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## The first five land grantees and their grants in the Illawarra

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*Royal Australian Historical Society*

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THE FIRST FIVE  
LAND GRANTEES  
and their  
GRANTS in the  
ILLAWARRA

*by*

**B. T. DOWD**

*Fellow and Councillor*

*Royal Australian Historical Society*



*Published by*

ILLAWARRA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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# The First Five Land Grants in Illawarra

- 1, R. Brooks "Exmouth", 1,300 acres
- 2, G. Johnston "Macquarie Gift", 1,500 acres
- 3, A. Allan "Waterloo", 700 acres
- 4, R. Jenkins "Berkeley", 1,000 acres
- 5, D. Allan "Illawarra Farm", 2,200 acres



"THE FIRST FIVE LAND GRANTEES AND THEIR  
GRANTS IN THE ILLAWARRA"

by

B. T. DOWD, Fellow and Councillor of  
The Royal Australian Historical Society

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FOREWORD:

A paper originally read by the author to the members of the Illawarra Historical Society at Wollongong, N.S.W. on March 1, 1960.

Mr. Dowd prepared the paper at the request of the Council of the Society and grateful acknowledgement is hereby made to him for permitting the publication of his excellent piece of research on this important phase in the history of the Illawarra District.

Our thanks are also due to Mr. J. L. Wood, who kindly drew the location map, and to Miss N. Johnson and Mr. R. Taylor who greatly helped.

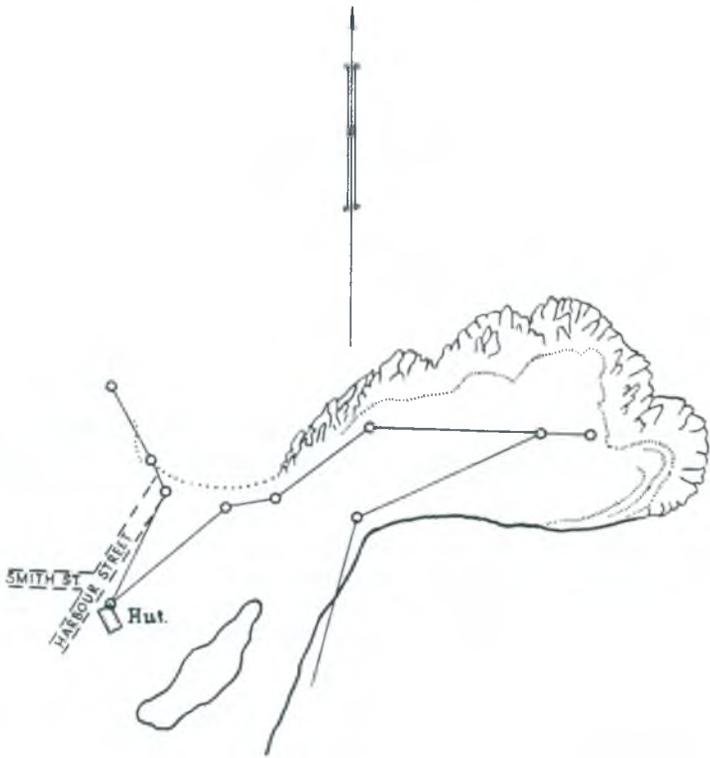
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Location in 1816 of Mr. Throsby's Stockman's Hut by J. Meehan's Field Book 119 and plan 1. 163 at Wollongong

Scale 8 chains to an inch

*Traced from orig. by B. T. Dowd.*

"THE FIRST FIVE LAND GRANTEES AND THEIR GRANTS  
IN THE ILLAWARRA"

Although cedar getters had been operating in the Illawarra District prior to 1815, it might be reasonably assumed from records available, that interest in settlement in this district manifested itself when a report appeared in the Sydney Gazette of March 18, 1815, which stated:-

"A considerable extent of fine grazing land is described by late travellers to be about the "Five Islands" to which, however, it would be thoroughly impracticable to convoy cattle by land".

