

## **Commercial Road**

– draft research notes prepared by Shirley Threlfo who is a member of Paterson Historical Society.

Commercial Road is an area immediately north of Paterson Village, between Gresford Road and the Paterson River. It was the commercial centre of the Village up to the 1870s.

## COMMERCIAL ROAD

This part of Paterson began to be the commercial centre of the district from the late 1830s. The land was originally part of the 500 acres granted to Susannah Matilda Ward in 1823. Mrs Ward and her husband came to Australia on the ship *Dromedary* in January 1820 with their six children. Unfortunately Lieutenant William Ward died leaving Mrs Ward with the young children to rear. She was granted land to which her husband was entitled and selected 500 acres on the Paterson River and this grant she called *Cintra*. (See photocopy of portion of Parish map.)

In 1829 several of the landholders in the area saw the need for a public wharf at the head of the navigable part of the Paterson River. Negotiations were made with Mrs Ward to relinquish part of her *Cintra* grant to the government to enable the township of Paterson to be formed.<sup>1</sup> Mrs. Ward agreed to the proposal and exchanged part of her Paterson land for a grant of land in Sydney. This land was subdivided for the government town of Paterson with the adjoining land still owned by Mrs. Ward.

In 1834 (Conveyance dated 29/30 September 1834 Registered No. 504 Book G) David Brown purchased two parcels of land from Mrs. Ward, 100 acres and an adjoining 4 acres 1 rood. On 21 March 1837 (Conveyance Registered No. 665 Book M) he purchased a further 195 acres adjoining the first 100 acres. It is part of the first purchase of 100 acres and 4 acres 1 rood that formed the area of land along Commercial Road, Market Street and the new road to Gresford and having a frontage to the Paterson River. This land adjoined the government land subdivided into town allotments to form the town of Paterson. At the time of his purchase Captain David Brown was a ship owner and traded between Newcastle and Sydney in the 1830s. In one Conveyance he is described as "of Paterson in the said Colony commanding "Waterwitch."<sup>2</sup>

David Brown was one of the early settlers in Paterson. He is shown as purchaser of Lots 11, 12 and 13 Section 3 King Street, Paterson on the 1833 plan of the government town (See attached plan) but did not keep this land. The Paterson Police Magistrate, Major Johnstone built *Annandale* which remains one of Paterson's oldest houses.

In 1838 David Brown married Mary Hodgson at Scots Church, Sydney and settled in Paterson with his wife and daughter Elspa Anne Victoria.

On 13 November 1838 he purchased an allotment in the government town Lot 6 Section 1, Prince Street from Blackman. He probably built a house on the land and may have lived there following the licensing of the Bush Inn as a public house and subsequent leases to Keppie and others. In 1852 he signed a Deed of settlement in favour of his wife and daughter for their life and appointed G. Rattray as Trustee. This would seem to indicate that his wife and daughter were living on the land or were dependant on the property for their support. It was fortunate that he made this arrangement as the Prince Street land was not sold when a few years later he became insolvent. The children of Elspa Brown sold this land in 1931 to George Henry Williamson described as "of Paterson, Taylor". Reference Conveyance 31 January 1931 Registered No. 213 Book 1624

## THE BUSH INN

About 1836 David Brown built a house on the land and called it "Long <sup>House Green</sup> Green House" and lived there with his family. However, on the 25<sup>th</sup> June 1838 the premises, now called the Bush Inn, were licensed as a public house with the licensee recorded as David Brown. He held the Licence until 1841. Apparently David Brown continued with his shipping business and during his absences his wife Mary ran the Inn. (David Brown died on 10<sup>th</sup> May 1867)

On the 1 October 1840 David Brown leased the Bush Inn with surrounding paddocks to James Keppie who was the licensee until June 1845 when it was again licensed to David Brown and then Daniel Brown. Matthew Healy held the licence until 1855 followed by William Ley until 1860.

The Lease to James Keppie is Registered No. 337 Book U and contains the following description of the land to be leased:

**All that** messuage or tenement situate at Paterson aforesaid known as the Bush Inn with the outhouses garden and appurtenances containing 3 acres or thereabouts **ALSO** paddock near the River thereunto adjoining the same containing 3 ½ acres together with paddock to the westward of the house divided from the premises before described by an intended road passing close by the house and the last mentioned parcel being marked out for the said James Keppie exclusive of the cottage containing 1 acres situated at the north east corner of the said paddock 50 acres or thereabouts used in common with David Brown his heirs and assigns his and their tenants and undertenants of a wharf now used by the said David Brown and situated on his land adjoining the premises subject to a lease of a cottage granted by the said David Brown to Michael Brown cottage and garden that lease to expire 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 1842 Rent to David Brown of the cottage.

