

**A SHORT HISTORY
OF
“THE CARLTON”**

Southern Tasmania

Peter MacFie

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Pittwater Press

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A SHORT HISTORY OF THE CARLTON

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MAP

Southern Beaches Scenic Drive 2008

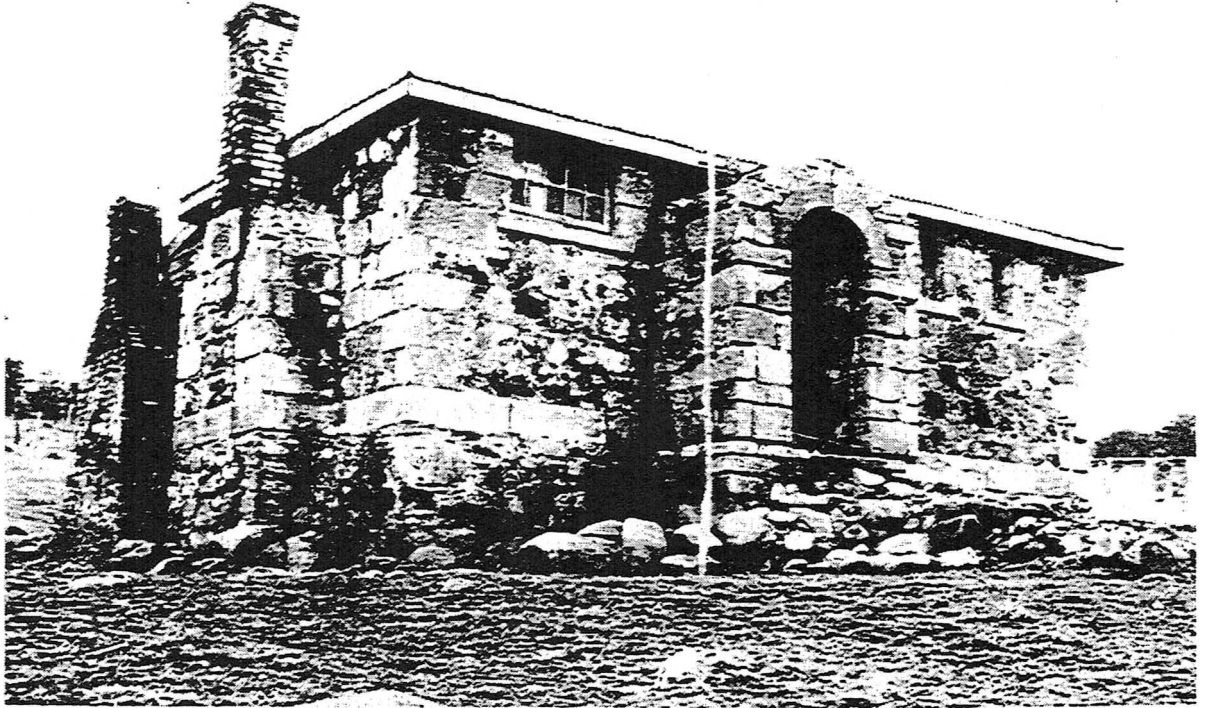


Figure 61. Forcett watch-house (AOT NS 1029/141)



Figure 57. Forcett school on Quarry Rd in c1880 (AOT 30/2097)