How wrong the last part of the report was is shown by the fact that by the end of the same year (1815) Dr. Charles Throsby, with I believe the assistance of Joe Wild, and other stockmen, discovered a track by which cattle were taken down to the rich pastures of the Illawarra.

Joe Wild was appointed, in December 1815, Police Constable of the "District of Five Islands" as it was then officially known. The natives called it "Illawarra" (variously spelt).

Apparently Governor Macquarie decided that this part of the country was suitable for permanent settlement, for in 1816, he gave instructions to Surveyor-General John Oxley, and the Deputy-Surveyor, James Meehan, to proceed to the Illawarra District to make certain surveys and observations there - one of which was to locate the grants for those persons who had received promises of land in the Illawarra.

The Governor intimated that there was no objection to Mr. Deputy Commissary-General Allan receiving an equivalent area in the Illawarra for those lands possessed in Upper Minto or Airds of about 2,000 acres, or in getting them located in the desired position, providing it did not interfere with the rights of others. Neither was there any objection by the Governor to the lands promised to George Johnston, senior, being located on the Macquarie River as desired by him.

These and other promises were directed by Macquarie to meet the Surveyor-General and Deputy-Surveyor Meehan at the hut

of Mr. Throsby's stockman<sup>\*</sup> in order that the grants might be definitely located for each grantee.

Although Charles Throsby was the first to occupy grazing land in the Illawarra, others who were close on his heels were, John Oxley, Sam Terry, W. Brown, Crisp and Badgery. Neither Oxley nor Throsby ever received grants in the Illawarra.

### THE FIRST GRANTEES

Now let us see who the first five grantees were. Officially they were Richard Brooks, George Johnston, Andrew Allan, Robert Jenkins and David Allan. All the grants are in the County of Camden, and all were granted on the same date, namely January 24, 1817. John Oxley, giving evidence before the Bigge Commission in 1822, said that none of the original grantees resided on their grants but employed managers or stockmen to look after their properties.

I now propose to deal with each of the grantees and their grants in the order as they were marked out by Deputy Surveyor James Meehan in 1816.

#### RICHARD BROOKS AND "EXMOUTH"

He was born about 1764 at Bermondsay, Surrey, England. Brooks became associated with the East India Trading Company and had many years service as an officer in the Company's ships. He brought to Sydney the chartered transports "Atlas" in 1802 and the "Alexandria" in 1806. Afterwards he made trading voyages to New South Wales in the ships "Rose", 1808, "Argo", 1811, and

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\* The site of the hut was near the acute-angled corner of Smith and Harbour Streets, Wollongong, and is marked by the small obelisk erected by the Illawarra Historical Society. The obelisk bears two plaques, one reading - "Here it was Surveyor-General Oxley by order of Governor Macquarie on the Second day of Decbr. 1816 met the grantees of and located the first lands settled on in Illawarra"; the other reading - "The above plaque, first erected in Parkes St., Port Kembla, was in the light of subsequent research re-erected here on 4.12.1954, as being near the site of the hut of Mr. Throsby's stockman. I.H.S."

"Spring", 1814. In the last mentioned ship he brought his wife and family to Sydney.

Captain Brooks settled at "Denham Court" near Liverpool, a farm he had acquired from Richard Atkins in 1810, but did not cease trading voyages immediately. Here he built the family residence "Denham Court" which still exists.

This home became a centre of much social life and it was a familiar sight to see guests from Sydney and elsewhere arriving in vehicles with liveried postillions. Brooks amassed considerable landed property and wealth - some of which was in the Interior.

His grant of 1300 acres in the Illawarra district was made to Brooks by Macquarie on January 17, 1817. Called "Exmouth" or by the natives "Koonawarra", it was the subject of a promise made by Macquarie on April 23, 1814. It may be identified as portion 16, parish of Calderwood, the boundary extending westerly to Mullet Creek. Deputy Surveyor Meehan located or surveyed this land on December 5, 1816 - the first of the "first five" land grants to be located in the Illawarra. Brooks already had a stockman's hut erected when Meehan visited his place on the 2nd December during Meehan's survey of Lake Illawarra. It is understood "Exmouth" was managed by one William or John Neale and an assistant named Cream. Neale was an overseer at "Denham Court" and Cream is credited with discovery of what is called the Butter Track to the Kangaroo Valley used by the Osbornes.

