

BYRON SHIRE COUNCIL DOC NO:

MECD 12 JUN 2024

FILE NO: A9 33 4 9

ASSIGNEE: B: Crant

RECEIVED BY FRONT COUNTE

Mark Arnold General Manager Byron Shire Council Station Street Mullumbimby NSW 2482

11 June 2024

12 JUN 2024

BYRON SHIRE COUNCIL

Dear Mr Arnold

Re DA 10.2223.230.1 Rural Function Centre, 1390 Hinterland Way, Bangalow

The entire committee of Bangalow Historical Society hereby objects in the strongest possible terms to the component of the most recent Development Application 10.2223.230.1 requesting access to the function centre via the Bangalow Cemetery.

Our main concerns follow:

- The land on which the cemetery is located was gifted to the community of Bangalow by early Bangalow pioneer, Robert Campbell, on 27 July 1905, specifically for the purpose of creating a cemetery for the community. Copies of relevant documents are attached. As such, we request that Byron Shire Council respect the wishes of our pioneer settler, and our entire community, by maintaining the privacy and sanctity of that land solely for its intended purpose.
- 2. The DA is requesting access to the function centre through the Bangalow cemetery, hallowed ground for the local Anglican, Catholic and other denominations. When bodies were interred in the graves over more than 120 years, it was with the expectation that they would be able to 'rest in peace' on the hillside above the township.
- 3. Respecting heritage values: the DA applicant appears to be unconcerned about the heritage value of the graves and ancillary structures such as the wooden Lych gate at the cemetery. It is understood that the applicant has plans to build cabins on the 'Hinterland House' property, which would result in yet more heavy construction traffic trucks etc passing the cemetery, potentially causing damage.
- 4. It is anticipated that permitting access to the function centre via the cemetery would result in high movement of heavy trucks each time an event was held there. For example, we would anticipate that trucks would be rumbling through the cemetery to provide catering, installation of marquees, barbecues, music and PA systems, which would disrupt any funerals which might be happening at the same time.
- We are also very concerned that the vibrations of incoming vehicles would damage the delicate and fragile headstones and gravestones around the cemetery and cannot see how this could possibly be averted.

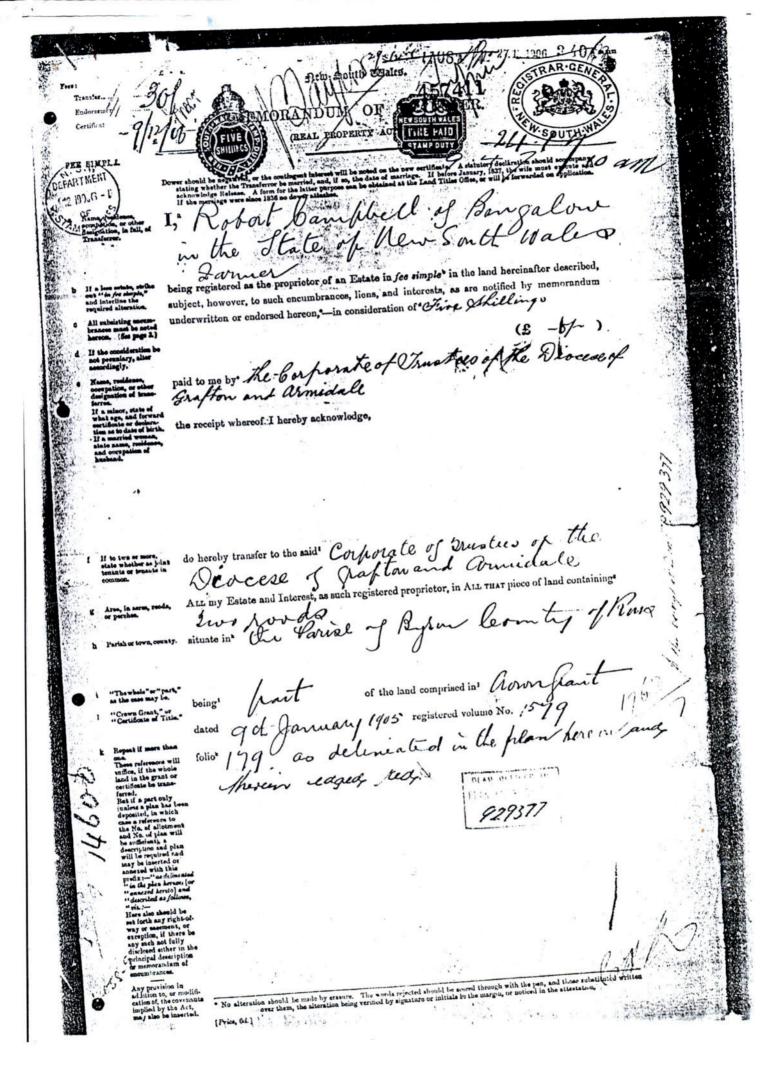
- 6. Local families whose loved ones are buried in the cemetery have contacted the Bangalow Historical Society, greatly concerned about the irreparable disturbance and damage that permitting access to an event centre through the cemetery would cause. No point in requesting damages from the developer "after the horse has bolted". These families have asked us to represent their point of view: that their loved ones were buried in a location where peace and tranquillity was the expectation.
- 7. Lastly, we are very concerned at the idea of two "cultures" colliding: If cars or busloads of happy people on their way to a wedding or similar event, were to intersect the cemetery while there was a funeral happening, with a parallel contingent of people attending the sad interment of their loved one, that could well disturb the state of mind of the mourners.

