HELENSBURGH: Full history (from SMH).—Summer 1884, directors South Cumberland Coal Mining Co. visited Helensburgh, then
known as Camp Creek, decided sink shaft close Illawarra railway line 28 miles south Sydney. Previous year diamond drilling revealed 12' seam. Charles Harper first manager — shaft 18' diameter and 1100' deep. First sod turned by Sir R. Wisdom chairman of company. Manager accidentally killed. Followed by D. A. W. Robertson who still manages. Title company changed from South Cumberland Mining Company to Metropolitan Coal Mining Company.

At first representations of Harper and Thomas Horan established post office. Harper suggested Helensburgh (name of relative) in lieu Camp Creek — name adopted and continues. Thomas Horan first postmaster 1886 still in office.


Two public halls — Centennial and Paragon, latter large substantial building owned by George Ricketts. Dr. Joseph Park in town. Two policemen at station. Churches are Anglican, Roman Catholic and Wesleyan.