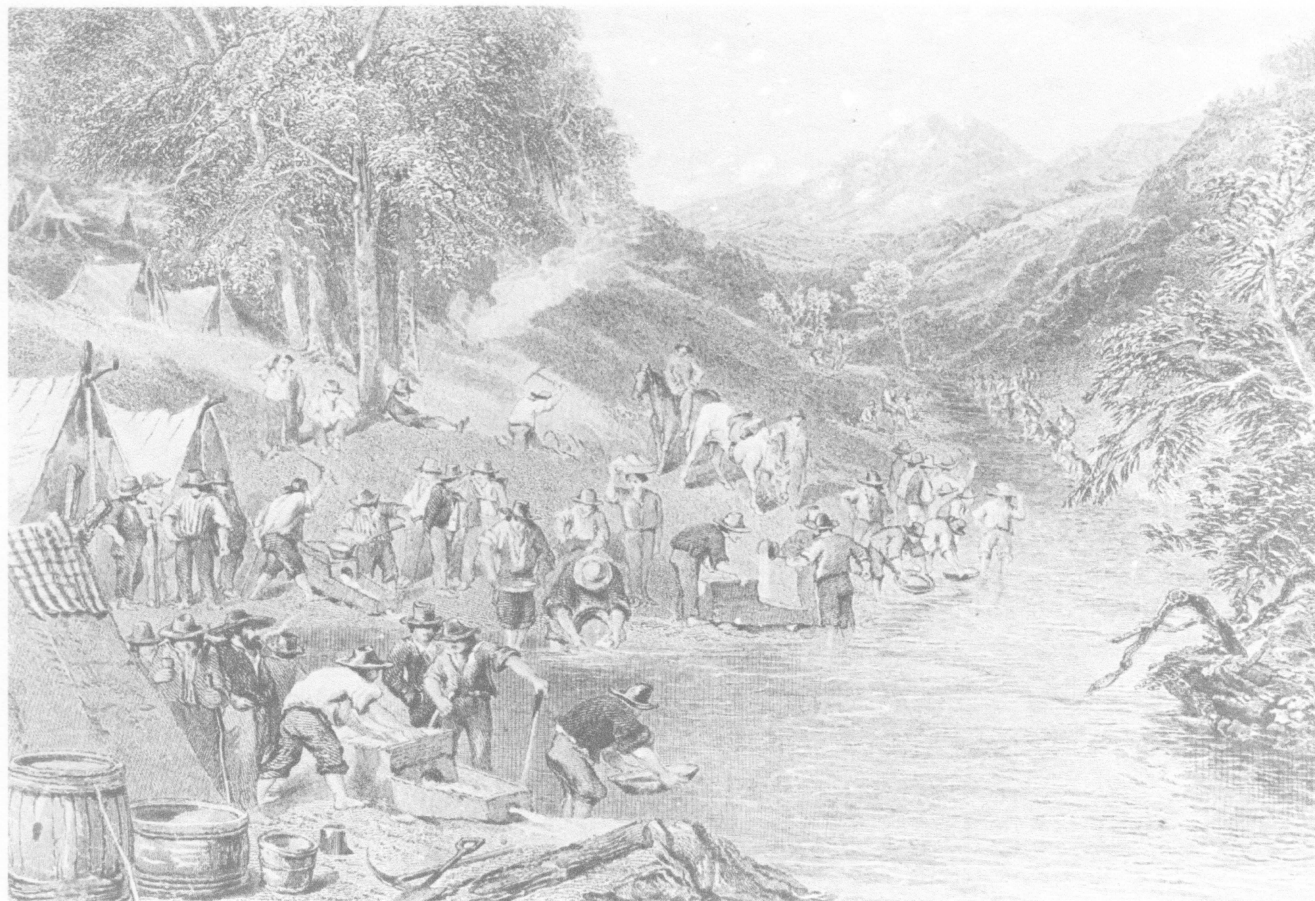


*Brown Hill Our
Golden District
Eureka Goldfields Town That Grew
to a
Suburb of Ballarat.*

**HALLS & PROGRESS
ASSOCIATION**



BROWN HILL HALLS & PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

Thanks to Ballarat Public Records Office, their always-obliging staff, and the use of our Ballarat Regional Library for research purposes. Thanks also go to Ed Bawden, and our other interested Brown Hill residents.

Margaret McKenna
March 2005

HALLS

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BROWN HILL HALL

The Christian Association Hall. This was to be used as a Mechanics Institute Hall. The site was in Thompson Street behind the Wesleyan Church and this was proclaimed in the gazette as follows – “Order in Council of the 6th February 1865 temporarily reserving 1 rood of land at Brown Hill, Ballarat East for the use of the Literary Association”

The Literary Association started on the 14th August 1858 and by 1861 the members had delivered 130 lectures, which included Scripture, history, biography and doctrine, astronomy, temperance, geology, geography, zoology, ethics and even phonography. Histories of different cultures, slavery, water, music and whatever other subjects you could think of, it was discussed and debated. The rules included for the benefit of Christian denominations, the lecture must be of a Christian tendency and the speaker must not read from notes but the speaker may choose his own subject.

This hall was situated in Thompson Street and was between the Wesleyan School and the Brown Hill National School. It was 26 feet long, with 10 feet high walls, with a structure at the top to allow lighting from the windows above to give ample lighting for maps and diagrams. It was estimated that the whole cost including the building, furnishing, fencing, plus planting of the Reserve would not exceed One Hundred and Fifty Pounds (\$300). They started off with a library worth Forty Pounds. James Oddie who was Patron of the Literary Association laid the foundation stone on The 27th June 1861.

The Brown Hill Literary Association held an election every three years under instruction from the Lands Department. In 1936 the Management Committee consisted of S.Wilmont, N.J.Lane, F.W.Tucker, W.Bawden, R.Huggins, which was the same as it had been in 1933. Due to the Depression years, and then followed by the years of the 2nd World War, it must have been very hard to maintain this old hall.