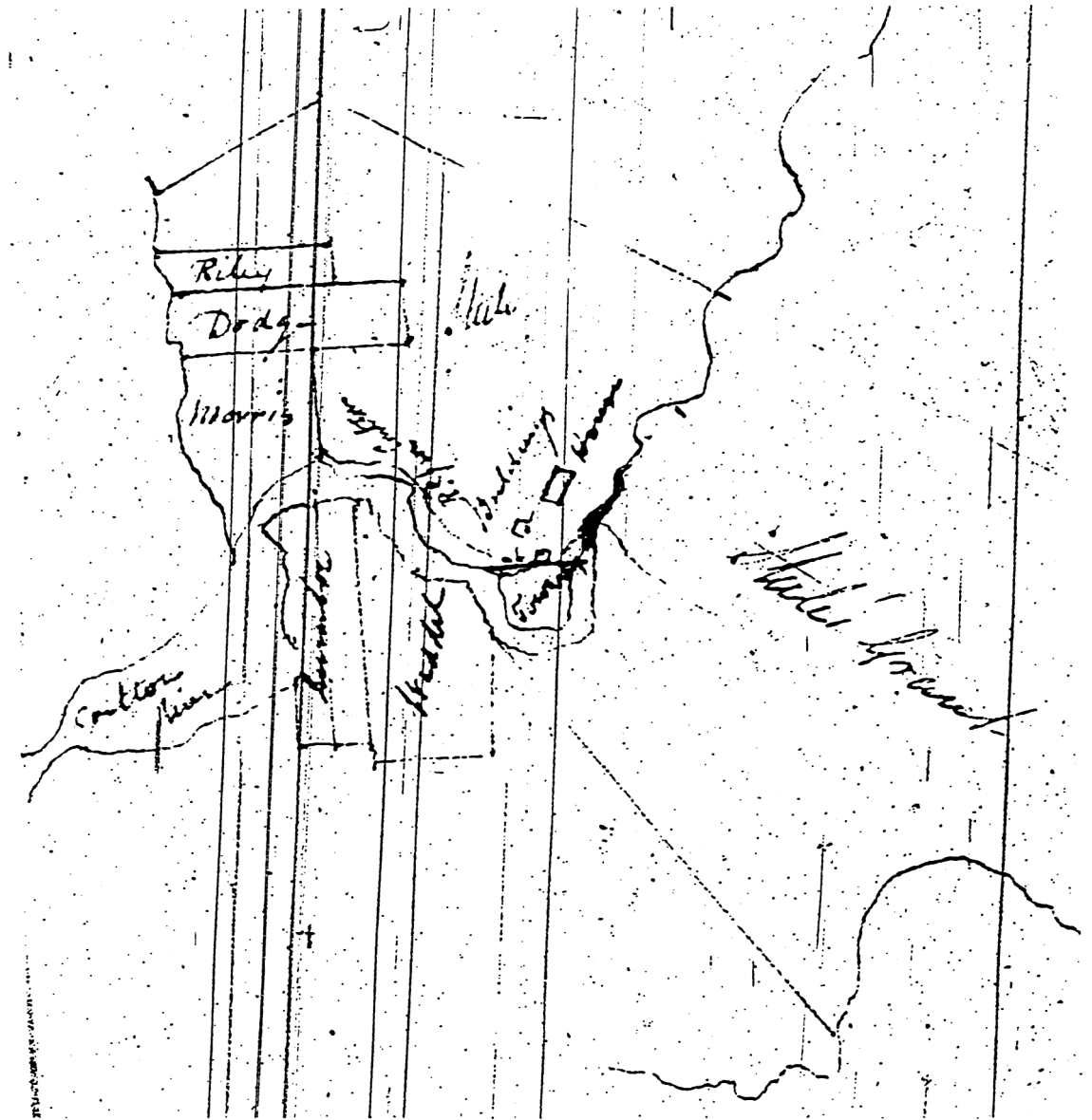
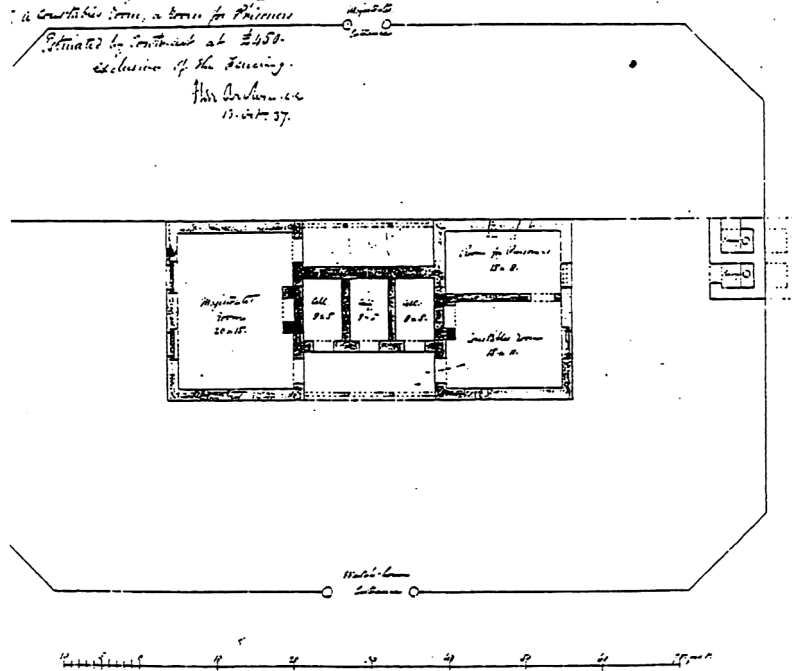