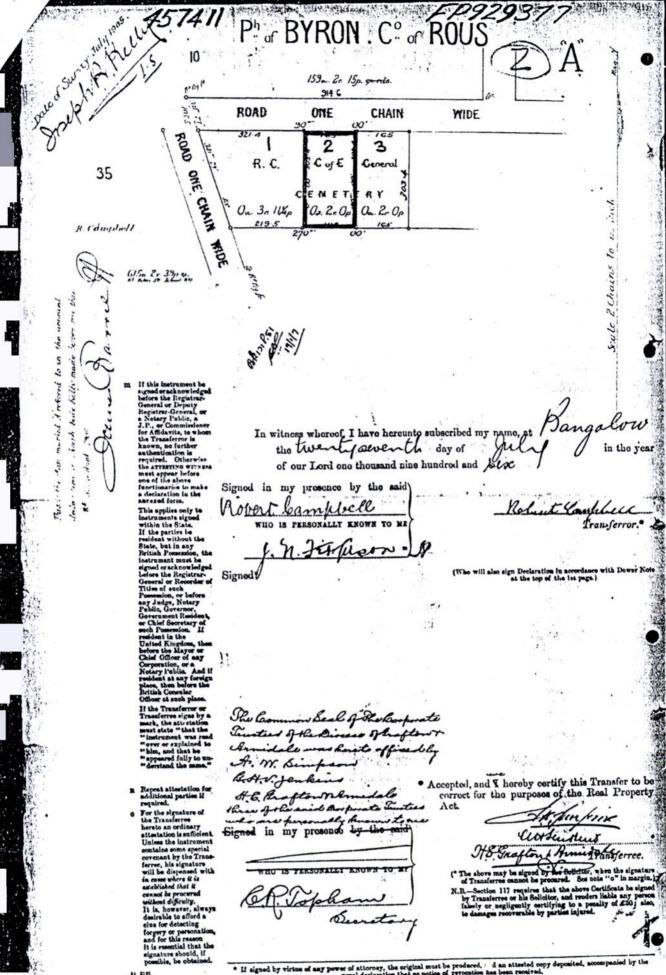
We kindly request that Council takes into consideration our concerns, as listed above.

Sincerely yours,



Bangalow Historical Society Corner Deacon & Ashton Streets Bangalow NSW 2479





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STATUTORY DECLARATION.

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And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of the provisions of the Oaths Act 1900.