The description is interesting as it refers to an intended road dividing the paddock to the westward of the house from the house. It seems the road was not there at the time nor was it there when the Bush Inn was built. Carmichael's map of 1850 also refers to the road as an intended road so perhaps it was never made leaving Commercial Road as the main road until King Street was extended to form the present Gresford Road. It appears from the description that there was another cottage on the land in addition to the Bush Inn that was rented to Michael Brown but it is not known if either Daniel or Michael Brown were related to David Brown.

David Brown became insolvent in 1858 and by Order of the Supreme Court of New South Wales Colin Piper McKenzie was appointed Official Assignee of the insolvent estate.

On 4<sup>th</sup> April 1859 John Piper Mackenzie conveyed to William Corner several of David Brown's parcels of land including the Bush Inn.

William Corner built on to the front of the Bush Inn a fine two storey residence which he renamed Sussex House. This house, with the original bush Inn, was demolished in 1966.

## DAVID BROWN'S SUBDIVISION

In 1842 David Brown subdivided the land on the river into building allotments. He advertised them for sale by auction in the *Australian* in December 1842 with the auction to take place on the 20<sup>th</sup> of that month. Buyers were advised that a map was being prepared and would be available on application to the auctioneer. There were two sections — Section 1 allotments had frontages to Market Street and Commercial Road, Section 2 on the opposite side of Commercial Road had river frontages. Most were 49½ feet by 132 to 150 feet. There appears to be about 13 lots in Section 1 and 14 in Section 2. Later a Section 3 of 6 lots was formed fronting Market Street, with the river of Corner's Creek at the back.

At the time of the sale there was a plan of subdivision but unfortunately no copy has been found. The plan used in these papers is a much later plan of the *Cintra* Estate subdivision with only some of the allotments shown.

AUSTRALIAN

74-12-1842

### PATERSON.

**M**R. GEORGE WILKINSON has received instructions from Mr. David Brown, to sell by public auction, on the ground, adjoining the Township of Paterson, on **TUES. DAY**, the 20th December, '1842, at twelve o'clock,

#### TWENTY-SIX BUILDING ALLOTMENTS.

Section No. 1.—Lots 2 and 3 have frontages to Market-street of forty-three feet, with a depth of one hundred and thirty-two feet.

Lot 4 has a frontage of about 49 feet to Market-street, with a frontage of 99 feet to the Commercial Road, being a corner allotment.

This allotment is rendered very valuable, being in the immediate vicinity of the Market Wharf, where traders from Sydney discharge

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4

It appears there were not many lots sold at the auction, if in fact any were sold. The first allotments were sold to Samuel Kingston who purchased Lots 1 and 2 Section 2 on the 9 February 1844 for £74. On the 29<sup>th</sup> June 1846 he sold these allotments to James Keppie for a reduced price of £39.

The advertisement described Lot 1 as a larger block to the others (area 1 rood 18 perches) and ideally suited to a commercial venture and particularly a steam mill and that is what James later established on this land. It was close to the Market Wharf presumably David Brown's wharf at the end of Market Street. Note reference to being opposite stores of Barnett and Isaacs which would indicate that commerce had already commenced in this area prior to the subdivision.

James Keppie probably built a house on this land and presumably was carrying on business as a wheelwright. In early 1849 he built a flourmill and intended to carry on business as a miller.

### NEW STEAM MILL

The undersigned having COMPLETED HIS NEW STEAM MILL begs to inform his friends and the public that he is now ready to receive GRAIN, and hopes by strict attention, combined with first-rate machinery, that he will render such satisfaction as will secure a liberal support. Charges for Grinding, smutting, and dressing, the same as at the neighbouring steam mills.

JAMES KEPPIE

P.S.—A NEW BOAT will ply on the Hunter, William, and Paterson Rivers to take Grain and Flour to and from the different customers, free of any charge.

J.K.

Keppie's Mill, Paterson,  
6<sup>th</sup> March, 1849

*Maitland Mercury* 14 March, 1849  
(Courtesy J. Sullivan)

Some time prior to 1855 David Brown added further lots to his subdivision. He created a Section 3 of six allotments that fronted Market Street.

On the 22<sup>nd</sup> December 1855 he advertised another public auction of these allotments to take place on the 29<sup>th</sup> December 1855. There were still many allotments available in 1855 although the land fronting the river had been sold with Lots 10 to 14 and Lot 17 still for sale. Most of Section 1 was to be auctioned.

The advertisement stated the land was suitable for building on "as they are far above the height any known flood has risen" In the thirteen years between the first auction sale and the following advertisement the land would have been on the market but unsold.

**Waterside and Roadside Building  
Allotments, at the Paterson.**

*Lying between the Mills of Messrs. Brown  
and Keppie.*

TERMS: 25 per cent cash; balance by bills at  
three and six months.