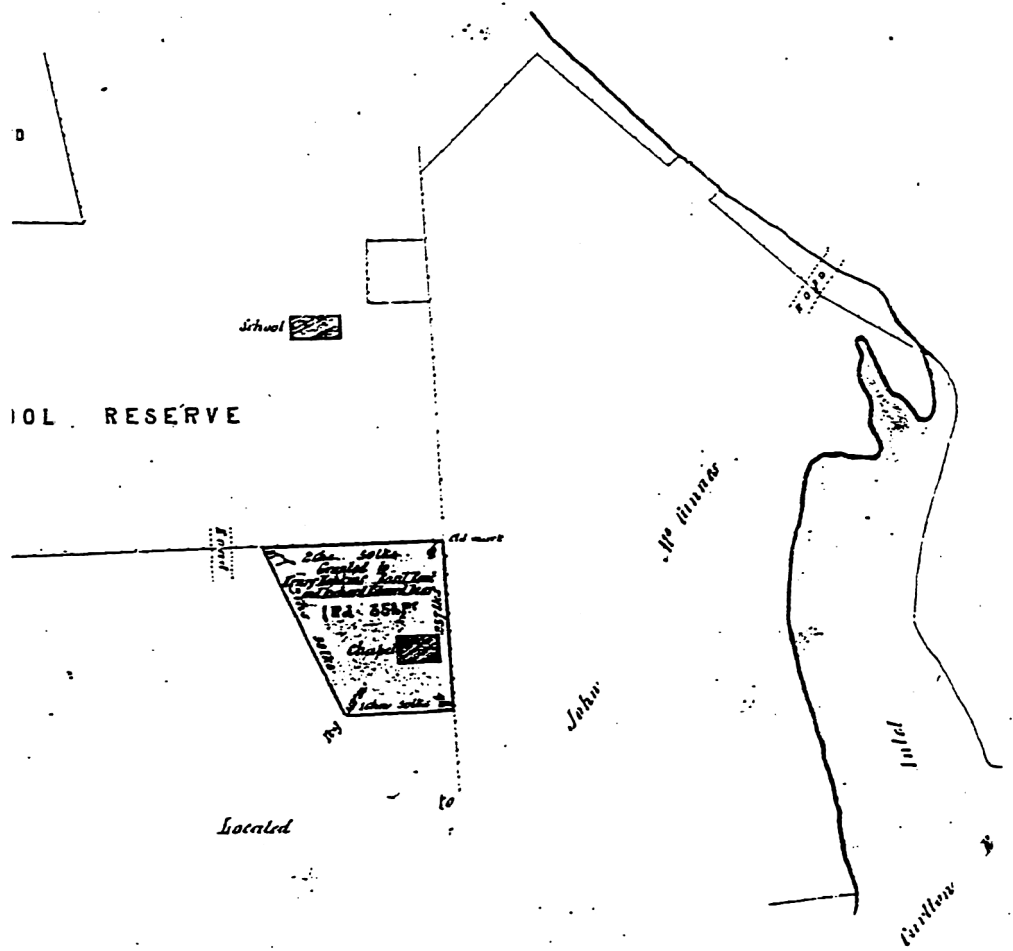