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MEMORANDUM OF ENCUMBRANCES, &c., REFERRED TO.

See note "a," page 1
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Me reservations contained in the Grant reformed to

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FORM OF DECLARATION BY ATTESTING WITNESS.

Appeared before me at

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the attesting witness to this instrument, and declared that he personally knew

the person signing the same, and whose signature thereto he has attested; and that the name purporting to be such signature of the said.

is his own handwriting, and that he was of

sound mind, and freely and voluntarily signed the same.

May be made before either Registrar-General, Ispaty Registrar-timeral, a Notary Public, J.P., or Commissioner for Affidavita. Not required if the inatrument itself be made or acknowledge before one of these parties.

- Y Name of witness and residence.
- 3 Name of Transferror
- Name of Transfer

Registrar-General, Deputy, Notary Public, J. P., or Commissioner for Afficavita.

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BANGALOW

After almost five years in the making "High on the Hill" a transcript of the Bangalow Cemetery was launched on Sunday 11 March at Heritage House. The book was launched jointly by Don Page M.P. and international author Di Morrissey. Both spoke of its valuable contribution to the history of Bangalow and related some statistics, historical facts and amusing anecdotes.

The cemetery contains the graves of Thomas Robinson, the first settler in the area and his wife Charlotte. Thomas, who was once bailed up by Gardiner's gang of bushrangers whilst droving a mob, took three weeks to cut a track from Tintenbar to Bangalow (known as Byron Creek) in 1881. After he built a shingled slab hut Charlotte arrived with their four daughters, and another daughter Mabel was the first white girl born at Byron Creek

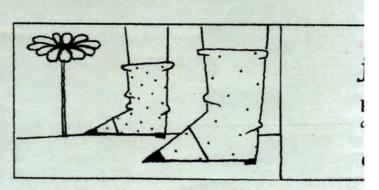
Known as "the mother of Bangalow" Charlotte worked as hard as a man and acted as medical advisor and midwife until the first doctor arrived in 1905. She died in 1907 aged 57 years. Thomas died in 1922 aged 76 years.

Robert Campbell who donated the cemetery land and his wife Marion are also buried there. The Catholic portion was originally in town (near Catholic Church) and around 1908, 30-40 graves were relocated to the current site. When Robert Campbell was asked to provide fencing between the main denominations he is reported to have said "Don't tell me they'll still be fighting up there". This was a reference to the less than cordial relationship between the Catholics and Protestants at the time.

Except for 191 unidentified graves, all those who are buried in the cemetery are named in the book (the cut-off date being 1998) - a total of 1,678 named. The book gives other interesting statistical information including that of children's graves between 1911 and 1920 forty-four in the 0-12 months and fourteen in the 1-5 years died. There was a marked decline in infant death after the discovery of penicillin. Those listed as accidental deaths include a father and his three children who drowned in a well whilst the mother was in hospital with a new baby.



The Lich Gate, due for restoration



IETERY REVISITED



This surviving child brought her mother's body back from Sydney to Bangalow when she died at 83 years to be buried with her family. Recommendations

"High on the Hill" makes a number of recommendations, including the urgency of a conservation plan to control the 'green vandal' the Camphor Laurels and carry out landscaping.

The Lich-Gate, as one of few remaining in Australia, is vital to the heritage of the area and needs to be restored and conserved for the future. Historical Society President Mr. Don Osborne asks suppliers and tradespeople interested in helping with this restoration to contact him (b/h 6687-1897, a/h 6687-2909). The Lich-Gate, a wooden structure, is a place to rest the coffin, whilst awaiting the arrival of the clergyman, in inclement weather.

Another recommendation - that of a walking tour of the cemetery - will come to fruition on Mothers Day. The Historical Society will host afternoon tea, guided tours and an opportunity to purchase the book (anyone wanting a prior copy ring Don Osborne). After years of struggling with inadequate records the book researchers say they cannot over-emphasize the importance of keeping accurate records, "After all, for most of the general population, the only record we leave of our lives of joy and toil, are our families and our epitaphs".