Title unexceptionable. ♪

**M**R. A. DODDS has received instructions  
from Captain Brown, of the Paterson,  
to sell by auction, on the Ground, at the Pater-  
son, on SATURDAY, December 29, at Twelve  
o'clock,

A number of eligibly-situated ALLOTMENTS,  
with large Frontages, and immense Depths.

Nos. 10 to 14 of section 2, having each 49½ feet  
frontage to the Commercial road, leading  
through the Paterson, and running back  
to the Paterson River (deep water), where  
a vessel of large tonnage can lay alongside  
and take in produce.

Nos. 5 and 6 of section 3, having a frontage  
each of 49½ feet to the Commercial-road,  
and extending back to a creek which leads  
into the Paterson River.

No. 17 of section 2—49½ feet frontage to the  
Commercial-road, and 56 feet frontage to  
the Paterson River, being next to Mr. P.  
Keppie's purchase, on the 9th August,  
1854.

Nos. 1 to 14 of section 1, with frontages to the  
Commercial-road, and to Market-street, by  
a good depth.

Nos. 18 and 19 of section 1, fronting the Com-  
mercial-road, by a great depth; No. 18  
adjoining Mr. Burgess' purchase at the  
last sale.

These allotments are in a first-rate situation,  
nearly the whole of them having frontages to  
the High road, where all the traffic passes  
through the Paterson; and several having the  
advantage of waterside frontages for wharves,  
where a vessel of large tonnage can lay along-  
side and take the produce from all the sur-  
rounding and extensive districts direct to the  
Sydney market, or elsewhere. The allotments  
are well adapted for building on, as they are  
far above the height any known flood has  
risen.

IMMEDIATELY AFTER,

100 ACRES OF LAND, near to the Town of  
Paterson, and adjoining the Bona Vista  
Estate.

Full particulars of this Land will be given in  
a future advertisement. .... 7100

It will be seen in later pages that contrary to the advertisement this area was subject to flooding. It did however have access to the Paterson River which in those days provided the main means of transport. There was the wharf mentioned in the 1840 Lease David Brown to James Keppie and it may have been that the government town laid out in 1833 became the residential part of Paterson with Commercial Road in 1842 as the commercial centre which had started with David Brown's Bush Inn and wharf. Settlers from further up the valley brought their produce to Brown's wharf or the later Company wharf for shipment south. Whatever the reason this section of the town became the commercial centre with the Bush Inn at the top of the settlement and a wharf on the river. Perhaps during these early years there may not have been any major flooding of the river as buildings of a permanent nature were built on the riverbank.

James Keppie had a flourmill on his land and David Brown also had a flourmill prior to 1855. Keppie's mill site can be identified by the description in the Deeds but where was David Brown's mill?

Notice.

To **SETTLERS** and Others on the Paterson River.

**D**AVID BROWN, of the Flour Mill, Paterson, returns thanks to his numerous friends for the great share of public grinding he has been favoured with since his commencement in business. He now begs to intimate that the Mill will be **SHUT** at the end of this month (July) to make some necessary repairs to ensure further efficiency and despatch.

3948

D. BROWN.

4.7.1855 Supplement

**W**ANTED, at the Paterson Steam Flour Mill, a **FIREMAN**; one who thoroughly understands Working an Engine preferred. Liberal wages will be given. Apply to Mr. A. Mather, at the Mill.  
December 31, 1853. 63

Paterson Steam Flour Mills.

Important to Farmers and others.

**T**HE undersigned wishes to inform the inhabitants on the Paterson and district, that he has **REDUCED** the Price of Grinding Wheat to 9d. per bushel—10d. if smutted.

A boat will always be on the river to receive and deliver Grist, for which 1s. per bushel will be charged.

Also begs to inform that he has admitted Mr. Peter Keppie, of the Paterson, as Partner; and the business of the above mill will be carried on under the firm of Mather and Keppie.

ADAM MATHER.

Superior Fine and Second Flour for Sale, always on hand, at Maitland Prices. Cash given for fine samples of Wheat at the Mill.

Feb. 26, 1853.

592

5.3.1853

B. BROWN.

## KEPPIE'S MILL

There was also a Store owned by David Brown and leased to a Mr. James Sewell (Lease Registered No. 714 Book 11). There were also houses built on the land occupied by some residents.

Some of the allotments were unsold when David Brown became insolvent in 1859 and William Corner purchased these along with the other larger parcels of land.