On October 2nd 1940 this reserve was revoked in the Victorian Gazette.

In 1941 this land was purchased by the Methodist Church with the hope of building a Manse for a Resident Minister. After a long drawn out process of raising money for a residence and having approval from the

Church body for a Manse to be built, this was achieved in 1962 at a cost of Six Thousand Six Hundred Pounds. The first resident Minister being the Rev. Warren Clarnette.

Literary Association Hall
Thompson Street,
BROWN HILL.



First Hall – Thomas Ryan is known to have a store at the Brown Hill Flat in 1853. It has been recorded that there was a Hall at Brown Hill in 1854 and that the “gay dances and parties” disturbed the new residents and was eventually closed as a hall. This is presumed to be the Brown Hill Store that was there in 1853. Thomas Ryan opened the Hotel in January 1857 and then opened the Post Office in the Hotel & Store in December 1857.

Gong Gong Ballroom – as reported in the newspaper –

“A huge hotel, two storeys high, the Gong Gong Hotel stood where the residence of Mr.H.Ainley now stands near Stewart’s Brown Hill Post Office. The upper storey covered the whole building and was then well known as the Gong Gong Ballroom. Old identities declare that they had many a gay night in this

ballroom and they further acclaim that the old-time dances were of a superior type than those of the present day.”
This hotel and ballroom was destroyed by fire in 1882.

Apollo Hall – A Hall built next door to the Brown Hill Hotel by the Publican, George Schmidt, who was the licensee of the Hotel in 1882-1886. This Hall was used for accommodation during the Fireman's Demonstration staged at the Russell Square in 1885 by the Portland brigade and support group due to being unable to obtain accommodation elsewhere.

Knockshegona Hall –

The site of this Hall was on Gong Gong Road (now Daylesford Road) and the BP Service Station and Store owned by Mick Kennedy was on the site of O'Day's Bakery. The Western Highway Bypass has now been built on this site.

According to a report in the paper Knockshegona Hall

“Was originally a bakehouse owned by the late Patrick O'Day and stood just over the city boundary at the top of the hill at the extreme eastern end of Humffray Street. Later when it ceased to function as a bakehouse the huge building began to be used as a dance hall. Destroyed by fire in the early 1900's the piano was saved by several willing helpers. Later this piano after much needed repairs had been effected, found its way into the Progress Hall.”

Mr. Turner apparently started off this Hall and he was President of the Brown Hill Progress Association when the Hall closed.

Brown Hill Progress Association Hall situated at the corner of Humffray Street North and Bawden Street.

This hall from all accounts, which was moved into Humffray Street North, was part of the original Mount Egerton Primary School. According to the booklet “Mount of Gold – Centenary of Mt. Egerton Primary School” they state that in about 1935 owing to small numbers enrolled a large classroom which was attached to the south side of the school was removed to increase the size of the Black Hill Primary School. It is believed that this was the building that was used for the second home of the Brown Hill Progress Association. Mr. Barlow transported the building to Humffray Street.

In 1931 the Progress Association was in contact with the Department of Lands and Survey to acquire a block of land in Humffray Street North. The allotment was number 12, section 221, Parish of Ballarat, County of Grant. The land was apparently under a Miner's Right Title.

"October 1931 – Premiers Office – Secretary for Lands – "I forward for your consideration and reply a letter which I have received from the Acting Secretary of the Brown Hill Progress Association with reference to the site of the Associations Hall being made freehold".

They subsequently obtained the freehold title to this land, and another report by the Inspector of land on the 23rd October 1931

"On the site is erected a Hall fifty-three feet by twenty feet, weatherboard, Iron roof with ventilators, lined inside with pine boarding. New hard wood floor has been put in and other improvements and two outside water closets"

City of Ballarat wrote to the Lands Department on the 15th June 1931 –

"In connection with the Brown Hill Progress Association Hall, which has been recently erected in Humffray Street, Brown Hill, the Council have decided that application be made to have the road and drainage Reserve deviated so as to extend through to Humffray Street in a straight line from the Yarrowee Creek on a bearing of 143 degrees 45 feet and a width of one chain as now.

This Council is prepared to pay the necessary survey fee for the work to be done by your Departmental Surveyors.

It will necessitate the altering of the fence alignment of Mr. W. Daw's property, 291 Humffray Street North, and I have to report that he is agreeable to this being done.

The Brown Hill Progress Association are also desirous of seeing this road straightened. I therefore place this matter before you for your consideration and if same is agreeable to your Department for necessary action."

On the 20th July 1934 the report was as follows –

"Allotment has been levelled, kitchen has been installed, painting of the whole building, a new hard wood dancing floor and various additions and repairs – I now value the total improvements at Four Hundred and Seventy Pounds"

