HISTORIC HARTLEY — FINE BOOKLET

Hartley Court House has been pivotal centre for all tourists and excursionists who have visited the historic valley. Now the caretaker, Arthur Paridaens and his wife, Iris, with help acknowledged from the Mitchell Library and Archives of N.S.W., P.M.G.’s Department, descendant of valley pioneers and names familiar in the Lithgow historical field have produced what is more than an ordinary history of the court house and district around it.

With a new lay-out which impresses of a number of folders of different aspects, the book is further enhanced by the fine drawing by Jo Booker.

By its information and illustration there appears to be no question about the area not answered in the booklet.

Obtainable at $1.50 from A. Paridaens, Court House, Hartley, N.S.W. 2786.

THE "SMALL" WOLLONGONG LIGHTHOUSE

An interesting letter has been received from Rev. Fr. W. Edwards at Boys’ Town, Engadine.

Father Edwards mentions his great grandfather was the first keeper and is enquiring if the society has any records of its history.

A number of our members are interested in the lighthouses, but no concentrated research appears to have been conducted and/or published, but it is hoped that this gap will be filled next year when the “small” one will have been in use for one hundred years.

The Illawarra Mercury of 12th March, 1972, in a news item, commented: "The lighthouse on the end of the breakwater at this port, had been brought into use at last. It was lighted up “for good” on the first of the present month. It gives forth a powerful red light, which should answer the purpose intended most admirably. . . . The light will be visible from the deck of a steamer about 12 miles off. . . . The original cost of the lamp only was upwards of £200."

On page 17 of C. W. Gardiner-Garden’s Port of Wollongong (an I.H.S. publication) there are some further details which says on 1st October, 1917 the lighting apparatus was altered to a group triple flashing light operated by electricity. Previously there was some manual method.

Port of Wollongong also refers to the “big” lighthouse, which was established in 1937 flashing a white and red light visible for 17 miles. (page 23).