Figure 45. The buildings marked on this rough sketch plan are on the site Governor Arthur had camped on during the 'Black Line'. The site opposite, marked 'township', was rejected and instead became a watch house reserve (AOT LSD 1/93, p139)

- with the said Police Magistrate
 - dated 27 August 37 containing
 - a Certificate from a Commissioner
 - situated by contract at £450
 - exclusive of the Survey.
 John Anderson
 13. 6. 37.



re 59. Plan of Carlton watch-house (AOT PWD 266/1198)



an of church and schoolhouse reserve at Carlton River (DELM Pembroke 4/5c)

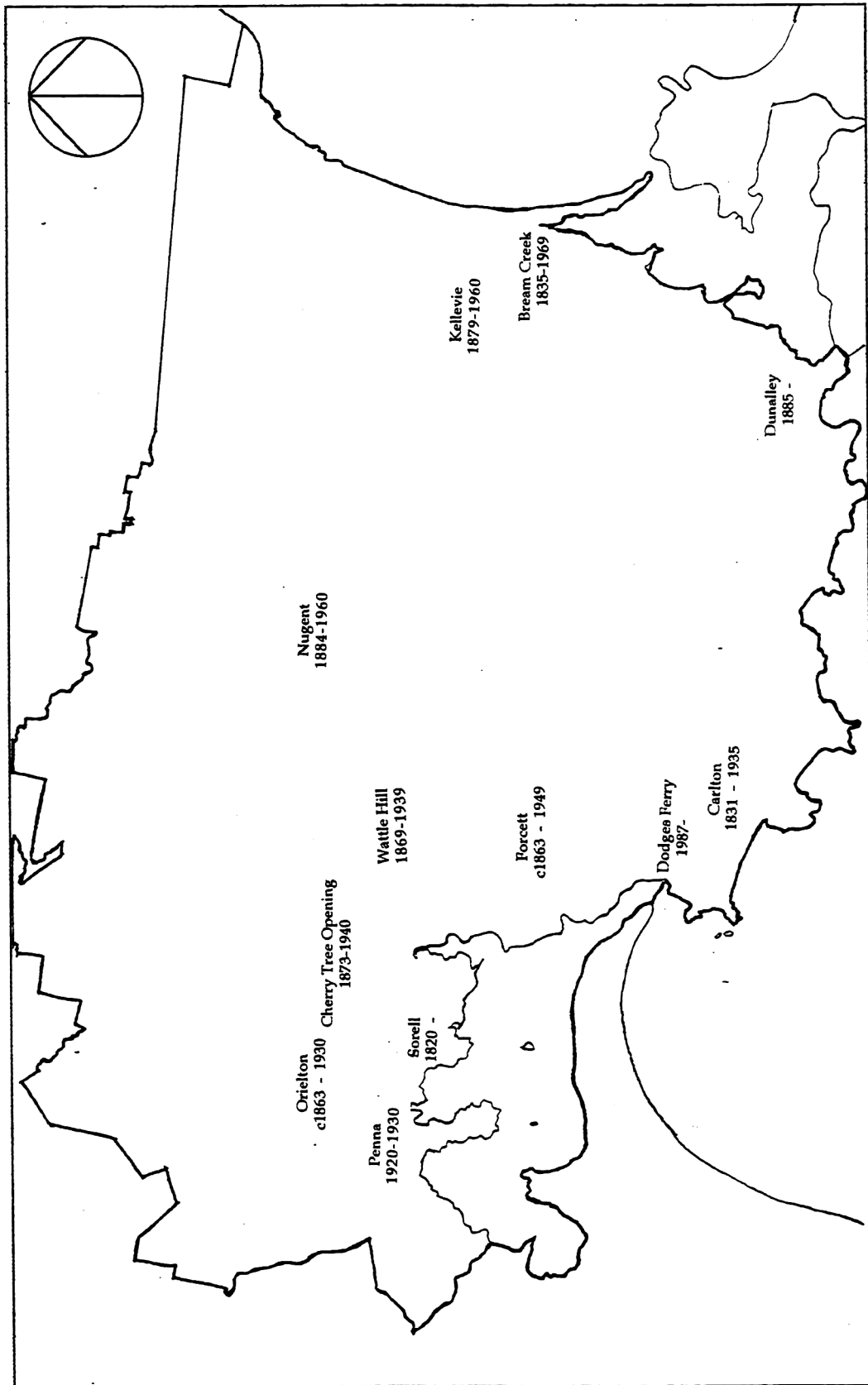


Figure 51. Map showing location of schools in the municipality.

A. 21.

VAN DIEMEN'S LAND.

Census of the Year 1842.

Parish of *Santon*
 Name of Householder *Ralph Waage*
 Name of Employer of Servants *Ralph Waage*
 Name of Person in charge *Ralph Waage*
 Place of Residence and (if in a Town) the Name and (if in Hobart Town) the Number of the Street *Santon*

Questions to be proposed to every Householder Employer of Servants and Proprietor or Occupier of Land in the Island of Van Diemen's Land by Persons appointed by the Commissioners for taking an Account of the Population under the Act. The Replies to be inserted by the Persons appointed as aforesaid and any Person refusing to reply to such Questions or giving false Answers is by the Act subjected to a Penalty of Fifty Pounds.

1. What is the name of the Person at the head or in charge of this House or Establishment? *Ralph Waage*
2. Who is its Proprietor? *Ralph Waage*
3. Is the Dwelling-house built of Stone of Brick or of Wood? *Stone*
4. Is it complete or unfinished? *Complete*
5. Is it inhabited or uninhabited? *13*
 [When the Proprietor is present.]
6. How many Persons generally reside in this Establishment besides yourself? *None*
7. How many of these persons are Free? *None*
8. How many of these Persons were dwelling here on the night of the thirty-first day of December last? *None*
9. What other Person (if any) on that night was dwelling with you?
10. Give me (according to the Form annexed) a Return of these Persons distinguishing Males and Females and showing the Number of each Age Religion and Calling as therein specified.

All these Questions are to be answered by the Proprietor and as well as those which are made in the Numerical Return which follows to be taken down in Writing by the Person who by the Act is authorised to propose them.

NUMERICAL RETURN showing the Age Sex Religion Occupation Condition and Trade or Calling of Persons in the said House or Establishment.