James Keppie had purchased Lots 1, 2 and 3 Section 2 on the River-side of Commercial Road on the corner of Market Street. On this land he built a flourmill and cottage. James Keppie left Paterson in the early 1850s and moved to the Mudgee goldfields where he spent the rest of his life. He leased the mill and cottage firstly to Adam Mather and later to James Menzies and his son also James. In 1863 he sold the Mill cottage and land together with Lots 1 and 2 of section 3 fronting Market Street which he had also purchased (5 parcels in total) to William Corner. 3

Opposite Keppie's Mill on the corner of Market Street were another two cottages both of which are still standing. One is Hayward now owned by the Rowcliffe family and used by the family at weekends and holidays. The other single storey brick building now derelict was probably built by Stephen Stanbridge a builder and well known Paterson landholder. Stanbridge bought the land in 1857 and the cottage was erected some time after his purchase and prior to 1872 when this building is mentioned in his Will. Following the death of Stephen Stanbridge senr the cottage was sold in 1883 to Henry Wilson (Conveyance Registered No. 95 Book 269) who owned the adjoining land (Hayward)

## HAYWARD

In 1863 William Corner sold the allotments on the corner of Commercial Road and Market Street to Henry Wilson a Blacksmith of Paterson for £60. The land was part of Lot 3 and Lots 4 and 5 of Section 1. Henry Wilson probably carried on his business on this land as he had a blacksmith's shop. 4

Henry Wilson was a very unfortunate man. He was a member of a well-known family in the Gresford/Paterson area and a brother to the Frederick Wilson who built the Cricketers Arms Hotel adjoining Hayward and later the Court House Hotel. Henry had married and had several children but all, including his wife died. He was admitted to the Gladesville Asylum in 1893 where he died in October 1898.

In 1898 this land and the adjoining land bought by Henry Wilson from Stanbridge was sold to James Puxty a farmer from Vacy. He sold to Henry Lawrence a farmer of Mirannie near Singleton in 1919. 5

Arthur James Rowcliffe the grandfather Arthur Rowcliffe bought Hayward from Henry Lawrence in 1935 and it has remained in the Rowcliffe family since then. 6

It is not known for certain who built Hayward. It was built prior to the 1875 flood as newspaper reports say both Fred and Henry Wilson stayed in the top floor of their residences until it became dangerous and they had to be rescued. (Plan of school dated 10 August 1865 doesn't show house next to Hotel - shows Keppie's mill on River bank. )

The Rowcliffes believe it was erected as a residence for the manager of one of the mills in the area. What evidence is there that this was so? For which mill was it built?

James Keppie's Mill was opposite Hayward on the land he bought from Kingston and was in operation as stated in 1849. In 1856 when leased to Menzies there was a cottage next to the Mill. In any event James Keppie never owned the land on which Hayward was built so couldn't have built a house for the manager of his mill on that land.

David Brown had a Mill and owned the land but where was the Mill? Carmichael's plan of 1850 shows Keppie's Mill and ~~what appears to be~~ a mill closer to Paterson on Commercial Road. Was this Brown's mill? If so the manager's cottage is not very close to the mill and as David Brown owned the land he could have built the house closer to the mill.

It is possible William Corner could have built Hayward between 1859 when he bought the land and 1863 when he sold to Henry Wilson. He owned Keppie's Mill for about six months before he sold the Hayward land but the consideration of £60 paid by Henry Wilson seems a small amount to pay for what would have been a substantial and fairly new house. There is no mention of a house on the Deed but buildings are not always referred to.

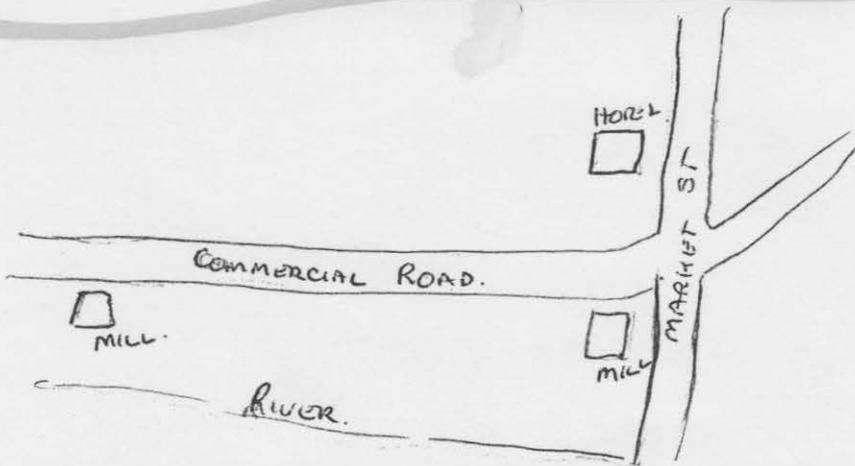
\* FROM NOBBY:

At this time, 1863, Corner owned a second mill in that area. John Turner in the book "To Paterson" said two mills were operating both at the northern end of Commercial Road. Corner's second mill was leased to Horsley.

