

A BRIEF HISTORY OF SUBURB NAMES >>



AITKENVALE:

The suburb was named after Thomas Aitken, the original grantee of Portion 38, Parish of Coonambelah. He began subdividing the property during the 1880s, putting 440 quarter acre residential allotments on the market in 1885.



Aitkenvale – mid 1970s.

ARCADIA:

A mountainous district in Peloponnese, Greece. Its inhabitants were regarded as living a simple rural life. Consequently the word was used to describe an ideal rustic area.

BELGIAN GARDENS:

Until 1914 the suburb was known as German Gardens. The aboriginal name for the area was Oon-go-go.

CASTLE HILL:

Named by Andrew Ball because of an alleged resemblance to part of the Isle of Man or to a hill near Dublin.

CLUDEN:

The suburb is named after James Gordon's property "Cluden Park". Named after the family home in Dumfries, Scotland.

CRANBROOK:

Named after Robert Towns' home in Rose Bay, Sydney. It was acquired in 1859. After Towns' death in 1873 the house remained with the family until it was leased by the NSW Government in 1901 as a residence for the State Governor. The property was purchased by the state in 1907 and sold in 1917 to a private group. The suburb was named on 15th June 1968.

CURRAJONG:

A Port Jackson Aboriginal word meaning fishing line or rope. The word was commonly used to describe various trees with fibrous bark used by Aborigines to make line and rope. The suburb name is probably taken from "Currajong", the Hunt family home, which was situated in Fulham Road, and has been relocated to Castling Street, West End.



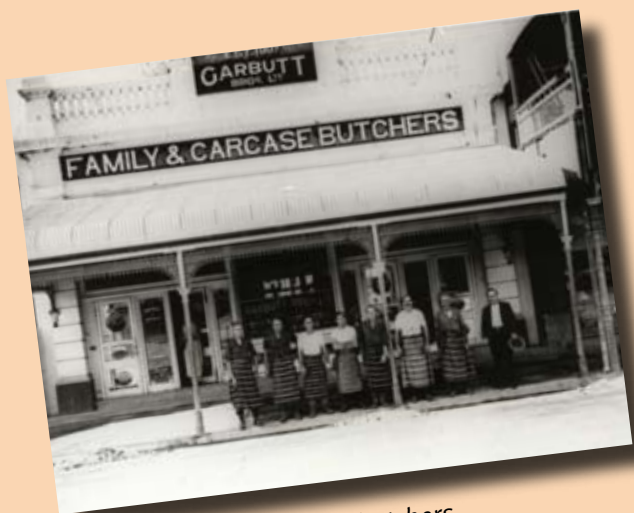
Flood in Currajong, taken from Castle Hill, 1960.

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GARBUTT:

The suburb developed around Garbutt Siding, which was named by the Railway Department as the siding provided rail access to Garbutt Brothers abattoir. Garbutt Brothers were well-known early pastoralists and butchers. In July 1939 the Garbutt Siding Progress Association successfully petitioned the government to change the name to Garbutt.



Garbutt Bros Ltd – Family butchers

GULLIVER:

Named after Ben Gulliver, nurseryman, who in the 1890s was the proprietor of the Acacia Vale Nursery and Pleasure Gardens which were located where the Villa Vincent Home now stands. He also had gardens at Sussex Street, Hyde Park and Stuart. The layout of the suburb was designed by Brisbane architect Karl Langer. This area was previously known as Armstrong's Paddock.

HEATLEY:

The suburb was named after William John Heatley, mayor of Townsville from 1927 to 1932. He was managing director of the family business of F. Heatley and Sons.