Captain Brooks died at "Denham Court" in October 1833 at the age of 69 years after having been gored by a bull. Some eighteen months later came the death of his wife (April 1835). When the church of St. Mary the Virgin was erected at Denham Court in the late 1830's it was built so as to enclose the vault containing the remains of Brooks and his wife. The stained glass windows in the church also commemorate these two pioneers of the colony.

The Brooks family was quite a large one comprising two sons, Henry and Richard, and six daughters, namely, Christiana who married Thomas Valentine Bloomfield, a member of an old military family and who held a captaincy in the 28th Regiment. Bloomfield was a pastoralist and later acquired Denham Court. The second daughter Mary married Lieutenant Wilson of the 48th Regiment; the third daughter Jane married Edward Cox of Fern Hill Penrith; the fourth daughter Honoria married William Riley of

Raby, Liverpool on February 28, 1833; the fifth daughter, Charlotte, married Nathaniel Powel a squatter in the Goulburn district, and the sixth daughter, Maria, married Lieutenant Zouch of the 4th (Queen's Own) Regiment.

Concerning the two boys, Henry the eldest son married Margaret McKenzie of Wentworth House, Parramatta. He also had a land grant in the Illawarra. It comprised 600 acres, portion 17, parish of Calderwood, with a frontage to Lake Illawarra and separated from his father's "Exmouth" grant by Brooks Creek.

The second son Richard Brooks was born in 1812 and was one of the earliest stockmen to take cattle down and settle in the Monaro district somewhere about the late 1820's or early 1830's. He settled at Coolralanta Lake but owing to the hostility of the blacks he moved to Gejizrick Flat where he erected a homestead. In order to placate the blacks he elevated one of the tribal chiefs "Blueskin" to aboriginal royalty by presenting to him a brass plate inscribed "King of Monaro". Brooks had no further trouble from the tribe. Later he took up "Jindabyne" station of 22,400 acres and others.

Richard Brooks (son) married Augusta Weston, daughter of Lieutenant William Weston of "West Horsley" in the Illawarra where Weston had a farm of 500 acres. It was at "West Horsley" that Richard Brooks died in 1855 at the early age of 43 years. His father-in-law, Lieutenant Weston, also died at "West Horsley" some 30 years before, April 25, 1826. This property later came into the hands of the Lindsays.

Now let us go back for a moment to the "Exmouth" grant to Richard Brooks, senior, of Denham Court and see what happened to it. According to Arthur Cousins' "Garden of New South Wales" it was the subject of a purchase by one Henry Osborne of "Marshall Mount", in the 1840's, together with the properties of Throsby Smith's "Calderwood", A. Elyard's "Avondale" and W. Brown's "Yallah" (formerly "Athanlin") making his estate extend from Macquarie Rivulet to Mullet Creek, Lake Illawarra and the mountains.

#### GEORGE JOHNSTON Senior and "MACQUARIE GIFT"

The grant of 1500 acres to George Johnston, senior, was also dated January 24, 1817. This area was promised to Johnston by Macquarie, January 16, 1816. The grant was located by Deputy Surveyor Meehan on December 6, 1816, on the north-west side of

Macquarie Rivulet. It was appropriately called "Macquarie Gift". The grant may be identified as portion 11, parish of Calderwood.

In later years Johnston's grant embraced what was known as Johnston's Meadows. In his book Cousins refers to Johnston's Meadows thus: "This fine property was managed from 1817 to 1852 by William Wilson, one of the first men to take cattle to Illawarra". Johnston's son, David, who had two grants of 500 and 700 acres on the west side of the "Macquarie Gift" grant, kept in close touch with this Illawarra property until his death in 1866.

It appears that "Johnston's Meadows" which probably included David Johnston's grants also was put up for auction by D.L. Dymock at George Adams' Steam Packet Hotel, Kiama, on January 26, 1876.

