MEETING NIGHT CHANGE SERIOUSLY OPPOSED:

An indication from our members at the last general meeting voted unanimously to retain the first Thursday of each month as meeting night after hearing the request for consideration from our society's council. The following meeting of the council confirmed their wishes and it was resolved to book the small meeting room at the Town Hall for 1973 on the night we have met during the whole life of the society. Members have been able to find parking space sufficiently near so that they are not worried.

EXTRA LARGE PHOTOGRAPHS) WHERE ARE THEY?

For our last exhibition, Mr. Ken Matthews of the Wollongong Teachers' College, lent us four very large photographs. One depicted the first Wollongong School similar to the small picture of the same which was exhibited. There were also one of West Dapto (or was it Avondale School?); one old Barrengarry School and pupils on horseback riding to school long ago.

They were put away safely. But nobody seems to know where safely was!

Any members knowing the whereabouts of the pictures kindly let our editor know so that we can restore them to Mr. Matthews.

MUSEUM FINANCES:

Once more further substantial donations have been made to our museum fund by members who desire to remain anonymous. Thank you indeed. Keep them coming in. We have much to accomplish.

WHEELWRIGHT'S SHOP:

We have heard of the blacksmith's shop — now finished and on exhibition. Now beside it we have a wheelwright shop almost completed by the same two brothers who have done so much for us. Come and see it.

MEADS FARM AT LITTLE HARTLEY:

The former Kerosene Hotel at Little Hartley built in 1857 by John Lewis Meads is now Meads Farm and will be open to visitors on 30th September, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Our members would be welcome.

BERKELEY CEMETERY:

Advice has been received that the Berkeley Cemetery is a church cemetery not, as yet, come under the jurisdiction of the city council. The church, we are told, has need for more funds than can be obtained for its work among a large group of young people so that it cannot undertake the upkeep of the cemetery which has been subject to much vandalism.
This is regrettable. It is hoped that steps will be taken to transfer
the cemetery to council control as have been the old Roman Catholic
Cemetery at Wollongong and the Pioneer Park which was a former Angli-
can Cemetery now so beautifully retained by council.
be seen at Fernleigh, but we greatly appreciated Mrs. Alcott’s hospitality
and enthusiastic guidance. We were late getting home, but the general
opinion seemed to be that it was worth it.

A special word of thanks should be given to Mrs. Shaw for her
efforts in getting the tour notes duplicated.

COMO AND BURRANEER EXCURSION, 19th AUGUST, 1972:

Operations did not proceed altogether according to plan in our
excursion to Como and Burraneer Bay on Saturday, 19th August; but plan “B” seemed to work out reasonably well and we hope the customers
were satisfied.

We started under cloudy skies and ran through a heavy shower,
but luck was with us, and the weather when we reached our destination
was all that could be desired.

At Heathcote we diverged from the main road for a quick look
(over the fence) at Heathcote Hall; then left it again at Engadine for
morning tea at the head of Michell’s Pass of Sabugal. Some of our more
energetic members walked on down the old road — not recommended
for buses, but a picturesque spot well worth visiting, both scenically and
historically.

At Como we met our foundation member and Treasurer, Mr. Cyril
Law, Mrs. Law and Mrs. Aileen Griffith, acting Honorary Secretary of the
Sutherland Shire Historical Society. The expected representative of the
Railway Department did not materialise, but under Mr. Law’s guidance
we walked across the new bridge, getting an excellent view of the old
bridge (which unfortunately seems to be doomed) and saw some of the
oddities of Como Station (also under sentence of death).

By a last minute, but most fortunate, change of plan, we went to
lunch at the Camellia Gardens at the head of Yowie Bay — Sutherland
Shire’s Bicentenary Memorial. The setting is ideal, and the council des-
serves full marks and a bonus for what has been accomplished in a short
three years (one point of interest is the Elizabeth Cook Fountain, believed
to be the only memorial anywhere to Captain Cook’s wife).

Our next objective, “Fernleigh”, Burraneer Bay, was something
unique in our experience. The sign “History House” is hung out on the
front verandah, and over the front door is MDCCCXXI (1821) — though it
appears it is a bone of contention among local historians when the house
was actually built; but it is at all events a beautiful example of colonial
architecture. It is a museum of remarkable and out-of-way objects from
every corner of the world; and the grounds house a variety of birds and
beasts which fascinated the youngsters with us — and others. (Mrs. Alcott, our hostess, is the holder of the last private zoo licence issued in
New South Wales). Time was unfortunately too short to see all there is to