The itinerary commenced with an inspection of the Technical College (formerly the State Hospital — 1825) by favour of the Principal, Mr. S. Potts. Lunch followed in Bigge Park, then an inspection with some details of the two historic churches (All Saints, Catholic, and St. Luke’s, Anglican).

At All Saints (1840), we were welcomed by Rev. Fr. R. J. Davey, P.P., and at St. Luke’s (1819), by the Rector, Rev. J. A. Ross (a former curate at St. Stephen’s Port Kembla, 1948/9).

We then visited the Green Valley project (another Unonderral) where we learnt with pleasure that one of the suburbs was to be named 'Havard', in recognition of their services to the district by the excursion leaders.

Then on to “Glenfield Farm”, Casula, now the home of Mr. J. F. Leacock, but built by the famous Dr. Charles Throsby in 1817, where we had afternoon tea (milk and hot water kindly provided by Mr. Leacock) prior to an inspection. The home is being restored and the L. and D.H.S. is doing its best to help preserve it.

Finally we visited the tiny Anglican church of St. Mary the Virgin, at Denham Court (1833) where we said goodbye to our hosts. It is hoped that a reciprocal visit will be arranged soon.

Our last stop was at Campbelltown Park where a magnificent Illawarra "Flame" was admired and compared with some adjacent Jacarandas also in full flower.

As a matter of interest our previous excursion to Liverpool was on Sunday, 14th March, 1948 (i.e. 14 years ago) and quite a number of the present visitors were on the previous trip. Like that day our current visit was of outstanding interest and a perfect example of detailed planning.

THE ILLAWARRA "FLAME" TREE:

We think we should record the wonderful season that these trees are having. Throughout the district where ever one goes they burst upon you, and the present writer has not known them to be so beautiful as they are today during his 27 years in the district. As you know they are the prominent feature of the Society’s badge.

"HISTORIC SYDNEY — WHERE TO GO — WHAT TO SEE!!"

This attractive brochure is published by the N.S.W. Government Tourist Bureau in association with the Council of the City of Sydney and National Trust. Copies will be available at the December Meeting.

BANKSTOWN HISTORICAL SOCIETY:

A party from our sister Society visited the northern area of the district on Saturday, 27th October, following an itinerary prepared and led by our President, Mr. Bayley. As usual Mr. and Mrs. Bayley worked very hard to give the visitors a most enjoyable day.

MORE AUSTINMER HISTORY: The Sub-Branch of the R.S.S. & A.I.L.A.

The Austinmer Sub-branch was formed in April, 1931, the first meeting being held in the garage on the corner of Moore Street and the Main Road. The lack of halls in the district, made it necessary to hold the meetings in the shed on the beach and in member’s homes.

The first President was T. Freeman; Secretary, H. Smith and Treasurer, E. Sturgess.

In 1934 the old School of Arts building was purchased, giving the club a meeting place and a hall to hold functions. During the first five years, servicemen from Woonona to Clifton were admitted as members. No digger in need was refused assistance and no charity has been turned away. At first, the Council refused to allow the club the use of the beach to hold carnivals to raise funds and they had to be held on vacant allotments. During World War II, the Council allowed the use of the beach and every man enlisting was given a wallet and other comforts, and, on returning, a welcome was staged.

—N. S. KING.

NOTE BY MISS M. MCDONALD:

Lieut. William Breton, R.N., who visited Australia in the 1830’s, described his experiences in a work entitled “Excursions in N.S.W. and Van Diemen’s Land during the years 1830, 1831, 1832 and 1833” (Lond., 1833). The following extract from his account of the aborigines of the Moreton Bay district is of some local interest: "With the exception of the animals indigenous to their country, they