

# **Chapter 3**

## **Houses & Camps**

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Summary

Summary

Fern Glen or “The Basin Bower” was a Swiss-like chalet built by John M. Bruce in 1889 on the same site as Doongalla. It was destroyed by a flood in 1891.

Doongalla, built by Sir Matthew Davies in 1892, was the most lavish house ever built in The Basin and would have cost millions of dollars at today’s prices. It was destroyed by fire in 1932.

Ferndale, built by James and Emily Griffiths in 1888, was a large Swiss style house with extensive gardens and farm areas. The property supported a large work force for many years. The house was destroyed by bushfire in 1962.

Millers Homestead, built by John James Miller in 1888, is a good example of the Victorian-style houses built in the boom era of the 1880’s. Millers Homestead was acquired by the City of Knox in the 1970’s and has been partially restored.

Como was William and Kate Chandlers second home constructed in 1878. It was demolished in the 1960’s to make way for another house.

Glen Elbourne, situated on the Basin-Olinda Road near Hazel Dell, was well known for its three hectares of botanic gardens. In the 1930’s, the property won the “*best garden in the mountain district*” for three years in succession.

Cleve House, later known as “Clevedon”, was built in 1893 by Percivil Chandler for his

uncle Robert Charles Chandler on 35 acres of land bordering Mountain Highway. It later became a guest house and then a camp. The main house was destroyed by fire in 1972.

Hazel Dell, on The Basin-Olinda Road, was built in the 1880’s by T. W. Hodgson and Sutherland for use as a homestead. It later became a guest house and then a camp. The camp stopped running in 1998.

Located in Mountain Highway on land above the stone wall (before the last bus stop), Boyup was a popular guest house in the 1920’s.

The building used by the Seventh Day Adventist Youth Club, on The Basin-Olinda road, was conceived by H. J. Meyers and built in 1937. It closed in 1999 and purchased by the Romanian Seventh Day Adventist Church.

Ferndale Camp, situated midway along Ferndale Road, operated for about 30 years before closing in 1992. The buildings were removed and the land returned to the National Park.

Beauty of The Basin

When The Basin celebrated its Centenary in 1967, the town came alive with amazing exhibitions of a remarkable variety of skills and interests - a close knit community with an extraordinary village quality where everyone knew one another. The Basin Progress Hall was the hub, with the Post Office and shops gathered around it. It remains so today. The same roadside oak trees shelter a delightful park.

The beautiful view across the Salvation Army’s farm flats remains unspoilt. The deep hollow which gave The Basin its name sweeps uphill to the Mt. Dandenong TV towers, silhouetted against the sky. At all times of the day the changing angle of the sun beautifies this tranquil scene. The ancient oak on the creek side grows serenely on, sheltering the occasional luncheon or a painter with his easel.

Perhaps it is the roundabout, in bringing greater safety to the junction of the three roads, that makes the greatest visual change from the old times, introducing a feature of orderly supervision.

Even the waters of the Hughes Creek which meanders through the Army flats have been gently curbed to be most beautifully restrained at the retarding basin in Liverpool Road. The delightful park-like surrounds to this water bird haven are a pride and inspiration to all residents and visitors, providing vistas of water, treed meadows, and the Dandenong Ranges, clothed in their natural unbroken forest overlooking this wonderful foothills haven.

The population has grown considerably over the last quarter of a century, but the new homes have been absorbed into the leafy roads with little devastation of the foothills aspect.

May The Basin always retain this peacefulness, and resist the urban sprawl upon its doorstep

Edna Chandler.

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### Introduction

The unique location of The Basin inspired the building of many luxurious homes and bush based camps. Most of the homes have been destroyed by fire and all the camps have closed.

### Millers Homestead

Millers Homestead is located on the corner of Melrose Court and Dorriggo Drive, Boronia.

Millers Homestead was built in 1888 as the second residence of Mr. James John Miller and his family. The stuccoed dwelling, which replaced an 1870's house, is believed to have been designed by English architect Thomas Hunter. Miller lived there until about 1893.

Miller's first home "Bayswater House" was built close to the present Batterham Reserve. This house, which gave Bayswater township its name, had a garden of walnut, chestnut, cherry, peach, fig, plum, filbert, apple and pear trees.

The homestead was also known as "Melrose House" by H. Yeardon who first used this name when he lived there in 1908. He used it in a letter to the Board of Education regarding a new fence at The Basin Primary School. He was a member of the school Board of Advice for many years.

Around 1900, it was known as "Fern Glen Farm". Liverpool Road was previously known as Fern Glen Road and Millers property fronted this road.

A tourist guide described Miller's Homestead thus:

*"Of the house itself it may be truly said to be quite up to the requirements of anyone possessing a cultivated taste for beauty, convenience, snugness and true sanitary conditions. It is of brick, of chaste design, and replete with every appliance which in these times is deemed essential to health, and that ample means can supply. The house, situated on rising land, commands a magnificent view of surrounding lands and hills".*

The homestead is a good example of the Victorian-style houses built in the boom era of the 1880's. The house has high ceilings and simple lines with a stately elegance about it. A central passageway runs the length of the house from front to back, with all rooms feeding off the passageway. The front rooms are symmetrical about the passageway and have doors opening outside onto a veranda that wraps around the front half of the building. An underground wine cellar is loc-

ated at the rear of the house. Some windows have original stained glass, thought to have been brought out from England. Original period chandeliers are located in some rooms. The original windmill and well stands on the front lawn but the well has been covered for safety reasons with a pond constructed over the top of the well.

The original Homestead garden was supposedly inspired by Baron Von Mueller, a botanical researcher and visitor to The Basin in the 1860's.

Racehorse owner, horse breeder and author of "Miller's Racing Guide", Miller migrated to Australia in the late 1840's. He first purchased land in The Basin in 1872 and progressively acquired about a thousand acres of land around The Basin.

Together with his homestead, Miller established a stud farm with full size training and trotting tracks; the latter referred to in later years as "The Trotto", the remains of which have been wiped out by residential development in the Batterham Reserve area. The Millers Racing Guide says:

*"There are two training areas, one a cleared space about eleven acres laid with English grass. The track is 40 feet wide, being of sandy loam without a pebble or least unevenness. The second track is for galloping, one and a half chains wide, well ploughed, sown and drained. The fame of Mr. Miller's Stable and the facilities he has for the exhibition of the qualities of his animals, will attract many hundreds daily to the training grounds".*

The farm land was also reputed to be of the most modern standards with extensive underground drainage, complete fencing and annual fertilisation of land to produce high quality yields.

Miller operated a sweepstakes which was one of his main sources of income. In the 1890's the Government made it illegal to operate sweepstakes as a private enterprise. He continued to operate the sweepstakes, was raided many times by police, but was rarely caught. Eventually, he was caught, lost his business and was forced to sell his property in 1897 due to financial losses.

The Salvation Army leased the house and property from 1898 to 1906 calling it "Millers Estate". It was used as a boys home.