	SEX.				TOTAL.
	MALE.		FEMALE.		
	Married.	Single.	Married.	Single.	
NUMBERS OF EACH AGE.					
Under 2 Years		1			
2 and under 7		1			2
7 and under 14		1			2
14 and under 21		1			1
21 and under 25		1			
25 and under 35		1			
35 and under 45		1			
45 and under 60		1			
60 and upwards		1			
* TOTALS ..		7		1	5
CIVIL CONDITION.					
Born in the Colony	1		1		
Arrived Free		2			2
Other Free Persons		2			2
* TOTALS ..		3			5
RELIGION.					
Church of England	1		1		
Church of Scotland		1			1
Wesleyan Methodists		1			1
Other Protestant Dissenters		1			1
Roman Catholics					
Jews					
Mahomedans and Pagans					
* TOTALS ..		4			5
OCCUPATION.					
Land Proprietors	1				
Merchants					
Bankers and Professional Persons					
Shopkeepers and other Retail Dealers					
Mechanics and Artificers		1			1
Shepherds and others in the care of Sheep		1			1
Gardeners, Stockmen and Persons employed in Agriculture		1			1
Domestic Servants					
All other Persons not included in the foregoing Classes		1			1
* TOTALS ..		4			5

Dated at *Santon* this *21st* day of *January* 1842.
Ralph Waage
 Signature of the Person appointed by Commissioners to take Population Account.

“THE CARLTON”

Peter MacFie © 2008

The first Europeans to see Carlton River were members of the Baudin expedition of 1802 who named it River Brue. The name ‘Carlton’ was given by a whaler who visited the Derwent River in 1806, fishing in Frederick Henry Bay for 3 months that year.¹ After British settlement in 1803, “The Carlton,” as it was always referred to, was settled by 1820, with early settlers being McGinnis, Joseph, Quinton and Steele. An intended township for 3,000 was to be established on land allocated to Lt Steele in 1831. This is visible in a map of the period. According to Ian Terry, this was on the corner of Carlton River and Primrose Sands Roads. However, following the Black Line, when Lt Gov Arthur camped on the site in 1830, this original proposal was rejected in favour of a site on the river estuary opposite Steeles Island. The Carlton independent church, school, Watch House and Post Office were established to the east of the river.² A military detachment must have been located there also, as in 1832, Pte Henry Griffiths, 63rd Regt, aged 40, of the Carlton, is buried at Richmond, St Luke’s Cemetery. With the opening of Port Arthur Penal Station in 1830 – and the 1840s probation stations - East Bay Neck and Carlton prospered, due to the official traffic, in the form of officers from the site travelling the area along the Connolly’s Marsh road, and unofficial traffic, in the form of escaped prisoners, who raided properties in the area.

Carlton Roads & Community. The coast road thru Connolly’s Marsh and Carlton to the Lower Ferry on Pittwater meant the route was well used in the first half of the 1800s. An indication of its prominence was the erection of a school, church and Watch House at Carlton.

Early Land Grants. These included major land holders, such as Lt Joseph Steele who grant covered land on the mouth of the Carlton River including Steele’s Island. Nearby were holdings of Dodge, Morris, Riley, Thorne and McGinnis.

VIPs at the Carlton. The route thru Carlton to the Lower Ferry resulted in staff from Port Arthur Settlement passing along the road. The diary of Commandant O’Hara Booth refers several times to enjoy the hospitality at Steele’s.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS

Carlton School. The first school opened in 1831, although a schoolhouse was not built until 1837, and was situated behind to the Congregational Church.³ One of the first teachers was Henry Kennedy. The school closed in 1935. (demolished)

Carlton Watch House. Carlton had a magistrate, usually Lt Steele, who heard cases in the local Watch House, erected in 1831.⁴ The structure as used for surveillance of possible Port Arthur escapees – and locals. A plan of the building shows ‘the magistrates room.’ The

¹ Woods Almanac 1830; Nicholson, Vol. 1, p18.

² Terry, Ian Sorell Heritage Study Vol 1, 2002, p 59.

³ Terry, p. 79.

⁴ Terry, p. 86.

facility was still in operation in 1855, as a drunken brawl broke out at Carlton Watch House between Thomas Trail, free aged 19, and others. He was charged with £50 & costs.⁵

Post Office. The surviving rendered slab building was probably built by Ralph Dodge in 1842, although a postal service may have preceded this. The service to Carlton operated until 1949.⁶ Dodge had the postal contract, but appears to have employed messengers, rather than carry the mail himself.

Ralph Dodge snr also operated the Richmond to Port Arthur mail contract. In 1844, Dodge was assigned James Bang, transported per *Isabella Watson*, for 2 months.⁷ However, Dodge appears to have employed a mailman, as the following incident of June 1847 reveals:

Henry Crane per *Moffatt* (3) 10 years, assigned to Ralph Dodge. Charged with Disobedience of Orders.

Dodge. Prisoner is a Passholder in my service, and is employed in conveying the mail from Richmond to Port Arthur. On Sunday morning last I ordered the postman to take some letters to Eagle Hawk Neck which he refused to do. Discharged.⁸

In February 1844, John Teare, postman from Richmond to Eagle Hawk Neck, was robbed by 4 men on Connolly's Marsh road after leaving Carlton, with 2 mailbags, 1 sealed the other open. The robbery occurred between the Carlton & Mr Barkers Farm one of the men tall and had yellow trousers on.⁹

Mail Deliveries. Mail was delivered by horse & cart from Forcett. Before WWII, mail carriers included Mick Huett; others were Bill Joseph and Gwen Dawn.

