

MARRICKVILLE HERITAGE SOCIETY

COVERING DULWICH HILL, ENMORE, LEWISHAM,
SYDENHAM, TEMPE, & PARTS OF NEWTOWN

MARRICKVILLE, PETERSHAM, ST PETERS, STANMORE
CAMPERDOWN & HURLSTONE PARK



OUR NEXT MEETING

SATURDAY AUGUST 27, 10.30 AM
AMENITIES ROOM, PETERSHAM
TOWNHALL

THE DAIRY PRECINCT - PARRAMATTA PARK

Having explored some of the wonders of Francis Greenway's Sydney, we now turn to the mystery surrounding the history of the small cottage in Parramatta Park, known as the Governor's Dairy. Now after extensive investigation and funding the remarkable story of this cottage has emerged. What started as a search for the history of Governor Macquarie's dairy has uncovered one of Australia's oldest houses and the farm of a former convict.

An ex-convict George Salter received a land grant on this site in 1796 and established a flourishing farm. Then...well how about coming to our next meeting and finding out who George Salter was and how he established Salter's Farm; how it became Macquarie's Dairy and the rest of the story of The Dairy Precinct.

Alan Croker, Heritage Architect (and MHS member) and **Kylie Winkworth**, Museum Consultant have worked closely with Parramatta City Council and the Commonwealth Government in the research of the project and the restoration of the 2 cottages. They will enlighten us as a prelude to the anticipated opening of this open air museum later in the year.



Sketch of Dairy Precinct, 1844

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SATURDAY AUGUST 27, 10.30 AM
THE DAIRY PRECINCT - PARRAMATTA
PARK

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 17
HERITAGE STAKES RACE MEETING AT
ROSEHILL RACECOURSE

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 24
VISIT TO NUTCOTE, NEUTRAL BAY

Home of May Gibbs, creator of the Gumnut Babies

SATURDAY OCTOBER 22
SYDNEY'S HERITAGE IN SANDSTONE

A talk with slides by George Proudman, NSW's former master banker mason and Anne Morris, coordinator for the Stonework Program, NSW Public Works Department

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 26
ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PICNIC

Details to be advised



HERITAGE STAKES RACE MEETING

On Saturday, September 17 a visit to the races at Rosehill Racecourse has been arranged. One of the feature races is the Annual Heritage Stakes. The meeting starts about 12.45 pm but those attending should arrive by 12.15 pm in time to place their first bet. A table has been booked in the Ascot Room where a three course meal, wine for two and a racebook is provided for \$30. Admission to the course is \$6.00 (\$1.00 for pensioners). The train goes direct to the racecourse.

This outing, arranged by member Brian Nugent, was very successful when held last year. Numbers are strictly limited to 20, so it's first in best dressed! Please contact **Lesley Jones** on **569 9281** for bookings.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S REPORT 1993-94

The Society's newsletter is published eleven times a year and for most members it is delivered to their door. It has often been said that the newsletter is the lifeblood of the society because it keeps members informed of activities and important issues within the society.

Equally though, a good newsletter reflects a healthy society. A flick through past issues of the newsletter will reveal a wealth of well organised activities that attract 50 or more people. Just look at the attendance numbers at our recent 10th birthday celebrations.

It is important that the newsletter airs the views of our members. We are a diverse group with varied interests and the newsletter should reflect that. I would like to thank all contributors over the past year and encourage members who perhaps have not put pen to paper to contribute, be it a news item, a reminiscence about the municipality or a heritage issue.

I am sure the new editor will agree with me that we can always use more copy! I would like to thank members of the Executive who have been prolific contributors over the past year and, in particular, Shirley Hilyard who has provided items for every newsletter.

Of course, the words on the page are only the beginning of the process. Once the newsletter is prepared it goes to the printers (thank you Aviweb) and then copies are delivered to our network of runners.

This task was shared in the first half of the year by Pamela Stewart and Sue Miller and in the second half by Shirley Hilyard and Tom Pavlakis. The runners deliver the newsletter to your door. Thank you to Barbara Gibbons, Anne Cherry, Lu Bell, John and Betty Blatman, Geoff Francis, Brian Nugent, Pamela Stewart, Ingrid Paling, Zena Hodges, Fred Ellis, Lindsay and Mabelle Smyth, Tony Deguara, Mary Curcio and Gary McIvor, Valerie McLeish, Shirley Hilyard, John Sawkins, Clare Herscovitch and Mary Tait. For those of you who receive your newsletters by post, Mary Tait also prepares the mail every month.

I have edited the newsletter for four years out of the past six and I have thoroughly enjoyed the task.

I will be passing it on this year to pursue other interests but I would like to thank members for all their support over the years.

