

16/11/1908 – **Morisset Hospital for the Insane** – Recreation Blocks. Another article was published in *The Newcastle Morning Herald and Miner's Advocate* in its 16 November 1908 edition: ~~~~~

5/12/1908. (NMH & Miner's Advocate).

**Tenders: To Lake Fishermen.** – Want, Price for **supply 100 Tons Clean Lake Shingle, delvd. Morisset Asylum Wharf.** Bags supplied. **Southon Brothers, Waratah.**

Thomas Charlton Southon on the sulky. Builders' Camp Morisset Hospital site.



Builders' original bush camp believed to have been near present tennis courts

Messrs. Southon Brothers of Waratah, the contractors, have commenced at Morisset on the grounds of the Hospital For the Insane, the erection of the Recreation blocks in connection with that institution. The blocks will be ornate and substantial in character, one story in height, resting on solid concrete foundations. The construction will be of Wallsend bricks, Sydney stone dressings and shingle tiled roof, also tower or what is known in the trade as 'fleche' to be covered with copper worked with an ornamental design.

The accommodation in the blocks will comprise; reading room 76 foot by 40 foot, billiard room 45 foot by 35 foot; as well as smaller rooms for offices etc, all to be comfortable, well lighted and ventilated. Provision is also to be made for hot water apparatus, fittings for gas supply, and perfect system of drainage. The flushing of the latter as well as the supply for the institution will be water pumped from a dam on the grounds of the institution and from thence conveyed a distance of three miles by six inch main. The blocks, when completed are to be fitted temporarily for kitchen purposes.

It is expected that the pavilion or first portion of the main hospital will be ready for patients in a few months. This is apart from Messrs Southon's work, their contract alone being one of £5000. The site is about three miles from Morisset Railway Station, a gravel road thereto being now in course of construction by the Government.

3/8/1909 – Newcastle Morning Herald

MORISSET A social was held in the school of arts hall -Morisset on Saturday evening, when a number of the employees of Messrs. Southon Bros. contractors, and their friends assembled in a farewell gathering. **Mr. T. Southon represented the**

**firm** and welcomed the company. A return social is to be tendered to Messrs. Southon Bros. and their employees. [*re building of Morisset Hospital*]

1909 – **School Master's house, Mayfield (East)** Public School – 779 pound.

6/7/1909 – Alterations and improvements to **Carrington Chambers, Watt Street, Newcastle.** [*Was used as the Newcastle Council Chambers*]

4/12/1909 – Newcastle Morning Herald

WARATAH. Messrs. Southon Brothers have commenced work at **the Hanbury Public School**. The contract comprises general renovation and painting throughout the building, and additions in the shape of new hat and cloak room of weather board. The brick wall partition in the infants' department will be removed, and one of glass sliding panels substituted. The windows will also be lowered to give improved lighting. New fencing is to be erected all round, and the school playground levelled and rolled

31/1/1910 – Remodelling the **kitchen** and store blocks, **Hospital for Insane, Newcastle** – 860 pound (Evening News, Sydney). (Cnr. Church and Bolton sts) Saturday 7 May 1910 - Newcastle Morning Herald and Miners' Advocate (NSW : 1876 - 1954) , , page 5

(Hospital for Insane – Newcastle, not Morisset)

HOSPITAL FOR INSANE. ITS REMOVAL ADVOCATED. About three years ago it was decided to erect buildings at Morisset for the housing and treatment of persons afflicted with mania. It was also given out at that time that the patients in the Hospital for insane in Newcastle would be removed to Morisset as soon as there was room for them. But if that was the intention of the department, the idea has apparently been abandoned, for at present Morisset is assisted, in the general treatment of cases, by the hospital in Newcastle, rather than Newcastle being relieved of patients by the opening of the buildings at Morisset. The department is also taking steps to improve and enlarge a section of the buildings at Newcastle, the intention evidently being to continue for some years to come the Hospital for Insane within the city limits. **Southon Brothers, of Waratah**, are the contractors for the work, which includes a kitchen block, laundry, and dining-room for the staff. The kitchen is being fitted with the latest appliances for the cooking of food with steam, and in the laundry and ironing rooms is the best of machinery for the cleansing, drying and pressing of clothing. The building which is being converted so as to provide better accommodation for the staff will, when the change is completed, consist of large, well-lighted dining-room, a kitchen and lavatory. The cost of the new structures and the appointments will be about £1500, and the work will be completed in a few weeks' time.....

21/2/1910 – Erection of **boat-shed and slip for the Naval forces at Newcastle** – 1,110 pounds (Maitland Daily Mercury) –*[photo can be found on flickr]*



14/5/1910 – Maitland Weekly Mercury.

Erection of a Navy Drill Hall at Newcastle – 2520 pound. (this to be a two-storey building of wood and Iron)

17/5/1910 – (14/5/1910) Maitland Weekly Mercury

**Erection of Drill Hall at Newcastle**, Southon. Bros., Waratah, £2520 ;

for the erection of the new drill hall and military offices in Langford-street, Newcastle, expect that the work will be completed early in December. The building is 115 feet long and 25 feet wide. The main portion contains a large drill hall, 80 by 40, with principal roof over. The floor is of teak, and the hall is specially lighted with large windows at the gable ends, and a small pivot-hung window along the full length of both sides. These windows are 16 foot from the foot from the floor, and worked with special openers. The offices connecting with the hall consist of lecture room, 26 rooms for officers of the different companies, also spacious corridors. There are 18 fireplaces in the building. The structure is built of wood, with brick front, roofed with iron. The building is to be lighted by electricity. The contractors have let the contract for this work to the Silvertown Company. The contract price for the whole building is about 2600. The lease of the building in Bolton-Street now occupied by the military forces, terminates at the end of December. The new building is being erected under the supervision of Mr H. Herbert, district works officer.

23/7/1910 – NMH

FERRODOR ANTI-CORROSIVE PAINT (for Iron roofs) Messrs Southon Bros, Contractors, Newcastle write: We used Ferrodor for Fort Scratchley buildings with every satisfaction. The covering power is enormous, about 1000 square yards per cwt. Sole Agents W.M. ADAMS and CO, Ltd. 175 Clarence street.



6/10/1910 – Newcastle Morning Herald

**THE NEW DRILL HALL - Messrs, Southon Brothers**, of Waratah, the contractors for the erection of the new drill hall and military offices in Langford-street, Newcastle, expect that the work will be completed early in December. The building is 115 feet long and 25 feet wide. The main portion contains a large drill hall, 80 by 40, with principal roof over. The floor is of teak, and the hall is specially lighted with large windows at the gable ends, and a small pivot-hung window along the full length of both sides. These windows are 16 foot from the foot from the floor, and worked with special openers. The offices connecting with the hall consist of lecture room, 26 rooms for officers of the different companies, also spacious corridors. There are 18 fireplaces in the building. The structure is built of wood, with brick front, roofed with iron. The building is to be lighted by electricity. The contractors have let the contract for this work to the Silvertown Company. The contract price for the whole building is about 2600 pounds. The lease of the building in Bolton-Street now occupied by the military forces, terminates at the end of December. The new building is being erected under the supervision of Mr H. Herbert, district works officer.

3/12/1910 New Public Works.

Tenders have been accepted for the new public works in New South Wales: —  
**Erection of a shed for explosives on wharf at Wave Trap, Newcastle, Southon Brothers**, Newcastle, £210.

**THIS APPEARS TO BE THE LAST PROJECT BUILT BY SOUTHON BROS. AFTER THIS THEY WENT THEIR SEPARATE WAYS.**

Government Gazette of the State of New South Wales (Sydney, NSW : 1901 - 2001),  
 Wednesday 1 November 1911 (No.149), page 5850

**NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION.**

NOTICE is hereby given that the partnership hitherto existing between the undersigned, and carried on by them at Newcastle and Waratah, under the name or style of "**Southon Brothers**," builders and contractors, has this day been dissolved by mutual consent. All debts due to the said firm will be paid to the undersigned,

William Venor Southon, who will also pay and discharge any debts due by the said firm.—Dated this twenty-fifth day of October, one thousand nine hundred and eleven.

THOMAS SOUTHON.

WILLIAM VENOR SOUTHON. Witness,—T. A. Braye, Solicitor, Newcastle

.....

20/12/1945 – Newcastle Morning Herald

ADAMSTOWN P.O. JUBILEE- Tomorrow marks the Jubilee of the Adamstown post-office. Erected by **Messrs. Southon Bros.**, to a design of the Government Architect (Mr. W. L. Vernon, its cost was £1200. **The building is of Waratah stone.** The official ceremony was performed by the Postmaster General (Mr. J. Cook, later Sir Joseph Cook)

## William Venor Southon

### (Brother of Thomas Charlton Southon)



William was the President of the Waratah Bowling Club  
 William was the President of the Master Builders Association  
 William was the Lord Mayor of Waratah. (three years 1908-1910)  
 William was the President of the Waratah School of Arts and a Trustee until his death.  
 William was a Justice of the Peace (from 29/4/1911)  
 William was the President of the Waratah Fire Brigade (1909)  
 William was Vice-President & Patron of the Waratah Cricket Club  
 William was elected a director of the Gordon Brook Cooper Company (1908)  
 Southon Street, Mayfield NSW was named after him.

William resided at “Monowai”, 4 High Street, Waratah. He died at his residence on August 27<sup>th</sup>, 1936 aged 65 years. [*The home is no longer standing, in its place is a block of 60's flats.*]

William married Elizabeth (Lizzie) Bailey from East Maitland. Her father was Henry Bailey J.P. They had five children – four girls and one son.

William Wallace (Wally) Southon married Marie or Constance O'Mara. Her father was also a past Lord Mayor of Waratah also and involved in the Waratah Bowling Club. One known child, Raymond. It is believed this family moved to Sydney. Wally died aged 73 on 5/4/71 at Five Dock, Sydney. Their son Raymond died on 14/06/2014 at Kincumber, formerly of West Pennant Hills. Raymond had three sons. I spoke to the eldest one and he said he knew nothing about his family and wasn't interested. He lives in Woy Woy. No photos – nothing. Said he had two younger brothers.

Essie May Southon, single, died on 24/3/1944 at a private hospital in Sydney.

Marie Southon, single, died 23/10/1968 of 166 Lookout Road, New Lambton Heights.

Madge Southon married David Mackie, the youngest son of J. Mackie of Mackie's furniture fame. David died on 25/4/78 aged 79 years at Adamstown Heights.

Lila Southon remained single and was living in the family home in 1954 (Tree planting article NMH).



(believed to be the fifth man from the left, standing up)



Waratah Bowling Club, 1919.



**Waratah Cricket Club. William Southon third from left, top row. Vice President**

**Time Line:**

2 October 1886- Singleton Argus (NSW : 1880 - 1954) , Saturday, page 4

Singleton Borough 'Council - The Council then went into committee to deal with tenders for gravel and the erection of stand and tank and fire engine shed. On resuming, the Mayor reported that the tender for the erection of the stand and tank etc., the tender of Messrs Winsor and Southon jnr had been accepted, the price being £299 2s 8d.

4/5/1891 - **Redhead** (Burwood South, near Newcastle), erecting new buildings, including residence, 2600 pounds.

16/5/1891 – Repairing floor – **Moscheto Island** school – 12 pounds.

16/5/1891 – Erecting weather shed and fencing – **Merewether** school 115 pounds.

5/5/1892 Improvements and repairs to **St. Ethels, West Maitland** 8,192 pounds.

Repairs and Improvements **Aberglasslyn** (W & R Southon) – 839 pounds and **Hexham** (W Southon) – 859 pounds.

27/11/1895 – Additions to **lock-up, Minmi** (Maitland Daily Mercury)

9/2/1904 – Election of Alderman W.V. Southon.

1/6/1901 – Land Sale

About half a mile south-westerly of Waratah Railway Station, fronting the southern side of High-street, and lying between Cross-street and W. Southon's portion 2409.

1918 Historical map shows William Southon owning land at lot 6 High Street and Eveline Southon (Thomass' wife) at No 8 High Street. No 10 is owned by T.A.Braye.(old numbering).Note Primary school dates and Council Chambers in Georgetown Road.



14/5/1906 – Newcastle Morning Herald.

Waratah Masonic Instalment: The following officers were installed, with the customary musical and other ceremonies. Wor. Bro. W. Southon

10/8/1906 – NMH

WARATAH. The annual social in aid of the Deaf and Dumb Institution was held in the Waratah School of Arts on Wednesday evening, and was one of the most successful gatherings held in connection with the institute, there being upwards of 400 present, including many visitors from Newcastle, Maitland, and elsewhere. Dancing commenced at 8 p.m., Messrs. Taylor and Noble, of New Lambton supplying the music. During the evening, refreshments were provided by a committee of ladies, comprising Mrs. J. Sneddon, Mrs. W. Cotter, Mrs. G. Turner, and the Misses Arnold, Anderton, Liddell, and Buckley. Mr. J. F. Richards acted as M.C., and all present thoroughly enjoyed themselves. It is expected, from the number of tickets sold, and the large number present, that the funds of the institution will be very materially benefited.

Mr. J. H. Anderton is making important additions to his **business premises in Station-street, Waratah**. The old building has been pulled down, and a new brick building, 26ft by 24ft, erected, with an ornamental cement front, and large plate glass windows, and handsome glass show cases. This building, when complete, will make an important addition to Station street business premises. The **contractor was Mr. Southon**, the plastering work being done by Mr. H. Pead. [ *This building was demolished to make way for the new building as mentioned. Was on the site of the now Rugby Club, Waratah* ]



**6/7/1909 – Newcastle Morning Herald and Miners' Advocate**

The alterations and improvements made to **Carrington-chambers, in Watt-street.,** for Mr. W.H. Parnell, have converted the building into one of the finest structures in the city. Formerly it consisted of two floors, and two have been added, giving in all, 35 offices and 5360 square feet of floor space. The exterior of



the building is pleasing in appearance, the older portion of the building being painted to harmonise with the pressed bricks of the upper floors, and the latter are relieved with black bricks over the window openings. At the base of the building, polished

trachyte is used: The main entrance to the chambers is guarded by collapsible iron gates and cedar and plate glass doors. The vestibule has been beautifully finished with marble, the three colours of rouge, St. Ann, and Sicilian white harmonising effectively. The whole is completed by a fine archway formed from solid blocks of marble. The rooms on all the floors are splendidly lighted, steel ceilings have been put in, the offices are up-to-date in every respect, and on each floor complete lavatory appliances and shower baths have been installed. The roof has been made flat, and is covered with malthold. The prospect therefrom is at line one, embracing long sections of the coast on either side of Newcastle, the harbour entrance, and the whole of the harbour. A well- built stairway leads to the top of the building, but is little used, owing to the fact that a modern electric lift has been put in. Power is supplied by the City Council, the motor in Use is a compact one, and the elevator (an Otis, put in by the Standard Electric Elevator Co.), is easily worked, and is safe, the operation being so governed that an accident cannot occur. The plans for the work were prepared by Mr. E. Tingle, and the contractors **were Messrs. Southon Brothers**. The marble work in the Vestibule was done by Mr. T. Browne, of Maitland.....[*Demolished after the 1989 earthquake- photo can be found on internet*]. *George Hotel also demolished – another Southon/Pearce build.*

4/12/1909 – Newcastle Morning Herald

At the meeting of the Waratah Bowling Club on Tuesday evening, the president, Mr. J. O'Mara, on behalf of the club, presented the Mayoress (Mrs W. V. Southon), with an enlarged photograph of the re-opening of the bowling green a few weeks ago. The Mayoress is shown playing the first bowl; the picture is a good one, and numerous residents who were present can be readily recognised. The president, also on behalf of the club, presented The Mayor with an enlarged photograph of the mayor, aldermen, and officers of the council who played against the club on the occasion referred to. Ex-aldermen Greenland and Marriot are also shown in the picture, which will be hung in the Town Hall as a memento of the re-opening ceremony. The Mayor, on behalf of the Mayoress and the aldermen returned thanks for the presents.