Miller was involved in a number of grandiose

schemes including a proposed tramway from Bayswater station past The Basin and terminating in the forest below Sassafras. He was also involved in the “Bayswater Hills Estate Company” that offered large plots of land near Bayswater including a proposal to extend the train line to the land. None of these schemes eventuated and land associated with the “Bayswater Hills Estate” sold poorly and was auctioned a number of times. At one stage Miller owned Hazel Dell and he tried to sell this in 1890.

Since then Millers Homestead has been occupied by a series of owners and the land gradually reduced in size. Previous owners have included Mr. Yeadon, a local Councillor who took up residence in the early years of this century, Mr. Henderson, John Lyons and Mr. Finger.

John James Miller died in December 1922 at the age of 91.

The property was classified by the National Trust in 1968.

In the late 1970's Millers Homestead was acquired by the City of Knox in a derelict state and has since been partly restored to its original state. The gardens have been carefully restored with a camellia walk as an integral part. The gardens are a popular place for wedding ceremonies.

### Fern Glen

John Munro Bruce arrived in Australia in 1858 and within two decades had established himself as a resident partner in the softgoods firm Pater-son, Laing & Bruce. By 1885 the firm was well established and his brother, George Williamson Bruce was admitted as a partner.

Bruce was very active in business, political and international affairs often travelling between Australia and Britain.

He married Mary Ann Henderson in 1872 and they had one daughter and four sons, one of whom, Stanley Melbourne, became prime minis-



*Fern Glen or The Basin Bower c1890. This photo shows only part of the house because tourist guides of the time described a much larger building.*

*Photo courtesy Knox Historical Society*

ter of Australia.

John Bruce was the first owner of Crown Allotment 56 on the Western slopes of Mount Dandenong and granted title in 1889. George was granted title to Crown Allotments 52 and 55 in 1889.

John and his brother erected a large and elaborate Swiss like chalet on his property which he called Fern Glen. A tourist guide in the 1880's had a long, detailed, elaborate and enthusiastic description of the "Mountain Home of Messrs J Bruce" with statements such as

*"The pretty Swiss-like chalet stands well above the mountain runnel which sparkles and leaps over the stones and logs that form its bed."*

*"The house combines all the requirements of a pleasant and even luxurious home. It is roomy and airy for summer temperatures, yet snug and comfortable for chilly winter, and has a verandah which at any time can be converted into a ball-room or a dining or smoking hall for a hundred guests".*

The garden apparently matched the house having trees, shrubs and flowers of many and exotic kinds. There was an orchard embracing apples, pears, plums, peaches, walnuts and chestnuts. A pathway led to Mt. Dandenong with occasional rustic seats, steps cut in logs and small bridges.

It is recorded that the house was built in 1888 but there must have been occupation much earlier than this because the property had an established

orchard.

In 1891, Sir Matthew Davies purchased the property. It has been reported that the chalet was destroyed by a bushfire in 1891 but no record can be found of this. However, there is a record of a severe flood which affected Melbourne and surrounding districts at this time. According to the newspaper extract below, the chalet, which straddled the creek, was severely damaged when very heavy rain caused the creek to flood.

*"The Flood"*

*"At Ferntree Gully a land slip occurred at the country seat of Sir Matthew Davies bringing down rocks, large trees, bathroom & outhouses, damages about 600 pounds. Cr. Chandler of Little The Basin, lost 3000 Camellia trees, 60 varieties of hyacinths, and other valuable plants, the nursery being completely ruined, estimated loss 200 pounds. Cr. J. T. Dobson's nursery sustained a very heavy loss of peach and other fruit trees, damage 200 pounds."*

(Oakleigh & Ferntree Gully Times Sat, 18<sup>th</sup> July, 1891).

Other newspaper reports also indicated heavy rain in the district at the time.

John Munro Bruce died of diabetes in Paris in 1901.

## Doongalla

The Doongalla Forest Reserve of 279ha on the western face of Mt. Dandenong was once the site of a magnificent mansion called Doongalla. The Forest Reserve consists of properties originally selected between 1885 and 1893 by Samuel Collier, J. Barnes, J. Jackson and the Bruce Brothers. The combined properties extended from an elevation of 152m to the top of the second highest peak, Mt Corhanwarrabul, also known as Burkes Lookout (previously Barnes Lookout), elevation 268m.

In 1889, the Bruce brothers purchased Collier's property and erected a Swiss-like chalet. In 1891 the prominent lawyer, investor, M.P. and land boomer, Sir Matthew Davies, purchased the chalet and all the property from Bruce and Barnes.

The chalet was badly damaged in 1891 when very heavy rain caused the creek to flood. It is thought that the damage to the chalet was so

### The Apology

In 1934 a section of Doongalla was sold to the Smith Brothers and they installed a mill and logged the area. The logging was done under strict supervision of the Forest Commission.

Long after the Smith Brothers had left and Doongalla was under control of the Forest Commission, a pamphlet was produced about Doongalla Reserve. It stated that *"During their period of ownership the Smith Brothers destroyed much of the natural beauty by putting in timber tracks, breaking fences and snigging with bullock teams down the graded tracks. Vandalism was also rife during this period and many of the garden shrubs and household effects disappeared"*. Much of this was untrue and when Roy Smith discovered what had been written he approached the Forest Commission demanding an apology and withdrawal of the incorrect information. The Forest Commission agreed that certain phrases in the pamphlet did convey the wrong impression and the pamphlet was withdrawn and all copies destroyed.

severe that Davies never rebuilt it and instead demolished the remainder of the building (see the newspaper report of the flood on page 5).

In 1892, Davies erected a mansion reputed to have cost 35,000 pounds. He named it "Invermay". Materials were carted by a tramway constructed to the site along Kerrs Lane (now Pig Lane). The main motive power being horses and bullocks. The house was located to the left of the original chalet so as not to be affected by any future floods.

The rooms of the house were organised around a central courtyard with the main rooms at the front, bedrooms on the wings, and kitchen, storeroom, servant's quarters and stables at the rear. Its 32 rooms (including cellars, servants quarters and stables) were magnificent in every way. Exposed Oregon beams protruded beneath the ceilings and rooms were panelled with polished Kauri, silky oak and Blackwood, or in the case of one room, imported French tiles screwed onto Oregon boards. The main building was clad in some of the finest made machine-made bricks from Croydon. The roof of the main building was in slate. This fabulous house had enormous cellars, including underground butcher's facilities and a large bell to summon workers. A swimming pool was constructed and fed from the creek that passed near the house.

It was during this era that the wealthy sometimes gathered at Doongalla for a weekend - food was in abundance and wine flowed. So merry did the parties sometimes become, that the participants occasionally went for a moon-light swim in the swimming pool. But generally it was the house party that people enjoyed. A highlight of many of these parties was the recitations by Harry Chandler, whose services were called for at many functions throughout the hills.