An 1863 newspaper article refers to Mr Edwards ready to build his cottage near Horsely's Mill. William Edwards bought Lots 18 and 19 Section 1 Commercial Road further south than Hayward and closer to the site of the mill on the 1850 map. Edwards' land is shown on the 1918 plan of subdivision

If Brown's mill was closer to Keppies and the two mills in the area as John Turner wrote on what land was it built? All the subdivision land was vacant. Similarly if Corner built another mill where was it built?

An 1865 newspaper cutting referring to the building of the Cricketers Arms refers to two mills Terrys and Horleys with the hotel in between



Stephen Stanbridge paid £68 in 1857 for his land which is £8 more than Wilson paid for the adjoining land. Presumably it was vacant land and Stanbridge who was a builder built the cottage on it. I presume both parcels were vacant as if both houses were there Wilson would have paid more for Hayward than Stanbridge for the small single storeyed house. Added to that the Hayward land being two allotments contained 1 rood 11 perches and Stanbridges' one allotment was 35 perches.

There is a possibility that Hayward could have been the mill manager's home during its ownership by Henry Wilson. He was definitely a blacksmith and Wilson family history record that he spent a short time in Maitland Gaol prior to being admitted to Gladesville. There was some problem about a saddle. The Deed conveying the land to Puxty in 1898 however describes Henry Wilson as being a miller. Could it be that he was managing Corner's (Keppie) Mill and living at Hayward?

The reports of the big flood in 1875 stated that the mill house belonging to Mr Corner situated near his upper mill (Keppie's) was washed away and the mill badly damaged. Mr H Wilson's blacksmiths shop had been washed down so presumably his blacksmith's shop was on his land adjacent to his house.

Henry Wilson following this flood may have moved from Hayward and with the mill cottage over the road washed away the mill manager may have rented the house from Henry Wilson hence it being known as the mill manager's cottage although not originally built for that purpose but as a residence for its owner Henry Wilson.

I therefore think Henry Wilson built Hayward and Stanbridge built the adjoining cottage.

## STANBRIDGE'S HOUSE

The small brick cottage adjoining Hayward was built by Stephen Stanbridge Snr some time after 1857 when he bought the land from David Brown.<sup>1</sup> It was mentioned in his Will dated 5 August 1857 as "Brick cottage opposite company Wharf". Stanbridge bought his land on which the house was built for £68.

Stephen Stanbridge Snr. was a builder who lived in Paterson and built some of the buildings in the town. At the time of his death he owned other property in Paterson. He did not live in the house on Commercial Road at the time of making his Will. As well as the house on Commercial Road he owned a block of land fronting Market Street on the opposite side of the road to the Cricketers Arms Hotel.

After the death of Stephen Stanbridge Snr his son Stephen Jnr owned the land and mortgaged it to the Commercial Banking Company of Sydney. Unfortunately he was unable to repay the loan and the Bank foreclosed and sold the house property to Henry Wilson who also owned the adjoining Hayward. <sup>8</sup>

The Bank sold the Market Street land to Herbert Harrington Brown of Gresford and subsequent owner of part of Kalimna. <sup>9</sup>

The Master in Lunacy on behalf of Henry Wilson then sold this property along with Hayward to James Puxty of Vacy on 27 May 1898 <sup>10</sup>

(Haven't found out to whom Puxty sold. Maude Jordan bought the house from Harry Keith Corner and it is now owned by Keith Jordan. )

## CRICKETERS ARMS HOTEL

The land on which Frederick Wilson built his Hotel contained 2 roods 2 perches, about ½ acre and faced Market street. William Cann purchased this piece of land David Brown on the 24 March 1857. William Cann belonged to one of the pioneering families of Paterson and this family was connected by marriage with the Corner, Tucker and Keppie families. The land was located at the rear of the land of Henry Wilson. Frederick Wilson purchased from William Cann on 12 January 1863. 11

Frederick Wilson built the Hotel on the land in 1864. However in 1875 there was a flood covering the Commercial Road and this flood virtually spelt the death of this area as the commercial centre of Paterson. The flood reached the upper floors of both the Hotel and Hayward where Fred and Henry had remained in their dwellings and from which they had to be evacuated.

The Hotel was pulled down and rebuilt by Frederick Wilson on the high ground in King Street and renamed the Court House Hotel.