24/12/1909 – NMH

WARATAH, When it became known that the Deaf and Dumb Institution was short of **coal**, the Mayor of Waratah, Alderman **W. V. Southon**, and Mr. J. Markham, each sent in a load. This will tide the institution over present difficulties, and the sisters in charge expressed their thanks to the donors.

Government Gazette of the State of New South Wales (Sydney, NSW : 1901 - 2001), Thursday 27 December 1906 (No.284), page 6997

I, THE undersigned, Harold Norman Berry, hereby make application to roster The Surface Hill Syndicate (Limited), under the provisions of the Mining Partnerships Act, 1900. And I do solemnly and sincerely declare that the following statement is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true in every particular, namely :—

1. The name and style of the Company is the Surface Hill Syndicate (Limited).
2. The place of operations is at Timbarra, near Tenterfield.
3. The nominal capital of the Company is two thousand pounds, in two thousand shares of one pound

each.4. The amount already paid up is ten shillings per share. 5. The name of the Manager is Harold Norman Berry.6. The office of the Company is at number 19, Watt-street,Newcastle.7. The names and several residences of the shareholders, and the number of shares held by each at this date are as follows :—

2. Name Address. Number of shares

William Southon ... Waratah ... .. Twenty.

**POVERTY POINT / TIMBARRA:** Poverty Point, known also as Surface Hill, can be found approximately 38 km SE of Tenterfield. It appears that gold was won from this area as far back as 1860 by way of sluicing the grass roots of Surface Hill, 700 metres high above and 4.8 km distant from the Timbarra (Rocky) River. Mining also took place at Timbarra, where two ferruginous quartz veins crossed the road to Poverty Point. The Government Geologist C.S. Wilkinson said in March 1889 "*...that they traverse porphyritic granite and should be prospected...*". BECAME DELTA MINING, BARRACK MINING.

29/12/1906 – Brisbane Courier. A party of visitors from NSW called on the **Mayor of Brisbane** (Alderman J. Crase) yesterday. They included Alderman W.J. Enright (Mayor of West Maitland), Messrs T.A. Braye, A.H. Hough, D. McDougall, **W.V. Southon** and H.M. Cohen of Newcastle. MR J.T. Peet of Perth, West Australia – an old resident of Brisbane – also called on his worship yesterday.

15/5/1909 – NMH

MUNICIPALITY OF WARATAH. TO RATEPAYERS. THE TIME allowed by Law for the Payment of Rates due for the Current year, having expired. Notice is hereby given that unless ALL AMOUNTS DUE ARE PAID OR ARRANGED FOR WITH IN 14 DAYS, Proceedings at Law will be taken for the recovery of the same, without respect of persons. W. V. SOUTHON, Mayor. Town Hall, Waratah, May 14, 1909. 8501

20/5/1909 – A meeting of the **Waratah Town Band Committee**, presided over by the Mayor, (**Alderman W.V. Southon**) was held on Tuesday evening (NMH & Minor's Advocate).

REQUISITION. Waratah, 2nd March, 1910. **HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR. WARATAH.** WE, the undersigned ratepayers of the Municipality of Waratah, hereby request that you convene a Public Meeting of the ratepayers of Waratah, at an early date, for the purpose of considering what steps shall be taken to secure the abolition of the slaughterhouses within the Municipality. Alfred Asher, Robert Quayle, A. H. Hough, P. W. Saddington, J. E. Rodgers; E. A. J. Helmore, and 22 others.

**REPLY.** Gentlemen,-In response to your requisition, I beg to convene a Public Meeting for the above purpose, to be held in the Town Hall, Waratah, on WEDNESDAY, 9th March, 1910, at 8 o'clock p.m. Yours faithfully, **W. V. SOUTHON, Mayor.** WARATAH COUNCIL. ELECTION OF MAYOR.

9/2/1910 - NMH

The Waratah Council held a special meeting on Monday evening, when there were present. The Mayor. Alderman W. V. Southon, and Aldermen Miller. Hughes, Windeyer. Silcock, Creer, O'Mara. Braye, and Baker. The business was to elect the Mayor for the current year. The Mayor moved that the allowance to the Mayor be £25 for the year. Alderman Creer was of opinion that, considering the many calls made upon the Mayor, £25 was not sufficient, and he thought the time opportune for increasing the allowance to £50. Alderman O'Mara agreed with Alderman Creer, and moved an amendment that the Mayor's allowance be £50. Alderman Braye agreed the amount at present was inadequate, but the position of Mayor carried a certain amount of honour, and he did not consider the present an opportune time for increase. Alderman Miller opposed the increase. The Mayor certainly did not expect to be paid for his time, as he, in common with the aldermen. had to devote a good deal of their time to the office, and the Mayor more so than themselves without expecting any payment. Aldermen Silcock and Windeyer agreed with an increase, which Alderman Hughes opposed. The Mayor said the question of payment for time did not enter into his calculation, and he had always endeavoured to meet calls made on him, as he well knew a Mayor must be prepared to make some sacrifice. He was opposed to an increase at present. The motion for £25 was carried on the vote of the Mayor. Alderman Creer moved that Alderman Southon be elected Mayor for the current year. He held it was the duty of the council to re-elect the present Mayor, as he fully demonstrated himself capable of ruling and leading a body of men. His sound practical knowledge had brought good returns to the council, and Alderman Southon's success in his own business was a good qualification for success in public life. Alderman O'Mara seconded the motion, and endorsed the remarks of Alderman Creer. He also credited Alderman Southon with having devoted a great deal of time to the affairs of the municipality. Aldermen Braye. Baker, Silcock. Windeyer. Hughes. and Miller, in supporting the motion, each paid a tribute to Alderman Southon's term of office being of great advantage to the ratepayers. The motion was carried unanimously. The Mayor-elect, in returning thanks, said he had done his utmost to serve the best interest of the ratepayers, and would continue to do so. In the past two years of his term as Mayor he had received the assistance of aldermen and officers, and hoped for a continuance of that assistance, as there were several works he wished to see successfully carried out.

14/5/1910 – NMH

SALE OF CHOICE ALLOTMENTS OF LAND AT WARATAH J. F. KERR has received instructions from Mrs J. Edwards-, to sell by auction, THIS (SATURDAY). AFTERNOON, the 14th instant -at 1 o'clock, on the Ground -York-Street, WARATAH, Two adjoining Allotments of Land (enclosed), having a frontage of 36 feet each to York St. running back to the residence of. **W. V. Southon Esq, Mayor** - of Waratah, and only 100 yards from the Railway Station. Splendid Building Sites. - Title perfect.

Newcastle Morning Herald and Miners' Advocate (NSW : 1876 - 1954) , Thursday 19 January 1911, page 7

WARATAH GAS WORKS. Sir,--I notice by your report of a meeting of ratepayers held at the Town Hall, Waratah, last Monday evening, that Mr. A. Langwill, manager of the Newcastle Gas Company, made a statement : "That the council had lost hundreds of pounds annually through their own gas works, and were still losing." I trust Mr. Langwill will take an early opportunity of correcting this statement, which is un true, and reflects little credit on the author who, as a business man, can by perusal of the annual statements as published in your column, and inquiry at the Town Hall, ascertain the true facts. Shortly, the council over 20 years ago borrowed £9000 to establish gas works, and for some years, up to 1896, did lose money up to the total amount of £900. A new era in the history of the town then began and from that time on the gas works has been a paying concern. Since that year the overdraft of £900 has been paid off, and the whole of the extensions of mains and services to existing plant and works have been paid for out of profits earned by the works. The price to consumers has been reduced by 1s per 1000ft. In addition to this, interest on the original loan has been met half-yearly, and the council is now liquidating the loan by half-yearly instalments, so that in twenty-three and a-half years the whole will be paid ff. The number of service in the year 1896 were 193, and these have now increased to nearly 600. The street lamps have increased from 80 to 104. The council has also to credit in the reserve fund nearly £500, which is proposed to be used in augmenting the plant by an addition to the gas-holder. During the past three years the council has added £700 to the capital value of the works by additions and extensions. The ratepayers will, therefore, see that no further money having been borrowed on the works during the past fifteen years, the council, in order to do all the foregoing must either have made it out of profits or started a municipal coining plant. With reference to Mr. Langwill's comparison of prices charged for street lamps, he omitted to add that His company originally asked the Waratah Council to pay £11 per lamp, and shortly afterwards, when the municipal works were proposed, reduced this offer to £9 per lamp. The present low prices charged by the Newcastle Gas Company can safely be attributed to the establishment of municipal lighting undertakings, of which Waratah Is undoubtedly one of the successes. The ratepayers can rest assured that the council's aim is to give the people a cheaper gas and when this can be safely done without increasing the debt, they will get it.-I am, etc., W. V. SOUTHON, Mayor. Town Hall, Waratah, 18th January.,\

24/1/1911 – NMH- Letters to the Editor: -

WARATAH GAS WORKS. Sir--Mr R. B. Lee, in your issue of Saturday, last, writes what purports to be a reply to mine of the 18th inst. His statements in some respects are complimentary to the present council, but in others are silly, and his "business point of view" will not commend itself to people who understand even the rudiments of business principles. My letter was in reply to a statement made by another who has so far been silent, and an I do not propose to undertake the thankless task of educating every would be demolisher of good work in the ethics of municipal government. I leave Mr Lee to the tender mercies at his colleagues on the misnamed progress committee. I am, etc., **W. V. SOUTHON, Mayor. Town Hall, Waratah, 21st January.**

15/7/1911 – Newcastle Morning Herald

WARATAH. At a meeting of the members of the Waratah School of Arts, held on Thursday evening, Mr. E. Hughes presiding, Messrs. C. Baker, **W. V. Southon**, T. A. Braye, W. A. Howard, J. O'Mara, and E. Hughes were **elected trustees of the institution**, to fill the vacancies caused by death, resignation, and removal from the district of former trustees.

10/10/1911 - NMH

Mr. J. O'Mara held a sale on Saturday afternoon of Messrs. Baker and Southon's Park View land. There was a large attendance, and about half the lots were disposed of at prices ranging from 16s. to £1 per foot.

29/11/1911 - Two large pavilions for the accommodation of 200 female patients – **Morisset Hospital for the Insane** . [see notes] 15/12/1912 – The Sydney Truth

**29/11/1911 Excerpts from the book mentioned below, kindly emailed to me by a member of their historical society.**

**Page 15 - A Private World on a Nameless Bay - a History of Morisset Hospital**

MORISSET HOSPITAL. EXTENSIVE BUILDINGS. The scheme which was adopted by the State Parliament about five years ago to provide, on the shores of Lake Macquarie, a great hospital for those who are mentally afflicted, is being gradually evolved, and in connection with it, some important work is now being carried out. The site, which is south-east of the township of Morisset comprises about 4000 acres of land and has a lengthy frontage to the Lake, of the waters and shores of which there are some splendid views from the more elevated portions of the area. Two large pavilions for the accommodation of 200 female patients are now in course of erection. The contractors are Messrs. R. G. Pearce and W. V. Southon who have about sixty workmen employed. The amount of the contract, which includes the laying of about a mile of water main from the reservoir constructed a few years ago, amounts to £25,000 which gives some idea of the scope of the work, which after all is but a comparatively small part of the whole scheme. The site of the present work is on the hilltop, with an easy slope to the eastern shore of the Lake about a quarter of a mile distant. To make the building site ready, some two acres of the uneven top portion had to be made level, an average depth of nine feet of rock and soil being removed. The first building, nearest Morisset, is nearing completion. It is on concrete foundation, and built of brick, stone window sills transoms and window heads with black brick arches. The sash windows are divided into small panes in which several thousands squares of glass have been used, and the windows are protected by ornamental wrought iron balconettes for the safety of patients. The gables are finished with dressed stone copings and stone strings, and circular and semi-circular openings filled with louvres are provided for ventilation. The roofing is of fibro cement slates of French manufacture with ventilating gables. The ground floor contains a day room 39ft by 58ft 6in, dining hall 42ft 3in by 38ft, with pantries and store rooms adjoining, also bathrooms, dressing, and single rooms, the latter for patients requiring special attention. There are two vestibules, and two stair cases of white marble treads set on concrete. The ceilings and cornices are of plaster, and the

flooring of reinforced concrete, with dressed pine covering. At the end of the dayroom is a bay, 20ft by 14ft, a large girder carrying the gable wall over the opening into the bay, which is supported by two Doric columns finished in King's cement on steel stanchions, and forms a very pleasing feature in the room. On the first floor are three dormitories, the centre one being 42ft 3in by 38ft, and the others 39ft by 53ft 6in each, also rooms for night and day attendants, with lavatories, clothes store, and cupboards, the ceilings and cornices being of stamped steel. On the ground floor a 9ft verandah runs the whole length of the building on the eastern front overlooking the lake. The verandah has a flat roof covered with malthold, panel wood ceilings, hard wood posts, and brackets, and floored with silicate paving. Airing yards and gardens are subsequently to be made in front. Gas will be supplied from the works, which supply the buildings already occupied, and there will be hot water installation throughout. The style of architecture is Doric, and the appearance of the building is bright and attractive. It has been designed to look more like a home than a place of detention, and is expected to be ready for occupation by February. The second building, which is similar in size, appearance and construction, will be ready for occupation a few months later. The construction and materials of the building render them practically fireproof-a very important feature. They are intended for occupation by quiet and industrious patients. A few hundred yards distant, on a rise fronting the lake, a residence has just been completed by the same contractor for the medical superintendent. This building contains seven rooms, with kitchen, washhouse etc., is built of brick, roofed with shingle terra cotta tiles, has a verandah twelve feet wide in front, which is approached by a flight of white marble steps, the whole being excellent finish. The character and finish of the work reflect credit on the contractors, and show the resources at their command. The architect and officer under whose supervision the whole work is being carried out is Mr. J. H. Buckeridge of the Public Works Department, who resides on the ground, and has the work continually under observation. Further buildings are to be erected, comprising hospital for sick patients, assistant medical officer's quarters, matron's and nurses' home, which will form separate contracts. The buildings already completed are two large brick pavilions general superintendent and officers' quarters, six cottages for attendants, and four or five temporary structures of canvas and wooden framework and flooring, with iron roof roofs, used as dining rooms and otherwise for the accommodation of male patients and attendants now in occupation. The waters supply is pumped from a dam on Duck Creek into an iron reservoir of several thousand gallons' capacity, and from thence conveyed by gravitation to the buildings, excepting in the case of the medical superintendent, which has a main direct from the dam. In the present contracts Wallsend bricks have been used, the carting of these and other material to the work has been an expensive item. About 400 tons of stone and other requisites were brought by water and landed at a jetty on the lake shores. A considerable quantity of heavy timber has been cleared off the estate by separate contract, and in the course of time a large area will be formed into parks and gardens. The appearance of gardens and cricket oval now complete is very creditable to all concerned. Quite a number of patients can be seen doing useful work in the gardens, poultry yards, and other places, such comparative freedom and out-of-door employment for hand and mind being apparently beneficial to them. **Page 17 - A Private World on a Nameless Bay - a History of Morisset Hospital**

Another article appeared in the *Newcastle Herald and Miners Advocate* on 29 November 1911 on page 2:

### **EXTENSIVE BUILDINGS**

The scheme which was adopted by the State Parliament about five years ago to provide, on the shores of Lake Macquarie, a great hospital for those who are mentally affected is being gradually evolved and in connection with it some important work is now being carried out.