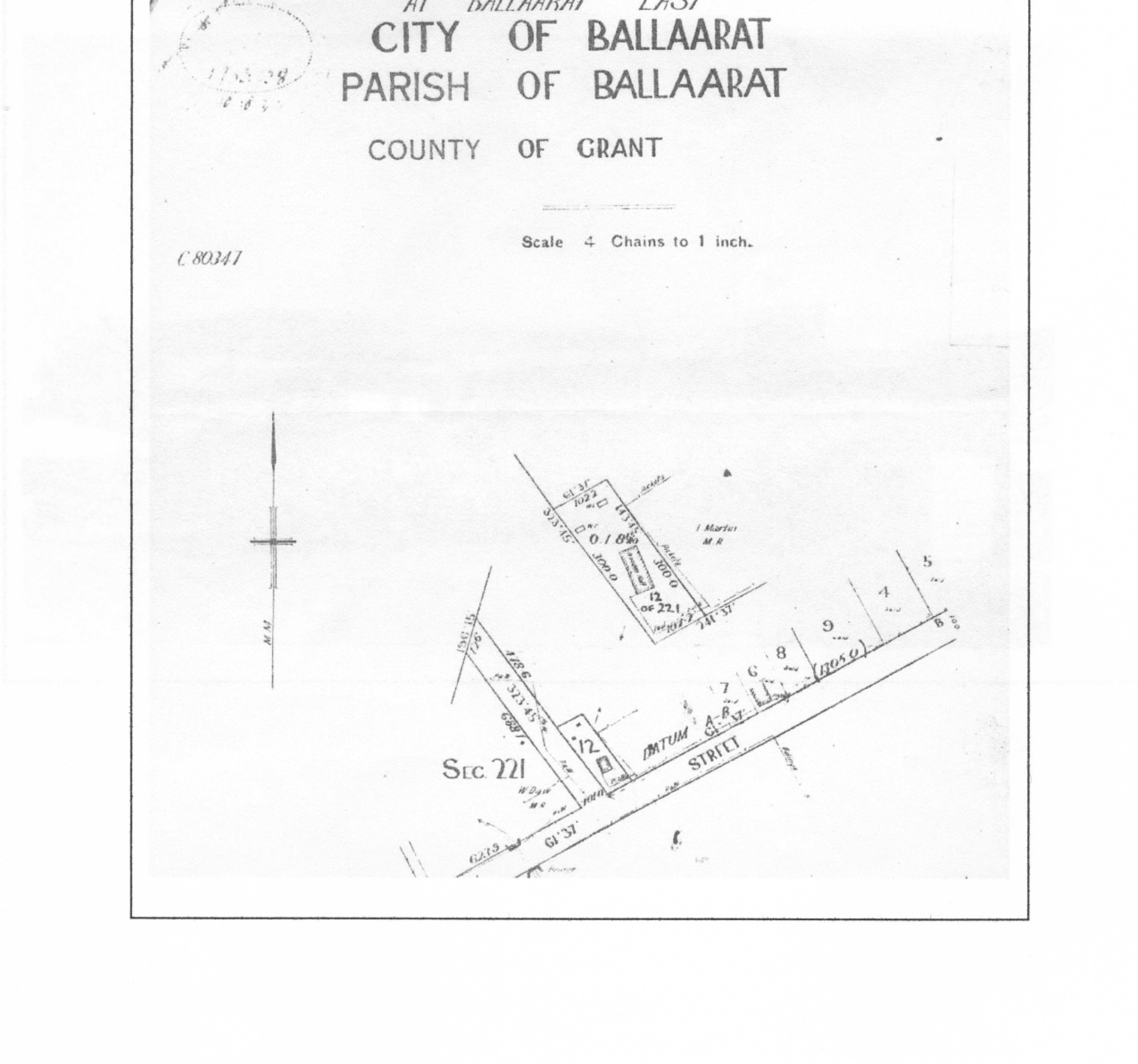
The Hall was in constant use and used for a variety of community functions including concerts, Punch & Judy shows for the school children, pantomimes and of course in the evening dances, which some of our local residents still remember.

Fire destroyed this Hall in 1937-38.

Progress Hall site – Humffray Street North

Department of Lands & Survey,
Victoria

PLAN OF ALLOTMENT
AT BALLARAT EAST



The community for their social gatherings, concerts and fund-raising for various functions then used St. Mark's Church of England Hall and the Methodist Sunday-School Hall.

BP Service Station. This was the site of the Knockshewanna Hall at the top of the hill, and which was previously O'Day's Bakery. Much later, this site was built on by Mick Kennedy who had a Garage, Bp Service Station and Store, plus the paddock next door to train his trotting horses.

The Service Station was later taken over by Ray & Bev Duffin, who moved to the Bp Service Station on the Western Highway when the By-Pass came through this original site. Photo courtesy of Bev Duffin.



Brown Hill Hall – 2002



Brown Hill Public Hall

On the 11th November 1957 a public Meeting was held to gauge the interest in building a Public Hall for Brown Hill. Since the Brown Hill Progress Associations Hall loss in 1937, the community had been without a public hall, and were currently using the Kiosk at the Swimming Pool, St. Mark's Church of England Hall and the Methodist Sunday School Hall, with none of these being able to entertain large groups such as dancing. At this inaugural meeting the Swimming Pool Advancement Committee handed over two hundred pounds (\$400) which had been held in trust from the demise of the last hall.

The site for the Hall was land previously owned by Mr. Jack Callinan, and this block extended back into the Reserve. Portion of the block was used for the Reserve to make the Cricket Oval and the front portion was allocated for the site of the Hall. On the town side of the Hall is the Brown Hill Swimming Pool.

HIGHLAND CABARET BALL

* * *

BROWN HILL HALL

FRIDAY, 4th MAY, 1979, 8.30 p.m.—2 a.m.

* * *

SMORGASBORD SUPPER

BYO & G

\$16 DOUBLE

Proceeds to assist oval

Brown Hill Public Hall Appeal

★

PRESIDENT: F. C. Tolliday,
17 Thompson Street, Ballarat East.

HON. SECRETARY: G. H. Hughes,
319 Humffray Street North, Ballarat.
Phone 2 6725.

HON. TREASURER: N. C. Whitcher,
27 Reid Street, Ballarat East.
Phone 2 6686.

TO ALL BROWN HILL RESIDENTS

No doubt you have noticed the Public Hall now being constructed beside your Swimming Pool. The construction has reached the close-up stage and the Committee is now out of funds.

Over the last eight years the committee, with the help of its Ladies' Auxiliary, has raised over £4,400. This money plus a grant of £3,000 from the Victorian State Government and £1,600 from the Ballarat City Council, has been used to construct the hall to its present stage. Funds are now required for - flooring, ceiling, sewerage, furniture etc.