Matthew Davies was a land developer and financier. He built a network of over 30 companies involved in borrowing money from the public to finance land deals. Some of these companies would buy and sell land several times between each other, vastly inflating the price and making large profits on paper without any money being paid out. They could declare large dividends and pay large directors salaries and yet have no tangible assets.

He was knighted for a donation of £10,000

to a notable charity, but whose money he donated is not known. He was also involved many projects to change the face of Melbourne such as the now dismantled Outer Circle Railway line.

After the collapse of the land boom in 1894, Sir Matthew Davies was declared bankrupt and forced to surrender the house to the Bank of New South Wales to which it was mortgaged. His debts totalled £250,000 as well as many secondary debts. The bank installed a caretaker to tend the property.

The property remained idle for some time until purchased in 1908 by Miss Helen Simson of Toorak to be used as her country residence. She renamed the property "Doongalla" and hired the Box family to tend the property.

Doongalla is a contraction of the Aboriginal term "Doutta Galla" which means "Place of Peace". This name (or Dutigalla) was the name of the wife of Jika Jika, who was John Batman's native servant. In the Reporter (Box Hill) newspaper dated 28th June 1912, an advertisement for the sale of the Bonnie Doon property adjacent to Doongalla referred to Miss Simson's property as "Doutta Galla" (see newspaper reference on page 19).

In 1909, she made substantial improvements to the property including fencing the house and grounds, building new servants quarters, coachmen quarters, and carrying out extensive planting of rhododendrons, camellias and a magnificent lily garden near the house. Alterations were made to the upstairs section of the house and an electric light plant was installed. She had tracks constructed through the property. Terraces were built in the front of the house so that guests could be entertained out doors on a sunny day. A new water scheme served the house and grounds. She contracted Mr. Yeadon, who owned land near The Basin Primary School, to construct the existing road into Doongalla.

A large staff of men were employed at 8 shillings per day when 5 shillings a day was the going rate. This attracted men from as far away as Monbulk, many walking to and from work each day. Others camping and returning home at weekends.

Miss Simson was generous and community minded. As reported in The Reporter (Box Hill) newspaper she:



## Doongalla

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- Made an offer to the local Shire to pay part of the cost of metallising a government road near her property.
- Published a letter of thanks and offered payment to those people who helped protect her property from a bushfire in 1912.
- Made various donations to community projects.

When Miss Simson died in 1912, the property passed to her fifteen year old niece Miss McKinnon. Miss McKinnon's father was the prominent racing man, L. K. S. McKinnon. who acted as trustee. When she died in 1922, the property was bought by a local estate agent T. M. Burke.

During Burke's ownership, a caretaker was installed and the property used for both family visits and as a rest home for Catholic Priests. Burke also had plans to build a golf course on the property. A tender for "Grubbing and Clearing" for a golf course was advertised in The Argus in

November 1922.

In 1927, Burke donated the lookout area to the Government, requesting that the name be changed to Burke's Lookout.

In January 1932, a bushfire swept towards the house from the North-west. Burke's daughter, Mrs J. Byrne, was staying at Doongalla with her children, relatives and a friend. Many local residents, including Fergus Chandler and the some of the Dobson family were waiting at Doongalla anticipating the coming bushfire and making preparations to protect the house. The property had a reticulated water supply and was well cleared. Fergus Chandler recalled commenting to another that "the house would be safe".

The bushfire was still some distance away when suddenly the top of the house erupted into flames, presumably from a cinder blown from the fire. Those in attendance fed hoses up the stairs but the hoses were not long enough to reach the source of the flames. It was realised that the house could not be saved, so furniture and carpets



*Invermay c1900. Later renamed Doongalla  
Photo courtesy Knox Historical Society*



were quickly removed from the house and placed on the large grass area in front of the house. The fire quickly took hold. Everyone was forced to flee the house and watch as burnt to the ground. All that remained were the servant's quarters, and 13 chimneys.

Shortly after, the bushfire passed through and Mrs Byrne, her children and the visitors were protected by sheltering under a bridge in a nearby creek.

Fergus Chandler encountered a gathering of newspaper reporters at the Doongalla main gate as he was leaving. He recalled reciting his version of the burning of Doongalla, but this was never reported in the press.

Wally Goodwin was only ten years old when he watched Doongalla burn from near his parents property near the corner of Millers Road and Mountain Highway. In those days, the mansion could be clearly seen nestling on the hillside. He recalled that although the bushfire that swept in from the North west had not yet reached the house, the house ignited, presumably from a cinder blown from the fire.

Frank Grumont was only sixteen when the bushfire threatened Doongalla. Bert Chandler drove Frank, his brother George, and others in his Morris Commercial truck to help fight the fire using knapsacks with water containers and hand pumps attached to them. The fire was caused by a birds nest in a vent and a spark set the house alight. It was well over thirty-eight degrees that day and the owner brought them beer that had been chilled in a creek nearby.

While the property remained in Mr. Burke's name, the house was never rebuilt.

Around 1934, a large area of land fronting Ridge Road and around Burke's Lookout was subdivided and sold as the "Doongalla Estate Mount Dandenong" with about 50 properties for sale.

The remaining core of 279 hectares was sold to four Smith brothers in 1935 for 2,000 pounds. They built a saw mill initially sited behind the

ruined house and over the years logged much of the unburnt mountain ash and messmate which remained on the upper sections of the property. The timber was logged under strict supervision of the Forest Commission. Once the best timber on the upper ground had been cut, the mill was moved to the north side of the Dandenong Creek.

The property was sold again in 1940 to Mabel Annie Elijah. The servant's quarters were renovated and the property let to a man called Clay.

In the late 1940's and early 1950's there was an extensive campaign led by Sir Gilbert Chandler to "Save the Dandenongs" and as a response to a local campaign the State Government bought the property for 8,000 pounds. Since then it has been administered as a Forest Park.

The stables were demolished in the late 1950's as they had become unsafe. The only other building remaining is the servants quarters and these serve as a residence for the park warden.

The site on which the main building stood is now lawn area, equipped with picnic facilities. This area is used for all types of functions, including wedding receptions (my daughter had her wedding there). The bases of the old chimneys act as enlarged flower boxes. The steps leading down from this area give access to the several large terraces which Miss Simson had constructed. The old stable site forms a second picnic area.

Many attractive walks lead from the two picnic areas following the tracks constructed by Miss Simson. Each track bears a name which has an historical association. "Collier Walk" commemorates one of the earliest settlers. "Chandler Walk" commemorates Sir Gilbert Chandler who led the campaign to buy back the land. "Lawrence Walk" commemorates a Chairman of the Forest Commission.

## Ferndale

Ferndale was built by James Griffiths of Griffiths

### Local Doctor

They were pretty tough in the old days. For instance a gardener at Doongalla wrote in his diary that he was so worried about some stomach pains that he decided he ought to visit a doctor and promptly walked to Lilydale! The gardener was John Flenjar who lived in Upwey.

