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The next general meeting of the Granville Historical Society will be held at 2.00 pm on Saturday 27 August 2016 At our Research Centre 62 Railway Parade Granville

TO CONTACT US

Write to

P.O. Box 320

Granville NSW 2142

Phone:

9682 1290 (Wed. only)

9631 0216

(Barry & June Bullivant)

Email:

granvillehistorical@bigpond.com

Website

www.granvillehistorical.org.au

Heritage Watch NSW

Website

www.heritagewatchnsw.org.au

Friends of Mays Hill

Cemetery

www.mayshillcemetery.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/GranvilleHistoricalIncNswAustralia?ref=hl>

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Granville Historical Society

"A Place where heritage & culture are valued & celebrated."

Our AGM was held and the results were as follows, President Barry Bullivant, Vice President Stephanie Humphreys, Secretary Treasurer June Bullivant, Committee Arthur Naylor, Colin Humphreys, and Susan Russell. Thank you also to the members who have served and renewed again to serve our society.

Thank you, Roy, who as guest speakers' convenor, worked hard to get us interesting speakers. We appreciate the time and effort that was used to achieve this.

Meetings with Administrative Staff of Cumberland Council have been positive; they have indicated that the society is an important part of the new Council, as we are the only established community historical society in the area. We have been fortunate to widen our collection to cover the areas that have lost their established societies, and of course our network with Dorothy Warwick and her work with the Holroyd and Guildford areas has been in place for many years.

Council boundaries have never been observed by Granville Society; we have collected and supported history where we find it. So the council mergers will not make a difference to our support or collection of important historical facts. To this end June Bullivant stood for office for the Parramatta Female Factory Friends Inc. Granville has been involved in this project for many years and is now taking a more active role than before.

It is hoped that Granville will assist members of the organisation to continue the positive work that the "Friends" have been active in for the past five years.

Gay Hendriksen has led her team of volunteers to be a vibrant source of advocacy and research to make the community aware of our Colonial past. The members of the group are to be congratulated for their ongoing work to save the precinct and to obtain World Heritage Listing.

The society has agreed to put on two talks in September to “Meet Your Neighbour” run by Holroyd and Auburn Local Studies Libraries. Our Schools project is well on the way.

Barry G Bullivant OAM
President

<p>PHILIPP ETTINGER ORCHARDIST AND MINER</p>

Philipp Ettinger’s orchard at Old Guildford was on 80 acres (40 hectares) of land originally granted in 1837 and 1841 to Foulcher and Graham. Graham’s land was the more northerly of the two grants, bounded by Henry Street, Cathcart Road (now Broughton Street), a line that is now Springfield Street, and Dog Trap Road (Woodville Road). Foulcher’s grant was between Springfield Street, Cathcart Road, The Promenade and Dog Trap Road.

In the early 1850s, Parramatta builder and publican, Nathaniel Payton, purchased these two blocks for his sons. Payton died on 22 November 1861, aged 63. The sons, mainly Samuel, built a four room homestead with detached kitchen, stable and coach houses, and established an orchard and dairy farm that supplied government institutions in Parramatta with milk. The property was known as *Thorngrove*.

The Payton family sold the farm in July 1874 to Phillip Ettinger who had been working an adjacent block owned by Sir John Lackey where he had laid out a vineyard. The property was described as good land, fenced and subdivided into an orchard containing mainly orange trees together with summer fruit.¹

Ettinger was an experienced vinedresser from the small village of Frankel in the Rhine River valley in Germany that reputedly had the best winemakers in the world. A vinedresser is involved in the pruning and cultivation of grape vines to ensure the vineyard has a successful crop. It is an ancient profession, mentioned in the Bible, and an important component of wine production. The Australian colonies looked to Germany for experienced vineyard workers in their early attempts to establish a local wine industry. The first group to arrive comprised Johann Stein and five other vinedressers in 1837. They were contracted to work on the Macarthur family property at Camden Park, and brought vine cuttings that helped growers to plant grape vines in

¹ NSW Land Title, Book 143 No. 676, Conveyance, Samuel Payton, also Joseph, to Philipp Ettinger

New South Wales and South Australia. Stein was followed by two brothers, Jacob in 1843, and Joseph in 1847.²