Community life and the development of the youth of an area are influenced by playgrounds, swimming pools, sportsgrounds, public halls etc; and projects such as the building of our public hall will help to identify Brown Hill as a progressive community.

During the years of fund raising the residents of Brown Hill have only been approached for a donation on one occasion. It is with reluctance but only due to necessity that we appeal to you again.

Donations can be made at :-

Mr. A. Turner (Butcher)
Mr. W. Bawden (Grocer)
Mr. J. Hayes

BROWN HILL.
" "
(Brown Hill Hotel),

OR

sent to the above mentioned Office-bearers.

Committee meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at 8 p.m. in the Swimming Pool Club Rooms. We would welcome your attendance at these meetings.

* * * * *

(Sgd.) F.C. Tolliday - President.

BROWN HILL PUBLIC HALL APPEAL

In 1958 a house to house canvas for "BROWN HILL PUBLIC HALL APPEAL" raised \$270, swimming Pool Carnival \$102, Concert \$65, Christmas Dinner Special Effort \$157, Melbourne Cup Contest \$160, Dance \$41. At the first Annual Meeting at the end of 1958 they had raised \$2,142 of this the Ladies Committee had raised \$381. The aim was to raise \$6,000 being the price that was estimated for a solid brick hall, and of course anticipating that the Council and Government would be obliging enough to provide a grant to help build this public hall.

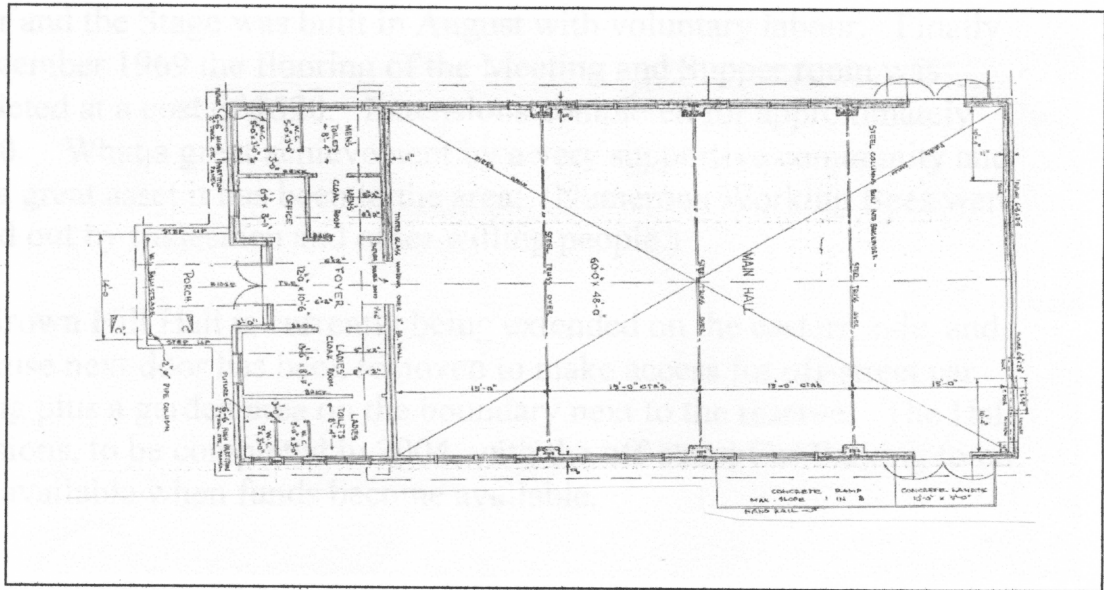
In 1959 the Brown Hill Hotel Social Club held a special for a Christmas Dinner resulting in \$11.50 and at the following hall committee meeting they were advising members that the Hall Committee had to have \$3000 before they could apply for a Grant of \$3000. They then organised the Melbourne Life Saving Association to stage a demonstration on a Friday Evening and a Swimming Carnival on the day following.

During the years before the hall was built they held concerts, fairs, bottle drives, euchre nights, silver circles, dances, carnivals, swimming carnivals, with the ladies auxiliary staging a "Pick-a-Box" night, and so the community kept working for the projected target of \$3000.

In November 1961 arrangements of finance were made with the Ballarat City Council, and then finally after plans had been drawn up on several occasions the City Engineer was ready to call tenders in July 1963. The tender for plumbing of Hall in December 1963 was One thousand nine hundred and ninety eight pounds (\$3,996). By December 1964 the Hall Committee had the bad news that the tenders were too high, so they recalled tenders for just the main part of the Hall to lock-up stage. By February 1965, 2 months later, tenders had been finally accepted and the building commenced. The Contractors account was \$4,300, electrician \$490. In March 1966 the first working bee was held to put in the timber for the floor. The cost of timber being \$1,508 and the window fittings cost \$200.

The Hall was officially opened on the 2nd December 1966. The Courier gave over a whole page in reporting "The Ball" that was organised for the Official Opening. So for approximately \$10,500 the BROWN HILL HALL was built, officially opened, and a marvellous night with a packed hall to mark the occasion. Not to forget the community work carried out for the past nine years to have sufficient funds to achieve this project.





The work of course was not complete and arrangements were made to hold a Ball in May, a White Elephant Sale, and a Cabaret Ball later in the year, as well as the weekly Euchre nights, Coffee Parties and Dances. The following year they extended the program to a New Years Eve Dance with the ladies once again catering for the supper.

BROWN HILL HALL APPEAL with the
support of
BROWN HILL CRICKET
CLUB.

G R A N D
W H I T E E L E P H A N T
B A Z A A R

THIS FRIDAY AT 7.30 P.M. at the BROWN HILL METHODIST HALL

Items include Kerosene Fridge, Fuel Stoves with Hot Water
coil, Stovettes, Irons, Sewing Machine, Pictures and bargains of
every description.

DON'T MISS IT ! ! !

