have been lodged in two places: in the Local History section of Wollongong City Library and in the Kiama Family History Centre. Each copy is accompanied by other data on the Adam Lodge, such as full details of the families, lists of births and deaths, copies of historical documents, newspaper reports and a map of the route.

Where quotations have been made from the journal they are shown in "italics". Permission to publish these quotations in our Bulletin has been granted by The Dixson Library, State Library of New South Wales, Ref. No. 1889/97 JB

The list of families and the Surgeon’s Report to the Governor are located in the NSW State Archives under reference number COD 394.

REPORT ON FEBRUARY MEETING, 1998

The Dapto Smelter

At our February meeting Dr Glenn Mitchell’s dynamic address on the Old Dapto Smelting Works was very well received by our members and visitors who totalled more than 30, our highest attendance for some time.

Dr Mitchell used as his starting point the Society’s 1950 booklet by Bro O’Malley. Without questioning the facts presented in the book, Dr Mitchell posed some of the questions which arise from a study of these facts, such as “why did the harbour proposal and the smelter finally fail?”

The Illawarra Harbour and Land Corporation and its offshoot The Smelting Company of Australia Limited were intertwined, the long-term success of the smelter depending on development of the port. The Corporation, despite the backing of large sums of British capital, failed miserably in its intention to dredge a channel through Lake Illawarra to a deepwater port at Kanahooka Point, originally planned for the export of coal. As time went on, with very little work being done on constructing the port, the owners of South Coast coal mines became alarmed, not only at the procrastination by the company, but also by the prospect of being dependent on a private company controlling the export of coal. Eventually the Government began the construction of a port at Port Kembla, part of its reason being to provide an industrial area remote from Sydney, but doubtless with support from the coal owners. Dr Mitchell gave interesting insights into the political climate of the day, mentioning the presence of people later famous in politics, such as Edmund Barton who was at the same time a director of the Corporation.
and NSW Attorney General, later to become Australia's first Prime Minister; and Herbert Hoover, mining engineer for BHP who worked on the Dapto Smelter and later became President of the United States. Mines from Mount Morgan and Broken Hill had interests in the smelter.

Reference was also made to the pollution caused by smelters, a continuing problem to the present day. Mention of the latest proposals for the Southern Copper site at Port Kembia formed one of the ingredients of a lively discussion which followed.

"GLADSTONE"

The President has received a lengthy article from Mrs Eunice North of Fairy Meadow with a description of the house named Gladstone which was demolished some 2 after World War II.

This house was formerly the home of William Osborne who died in 1900 at the age of 78. William was the second of four sons of Dr John Osborne (1791-1850) of Garden Hill whose grant issued in 1831 comprised 640 acres astride what we now know as Crown Street West. Known as Glen Glosh when John Osborne bought the promise of the grant from John Thompson about 1829 or 1830, John Osborne changed its name to Garden Hill. Whilst the portion north of Crown Street continued under this name, that on the south became known as Mangerton. William evidently inherited all or part of the Mangerton side and built the house called Gladstone. This house was situated on the corner of Crown Street and Gladstone Avenue, set well back from the latter and facing east, with a circular driveway entered from Gladstone Avenue, plus a rear side entrance from Crown Street.

Mrs North writes that the house was beautifully situated, “commanding a spectacular view from the verandah straight down Crown Street to the ocean and southwards over the Tom Thumb Lagoon to Port Kembia. Tom Thumb Lagoon, in those days, was a fisherman's paradise with an abundance of bream, whiting and flathead” with “the night glow of the Aborigines' campfires around the lagoon.”

In later years, the Gladstone Avenue frontage was subdivided, leaving the side entrance from Crown Street to the rear of the house as the only access. That entrance is still there as the approach to the “doctors' car park” under the big fig tree, adjacent to the land occupied by the Masonic Club. Early photographs show that fig tree on the southern side of the house.

Readers who would like to read Mrs North's article may find it printed in full in the Voice of the Seniors, issues 29 to 32, located in the Local History section of our City Library.