The Ettinger family at their Canley Vale home

In the late 1840s, landholders in the Hunter Valley persuaded the British Government to grant assisted passage to skilled European workers, particularly those with experience in the wine industry. A key condition was they had to be suitable married migrants with families. A German businessman living in Sydney, Wilhelm Kirchner, who had offered to help, travelled to Germany as an agent of the New South Wales government in January 1848 and recruited 113 vinedressers, wine

makers and pastoral workers such as shepherds. More than 400 people –skilled migrants and their families – came to NSW between April and September 1849 on three ships, *Beulah*, *Parland* and *Harmony*. Hundreds more followed between 1849 and 1855 in 18 ships chartered by Kirchner.³

Ettinger and his wife, Elizabeth Schweikert, arrived in Sydney on the *Peru* on 23 May 1855 in a group of 375 families from the Rhineland, including at least one other family from his home village. The migrants were usually given a two-year contract, and it seems Ettinger was contracted to a farmer in the Richmond Windsor district as that was where the births of the couple's first two children were registered in 1856 and 1857. They then moved to the gold mining town of Hill End (also known as Tambaroora, Bald Hills and Forbes) where eight more children were born between 1860 and 1870). He lived at Hill End and worked as a miner from 1860 to 1872, according to Hill End Family History research, but also worked for a year as an engine driver and engineer.⁴

Gold was found at Hill End a few months after it was discovered at Ophir near Bathurst in April 1851. The population soared during the gold rush from a few hundred to more than eight thousand as it became one of the richest goldfields in New South Wales, but declined after 1874. Philipp Ettinger was not one of the lucky miners who struck it rich, and decided to leave Hill End and to sell his mine in 1872. The buyer - another German, Bernhardt Otto Holtermann - was a partner with his friend, Ludwig Hugo Beyers, in the Star of Hope Gold Mining Company which they later floated as a public company.

² Albert Grulke, *Kinder des Vaterland, a History of German Settlers in NSW, (Internet Documen)*; Historial Timeline, Wine and Grape History in the Sydney Region, www.hawkesbury.net.au/sydneywine/overview/history.html

³ Albert Grulke

⁴ NSW Birth Registrations; Hill End Family History, <http://hillendfamilyhistory.com/hill-end-tambaroora/hill-end-history/>



£400.⁶

Rich new yields were found in the mine in October 1872, including the world's largest specimen of reef gold, weighing 286 kilograms and worth at least £12,000 at the time.⁵

Ettinger might not have made a fortune from gold, but he had sufficient funds to buy the Payton farm in July 1874. A year after he took over the orchard, a bushfire swept through, causing severe damage to fruit trees, vines and fencing. Sparks from a passenger train, struggling up a steep incline on the Great Southern Line, started the fire in some scrub near the railway line. The blaze spread rapidly through the properties of William Stimson, Henry Whitaker, J. Doran, Tame and Ettinger, who all claimed compensation from the government. The case went before the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Sir James Martin, and a jury of four, who ordered the government to pay Ettinger

With a large family attending the local school, Philipp was appointed to the school board, along with John Lackey M.P. and Messrs Stimson, Whitaker, Camper, Hodgson and Heath Smith. He continued growing grapes and oranges on the orchard, although he felt the land was not good enough for grape production. In 1881 the government resumed land from several properties at Old Guildford to build a water pipeline from a basin and Pipe Head at Guildford West to the reservoir at Potts Hill. Ettinger surrendered just over seven acres of land to the pipeline, which cut diagonally across his land from Woodville Road to near the intersection of Henry Street and Cathcart Road.

Not long after this, Ettinger decided to move to Canley Vale where he believed the soil would be better suited to growing grapes. He settled on a five-acre block where he built a house designed by Granville architects A.L. & G. McCredie, and established an orchard. Ettinger died in 1906, and his house in Sackville Street Canley Vale is used by Fairfield Council as a family resource centre. The Old Guildford orchard was subdivided and offered for sale in August 1884. Springfield House and its two acres of land, was sold to a man named William Stanley Forbes who, to his great shame, had to surrender it to his mortgagee. More on that next month.⁷

⁵ Hill End Family History; Keast Burke, 'Holtermann, Bernhardt Otto(1838-1885) Australian Dictionary of Biography, <http://adb.anu.edu/biography/holtermann-bernhardt-otto-3787/text5989>

⁶ *The Australasian*, 12 May 1877, p. 15

⁷ *The Sydney Mail*, 14 July 1877, p. 40; NSW Land Title, Book 686 No. 109 Philipp Ettinger 5 ac 5 pch Sec 3 dep plan 1059 Psh St Luke; *German Community in Fairfield*, Fairfield Council Local Studies; NSW Land Title, Book 734 No. 142

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