### Forgotten Roast

When Doongalla was burnt to the ground in 1932, it seemed that little of any value would be left, but a patrolling fireman found looters at work very early the next morning. Just the same they didn't find the leg of lamb which had been put in the big wood fire stove, but forgotten in the heat of the moment. Next day the ash covered doors were opened to reveal a nicely done roast.

## Ferndale

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Tea fame. The tea in those days was known as Signal Brand.

In 1888, James Griffiths and his brother John purchased 184 acres of land near what is now Ferndale Road. The land was first selected by William Tyner in 1877 but he abandoned the selection and Griffiths may have taken control before being granted title.

It appears that Tyner may have called the simple timber cottage that he built on the property "Ferndale" and Griffiths kept the name. When Griffiths took over the property, he moved the cottage to a new site near the creek and for many years it served as the manager's residence.

In 1889, in front of the cottage, Griffiths constructed a magnificent three storey Swiss-style home which had 17 main rooms including 11 bedrooms. These were complemented by three bathrooms, three studies, numerous laundries, workrooms and maid's quarters.

Lighting for the house was initially kerosene lamps. The larger rooms had fixed lighting and other rooms had portable lights. Not long before his death, Griffiths had a generator installed with batteries in preparation for electric lighting.

The house was situated on the western face of the Dandenongs with the mountain as a background and commanded an excellent view overlooking the Dandenong valley and the eastern suburbs of Melbourne. Downhill from the main house were cottages for the labourers and farmhands who tended the animals, orchards and gardens.

The extensive gardens around the house included chrysanthemums, lawns and immaculate flower beds. The heavily ornamented entrance gates opened into a bluestone courtyard complete with fish pond and fountain.

One of the many special garden features were the chrysanthemums grown in a special area with a pipe framework to support a canvas cover which sheltered the blooms from adverse weather conditions. These blooms had been disbudded and tied to thin wire lines. These large round, almost perfect, flowers were the incurved varieties. At the time of blooming, on fine sunny days, the canvas cover would be drawn back to expose these magnificent blooms for all to see. Guests were amazed at the spectacle.

The property had varied agricultural interests.

There were vegetable patches, 2 acres of orchards with various fruits and berries (currants, raspberries, gooseberries and strawberries). There were 5 to 6 acres of cropping paddocks for the growing of horse feed and fodder for cows. Harvesting of fodder crops was by horse drawn reaper and binder. Tea was grown in the lower part of the main gardens for experimental purposes, but not on a large scale.

Stock on the property consisted of poultry, turkeys, cows, pigs, sheep, ponies for wagonettes and working horses for the farm. All confined stock was beautifully housed bedded and well fed. The stables had a drinking trough outside the door and a manger to every stall. Drinking troughs were supplied to every paddock and operated by ball stopcock. Feed and harness rooms were next door to the stables. Wagonettes and buggies were housed off the bluestone courtyard.

### Memories of Ferndale

Born in 1916, Frank Grumont was brought up in a little cottage on the Ferndale estate. His father Frank was one of the gardeners at Ferndale who had romantically eloped with Annie Jennings who was then "in service" at a farm in Werribee.

In the early 1920's, Frank and his siblings (Frances, Eunice and George) walked along muddy roads to The Basin Primary School. They stood and honoured the flag.

The days were hard and long at Ferndale. Horses were used for ploughing and transport including mail delivery until 1926 when cars delivered the mail.

Ferndale was self sufficient except for bread and sugar. The milk churn was hand turned to make butter and laundry was done in the washhouse, where a little wood stove heated the irons to press the linen. The brothers sometimes watched as the carcasses of pigs were scalded and the meat cured by smoking it. Men used scythes to cut the hay and a diesel generator kept down the temperature of the huge cool room where fruit, butter and milk were stored.

"We cycled to Ringwood for a haircut," Frank recalls. "And the nearest dentist was in Melbourne."

"Nights were very quiet. We had a crystal radio and the adults listened at times. We played "tip cat", marbles or played outside."

Tragedy befell the Grumont family in 1925 when Frank's father died in hospital. Mr Stephens of the Salvation Army broke the news to Annie in the middle of the night. There were only about five telephones in The Basin at the time, but Ferndale did not have one.

In 1925, when James and Emily Griffiths were killed in a level crossing accident in Bayswater, the Ferndale Estate was actioned and purchased by a Mr Gans. He employed Frank's mother as cook and housekeeper for a some years. Frank's sisters, Frances and Eunice, cooked and looked after Frank and his brother.

Milking cow stalls were off the courtyard and a small dairy was situated beside the creek. Bacon was smoked and cured in a caged room beneath the dairy.

Ferndale had a unique water reticulation system. Above "Griffiths Falls", the creek had been dammed with stone and a concrete retaining wall. The water was taken from low in the dam's wall and fed through a 6 inch steel pipe to just above the house where it was broken into smaller piping and used throughout the property.

Griffiths increased his holdings when he acquired an adjacent allotment of 169 acres which had first been selected by R. B. Dickinson in 1881. Dickinson built a homestead known as "Hilton" in the vicinity of the present day Ferny Creek. A later owner of the Dickinson allotment was the Melbourne merchant Sidney Myer who built a weekender and a private golf course.

During the time past World War I, the Salvation Army had a fine brass band. On Christmas eve, they would march up the Old Coach Road from the Army Home to Ferndale and assemble at the front entrance and play band-music and sing

carols. All local residents were invited and this was a highlight of Christmas eve.

In 1925, James and Emily Griffiths were killed at the Bayswater level crossing after a collision between their carriage and a steam train. At the time James was 75 and Emily was 83.

James Griffiths left a will that bequeathed his assets to Emily and in her will, she bequeathed her assets to her adopted family and John's children. Both had very modest private assets. Emily did not die until four days after the train collision and consequently two sets of death duties were payable on the estate. The next of kin could not afford to pay the death duties and the land and house had to be sold to pay duty on the large house and business.

James' brother, John, as executor, subdivided the property into 11 large lots and on 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 1925 the property was auctioned. The plan in the brochure produced shows the proposed new 1 in 20 road to Sassafras running through the subdivided lots along with other surveyed and proposed roads. The Hilton Estate, owned by S. B. Myer Esq, is shown adjacent to the Ferndale



*Ferndale Circa 1910.  
Photo courtesy Knox Historical Society*

## Ferndale

property

It was purchased by Daniel John Gans, Edith Lillian Gans and a Mr Stuart. The official owner being “Daniel. J. Gans” as recorded in The Argus newspaper below.

It is not known if the whole Estate was purchased or just the lot containing the Ferndale mansion.

On 19<sup>th</sup> November, 1927, the Ferndale Estate was offered for sale. A large area of land surrounding the house was portioned off and part of the rest of the property was subdivided into over 100 blocks of land.

Ferndale Estate was offered for sale or auction a number of times in the next 15 years. Chapter 2, Land and Roads, details the history of the Ferndale Estate.

The house was used in the late 1930’s and 1940’s as a guest house and was a favourite place for honeymooners.

