# THOMAS AND MARY KELSEY

## PREFACE

This is one of eight biographies of my maternal ancestors in Australia, whose family tree is shown on the following page. Thomas Kelsey (1804-1866) and Mary Johnson (1802-1877) were my great-great-great-grandparents. They were born, married and started their family in the United Kingdom, and came to Australia as free settlers to Sydney, New South Wales in about 1834.

The biographies in this series are;

**Thomas Kelsey (1804-1866) and Mary Johnson (1802-1877)**

Richard Whiting (1811-1853) and Susanna Harley (1812-1867)

Thomas Moore (1821-1890) and Mary Jane Kelsey (1827-1874)

John Sands (1818-1873) and Marjorie Moffat Chisholm (1830-1904)

William George Whiting (1838-1917) and Amy Jane Moore (1853-1935)

John Kane Smyth (1837-1891) and Ada Mary Sands (1857-1946)

Keith Moore Whiting (1882-1939) and Mary Grant Smyth (1887-1969)

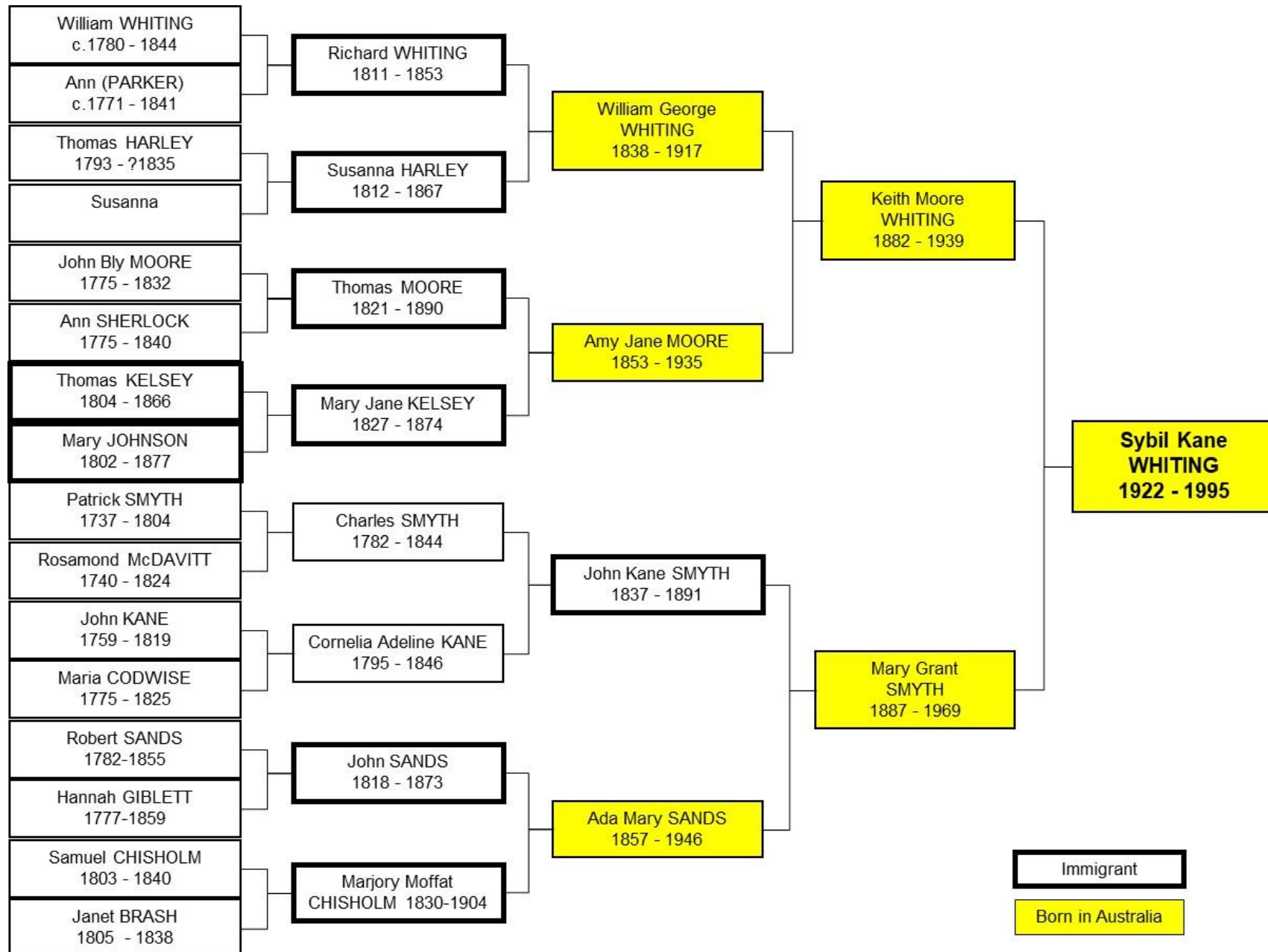George Boyd Connor (1919-2014) and Sybil Kane Whiting (1922-1995).

Each of the stories can be read in isolation. Inevitably, because generations overlap their stories overlap and some repetition is unavoidable, but I have tried to keep this to a minimum. For easy reference, family trees are included at the end of each story.

No Kelsey family letters or memorabilia have survived (to my knowledge) so this story has relied upon information in third party documents, deduction and interpretation. Many organizations have provided research material for this story. In particular, the National Library of Australia 'TROVE' database was an invaluable resource. Ancestry.com.au, Findmypast and FamilySearch provided transcripts or images of many important records of the Kelsey and Johnson families. Thomas' and Mary's lives have been researched to varying degrees by other writers, and I have acknowledged them in footnotes. My thanks go to them all. I have included references to important events and facts as footnotes on each page.

Andrew Connor

Perth, 2025

# MY MOTHER'S ANCESTORS

William WHITING
c.1780 - 1844

Ann (PARKER)
c.1771 - 1841

Thomas HARLEY
1793 - ?1835

Susanna

John Bly MOORE
1775 - 1832

Ann SHERLOCK
1775 - 1840

Thomas KELSEY
1804 - 1866

Mary JOHNSON
1802 - 1877

Patrick SMYTH
1737 - 1804

Rosamond McDAVITT
1740 - 1824

John KANE
1759 - 1819

Maria CODWISE
1775 - 1825

Robert SANDS
1782-1855

Hannah GIBLETT
1777-1859

Samuel CHISHOLM
1803 - 1840

Janet BRASH
1805 - 1838

Richard WHITING
1811 - 1853

Susanna HARLEY
1812 - 1867

Thomas MOORE
1821 - 1890

Mary Jane KELSEY
1827 - 1874

Charles SMYTH
1782 - 1844

Cornelia Adeline KANE
1795 - 1846

John SANDS
1818 - 1873

Marjory Moffat
CHISHOLM 1830-1904

William George
WHITING
1838 - 1917

Amy Jane MOORE
1853 - 1935

John Kane SMYTH
1837 - 1891

Ada Mary SANDS
1857 - 1946

Keith Moore
WHITING
1882 - 1939

Mary Grant
SMYTH
1887 - 1969

**Sybil Kane
WHITING
1922 - 1995**

Immigrant

Born in Australia

## Thomas Kelsey's background in England.

According to his death certificate, Thomas Kelsey was born in Lincolnshire, England between 10 August 1803 and 9 August 1804[1]. Thomas Kelsey was a common name in Lincolnshire – there were at least 109 children baptised "*Thomas Kelsey*" in Lincolnshire between 1561 and 1902, of which 44 were in the Parish of Haxey. The only on-line record of a Thomas Kelsey which satisfies the information on his death certificate was born to Thomas and Mary (Morris) Kelsey and baptised at Messingham, Lincolnshire on 24 May 1804[2]. Some family trees have his birthplace as Scotton, Lincolnshire which is about four miles south of Messingham, but there is no on-line record of this.

The following assumes that Thomas' parents were in fact Thomas Kelsey and Mary Morris, who were married at Haxey on 13 January 1801[3]. Thomas Kelsey senior was born in 1773 at Owston Ferry, the district centre and port on the River Trent for shipping farm products downstream to Kingston-Upon-Hull (Hull) and beyond. Owston Ferry had its own flour mills and malting houses lining the riverbank. Mary Morris was born in 1780 at Haxey which is about three miles west of Owston Ferry. Why their son Thomas was baptised at Messingham, on the other side of the River Trent, is an unexplained anomaly. Thomas' sister Elizabeth (1801) and brother William (1808) were both baptised in Haxey.
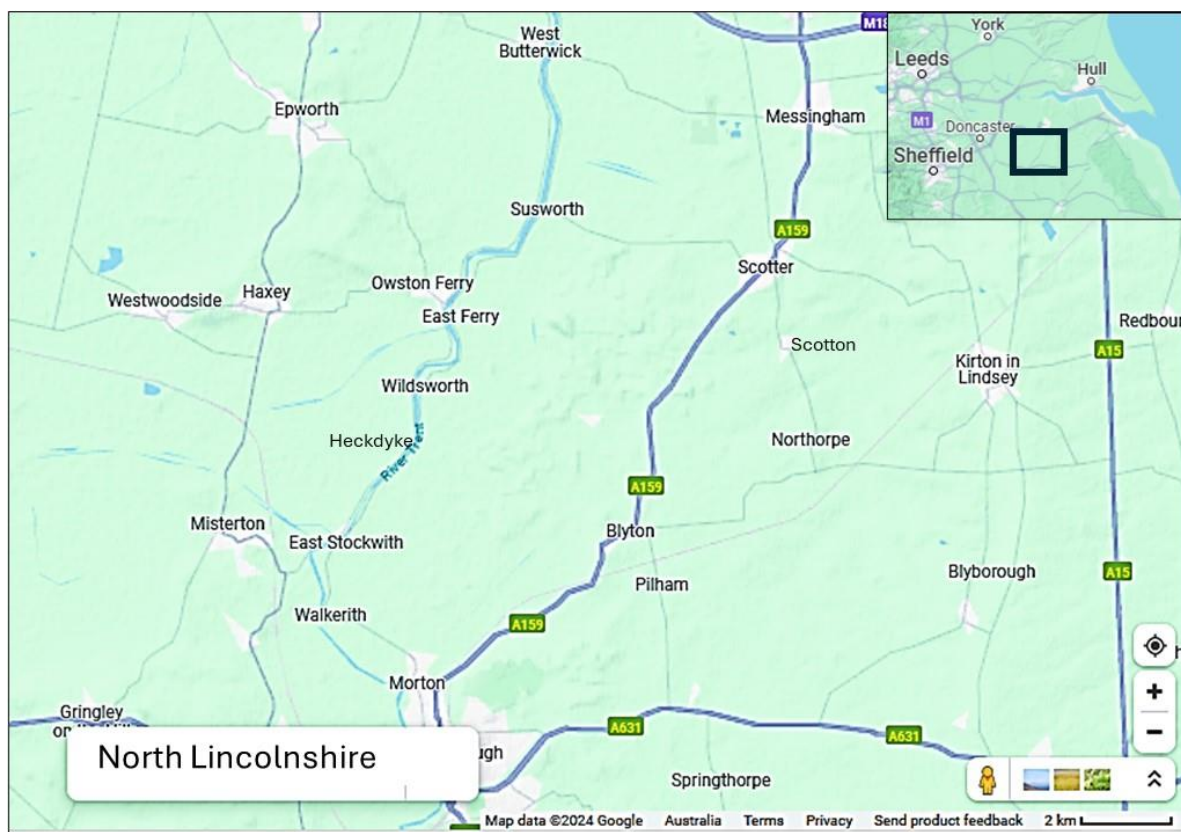