19th C Post Masters. 1888 William Morriss.

20th C Post Masters. These included Mr Doddridge in the 1940s and Ken Nichols, known as 'Old Nick.' Theo Casimaty recalled that A Mr Thorne lived opposite the Post Office on a farm known as Thorne's, and rowed across the Carlton River to collect goods and his mail.¹⁰

Later Occupants. A Mr Steele is reported to have lived there in the 1950s.

A Semaphore System?

The semaphore system of signalling installed by Commandant O'Hara Booth on Tasman Peninsula, is known to have extend to East Bay Neck (later Dunalley). Here a guard line and dogs were established to try to prevent escapes crossing the isthmus, and a semaphore was located on top of Jimmy's Hill, with a small one at the guard line. This could signal to Mt Communication nr the Coal Mines on Tasman Peninsula. Whether the semaphore system

⁵ LC 484/3, 8/9/1855.

⁶ Terry, p 27. R

⁷ *Hobart Town Gazette*, 24 December 1844.

⁸ LC 484/1, 29/6/1847; in MacFie, P H A History of Pittwater, 2009. To be published.

⁹ LC 440/1, 2/2/1844.

¹⁰ Casimaty, Theo Carlton Historic Notes, 2003.

extended further north from East Bay Neck is unknown. However, in the 1850s, when a flood of escapees from the Tasman Peninsula occurred, residents, including the McGinnisses, petitioned for the re-establishment of the system to give locals advanced warning. In December 1852, two bushrangers visited Garland's and stole a £120. In another case in July 1851, David Robinson per *Georgiana 2*, 15 years age 37 attached to Port Arthur Station, was charged with:

Absconding from the Eagle Hawk Neck and remaining illegally at large until apprehended at the Carlton. On 25th instant. Also charged with larceny at Lagoon Bay ins stealing a blue shirt of the value of one shilling, property of James Jones. 18 months hard labour Out of Chains.¹¹

Carlton River Crossing. Before the current bridge site was erected, a ford crossed the river upstream from the bridge. At low tide, a crossing could also be made at Steele's Island.

Fulham Police Station. Other records indicate that a party of constables was based at Fulham homestead.

John Franklin Paddock. This name is given to a hill on the rise of Steele's Sugarloaf on Sugarloaf Road. This is based on an unsubstantiated story that the former Lt governor and his party camped there enroute to Port Arthur. An unexplained sandstone ruin caps this rise.

INDUSTRIES

Farming. Early farms appear to have relied on sheep, potatoes and wheat. In the 1819 muster, Carlton settlers Hugh McGinnis is listed as having a grant of 60 acres, with 35 in wheat, 3 in barley- presumably for brewing beer- and one in potatoes. He also had one horse, 20 cattle and 670 sheep. Bernard Quinton had 30 acres in wheat, with 18 cattle and 250 sheep.

Oyster Gathering. The Carlton River mouth had extensive oyster beds from ancient times, and must have provided a convivial resource for the local aboriginal bands. The gathering of oysters by settlers was also a local industry. The oyster gatherers were obviously a law unto themselves. In June 1846, A Farange of the Lower Ferry, complained of wheat stolen from the beach 'two or three nights (ago)... this was 'a mile from anybody.' The informant, Mr Farange had 'no doubt it went to Town by some of the Oyster Boats.'¹²

Lime Burning. The vast banks of oyster shells provided immediate supply of material to convert to limestone, by burning them in pits.

McGinnis's Carlton Inn & Store

Hugh & John McGinnis owned and were licensees for many years of the Carlton Inn. Hugh was there in 1843 and operated until 1855 at least. John ran a store, as in 1851,

¹¹ LC484/2, 14/11/1851.

¹² Richmond Police Office, 1832 ff, 18/4/1846.

John McGinnis Free by Servitude, aged 52, charged with drunkenness, pleaded guilty and sentenced to four hours in the stocks in Sorell ?¹³

Daily Life at the Carlton Inn. Evidence recorded in the Sorell Lower Court records, over given cases of conflict at the Inn, reveal the day-to-day operation of the *Carlton Inn*. In April 1841, Constables John Kearns *per Samuel Boddington*, 7 years, Ticket of Leave, aged 35 R & W, and Thomas Evans *per Nile*, 10 years Ticket of Leave aged 25, R & W- were charged with:

maliciously and groundlessly charging Mrs Hannah Cooper with the commission of a felony, Constable Evan for putting Mr William Cooper in bodily fear of his bayonet. A dispute over the disappearance of a leg of mutton, escalated into scenes of blame and counter blame. Evans was drunk when he threatened Cooper with the bayonet, and landlord McGinnis and the other constable took the weapon from him. John McGinnis explained in more detail:

I am a publican residing at the Carlton. Constables were at my house ... in consequence of some mutton belonging to Mr Thorne having been taken from the Tap Room. Mrs McGinnis came and told me they accused me of taking the mutton away. The constable told me that a woman had come down there. Mr McGinnis snr told me that the woman was Mrs Cooper. The constable did not say that she took the mutton... Case remanded.¹⁴)

A couple who created havoc at the Carlton Inn was George and Grace Shillingshaw/Shillinghall. Scottish born, Grace was transported as Grace Templeton (ux Gluskie) on the *Hector* in 1835. She was tried in Dumfries for 'theft from the person' at her Native Place, Douglas. Grace had a history of drunkenness, and had been 'on the town' for 3 years. In Sorell, she was assigned to her husband to-be, George Shillinghall, (mis-transcribed in court records as 'Shilligshaw,') who had been transported *per Manlius* in 1837.¹⁵

Grace was charged her with several offences relating to drunkenness in the Sorell - Lower Ferry area.¹⁶ On New Years Eve, 1851, Grace, aged 33, was charged by Const Henry Kennedy with drunkenness at Carlton. Kennedy, stationed at the Carlton, claimed she was in a 'disgraceful state, and broke some of Mr McGinnis windows. 'I requested her husband to take her home... the language she used was most disgusting... I took her into custody for being drunk. Fined 5 shillings.

A more serious case involving Sarah, the 15 year old daughter of publican John McGinnis, gives an insight into the everyday workings of a family kitchen which also served the inn. In

¹³ LC 484 /2

¹⁴ LC 484/2, 7/4/1851.

¹⁵ Con 52/1.

¹⁶ Con 40/1/9.

May 1852. Thomas Goodliffe, Free by Servitude, age 31, charged with assaulting Sarah McGinnis, daughter of publican at the Carlton.¹⁷

The evidence of Sarah McGinnis sets the scene:

Sarah McGinnis. I am the daughter of John McGinnis and reside at the Carlton. I am 15 years old. On the 30th last the defendant was in my father's service. In the evening I went into the kitchen to put a batch of bread in the oven. The defendant was sitting on a form in the kitchen and making use of bad language to a woman named Page and my little brother. I ordered him several times out of the kitchen and on doing so I passed my hand several times over his face... he immediately kicked me on the thigh... there was no-one else in the house but Mrs Page, my brother and myself. I did not put my hand very close to his face.. he did not make use of any bad expression to me when he kicked me...

Shillingshaw brought you into the tap room that morning a little before 12 o'clock. I believe you were drinking all afternoon. You came and sat in the kitchen You made use of language improper for any female to hear. When you put up your foot and pushed me you did not tell me to go away- I went and told my father.

Witness and servant, Sarah Page, then spoke, couching her language so as not to incriminate the accused completely:

I reside at the Carlton. I recollect on the 30th last the defendant being there. We were in the kitchen together. Mr Joseph (McGinnis) and Mr McGinnis were there. I recollect Miss McGinnis bringing some bread in to put in the oven. The defendant was rather intoxicated. When the defendant came into the kitchen, Miss McGinnis and myself were in conversation together. Miss McGinnis said something to him and waved her hand backwards and forwards in his face. The defendant then lifted up his foot and kicked her on the thigh. She ordered him out. The defendant made use of the expression ' go out of this.' (sic) The defendant was making use of bad language but not to Miss McGinnis.

Joseph McGinnis, Sarah's younger brother then spoke:

I am the brother of Miss McGinnis. I was in the kitchen when you came in. You were rather intoxicated. Before you kicked Sarah you were making use of bad language- you were sitting the time you kicked my sister.

Goodliffe also charged with a breach of peace by breaking his agreement with McGinnis:

John McGinnis. I hired with the defendant for 12 months as a general farm servant On Sunday the 2nd of May he left my service without permission. I saw him going up the hill toward the chappel. (sic) I obtained a warrant...

Sarah McGinnis endorsed her father's agreement with the accused:

¹⁷ LC484/9, 1852.

I recollect my father making an agreement with the defendant. I think it was on the first of January. I entered it in the book being ordered to so by my father. I recollect that on the settlement that he the defendant said that he would stop and that he owed my father a balance.¹⁸

Goodliffe was fined 5 shillings and costs; discharged on the second charge.