The site which is south east of the township of Morisset, comprises about 4000 acres of land and has a lengthy frontage to the Lake, of the waters and shores of which there are some splendid views from the more elevated portions of the area. Two large pavilions for the accommodation of 200 female patients are now in course of erection. The contractors are Messrs. R G Pearce and **W.V. Southon**, who have about **sixty workmen employed**.

The amount of the contract which includes the laying of about a mile of water main from the reservoir constructed a few years ago, amounts to 25,000 pounds, which gives some idea of the scope of the work, which after all is a comparatively small part of the whole scheme. The site of the present work is on the hilltop, with easy slope to the eastern shore of the Lake about a quarter of a mile distant. To make the building site ready, some two acres of the uneven top portion had to be made level, an average depth of nine feet of rock and soil being removed. The first building nearest Morisset, is nearing completion. It is on concrete foundation and built of brick, stone window sills, transoms and window heads with black brick arches. The sash windows are divided in to small panes in which several thousand squares of glass have been used, and the windows are protected by ornamental wrought iron balconettes for the safety of the patients. The gables are finished with dressed stone copings and stone strings, and circular and semi-circular openings filled with louvres are provided for ventilation. the roofing is of fibro-cement slates of French manufacture, with ventilating gablets. The ground floor contains a day room 39ft by 53 ft 6 in. dining hall 12ft 3in by 38ft. with pantries and store-rooms adjoining, also bathrooms, dressing, and single rooms, the latter for patients requiring special attention. There are two vestibules and two staircases, of white marble treads set on concrete. The ceilings and cornices are of plaster, and the flooring of reinforced concrete, with dressed pine covering. At the end of the dayroom is a bay, 20ft by 14ft, a large girder carrying the gable wall over the opening into the bay, which is supported by two Doric columns finished in King's cement on steel stanchions, and forms a very pleasing feature in the room.

On the first floor area three dormitories, the centre one being 42ft 3 in by 38ft and the others 39ft by 53 ft 6 in each, also rooms for night and day attendants, with lavatories clothes store and cupboards, the ceilings and cornices being of stamped steel.

On the ground floor a 9ft verandah runs the whole length of the building on the eastern front overlooking the lake. The verandah has a flat roof covered with

malthoid, panel wood ceilings, hardwood posts and brackets, and floored with silicate paving. Airing yards and gardens are subsequently to be made in front. Gas will be supplied from the works, which supply the buildings

*Contractor 'Bill' Southon, ex-Mayor, of Waratah, and champion practical joker and leg-puller of the northern district, this week came up against something pretty solid. He was 'mooning' about a building that he had in hand, when a workman dropped a bag of debris, including some large bits of brick, fairly and squarely on to the top of a head that has in its time, probably hatched more devilment and drollery than any other 'nut' has done in these parts. Of course, it was an accident; but it clean beat 'the joker,' who, though he some-what, more than 'took the count,' is now on the mend.*

8/3/1912 – South Coast Times and Wollongong Argus

Messrs. **Southon and Pearce** have secured the contract for the erection of the new hotel at the corner of Watt and Scott streets, Newcastle, the site of the Metropolitan Hotel. The new building will cost £10,000, and when completed will be known as the **George Hotel**.

Newcastle Morning Herald and Miners' Advocate (NSW : 1876 - 1954) , Monday 2 February 1914, page 6

Alderman Southon returned thanks. and would endeavour by his actions in the council to allow that their confidence was not misplaced.

Alderman Braye thanked the electors for placing him at the head of the poll, all the more so because he did not feel he deserved it, as he had for some time been living out of the borough, but still he never lost his Interest in Waratah.



25/1/1913 – NMH

The new Roman Catholic Church at the Deaf and Dumb Institution. [*Waratah*] is nearing completion. The building is of brick and concrete foundation and will be roofed with asbestos slates. The building will be of two stories and will comprise church, 50ft by 21 ft, sanctuary 24 by 22 feet, and nuns' chapel 24 by 14 feet on the ground floor. On the upper floor a dormitory for thirty deaf mutes will be provided, also room for the sister in charge. These quarters will be approached by a stairway separate from the church. On the eastern side will be a spacious verandah 50 feet by 12 feet. Ample provision will be made for lighting and ventilation, and the height from floor to ceiling on lower floor will be 17 feet. The ceilings of nuns' chapel and sanctuary will be of panelled asbestos sheeting, and steel ceilings in the church. The style of architecture is Gothic, and when completed the building will be ornamental and substantial, as well as an advantage to the church people. **Messrs. B. Pearce and W. Southon** are the contractors for erection of the building



8/5/1914 – Newcastle Herald

Waratah Council: W. V. Southon, with plan of land subdivision, Platt's Hill. Approved. 'Alderman Hughes moved that the vendors, Messrs. Baker and Southon, be asked to dedicate to council the reserved portions of Waratah Park Estate, and also whether they would give a strip of land of the lots in Moate's subdivision to allow of Mabel and Maria streets being 86 feet wide Carried. The council then rose.

6/5/1914

**NEWCASTLE LICENSING COURT PROPOSED NEW MAYFIELD HOTEL** A petition for the granting to John Lambie of a publican's license for premises situated at Mayfield. Waratah, was a reference by the State Governor, under section 81, of the Liquor Act of 1912, for inquiry by the Newcastle Licensing Bench. The hearing of the application was continued yesterday, at the Newcastle Courthouse, the Bench consisting of Messrs. F. G. Adrian (chairman), T. C. K. M'Kell, and H. M. Shedden. Mr. J. C. Gannon, K.C., and Mr. A. Thomson, instructed by Mr. A. A. Rankin, appeared in support of the petition. Mr. W. C. Clegg appeared to oppose the petition, and Sub-inspector M'Hardy further opposed the petition on behalf of the police. James George Henderson, architect, said he prepared the plans of the proposed hotel.

Approximately, there were 15 rooms. The building would cost between £6000 and £7000. To Mr. Clegg: He prepared the plans for Mr. Lambie, and the hotel would be for first-class accommodation. Robert Wilkins, architect, said he knew the site of the proposed hotel. There had been a large increase of population during the past twelve months. The property of the locality was likely to be permanent, and the hotel would supply a demand. He had been told at one of the hotels that he could not obtain lunch. That was at the Royal Oak Hotel. To Mr. Clegg: It would be in June last that the landlord, Mr. Amos, said he could not supply him with lunch. The Royal Oak had a good appearance outside, but many hotels in London looked well on the outside, although they were "regular hells" inside. The new hotel was not required for drinking facilities, but for accommodation. H. H. Chippindall, chamber magistrate, in reply to Mr. Gannon, said the "Gazette" showed that reduction was carried in 1908, but later on in 1913, this portion of the Waratah electorate was put in the Wickham electorate. The result of the voting at the last election would be published in the "Gazette" later on. **William Southon, contractor**, said he had lived in Waratah about 26 years. He knew the proposed site, and regarded it as a good one for a residential hotel. The applications received by the council to build new houses were phenomenal. To Mr. Clegg: He lived on the south side of the municipality just outside the mile radius. He would not tender for the erection of the building. He understood that his brother \*took round the petition for the 'application. Frederick W. Hansen, an officer under the State Children Board, said he had frequently travelled through the locality. Very great strides had been made in the district. He had applied at Sussman's Hotel [ *Stag & Hunter site*] for a meal, but could not get it. Charles Baker, a retired builder said he was Mayor of Waratah. He knew the site of the proposed hotel. At present there were 1100 houses in Waratah – about two thirty on the south side, and one third on the north side. Last year 90 houses were built in Waratah and 48 applications had been granted by the council this year. It was necessary that there should be a good hotel on the proposed site. -The prosperity of the place was likely to be permanent. The steel

works meant the establishment of at least another twenty industries. To Mr. Clegg: The area of the municipality was 2000 odd acres. John Abberton, an officer under the Board of Health said he knew the site of the proposed hotel. He had applied for accommodation at Sussmans Hotel and at the Royal Oak Hotel. He had been told they did not keep boarders. A good up-to-date hotel was necessary on the proposed site. William Massle, a commercial traveller, said he regarded the site a good one for an up-to-date residential hotel. To Mr. Clegg: The increase of population had been on Kalsina Flat, off the Maitland road, near the Soapworks. George J. Kempster, manager of the Waratah gasworks said his duties took him all over the municipality. He knew the site of the proposed hotel well. He considered an up-to-date and commodious hotel was very necessary. This was the case for the petitioner. CASE FOR OBJECTORS - Sub-Inspector M 'Hardy said he appeared on behalf of Superintendent Tait to oppose the application. He knew the site of the proposed hotel. Within a mile radius there were three hotels, including the Royal Oak and Cross Keys at Tighe's Hill, half a mile from the proposed hotel, and the Waratah Hotel which was about 66 chains from the site. There is also a wine shop within the mile radius, distant about one mile from the proposed hotel. The population in the mile radius was thickest at the Islington side and thinnest in the vicinity of the proposed hotel. In his opinion a hotel licence was not required, on the proposed site. Constable Doll, stationed at Tighe's Hill said he knew the locality within the mile radius of the proposed hotel. He very often patrolled the areas; the site of the proposed hotel was about half a mile from the Tighe's Hill police station. With Inspector Tait he recently inspected the hotels. At the Cross Keys Hotel they found two unoccupied rooms, and at the Royal Oak there was accommodation for five more persons. At the Waratah Hotel there was accommodation for several more persons. A number of the men employed at the steel works had their homes at Tighe's Hill and Mayfield, and others lived at Wickham and Newcastle.

To Mr. Clegg: On the first petition there were 463 signatures, and 88 were struck off. A number had also been struck out the second petition. There was a minority in his particular division. The majority was at Islington. In his opinion, the peace would be disturbed if the proposed hotel was erected. To Mr. Gannon: There had been great progress in the locality of late. If there were 10,000 men at the works he still maintained that a hotel would disturb the peace of the neighbourhood. On resuming at two o'clock, the chairman, Mr. Adrian, said it was at considerable inconvenience the stipendiary magistrates were sitting, and pointed out that in the suburbs they had had to suspend the courts. Their own time was very limited. He thought that three days would have been sufficient to hear the case, but there was a possibility that it would extend over that time. Mr. Clegg said he thought he would be able to conclude on Wednesday afternoon. Mr. Adrian said if the case went over Wednesday, he was afraid it would have to stand over indefinitely. The work of the Newcastle Bench was increasing every month. For the past four weeks they had been working very hard, and for two weeks he had been working till ten o'clock every night. It was evident the department did not realise the work the magistrates were doing in Newcastle. Senior constable Fallon said he had been stationed at Waratah for five and a half years. I had obtained 803 signatures on the three petitions. Seventy-eight were struck off for various reasons, leaving a total of 725 bona fide signatures. In his opinion, the existing hotel accommodation within the mile radius was ample, and there was no immediate necessity for another. Hotel accommodation was not required in the

locality, which was purely residential, and the people had their own homes. An hotel in the locality could have a disturbing effect.

To Mr. Clegg: On the original petition there were 550 signatures, 65 being struck off, leaving a total of 485 bona fide signatures. On the first supplementary petition there were 223 signatures, 12 being struck off, and on the second supplementary there were thirty signatures, and one struck off. To Mr. Gannon: He was not aware that Superintendent Tait was an extremist in the total matters. The progress in the district had only been normal. Senior-constable Turnbull, stationed at Islington, said he took a petition round Islington and Smedmore. On the original and two supplementary petitions there were 885 signatures and he cut 103 off, leaving a total of 782 bona fide signatures. The adult population was 1265. To Mr. Clegg: There were 510 signatures on the original petition. On the first supplementary there were 257, and 21 struck off, leaving 233. On the second supplementary there were 30, and three struck off. He did not think the peace of the neighbourhood would be disturbed by the granting of the license any more than in any other place. James Baker said he was in charge of construction work at the steel works. He lived at Mayfield. He came to Newcastle a year ago, and went to live at Mayfield in July. He knew the site of the proposed hotel. There were 1000 or 1200 men employed at the works. They mostly came by ferry from the different municipalities. Very few of them lived in the vicinity of the proposed hotel. Some of them went in the direction of the site on their way to Tighe's Hill, where they lived. He would say about a third of the men went that way. Very few of them could afford to live at a hotel. A first class hotel would be patronised by very few of the present employees. The company had nothing to do with the ferry traffic. Many of the employees would like to live near the works, but there was no accommodation. The place was very sparsely populated at present. There was a great scarcity of houses in the New castle district. To Mr. Clegg: He signed a petition in opposition to the granting of the license. He had been associated with large bodies of men for many years. He would not care to have a public house near the works. He would not say it would be a serious disadvantage to have a hotel near the works, but it would be a disadvantage in the residential part. In his opinion he thought the good order of the place would be disturbed by the granting of the license. The higher officers of the company preferred to live in their own homes. To Mr. Gannon: When he referred to a public house he meant a drinking shop. He was told that the building would cost about £10,000 when he signed the petition. The hotel, properly located, would be of great convenience to commercial, scientific, and professional men visiting the work. He thought a better site could be secured. Thomas Chamber, manager, Kitchen and Sons, Limited, Waratah, said he lived within half a minutes' walk of the proposed hotel. At his works there were employed 108 men, 25 boys and 22 girls, most of whom resided at Tighe's Hill and Islington, and a hotel would be of no use to them, or to the people residing in the locality. He considered the erection of the hotel would disturb this aspect of the neighbourhood. To Mr. Gannon: He was opposed to all hotels for conscientious reasons. David Morison, manager of Messrs. Morison and Bearby's works, Carrington, said he had lived at Mayfield nearly eleven years. He did not think a hotel was necessary in the place; To Mr. Gannon: He did not altogether favour licenses. According to the plans, the proposed hotel would be an acquisition to the district if there was no liquor bar. For conscientious reasons he was opposed to liquor altogether.