If you have an item you would like sold - bring it along -
set your reserve and let us see if we can both get something out of it.

Donations of cakes, produce, preserves etc., for sale on the
Stall will be gratefully received.

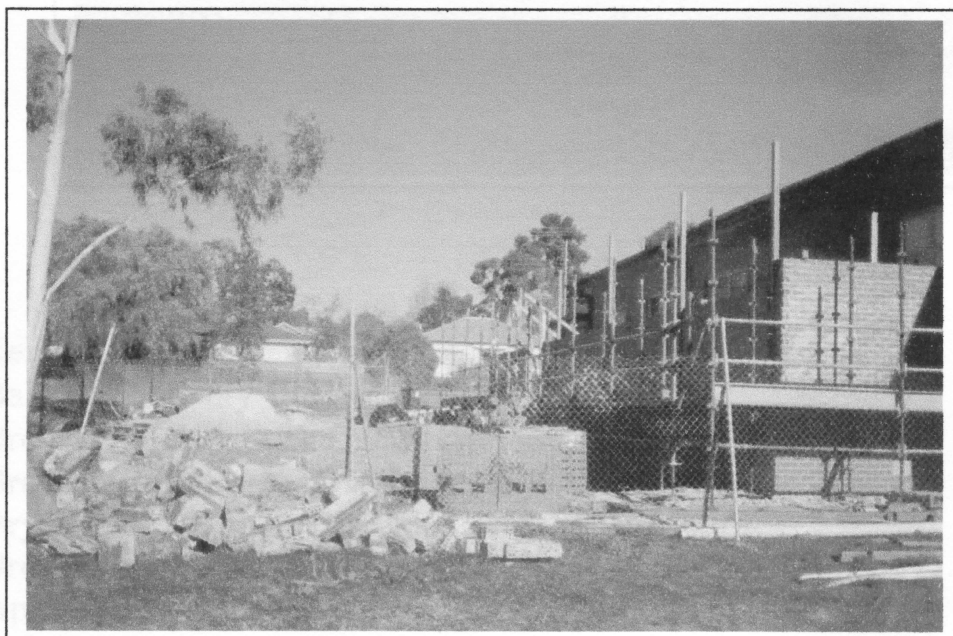
Ring, 875, 2686, 108, B5692, 725.

DONT MISS THIS - there could be something you have wanted for
ages, to be bought for a song.

- - -oOo - - -

labour and the Stage was built in August with voluntary labour. Finally in December 1969 the flooring of the Meeting and Supper room was completed at a cost of \$520. Extensions completed for approximately \$9,000. What a great achievement by a very supportive community and what a great asset it has been to the area. (Numerous Working Bees were carried out by tradesmen and other willing people.)

The Brown Hill Hall is currently being extended on the eastern side, and the house next door has been removed to make access for off-street car parking plus a garden area on the boundary next to the reserve. The Hall extensions, to be completed in 2004, with the off-street Car Parking to be made available when funds become available.



Brown Hill Hall Building Appeal

Grand Concert

METHODIST SUNDAY SCHOOL HALL
FRIDAY, JUNE 22, 1962, 8 P.M.

☆

Drinks — Sweets Stall

ADMISSION—ADULTS 3/-

Brown Hill Hall Committee
* * * * *

"WALTZTIME"
DEBUTANTE BALL

Friday, 19th September, 1975
* * * * *

Debutantes presented to Mayor and Mayoress
of City of Ballarat, Cr. & Mrs. Brown
at 9.30 p.m.

\$3.00 SINGLE

P R O G R A M M E.			
1. "La Cucharacha"	Sunbeams Revue Company.	12. Puppet-eers	- Mr. & Mrs. Burnett.
2. Vocal Duo.	- Mr. & Mrs. Boyd.	13. "Lipstick on Your Collar"	- Intermediate Girls.
3. Elocutionist	- Neil Martin.	14. Piano	- Miss P. Ainley.
4. "Tulips from Amsterdam"	- Miss Michelle Cornell.	15. Mimer	- Mr. Brown.
5. "The Strangers"	- Instrumental Group.	16. Female Vocal	- Miss Michelle Cornell.
6. Hoopologist	- Marylyn Fellows.	17. Vocal.	- Mr. & Mrs. Boyd.
7. "Tea For Two"	- Intermediate Girls.	18. "Sweet Old Fashioned Girl"	(Song & Dance Routine) - Senior Girls.
8. Male Vocal.	- Mr. F. Ransome.	19. "The Strangers"	Instrumental.
9. Pianiste.	- Miss Jan. Burton.	20. "Breezing Along - with the Breeze"	- Sunbeam Revue Co.
10. "Everybody Loves A Lover"	Sunbeam Revue Company.	21. Male Vocal.	- Mr. Frank Ransome.
11. Yodeller	- Slim Green.	22. Yodeller	- Slim Green.
I N T E R V A L			
G O D S A V E T H E Q U E E N			

References:

Ballarat Directory 1882 – Apollo Hall
 Brown Hill Halls – The News April 30, 1980
 Brown Hill Halls – The Courier April 3, 1937
 Bryce Ross Diggings Directory 1853 – Ryan's Store
 Brown Hill Post Office – The Star November 17, 1857
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 Brown Hill Progress Association Hall – Lands Department
 Victorian Gazette 40/3913 – Literary Hall Reserve revoked.
 Ballarat Courier – Literary Hall election – January 24, 1936
 Literary Hall of Management Committee – Ballarat Courier
 January 24, 1936
 History of Brown Hill United Church 1855-1995.
 Opening of Brown Hill Public Hall – Ballarat Courier December 5, 1966
 Renovations to Hall – Extensions – The News November 7, 1991

BROWN HILL PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

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BROWN HILL PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

The Brown Hill Progress Association first started using the Knockishigowna Hall for its meetings. This hall was originally in Gong Gong Road (now called Daylesford Road), and next to the Woolpack Hotel. At this time there was the Eureka Progress Association, Black Hill Associations, plus other progress associations, all working on behalf of their communities and liaising with their elected Councillors to present the communities view on the current needs in the area and what could be done to improve the situation within the confines of the Councils financial restraints. Each district of course requiring the standard of roads, footpaths, lighting, and reserves to be maintained and kept up to a standard that the citizens of Ballarat could be proud of.