HERMIT PARK:

Robert Towns was the original owner of the land, which contained his boiling down works and cotton/sugar plantation. Leo Ferdinand Sachs, one-time manager of the Australian Joint Stock Bank, purchased the "Boiling Down Paddock" from the estate of the late Robert Towns in 1877. He placed a notice in the Townsville Herald on 6th July 1878 which gave his address as "Hermit Park (late Boiling Down Paddock), apply at the Lodge." He was still using "Hermit Park" as an address in 1883. The name Hermit Park is said to be derived from a bachelor establishment there, of which Sachs was the head. In 1884 a syndicate formed the Townsville Land and Investment Company to purchase the property for subdivision.

HORSESHOE BAY:

Magnetic Island. Named because of its shape. In 1922, the Council suggested that the township at Horseshoe Bay be known as Bee-Ran, the Aboriginal name of the bay.

HYDE PARK:

The suburb of Hyde Park was named in the 1880s (by the subdividers of the land) after Hyde Park, London which lies between Park Lane, Knightsbridge, Kensington Gardens and Bayswater Road. The park was once part of the Manor of Hyde.



From Castle Hill – early 1930s. West End in foreground, Hermit Park, Hyde Park, Mysterton & Pimlico in Background.

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IDALIA:

In ancient times Idalia was the name of a river of Cyprus which flows into Famagusta Bay. It is known as the Yalias River. The suburb was developed by the Idalia Estate Land Company.

MELTON HILL:

Named after John Melton Black, one of the founders of Townsville, whose home was built on the crest of Melton Hill. The name was used at the first land sale of Townsville land held in Bowen in 1865.

MOUNT LOUISA:

The mountain itself was originally named by Andrew Ball after a lady of his acquaintance. The Aboriginal names recorded by Charles Price in 1885 were Goo-bal-a-boro and Moor-ee-roon.

MUNDINGBURRA:

The name developed from Mun-dine-bo-ro which was the local Aboriginal name for the Rising Sun district recorded by Charles Price in 1885.

MYSTERTON:

The suburb takes its name from 'Myseterton', the residence of Arminius Danner, which was situated in St Johns Wood Estate subdivision of the late 1880s. It was here in March 1891 that Joseph Hodel married Effie Waldie, his third wife. During its subdivision in the 1920s, the suburb was known as Mysterton Estate.

NELLY BAY:

Magnetic Island. First known as Bright's Bay, it was renamed after Henry Butler's daughter, Mrs Nelly Fraser who managed a guest house at Picnic Bay. Originally the name was spelt 'Nellie'.

NORTH WARD:

Suburb of Townsville which derives its name from the electoral division of the same name - gazetted on 17th January 1880. The suburb was originally known as Townsville North.

OONOONBA:

An aboriginal word said to mean 'swampy ground'. The original name for the suburb was Fairfield.

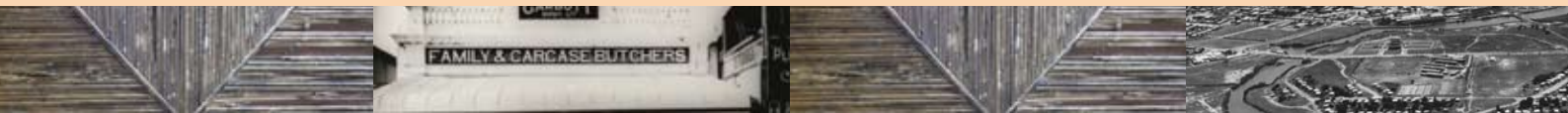


Mundingburra 1963. Note: Pimlico High School, Andersen Park and Kokoda Pool in background.



Brown and Broad's timber yard Pimlico 1957/58. Note: Hyde Park Centre later built on this site.

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PALLARENDA:

The suburb takes its name from Cape Pallarenda, named in 1864 by Lieutenant GP Heath, during his survey of Cleveland Bay. As James Morrill was aboard the 'Flora' during the survey and advised Heath on other Aboriginal place names, it is presumed that Pallarenda is an Aboriginal name. Its meaning is not known.