It is likely that Thomas Kelsey senior was a partner in a family farming business at Heckdyke, an agricultural area on the west bank of the Trent about four miles south of Owston Ferry. Before the construction of a network of drains and canals in the 17th century, the land was rather unproductive swamp and marsh country. Following drainage, the country became suitable for agriculture, mainly root crops such as potatoes, and flax and hemp crops for

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[1] N.S.W. Death Certificate Reg No. 970/1866
[2] Lincolnshire Baptisms. Bishop's transcript. Findmypast
[3] This is the only on-line record of a Thomas Kelsey marrying a Mary between 1795 and 1804 in Lincolnshire.

production of linen and rope. The Kelsey family were hemp and flax dealers, farmers, and chapmen, trading under the name William Kelsey and Son. Thomas Kelsey junior would have started work as a field labourer in the family business. Growing, harvesting and processing flax is highly labour-intensive, and more than a single family would have been involved in the eight stages of producing usable flax. Flax would have been rotated with wheat and barley crops, which were less labour-intensive, and the grain went to the local mills and malt houses. The farms also supported the usual array of farm animals, work horses, cows, and pigs mainly for domestic consumption and manure production. Thomas may have learned some butchering skills on the farm. Thomas, and his siblings could all read and write[4], so the Kelsey children had time for schoolwork outside work hours.

In February 1823, the family business William Kelsey and Son was declared bankrupt[5], and it appears that this prompted a career change for Thomas Kelsey senior and his family. They moved to Hull, where Thomas senior became the publican lessee of the *White Swan* on Mill-street. At about the age of twenty, Thomas junior began working as a maltster in a malting kiln and hall[6], possibly attached to one of the several breweries in Hull, or perhaps the *White Swan* had its own brewery. Hull was growing as a port and industrial city because the canal network from the Trent, Don and Ouse Rivers was being developed and extended, allowing easier access for imports and exports to/from the industrial cities of Sheffield and Leeds. Vessels from Hull mainly traded with Baltic and North Sea ports, and London. Railways were in their infancy – the first steam-powered passenger rail service opened between Manchester and Liverpool in 1830[7].

While in Hull, Thomas met his future wife, Mary Johnson. It is possible that they met earlier because Mary grew up in Scotton which is about five miles east of Owston Ferry.

## Mary Johnson's background in England.

Mary Johnson was the second child of Mark and Frances Johnson (née Mills) who had been married at Tynemouth, Northumberland on 23 May 1798[8]. Mark had enlisted in the Royal North Lincolnshire Militia in 1796. Before the Napoleonic Wars (1803-1815), militia regiments were well-established as a defensive reserve force and Mark spent many weeks away from home, marching the length and breadth of England. In December 1797, his regiment was posted to Morpeth in Northumberland where he met Frances Mills. Mark (28?) and Frances (16) eloped in April 1798 to be married. Soon afterwards, Mark's regiment was posted to Liverpool, and Frances went with him. In July 1799, the year that Napoleon took power in France, Mark volunteered for a posting in the Regular Army[9], which meant an increase in pay but also, that he could be sent overseas into action.

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[4] Signatures on Marriage Certificates

[5] Stamford Mercury 17 February 1823

[6] The Death Certificates of Thomas' daughter Jane (in 1886) and son Charles (in 1888) give Thomas' occupation as "Butcher". The informants for these certificates however, were not closely related to Thomas and may have confused Thomas with his son Thomas Kelsey Junior, who was indeed a butcher. Although Thomas Kelsey may have picked up some butchering skills, he was definitely in the brewing industry in Hull and a publican for most of his life in Sydney.

[7] "Making the Manchester Liverpool Railway". Science and Industry Museum. Wikipedia.

[8] Ancestry.com. 'England, Select Marriages, 1538-1793' FHL Film Number 1068928

[9] Public Record Office Kew. London. North Lincolnshire Militia. Muster Books & Pay Lists, W.O. 13, Number 1297 (1799)

Frances moved to Kirton-in-Lindsey, Lincolnshire, before Mark commenced his regular military service. Mark had friends (William and Hannah Williamson) living there who could help support his wife while Mark was away. Frances was pregnant when she moved, and their first child, Mark junior, was baptised at Kirton-in-Lindsey on 17 October 1799. A little over a year later, Frances was destitute and, on 27 January 1801 aged 19, Frances was examined by the Parish of Kirton under the Poor Laws for having no visible means of support. The Justices of the Peace who heard her declaration decided that Frances (and Mark junior) had no claim on the Parish of Kirton-in-Lindsey and that Mark Johnson's home Parish for the purposes of the Poor Laws was Scotton[10], about four miles to the west of Kirton-in-Lindsey.

Armed with an order from the Parish of Kirton, Frances and Mark junior moved to Scotton, threw themselves upon the charity of the Scotton Parish churchwardens for support, and waited for Mark to return. At that time, the Parish of Scotton extended to East Ferry on the River Trent, and had a population of about 4,400 people, the great majority of whom were employed in agriculture[11]. Scotton itself was a small village centred on the 13th century church, with a population of about 400 people. We can't be certain exactly where Frances lived.

Mark came home in late 1801. Their second child, Mary Johnson was born in Scotton, Lincolnshire in December 1802 and was baptised at the Parish Church of St Genewys on 1 January 1803[12]. In several on-line family trees Mary is given the middle name "Ellen", but the baptism record is for "*Mary*" only. Frances did not give any of her other England-born children a middle name, and only one original document exists where she is called "Ellen"[13], probably in error.



St Genewys Church, Scotton

Mark returned to Scotton in early 1803, not long after Jane's baptism. He was arrested in April 1803 for deserting his wife and family chargeable to the parish, and for deserting his Regiment. He was imprisoned in the Kirton-in-Lindsey bridewell (gaol) to await trial at the next quarter sessions, unless his Commanding Officer sent for him sooner[14]. Mark escaped from the bridewell on the night of 31 May 1803 with the help of Hannah Williamson but was re-arrested less than ten days later. He was recommitted on the same charges (not on his escape) to be held in the bridewell until the next quarter sessions "*unless he sooner enters into His Majesty's Sea Service*".[15] Mark did not re-appear at subsequent quarter sessions, and we assume that he was pressed into the Royal Navy, which was gearing up to repel France's naval forces.

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[10] Thomas Johnson and Hannah Johnson who were married in Scotton (East Ferry) in Dec 1767 could have been Mark's parents, although there is no record of his birth or baptism in Scotton or Kirton.

[11] Vision of Britain.org.uk "West Lindsey District", 1811 Census, 4432 people

[12] "England. Select Births and Christenings, 1538-1975' FHL Film Number 436002, 508035 Ancestry.com. '

[13] NSW Death Certificate 1055/1874 for Mary's daughter, Mary Jane (Kelsey) Moore, gives her mother's name as "Ellen". The informant, her nephew (in law) and neighbour Ben Palmer, seems to have confused Thomas Kelsey senior with his son Thomas Kelsey junior, who was a butcher and whose wife was Ellen Gadfield.

[14] Lindsey Quarter Session records. Kirton in Lindsey, Lincolnshire. 26 April 1803. LQS/A/2/25 Quarter Session Minute Book 1803-1805. Lincolnshire Archives, Lincoln, UK.

[15] Lindsey Quarter Sessions Roll. Kirton in Lindsey, Lincolnshire. July 1803. Ref LQS/A/1/315. Lincolnshire Archives, Lincoln, UK.

Mark's fate is not known (Admiralty records are inadequate for this), but it seems certain that he never returned to Scotton and his family.

With Mark's absence, the burden of rearing and feeding the children fell entirely upon Frances, who had to work hard to supplement the family's income. Frances had five more children born in Scotton; Ann (1805), Joseph (1808-1808), John (1809), Edward (1812) and Elizabeth (1814). All the children were named Johnson. The Parish Rector who baptised Ann and the subsequent children described them as the child "*of Frances Johnson, wife of Mark Johnson*", suggesting that Mark was not their father. For Edward and Elizabeth, the fathers were identified as William Turner and James Brocklesby respectively[16], but the children were still baptised "*Johnson*". In Mark's absence, Frances took multiple partners. We shall never know if Frances was unwillingly forced into promiscuity through poverty and servitude or chose it as her profession, however she was described in a note on the Parish register as "*a notorious thief and harlot.*"[17] Frances was put on trial for larceny in July 1807 (acquitted) and again in July 1809 when she was found guilty and imprisoned for two months[18]. Frances undoubtedly became an undesirable element in Scotton Parish society, and it would not have surprised anyone when she was again arrested for stealing on 12 June 1815. This time, Frances was sentenced to transportation to New South Wales for seven years. At her trial, Frances was described as a widow, but evidence of Mark's death has never been found. After a year in Lincoln Prison, Frances departed England on the *Lord Melville* in August 1816, never to return, but that was not the last time that she would see her children.