The Knockishigowna Hall was situated at the top of the hill (left hand side of photo.) approximately at the top of photo above chimney. (This chimney is the back of the old Toll Gate House.)



It has not been found out when the first Brown Progress Association started, but in 1922 the Brown Hill Progress Association wrote to the Council, stating that the condition of Ryan Street was "unfit for any class of traffic", but they did get the okay to have trees planted on the nature strip of Thompson Street to beautify the area. The Knockishigowna Hall was destroyed by fire early in the 1900's and later the Progress Association lapsed for members.

The Brown Hill Progress Association was reformed with new zeal and the aim of a new Hall for the Progress Association and the Public to have a hall for the benefit of all the community. It is believed that the south side of the Mount Egerton Primary School was moved to Brown Hill for the new Progress Hall in the 1930's. Reference to the low numbers at the Mount Egerton School in the 1930's and the Department having one very large schoolroom removed and sent to Ballarat is mentioned in the Centenary "Mount of Gold" booklet, although it was presumed by them that this building went to the Black Hill Primary School.

In 1931, the Progress Association was in contact with the Department of Lands and Survey to acquire a block of land in Humffray Street North. The allotment was 12, section 221, Parish of Ballarat, County of Grant.

Premiers Office – Secretary for Lands (October 1931).

"I forward for your consideration and reply a letter which I have received from the Acting Secretary of the Brown Hill Progress Association with reference to the site of the Associations Hall being made freehold."

Which of course means that the land that they were currently obtaining for the site of their hall was then under a Miner's Right Title and they of course wanted to acquire freehold title to assure that this asset belonged to the Progress Association. They subsequently obtained the freehold title to this land. The Inspector of Land reported on the 23rd October 1931 -

"On the site is erected a Hall fifty-three feet by twenty feet, weatherboard, Iron roof with ventilators, lined inside with pine boarding. New hard wood floor has been put in and other improvements and two outside water closets."

City of Ballarat wrote to the Lands Department on the 15th June 1932,

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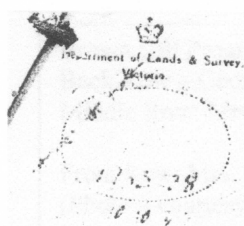
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On the 20th July 1934 the report was as follows -

"Allotment has been levelled, kitchen has been installed, painting of the whole building, a new hard wood dancing floor and various additions and repairs - I now value the total improvements at Four Hundred and Seventy Pounds."

This Hall was used for the community programs. Concerts, Punch & Judy shows for the children after school, pantomimes, and of course Dances. Sadly, this was another Hall to be lost to the community as this Hall was destroyed by fire.

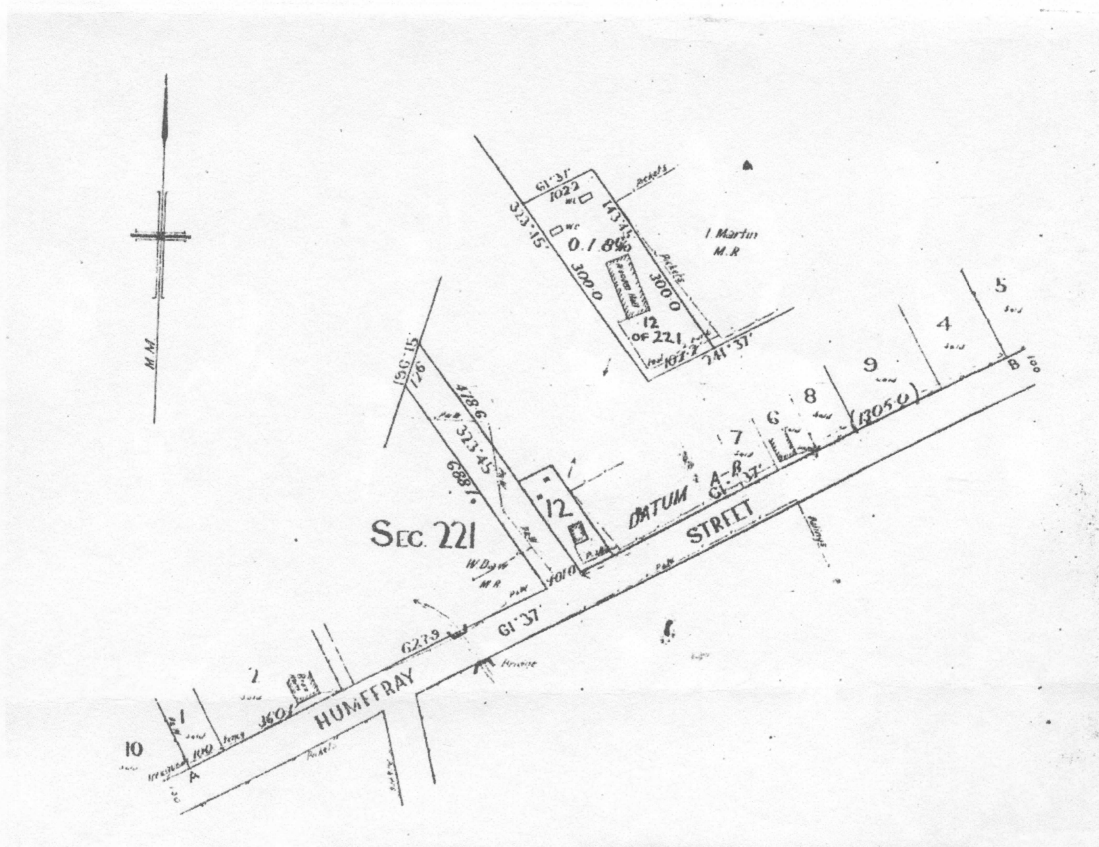


PLAN OF ALLOTMENT AT BALLAARAT EAST CITY OF BALLAARAT PARISH OF BALLAARAT

COUNTY OF GRANT

C.80347

Scale 4 Chains to 1 inch.