(Who did Fred Wilson sell his land to and how did it come to Keith Jordan)

## WILLIAM CORNER

William Corner was born in Sussex England and came to the colony in 1839 and after a short time working in Sydney came to Paterson and worked for a while before going into a storekeeping business with Mr. George ~~Wilson~~ Following the death of his partner in 1848 he purchased the business and carried on his own account with some success. 12

In 1856 David Brown had mortgaged his land to John Robertson but by 1859 he had defaulted on his payments and John Robertson sold David Brown's Commercial Road property to William Corner. There was also an additional deed from John Piper Mackenzie the Official Assignee of David Brown to further assure the land to William Corner. 13

The area of the land in this Deed was 100 acres originally purchased from Mrs. Ward and a further 4 acres 1 rood adjoining the large parcel on the creek to the north of the land. The deed records the inclusion of dwelling house, cottage, steam mill, engines and all and every building. The mill included must have been David Brown's Mill because he purchased Keppie's Mill and adjoining cottage and land in 1863 from James Keppie

It did exclude, however, several of the allotments already sold and listed them, including the names Kingston (sold to James Keppie), Hicks, Peter Keppie and Joseph Tucker.

*Maitland Mercury* 19 November 1863 (Jack Sullivan)

**TOWN IMPROVEMENTS.**—We are happy to see several important improvements being made in our town—Mr. Cann's produce store, in King-street, is now completed, and is a very neat building. Mr. Corner's large produce store is progressing fast; the walls are now being carried up to the upper story. This is a very large and substantial building, and will be an ornament to our town. The foundation of Mr. Wilson's new public-house, which will be a large roomy inn, is now laid, and the walls will be commenced in a few days. ....Mr. Edwards has all the materials on the ground for a neat brick cottage near Mr. Horsely's mill, which will be commenced shortly.

William Corner retained the ownership of the land until his death on the 19 June 1894. At the time of his death William Corner owned a considerable amount of land in Paterson (Commercial Road, Bona Vista Estate and part of Cintra Estate) and other parts of the lower Hunter including Glen William and Hinton.

His second wife Ellen (daughter of James and Nicholas Broadrick of the Settlers Arms Inn) had died in 1886. There were six children surviving – William, Henry, Stewart, Frank, Elizabeth (Holmes) and Christina (Macintosh).

All these children signed a deed conveying the Paterson lands to his son William Corner Junr. 14

In 1918 at least the Commercial road land was in the name of Stewart Corner.

Have to find out how he got the land.

Prior to August 1918 the Corner lands of the Cintra Estate were subdivided and advertised for Auction on the 10<sup>th</sup> August, 1918.

( I was only researching the Commercial Road land so I have no record of the Cintra Estate)

The Cintra subdivision excluded the Valentia Lodge owned by Smith and several small allotments on Commercial Road not owned by Corner.

Edward John Cann purchased Lots A and B from Stewart Corner following the auction. These lots fronted the Paterson River. (Conveyance 19 December 1918 Registered No 838 Book 1144)

The largest portion Lot D was sold in 1922 to Thomas Edward Jordan. (Conveyance 18 September 1922 Registered No 689 Book 1281.) At the time of TE Jordan's death he also owned Lot C

(Who did he buy Lot C from? E J Cann?)

Following the death of TE Jordan on 27 January 1961 the land was held by the Trustees as Mrs. Maude Florence Jordan had a life interest. Mrs. Jordan died on the 10<sup>th</sup> September, 1983 and in accordance with TE Jordan's Will the land was conveyed for value to Keith Jordan who is the present owner. (Conveyance 26 March 1984 Registered No 890 Book 3593)

With regard to Lots A and B the river frontage land purchased at auction by E J Cann this land was purchased by Maude Jordan from Harry Keith Corner. (Conveyance 18 June 1962 Registered No 866 Book 2616) HK Corner (Keith Corner) was the owner of land adjoining Tucker Park in Paterson and had an orchard on his river front land in Queen Street, Paterson. His mother was Ann Cann and may be a sister to E J Cann.

(Have to find out how Keith Corner got land)

This land was also purchased by Keith Jordan from the estate of his mother. Also included in this purchase was the Stanbridge house (Lot 6) and the adjoining Lot 7 Section 1. The date of the Conveyance was 8 August 1984 Registered No 155 Book 3604.

Although not part of the commercial centre of Commercial road a small parcel of land was acquired by Keith Jordan in December 1978 from the trustees of the Roman Catholic Church. (Conveyance 20 December 1978 Registered No 814 Book 3352.) This land was part of the subdivision of the town of Paterson and fronted King Street and ran back to the river. It was on the north side of the Presbyterian Church land and was marked on the plan for a Roman Catholic school. It was reduced in size following the realignment of the Gresford Road.

## NATIONAL SCHOOL

ON 19 January 1866 (Conveyance Registered No. 181 Book 182) William Corner conveyed a parcel of land 100 ft x 200 ft. to the Board of National Education. This land fronted the continuation of King Street as shown on the following map. A National school was proposed for this area and the item in the Maitland Mercury of 13 April 1865 informs its readers that this school is shortly to be built. It does not seem, however that this land remained vacant and the school was built in Church Street on the site of the Settlers Arms Inn a few years later.