When Frances was imprisoned, Mark Johnson junior was 16, Mary 13, Ann 9, John 7, Edward 3, Elizabeth 1 and they were effectively orphans, relying on the charity of Scotton Parish to survive. Frances was unschooled and perhaps could not see any benefit in educating her children for a life of labour and servitude, even if an opportunity existed. Mark junior never learned to read or write, was apprenticed to a turner and chairmaker in 1811, but eventually returned to farm labouring. Mary also could not read or write[19] and probably went into domestic service at an early age. As the eldest female, Mary would have taken on the role of mother for the younger children, until they were separated. John learned to read and write, but Edward did not, indicating that the children were separated after Frances was transported. Edward was eventually apprenticed to a farmer in Scotton in 1822[20]. We don't know what happened to Elizabeth – she may have been taken in by her biological father James Brocklesby or remained in the care of the Overseers of the Poor in Scotton.

There are no records of Mary's life between 1815 and 1826, and from that, it seems that Mary did not follow her mother into a life of promiscuity, criminality and notoriety. We don't know what influenced her to follow a different path, avoiding the poverty trap, and her mother's reputation in Scotton. Frances may have given Mary some sound motherly advice during her childhood, or there may have been other influential people in Scotton. Given Frances' later success in New South Wales, she clearly had the strength and resilience to inspire her children towards a better life.

Mary moved to Kingston-Upon-Hull prior to 1826, probably for economic reasons as did many rural workers during the industrial revolution, but also to escape Scotton. In Hull, as a mature adult, Mary Johnson met and married Thomas Kelsey.

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[16] Lincolnshire Bastardy Orders. Find My Past
[17] Note in Parish Register for baptism of Elizabeth Johnson (Brocklesby) in 1814.
[18] "England and Wales Criminal Registers, 1791-1892". Ancestry.com.
[19] Mary made her X mark on her Marriage Certificate in 1826.
[20] Lincolnshire Archives Scotton Parish Records SCOTTON PAR 13/9/May 1822

## Marriage and family.

Thomas Kelsey (22) married Mary Johnson (24) at Holy Trinity, Hull, on 30 May 1826. The witnesses were Thomas' brother William Kelsey and the sexton at Holy Trinity, George Craven[21].



Holy Trinity, Hull (now Hull Minster). By Richard Lockett

Three children were born in Hull; Mary Jane (1827) who was always called *Jane* to distinguish her from her mother, Charles (1829) and Ann (1831). Jane was baptised at All Saints Sculcoates, a suburb of Hull, on 6 May 1827[22]. Charles remained unbaptised until 1836. Ann was baptised in Hull on 24 September 1831, but this was not recorded until 1833. It seems that church business was not high on their list of family priorities.

Thomas Kelsey senior died in Hull on 21 January 1829[23] and his remains were taken to his home parish, Owston Ferry, for burial on 23 January[24]. Thomas (with Mary and maybe his sister Elizabeth) took over as the publican of the *White Swan*. Elizabeth married Richard Chambers, a mariner and pilot for the Port of Hull, in 1832 leaving Thomas and Mary at the hotel with three young children. Frances Kelsey, named after her grandmother, was Thomas and Mary's fourth child. She was probably born in Hull in the second half of 1832 based on the information on her death certificate[25].

Meanwhile in New South Wales, Frances had served her seven-year sentence, was free and had established herself in the colony. After several de-facto relationships and two more children, in 1828 she remarried to Capper Pass, originally a convict assigned to her. Frances

[21] "England, Yorkshire, Parish Registers. 1538-2016" FamilySearch
[22] "England Select Baptisms and Christenings, 1538-1975". Ancestry.com
[23] Hull Packet Tuesday 3 February 1829
[24] "England Select Deaths and Burials 1539-1991". Ancestry.com
[25] NSW Death Certificate Registration No 210/1886 Frances Cowell

had acquired some land in Sydney and with her new husband, ran a successful bakery business. With help from friends, Frances reconnected with her children back in England and, in 1831, sponsored her youngest sons John and Edward to emigrate to New South Wales aboard the *Renown*. Their voyage via Hobart lasted 179 days. A 27-year-old woman named Ann Johnson, possibly Frances' daughter, arrived in the *Renown* the following year, as a bounty immigrant along with 32 other single female domestic servants.

Presumably, Thomas and Mary received a (dictated) letter from Mary's mother Frances and/or from her brother John in late 1833, extolling the virtues of life in New South Wales, informing them that John and Edward Johnson were happily settled, and perhaps offering them assistance to emigrate. The decision must have been difficult. The warm climate and economic opportunities in New South Wales may have seemed appealing during a cold northern winter, but newspaper reports of ships to the colonies being wrecked (e.g. *Amphitrite*, *Hibernia*) with large loss of life must have been concerning. There were also newspaper articles warning that the reported economic benefits of emigrating to New South Wales were exaggerated. On the other hand, Hull's rapid growth was bringing anti-social behaviour to the city and to their business. In March 1834, a local constable described the *White Swan* as "*a very disorderly and ill-conducted house*"[26]. Later that year, the *White Swan* was described as "*a public house in that street of notoriously bad character*"[27].

So, Thomas and Mary Kelsey made the decision to emigrate, and began to look for a suitable passage, of which there were many on offer, but few departed as first advertised. Their reply to Frances would not have reached New South Wales before May 1834 as the average voyage from England was 132 days[28]. When it did, Frances began to prepare for their arrival and withdrew her advertisement to let the *Green Gate* Hotel[29].

In January 1834, the *White Swan* was advertised to be let[30], and the lease was taken over by a Mr Milner and his wife. The Kelsey family left Hull and briefly moved back to Heckdyke. Their daughter Frances was baptised at nearby Misterton on 2 February 1834[31], and it seems they were saying goodbye to family and friends because by March 1835, they had arrived in New South Wales[32]. There were 38 ships which sailed from an English port after the 8 February 1834, arriving in New South Wales (usually via Hobart) before March 1835. There is no record of the Kelsey family's arrival in the colony because they probably came as steerage passengers, who were rarely named individually in newspapers. Government free-immigrant records for that time no longer exist. Of Frances' children only Mark junior and Elizabeth were now left in England. Mark Johnson (Jr), also known as Mark Williamson, was eventually transported to New South Wales as a convict in 1838, after Frances' death.

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[26] Hull Packet 8 March 1834.
[27] Hull Packet 22 Aug 1834.
[28] Average of 34 voyages arriving in Sydney from English ports 15 Feb 1834 to 9 Apr 1835.
[29] Sydney Monitor 28 May 1834 page 4
[30] Hull Packet 24 January 1834
[31] "England Select Births and Baptisms, 1538-1975." Ancestry.com
[32] Thomas Kelsey, Lane Cove, assigned 1 groom during March 1835. New South Wales Government Gazette 17 Jun 1835 p417

## Lane Cove, New South Wales

Before describing the Kelsey family's experiences in New South Wales, it is necessary to set the scene for their arrival. The Lane Cove district, where they first settled, straddled the Sydney-Maitland (Lane Cove) road[33], which followed the heavily forested watershed between the Middle Harbour waterway to the east, and the Lane Cove River system to the west.

The Lane Cove district, also including Hunters Hill and Field of Mars, had about 300 residents, who mainly lived on small acreages either side of Lane Cove Road and down to the Lane Cove River. They grew maize, wheat, potatoes, fruit, and grazed livestock, hens and pigs. The bulk of the produce was taken to one of the wharves on the Lane Cove River and ferried down-river and across the harbour for sale in Sydney. Timber-cutting was the main industry beyond the cleared farming land. Closer to the water courses, the land fell away steeply with development of cliffs, large overhangs and rock shelters, originally used and decorated by the aboriginal inhabitants, but then used as hideouts by convict absconders and bush rangers.
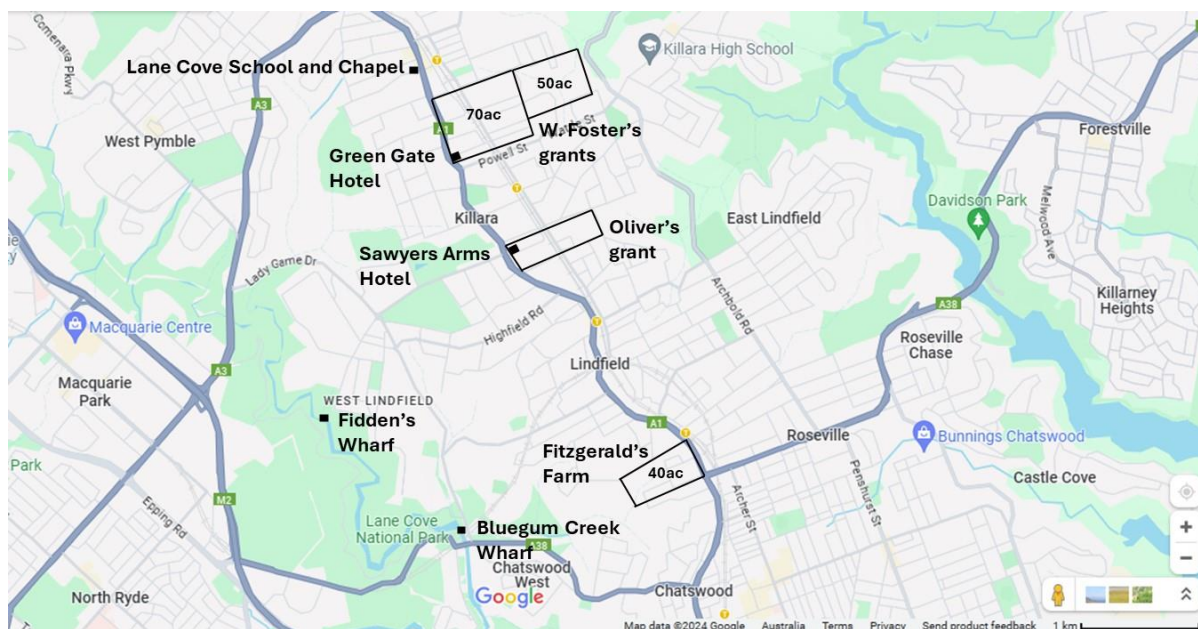


Some early Land Grants in the Lane Cove District, overlain on a present-day map.