George Johnston, senior, soldier and pioneer settler in New South Wales, was born at Annandale, Dumfriesshire, Scotland, on March 19, 1764. He joined the Marines in England in March, 1776, and saw service in New York and Halifax in 1778, when he rose to the rank of 1st Lieutenant. He next served in the East Indies between 1781-1785 where he was wounded.

Joining a detachment in 1786 to form a garrison, under Captain Phillip at Botany Bay, Johnston embarked on the ship "Lady Penrhyn" of the first fleet.

Johnston rose to Captain in 1789, Major, 1800, and Lieut.-Colonel in 1808. (His claim to have been the first white man to land at Sydney Cove has been disputed by Commander Ingleton, the well-known historical writer. A similar claim was advanced by some writers on behalf of James Ruse, our first real farmer.) He was placed in command of a detachment of the New South Wales Corps in 1792. When Lieutenant-Governor Grose allowed Commissioned Officers to receive grants of land in N.S.W., Johnston was one of the first grantees. His grant comprised 100 acres, on the Parramatta Road, granted February 7, 1793, on which he built "Annandale House". The present suburb of Annandale takes its name from that source. Johnston lived there until his death in January, 1823.

As an officer of the N.S.W. Corps, Johnston ran into trouble about 1800 when Colonel Paterson, his commander, charged him with "paying spirits to a sergeant as part of his pay at an improper price, contempt and disobedience of orders". Johnston protested against trial by court-martial in the colony which pro-

test was upheld by Governor Hunter. He was then sent to England for trial which he successfully defended.

Major Johnston next figured in the insurrection at Castle Hill, Sydney, in 1804, when he with about 20 armed soldiers routed about 300 practically unarmed convicts who had rebelled against their treatment. Johnston tricked the rebel leaders into a peace talk. When the leaders got within pistol point range, they were arrested and subsequently severely dealt with - six or seven were hanged and others lashed in unmerciful fashion.

In 1806 King was succeeded by Governor Bligh who soon came into conflict with Captain John Macarthur, with a result that Bligh placed Macarthur under arrest. But the officers of Macarthur's regiment released him, well knowing that this action would recoil on their heads unless something was done - and done quickly. The regiment led by Johnston marched to Government House from the Barracks, arrested Bligh and some other civilian officials. Johnston took over the Administration of the colony until superseded by his superior officer, Lieut.-Colonel Foveaux.

On the news of the deposition of Bligh reaching England Lachlan Macquarie was sent out as the new Governor. Johnston was sent to England for trial by court-martial. He was found guilty in June 1811 and sentenced to be cashiered - perhaps a mild sentence for such a serious offence. Johnston returned to Sydney as a private citizen.

He was survived by his wife, three sons and two daughters. His eldest son George was for some time in charge of the Government herds at Cawdor (Camden) and was killed in a riding accident in February 1820, aged 31 years. Apparently David Johnston succeeded his brother George as Superintendent of Government stock at the Cowpastures, for when Macquarie toured the Southern Districts in October, 1820 and also the Illawarra early in 1822, he recorded David Johnston as Superintendent of Government stock in both tours. In his honour Macquarie gave the name "David's Valley" to the valley between Appin and Bulli Pass, where he camped on January 14, 1822. David's services as Superintendent of Government stock in the Cowpastures were terminated by the Government on December 31, 1823.

Of the other members of Colonel Johnston's family, one daughter married Captain Brotheridge of the 48th Regiment, and the other, Blanche, married in 1829 Lieutenant G.E.N. Weston. The second son Robert Johnston, born 1792, was a naval officer and

explorer. He returned to Sydney in 1816 and later engaged in agricultural and pastoral pursuits with his brother David. Robert died at Annandale in September 1882 at the ripe old age of 92 years. A party of sailors from H.M.S. Nelson fired a farewell volley over his grave.

#### ANDREW ALLAN AND "WATERLOO"

His grant contained 700 acres fronting the Macquarie River on the south side, opposite Johnston's "Macquarie Gift" grant. It comprises portion 6, parish of Jamberoo. The land was the subject of a promise or order by Macquarie bearing date of January 16, 1816, and located by Deputy Surveyor Meehan December 7, 1816.