Michael P. Coughlin, tailor, residing at Mayfield, said he did not think another hotel was required. Two hotels were quite sufficient for the locality, and the erection of another would not raise the tone of the locality. Benjamin Thomas "Hartley a labourer, said he was not a teetotaler. He had known the locality eight or nine years, and thought there were quite sufficient drinking shops. He had never signed the petition. A hotel was not necessary on the site proposed. It would be an injury to the place. To Mr. Clegg: **-Mr Southon was collecting the names for the petition. He asked him to sign the petition, but refused. Southon went to him again and asked him if he would sign it for five shillings. He refused, and Southon then asked him if he would sign for ten shilling or 1 pound. He (witness) however still refused. He had seen Southon in the hotel getting signatures, and shouting repeatedly for the persons in the bar. He had seen Southon in Amos' hotel, and the Cross Keys Hotel.** To Mr. Gannon: He signed only one petition, and that was against the granting of the licence. John Gilbert, coachbuilder, said he had lived at Mayfield for the past seven years. A hotel was not required there, as the present accommodation was quite sufficient. James Hann, town clerk, Waratah, for the past 18 years, said he had a good knowledge of the whole locality. The requirements of the district did not justify the erection of a hotel. To Mr. Clegg: From January 1, 1912 to April 30, 1914, within a radius of a quarter of a mile, on three sides of the proposed hotel, and half a mile on the north side, there had been 64 applications for buildings granted. At the beginning of that period the buildings existing there were 108, and the total to-day was 172. Calculating that at two adults to each house the population would be 344. Generally speaking, the increase to buildings was not large, but the number of sales of land was very high. His experience was that there were a number of land speculators at work who did not intend to build. He was opposed to the liquor trade. Constable Dorl, recalled, in reply to Sub-Inspector M'Hardy, said the adult population of Tighe's Hill on July 24, 1906, was 130, and in February 2, 1914, 970.

Jana Herbert, a widow, living at Waratah said she signed this petition (produced). She could not say who brought the petition to her but the man asked her if she would sign against the hotel going up near the steel works. She said she would sign it, and did so. To Mr. Gannon : If she had her wish she would pull down all the hotels. W. M. Sheddon, town clerk, Wickham, said he had charge of the polling at the last election on the no-license question. For Tighe's Hill the voting was :--Continuance 410; reduction 21, no-license 325. Mayfield, continuance 410, reduction 64, no-license 191. 'Islington, continuance 885, reduction 50; no- license 506. The complete totals were : Continuance 4330, reduction 411, no-license 3178. At half-past four o'clock the court adjourned until 11 o'clock this morning

### **8/1/1921 – Mayfield Hotel – NMH**

TRANSFERRING A LICENSE. APPLICATION GRANTED. Hearing was resumed yesterday by the Newcastle Licensing Court of the application by **Maurice Sussman, licensee of the Lambton Arms Hotel, for a transfer of the license to premises situated at Maitland road, Mayfield.** The further hearing was undertaken by Mr., V. Le Brun Brown, chairman, and Mr. W. Nickson. In accordance with an intimation made at the adjournment on Tuesday, the third member, Mr. C. Hibble, was not present. Mr. T. A. Braye appeared for the applicant, and Mr. Clegg for the objector. Margaret Jane Davis, living at Wallsend, produced the deeds of ownership of the

Lambton Arms Hotel, which was in the estate of the late Robert Cairns. The administrators were the three children of the deceased, Mrs. Pascoe, John Cairns, and herself. As one of them she had no objection to the license being removed from her house to Mayfield. "-To Mr. Brown: They were getting something for allowing the license to go Mr. Clegg: What are you getting? Mr. Braye objected to the question, which was disallowed. Mr. Clegg: Do you agree with the licensee when he says that the old building is so bad that it should not be licensed?-No. Evidence of ownership and acquiescence with the proposal was also given by the other administrators, Robert Cairns, carpenter, Fletcher-street, Adamstown, and Mrs. Pascoe, Erskineville. It was stated by the last named witness that the Lambton Arms Hotel was built in 1865, and rebuilt in 1887. Inspector Hood gave formal evidence that the Lambton Arms Hotel and the premises at Mayfield were in the Newcastle Licensing District. To Mr. Clegg: From his experience he would not say an additional hotel at Mayfield would increase the drinking in that locality, but would distribute it. You know the Licensee Reduction Board is wiping these things out?-Yes, inferior hotels. Mr. Clegg: No, not inferior hotels at all; hotels in "over-pubbed" areas. Further evidence was given by the applicant, Maurice Sussman, who said it was proposed to call the new premises the Hotel Mayfield. To Mr. Clegg: About eight months ago a petition was taken round praying for a new license, which was not proceeded with. Bernard Joseph Dougherty said for three years he had been licensee of the Town Hall Hotel at Waratah, which was about three-quarters of a mile from the premises at Mayfield. He was unable at his own hotel to cope with applications for accommodation, which were on the increase. To Mr. Clegg : His place was a " Castlemaine Brewery house. He had applied before Christmas for additional accommodation, and was told his application would be entertained in the New Year. He thought he should have an additional twenty rooms. Robert Sidney Veitch, builder, said when he was erecting a shop at Mayfield in March last he sought accommodation at the Waratah Hotel, and did not get it. He and his partner, **Mr. Southon, had the contract for the erection of the new hotel.**



To Mr. Clegg - Building operations were being pushed ahead around Mayfield, and eventually they would overcome the shortage of houses. Mr. Braye intimated that this was the case for the applicant. David N. Morison, living at Pitt-street, Mayfield, stated he was the managing director of Morison and Bearby, which firm employed 250 men. Witness had been residing in the district for 45 years, and he did not think an additional hotel at Mayfield was necessary, either from the point of view of selling liquor or as a residential house. There was a good deal of building going on in the locality, and working men preferred to live in their own homes. He did not think it was advisable to have a hotel there for the peace and goodwill of the neighbourhood,

neither did he think the residents wanted it. Mr. Braye: You are a prohibitionist, Mr. Morison ?-I have not had an opportunity of voting. You will vote for prohibition?- Probably. Then I take it that your objection applies to any hotel?-Yes. In answer to other questions asked by Mr. Braye, witness said his works were at Carrington, three or four miles away from Mayfield. There was a hotel close to his works. Do you say that that hotel affects the peace and good order of your works ? I think it would be better if it were not there. At this stage the accommodation provided for examined witnesses was well filled, and after Mr. Morison had signed his deposition, Mr. Brown suggested that he might take a seat in the jury box on the other side of the court. Mr. Clegg: Your worship is separating the sheep from the goats. Mr. Braye: 'Rather the sheep from the lambs'.

George W. Mulvey, another objector, stated he had been residing at Mayfield for twenty three years, and he did not think there was any call for another hotel there. Certainly there was no need for it from the liquor point of view, although there was a little pressure for accommodation. To Mr. Clegg: By that he meant a shortage of houses. To Mr. Braye: He had nothing but a good word for the manner in which the Sussmans conducted their hotel at Mayfield. Rev. E. C. Thomas, Methodist minister at Mayfield, said he had been in the district for twenty months. He was a prohibitionist, and considered there was no demand for another hotel at Mayfield. James A. Richardson, licensee of the Waratah Hotel, Mayfield, said he took it over sixteen months ago from the Sussmans. His bar was sufficient to meet all the requirements of the locality. During December he had about six applications at the hotel from prospective permanent boarders. When he took over the hotel it was anything but clean. To Mr. Braye: The advertisement, "Wanted, a good servant, no boarders kept, Waratah Hotel, Mayfield was inserted with his authority. To Mr. Clegg. The house had been remodelled after Sussman left. Five or six rooms were usually available if the public wanted them . Alfred Griffiths said he was the Mayor of Waratah, and had lived in Mayfield for twenty-two years. Mr. Clegg: Is there any call for a new hotel there?-Decidedly not.

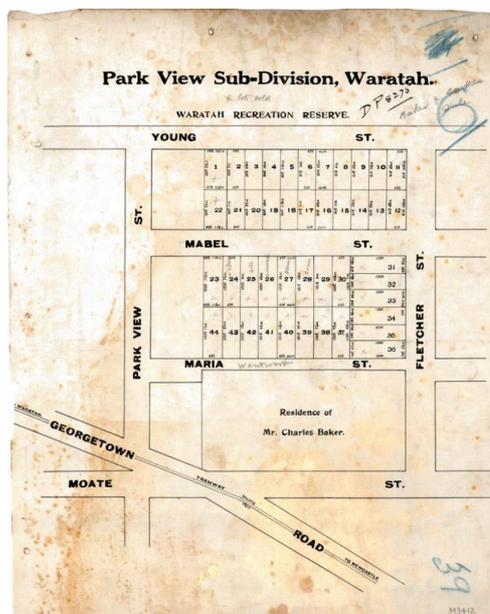
Mr. Clegg stated that he had given an undertaking to Mr. O'Sullivan, who appeared for an objector, Stephen Thomas Shipley; at the previous hearing, that he would put his witness in the box for him. Shipley gave evidence that he was the licensee of the Commercial Hotel at Lambton, which was about 100 yards from the Lambton Arms Hotel. Mr. Clegg: Do you believe if this hotel is removed it will affect the peace and good order of the locality?-I want to waive that. My objection is that I think the removal of the license will jeopardise my chance at the Licenses Reduction Court on the 11th Instant. I have only been in the hotel a month, and on Christmas Day provided forty-three meals. This was the case for the objectors. The Bench retired after the lengthy addresses, and upon returning ten minutes later intimated that the application for the removal was granted.

## **21/7/1914**

A CONTRACT has been let to MESSRS. PEARCE & SOUTHON, of Waratah, for Additional Storey to Premises **Royal Court, Scott St.** PITT & MEREWETHER, Architects, 4309 Paul's-chambers.

## 1915 – NSW Government Records

### Primary Application - Charles Baker & William Venor Southon 4 acres 2 roods 23 3/4 perches in Young, Mabel, Maria & Fletcher Streets at Georgetown in Municipality Waratah Parish Newcastle County Northumberland Volume 2617 Folios 31 & 32



Date range:

04/03/1915 to 04/10/1915

Item Number Or Control Symbol:

PA 19874

Descriptive Note:

Primary Application - Charles Baker & William Venor Southon 4 acres 2 roods 23 3/4 perches in Young, Mabel, Maria & Fletcher Streets at Georgetown in Municipality Waratah Parish Newcastle County Northumberland Volume 2617 Folios 31 & 32

Access Direction:

[Effect: Early; Duration:](#)

Availability:

No availability information recorded

Location:

Western Sydney Records Centre, Kingswood

## 14/5/1915 – NMH

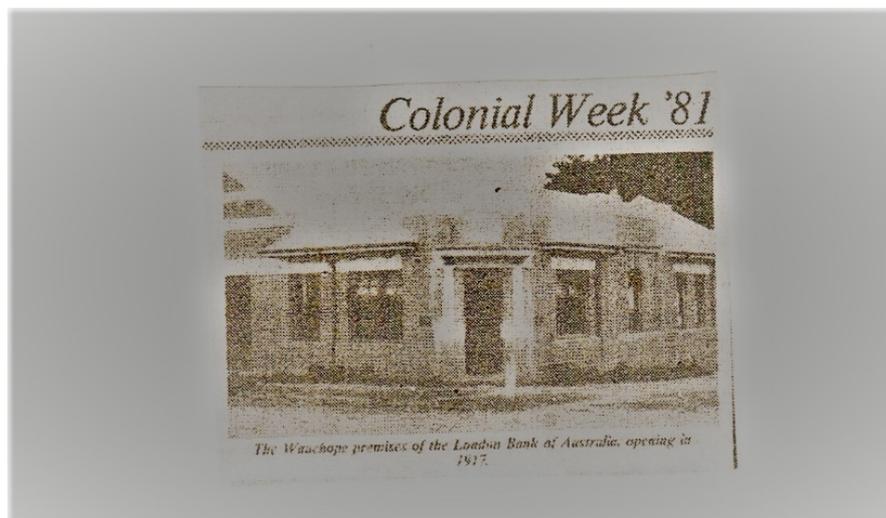
A CONTRACT has been let to Messrs SOUTHON AND WALLER, Hamilton and Mayfield, for a **BRICK SHOP & DWELLING**, Maitland-road, Mayfield PITT & MEREWETER, Architects. No 19,874. APPLICANTS -Charles Baker and William Venor Southon both of Waratah LAND –19/4/1915 NMH

Waratah Presbyterian Church, Hanbury Street. Southon & Pearce 833 pounds [*I believe this may be W. Southon and B. Pearce- Cnr Hanbury and Macquarie streets*]

4/9/1915 –SMH

Municipality Waratah - 2 acres 1/4 perch and 2 acres 2 roods 23 1/2 perches in Young, Mabel, Maria and Fletcher streets at Georgetown --lots 1 to 7 inclusive, 15 to 21 inclusive and 28 to 31 inclusive, Moate's subdivision, and part 35 acres, allotment 77 (portion 135 parish) granted to Joseph Moate; adjoining properties of A.L.Bald, J. Ballenden, A.E. Moore, R.C.Wilson, L.C. Whitehead, F.G. Snushall, and R.G.Brown.

4/9/1916 – A contract has been let to W. Southon, Waratah for the erection of banking premises and manager's residence, **at Wauchope, for the London Bank of Australia, Ltd.** The architects are Pitt and Merewether.