The Bangalow Historical Society Inc. sincerely thank the following people for their unselfish time and efforts to bring this document into a reality: Chris Holden, Jan Hulbert, Martin McGettigan, Dot Gill and late Earl Gill, Betty Dengate, Jane I'Ons, Pat Cooper, Don Osborne. The Society thank Reg and Denise Miller of Millers' Bangalow Real Estate for generous financial assistance with the publication of it. The project was initially funded by The NSW Ministry of Arts.

Kaye Hall

odie hopkins

parebones art space ipril 1st - 12th

april fools



BANGALOW

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John Frederick "Earl" Gill - Cemetery research

Dot Gill - Cemetery and family history research

Betty Dengate - Cemetery research and document checking/review

Jane I'Ons - Checking and document review

Pat Cooper - Additional research & survey

Don Osborne - Document recording and corrections, re-formatting and computer archives

Initially, funding for this project was originally provided by **The Royal Australian Historical Society**, through **The NSW Ministry of Arts** by way of a grant, with the balance of expenses being met by donation, pre-sales and fund raising by the Bangalow Historical Society Inc.

Forward

The research team of The Bangalow Historical Society Inc. hopes that all readers of this document will enjoy the "fruits of their labours" and are pleased by the knowledge that they have been instrumental in recognising the past citizens of Bangalow and hope that future generations will carry on in the proud tradition established by their forebears.

From the Original Researcher - Chris Holden

This document is a record of those past residents of Bangalow and district that now reside in the Bangalow Cemetery. The absence of grave markers has meant that some graves could not be properly identified.

In 1894 Mr Robert Campbell donated an acre of land to the community for cemetery purposes. This land was located on the hill in the township near the original Catholic Church. It is believed that the Protestant cemetery was located north of the town in what is now the Old Anglican portion of the Bangalow Cemetery.

The Catholic cemetery served its purpose until about 1908 when the graveyard that consisted of between 30 - 40 graves was dug up and re-interred on land north of the township next to the Protestant cemetery. Though most of the graves were moved in 1908, the last was not moved until 1962. The land north of the town, on which the current cemetery is located was donated by Robert Campbell. The Lawn cemetery has only been in use since 17.7.1988 (1st burial was Dawn Bertha Battersby).

At the establishment of the new cemetery, Robert Campbell was asked to provide fencing between the main denominations. He is reputed to have replied "Don't tell me they'll still be fighting up there." This was a reference to the less than cordial relationship between the Catholics and Protestants at the time.

There is a lot that a cemetery can tell historians about the past history of the area and the Bangalow cemetery is no exception. By taking a walk around the Bangalow cemetery one can see evidence of the influenza epidemic that struck the area at the end of World War One.

I he land the Cemetery is on was originally owned by Robert Campbell one boy the earliest setters in Bangalow in 1881. The actual gift of land was in 1905, the first Bangalow Cemetery was on land Robert Campbell donated to the catholic Church near the centre of town there were some 30 odd graves there, they were then interned to the now Bangalow Cemetery to allow the even Catholic Church to be built there were something like 30 Catholic grewer moved some say it was 1908, but Maxion Campell first wife of Robert Campell was moved on the 20-16-1910 all these graves are in rover of Ma Brows and a few in you to the last grove to be moved was Michael Donaghy wich was moved in 1962 as a child growing up my Dad told me this was done at night out of respect for every one to

on western side of Centery and all Catholic face the west those days, then the anglican Presbytesian and Methodist were all facing east in the first Cemetery Call I can say the Protestants seen the sun rise and the Catholics seen it set) that canced on until the Lawn Cemetery was added to the and the first buriel in it was Down Battersley on the 19 feb 1988 who passed away on the 19-2-88 wife

of our last Station Master in Bangalow. There is so much history in the Cemetery. The "Lich Gate" exected to the memory of our Lelowed departed by the anglican community 25-4-1934, had fell desp into great chopan one the years, then on May 13 2001