Later Andrew Allan's grant was acquired by Samuel Terry whose farm "Terry's Meadows" adjoined on the west. Terry's estate was managed by an overseer and stockmen who lived in huts, which it is said became a landmark for passing travellers. Although Terry was one of the men to have had cattle in the Illawarra in 1817 he did not get his grant of 2,000 acres (Terry's Meadows) until January 9, 1821. When Terry died in 1838 worth more than half a million pounds, the estate finally came into the hands of his nephew J.T.Hughes, who changed the name to "Albion Park". The estate was subdivided and sold in July 1860.

Who was Andrew Allan?

He was the second son of David Allan (see page 11), the Deputy Commissary General at Sydney. Andrew was born about 1799 before the family came to New South Wales.

In a communication by Macquarie to Lord Bathurst of March 18, 1816, it was stated: "....I have appointed Andrew Allan, (eldest son of Mr. Allan, the Deputy Commissary General) a young man of seventeen years of age, at the particular recommendation of Deputy Commissary General to be clerk on the Commissariat Establishment of this colony, there being now a vacancy of a clerkship at Hobart Town....." (Some records state that he was the second son, the first being David who lived in Liverpool England).

Although the vacancy for a clerk was in Hobart Town, I think Andrew got the position in Sydney for we find him accepting the hospitality of Captain and Mrs. Piper in Sydney in 1817 - this being also the year he received his Illawarra grant. He seems to

have been able, like his father, to hold a Government position and at the same time work his farm in the Illawarra. Commissioner Bigge in his report on the colony at June 13, 1819 stated that Andrew Allan grazed 35 head of cattle and 606 head of sheep on his 700 acre farm, 150 acres of which were cleared.

However, early in 1819 Andrew found himself in serious difficulties with Lieut.-Colonel Erskine of the 48th Regiment and in charge of the N.S.W. Corps. Andrew was charged by Erskine with an offence "of endeavouring to bribe a soldier to give him (Allan) copies of some papers of the regimental books". This was an offence so grave that he was suspended for ungentlemanly conduct. His entrance to the barracks on business was refused, being stopped by a sentry.

Allan complained by letter to Deputy Commissary General Drennan, who referred the complaint to Macquarie, requesting the Governor to afford Allan any redress he thought fit over the unprecedented act of Lieut.-Colonel Erskine.

Erskine retaliated by requesting the Governor to order the Deputy Commissary General to appear before a court martial. As Allan received little consideration from Macquarie he decided to take the question to the Home Authorities where he hoped to deal with his antagonists in the colony. He prepared to sail and on July 31, 1819 boarded the "Foxhound" bound for Europe and did not return until November 1821, just before the end of Macquarie's term in the colony. He was in England about the same time as his father who sailed from Sydney about six weeks after him. What happened in England is not clear nor does it matter very much.

Allan came back into the Government service in December 1825, when he was recommended by Brisbane for appointment as officer in charge of the bonded stores at Liverpool, and in the following year January 1826, Supervisor of Customs.

I think Andrew Allan's interest in the Illawarra ceased when his farm "Waterloo" was acquired by Sam Terry of "Terry's Meadows" about the early or middle of the 1820's.

He is known to have had landed interests at Bong Bong in 1828, as it was from that place that Allan made repeated requests for police protection for his property from the attacks of bush-rangers.

## ROBERT JENKINS AND "BERKELEY"

Robert Jenkins was another of the first five land grantees in the Illawarra district, and his grant of 1,000 acres was also dated January 24, 1817. This area was promised to him by Macquarie October 30, 1813, and marked out by Deputy Surveyor Meehan on December 7, 1816. The grant was called "Berkeley" and may be identified on present day maps as portion 52, parish of Wollongong, fronting the north-east end of Lake Illawarra, adjoining David Allan's "Illawarra Farm".