Two of the earliest settlers in the district were William Foster and Michael Fitzgerald, who started clearing and farming their blocks from about 1806 onwards[34]. William Foster was married with one surviving son. He was the District Constable for Lane Cove[35] from 1812 to about 1827 and had been influential in establishing a local schoolhouse in 1817[36]. By 1822, 26 acres of his 70-acre block had been cleared and about ten acres was under cultivation[37]. He was a founding father of the local community. William's neighbour, Michael Fitzgerald was also married with children and was also a constable[38]. Michael had a 40-acre block and, by

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[33] Now the Pacific Highway at Killara
[34] The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser, 4 May 1806 Page 4
[35] The Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser, 18 Jul 1812 Page 1
[36] Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser, Saturday 15 June 1816, page 1
[37] New South Wales Census and Population Books 1811-1825. Land and Stock 1822.
[38] New South Wales Colonial Secretary's Papers 1788-1826. Petition dated 3 July 1815

1822 had cleared 12 acres, all under cultivation. Both properties would feature prominently in the Johnson and Kelsey family story.

In the early 1820s, William Foster developed a firm friendship with Frances Johnson and her then de-facto partner John Foster. John was also a constable, stationed in the Colonial Secretary's office in Sydney. When John Foster died in 1823, William Foster provided Frances and her two children with shelter, a stone cottage in the southwest corner of his grant, and employment on his farm. Like an adoptive uncle or a godfather, William Foster (and his wife) took an interest in Frances and her illegitimate children William (born 1818) and Hannah Eleanor (born 1821), their education and prospects. The children often stayed at his place and went to school in Lane Cove while their mother worked in the city. Michael Fitzgerald died in 1828, the same year that Frances married Capper Pass, and William Foster probably recommended that Frances and Capper take the lease over Fitzgerald's Farm. When Frances' son Edward Johnson arrived in 1831, having been apprenticed to a farmer in Lincolnshire, he naturally became manager of Fitzgerald's Farm. It was William Foster who provided the land (and probably the building materials) to establish the *Gate Hotel* in 1832 at the site of Frances' stone cottage, with John Johnson as publican. It was renamed the *Green Gate* in 1833. John Johnson (24) married a neighbour, Charlotte Oliver (16) in 1833 and their first child was born in June 1834. John Johnson and his wife decided to establish a new hotel, the *Sawyers Arms*, about one kilometre south of the *Green Gate* at the head of Fidden's Wharf Road, where Charlotte's family had a land grant. This left the *Green Gate* open for occupation by Thomas and Mary Kelsey when they arrived in early 1835.

When the Kelseys arrived, they were surrounded by family and a strong community. Mary's brother John and his wife Charlotte lived not far away; Mary's brother Edward and half-brother William managed a farm nearby; Mary's mother Frances and her husband Capper had a bakery business in the city; Mary's half-sister Eleanor stayed next door with William Foster and would have become friends with the Kelsey children. The Kelseys walked into an established business and a home with a garden and orchard. The refurbished Lane Cove School House and Chapel, located where the Church of St John the Evangelist now stands, was a ten-minute walk north of the *Green Gate*. Few new colonists at that time would have been better prepared.



Greengate Hotel (as rebuilt in 1852)

Greengate Hotel (as rebuilt in 1943)

Of course, the original hotel bore no resemblance to the two-storey brick, tile and glass heritage-listed structure that is the *Greengate* Hotel today. It was a single storey building of local sandstone and timber, probably with a shingle and bark roof and a sandy flagstone floor. There were stables and a corral for horses, a garden, orchard and ten acres of cultivated land[39]. It was prone to threat from bushfires and violent storms that ravage Sydney during the summer months. Water was drawn from a local spring and well. About the only surviving part of the original hotel may be the sign on the gate, which reads;

> "Ye Olde Green Gate Inn.
> This gate hangs well
> And hinders none
> Refresh and pay
> And travel on."[40]

The hotel was a rough place, frequented by local landholders, timber cutters, convicts and travellers who attracted thieves and bushrangers. It was a fringe outpost, separated from Sydney city by the harbour, and somewhat isolated from Sydney society and regulation. Alcohol-fuelled violence would have been a common occurrence and, in later years, the *Green Gate* developed a reputation for illegal bare-knuckle fights.

Thomas Kelsey was formally granted a Publican's Licence for the *Green Gate* Hotel in July 1835[41] – he was the lessee, not the owner – that was Frances Johnson in trust for her daughter Eleanor, aged 14. By this date, Sydney had a thriving array of hotels and a local brewing industry to supply them, although imported English ale was still preferred. Wine, brandy, rum and other spirits were largely imported, although numerous local (mainly illegal) distilleries supplied the sly grog trade.

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[39] Sydney Monitor 28 May 1834, p4
[40] "Pint Pots and Oranges" by Violet Scahill, 1993.
[41] New South Wales, Certificates for Publicans' Licences, 1830-1849. Ancestry.com

It became compulsory to hold a Publican's License to sell alcohol in New South Wales after 1825[42]. Each year, publicans had to re-apply for their Publican's License, and have their application assessed by a panel of J.P.s and magistrates. By 1839, there were 260 applications for publican's licenses in Sydney, of which twenty were refused. Public Houses were heavily regulated, and the regulations were often amended in response to submissions by the publicans and by the public. Among the many regulations in 1835 were the following[43];

- Applications had to be accompanied by attestation from five respectable residents as to the publican's "good fame and reputation", £25 licensing fee and £100 surety.
- Have their name and Licence displayed at the door and keep a lamp with at least two burners alight over the door, every night.
- Trade between 4 a.m. and 9 p.m. from October to March (summer) and between 6 a.m. and 9 p.m. from April to September (winter), with no trading on Sundays, Good Friday and Christmas Day.
- Not to have a skittle ground, ball court, dice, cards, bowls, billiards, quoits or other implements used in gaming, or to allow gaming on the premises.
- Provide travellers' accommodation with at least two sleeping rooms and two sitting rooms, with stabling and food for at least six horses.
- Not serve alcohol to convicts (without permission), drunkards, or aboriginal natives.

Penalties for not observing these regulations could result in a fine of £5 to £50 and, in the worst circumstances for multiple offences, cancellation of the license for three years and forfeiture of the surety. Regulations were enforced by police, constables and magistrates. By 1838, a Licensed Victuallers Association had been established in New South Wales, to make submissions to Government on behalf of the industry, and to establish standards within the industry. The Association, however, was not universally supported by publicans. Formation of the Association was, in part, a response to the growing Temperance movement, which began in the United States in the 1820s, spread to Scotland and England in the early 1830s and to the colonies soon afterwards. The first public meeting of the New South Wales Temperance Society was held in November 1834, and it had about 500 members[44].

The Licensed Victuallers had stiff competition from unlicensed victuallers, known as sly grog sellers, numbers of which far exceeded the publicans during the 1820s and 1830s. They sold cheap, often adulterated or diluted spirits and liquor and were completely unregulated, despite police efforts to capture and prosecute them. Frances Johnson and her husband Capper Pass may have had a sideline as sly grog sellers during the 1820s[45], before Frances became respectable.

Of course, during the Kelsey's occupation of the *Green Gate*, there were many incidents that are part and parcel of running any hotel, and a few of them made the Sydney newspapers. Thomas had experience of hotels from his time in Hull, so the work wasn't unfamiliar, but with Lane Cove's isolation and the *Green Gate's* clientele, it must have seemed like the wild west compared to Hull. In 1835, two convicts assigned to Thomas Kelsey were charged and convicted of assaulting a neighbour. One of them received fifty lashes as punishment, and

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[42] Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser. 10 February 1825 page 1. An Act to regulate " the granting of Licenses for the Sale of Spirits Ale Beer and other " Liquors in New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land respectively.
[43] An Act for consolidating and amending the Laws relating to the licensing of Public-houses and for further regulating the Sale and Consumption of Fermented and Spiritous Liquors in New South Wales. No. XVIII (26th September 1838)
[44] The Sydney Monitor. 19 November 1834 p2
[45] Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser. 16 Sep 1826 Page 4

Thomas was told to "keep his assigned servants under proper subjection".[46] In 1836, a sawyer who had been staying with William Foster was badly beaten by patrons drinking at the *Green Gate* for having shot a bushranger while attempting to apprehend him. It seems there was some local sympathy for bushrangers. The sawyer went back to William Foster's house, armed himself with a pistol and was threatening all and sundry. Mary Kelsey asked two men to go and disarm him but in doing so, the sawyer pointed the pistol at one man and pulled the trigger; fortunately, it did not discharge. He was charged with attempted murder but was acquitted on the grounds that the gun was not primed. There was applause in the courtroom, but not before one of the witnesses (from the city) had remarked on "the general lawless state of the neighbourhood"[47]. Also in 1836, Thomas was involved in a court case against the Sheriff, who had seized a horse that he was minding on behalf of a debtor of Capper Pass, Thomas' father-in-law. The court found that the horse had been seized illegally[48]. Again in 1836, the District Constable (Robert Pymble) went to the *Green Gate* to quell a disturbance. Thomas pointed out the culprit, an assigned convict, whereupon the culprit stabbed the constable with a knife. He was arrested, tried, found guilty of maiming with intent to do grievous bodily harm and was executed[49].