In 1948, Leslie Rubinstein purchased Ferndale.

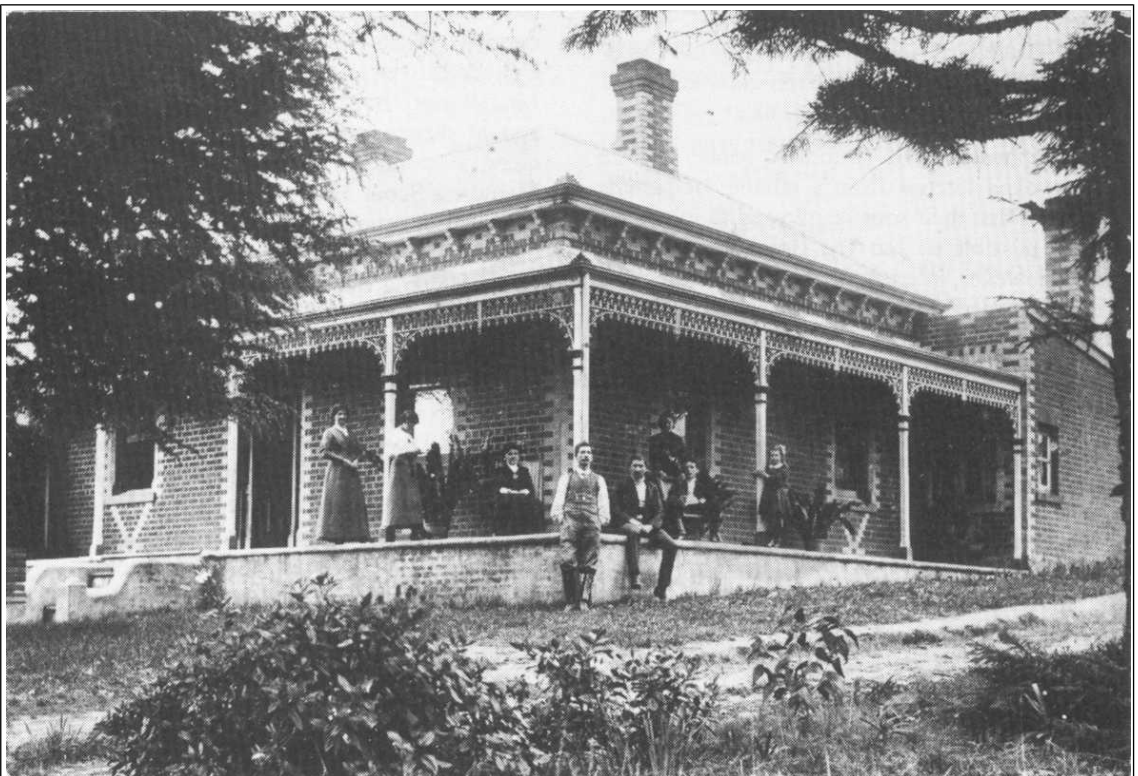
A Victorian Tourist Brochure of 1947 described the guest house thus:

*“Take your holidays at the prettiest place in the hills – all modern conveniences. Excellent accommodation and cooking. Wonderful garden. Delightful walks”.*

After the Second World War, Ferndale was used for a time as a migrant hostel for Dutch immigrants. Don Maguire, a Basin resident, recalled carting tons of potatoes up to Ferndale at that time. They seemed to be the resident’s staple diet. Don encouraged them to take on pumpkin, but apparently that was not a vegetable Dutch people ever used and all efforts failed miserably.

During the late 1950’s the mansion slipped into disrepair. Don Maguire recalled Jack Masters, who managed a small nursery on the property, calling him in to look at the interior, about 1960. Vandals had broken in and completely smashed the interior including the beautiful chandeliers.

The bushfires of 1962 completed the ruin of



*Como House. Second home of William Chandler. Circa 1913. This home as demolished and replaced with another building in the mid 1960’s.*

*Photo courtesy Fergus Chandler*

another of The Basin's historical buildings. Many older Basin residents interviewed in gathering information for this book recalled visiting the ruins of Ferndale after the fire and how they looked upon the ruins with sadness at the loss of this magnificent building.

After Ferndale was destroyed, an effort was made by The Basin Fire Brigade to utilise Ferndale's dam as a filling point for tankers. Ferntree Gully Council was approached but it would have been an expensive exercise and the matter was dropped.

## Como

Como was William and Kate Chandlers second home, constructed from bricks made on the property. Their property was originally known as "Fern Glen", but when George Bruce's house higher up the mountain was named "Fern Glen", William re-named his property "Como", after the famous Italian beauty spot, in order to avoid confusion. The brick house was first occupied in 1878.

Como was advertised for sale on 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 1925.

Como was demolished in the 1960's and replaced with another. At the time it was in poor condition.

When William brought his family, then consisting of a wife and three children, to live at The Basin in the season of 1873, they were at first accommodated in a weatherboard building (mentioned in his application) built on the creek flats, well in from the existing corner of The Basin-Olinda and Doongalla Roads.

The house was built from straight manna gums and messmate timber found on the property. The timber was pit-sawn, even to the weather boards, and had another refinement lacking in most other bush dwellings - galvanised iron roof instead of shingles. Arch Chandler was born in the original house in 1875, and was then thought to be the first white child born at The Basin. Legend has it that the large oak tree still standing in Doongalla Road was planted to mark the occasion. It was certainly planted at the time the family occupied the original home.

## Glen Elbourne

Situated on the Basin-Olinda Road near Hazel Dell, Glen Elbourne was once known as "The Bungalow". A 1924 map shows a track leading to a property marked "The Bungalow". On The Basin Primary School roll dated February 1921, there is a pupil listed as Thomas Simpson (No 159), whose address was "The Bungalow" and whose father was listed as a "Merchant". When electricity came to The Basin in 1939, one of the first to be connected was the Simpsons of "Glen Elbourne".

The property was built in the early 1900's and was well known for its three hectares of botanic gardens and two kilometres of pathways. In the 1930's, the property won the "best garden in the mountain district" for three years in succes-

### Fatal Crash Memories

June 1, 1952, is a date etched in the memory of Bayswater resident Dr Ian Falconer.

On that night a bus carrying teenagers returning from a youth camp at Clevedon was cut in half by a train at the Boronia railway crossing.

Nine people died, with many suffering serious injuries.

Dr Falconer, one of the local doctors called to the scene to help, recalled the incident last week.

Dr Falconer had only graduated two years before, spending some time in Queensland before opening his practice in the January of that year.

"I was at my parents' house in Bayswater when I got a call from the exchange saying that a train had hit a bus," he said.

After a quick call to the taxi service and a trip to his surgery for supplies, he arrived at the accident scene.

His first impressions of the night 49 years ago have now become a blur, merging to creating the one image that he carries with him forever.

"I have an overall picture of the scene. There wasn't much in the way of street lighting. The train was stationary, and the bus was pretty much in two halves," Dr Falconer said.