Allotment number twelve, which is the site of the Brown Hill Progress Hall on the corner of Humffray Street North and Bawden Street. You will even notice that the two outside water closets have been shown in the plan.

The Brown Hill Progress Association who met regularly at a Hall in Humffray Street North just a short distance away from the Brown Hill Post Office. The President was Mr. Lynch, Snr. Vice President Mr. J. Calnin Jr. Vice Presidents J. Devany and T. Comrie and Secretary Mr. E. Ellis.

Brown Hill Progress Association:

Back Row – George Stewart, Mr.Hogg, George Lakeland

Middle Row: Mrs. Gertie Jeffrey, Mrs.Margaret Cannane, Tom Comrie, Jack Callinan,
Jim Devany, Mrs.Edgar Ellis, Mrs.Harry Ainley.

Front Row: Mrs. Bell, Harry Ainley, Mr.Lynch, Edgar Ellis and Mrs.Hogg.

(Photo – courtesy of Mrs.Marj Foo.)





BROWN HILL PROGRESS ASSOCIATION:

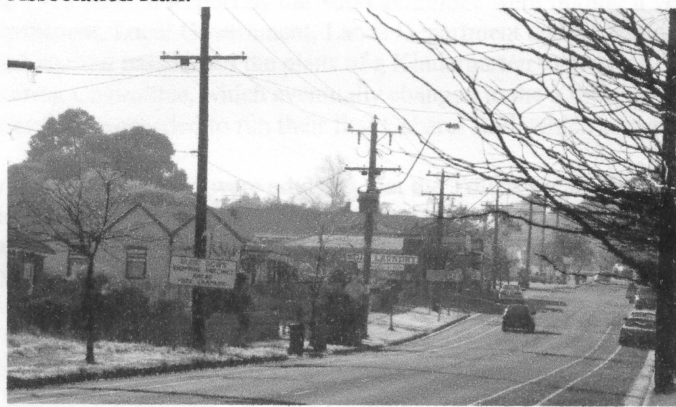
Back Row: Mrs. Jefferies, Mrs. Bell, Mr. George Stewart, Mrs. Ellis, ?

Middle Row: Mrs. Ainley, ?, Mr. Jack Callinan, Mr. Lloyd Harris, Mavis Jeffery, Alma Fraser.

Front Row: Enid Ainley, Gordon Ainley, Harry Ainley, Jack Cockerill, Mr. Ellis, Norm Fraser, Betty Reid.

(Photo - courtesy of Mrs. Betty Calaby)

Humffray Street North – site of Brown Hill Progress Association Hall.



The Brown Hill Progress Association Hall was situated on the corner of Humffray Street North and an unnamed street. This street is now called Bawden Street. Hall was on the right-hand corner.



The present Brown Hill Progress Association was reformed when a meeting was called by the then Mayor of the City of Ballarat, Cr.Maurice Brown. The meeting was called for the 14th May 1969, with His Worship the Mayor of the City of Ballarat Councillor M.Brown. Present were Mr.R.Cracknell, Mrs.R.Cracknell, Mr.G.Davidson, Mr.J.Ainley, Councillor M.Brown, Mr.E.Bawden, Mrs.J.Birkett, Mrs. C. Calaby, Mr.H.Foo, Mr. M. Foo, Mr.G.Johnston, Councillor A.C.Rizzoli, Mr.L.Rinaldi, Mrs.L.Rinaldi, Mrs.W.Plover, Mr.G.Schaefer, Miss. M.O.Morgan, Mr.F.Tolliday, Mr.N.Whitcher, Mr.R.White, Mr.E.Walsh, Mr.R.Whitcher, Mr.L.Shannon, Miss.C.Woodward, with apologies from Mr.Murray Byrne M.L.C., and Councillor W.E.Roff. The Mayor recalled work done in the latter years and the need for a strong body to co-operate with the City Council to achieve the desired results.

Mr.Melton Foo was elected as President, Vice President Mr.G.Davidson, Secretary Miss.C.Woodward, Treasurer Mr.Leo Shannon and members present to form the membership of the newly formed Brown Hill Progress Association.

In the Annual Report of 1970 the Progress Association had adopted Cr.Brown's suggestion of building a Kindergarten at Brown Hill. The association formed a Kindergarten Committee and this of course set the aim of raising money for this project. A Bonfire and Barbecue Night were held, Film Night and a Fair, plus a Co-operative Loan Society formed for this venture. A discussion on Residence Area Titles was held with representatives of the Ballarat East Ratepayers Advancement Association and the Nerrina Progress Association being present and the problems of securing Freehold Titles. The never-ending saga of the conditions of footpaths and school crossings were referred to the Council for their attention.

In 1971 the Annual Report that a sub-committee had been formed to establish a Senior Citizen's Club in Brown Hill and that this had been achieved and had started in December 1971. A sub-committee had also been formed to start up a Youth Club at Brown Hill and a sub-committee was also formed to try and bring about the establishment of a tramway museum in the Lake Wendouree area.

The 1972 Annual Report by the Sub-Committee were finding it very trying to co-ordinate, Health Department, Local Government, Lands Department and the various bodies to have a reserve for the Kindergarten passed and the plans of a Kindergarten to proceed. By this time they had formed a Ladies Catering Committee, which eventually changed to the Kindergarten Ladies Auxiliary committee. This committee proceeded to run their first Cabaret Ball, which was a huge success.