Amongst all this excitement, the Kelsey family was attempting to live a normal life. The elder children Jane, Charles and maybe Ann were attending school and helping their parents around the hotel. Mary Kelsey would have been in the kitchen, sometimes helping behind the bar and seeing to travellers' needs. They had some assigned convicts to help them in the garden and the stables. Thomas and Mary welcomed their fifth child, Elizabeth Kelsey, known as Bessie, on 26 June 1836 and she was baptised two months later at Field of Mars, along with her seven-year-old brother Charles who somehow missed being baptised in England[50].

## Cook's River, New South Wales

Mary's mother Frances (Mills, Johnson) Pass died on 23 December 1837 at the Royal Oak Hotel in George Street, where her husband Capper Pass held Publican's License. She left her assets, including two properties in Sussex and Kent Streets in the city and the *Green Gate* at Lane Cove, in trust for her children William and Eleanor. This tragic event initiated major changes for the Kelsey and Johnson families over the next two years.

When Frances died, the *Green Gate* property had just been designated as the local Pound for strayed stock, with Thomas Kelsey appointed the Lane Cove Pound-keeper[51]. Six months later however, Thomas had the License for the *Green Gate* transferred to the *Blue Bell* Hotel in Phillip Street in Sydney city[52], and it seems that the family moved to the city. Thomas and Mary had their sixth child, Thomas Kelsey junior, born in Sydney on 11 October 1838. He was baptised a month later at St Phillips (Anglican) Church, which was situated in what is now Lang Park.

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[46] Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser. 3 November 1835 Page 2
[47] Sydney Herald 11 February 1836, Page 2
[48] Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser.23 June 1836 Page 3
[49] Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser. 20 Aug 1836 Page 3
[50] Australian Births and Baptisms, 1792-1981. Ancestry.com
[51] Sydney Monitor 5 January 1838, Page 2
[52] Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser.12 July 1838 Page 2

In 1839, Thomas was again granted a license for the *Green Gate* at Lane Cove[53]. It seems he now had a *Green Gate* license covering two locations. Perhaps the Licensing authorities were as confused as this researcher.

Mary's half-sister Eleanor Johnson married James Oatley junior on 1 January 1839. Thomas transferred the license for the Phillip Street *Green Gate* to James Oatley junior[54] in December 1839. By April 1840 however, neither Thomas Kelsey nor James Oatley held a Publican's License. The license for the *Green Gate* at Lane Cove was granted to John Cormack; the *Sawyer's Arms* license was granted to Daniel Bullock, Charlotte Johnson's stepfather, with John and Charlotte Johnson moving to the *George Inn* at the corner of Castlereagh and Market Streets in the city. The Phillip Street *Green Gate* (ex-*Blue Bell*) temporarily disappeared[55] from the registers.

These changes followed the death in October 1839 of James Oatley's father, James Oatley senior, who bequeathed his 175-acre farm called *Snugborough Park*[56] to his son. This farm was situated on Wolli Creek, a tributary of the Cook's River which flows into Botany Bay, south of Sydney. Between 1839 and 1841, the New South Wales Government constructed a dam across the Cook's River. The dam, built by convict labour, was designed as a water supply for Sydney, but also provided road access to the western shore of Botany Bay, the George's River and beyond to Wollongong. This opened land for sale along the new road, and it appears that Thomas Kelsey leased from James Oatley a four-acre block beside the road, about one mile south of the dam, on which he built a house-cum-hotel. The location was known as Snugborough Cove*,* because (pre-dam) this is where James Oatley senior moored the dinghy he used for rowing across Cook's River to access his farm. Thomas named the hotel *The Yorkshireman's Coat of Arms,* perhaps in homage to his time in Hull. The name was informally shortened to the *Yorkshireman's* or just *York Arms* over time. His first Publican's License for this hotel was granted on 18 June 1841, but he was probably in business before then.

The land at Snugborough Cove was flat, rich alluvial silt from the Cook's River basin, had a permanent freshwater spring, and was ideal for market gardens, orchards and nurseries. It wasn't long before the Kelsey family established a thriving business supplying produce for the local and passing trade, and for the Sydney markets. It's possible that Thomas raised and slaughtered livestock on-site for domestic use and for sale, although there is no evidence for this. The *Yorkshireman's Arms* became a staging and rest point for traffic along the Sydney-Wollongong Road, and a regular coach service was established, twice a day, between the hotel and Sydney[57].

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[53] MHNSW Publicans' Licenses Index 1830-1861. NRS 14401 [4/70], Reel 5055 License 138
[54] Australian, 5 December 1839 Page 2
[55] Commercial Journal and Advertiser 25 April 1840, Page 2
[56] Sometimes spelled "*Snugsborough*"
[57] Sydney Morning Herald 14 Dec 1843 page 3

Tempe House, Cook's River. circa 1845.[58] Looking southwest along the dam.
Kelsey's public house was beyond the tree line behind Tempe House

Thomas and Mary's seventh child, Ellen Kelsey, was born at Cook's River on 7 July 1841, and baptised five weeks later at St Peter's (Anglican) Church, Cook's River. Their abode on 15 August was given as "*Mr Oatley's Farm*"[59], so the friendship between the Kelsey and Oatley families must have been very close and it remained strong throughout their lives[60]. In the 1841 Census, there were nine people living at Snugborough Cove in a single wooden house: Thomas, Mary and their seven surviving children[61]. Thomas and Mary's eighth and last child, Joseph Enoch Kelsey was born at Snugborough Cove on 17 September 1843 and baptised at St. Peter's five weeks later.

Life for the Kelsey family was unremarkable over the next three years. Sydney continued to grow and the area around Snugborough Cove was gradually cleared, subdivided and settled. The Cook's River Dam turned out to be wholly unsuitable for Sydney's water supply. The Kelsey and Oatley families had timber rights over several estates, including Kingsgrove near *Snugborough Park*, and it seems that they had a common interest in breeding horses. James Oatley Jr extended this passion into horse racing and, in 1844, he returned to the hotel business as publican of the *Sportsman's Arms* in the city. At the same time, he leased part of *Snugborough Park* to his brother-in-law, Edward Johnson, a farmer.

In July 1846, Thomas Kelsey transferred the Publican's License for the *Yorkshireman's Coat of Arms* to Mary's half-brother William Johnson, who immediately transferred the license location to the corner of Kent and Druitt Street in Sydney city. The public house near the

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[58] By Samuel Elyard. From the collections of the State Library of New South Wales [a128477 / SSV*/Sp Coll/Elyard/2] (Mitchell Library)

[59] New South Wales, St Peters Cooks River, Select Births, Marriages and Burials, 1839-1863. Ancestry.com

[60] James and Eleanor Oatley acknowledged the friendship by naming their second son William Kelsey Oatley.

[61] 1841 New South Wales, Australia, Census. Ancestry.com

Cook's River Dam disappeared from the register. The likely reason for these moves was that the lease on the Cook's River property was about to expire, but the structure survived as a landmark for many years afterwards. The land where "*Kelsey's old public house and orchard*" stood was subdivided in 1883[62], and there is a Kelsey Street in Arncliffe to commemorate the family's contribution.
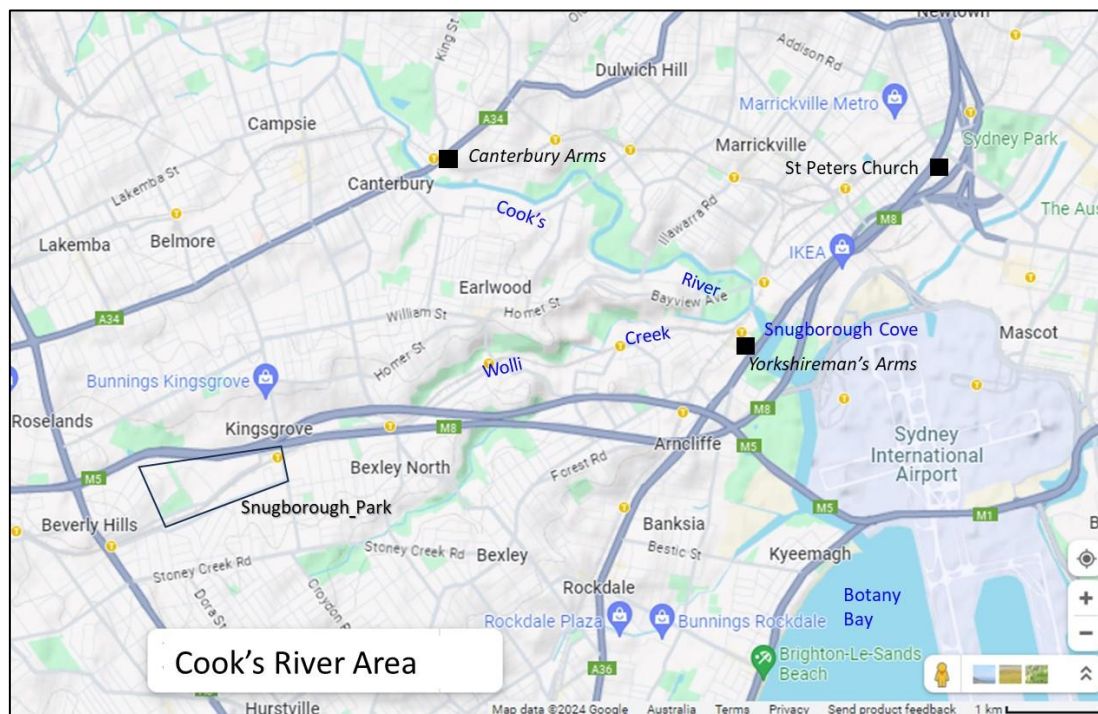


Some early Land Grants in the Cook's River District, overlain on a present-day map.