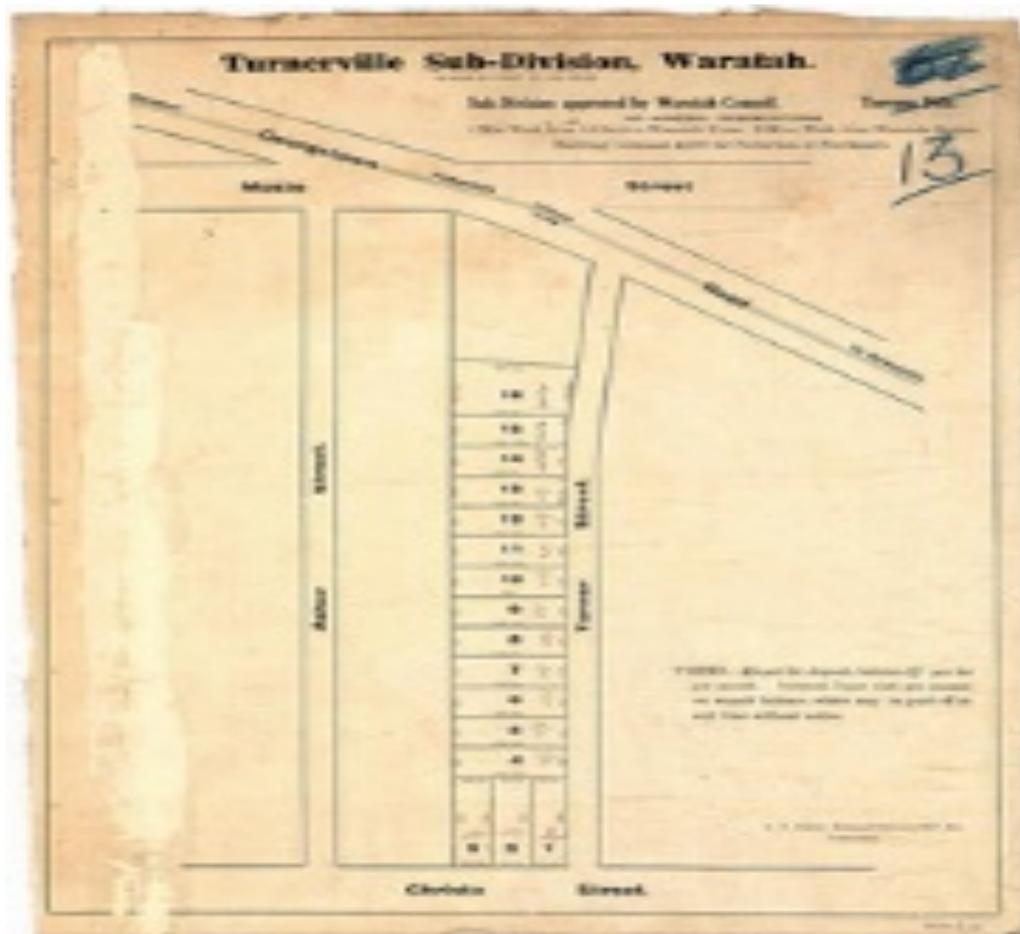


*(This bank was demolished in or before 1941 when a new bank was built for the English, Scottish and Australian bank – now ANZ bank on the corner)* **The source was a special newspaper put out by the Wauchope Gazette in 1981 called "Colonial Week Supplement". The article appeared on page 11. In a local studies book printed 1978, titled Wauchope the first one hundred years 1818-1918 volume 1, page 47, the following is mentioned "1916 The London Bank applied to build on the land they'd purchased from Browning {The Site was that of the present A.N.Z. Bank.}"**

26/8/1916 – NMH

MUNICIPAL NOTICES. MUNICIPALITY OF WARATAH. NOTICE is hereby given that the name of the Subdivision of GEORGETOWN in the Municipality of Waratah has been changed to TURNERVILLE. The Subdivision comprises the following streets : Turner, Asher, Sparke, and Christo streets.

.....NSW Government – Charles Barker & William Venor Southon. 1 acre, 3 roods, 3 perches at junction of Christo and Turner Streets at Turnerville in Municipality of Waratah Parish – Northumberland. Vol 2813 Folios 0215, & 216 12/9/16 – 29/12/17



Government Gazette of the State of New South Wales (Sydney, NSW : 1901 - 2001),  
Friday 17 November 1916 (No.188), page 6752

NOTIFICATION OF RESUMPTION OF LAND UNDER THE "PUBLIC WORKS ACT, 1912."

IT is hereby notified and declared by His Excellency the Governor, acting with the advice of the Executive Council, that so much or the land here under described as is Grown Land has been appropriated, and so much thereof as is private property has

been resumed, under the "Public Works Act, 1912." for the following public purpose, namely, the construction of a dam on the Chichester River and other works in connection with the Hunter District Water Supply, in the State of New South Wales, and is vested in the Minister for Public Works, as Constructing Authority on behalf of His Majesty, for the purposes of the "Hunter District Water Supply (Chichester Dam) Act, 1916."—Dated the first day of November, one thousand nine hundred and sixteen. G. STRICKLAND, Governor. By His Excellency's Command, i. H. CANN, - Minister for Public Works.

Descriptions of Land referred to.

All that piece or parcel of land situate in the parish, of Newcastle, county of Northumberland, and State of New South Wales, being parts of J. L. Platt's 2,000-acre grant, the Newcastle Pasturage Reserve, and streets: Commencing at the north-eastern corner of allotment 364 of the said Newcastle Pasturage Reserve, being the intersection of the western side of Evelyn-street with the southern side of Platt-street; and bounded thence on the south by part of the southern side of Platt-street bearing 270 degrees 8 minutes 6 chains 85\*8 links to its intersection with a

south-eastern side of Villa-road; thence on the south east and east by south-eastern and eastern sides of Villa-road and High-street, being lines successively bearing 211 degrees 4 minutes 2 chains 73\*2 links and 180 degrees 54 minutes 3 chains 62\*2 links to the westernmost corner of allotment 367 of the Newcastle Pasturage Reserve; thence on the south-west by a line bearing 320 degrees 1 minute 1 chain 37 ½ links; thence on the west by a line bearing 1 degree 33 minutes 5 chains 91 links to the northern side of Platt-street; thence on the north-west by a line bearing 32 degrees 37 minutes 10 chains 47 ½ links to a north-eastern side of Villa-road; thence again on the south-west by part of that side of that road bearing 337 degrees 31 minutes 1 chain 50 links to the western most corner of lot 20 of a subdivision of part of J. L. Platt's 2,000-acre grant aforesaid; thence again on the north-west by the north-western boundary of that lot bearing 67 degrees 16 minutes 4 chains 27\*1 links; thence on the north-east by the north-eastern boundary of that lot bearing 135 degrees 44 minutes 2 chains 53 links: thence again on the east by the eastern boundary of that lot bearing 181 degrees 7 minutes 2 chains 50.6 links - thence on the east by the eastern boundaries of, lots 21, 21A, and 22. being a line bearing 180 degrees 48 minutes 5 chains; thence again in on the south by part of the southern boundary of lot 22 bearing 270 degrees 48 minutes 16\*6 links;

thence again on the east by the eastern boundary of lot 9 of a re-subdivision of lot 23 bearing 180 degrees 48 minutes 2 chains 56\*8 links to the northern side of Watt-street aforesaid; thence again on the south by part of, that side of that street bearing 270 degrees

8 minutes 1 chain 39\*8 links; and thence again on the past by a line bearing 180 degrees 54 minutes 1 chain, to, the point of commencement;—be the said several dimensions all a little more or less., having an area of 9, acres 2 roods 39 perches or thereabouts, and said to be in the possession of F. W. Whyte and Charles Baker, William Bethune, Elizabeth A. Marshall, J. McNulty, J. and E. Sutherland, Archibald A. Simmons, **William V. Southon**, and the Crown.

10/1/1917 – NMH

**Aldermanic Collapse Feared.** - APPEAL TO THE MAYOR.

During the general business of the Waratah Municipal Council last night **Alderman Southon** asked the Mayor (Ald. Miller): 'Mr. Mayor, Is there any regulation in the Local Government Act to prevent the **supply of a keg of beer near the table on hot nights such as this**. It would be a good precautionary measure to prevent the physical collapse of aldermen ' (Laughter.) The matter was allowed to lapse, but it was **reported subsequently in strictly confidential circles, that an adjournment of certain public men was made to a private room, in which two 'dead marines' were afterwards found.**

23/4/1917 – NMH

WANT. Bricklayers. Job, Darby-st. Apply W. Southon

23/6/1917 – Sydney Morning Herald

**NEW BUILDING COLLAPSES.** NEWCASTLE, Friday.

During yesterday's southerly gale a large brick Store, which was being erected by a contractor named Mr. W. Southon for the Vacuum Oil Company in Darby-street, collapsed, and was destroyed. The front wall was the first to go, and in falling part of it went on to the road and stopped the tram traffic for a time. The side walls then fell, bringing down with them the rafters which had been placed into position prior to the roof going on. The damage is estimated at £2000.

22/6/1917 – Newcastle Morning Herald

**DAMAGE ASHORE.** The heavy gale did considerable damage in various parts of the city and suburbs. The Vacuum Oil Company's partly-constructed brick store in Lake-road collapsed when 'the blow was at its greatest at 20 minutes past one. No one was injured, work having been rendered impossible owing to the weather. The building is located on a site near the Sea Pit. Three walls had been completed to about 20 foot. The front wall was the first to go. It fell outwards, partly into the street. The side walls then collapsed, and brought down a number of rafters that had been placed in position ready for fixing. The walls will have to be re-erected from the foundations. Mr. W. V. Southon, the contractor, estimates the damage at £2000.

4/7/1917 – NMH

Alderman Baker referred to the severance from the council of ex-Aldermen Southon, Braye, and Evans, who had given valued service for many years to the municipality, and moved that letters, bearing of appreciation, be forwarded to those gentlemen, with the seal of the council attached. Alderman Winn seconded the motions which was carried unanimously.

25/8/1917 – NMH

**BIG OIL STORE. VACUUM COMPANY'S BUILDING.** The large store which is being erected for the Newcastle branch of the Vacuum Oil Company Proprietary Limited in Darby-street, is nearing completion, and will be ready for occupation in a

few weeks. The company's land has a front age of 260 feet to Darby-street, and a depth of 330 feet to a proposed new road at the rear.



Under the Inflammable Liquids Act it is compulsory that the store should be 100 feet from the nearest habitation, and provision has been made by the location of the building and the extent of the area for compliance with the regulations. The structural work has practically been completed, and the building stands out as a fine example of a large brick store. It has a depth of 220 feet and width of 120 feet. The roof is supported on fifteen frame principals, having each a span of 120 feet.

There is nothing striking about the interior, except its bigness and the stability with which the roof is supported on the principals and strong ironbark columns. The walls are constructed of Thornton white bricks. About 20 tons of galvanised iron were used in the work. The method of loading the store will be through three openings facing the north, but these are the only openings in the building. The loading will be performed by the latest pattern of iron roller tracks, which will allow of the cases being brought from any part of the store direct to carts by gravitation, and thus save all handling within the store.

The office building, which **about almost on Darby-street**, has been tastefully designed and constructed of red brick which forms a pleasing contrast to the white bricks of the store. The building will contain a general office 24 feet by 21 feet, a public office 12 feet by 12 feet, manager's room 15ft by 12 feet, and a records room 15 feet by 6 feet. The building is well equipped in every respect. A well-graded cart track will lead to the store. Owing to the character of the ground a considerable amount of preparatory work was entailed. The land had a rise to a height of over 20 feet from the building level, and it is approximated that over 10,000 yards of sand were removed to provide a proper level. Mr. F. G. Castleden, as architect, designed the buildings, and the work has been carried out by **Mr. W. V. Southon as the contractor**.



from Ricky Walters – Lost Newcastle

1/10/1917 – NMH

**NOTICE OF REMOVAL.** ON and after the 29th SEPTEMBER the Offices of the VACUUM OIL COMPANY PROPRIETARY LIMITED, will be removed to the **CORNER OF DARBY AND TOOKE STREETS, COOK'S HILL. 720**

**4/12/1918 – NMH – Waratah Council.**

W. V. Southon, drawing attention to the growth of blackberry bushes, and other noxious weeds, in the gas works paddock adjoining his property. Attention promised.

4/12/1918 - Newcastle Morning Herald

RIFLE SHOOTING. The members of the A.N.A. Rifle Club held their seventh club shoot on December quarter, at 600 yards, on Saturday, for the trophy donated by Mr. Southon, and the usual cash prizes.

14/1/1918 – Construction and Local Government

The following TENDERS were opened at the PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT Today. Newcastle - Repairs and Painting to Cottages Nos. 63 and 65 Scott Street, for Police Department . . . 4 Tenders— W.- Southon, Waratah, N.S.W., £635. [*old Police Station, Newcastle*]

NMH

Grand Amateur Road Race, Branxton to Mayfield - 20 miles. This afternoon (Wednesday). 1st Prize, Taylor Bicycle, value 18 pound. 10s. presented by Mr C.T. Taylor, Bicycle Builder, Hunter St. West. Finish at Sussman's Hotel (now Stag and Hunter) Mayfield, about 4.20pm. His worship, the Mayor of Waratah, Ald. W. Southon will officiate as Judge. ...Newcastle Amateur Bicycle Club. Geo. Francis, Hon Secretary.

22/3/1920 – NMH

'A Little Nonsense' The sporting proclivities of members of the builders' and automobile associations, were the occasion of a happy gathering at Seaham on Saturday. A sufficient force to make two opposing cricket teams journeyed to Seaham in motors. The cricket was taken seriously until the master builders had established their superiority. Then it became a subject of hilarity and practical joking— mainly, it is said, at the instance of the builders' president, Mr. Southon. He helped his side to victory with an opening score of 13. The bad luck that was inevitable came not to him,; but to the less fortunate builders whom he 'victimised' in his self-imposed duty as umpire. To-morrow the builders are going to Sydney to play bowls and join in a rifle match with their metropolitan confreres. They also hope to pick up some of the latest points in the industrial situation, particularly in regard to the Saturday holiday innovation of the bricklayers and other tradesmen.; So far, that shortening of the working week has not manifested itself to an appreciable extent in Newcastle. '

17/4/1920 –

TENDERS. TENDER of **Messrs. Southon** and Veitch, contractors, accepted for **Brick Meat Market and Smallgoods Shop, Mayfield Terminus**. Alfred W. G. Ackroyd, Architect, Denison-St., Hamilton. 3021

2/9/1920 – NMH

MAYFIELD. NEW BRICK SHOP On Corner of Hanbury-st. and Maitland-rd. Also, NEW BRICK BUILDING Adjoining. ANY Person seen inside the walls of these buildings, or on the Vacant Land adjoining, will be prosecuted without respect of person. SOUTHON & VEITCH, CONTRACTORS.

14/1/1920 – Sydney Morning Herald  
**Martinsville—Teacher's residence Mr. W. Southon,**  
 High-street, Waratah, contractor, £859.