"It was dark. Cars had their headlights turned onto the area so we could see."

"I got straight to work. Somebody took me around to where there were injured people. Some people were dead. They had blankets over the top of them, and I pulled it up over their eyes."

Dr Falconer said time went by quickly as he tried to help as many of the injured as he could.

"It was one of those situations where you just acted. You did what you had to do," he said.

sion.

Over the years, various owners added to and improved the property. The main house is 32 squares with views of the city skyline and there is a second house of 12 squares.

The gardens included a bewildering variety of trees, two waterfalls, a gazebo, a trout pond and a bowling green.

Owners over the years have included Simpson, Wallis and the Perry family. The latter who held the property for 33 years when they sold it in 1983.

### Clevedon

"Cleve House" later known as "Clevedon", was built in 1893 by Percivil Chandler for his uncle Robert Charles Chandler on 35 acres of land bordering Mountain Highway. Robert Charles acquired the property from his brother William.

Percivil Chandler was well known as a builder and is also credited with building "Sherbrooke Lodge" near Kallista.

Robert Charles Chandler was a naturalist and devoted much of his time prospecting for gold. He is credited with discovering a gold reef at Reefton, near Warburton. His two children attended the "first" The Basin Primary School in Doongalla Road. Robert Charles sold Cleve House sometime in the 1910's.

Cleve House was said to have been occupied by a German family during the First World War who were discovered sending messages to someone in the Croydon area. The Defence Department were contacted and the messages stopped.

In the late 1910's Cleve House became a guest house with Frank Agar and his wife as the managers.

Electricity for the guest house was supplied by a generator driven by a water wheel in the creek at the rear of the property.

The first advertisement for accommodation appeared in The Argus in 1918 (see a copy of the advertisement on page 19):

In 1926, the property was taken over by W. D. McCallum. The first advertisement with the new owners appeared in The Argus in 1927 (see a copy of the advertisement on page 19):

Around 1929, the name of the property was

changed to Clevedon and a Mrs Hartley took over (see a copy of the advertisement with the new name on page 19).

In 1930, a newspaper item offered a reward for a stolen or lost cow (see a copy of the item on page 19).

In 1936, A G Martin was managing the property.

In October 1938 the guest house was auctioned. The auction brochure described it thus:

*"The Main Building contains 8 Rooms, Large Verandahs, Detached Ladies' and Gent's Bathrooms, 8 sleep-outs and 3 bungalows."*

From 1939 to 1944 a Mr and Mrs Donnelly took over the lease of the guest house. Mr Donnelly enlisted into service shortly after they took over the property and Mrs Donnelly managed the guest house by herself. Many local residents were employed at the house by Mrs Donnelly to assist in its running.

During this period the guest house became very successful with bookings arranged through the Victorian Government Tourist Bureau. At weekends, the house offered Devonshire Teas for passing tourists.

Soon after reticulated electricity arrived in The Basin, Mrs Donnelly paid for and arranged for it to be extended and connected to Clevedon.

Sid and May Thornton took over the lease of Clevedon in 1944 and continued to operate the guest house until 1953. During these years Clevedon's facilities were improved and its popularity dramatically increased. At one stage the property had 10 acres of orchard, a large vegetable garden, a piggery and 9 nine cows.

In 1947 the Thornton's purchased the property which at that stage was about 35 acres. The Thornton's continued to improve the property and a notable addition was the purchase of a number of old green miners cabins that were placed along

Telephone	Postal Address
BAYSWATER 6	THE BASIN VIA BAYSWATER
MINERAL SPRING WATER	
"Clevedon"	
[Mr. & Mrs S. Thornton]	
FOR A HAPPY HOLIDAY WITH EVERY COMFORT	
PIANO.	WIRELESS. TENNIS COURT
Rail to Boronia	Bus Meets Train
OWN COWS AND POULTRY	

the Mountain Highway boundary.

In 1951 they subdivided about 3 acres of the western part of the property and created the "Clevedon Estate". 17 lots were created with the streets Ross Street, and Clevedon Road. The Thornton's purchased lots one and two which were on the highest part of the estate and had a display house erected there.

A dark moment in Clevedon's history occurred on June 1, 1952. A group of mainly teenagers left Clevedon that Sunday evening on a bus heading home. They had been attending a religious weekend at Clevedon. After a stop at the Boronia Church of Christ in Boronia Road where they attended a service and sung hymns with local parishioners, the bus headed down Boronia Road towards the Boronia railway crossing. It was reported that the bus driver slowed down to check for approaching trains, but not seeing any, continued on. A Melbourne bound train slammed into the bus, slicing it in half. Initial reports had 13 dead and 16 injured, but the death toll was later amended to 9 (see insert "Fatal Crash Memories" on page 12).

Between 1926 and 1998, 28 people have been killed and 54 injured at the Boronia crossing which has earned it the title of "the death crossing". The public outcry after the 1952 accident saw flashing lights installed in October, 1952, but it was not until 1972 that boom gates were installed. In 1998, the rail line was placed underground ending the delays and accidents at one of Melbourne's worst intersections.

Clevedon was becoming increasingly popular with groups from the Methodist Church. One of the Church leaders realised the potential for Clevedon as a camp and approached the Thornton's requesting that if they ever considered selling Clevedon would they give the Church first option to buy.

In 1953, four acres including the guest house and outbuildings, was sold to the Methodist Church Young People's department to be used a camp and conference house. The buildings then consisted of the Guest House, Promenade and Green Cabins. The Church relocated a number of buildings, including a house and hall onto the property. The remaining area was sold to Peter





## Clevedon

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Hill who later subdivided an area of about 3 acres into 17 building allotments with Cleve street running down the middle.

In the late 1950's, a building known as "Valley View" was relocated to Clevedon. It was thought to have been transported from the Eildon Dam site.

In 1960 the Methodist Church purchased the remaining land from Peter Hill.

The Thornton's purchased a display house on the new Clevedon Estate and lived there until about 1960 when they moved out of the area.

In 1961, a dining hall and recreation room were relocated to Clevedon. These were also transported from the Eildon Dam site. The recreation room was officially opened by the President of the Methodist Conference Centre, Reverent G. D. Brinacombe.

In 1961, on the Mountain Highway side of Clevedon, a concrete cross was erected by friends of a Miss Girlie Lee as an expression of thanksgiving for her life and constant witness to her faith. Girlie Lee was killed in the tragic level crossing accident at Boronia in 1952.

The original house built for Robert Charles

Chandler was destroyed by fire on March 22nd, 1972. The original homestead garden and steps still remain on the property.

Green cabins once lined the driveway from Mountain Highway. These were old miners huts and used for accommodation until about 1973.

In 1975, a new conference centre building was erected on the site and this was opened by the then Minister for Sport and Recreation, Mr Brian Dixon.

In 1977 the Methodist Church amalgamated with others to become the Uniting Church of Australia.