PICNIC BAY:

A popular picnic place and excursion destination from the earliest days of settlement and takes its name from these activities. The local Aboriginal name of the bay was Ca-moo-milli (Price, 1885) and Camoomilli was the official name used for the first town on the island established at Picnic Bay. The name of the town was officially changed to Picnic Bay in 1963.

PIMLICO:

The suburb is named after a district of London, between Chelsea and Westminster in the City of Westminster.

RAILWAY ESTATE:

The suburb takes its name from the Railway Estate subdivision developed by Messrs. Griffith and Purves during the mid 1880s. They purchased the land from L.F. Sachs who acquired the property in 1877 from the Estate of the late Robert Towns.

ROSSLEA:

The suburb is named after John Deane's property of the same name. John Deane served on many

political and community boards and committees. He was appointed to the Legislative Council in 1889, which he continued to serve until his death in 1913.

ROWES BAY:

In a letter to the Council dated 18th July 1967, the Queensland Place Names Board stated that the bay had been named Rowes Bay in 1864. The proclamation dated the 8th March 1866 establishing the Municipality of Townsville refers to the bay as 'Ross Bay'. However, for the next eighty years the name used on official plans, maps and charts of Townsville and its environs was 'Rose Bay'. Only after the Second World War did the name Rowes Bay come into general use. Charles Seville Rowe was one of the first settlers at Cleveland Bay.

SOUTH TOWNSVILLE:

Part of Ross Island, the suburb takes its name from Messrs. Griffith and Purves' South Townsville Estate subdivision.

STANTON HILL:

Named after George Henry Stanton, the first Anglican Bishop of North Queensland.

STUART:

The suburb is named after W. Clarendon Stuart (1833-1912), surveyor. Following the opening of the Kennedy district to settlement he surveyed the towns of Bowen (1861), Wickham (1863), Dalrymple (1864) and Townsville (1865).

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VINCENT:

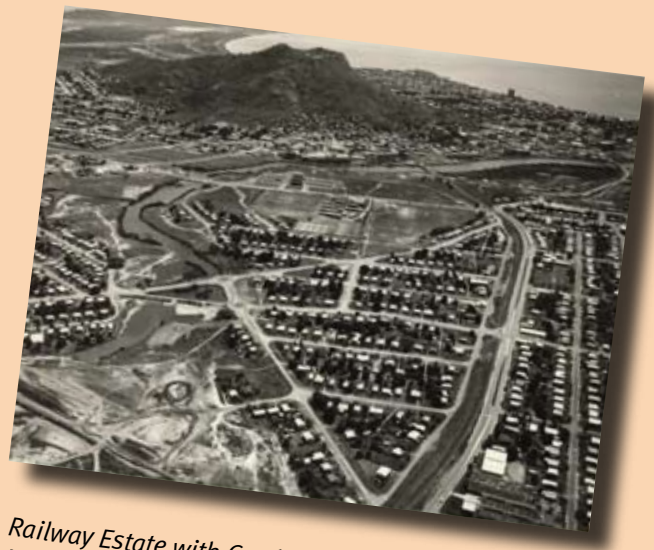
The suburb is named after William Slade Vincent, the principal of WS Vincent and Company, stock, station and land agents of Townsville. He was also a director of the Townsville Omnibus Company. From 1886 to 1890 he was the Major-in-Charge of the Third Queensland (Kennedy) Regiment. In 1888 he was granted six months leave of absence to proceed to Suakim, in the Sudan, for active duty with the British forces. He sailed from Townsville on the SS Quetta on 1st January 1889 but there is no record of his return.

WEST END:

Originally the suburb was known as Townsville West, but by the 1920s the name West End was in common use.

WULGURU:

The suburb name is taken from Wulgurukaba, the name of the Aboriginal tribe which occupied the Palm Islands, Magnetic Island and the area from the Black River, east almost to Cape Cleveland and west for about thirty kilometres beyond Townsville.



Railway Estate with Castle Hill, West End and North Ward in the background.



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