*Maitland Mercury* 13 April, 1865 Jack Sullivan

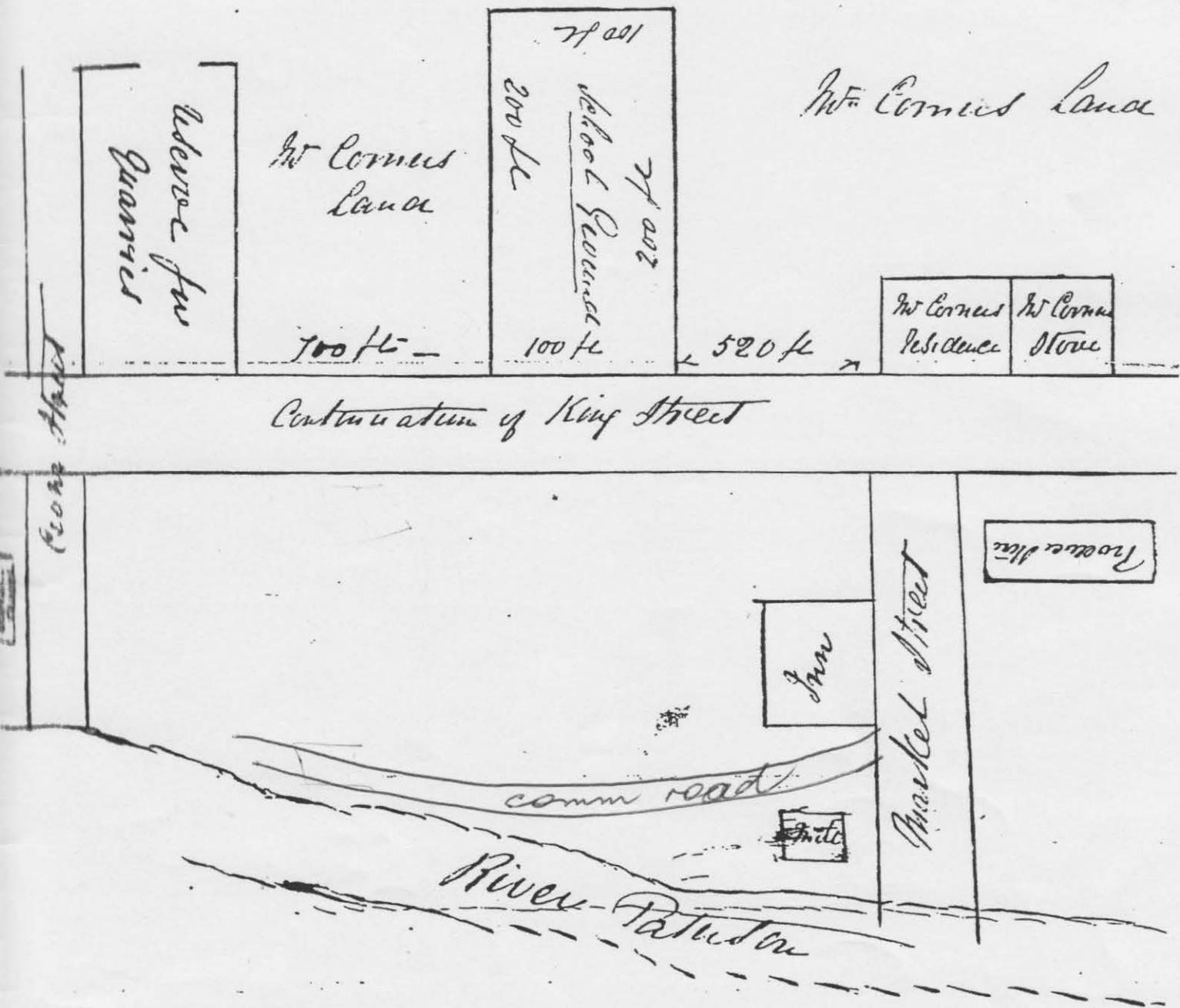
Mr Corner has erected a large and commodious store opposite the old Bush Inn. This building is a substantial one, of brick, with stone foundation, with a slated roof and measures fifty feet in length and 30 feet in width, two stories in height, with a loft store and capacious verandah in front. The building presents a very neat and creditable appearance, and is capable of storing away an immense quantity of produce. Opposite, and adjoining the old Bush Inn, the same gentleman has erected a large retail store, of the same substantial material as the produce store. This store measures 30 feet frontage to the street, and 50 feet back, with offices and unpacking room in the old Bush Inn. We are sorry, however, that the front windows, which extend nearly the whole length of the front present an old-fashioned appearance, with its common glass windows. Had plate glass windows been used, these stores would certainly not be dis..... to the main street of our metropolis. Mr. Corner is also having the old Bush Inn completely altered and repaired throughout, with the intention of making it his future residence. In the same quarter of the town Mr. Frederick Wilson has erected a neat brick public-house of two stories in height now known as the Cricketer's Arms Inn, between Mr. Terry's and Mr. Horsley's mills. Mr. Edwards has erected a neat brick cottage in King Street, a little below the Scotch Church. Mr. Saunders has erected a new bakers' shop with out offices, & &c, further down King street. Mr. Cann has erected a small but substantial brick produce store, a little further down the same street, but on the opposite side. Mr. Brooker has erected a two-storied building of brick as his residence, and butcher's shop adjoining in Princess Street. Mr. Saunders has erected a neat wooden cottage in Church-street. The Oddfellows' hall is nearly completed, and presents a very neat and commanding appearance and will certainly be a credit to the small body of Oddfellows in this town. The building is of brick, with stone foundation and will measure about thirty-five feet in depth, with twenty feet frontage to the street. Other improvements are about being made, amongst which will be our National School which is to be erected nearly midway between the Scotch Church and Mr. Corner's new store.