After the death of her husband, Robert, in 1822, Mrs. Jemima Jenkins was allowed to purchase on September 24, 1834, an area of 2,000 acres adjacent to "Berkeley", for £500. This area was the subject of a promise by Governor Brisbane in 1825. The whole then became known as the "Berkeley Estate". Other areas purchased by Mrs. Jenkins increased the estate to 3,280 acres.

This Robert Jenkins must not be confused with Robert Jenkins, a convict, who was granted an area of 30 acres of land a little west of Parramatta on May 1, 1797, who was killed by the blacks while clearing his farm.

Jenkins of Illawarra came to New South Wales about 1808 under engagement to a merchant named Wilson. He soon became a prominent businessman in Sydney as a shipping merchant and auctioneer. This is indicated in the Sydney Gazette of August 6, 1809 which advertised the sale of goods from a ship in port. In the same paper of July 24, 1813 we find Jenkins' appointment as Auctioneer and Appraiser for the town of Sydney, a position he resigned about three years later.

His marriage took place in 1813 as recorded in the Sydney Gazette of March 27: "On Monday last, the 22nd inst. at St. Johns Church, Parramatta, Mr. Robert Jenkins of Sydney, merchant to Mrs. Jemima Forest, relict of the late Austin Forest, Esq. of Richmond Hill".

Jemima Forest was formerly Miss Jemima Pitt and married Austin Forest, a military Captain, on April 18, 1810. He was killed by a fall from a horse on December 24, 1811.

Robert and Jemima had two children, Robert Pitt, and William Warren Jenkins - the former born in January 1814, and the latter in July 1816. They were educated at the Australian College, Dr. Halloran's and Cope's Academy. The boys were only about 8 years and 6 years of age when their father Robert was

killed by a fall from a horse as he was returning home after an auction sale in Surry Hills, Sydney. The horse took fright and threw his rider heavily to the ground.

The reference to his death in the Sydney Gazette of May 10, 1822 stated:- "A merchant of first rank possessing and evincing public spiritedness in an eminent degree.....strictly honourable, ever engaged in promoting our colonial prosperity... resident 14 years amongst us.....He was only in his 45th year.

It is strange that both of Jemima Jenkins' husbands died in the same way - as the result of a fall from a horse.

Robert Jenkins was, in 1819, a director of the Bank of New South Wales but only for a short period. Three years later he opened a distillery and marked the occasion by a big dinner. His principal business however was as an auctioneer in Sydney and Parramatta.

Like their mother both of the Jenkins boys were interested in the land. The older son Robert Pitt Jenkins lived partly with his mother at "Eagle Vale", Campbelltown and at his property at "Bumballa" where his mother Jemima had some large grants adjoining, near Wingello, in the 1830's. He was one of the early pastoralists to be granted a pastoral licence in the Murrumbidgee district. He took up "Bangus" station in 1837, and others. He leased "Bangus" and "Brewarrina" in 1948 as runs. His father Robert Jenkins was the first to be given permission by Macquarie to take stock to the Argyle district in September, 1820.

Robert Pitt Jenkins' life ended tragically for he and his wife and family were drowned in the wreck of the ship "Royal Charter" in October, 1859, off the Anglesea coast. About 446 lives were lost. The other son William married in 1838 Matilda Pitt Wilshire, his cousin, and the following year took over the management of the Berkeley Estate in the Illawarra. He built the first portion of the house called "Berkeley", and later added to it to make a fine mansion. Here he lived until his death in

1884. William Warren Jenkins proved to be an excellent citizen and was a member of all progressive associations and local undertakings.

Mrs. Jemima Jenkins died at her home "Eagle Vale", Campbelltown as reported in the Sydney Morning Herald April 9, 1842 - "The poor were her clients; and heaven's smile is now her reward". She was only about 56 years of age.