27/9/1920 – NMH

Waratah. Progress Continues At the last meeting of the Waratah Council approval was given to building improvements to the value of £11,989. The principal proposals endorsed were: A. Rae, brick cottage, Kitchener-parade, £750: **W. V. Southon**, brick cottage; Tighe-street, £900;

2./12/1920 – NMH

NEWCASTLE OPINION. The application of Judge Beeby's recommendation with respect to the reduced hours in the building trade is viewed seriously by those engaged in that industry in Newcastle. They do not concur with His Honor in his belief that the adoption of the **44 hours week** will not seriously affect the industry; on the contrary, they hold that within the next six months a slump in the building trade is inevitable. At the present time the forty-eight hour principle is generally applicable in Newcastle. **Mr. W. Southon, president of the Master Builders' Association**, referring to the Judge's recommendation yesterday, said that when the matter was being investigated the president of the Master Builders in Sydney appeared before Judge Beeby and pointed out numerous reasons why **the 48 hours week** should continue. One of the reasons was on account of the great scarcity of houses. The builders were doing their best to obviate trouble from that source, but the Government, by countenancing the 44 hours principle, were really preventing the erection of a greater number of houses to meet the needs of the people. Another thing was that there was such a great scarcity of mechanics. The tradesmen available were only about half the number required to cope with the work that was going on. Instead of the Government coming along and trying to relieve the position they were making matters much worse by countenancing the 44 hours week. All these things reduction of hours and increased wages were going to have, in the near future, a serious effect on the building trade. The high cost of everything was making the erection of a house almost prohibitive and bad as it was now, the result would be that with lessened hours the trade would not be able to go on. There was little money available for speculative purposes, and what was available was at a high rate of interest. If it were not for the fact that the Repatriation people and the War Services Homes were building so largely, nothing was absolutely surer than that there would be a slump in the trade. The view of craftsmen themselves is that they are only paid for what they do, and for that they should be paid well enough to compensate them for the time lost owing to wet weather, and the fact that work is not always certain. At the moment this happens to be abundant and high wages can be commanded by every branch of the building trade. These are readily paid, and as soon as the reduced week becomes established in

the trade employers will accustom themselves to it as they have done to other alterations in conditions in the past

30/4/1921 – Newcastle Morning Herald

THE MASTER BUILDERS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW SOUTH WALES. Newcastle Branch. THE following resolution was carried at a Special Meeting of the Association, that the 44 hours be worked in the 6 days, as under:- Monday to Friday, 7.45 to 4.30. Saturday, 7.45 to 11.45. With 6 hour for lunch. WILLIAM SOUTHON, President. 2781 THOMAS KINDER, Hon. Secty.

13/6/1921 – Newcastle Sun

A JOCOSE CHARACTER - As a practical joker, no public man in the Newcastle district has won greater fame than Mr. William Southon of Waratah. He is self-taught, but no master could desire a more Jocosé character. He has enjoyed a wide practice for many years — for his sphere has been as varied as it has been extensive. His association has been chiefly among builders, bowlers and councillors, though he is no respecter of persons. It would be hard to recall all the fairy tales he has told in those circles — and his budget never seems to grow less. No one's reputation has unified in consequence of 'Bill' Southon's jocularly, but rather many otherwise tedious moments have been made merry. He is a successful builder, who, with Mr. Mr. B. G. Pearce, of Hamilton, has been entrusted with many important works in the district. He is a past president of the Master Builders' Association, and the members have reason to feel proud that they have had such a good business man at the head of their affairs — for he quite recently made a good deal for them when he effected the sale of their property at a sum which places the association on clover. Mr. Southon was an alderman and Mayor of Waratah for some time; while his popularity on the bowling green in the same suburb, and in any other he visits, caused the members to select him as president. Mr. Southon has had many experiences in his life, but none more thrilling than the one which occurred last Easter at Teleghery Creek, when a motor launch caught fire. Besides him, there were 11 others on board. They were having supper at the time and it is said, enjoying one in the joker's yarns. The fire however, caused the party to make a hasty retreat for the water, some with lifebelts on, others just as they left their meal. The launch, which was considerably damaged, was grounded. All reached the shore safely, but none had a harder time to get there than 'Bill' Southon. Everybody was pleased to know that he survived the trying ordeal. Had things turned out other wise, Newcastle district would have been the poorer by the loss of a happy, genial life.

2/6/1921 – NMH

FORTY-FOUR HOUR. WEEK Sir--I read with interest the statement made by Mr. W. Southon; president of the Newcastle branch of the Master Builders' Association, in the "Newcastle Herald," concerning the attitude adopted by his association on the forty-four hour question .First let me point out that the association he is representing is in the minority as far as the building trades are concerned in this large industrial centre, consequently, not being a representative body, he admits that they are following out a decision of the parent body in Sydney. Can **Mr. Southon** deny that it was the intention of a very large majority of the masters in this district to give the 44 hours a trial in five days before the mandate issued by the parent body in Sydney was

forwarded for endorsement? At the present time most of the shops are only working the five-day week, which proves conclusively that the majority of employers are outside of the scope of his association. The only reason he gives why the hours should be worked in six days is to suit the convenience of the public and the individual himself. Is he serious when he makes such a statement? Judge Beeby considered the facts as put before him in 'evidence, and considered the employees were entitled to more recreation, hence the 44-hour proclamation. I cannot see why the masters, those carrying out the resolution adopted by the association, desire the men to come along on Saturday morning to complete a week's work of 44 hours, when the same hours suitably can be worked in five days. As far as my memory guides me, the crafts in the building trades of this district have been a peaceful body of men, but the attitude of the Masters Association looks as if they mean fight. Surely the tradesmen, being in the majority, have as much right as the masters in the minority, to have a say in the hours are to be worked. Did Mr. Southon and his association suggest any conciliatory method' with the employees on before they issued their mandate through the press? If I am correctly informed, the employees of the Building Trades Federation had agreed, by secret ballot, to work the hours in five days (before Judge Beeby's decision), and the Master Builders' Association were notified of their decision. That was the opportune time for the association members to suggest a round table talk before any drastic action was taken by the persons concerned. The employers, though their federation, had met them in conference for the third time in succession, and expected a further conference with them before any mandate was laid down by either side. Should any jobs be hung up as stated, the faculties with the association members for dismissing the men that refused to work on Saturday, although they were willing to work 40 hours per week to keep their work going. Again, if the question had been handled in a businesslike manner by the association members, and a little tact and foresight displayed, the wheels of industry, as far as the buildings were concerned, would be still busy. SYMPATHISER

8/12/1921 – Sydney Morning Herald

COMPANY NEWS. The following new companies have been formed and in each case the value of a share is £1: Premier Picture Palace Company, Limited, capital of £5000, a music hall and theatre at Waratah. First directors: E. Hughes, **W. V. Southon**, J. H. Ireland, J. O'Mara, T. M'Luckie,

15/12/1921 – NMH

DICTICT NEWS WARATAH. **NEW PICTURE PALACE.** "**The Premier**," the new picture theatre erected by the Premier Picture Palace Company, Limited, was opened last night by the Mayor of Waratah, Alderman Griffiths. Long before the time of opening large crowds began to congregate, and the theatre was filled. Alderman Griffiths in formally declaring the building opened, congratulated the company on the magnificent building they had erected. It was the finest of its kind yet erected in the suburbs of Newcastle. Every attention has been given to the ventilation of the place. The building was not only a credit to the directors, but an ornament to the municipality of Waratah as well. He had been informed by the managing director that

it was the intention of the company to make the musical part of the entertainment one of the features of the venture. It was pleasing to know that, and the same, he felt sure, would be appreciated by the patrons. He then declared the building opened. The Mayor then called **upon Mr. W. Southon, the contractor, and a director of the company.**

**Mr. Southon said** that the constructor was quite satisfied with the building that had been erected. It was certainly without doubt the finest building in Newcastle suburbs. Mr. H. Hughes, managing director of the Premier Picture Company, said they had built the new theatre to show good pictures. The place could not be recognised by the original plan, so many improvements having been made. Credit was due to Mr. Southon, the contractor, and Mr. Jones, foreman carpenter. Special reference was made to the electrical installations, carried out by Mr. R. W. Upfold. All that was needed now to fulfil the desires of the directors was liberal patronage on behalf of the public.

The new theatre occupies a conspicuous position on the Mayfield side of the Waratah railway station, and is central for both Mayfield and Waratah residents. The hall is 128ft long, by 54ft wide, and has a height of 20ft, and is entirely of brick, with an iron roof. The front of the theatre has an attractive appearance. The main entrance is through a large vestibule, with ironite floor, and steel ceilings. A well fitted refreshment shop is attached to the building. The box office, which is in the centre of the vestibule, is of polished oak. The ventilation of the theatre is all that is to be desired. The seating is of the latest design. The hall is estimated to seat 1000 people. Two of the latest Pathe projection machines have been installed, the power being obtained from the Newcastle Council's main, and perfect picture presentation was seen last evening. The latest fire-fighting appliances have been installed, and all the exits fitted with patent panic belts. **The building was erected by Mr. W. V. Southon**, at an estimated cost of over £5000, and the electric lighting and fittings were carried out by Mr. R. W. Upfold. The screen is the only fibrous plaster screen in the district, and a 40ft stage has been erected in front, with dressing rooms on each side. *(The Picture Theatre used to be located between York st and Railway terrace opposite the triangle between York st and Hanbury st)*

23/6/1922 – NMH

ADAMSTOWN A commencement will shortly be made with the erection of a new **fire brigade station at Adamstown**, on the site of the old building, which has done duty for a number of years, adjoining the council chambers. It will be a brick building, containing an engine-room, a recreation room, single men's quarters, and watch, bath, and store rooms. The contract has been let to **Mr W. Southon**, and the cost will be about £1300. The present structure will be removed to the Adamstown Council's adjoining land, and do service until the new building is completed, in three or four months' time.

18/11/1922 – NMH

NEW FIRE STATION FOR ADAMSTOWN Officially Opened

The new Adamstown fire station was officially opened last night at a social gathering. Amongst the visitors were representatives of the board and fire brigade. The Mayor (Alderman Arthur) presided, and said the new fire station was a long-felt want. It was a credit to the town. Many months ago he, with other representatives of the council, met the representatives from the board, who decided to carry on the work. He was proud to be Mayor when such buildings were erected, and felt sure that there was not a prouder man than Captain F. Kimber in the locality. Residents of Adamstown appreciated the good work of the captain and of the fire men generally. A motor engine was wanted to make the building complete, and he would not be satisfied till one was installed. Adamstown municipality was progressing rapidly.

ONE OF THE BEST Mr. T. S. Dougith, fire commissioner, said the new station was one of the best of its class in the State. Adamstown people were fortunate in having it erected. Adamstown would have to take its turn regarding a motor engine, but he thought their request would receive the careful consideration of the board. He was pleased to know that the services of the voluntary men were appreciated. Chief Officer Jackson referred to the old voluntary system, and his many happy associations with it. He would endeavor to resurrect the old competition. He declared the new station opened. After the various toasts were honoured, a musical programme was given by the following: — Messrs. S. Turnbull, T. Robin, J. Pease, J. Shepperd, L. Raey, W. Gower, S. Lewsirn (piano), Shepperd and Gregg (vio lins). COST OF £1350 The new building is constructed of brick and cement, with a tiled roof. It contains an engine-room, a recreation room, watch-room, and adjuncts. The cost was £1350. Mr. Southon was contractor and Mr. McNiven the board's architect. The brigade is composed of 10 members, F. Kimber (captain), and Firemen J. Jackson, A. Onslow, A. Seidenkamp, A. Roach, A. Marstella, J. Teasdale, G. Kimber, J. Ryan, and S- Hopton

## 4/7/1923 – NMH

WARDEN'S COURT. COAL PROSPECTING APPLICATIONS KAHIBAH LANDS. A sitting of the Newcastle Warden's Court was held at the courthouse yesterday, before Mr. G. James, the metropolitan warden. Application was made by Mr. K. C. Church, agent for the Broken Hill Proprietary Company, for authority to enter portion 37, parish of Kahibah, county of Northumberland, to prospect for coal. Mr. Rankin appeared in support of the application, and Mr. Braye for Southon Brothers and himself, as part owner. Mr. Braye informed the warden that, on behalf of the owners, he had already consented to the boring, but if Mr. Church were present, he would like to ask him one or two questions. Mr. Rankin: He is not here. Mr. Braye: I want to make no objection to the boring, but I want to know exactly what it is they are after. Mr. G. C. Youll, mine manager, said he was the authorised agent of Mr. Church, and had an intimate knowledge of the coal measures of the Lower Hunter. Mr. Church's intentions were to search for coal. Mr. Braye: He anticipates that he might find it? Mr. Youll: Undoubtedly. Mr. Braye: Are not the coal measures as open as an open book? Mr. Youll: Not in that locality. Not so far south. Mr. Braye: You have heard-of Professor David's book, "The Geology of the Hunter"? Mr. Youll Yes. Mr.

Braye: He has made a compilation of the coal measures as far south as that Do you mean to say he does not deal with the measures around Lake Macquarie?" Mr. Youll: In a casual way, " Mr. Braye: You know, as far as it is humanly possible to know, that the coal measures are there on this land? Mr. Youll : No. Mr. Braye: With regard to Professor David's book, dealing with this land, what seams are underlying it? Mr. Youll: I could not tell you from could. Mr. Braye: What is your top seam. memory, nor do I know anyone else who Mr. Youll • In this area, we are not sure. Mr. Braye: What, in making this application you have not taken the trouble to verify what has been known for forty years Mr. Youll : No. Mr. Braye: Is there not evidence of a shaft having been sunk there? Mr. Youll : I have not seen it.

Further questions by Mr. Braye showed that the application Mr. Youll had in mind related to portions 48 and 53, in the parish of Coorumbung, and not to portion 37 in the parish of Kahibah. He knew the shaft on the land referred to by Mr. Braye. It was there when he was a boy. The seam went to the grass. It was an outcrop. It was intended to work it if inducements were favourable. They were going to take anything that was of value to them. It was a fine piece of land, between Croudace Bay and Belmont. It was valuable residential land.

Mr. Braye: It is a shallow seam? Mr. Youll : Yes. We are after the coal, and want to work it wherever it is. Mr. Braye : You want to get all the coal, 18ft from the surface ? Mr. Rankin: This is only an application for authority to enter. Mr. Braye: I know that, but I want it on the depositions, so that the Minister may be able to see. As far as Lake Macquarie is concerned, this is for residential purposes a valuable site? Mr. Youll said that all that was being asked was the authority to search. He could not say what seam it was. Mr. Braye : Belmont collieries are working the same seam? Mr. Youll: I think so. I never examined It. Mr. Braye : What are they working at Belmont collieries ? Mr. Youll: It may just as easily be the Pacific seam. The coal seams vary. Mr. Braye said there were some questions he thought he would ask Mr. Church, who might be able to give the information he wanted. Mr. Youll : Possibly. His association with mining is that of a few months: mine, that of a lifetime. Mr. Braye : The Pilot seam, as a payable proposition, is a joke ?' Mr. Youll : It has only been worked in one place that I know of at Cardiff. How many years ago I could not say, not for how long. Mr. Braye: I want you to be explicit, if you will not be truthful. Mr. Rankin objected. Mr. Braye had no right to be insulting. The Warden deprecated that also. He was aware that coal seams did vary. Mr. Braye: With regard to this Pilot seam. I know that what he is talking about is a Joke. The Pilot seam originally was the first seam cropping out in the convict days. It was a very narrow seam. It was so-called because it was the first one visible. Mr. Youll said the thickness of the two Pilot seams would be five or six feet. They outcropped all round Cardiff. He knew nothing about their workings in Newcastle, nor where the coal was disposed of. The Warden agreed that that would be difficult to say. Mr. Youll's general statement might be accepted. Mr. Brays wished to know who worked it. Mr. Youle: Ask Mr. Lawson, the present manager. Mr. Braye: You are after the Pilot :cam? Mr. Youll: If it is good enough to work, we are. Mr. Braye: What is the next seam? Mr. Youll: The Victoria Tunnel. 'Mr. Braye: At what depth do you expect to find the Borehole seams? Mr. Youll: Nobody knows.