Thomas and Mary Kelsey and their family moved to Canterbury, about six kilometres up the Cook's River, where Thomas took over the License for the *Canterbury Arms* from John File. The first Publican's License for the *Canterberry [sic] Arms* was granted in 1843, and there is still a hotel at the site on Canterbury Road.

Thomas and Mary's eldest child, (Mary) Jane Kelsey married Thomas Moore on 6 August 1846 at the Holy Trinity Church in Sydney. Thomas Moore was the publican of the *City Wine Vaults* in George Street, and the couple probably met through the common family interest in hotels. This marriage merged two dynasties of Sydney publicans – the Johnson and the Moore families. The merger was strengthened when, on 14 September 1857, Elizabeth Kelsey married Robert Yeend[63] at St John's Darlinghurst. (See Appendix 2. Publicans' Licenses of the Johnson and Moore Families). Thomas and Jane Moore went on to have four children, two of whom survived to adulthood, one being my great grandmother, Amy Jane Moore.

Being a publican in New South Wales involved more than just selling alcohol and providing accommodation and meals. Hotels were community meeting places and points of contact for advertisers. Coronial inquests were commonly held in the local hotel, as well as political meetings when local government elections were in progress, and regular meetings of local social clubs. Thomas Kelsey was active in the benevolent society movement. There had been an Independent Order of Odd Fellows in Sydney from February 1836. They held annual dinners and balls to raise money for their Widows' and Orphans' Fund and met regularly at

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[62] Sydney Morning Herald 5 Feb 1883 page 11
[63] Robert Yeend was Thomas Moore's nephew

various hotels to socialise and talk business. The Sydney District of the Grand United Order of Odd Fellows (GUOOF) was established in New South Wales in 1846. The branch Victoria Lodge No. 922, with Thomas Kelsey as Treasurer, met every second Monday at the *Canterbury Arms.* Thomas Kelsey was elected District Master of the GUOOF in 1848[64]. James Oatley and Thomas Moore were brother Odd Fellows in the same lodge.

Thomas and Mary Kelsey's first grandchild, Christiana Harriet Margaret Moore was born in Sydney on 27 March 1848. They would go on to have 63 grandchildren over the next 39 years, although they would never meet many of them. Christiana died aged 22 months, and 18 of their grandchildren (almost 30%) failed to reach adulthood. Mostly, they died in infancy of measles, whooping cough, "inflammatory croup" and other childhood diseases which have now largely been eliminated in Australia. The Kelsey's children and grandchildren are listed in Appendix 1.

In April 1849 at St Philip's Church, Thomas and Mary's second daughter Ann Kelsey (17) married George Codlin (25). George had settled in Auckland, New Zealand, but he traded horses between Sydney and Auckland and visited Sydney often for supplies. On a voyage to Auckland in December 1847, returning in March 1848, William N Palmer (brother-in-law of Thomas Moore, and publican at the *Dumbarton Castle*) was a fellow passenger[65]. This may have been George's introduction to the Moore and Kelsey families. After the marriage, George and Ann were publicans at the *City Inn* for six months before leaving in August 1850 for their home in Onehunga, Auckland N.Z. Ann was pregnant with their first of fifteen children, of whom thirteen reached adulthood. George and Ann spent most of their working lives as publicans. George was twice elected mayor of Onehunga[66].

## Attempted retirement

In July 1849, Thomas gave up the *Canterbury Arms* and moved to the *Currency Lass*, in the city. He and Mary ran this hotel for about two years, but it appears that Thomas had decided to become one of the landed gentry. His brother-in-law James Oatley junior, and son-in-law Thomas Moore were making property investments around the city, and Thomas Kelsey followed suit, also acquiring rental properties. In particular, he had houses and land at Camperdown, all of which have now been consumed by Sydney University and Royal Prince Alfred Hospital. By 1851, Thomas had surrendered his publicans' license for the *Currency Lass.* This was at a time when being a publican in Sydney would have been very lucrative because gold was discovered in New South Wales in May 1851 and, later that year, in Victoria which had just become a separate colony. This heralded an era of great wealth creation and population growth in Eastern Australia, and the demand for alcohol and accommodation was very strong.

In June 1851, Thomas' and Mary's third daughter Frances (18), married Timothy Alfred Cowell (27), who was publican at the *Builders' Arms* on the corner of Liverpool and Charles Streets. After the birth of their first child, Fanny Jane Cowell in 1853, they moved to the *Sportsman's Arms* on the corner of Pitt and Goulburn Streets. This hotel had previously been managed by Eleanor Johnson (Frances' aunt) and her husband James Oatley Jr. The Oatleys retired from

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[64] The GUOOF competed for membership with the Australian Supreme Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and other Lodges.
[65] Sydney Chronicle 7 Dec 1847
[66] The New Zealand Herald and Daily Southern Cross. 26 July 1890

hotel keeping, and James entered public life, becoming a city alderman in November 1852[67]. Frances and Timothy Cowell remained at the *Sportsman's Arms* during the hectic days of the gold rushes, had two more children and should have become wealthy, but in 1859, Frances was forced to sell a cottage she owned in Burwood Road Cheltenham to pay debts[68]. In February 1860, Timothy Cowell was declared insolvent and their belongings, including the hotel furnishings, fittings and license were put up for auction[69]. How Timothy managed to accumulate so much debt is unknown – perhaps he was a gambler and gold speculator. In May 1860, the estate was wound up with debtors receiving 8½d in the pound. Frances was allowed to keep the furniture and apparel which had not been already sold[70]. Her father Thomas Kelsey came out of semi-retirement and took over the license for the *Sportsman's Arms*[71]. Timothy Cowell spent seven days in Darlinghurst Gaol for not making certain payments under the Deserted Wives and Childrens Act[72]. Frances separated from Timothy and continued to run the *Sportsman's Arms* with her father as licensee.

Meanwhile, Thomas and Mary's son Charles Kelsey married Emily Gilmore in 1852. Charles and Emily initially ran the *Hand and Heart Hotel* before moving out to the *Australian Hotel* in Wellington (N.S.W.) to follow the gold miners. They returned to Sydney in 1860 and took over management of the *Queensland Hotel* at the corner of Kent and Erskine Streets in 1862. This hotel was newly built and owned by Charles' brother-in-law Thomas Moore who used it as a business address and office, but the hotel was managed by a member of the Kelsey family until 1879. Charles and Emily had four children, three of whom died before the age of three.

On 14 September 1857, Thomas' and Mary's fourth daughter Elizabeth ('Bessie') Kelsey married Robert Yeend, a member of the Moore family. Upon his marriage, Robert replaced his father James Yeend as publican of the *Commercial Hotel* at the corner of King and Sussex Streets, which James had managed since 1846. Elizabeth and Robert started a family and had seven children over the next fifteen years, of which only two reached adulthood. In November 1863, Robert purchased the *Commercial Hotel* from the estate of Francis King and went on to purchase several other properties in the vicinity[73].

While Thomas and Mary Kelsey were helping daughter Frances manage the *Sportsman's Arms*, two more of their surviving children were married. Thomas Kelsey junior became a butcher by trade and left Sydney for the Victorian goldfields in about 1854, settling initially at Spring Creek, the site of the first gold discovery near Beechworth. No doubt he became wealthy, feeding hordes of hungry diggers and the 20,000+ residents of Beechworth in 1857[74]. On 25 January 1863, he married Ellen Gadfield at his home at Lake Moodemere near Rutherglen. Thomas and Ellen went on to have six children, all of whom reached adulthood. Thomas Kelsey Junior was the only one of Thomas and Mary Kelsey's adult children not to become a publican but one of his children, Walter Brice Kelsey, became a publican after starting his career as a butcher in Corowa.

Thomas and Mary's fifth and youngest daughter, Ellen Kelsey, married John Blow on 9 November 1865 at St John's Darlinghurst. The marriage was "by Special License" which was unusual. John came from a farming family at Gerringong but was described as a Commission Agent on the marriage certificate, which was witnessed by Thomas Moore and Kate Stanfield,

[67] Oatley, James Jr. by Terri McCormack, 2012. The Dictionary of Sydney
[68] Sydney Morning Herald 28 May 1859 p10
[69] New South Wales Government Gazette 24 February 1860 (No 38) p385
[70] Sydney Morning Herald 29 May 1860 p2
[71] Empire. 6 September 1860 p5
[72] New South Wales Australia, Gaol Description and Entrance Books, 1818-1930. Ancestry.com
[73] "Moore or Less Related", compiled by Jenny Hawkins. Goanna Print, 2007. p.96
[74] The Beechworth Gold Rush | Beechworth, Victoria (explorebeechworth.com.au)

both members of the Moore family. After their marriage, John and Ellen took over as publicans of the *Commercial Hotel* from Ellen's sister and brother-in-law Elizabeth and Robert Yeend. Ellen and John went on to have three children.

Mary's half-sister Eleanor Oatley died in January 1865 at her home in Bourke Street Woolloomooloo. By that time, James Oatley junior had been elected the mayor of Sydney (1862), was a magistrate, and a Member of the Legislative Assembly representing Canterbury.[75]

Thomas Kelsey's health began to deteriorate during 1866 and on 23 July, he wrote his last Will, leaving everything to his wife Mary and after her death, to be divided among his children in equal shares[76]. His executors were his son Charles and his son-in-law Thomas Moore. He died at the *Sportsman's Arms* on 9 August 1866 aged 62. According to his death certificate, he died of disease of the liver after many months of illness, an occupational hazard for many publicans. Thomas' son-in-law Thomas Moore was the informant, but he knew little about Thomas Kelsey's parents[77]. Thomas was buried at the Camperdown Cemetery on 11 August 1866.