Two items of interest concerning Robert Jenkins are: he went security for the contract of James Smith for the completion of the towers of St. Luke's, Liverpool, August 25, 1818, and

also went security for the nephew of Charles Throsby, Charles Throsby Smith, to be allowed to sail on the Brig. "Lynx" (vide letter Throsby to J. T. Campbell, July 21, 1818, Mitchell Library), of which the following is an extract:-

"Sir,

Captain Campbell is up the country at his farm. The bearer my nephew (Charles Throsby Smith) is unable to procure a written discharge from him in time for the sailing of the Lynx, and beg to state he was discharged from the Daphne four months since but should it be necessary Broughton or Mr. Jenkins and myself are willing to give security to answer any claims there may be against him. I have therefore to request you will have the goodness to permit him to be cleared out in the Lynx, he being very anxious to join his brother in India".

#### DAVID ALLAN AND "ILLAWARRA FARM"

A promise or order for an area of about 2,000 acres of land was made by Governor Macquarie to David Allan, dated October 30, 1813. It was intended that this land was to be selected and granted in the upper Minto or Airs districts, but this was subsequently amended, by Governor's approval, to the Illawarra "Five Islands" district.

The grant of 2,200 acres was located by Deputy Surveyor Meehan on December 8, 1816, and granted to Allan on January 24, 1817, and now comprises portion 53, parish of Wollongong. It may be described generally as at "Red Point" and bounded on the east by the ocean, on the north by Tom Thumb Lagoon, Allans Creek, a line southerly to Illawarra Lake at Griffins Bay, then easterly to "Red Point".

It was called "Illawarra Farm". The great steelworks at Port Kembla are now located on this grant.

Now who was David Allan? Allan was appointed Deputy Commissary-General of this colony in 1813 and arrived in Sydney on June 11 of that year on board the "Fortune" (a male convict ship). He assumed the charge of the Commissariat Department on June 25 of that year. He replaced the Acting Commissary Mr. Broughton who was appointed to act as assistant to Mr. Allan. Manuscript records in the Mitchell Library indicate that David Allan was "A very dashing person - wears two epaulettes and a feather in his hat - sends presents of shells and weapons to the Prince Regent's private secretary and thus procures an introduction to the Prince Regent and advancement."

The David Allan family was a large one - in all nine sons and three daughters, as recorded in the Mitchell Library by Mrs. Connell, a relative. The sons were:- David, Andrew, Erskine, Robert, William, John, Henry, George Octavius and Maxwell Rennie (second wife). The daughters were Mary Antoinette, Sophia and Eliza.

David the eldest son lived in Liverpool, England. Robert and William went to Melbourne, the latter owned a place called "Annandale" near Warnambool. Andrew, who was also an Illawarra grantee, married Augusta Allanford, daughter of Nicholas Bayley of Havilah, Mudgee, in 1823. George Octavius married Emily Connell. Henry did not marry as far as we know. Mary Antoinette married George Rattray, and Sophia married John Tyre, a clerk in the Commissariat Department.

The Deputy Commissary General (Allan) was in charge only a few months when he issued an order in July 1813 that in future no store receipts would be issued, but all payments would be in promissory notes to be issued by him. Eventually this procedure was not favoured by Macquarie because Allan exceeded his authority, and Macquarie gave an order for Allan to cease issuing notes on behalf of the Government. This had little or no effect as the regulations covering the Commissariat Department were in Allan's favour, and he more or less ignored Macquarie.

Reporting on the matter on December 11, 1817 to the Home Authority, Macquarie said:

"I am sorry to be compelled to take the opportunity of giving

it as my sincere opinion to your Lordship, that Mr. Allan, now at the head of the Commissariat Department of this colony, is a very unfit person to remain any longer in so important a situation. He shows no desire, and takes no trouble to detect or discover any frauds or delinquencies in his Department and subordinate officers and therefore this disagreeable task has hitherto fallen to my lot. Mr. Allan himself carrying on trade clandestinely is afraid to bring forward to public view and punishment his subordinate officers who carry on similar bad practices, and thus many delinquents in this Department escape the punishment due to their offences."

Macquarie criticised the Government Regulations that made no provision for dealing with dishonest conduct. Following an inquiry into the Commissariat Department, Allen was superseded as Deputy Commissary-General by F. Drennan who arrived in Sydney by the "Globe" in January 1819.