The Warden: This will be gone into thoroughly before any lease is later granted. Mr. Youll said that the depth of the Borehole seam at the Stockton Bore hole Colliery was

something under 800 feet. The depth at Burwood Extended would be less. There had been some boring in the vicinity of this land, at Bolton Point. Mr. Rankin objected to what he called "this fishing inquiry." The Warden assured Mr. Braye that there would be an exhausted Inquiry before the lease was granted. Mr. Braye accepted that. It was the surface he was worrying about. As far as the lands around Port Macquarie were concerned, they must become most desirable for residential purposes. The application was granted for twelve months, the rental being fixed at 6d per acre, and £2 compensation for any bores put down.

*( Coalbrook Estate - Portion 37 Parish of Kahibah which is located at Cardiff South. Portion 37 was subdivided into DP 196. Portion 37 was originally granted to Shadrach Morgan 24.28 hectares.)*

**COALBROOK No. 3 ESTATE**  
**CARDIFF**

**18 LARGE ALLOTMENTS**

Close to Cardiff Railway Station      Adjoining Lymington Colliery  
**Good Orchard Soil**

**FOR SALE BY AUCTION ON THE GROUND**  
**SATURDAY, JANUARY 28th, at 3 o'clock**

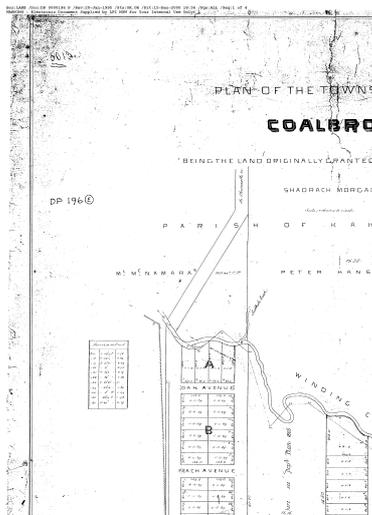
Also Weatherboard Cottage on Lot 10  
Water and Electric Light Available

LOTS FOR SALE  
Sec. H, Lots 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, to 14  
and 16 to 19.  
Sec. G, Lots 2, 3, and 4.  
Sec. I, Lot 12.

**TERMS:**  
£1 deposit, balance 10/- per lot per Month.  
Interest 5 per Cent.  
**Torrens Title**

Sparke & Helmore, Solicitors  
Watt Street, Newcastle

**CREER & BERKELEY**  
AUCTIONEERS  
9-11 WOLFE STREET



10 August 1923 - Gloucester Advocate (NSW)

### BANK of NEW SOUTH WALES - NEW PREMISES

That the Directorate of the Bank of New South Wales consider the Gloucester district has a big future ahead of it is evidenced by the substantial new premises that are now being completed at the corner of Church and Queen Streets. The building is a solid structure of brick, containing the banking chambers and manager's residence under one roof. It presents a very fine appearance and is finished throughout with every regard to convenience and comfort. The Banking Chamber, approached through a porch from Queen Street is 23 x 16 feet dimensions with the manager's room 10 x 13 feet adjoining a strong room for safe placing of securities. The residential portion is provided with a 20 x 14-6 living room, three bedrooms 14-6 x 14 feet, 13 x 13 and 13 x 13 feet, respectively, a maid's room 10 x 14 feet, kitchen 13 x 14, pantry 14 x 6 feet with linen cupboards, laundry 12 x 8 feet, with all conveniences and two fine hallways 4-6 x 18 feet and 6 x 15 feet. On three sides are wide verandahs of 8 and 9 feet width. The bathroom is fitted with hot and cold water service. Water is also laid on to the kitchen which is provided with set-in washing up arrangements and sink and electric power point. The electric light is installed throughout. The whole appointments are the most modern in the district. Detached from the main building is a motor shed and workshop and the premises are enclosed in a substantial brick and wooden picket fence. The architecture is the work of Mr. R. Hickson, of Armidale, the **contractor being Mr. Wm. V. Southon of Newcastle**. It is largely due to Mr. Paterson's representations to his Board or Directors that the building has become an accomplished fact and it is regretted that he has been transferred from Gloucester just on the eve of its completion.

0/9/1923 – Newcastle Sun

BRICKS IN BAG - Speaking at the Bowlers' Club banquet on Saturday night last, Mr. Southon, Newcastle, said that on the last occasion he had visited Muswellbrook, someone stole his hat, and, to carry the joke further, his bag was filled with three bricks, which he carried home to Newcastle. He did not discover the presence of the bricks until he reached his destination

14/5/1924 – Swansea public school – 998 pound.

10 June 1925 – Construction and Local Government Journal (NSW)

**Master Builders Meeting** – Some fine speeches at Newcastle.

*[Cnr Watt and King Streets, Newcastle]*

.....**Mr W. Southon in a very witty speech** explained amidst great laughter, the reason why he was not in evening dress. He was delighted to propose the toast of the Master Builders' Association of NSW as it took him back to the early days when there was but a handful of members and their executive of that long past age was met by MR "Jim" Wall, who had considerably helped in building the foundations of the Newcastle Association so well and strong. He was pleased to see present Mr McDonald their banker and assured him that he could sleep calmly because the building was an excellent asset, hence he should have no anxiety regarding the mortgage over same.....etc etc.

Mr Andrew Cook who followed,.....said regarding the new building, an interesting story could be told of how it was secured. The site and adjoining block were purchased, the corner property was sold and the balance utilised in the construction of the building so that they were a few thousand pounds to the good, for which in a great sense, **they had to thank Mr Southon.** .....etc etc.

Mr. Munro then made the following interesting speech : 'On behalf of the Federated Master Builders' . Association of Australasia, I congratulate you .....**There is a righteous pride also in the heart of your Past President, Mr. William Southon to-day, at the fruition of his best laid thoughts in the interest of his fellow members. I know the history of the acquisition of this property in the first instance, and of credit which is due to Mr. Southon, for his masterly efforts to stabilise the Branch by gaining for it a 'Home of its Own.'**



It is like 'carting coals to Newcastle' to speak favourably of Mr. Southon as to the fullest extent he is favourably known and thoroughly respected, not only in Newcastle, but throughout the whole of the spheres, where our Federated ' Master Builders' Association of Australasia is operating. His wisdom is accepted as beyond question, and he is always a welcome delegate to our conferences. **We know that this building has been the dream of Mr. Southon for many years, and we sincerely congratulate him upon the materialisation of his altruistic efforts on behalf of the Newcastle Branch, which he has made a considerable part of his life's work.**

23/7/1925 – NMH

TENDERS. TUCKPOINTERS.-Price wanted for Tuckpointing Cottage, Tooke-street, Cook's Hill. Southon and Hardin. 7814

31/3/1926 - **Daily Commercial News and Shipping List (Sydney, NSW :**

Australian Home Building and Loan Company, Ltd. — Nominal capital of £10,000 in £1 shares. Its stated objects are to purchase, lease, hire and exchange lands, &c., and to turn these to account. Subscribers: William A. Murray, Margaret W. Murray, S. Chapman, T. A. Bray, William V. Southon, Roy C. Vidal,' B. Smithers. Registered office, Newcastle. Registered Sydney March 26, 1926

27 March 1926 - Daily Commercial News and Shipping List (Sydney, NSW )

NEW COMPANIES.

The following new company has been registered in New South Wales: Australian Home Building and Loan Company, Ltd. — Nominal capital of £10,000 in £1 shares. Its stated objects are to purchase, lease, hire and exchange lands, &c., and to turn these to account. Subscribers: William A. Murray, Margaret W. Murray, S. Chapman, T. A. Bray, William V. Southon, Roy C. Vidal, B. Smithers. Registered office, Newcastle. Registered Sydney March 26, 1926.

23/6/1926 William Venor Southon, insurance accessor in Trial (A House burnt down) NMH.

24/6/1926 – NMH

WARATAH. A general meeting of the **Waratah Bowling Club** was held in the council chambers last night Mr. Baker, patron, presiding. The meeting was held for the purpose of discussing a way to raise the remainder of money required to enable the members to complete the construction of **a new club building** which is at present well on its way towards completion. The chairman stated that the cost of the new building would be approximately £600, and the amount subscribed amounted to £90 16s 6d. A further sum of £80 9s was pro missed, which, along with the Waratah Council, grant of £150, made a total of £328 leaving a balance of about £300 to be subscribed. A motion by the chairman, "That a temporary overdraft for the amount required be had from the bank, and that six members of the club stand as guarantors until further arrangements are made," was carried. The names of the members who accepted the position are Messrs. C. Baker, Asher, **Southon**, S. Mackie, Braye and Tonkins.

2/2/1927 – Sydney Morning Herald

W.Southon application rejected for a new **publican's licence for premises at Mayfield**.

Wednesday 2 November 1927 – Sydney Morning Herald.

Full Court- Licensing Board's Jurisdiction. Ex parte Southon re Sommerville and others. The question for determination in the matter was whether the Licensing Reduction Board, conducting the inquiry pursuant to a petition to the Governor for grant of a new licence, was entitled to award costs against the petitioner, after rejecting his petition. The matter arose out of an application by **William Venor Southon**, of High Street, Waratah, contractor, for a new publican's license for premises at Mayfield. The petition was heard by the Licensing Branch at Newcastle and was dismissed the bench allowing the costs of certain objectors, were represented by MR W.C. Clegg, Mr Watt, K.C., and Mr Bathgate (instructed by Messrs. Smithers, Warren and Lyons, Sydney agents for Messrs. Braye, Bragg and Cohen of Newcastle) appeared for the appellant Southon; and Mr Kenneth Street instructed – Mr W. C. Clegg for the objectors. The Court held that the Licensing Bench exceeded its powers in making an order the costs. Prohibition was accordingly granted with costs.

21/3/1927 – Newcastle Sun

Newcastle Sun (NSW : 1918 - 1954), Monday 21 March 1927, Waratah

Permits to erect fourteen dwellings, five garages, two sheds and to make additions at an estimated cost of £9239, were granted at the last meeting of Waratah Council. The applicants were:.....W. V. Southon, garage, High-street.

14/3/1928 - Newcastle Morning Herald.

A Long Delayed Claim. A claim was entered by George Irwin against Alfred Francis Hall for the sum of £26, alleged to be due for the balance upon work done by plaintiff for defendant and Mr F. Street appeared for the plaintiff, Defendant pleaded that he was not indebted. It was set out by the plaintiff that an agreement was made with defendant in June, 1922, to clear certain land of the **Ocean View Estate at Swansea**, for £26, and in June 1926, to clear several blocks of land at Abermain of scrub, upon which allegedly £5 was due. Plaintiff stated that £6 was agreed upon for clearing the land at Abermain, but after his son and another man had worked for two days Mr. Hall stopped the work by telegram. The claim was for 15s per day for each of the two men. The defendant said that the contract for the clearing of the Ocean View Estate was nearly six years ago. It was not with himself alone, but also with **Mr. Southon**, partner in the estate, and all moneys had been paid as far as he knew.

During the period the plaintiff had never made any application for the money. With respect to the land at Abermain defendant said that he had not accepted a price at £6. The price mentioned was £12, which was too much. He had sent one of his men up, and he had done the work in two days. Plaintiff stated that he made a demand on the defendant two years ago: In June last his wife brought £2 from Mr. Hall. Defendant said that the only time he saw plaintiff's wife was about six weeks ago. She said that Mr. Irwin had asked her to see Mr. Hall and ask him for £2, which he gave to her. The magistrate said that the claim regarding the Ocean View land just came within the statute of limitations. The defendant explained his methods of payments, and said that he was willing to meet the plaintiff at his office. The magistrate adjourned the case for a week to enable a search into the records of the matter.

Funeral of John Scholey.....Present were Mayor of Waratah (Ald. Southon)

9/4/1930 – Newcastle Morning Herald -Mr. James Myers – Master Builders' Association (life member granted) .....excerpts:

Among Mr. Myers recollections are the meetings of the Association in a shop opposite Burwood Street, and the subsequent purchase of a property at the corner of King and Watt, Streets Newcastle. Following upon this, however the Association fell upon bad times as far as its finances were concerned, and things appeared to be rather gloomy until a proposition was introduced by **Mr. W. Southon** (who is also now a Life Member), which contemplated the sale of the corner block, the increment from

which could be used to erect an exchange building, on the adjoining block. The building is now in existence. Newcastle Sun (NSW : 1918 - 1954), Monday 12 May 1930, page 2

12/5/1930 – Newcastle Sun. -Wallsend

An application by Mr. Southon to erect a weatherboard cottage in Fussell-street, Wallsend at a cost of £550, was granted at the last meeting of Wallsend Council.

Construction Real Estate Journal – Sydney 7/1/1931

The Official Organ of the Newcastle Branch of the Master Builders' Association of New South Wales. Newcastle Master Builders

THE BIRTH AND PROGRESS OF THE NEWCASTLE BRANCH OF THE MASTER BUILDERS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW SOUTH WALES -By B. G. Pearce

(Continued from December 31 issue) General Committee It was also decided at this meeting to elect a General Committee to assist the Association in its work and the following members were elected to act with the four officers: Messrs. Southon, Cowan, Blythe, Case, Davis, Myers. Sneesby and Bates. Association Room On March 18, 1902, the fifth regular meeting was held in Kettley's Room. All the officers were present and a good attendance of members. On the motion of Mr. C. Baker, the committee was instructed to endeavour to rent a suitable room for the exclusive use of this Association.....etc

28/8/1936 Newcastle Sun

LATE MR. W. V. SOUTHON

The late Mr. William V. Southon, who died at Waratah last night, was one of the best known public men in the Waratah district. He was elected an alderman on February 2, 1904, and sat continuously until June 29, 1917, and was Mayor for three consecutive terms from 1908 till 1910. As a trustee of the Waratah School of Arts he did much to keep the standard of the institution high both financially and in membership. Sport also claimed his interest. In his youth he was a well-known Rugby Union player and a good all-round cricketer. He took a keen interest in the Waratah Bowling Club and for some years was president of the club. Mr. Southon is survived by one son (Mr. W. Southon of Sydney) and four daughters. The funeral will leave his late residence, No. 4 High-street. Waratah, tomorrow afternoon at 3 o'clock.