In 1993, Clevedon held an open day to celebrate 100 years since the original building was erected. Previous owners and dignitaries were invited to a day of celebrations.

In the early 2000's the site was purchased by a company and in 2009 leased to the Christadelphian Society. With the assistance of church members the site was transformed into a school called the Christadelphian School Heritage College opening in 2010.



THE ROSE SERIES P. 1465  
COPYRIGHT.

"CLEVEDON" GUEST HOUSE, THE BASIN, VIC.

## Hazel Dell

“Hazel Dell”, on The Basin-Olinda Road, was built in the 1880’s by T. W. Hodgson and Sutherland for use as a homestead. T. W. Hodgson was one of the original land holders in The Basin having been granted an area of some 100 acres in 1881. Jack Hodgson (son) attended the “first” The Basin Primary School in Doongalla Road.

In the early days Hazel Dell was used by settlers as a kind of half-way house between the plains and the hill-top. At that time tracks past Hazel Dell were only suitable for pack horses.

Around 1888, John James Miller purchased Hazel Dell and Mr and Mrs Sutherland were tenants.

On 10<sup>th</sup> April, 1890, Hazel Dell was put up for auction but it seems that Hazel Dell was not sold through either of the above channels because as reported a newspaper article in 1893, John James Miller was still the owner.

As early as 1891, accommodation was being

offered at Hazel Dell. This advertisement appeared The Argus newspaper in 1891.

From about 1900 to 1906, Hazel Dell was run by Mr. and Mrs. Hayes and the Gilmour Family. Ada Gilmour (later Mrs. Harry Chandler), Lizzie Gilmour and Mrs. Hayes had the largest input in running the guest house during this period.

Hazel Dell was described in a railway guide of 1905 as

*“... providing an excellent standard of accommodation ... and was very popular.”*

From about 1906 to 1909, a Mrs Nelson ran Hazel dell.

From 1910 to 1916, a Mrs Briginshaw ran Hazel Dell.

In 1917, a W. T. Newton was managing Hazel dell.

Around the middle 1920’s, the guest house was purchased by Mrs. Rowe who operated it for about 10 years.

In later years, the building was used as a Presbyterian Church Camp and was eventually purchased by the church. In 1977, the Presby-



*Seventh Day Adventist Youth Camp on The Basin - Olinda Road soon after building. Circa 1940.*

*Photo courtesy Wilma Gotts*

## Hazel Dell

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terian Church amalgamated with others to become the Uniting Church of Australia and took over running of the property.

As well as managing Clevedon, Alan and Linda Dixon managed the camp for 3 years from 1990.

In 1993, Hazel Dell was sold by the church to be used as a residential property.

### Boyup

Located in Mountain Highway on land above the stone wall, Boyup was a popular guest house in the 1920's. Many of The Basin early residents had their first visit to The Basin staying in one of the many guest houses.

Charles and Mary Ann Gretton, who took over the lease of Cain's store in 1930, had their first view of The Basin in 1923 when they stayed at Boyup with their children.

Little is known about Boyup but it must have been built in the late 1910's because it was on land that was part of Schneider's Estate which opened in 1917.

### Seventh Day Adventist Youth Camp

In the early 1930's the Seventh Day Adventist Youth Club had a dynamic leader by the name of H. J. Meyers. He had a vision - to build a Youth Camp that could be used by the youth of Victoria to enhance their educational, spiritual, moral and social welfare.

Meyers investigated many potential sites for the camp. One important criterion Meyers required was that the selected site must have a perennial water supply. It is said that before finally choosing the site on The Basin-Olinda Road, he traced the creek at the rear of the property back to its source to satisfy himself of its perennial supply.

Land of some 15 acres was purchased in January 1937, plans drawn up by architect Mr. E. F. Billson, and timber buildings were constructed using voluntary labour under the supervision of Tom Harrington. The initial buildings comprised a Dining room, Vestibule, Kitchen, Supt. quarters and Office, caretakers lodge and four shacks each with 32 bunks.

A water permit was obtained in 1938 to pump

water from the creek to supply a pool constructed that year. The ethics of the day dictated that boys and girls were not allowed to swim in the pool together but this was relaxed in later years. Local children were permitted to use the pool at convenient times.

In the early days the camp was so popular that sometimes far more attended than could be accommodated. On these occasions the overflow stayed at Hazel Dell.

Baxter-Cox, a nearby land owner, gave permission in January 1948 for the camp to run poles across his land to enable the connection of electricity. Electricity was eventually directly connected in 1952 enabling the use of modern conveniences at the camp.

In 1963, 4 acres of the original 15 acres purchased by the camp was sold to Michael and Ann Spry.

A fire in late 1972 destroyed the main building. In 1973, a larger steel and concrete building incorporating a badminton hall was erected at a cost of \$50,000 and was fully funded by the Church.

From 1994 to 1999, Alan and Linda Dixon used the camp to handle the overflow from Clevedon

In 1999, the camp ceased operation and was idle for some years.

For the many youths of Victoria who have passed through the camp since it commenced operation, the vision of H. J. Meyers has certainly been fulfilled.

In 2001, the site was purchased by the Romanian Seventh Day Adventist Church. The main hall was renovated to be utilised as a church and Community Hall.

### Ferndale Camp

Little information is available about this camp which was once situated midway along Ferndale Road. Apparently, it originally was the site of an early settler who built a house there. The site was most likely part of the Ferndale Estate which was subdivided in the 1930's. This house was destroyed by fire around the 1950's. The property was subsequently purchased by the Congregational Church to be used as a Youth camp and a variety of buildings erected. For over 30 years it

operated successfully as a Youth camp.

Towards the mid 1980's it use diminished and it fell into disrepair. In the late 1980's it was used for homeless youths for a while when taken over by Harrison House.

In 1992, the property was acquired by the Department of Conservation and Environment to be amalgamated into the surrounding forest park. The buildings were demolished in 1993.

### Other Prominent Residences

#### Bonnie Doon/Brockbury

The land that in 2017 hosts the Lilydale Bowmans Club was originally a farm called Bonnie Doon and is shown on early maps. The property was auctioned on the 28<sup>th</sup> June 1912 as reported in the Reporter (Box Hill) newspaper. About 1917, Thomas Burden and his family came to live on the land and called the farm Brockbury. Five of their six children attended The Basin Primary School. Their daughter Kathleen (Kit) married Robert Dobson, the grandson of Davis Dobson, one of the original settlers in The Basin.

#### Torwood

John and Mary Barnes owned a steep allotment running up the side of Mount Dandenong and included the area known as Barnes Lookout. Although his land was not in The Basin he had a large influence on local affairs.

He was in residence there at least by 1879 as he was a signatory to the petition for a school in The Basin and promised two children would attend if a school was opened. The children were Amy (11) and Minnie (9).

A second allotment was purchased in 1887, on which the house named Torwood was erected on what is now the corner of Sheffield and Glasgow Roads in Kilsyth. The house was built mostly by John using hand made bricks made from clay on the site. Torwood was completed in 1894 and the family retired there to live.