10-8-65

The land is a portion of the Parish of Haughton  
County of Durham  
Part and parcel of Mr. Cornes' Land

1865

1865



VAL ANDERSON

Stambrook Inn

**SOME RESIDENTS AT THE TIME OF THE VARIOUS FLOODS  
MENTIONED IN NEWSPAPER ARTICLES**

**1857** – Whole of Brown's flat covered  
MENZIES MILL  
STORE OF FERRIS & HALE

**1861**  
Over Commercial road but families not evacuated.  
Mr. Thomson's Mill at Paterson?

**1864**  
15' over road below Bush Inn

**1867**  
On Brown's Flat  
BURGESS TERRY (Mill to third storey)  
EDWARDS  
GARDINER  
HORSLEYS LATE MILL (inches of water)

**1875**  
W. EDWARDS (See ad 1863 – house being built)  
C. OLDFIELD  
B. WHITE  
T. LINDSAY  
SHOP OF GEORGE GARDENER  
JOHN WHITE – UPPER SIDE OF BROWNS CREEK  
3<sup>rd</sup> FLOOR OF MR WILSON'S MILL  
ASN COMPANY'S WHARF STORES – EAVES  
MR. HOUGH'S MILL  
WESLEYAN CHAPEL

**WESLEYAN CHAPEL**

Many of the newspaper reports mention the Wesleyan Chapel in this area. Society members have been photographed at what is believed to be the site of this very early building.

## KEPPIE'S TIMBER MILL

This was on Presbyterian Church land. Haven't found a lease registered for it or anything about it. Bill Keppie might know a bit more.

## FLOODS AND THE DEMISE OF THE COMMERCIAL CENTRE.

NEWSPAPER CUTTINGS.

### NOTES FROM ARTHUR ROWCLIFFE

Arthur James Rowcliffe (Arthur's grandfather) rented Hayward and then bought it.

Arthur James Rowcliffe's sister was Louie Soper who lived in the house opposite facing Market Street. (see photograph) House they lived was believed to be owned by Eggerton. Mavis Rowcliffe married Harry eggerton.

Arthur remembers Pop and Mrs Threadgate lived there (after Sopers had gone)

Duggs lived in the small house next door

House on Lot B

Gordon Rooney lived in a house on Lot B followed by Phonsie Jordan (Keith Jordan's brother)

Lot A had an orchard on it (orange trees) when Gordon Rooney lived on Lot B. Lot B had a packing shed on it.

COLLISONS (KEITH JORDAN'S GPARENTS LIVED IN STANBRIDGE'S HOUSE

## END NOTES

1. George Townshend 1798-1872 and Trevallyn Paterson River, Jack Sullivan p.20
2. Deed 29/30 September 1834 Registered No 504 Book G
3. Keppie Land, S M Threlfo
4. Conveyance 8 October, 1863 Registered No. 413 Book 85
5. Conveyance Registered No. 985 Book 621 and No. 258 Book 1164
6. Conveyance 21 January, 1935 Registered No. 367 Book 1709
7. Conveyance 18 March, 1857 Registered No. 184 Book 51
8. Conveyance Registered No. 95 Book 269
9. Conveyance 14 April 1883 Registered No. 106 Book 269
10. Conveyance 27 May 1898 Registered No. 985 Book 261
11. Conveyance 12 January, 1863 Registered No. 660 Book 81
12. "An Enterprising Storekeeper", *Maitland Mercury* October 1949
13. Conveyance 2/4 April 1859 Registered Nos 819,820 Book 60
14. Deed 30 July, 1900 Registered No. 266 Book 671