By 1974 The Council were advising that the Toilets for the Reserve had now risen to number 3 on the priority list. The site of the Kindergarten was still being inspected by the Lands Department, ensuring that no building be built on a disused mine site. However in July 1973 the City Council and the tender had called tenders was let for the amount of \$24,176.00, but due to unstable ground a solid foundation could not be obtained and a new site was to be investigated. This new site was at the rear of Goldsmiths property in Reid Street. The Ballarat Highland Pipe Band was holding discussions with the Progress Association with the idea of moving their Band Rooms to a site on the Reserve. A White Elephant Sale was held during the year and over \$400 was raised with the money being allocated to improvements of the oval and children's playing ground at the rear of the Swimming Pool.

The Progress Association then approached the Lands Department to secure possession of the land north of the Kindergarten with the idea of developing and improving for recreation. This resulted in the Progress Association being made a Committee of Management for the Reserve. The Association was also asked to represent the community and give support to encourage meetings and debates about the proposed Northern Expressway (which was originally to come down the Old Melbourne Road and Scott's Parade).

The Brown Hill Progress Association also tried to help in our community maintaining the original name of our primary school – Brown Hill. Unfortunately this was one project that they did not succeed in – and to people of today, that still ask, why was our school name changed? Government policy is very hard to fathom and change.

BROWN HILL PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC.

19 October 1994

Dear Resident,

As you are no doubt aware, the interim School Council of the Ballarat East/Brown Hill Primary School has selected the name "Caledonian Primary School" to replace the name that has existed since 1877, namely Brown Hill Primary School.

This decision was taken in early 1994 under Directorate of School Education guidelines for changing school names. The reason for the change came about as a result of the Quality Provision Process in 1993, when it was decided by both Brown Hill and Ballarat East (Queen Street) Primary School Councils that the schools should unite.

The Directorate of School Education guidelines also indicate that the interim school council must seek the approval of the relevant municipal body (Ballarat City Council) and this approval was given in late April 1994. However the final decision on the renaming of public institutions rests with a body called the Place Names Committee which is part of the Department of the Premier and Cabinet.

All residents have the right to object to the proposed renaming following advertisement of the proposed change in the Victorian Government Gazette. This particular name change proposal appeared in the Gazette of 29 September 1994 and allows objections to be made in writing within two months of the advertisement (i.e. 28 November 1994).

It is the strong view of the Brown Hill Progress Association that the proposed name change is not required and the school should remain known as Brown Hill.

If you feel the same, you may like to send the attached letter to the Place Names Committee. Alternatively, you may wish to use that letter as the base for your own more personalised letter. All letters should reach the Place Names Committee by the 28 November 1994. If you wish to discuss this issue further, you may contact me at <address> or the Secretary, John Ruyg at 286 Hummffray St. Nth.

The Association would be pleased to receive your support in retaining the name of "our" school.

Ed Bawden
President, Brown Hill Progress Association

Brown Hill Progress Association meets on the third Wednesday of every month in the Brown Hill Hall
Please direct correspondence to the Secretary at 286 Hummffray St. Nth. Brown Hill. 3350

Vic Gazette - Sept. 1994

2. Notice of Alteration of Place Names

The Place Names Committee hereby gives notice that it has altered the undermentioned place names in the manner indicated and in respect of which no objections to the previously published proposals were received.

New Name	Former Name
Ballarat Secondary College—East Campus	Ballarat East Secondary College
Ballarat Secondary College—Midlands Senior Campus	Midlands Secondary College
Ballarat Secondary College—Wendouree Campus	Wendouree Secondary College

3. Notice of Proposal to Assign Place Names

The Place Names Committee gives notice that it proposes to assign the undermentioned place names. Any objections to a proposed name must be in writing (stating the reasons therefore) and be lodged with the Secretary to the Committee within two months of the publication of this notice.

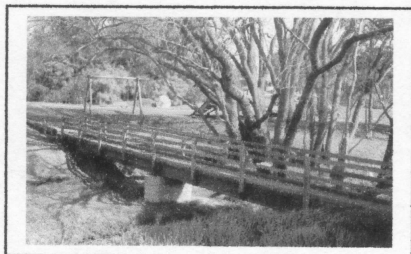
Place Name	Location
Caledonian Primary School	Proposal from the Directorate of School Education, as a result of a merger between the Ballarat East (Queen Street) and Brown Hill Primary Schools, to take away those names and assign the name Caledonian Primary School to the former Brown Hill Primary School site.

The Progress Association were also allocated the position of Management for the Brown Hill Swimming Pool in 1994. This was a very demanding position, but a worthwhile community effort for the children of our community. It has now been handed over to the Y.M.C.A. to operate.



Brown Hill Kindergarten





Reference:

Lands Department – C80347

Lands Department – Plan of Allotment at Ballarat East – Sec.221

VPRS/2500/P/Unit 131 Progress Associations 1922

The News, April 30, 1980 - Brown Hill Progress Association reformed May 14, 1969

Cr.Maurice Brown, Mayor of the City of Ballarat, 1968/69 also 1975/76

Cr.Melton Foo, Mayor of Ballarat 1978/79 and also 1983/84

Cr.Don Woodward, Mayor of Ballarat 1982/83

Cr.George Stewart, Mayor of Ballarat 1947/48

William Brownbill Obituary – Inglewood Advertiser – 10/9/1911 & 15/9/1911

Brown Hill Progress Associations Annual Report – 1971

Annual Report – 1970

Annual Report 1972

Brown Hill Kindergarten – Sub Committee of Assoc. Report – Nov.1972

Annual Report 1974

Mount of Gold –Centenary of Mt.Egerton Primary School. Pub.1977.

Photo of Painting by Hosking – kind permission by Lois Keating.