Minnie Barnes later married David Dobson, son of Thomas Dobson Junior of Ferntree Gully. She quoted her birth date as 1871.

### Sources of Information

“The Basin Centenary booklet” - Ron Ikin.

“Fire on the Hill, Flowers on the Valley” - Rick Coxhill.

- George Grumont and Don Maguire for Ferndale information.

- Wally Goodwin and Fergus Chandler for Doongalla fire information.

- National Parks brochure for information on Doongalla.

- Wilma Gotts for information on Seventh Day Adventist Youth Camp.

- Seventh Day Adventist Church for information on their camp.

- Knox Historical Society for photographs.

- Alan and Linda Dixon for Clevedon and Hazel Dell information.

- Mrs Donnelly, Sid and May Thornton and Eileen Gridley for Clevedon information.

- “Family of William Chandler horticulturist” - Helen Coulsen for information on Percival Chandler and Robert Charles Chandler.

- Boronia and The Basin Community News for memories of Frank Grumont.

- “Tea and Charity” The Life and Times of James Griffiths Tea Merchant and Philanthropist – Volkhard Wehner for information on James & Emily Griffiths and Ferndale.

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22.**  
**IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT.**  
We Beg to Announce That Mr. J. M. COGHILL,  
Acting as Administrator in the Estate of the  
Late Jas. Griffiths, Has Instructed Us to Sell  
by Auction That  
**MAGNIFICENT MOUNTAIN MANSION**  
**MAGNIFICENT MOUNTAIN MANSION**  
**FERNDALE.**  
**FERNDALE.**  
**BAYSWATER.**  
**BAYSWATER.**  
Together With its Domain, in Area Some 250  
Acres of Hill and Valley.  
Further Particulars Later.  
Booklet in Preparation.  
Apply to Auctioneers,  
**COGHILL and HAUGHTON, 70 Swanston Street, Melbourne.**

**Ferndale Sold at Auction.**  
Messrs. Coghill and Haughton, and  
Messrs. Edgar and Chandler, auctioneers,  
conducted an auction yesterday of Ferndale,  
Bayswater, the home of the late Mr. and  
Mrs. James Griffiths, who were killed in  
the level crossing disaster. Bidding for  
the property began at £8,000, and ceased  
at £12,000, at which price it was purchased  
by Mr. Daniel J. Gans, East Malvern.

**ACCOMMODATION**, with or without board, farm,  
most lovely part, Ferntree Gully. Address  
Hamerup, Hazel-dell, Bayswater.

**NEXT TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22.**  
At Three O'clock. At the Chamber of Commerce,  
25 WILLIAM STREET, MELBOURNE.  
By Order of L. W. Chandler, Esq.  
**COGHILL and HAUGHTON will SELL**  
**COMO HOUSE, THE BASIN, BAYSWATER.**  
Como is the old homestead of the famous  
Chandler's Camo Nurseries. It is a 7-roomed  
brick bungalow standing on about 1½ acres. The  
huge cedar tree in the front garden is one of  
the landmarks of the district. Half acre is under  
pears. £50 deposit. 20/- week, including interest  
at 7 per cent. 5 per cent. discount for cash.  
Further particulars at Swanston street, Melb.

**BEAUTIFUL BAYSWATER.**  
To Let or SELL, the lovely Mountain Home,  
HAZEL DELL, 194 acres, containing two magnificent  
fern gullies, and immediately adjoining the Great  
National Park and Glorious Sassafras. This land is of  
the richest character, and the situation commands  
extended views of delightful scenery in every direction.  
Conveyances from railway station to within a  
mile.  
For particulars any of above properties,  
Messrs. HAM,  
Swanston-street; or  
**MUNRO and BAILLIEU,**  
Collins-street.

**THURSDAY NEXT, JULY 4.**  
**AT Three o'clock.**  
At the Rooms of Messrs. Ievers & Sons,  
265 Collins street, MELBOURNE.  
**COGHILL and HAUGHTON will SELL**  
by order of the mortgagees,  
**DONNIE DOON FARM, THE**  
**BASIN BAYSWATER.**  
Adjoining Miss Simson's country  
mansion, "Doulta Galla," and the  
Salvation Army Model Farm,  
"Eden."  
All that piece of land, part of O.A.  
51, parish of Mooroolbark, county  
of Mornington, containing.  
**101 ACRES**  
or thereabouts, more particularly  
described in certificate of title entered  
in the register book, vol.  
3306, fol. 661,196.  
This property occupies a commanding  
position, with far-reaching views, and  
is well improved, having a good 7-  
roomed W.B. house and farm outbuild-  
ings. A large portion has been cleared,  
and is watered by the Dandenong  
Creek.  
Solicitors, Messrs. Oldham and Old-  
ham, 450 Little Collins street. Terms  
can be arranged.  
Coghill and Haughton, auctioneer,  
70 Swanston street, Melbourne, & Co.

**AT CLEVE HOUSE, The Basin P.O., Sassafras**  
North. Booking now week-ends, Christmas  
Cards, tariff, on application. W. D. McCallum.  
Phone 6 Bayswater.

*The Argus 1918.*

**Dandenong Ranges.**

**AT Clevedon Guest House, Basin, New Switzer-**  
land, Bayswater. Ideal resort, up-to-date, E.L.,  
sew., H.C. baths, splendid table, tennis, lovely  
gardens. Mrs. Hartley, 'phone 6. Tariff, £2/2/  
£3/3/. When visiting Boronia farm try our  
Devonshire teas.

*The Argus 1927*

**TWO Pounds Reward.—Stolen or Strayed, 1**  
Jersey Cow, in full profit, from Hartley's,  
Clevedon, The Basin, Bayswater. Detainer pro-  
secuted.

*The Argus 1929*

**Boronia**

**BORONIA** Clevedon, in heart of hills. Under  
new management. Excellent accommodation,  
low fares, tennis, afternoon tea and supper. Re-  
duced tariff. Open 24hrs. Phone Bayswater 6. G.  
Martin

*The Argus 1930*

## Appendix I

### Managers of Cleve House (Clevedon)

Year	Manager
1918 - 1925	Mr & Mrs Frank Agar
1926 - 1929	W. D. McCallum
1930	Mrs Hartley
1931 - 1936	Mrs A. James
1937 - 1939	Berry Martin
1939 - 1944	Donnelly
1944 - 1953	Thornton
1953	C. Zelly
1953 - 1956	E. W. Taylor
1956 - 1958	L. Tweedale
1958 - 1960	Fletcher
1960 - 1961	Rushton
1961 - 1967	R & G Dixon
1967 - 1971	C & N Dixon
1971 - 1972	K. Becks
1972 - 1973	A.D. & L.J. Dixon
1973 - 1979	A & G Bailey
1979 - 1980	A.D. & L.J. Dixon
1980 - 1988	U & H Roy
1988 - 2008	A.D. & L.J. Dixon

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