Treatment of Assigned servants. Accommodation given to emancipists is born out by the following case of 1855. Henry Carter per *Aboulia*, 10 years, aged 30, a hired servant of H McGinnis at Carlton. Henry explained that he lived in stable about 40 yards from house. He was charged with having 'Entered bedroom of (unnamed) females servant,' who then 'dobbd him in,' after he fell out her window with only his shirt on.¹⁹

Other Farms

Carlton House. Occupied by Mr Amos during WWII, who had Italian labourers working for him.

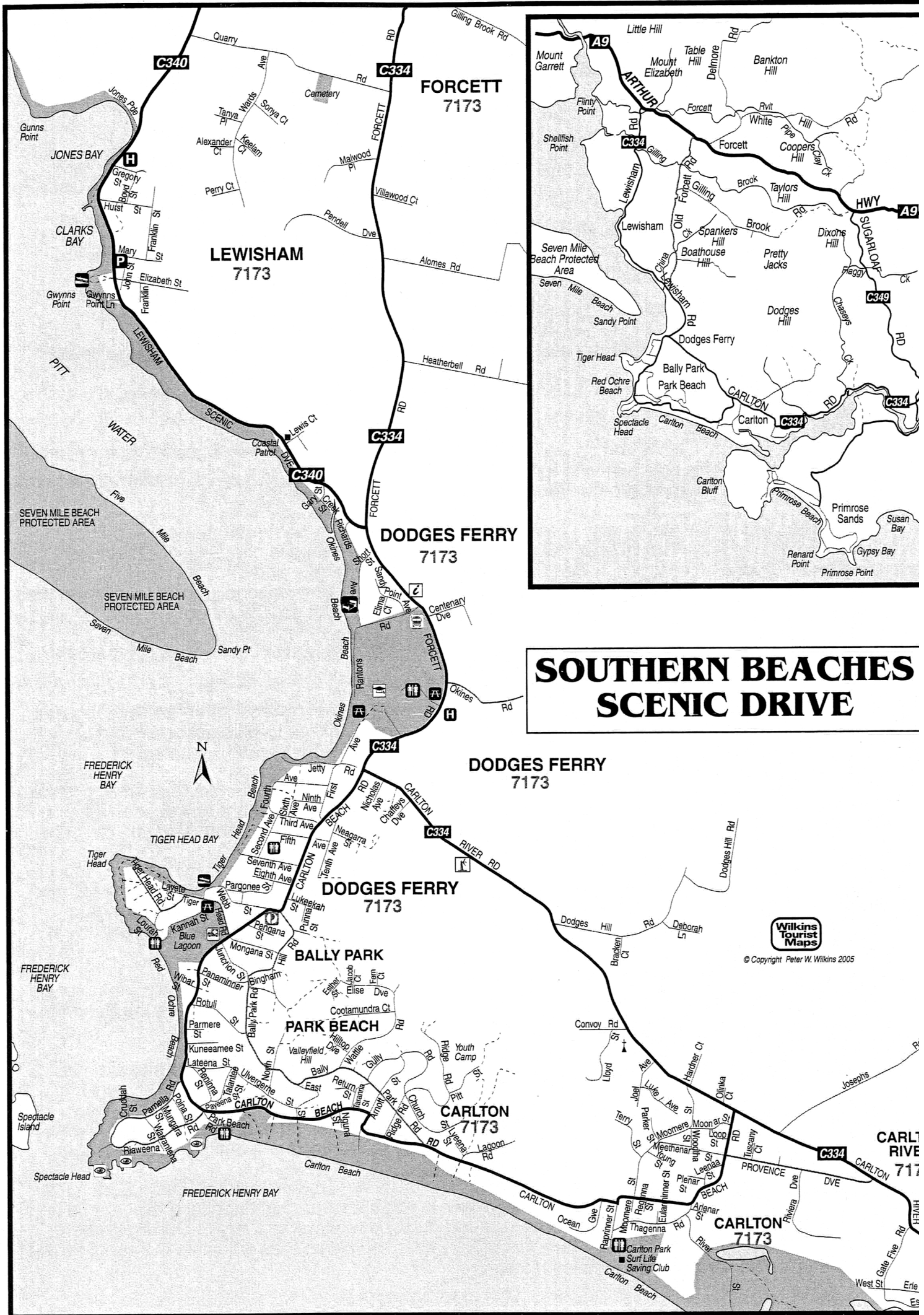
Riverside. Owned by Lawrences 2008.

Decline of Carlton. With the abandonment of Port Arthur in 1877, the opening of the Sorell Causeway in 1874, plus the arrival of telegraphic service a Sorell in 1876, Carlton became a backwater. In addition, a new overland road linked Sorell with the growing Bream Creek/Dunalley area in 1875, by-passing Connolly's Marsh and Carlton.²⁰

¹⁸ LC 484/2, 10/5/1852.

¹⁹ LC484/3, 13/2/55.

²⁰ Terry, p. 39.



SOUTHERN BEACHES SCENIC DRIVE



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