There is no doubt that Allan carried on his grazing interests on his "Illawarra Farm". Bigge's Report for the period of 1819-1820 discloses that Allan had 2,340 sheep, 850 cattle and 20 horses. It is known that during the year 1818 Allan delivered to the Government Stores a total of 13,800 lb. of fresh meat for which he was paid at the rate of 5d. per lb. Of his farm area of 2,200 acres, 600 were cleared, but possibly not all fenced into paddocks.

Following the dismissal of Allan from his position as head of the Commissariat Department, he prepared for leaving the colony. The furniture in his "Woolloomooloo House" was put up for sale in February 1819 and in July of the same year he and his family sailed for Europe in the ship "Surrey". He had accepted a position as Deputy Commissary-General in the Barbados (West Indies). Sad to relate Allan's wife died suddenly in England in March 1822 on the eve of her husband's departure to take up his new position.

Allan did not dispose of his "Illawarra Farm" when he left the colony and a notice for the letting of the farm appeared in the Sydney Gazette of June 22, 1824 which stated "To let D. Allan's 2,200 acres at Five Islands with good cottage and offices, the whole being enclosed, with 200 (sic) acres clear and subdivided in paddocks". Allan's cottage on the farm was occupied by his Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Wholohan. For a time two rooms in the cottage were allowed to be occupied by soliders of the Military Station at Red Point.

It is not clear whether Allan's farm was let, but on November 1, 1827 this farm was sold to Richard Jones, who in turn disposed of it to William Charles Wentworth in 1828. The name was then changed to the "Five Islands Estate" (vide "Souvenir booklet of Illawarra" (1947) prepared by Illawarra Historical Society on the occasion of visit by R.A.H.S.).

In conclusion, let me gratefully acknowledge the main sources of the historical material used in this paper, namely: Macquarie's published Journal including annotations by the late T. D. Mutch and myself, the historical works on the Illawarra of Arthur Cousins, James Jervis and Frank McCaffery; the Mitchell Library; Department of Lands and my own records.

DESCRIPTIONS OF THE FIRST FIVE LAND GRANTS  
IN THE ILLAWARRA AS CONTAINED IN DEPUTY  
SURVEYOR-GENERAL JAMES MEEHAN'S FIELD BOOK

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RICHARD BROOKS - Description pt. only:

"Bounded on the N by Brooks Creek - commencing on the Illawarra lake and a W line of 42 chains 70 links to Mullet Creek - on the W by that Creek, on the S by a line bearing E 5 degrees S to the Illawarra lake being a little to the Southward of Elizabeth Point, and on the E by the Illawarra lake"

GEORGE JOHNSTON Sr. - Description pt. only:

"Bounded on the NE by a NW (line) of 151 chains (commencing in line with the Point between Macquarie River and Johnstons Creek) - on the NW by a SW line of 80 chains - on the SW side by a SE line to the Macquarie River, and on the SE by that river - "

ANDREW ALLAN - Description pt. only:

"Bounded on the NE by a creek and a S35 degrees E line of 150 chains - commencing at the bend - on the SE by a W 40 degrees S line of 48 chains - on the SW by a line N 40 degrees W to the Macquarie River, and on the NW by that river"

ROBERT JENKINS - Description pt. only:

"Bounded on the N by Allans Creek (commencing at the Point of the Bend on the W side of a Salt Marsh, being Allans NW corner) and a chain of Ponds to a Bend, which Bend is 28 chains 70 links from the Point of Junction of the Ponds and Creek bearing from thence W  $10\frac{1}{2}$  degrees S - on the W by a line S 9 degrees E to the Illawarra lake - on the S by that lake, and on the E by Allans farm bearing N"

DAVID ALLAN - Description pt. only:

"Bounded on the N by Tom Thumbs Lagoon to a bend of Allans Creek - on the west side of a Salt Marsh - on the W by a S line to the Illawarra lake, by that lake, and an E line of 88 chains to the entrance of a small drain on the Beach, and thence by the Coast line to the entrance of Tom Thumbs Lagoon"

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