## Mary's widowhood

Thomas' estate was sworn at £1700 and was granted to Mary on 14 September 1866. It included two double-storey homes on Missenden Road Camperdown, a cottage in Grose Street Camperdown and two blocks of land nearby. The houses were rented out and provided Mary with a steady income during her widowhood. In Thomas Kelsey's absence, his daughter Frances Cowell became licensee and continued to manage the *Sportsman's Arms,* and to care for her mother Mary Kelsey. Mary lived for another eleven years, during which time her family experienced several births, deaths and marriages.

Thomas and Mary's eighth child Joseph Enoch Kelsey married Emma Hill in 1867 and following the family tradition, became the licensee for the *Queensland Hotel* in 1872, taking over from his brother Charles. Joseph and his wife Emma went on to have six children, three surviving to adulthood. Joseph had a long career in hotel-keeping, becoming prominent in the Licensed Victuallers' Association and, after Joseph's death, Emma continued keeping hotels until 1901 when she remarried.

Charles Kelsey's first wife Emily died at the *Queensland Hotel* on 31 January 1868 and in October that year, Charles (39) remarried to an Irish lass, Honoria Mackee (25) who was a barmaid at his hotel. In 1872, Charles and Honoria took over the *White Horse Inn*, George Street. Charles and Honoria had three children before Honoria died at the *White Horse Inn* in April 1874. Later that year, Charles (now 45) remarried to another Irish lass, Mary Ann McGrath (23) and fathered another eight children with her, bringing his total to fifteen.

Mary Kelsey's son-in-law John Blow died very suddenly in 1873 at the *Commercial Hotel*. Ellen his wife continued to manage the hotel until December 1874, when the license for the hotel was transferred to Charles Yeend, a Moore relative. Ellen retired from hotel-keeping and in 1876 remarried to Gordon Korff, J.P. Thomas Moore and his daughter Amy were witnesses at the wedding. Ellen and Gordon had two children.

[75] Oatley, James Jr. by Terri McCormack, 2012. The Dictionary of Sydney.
[76] New South Wales Will Books, 1800-1952. FindMyPast.
[77] New South Wales Death Certificate Registration Number 970/1866

Robert White Moore, the licensee since 1840 and (later) owner of the *Fortune of War Hotel* in George Street, retired from hotel keeping in 1869, and died in November 1870. Robert's son inherited the hotel, but the Moore family chose Jane Moore's sister, Frances Cowell to be the new licensee. In 1869, Frances sold the stock and contents of the *Sportsman's Arms*[78] and, with her mother Mary Kelsey, moved to the *Fortune of War.* Frances took over the license for the *Fortune of War* in 1871, and this is where Mary Kelsey lived out her days.

Mary Kelsey's eldest daughter Jane Moore died at her home in Darlinghurst in 1874, before she had a chance to see her daughters married. Emily Moore married Edwin Bennett at St. John's Darlinghurst on 1 January 1875, and Amy Moore (my great-grandmother) married William George Whiting at St John's on 31 March 1877. Mary Kelsey managed to see both her granddaughters married, but she died of debility and old age a fortnight after Amy's wedding on 17 April 1877 at the *Fortune of War* Hotel, aged 75[79]. Mary was buried with her husband Thomas at the Camperdown Cemetery on 19 April 1877. In accordance with Thomas' wishes his estate was subdivided among his children, with the Camperdown properties sold by auction in October 1879.[80]



Fortune of War Hotel, 2023

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[78] Sydney Morning Herald 5 Jun 1869 page 10
[79] New South Wales Death Certificate Registration Number 660/1877
[80] Sydney Morning Herald 9 October 1879 page 10

**APPENDIX 1**       **THOMAS AND MARY KELSEY'S FAMILY**

**Thomas Kelsey (1804-1866)**
*m 1826*
**Mary Johnson (1802-1877)**

**Mary Jane Kelsey (1827-1874)**
*m 1846*
**Thomas Moore (1821-1890)**

| | |
|---|---|
| Christian Harriet M | b 1848 |
| Emily Mary | b 1850 |
| Amy Jane | b 1853 |
| Tom Robert Kelsey | b 1863 |

**Charles Kelsey (1829-1888)**
*m1 1852*
**Emily Gilmore (1831-1868)**
*m2 1868*
**Honoria Mackee (1843-1874)**
*m3 1874*
**Mary Ann McGrath (1851-1935)**

| | |
|---|---|
| Emily Mary | b 1853 |
| Evangeline Mary | b 1854 |
| Charles Wellington | b 1859 |
| Emmeline Jane | b 1861 |
| Thomas William | b 1869 |
| Letitia Kate | b 1871 |
| Mary Ellen | b 1872 |
| Charles Edwin Joseph | b 1875 |
| Arthur Zealand | b 1877 |
| Elizabeth Sylvia M | b 1878 |
| Walter Henry | b 1880 |
| Victor John | b 1882 |
| Juanita Rose | b 1885 |
| Zephyr Frances | b 1886 |
| Vivian | b 1887 |

**Ann Kelsey (1831-1910)**
*m 1849*
**George Codlin (1824-1890)**

| | |
|---|---|
| George Thomas | b 1850 |
| Elizabeth Mary | b 1853 |
| Charles William | b 1855 |
| Alfred Kelsey | b 1857 |
| Frances Ellen | b 1859 |
| Henry James | b 1861 |
| Amy Jane | b 1862 |
| Alice Cameron | b 1863 |
| Emily Ann | b 1865 |
| Ernest Edward | b 1866 |
| Arthur John | b 1868 |
| Robert Henry | b 1869 |
| Edith May | b 1871 |
| Harry Herbert | b 1872 |
| Ada Georgina | b 1874 |

**Frances Kelsey (1833-1886)**
*m 1851*
**Timothy Alfred Cowell (1824-1879)**

| | |
|---|---|
| Fanny Jane | b 1853 |
| Ellen Louise | b 1855 |
| Mary Christina | b 1857 |

**Elizabeth Kelsey (1836-1901)**
*m 1857*
**Robert Yeend (1834-1890)**

| | |
|---|---|
| Charles Thomas | b 1859 |
| Arthur Robert | b 1861 |
| Edwin Kelsey | b 1863 |
| Emily Jane Knowles | b 1866 |
| May Hill | b 1868 |
| Adele Blanche | b 1870 |
| Osmond Dallas | b 1872 |

**Thomas Kelsey (Jnr) (1838-1891)**
*m 1863*
**Ellen Gadfield (1845-1921)**

| | |
|---|---|
| Ada | b 1863 |
| Thomas Charles | b 1865 |
| Joseph Charles | b 1867 |
| Eva | b 1870 |
| Walter Brice | b 1873 |
| Frances Louisa | b 1874 |
| Albert John | b 1877 |
| Herbert | b 1882 |

**Ellen Kelsey (1841-1900)**
*m1 1865*
**John Blow (1840-1873)**
*m2 1876*
**Gordon Korff (1827-1909)**

| | |
|---|---|
| Fanny Louise | b 1866 |
| Eva Ethel | b 1868 |
| Florence Louise | b 1870 |
| Gordon Claude | b 1877 |
| Amy Mary | b 1879 |

**Joseph Enoch Kelsey (1843-1886)**
*m 1867*
**Emma Hill (1846-1920)**

| | |
|---|---|
| Mabel Ellora | b 1874 |
| Ernest Arthur Hill | b 1875 |
| Charles Edward | b 1877 |
| Reginald Edgar Joseph | b 1879 |
| Emma | b 1880 |
| Percival Robert Hunter | b 1883 |

**APPENDIX 2**          **JOHNSON AND MOORE FAMILY PUBLICANS' LICENSES**

| Johnson Family Publicans' Licenses | | |
|---|---|---|
| Frances Mills/Johnson + Capper Pass | *Royal Oak* | 1837-1838 |
| **Johnson Children** | | |
| Mary Johnson + Thomas Kelsey | *Green Gate* | 1835-1839 |
| | *Yorkshireman's Coat of Arms* | 1841-1846 |
| | *Canterbury Arms* | 1847-1848 |
| | *Currency Lass* | 1849-1850 |
| | *Sportsman's Arms* | 1860-1866 |
| John Johnson + Charlotte Oliver | *The Gate* | 1832 |
| | *Green Gate* | 1833-1834 |
| | *Sawyers Arms* | 1835-1838 |
| | *George Inn* | 1839 |
| | *The New Inn (Lane Cove)* | 1842 |
| | *Tenant at Will* | 1845 |
| Eleanor Johnson + James Oatley Jr | *Green Gate* | 1839 |
| | *Sportsman's Arms* | 1844-1853 |
| William Johnson + Susan Morris | *Yorkshireman's Arms* | 1847-1848 |
| **Johnson Grandchildren** | | |
| Mary Jane Kelsey + Thomas Moore | *City Wine Vaults* | 1847-1858 |
| | *Glasgow Arms* | 1856-1858 |
| | *Queensland Hotel* | 1859-1860??? |
| Charles Kelsey + Emily Gilmore (1) + Honoria Mackee (2) + Mary Ann McGrath (3) | *Hand and Heart* | 1855-1856 |
| | *Australian Hotel (Wellington NSW)* | 1857-1859 |
| | *Queensland Hotel* | 1860-1871 |
| | *White Horse Hotel* | 1871-1877 |
| | *Royal Exchange Hotel* | 1878-1879 |
| | *University Hotel* | 1879 |
| | *Garden Palace Hotel* | 1879- |
| | *Caledonian Hotel* | 1885-1888 |
| Ann Kelsey + George Codlin | *City Inn (Sydney)* | 1849-1849 |
| | *Royal George Inn (Remuera NZ)* | 1851-1853 |
| | *New Leith Inn (Onehunga NZ)* | 1855-1857 |
| | *Odd Fellows' Arms (Auckland NZ)* | 1858-1862 |
| | *Fortune of War Inn (Onehunga NZ)* | 1864-1865 |
| | *Exchange Hotel (Onehunga NZ)* | 1866-1885 |
| Frances Kelsey + Timothy A Cowell | *Sportsman's Arms* | 1854-1859 |
| | *Sportsman's Arms* | 1867-1869 |
| | *Sydney and Goulburn Hotel* | 1870 |
| | *Fortune of War* | 1871-1877 |
| Elizabeth Kelsey + Robert Yeend | *Commercial Hotel* | 1858-1866 |
| Ellen Kelsey + John Blow | *Commercial Hotel* | 1866-1873 |
| Joseph Enoch Kelsey + Emma Hill | *Queensland Hotel* | 1872-1879 |
| | *Queen's Arms* | 1880-1881 |
| | *Royal Hotel* | 1881-1882 |
| | *Locomotive Hotel* | 1882 |
| | *Mann's Hotel* | 1884-1886 |
| | *Albion Hotel (Glebe)* | 1886 |
| | *Imperial Hotel (Leichhardt)* | 1887-1889 |
| | *Australian Youth Hotel (Glebe)* | 1890-1894 |
| | *Petersham Inn (Petersham)* | 1897-1898 |
| | *Elswick Hotel (Leichhardt)* | 1899-1900 |
| | *Belvedere Hotel* | 1900 |
| **Johnson Great-Grandchildren** | | |