Judith Matheson

OUR LAST MEETING

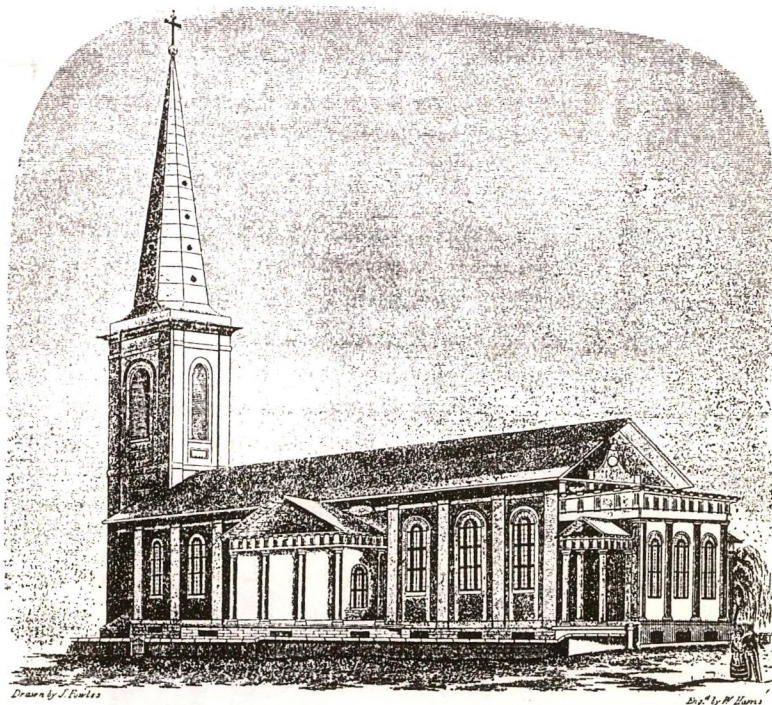
FRANCIS GREENWAY - A WALKING TOUR OF HIS SYDNEY BUILDINGS

On Saturday July 23, Clive Lucas guided a cold and damp, but very enthusiastic group of about 40 members and friends of the Marrickville Heritage Society on a walking tour of Sydney's buildings designed by Francis Greenway. He expertly separated the many layers of history, pointing out the "real Greenway" sections of his court house (St James's Church) and school (the Old Supreme Court).

His spellbound audience can now identify the John Verge additions, the James Barnet Royal Visit renovation, and the Varney Parkes portico and spire, as well as the two fake chimneys and the piece of genuine Georgian handrail in the Hyde Park Barracks.

We can now visualise the plan of Greenway's Sydney and his contribution to its landscape with a far greater understanding. If there had been no Commissioner Bigge, what would Sydney have looked like? Would Greenway have seen to it that the Rum Hospital **did** fall down?

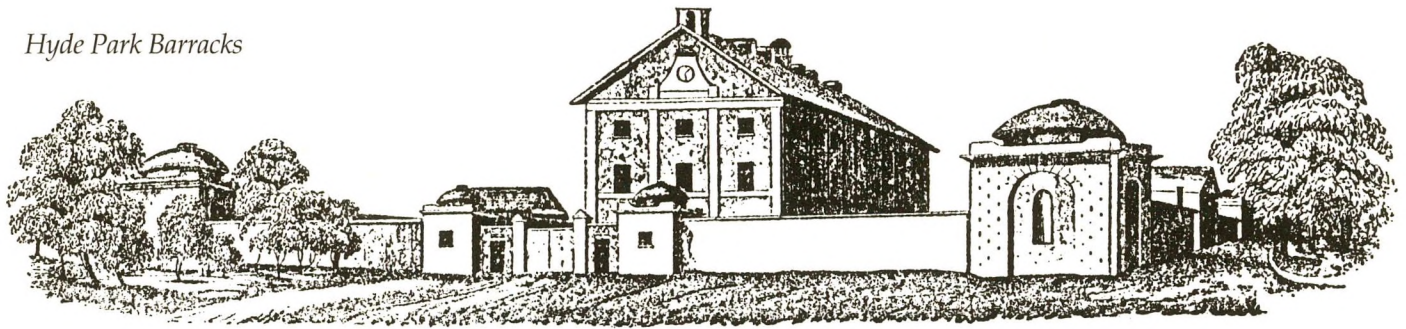
Lesley Muir



St. James's Church

When the Government House Stables (now the Conservatorium) with its grandiose fortress-like construction were built, many contemporary critics wondered how large Government House would be if this was the **horses'** accommodation.

Hyde Park Barracks



Our tour ended at the Obelisk (in Macquarie Place) which cost 120 pounds, causing Commissioner Bigge to criticise Governor Macquarie for extravagance. For Bigge it was "too ornamental", serving no more useful purpose than the milestones that had cost 15 shillings each.

The following is an extract from M.H. Ellis' *Francis Greenway, His Life and Times* (Shepherd Press, Sydney, 1949) page 237:

"When he had been dead a hundred years there were many who regarded his works as emanations of supreme genius and good taste.