29/8/1936 – Newcastle Morning Herald.

OBITUARY MR .W. V. SOUTHON. The funeral of Mr. W. V. Southon, formerly, a well-known builder and contractor in Newcastle, will leave his residence, High street; Waratah, this afternoon, for Sandgate Cemetery. Aged 65, he had been in ill -health

for some years. Mr. Southon was a pioneer in the Master Builders' Association, and was president from 1921 to 1923. He was to a considerable extent responsible for the construction of the association's building in King-street, Newcastle. He was identified with the construction of many of Newcastle's better-known buildings, besides building a great deal of the first section of Morisset Mental Hospital in conjunction with Mr. B. G. Pearce. Mr. Southon had a high reputation in building circles, and was frequently sought after as arbitrator in building disputes

### **31/8/1936 – Newcastle Morning Herald**

OBITUARY MR. W. V. SOUTHON The funeral of Mr. W. V. Southon, a former President of the Newcastle branch of the Master Builders' Association, took place on Saturday from his home in High street, Waratah. It was largely attended. The interment was made in the Catholic portion of the General Cemetery at Sandgate. The pallbearers were, the President, Master Builders' Association (Mr. G. W. Vallender) and the Vice-president (Mr. H.R. Beck), the Vice-president (Mr. J. H. Roe), and the Secretary (Mr. A. Buckland), representing the Waratah Bowling Club. Others who attended were the Mayor of Waratah (Ald. S. F. Webb), the Town Clerk (Mr. O. Gavey), and Ald. P. Freedman representing Waratah Council and staff. Mr. J. E. Parry (Hamilton), Mr. T. A. Braye (Messrs. Braye, Cragg and Cohen), Dr. E. J. Egan (Mayfield), Mr. W. J. Cleaves (Messrs. Sparke and Helmore), the Manager of the North Coast S.N. Co. Ltd. (Mr. A. H. Hough), Mr. F. G. Castleden (Messrs. F. G. and A. C. Castleden), Mr. A. F. Hall, Mr. T. D. O'Sullivan (O'Sullivan and Son), Mr. H. Hargraves (Waratah School of Arts), Mr. W. E. Nickisson (Newcastle Building and Investment Society), Messrs. A. E. Myers, J. M. Tonkin, J. I. Cleaves, W. Wallace, V. Fitton, C. B. Baker, A. Cook (Andrew Cook and Sons Ltd.), the Works Manager (Mr. R. Sladen), representing staff, Newcastle City Council, Messrs. C. B. Baker, J. Adams, A. Duncan, J. Stein, L. Kearns, W. Massey, W. Deards, H. R. M. Dunlop, J. T. Penfold, W. Sandall, J. Markham, H. J. Thwaites, E. Harnett, G. Simpkins (Sorby's Ltd.), T. Hewitt (Lysaght's Newcastle Works), P. Fleming, A. E. Truscott (Truscott and Sons), Ratcliffe and Kirsopp. Rev. Father D. Forde (Waratah) officiated.

2/9/1936 – NMH Thursday

### **MASTER BUILDERS' TRIBUTE**

The President of the Master Builders' Association (Mr. W. G. Vallender) said the death of Mr. Southon would deprive the organisation of the services of one who had contributed substantially to its success, so that the Newcastle organisation was to-day one of the soundest branches in Australia. It was largely because of the work of Mr. Southon that the association had its fine exchange building in King-street. He was a far sighted man and his business ability was very marked. He was universally esteemed in the building trade and his death had caused profound sorrow among those engaged in its several branches in the Northern district

3 September 1936 Catholic Press (Sydney, NSW : 1895 - 1942), , page 36

Sympathy with the relatives of the late Mr. W. V. Southon, Mr. D. R. Israel, and Mrs. J. Mitchell was expressed at Waratah Council. Mr. Southon was an alderman of the council from 1904 to 1917, and occupied the Mayoral chair in 1908, 1909 and

1910WARATAH. On the 13th inst. his Lordship the Right Rev. Dr. Gleeson, C.S.S.R., will be on visitation of the parish. The Sacrament of Confirmation will be administered at Waratah and Broadmeadow. Commercial and sporting interests were represented at the funeral of the late Mr. W. V. Southon on Saturday last. The chief mourners were Mr. Wallace Southon, sen., Mr. D. Mackie (son-in-law), Mr. R. Southon (brother), Messrs. H. Bailey, P. Bailey and W. Holmes (brothers-in-law), Mr. J. Mackie (grandson), Messrs. H. Davies, C. Davies, L. Holmes, T. Croese, J. Southon, T. Southon, J. Southon (Singleton), R. Southon (nephew). Rev. Father Forde officiated at the graveside. — R.I.P.

Tuesday 8 December 1936 – (The Sydney Morning Herald)

Probate of Will – The estate of MR William Venor Southon, late of Waratah, master builder, who died on August 27 has been sworn for probate at 24,759 pounds. Mr Southon, a widower, devised and bequeathed his estate to his children

10/4/1937 – Newcastle Morning Herald

WARATAH SCHOOL OF ARTS.-A special meeting of Waratah School of Arts on Thursday **officially declared vacant the trustees position held by Mr. W. V. Southon, who died recently**. In accordance with the rules governing schools of arts and like institutions, it is necessary to have the position officially declared vacant and to take other formal steps before the election is held, which will be in about six weeks.

2/7/1937-NMH

The tenancy matter between John D. O'Sullivan, executor of the will of William Southon, and Leslie Dalley, in respect of premises in Anderton-street, Islington, was adjourned to July 29.

13/12/1937 – Sydney Morning Herald. IN THE SUPREME COURT OF NEW SOUTH WALES -Probate Jurisdiction -No 217572 - In the Will and Codicil of **WILLIAM VENOR SOUTHON** late of Waratah In the State of New South Wales, Master builder deceased -Notice Is hereby given that the First Accounts and Plan of Distribution of the above Estate have this day been filed in my office, Sydney and all persons having any interest in the said Estate may come in before me at my said office on or before the eighteenth day of January 1938 at 11.45 o' clock in the afternoon and inspect the same and if they shall think fit object thereto otherwise if the said accounts be not objected to. the same will be examined by me and passed according to law And Notice is also hereby given that on the allowance of the said accounts by Court commission will be applied for on behalf of the Executors. Dated this seventh day of December in the year one thousand nine hundred and thirty seven CHASE BUTCHART (LSI Registrar BRAYE CRAGG and COHEN, Solicitors for the Executors, Bolton Street Newcastle, by their Agents BRAYE and MALCOMSON, solicitors 92 Pitt Street, Sydney

25/2/1938 – Government Gazette

OVERDUE RATES.

Municipality of Waratah.

Land to be Sold for Default.

THE following persons are required to take notice that the Council of the Municipality of Waratah has applied to the Public Trustee to sell the land specified below against their names, of which they appear to be the owners or in which they appear to be interested, for overdue rates amounting to the sums mentioned in each case; and that in default of payment forthwith to the Public Trustee of the said rates and all interest charges and expenses in connection with the said applications and proceedings by the Public Trustee, the said land will be offered for sale by the Public Trustee at public auction:—

John William Cooper and William Venor Southon, both of Waratah, and William Michael Anderton, of Coff's Harbour; overdue rates, £77 14s. 7d.; land, parts of lots 11 and 12, section C, Turton-street, Waratah.

24/4/1939 – NMH

NEW WARDS READY AT MATER HOSPITAL- MODERN IDEAS For Private And Intermediate

At a cost of more than £12,000, the upper floor of the Mater Misericordiae Hospital Waratah, has been reconstructed and fitted as private and inter mediate wards. The work took four months to complete. The wards are said to compare more than favorably with private and intermediate wards at any hospital in New South Wales.. **The Southon family, of Waratah, have furnished a room In memory of their mother.**

Construction Real Estate Journal – Sydney 8/8/1934

Additions to cottages, Queen Street —Roarty and Roarty, architects; W. W. Southon, Kings Road, Five Dock, builder (*Son of W.V.Southon*)

Brighton-avenue, Toronto. ANN CONSTANCE SOUTHON., WALLACE WILLIAM SOUTHON and JOHN JAMES NIXON O'MARA, all of Mayfield, and WILFRED FRANCIS O'MARA, of Newcastle. Executors of the Will of ANN ANDERSON O'MARA, Overdue rates £22/0/11, Land Lot 1, D.P. 13087, Renwick-street. Toronto. ANN CONSTANCE SOUTHON, WALLACE WILLIAM SOUTHON and JOHN JAMES NIXON O'MARA, all of Mayfield, and WILFRED FRANCIS O'MARA, O'MARA, of Newcastle, Executors of the Will of ANN ANDERSON O'MARA, Overdue rates £15/16/1, Land Lot 6, D.P. 13087. Cary-street, Toronto.

28/3/1944 – NMH

SOUTHON.--March 24, 1944. at a private hospital, Sydney, Essie May, beloved daughter of late William and Elizabeth Southon, and sister of Lila, Madge, (Mrs D. Mackie), Wallie and Marie Privately interred.

6/1/1948 Sydney Morning Herald

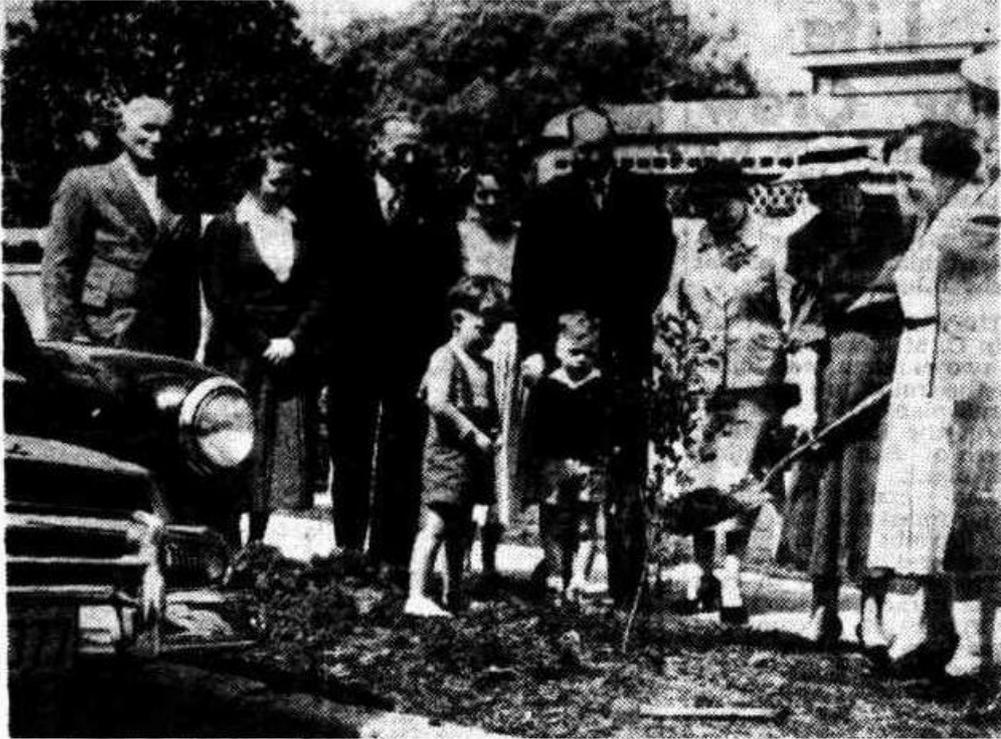
TO THOMAS REGINALD WILFRED REGAN of 31 Challis Avenue Potts Point in the state of New South Wales (being the last known address of the Thomas Reginald Wilfred Regan) Take Notice that Charles Byron Baker of Georgetown and Lila Florence Southon of Waratah being the Executors of the Will and Codicil of William Venor Southon deceased have made application to the Court of Petty Sessions holden at Newcastle on the 9th January 1948 under Section 9 of the Moratorium Act 1932 to sell foreclose enter into possession sue and exercise all other rights and powers under Mortgage dated the 8th day of September 1926 Registered No B420275 from Thomas Reginald Wilfred Regan to the said William Venor Southon over Lot 8 D P 13640 situated in the Parish of Kahibah and County of Northumberland and being the whole of the land comprised in Certificate of Title Volume 3925 Folio 242 and which property was transferred by the said Thomas Reginald Wilfred Regan (subject to the said Mortgage) to Douglas Gordon Wells and Nellie May Wells by transfer dated 2nd April 1947 Registered No B504286. on the following grounds 1 Default has been made in payment of principal and Interest 2 The value of the subject property is not sufficient to cover the amount of liabilities thereon Further take Notice that In default of your appearing the said Applicants will proceed with the application before the said Court.

.....NSW state records: - Lila Florence Southon, 24 ½ perches. Cnr. Crebert & Elizabeth Sts, Mayfield. Date range – 21/8/53 – 10/7/1955.

*(Lila died on 21/7/1963)*

23/9/1954 - Newcastle Morning Herald

## TREE PLANTING FOR CIVIC WEEK



As part of Newcastle Civic Week functions a tree-planting ceremony in memory of her father, a former Mayor of Waratah, was held in front of Miss L. Southon's home, 4 High-st., Waratah, this morning. The Lord Mayor (Ald. Purdue) and the Lady Mayoress, Mrs. Purdue, each planted a Ficus Hillii. The organiser of Civic Week, Ald. Richley, also attended.

A highlight of Civic Week functions to-day will be a tree-planting ceremony outside the home of Miss L. Southon at Waratah. **Miss Southon's father was formerly Mayor of Waratah.** Two trees will be planted, one by the Lord Mayor (Ald. Purdue) and one by the Lady Mayoress. The Organiser of Civic Week (Ald. Richley) said yesterday that 200 trees had been planted in the City so far and more than 600 would be planted by next Saturday. The effort would be made on Saturday between 2.30 p.m. and 3 p.m.. The City tree nursery had 1000 trees available, Ald. Richley said.

THE NEWCASTLE AND MAITLAND CATHOLIC SENTINEL November 1, 1963 - OBITUARY: Lila Florence Southon

MISS Lila Florence Southon died at her home in Waratah on Sunday, July 21st, after a short illness. She was the daughter of the late William and Elizabeth Southon and was born in Newcastle and had spent all her life in that district. On Monday, July 22nd, Requiem Mass for the repose of her soul was celebrated at Corpus Christi Church, Waratah, by Rt. Rev. Mgr. Forde, V.G., after which the funeral, which was largely attended, left for Sandgate Cemetery where Rev. Father Smyth officiated at the graveside. Miss Southon is survived by her sister, Mrs D. Mackie (Cardiff Heights), Miss M. Southon (Waratah) and her brother Wallace Southon (Sydney). R.I.P.