| George Thomas Codlin<br>+ Sarah Jane Rowbottom | *Wynyard Arms (Auckland)* | 1880 |
| Walter Brice Kelsey<br>+ Henrietta Isabella Nixon | *Royal Hotel (Sutton Forest)*<br>*Commercial Hotel (Bowral)*<br>*Exchange Hotel (Mittagong)*<br>*Commercial Hotel (Moruya)* | 1914-1919<br>1920-1927<br>1927-1930<br>1930-1935 |

| **Moore Family Publicans' Licenses**[81] | | |
|---|---|---|
| John Bligh Moore<br>+ Ann Sherlock | (did not emigrate) | |
| **Moore Children** | | |
| Harriett Ann Moore<br>+ William N Palmer | *Rising Sun*<br>*Fortune of War*<br>*Dumbarton Castle* | 1831-1833<br>1833-1840<br>1843-49, 1854-55 |
| Ann Knowles Moore<br>+ James Yeend | *Commercial Hotel* | 1846-1858 |
| Robert White Moore<br>+ Margaret Ross | *Fortune of War* | 1840-1870 |
| Thomas Moore<br>+ Mary Jane Kelsey | *City Wine Vaults*<br>*Glasgow Arms*<br>*Queensland Hotel* | 1847-1858<br>1856-1858<br>1859-1860??? |
| **Moore Grandchildren** | | |
| John Benjamin T Palmer<br>+ Emma C Outtrim | *Swan with Two Necks*<br>*Liverpool Arms* | 1850-1854<br>1854-1867 |
| William N Palmer Jr.<br>+ Joanna Peat | *General Washington* | 1858-1860 |
| John Benjamin Moore<br>+ (2) Sarah Jane Warby | *Yorkshire Stingo*<br>*Liverpool Arms* | 1865-1867<br>1867-1877 |
| Benjamin Robert Moore<br>+ Eliza Warby | *Observer Tavern*<br>*Glasgow Arms*<br>*Liverpool Arms* | 1862-1870<br>1870-1876<br>1877-1880 |
| Robert Yeend<br>+ Elizabeth Kelsey | *Commercial Hotel* | 1858-1866 |
| James John Yeend<br>+ Margaret Rolston | *Sir Walter Scott*<br>*Glasgow Arms (Lithgow)* | 1857-1865<br>1865-1869 |
| Charles Yeend<br>+ Sarah Ann Coulon | *Baltic Wharf Hotel*<br>*Burwood Hotel*<br>*Commercial Hotel*<br>*Wellington Inn* | 1861-1870<br>1870-1875<br>1875-1881<br>1899 |
| Alexander Ross Yeend<br>+ Susannah Jane Warby | *Kangaroo Hotel*<br>*Fortune of War*<br>*Commercial Hotel* | 1868-1878<br>1878-1881<br>1881-c.1893 |
| Benjamin Thomas Yeend<br>+ Grace Dearing | *Traveller's Home (Lithgow)*<br>*Blue Bell* | 1869-1870<br>1871-1882 |
| **Moore Great-Grandchildren** | | |
| Robert S Stanfield | *Mayfield Hotel (Eltham)*<br>*Railway Terminus Hotel (Lismore)*<br>*White Horse Hotel (Parramatta)*<br>*Petersham Inn (Sydney)*<br>*Royal Hotel (Port Macquarie)* | 1919-1922<br>1922-1924<br>1924-1928<br>1929-1936<br>1936-1947 |
| Claude Victor Fowler<br>+ Elizabeth Tucker | *West End Hotel*<br>*West End Hotel* | 1913-1929<br>1929-1941 |
| Eliza Jane Moore<br>+ Alfred Ernest Hearn | *Bald Faced Stag* | 1890-1893 |
| Charles Henry Yeend | *Warwick Castle* | 1911-1918 |

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[81] Adapted from "Moore or Less Related" compiled by Jenny Hawkins. Goanna Print 2009. Pages 258-259

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|---|---|---|
| + Ruby Louise Marsden | *Grand Hotel* | 1929-c.1933 |
| | *Botany View Hotel* | 1935-c.1938 |
| | *Palace Hotel* | 1938-1939 |
| | *Railway Parade Hotel* | 1943-c.1948 |
| Alexander Ross Yeend Jr<br>+ Elsie Couch | *Commercial Hotel* | c.1893-1898 |
| **Moore Great-Great-Grandchildren** | | |
| Margaret Stanfield<br>+ Charles Wolstoneholme | *Salisbury Hotel* | 1934-1935 |
| Clarence Victor Fowler<br>+ Jean Snedden | *West End Hotel* | 1941-1977 |
| James Benjamin R Yeend<br>+ Gladys Elizabeth Clayton | *Lachlan Hotel (Cowra)* | 1946-1947 |
| Keith Albert Yeend<br>+ Elsie Serena Underwood | *Harrington Hotel* | 1950-1952 |
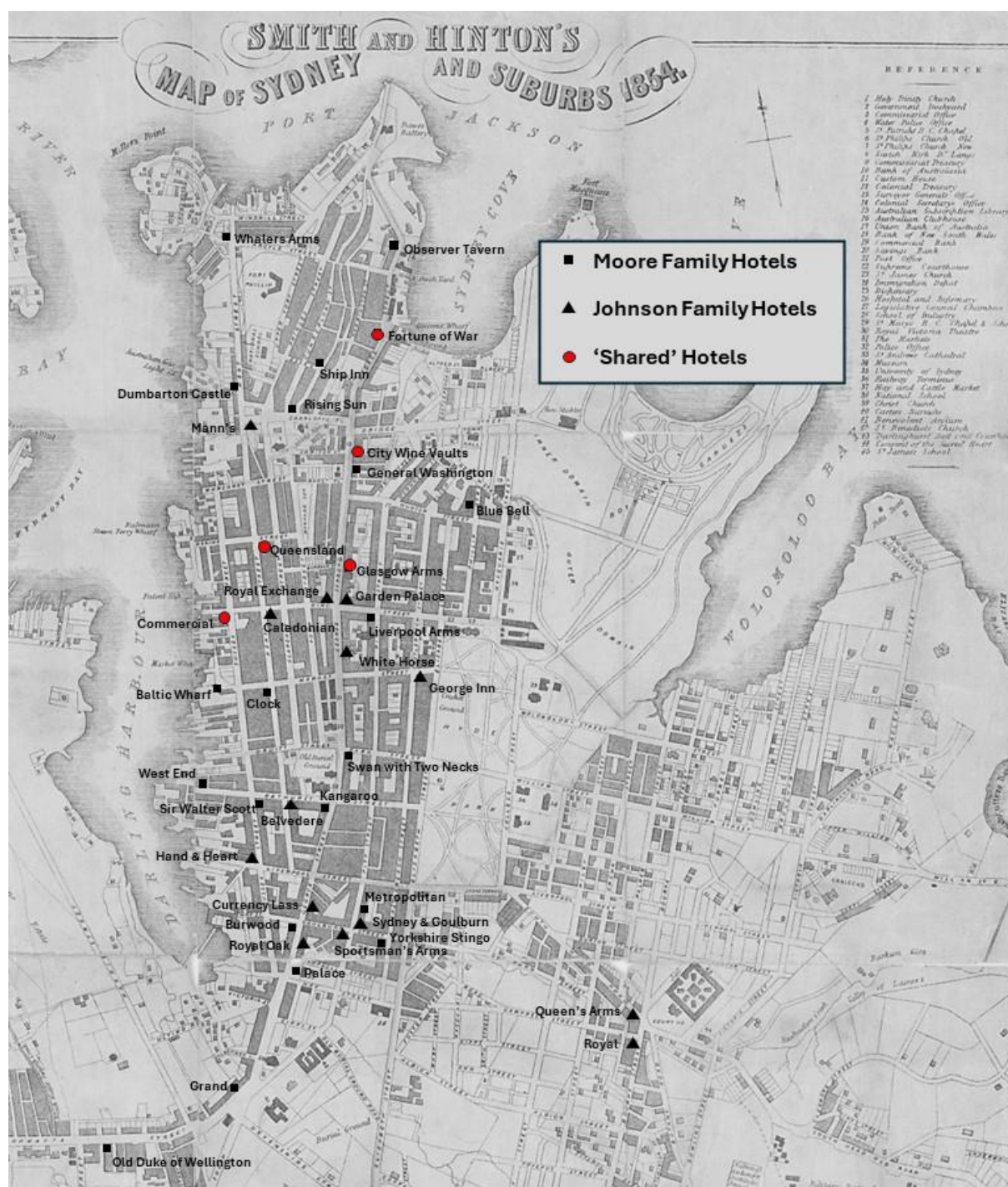
Moore and Johnson Family Hotels in Central Sydney[82].

[82] Moore Hotels from "Moore or Less Related" compiled by Jenny Hawkins. Goanna Print 2007.
Background "Map of Sydney and Suburbs 1854" by Smith and Hinton. National Library of Australia.