"William Hardy Wilson wrote of him:

...With the barest means and economy in execution, he produced architecture which has never been excelled in this land ... To the simplest structures he gave a monumental scale, beautiful proportions, and delightfully textured walls. His scale of bigness, rarest excellence in his art, is nowhere better expressed than in the Hyde Park Barracks ... which are barren except for Greenway's rare feeling for scale; his proportions were never more successful than in the North Porch of St James's Church, and at St Matthew's, Windsor, he seems to have caught the sunlight of the Hawkesbury Valley on his glowing westward wall ...

"The North Porch of St. James's holds his one specific memorial apart from his buildings, which were the first of artistic merit to rise in Australasia.

"During the celebrations of the hundred-and-fiftieth anniversary of the foundation of New South Wales (1938), somebody set up a simple tablet in that Porch beside the main doorway:-

IN MEMORY OF
FRANCIS GREENWAY
ARCHITECT OF THIS CHURCH
AND of the ARTISANS AND
LABOURERS WHO ERECTED IT.

The Society is very grateful to Clive Lucas for giving us his valuable time. His intimate knowledge of Greenway and other early architects coupled with his commitment to the conservation of the city's architectural heritage were clearly conveyed.

His efforts were especially appreciated given the appalling weather conditions.

Richard Blair

POSTSCRIPT

On the 4 June 1991 the Governor Peter Sinclair visited the Hyde Park Barracks and lunched with the workers who had worked on the refurbishment of the Barracks. The visit coincided to the hour and the day with the original opening in 1819 when Governor Macquarie inspected the completed Hyde Park Barracks and lunched with the 558 convicts involved in its construction.

Shirley Hilyard

HOW TO JOIN THE SOCIETY

Membership is \$12 for individuals, \$6 for pensioners and \$18 for households. Members receive a monthly newsletter (except January) and the Society's annual journal *Heritage*. Subscriptions are valid for the Society year starting July 1. Meetings are held on the fourth Saturday of each month.

Write to P.O. Box 415 Marrickville 2204.

SHRUBS AND TUBS GARDEN CENTRE

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HERITAGE 8 LAUNCH

Over 70 authors, advertisers, sponsors, Society members and friends gathered at the White Cockatoo Hotel in Petersham on Wednesday July 13 to celebrate the publishing of the latest issue of our journal.

The editor Jeannette Hope explained the journal's modern cover by stressing that heritage should be seen as a contemporary concern. Jeannette introduced the authors who gave some of the background ideas to their diverse articles.

Among them were historical archeologist Mary Casey who spoke of Victorian gender bias reflected in the Camperdown Cemetery memorials, and Peter MacLaren who gave the latest news in the 'Battle for Petersham Footbridge'. Geoffrey Ostling, Henk Ulrich and some proud collectors of Diana Pottery presented some of the story of this intriguing local industry.

Many stayed for dinner at 'Platform Four' (the bistro name adapted by publicans Stephen and Susan Ginty at the suggestion of Pamela Stewart) until late in the evening, enjoying the convivial atmosphere and the wonderful display of Diana Pottery.

Our Heritage Journal is a fine example of local community publishing. You can obtain extra copies of *Heritage 8* for \$9 at the monthly meetings or by writing to the Society. Back copies are also obtainable.

Mark Matheson

THE RAFFLE

The Raffle winners at the Launch were Pamela Stewart (Opera Tickets - 'Gondoliers'), Lu Bell (framed print of Petersham footbridge stairs), Richard Hughes (year's subscription to Choice Magazine).

Thanks to former President Shirley Hilyard for organising this event. Here is Shirley's postscript:

DIANA!

At the journal launch a theory was put to Geoff Ostling, who has agonised over the origin of the name 'Diana' Pottery. At the time of Diana Pottery

starting in Marrickville in 1940 the very successful potteries of Fowlers had been around in Camperdown and Marrickville for 100 years. Their mark was a 'Crouching Archer' so



when 'Diana' arrived on the scene, what better mark and name than a 'Crouching Archer' of the female form!

THE NEXT JOURNAL

The next issue of the journal is in preparation now. Editors Geoffrey Ostling and Mark Matheson hope to have a number of light articles--such as reminiscences and pictorial stories--as well as the more regular thoroughly researched articles. So if you have some ideas for a story, contact Geoff (569 3029) or Mark (559 5502); they have the journal's good reputation to keep up!

NEW EXECUTIVE MEMBER

As immediate past-President, Shirley Hilyard is automatically able to serve on the Executive and the vacancy thus created has been filled by Angela Phippen. Welcome to Angela.

THE NEWSLETTER HAS A NEW PRINTER

The Society is grateful to Harlow Printing who now print our Newsletter.

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

The new editor has been underwhelmed with contributions but believes that members literally have their pens poised! Please write to me care of P.O. Box 415 Marrickville 2204 or give me a ring on 557 3823 and don't be intimidated by my answering machine.