

ST IVES

LOCATION = Eighty kilometres south of the present town of Kalgoorlie between Lake Lefroy and Lake Cowan.¹

INDUSTRY = Gold mining.

HISTORY = In December 1919 reports reached Kalgoorlie of a strike by Pat IVES who had pegged the *Ives Reward Claim*. By May 1920 there were over one hundred and fifty leases within a radius of about eight to nine kilometres. One of these was probably Kyrn BRENNAN's *Coo-ee* lease.

Also by about 1920 homes of hessian and iron were beginning to be replace the original tents and bough sheds. The new arrivals after the initial strike soon formed a progress association. The districts name was changed from Ives Find to St. Ives by the Minister for Mines.

After 1927 there was very little mining activity.²

UTILITIES = Water supply at the site was a problem. Early arrivals cleared out what soaks there were and the Government provided camel teams and tanks for a three month period. In May 1920 the Government sank a well 11 feet into the edge of Lake Lefroy and erected a condenser.³

POSTAL SERVICES = By about 1920 Mr LUCIUS was operating a postal agency out of his store.⁴

HOTELS & ACCOMMODATION

? **HOTEL** = E. L. DAVIES, the proprietor of the Higginsville hotel transferred the license to St Ives.⁵

OTHER BUSINESSES

ORE BATTERY = The Government provided a State Battery.⁶

STOREKEEPER = By about 1920 Mr LUCIUS was running the pioneer store.⁷

SANDSTONE BREWERY

LOCATION = This was built about four kilometres south east of the present town of Sandstone.⁸

OTHER BUSINESSES

BREWERY = The building was erected on top of a breakaway above a large tunnel cut into the face of the breakaway to provide cool storage. It was constructed in 1907 for the Irishman J. V. KEARNEY and managed by M DEMPSEY. The first beer production was in August 1907 and in February 1908 a bottling plant and stout brewery were added. The plant was sold to P. W. WACHER in April 1908 and KEARNEY went to New Zealand. Production continued for a few more years.⁹

SCOTIA

LOCATION = Siding on the railway line between the present towns of Kalgoorlie & Menzies.

SEXTON & DRYSDALE TIMBER MILL - COLLIE AREA

LOCATION = About nineteen kilometres north east of the present town of Collie on a former horse tramline from PLAVIN's Timber Mill north of Shotts.¹⁰

INDUSTRY = Timber.

SHADOW OF DEATH - Another name for the - GOLDEN GROVE HOTEL.

SHELLBOROUGH - Commonly known as - CONDON.

LOCATION = Latitude 20° 00' south by Longitude 119° 22' east. One hundred and thirty seven kilometres east of the present town of Port Hedland at Condon Landing on Condon Creek, hence the alternative name.¹¹

INDUSTRY = Pearling. Pastoral industry port.

HISTORY = The De Grey pearling fleet operated out of Shellborough for fifteen years from about 1871. The early 1870's was a period of rapid growth in pearling in Western Australia, and the townsite of Shellborough was established in support of this industry. It was first surveyed in 1872, and was referred to as Condong. However, when gazetted in 1872, the notice referred to "allotments at Condong" which will from this date be known as Shellborough.¹² In 1872 a reserve of about one square mile was set aside.¹³

References to the town as Condon occur in the late 1870's, and it has been more often known by this name than the official Shellborough. The use of Condon name may have some connection with Daniel CONGDON (1838-1907), the brother-in-law of Robert FAIRBAIRN, but the townsite was never gazetted as either Condon or Condong. The fact that the aborigines bartered shells with early visitors to this area or simply the fact that so many varieties of shells and pearl shell could be collected here may have led to the choosing of the name.¹⁴

By 1893 the increasing importance of the site had led to the town being re-surveyed because all the original mangrove survey pegs had gone.¹⁵ The population of the town peaked at two hundred in 1899 and decreased to fifty in 1900-01 and twelve in 1905. Many of the residents moves to the growing settlement of Port Headland.¹⁶

POSTAL & COMMUNICATION SERVICES = By June 1887 the survey for the telegraph line from Roebourne had been completes, and a site for the telegraph station chosen. The telegraph through from Perth to Wyndham, via Shellborough was completed in 1893, and the Condon to Marble Bar telegraph in 1894.¹⁷ The telegraph station was abandoned in 1927.¹⁸

TELEGRAPH OPERATOR and POSTMASTER

MOORE, John = The 1895 postal directory lists John MOORE as the telegraph operator and Postmaster at Condon.¹⁹

TEED, G. E. = He is listed as the Postmaster and telegraph master in the 1898 postal directory.²⁰

McGREGOR, Wallace = 1917 to 1919.²¹

HOTELS & ACCOMMODATION

CARRIERS ARMS HOTEL = Sydney HEDLEY is listed there in the 1897,²² and the 1898 postal directory.²³

CONDON HOTEL = The 1895 postal directory lists Thomas TRAINEE as associated with the hotel.²⁴

ROYAL HOTEL = The 1895 postal directory lists James RAYNOR as associated with the hotel,²⁵ and he also appears in the 1897 directory.²⁶ The 1898 directory lists Thomas TRAINEE and James RAYNOR of Trainee & Raynors.²⁷

OTHER BUSINESSES

BLACKSMITH = The 1895 postal directory lists Henry PEGDEN.²⁸

CHEMIST = The 1895 postal directory lists A. L. HASTIER as a chemist at Condon.²⁹

MERCHANT = J. F. Tiffany & Co are listed as general merchants and lighterman etc in the 1897 postal directory.³⁰ This is presumably the American, James TIFFANY who had a bonded store there.³¹

SADDLER = Robert CHANDLER is listed in the 1898 postal directory.³²

STOREKEEPER 1 = The 1895 postal directory lists Trainee & Raynor.³³ This is presumably Tom TRAINEE who had previously worked in Queensland and the Northern Territory.³⁴

WHEELWRIGHTS ETC = Moore & McDonald are listed in the 1897,³⁵ and the 1898 postal directory.³⁶

SIBERIA - Origin name - WAVERLEY.

LOCATION = Latitude 30° 15' south by Longitude 120° 57' east. Eighty six kilometres north west of the present town of Kalgoorlie.³⁷

INDUSTRY = Gold mining.

HISTORY = The first gold was found by Billy FROST and Bob BONNER in about October 1893. Some of the mines in the area were the *Waverley*, the *Siberia*, the *Mexico* and the *Pole* leases.³⁸

Lots were surveyed and land for a townsite to be named Siberia was set aside in 1898, but when it came to gazetting the townsite the Chairman of the local Progress Committee suggested it be named Waverley, after a local mine. Waverley townsite was gazetted in October 1898.

In 1911 the Postmaster General's Department raised concern with the government about town names which were duplicated in other states, Waverley being one of these. Siberia was suggested as an alternative name, as was Wongi, derived from nearby Wongied Soak. The majority of the residents preferred Siberia, and the name change was gazetted in November 1914. Siberia derives its name from Siberia Tank, a nearby water supply for the area. The origin of the name is uncertain, but in a book on the goldfields by Duke STEWART the author wrote that J. S. CHRISTIE told him how Siberia was named. "A swagman struck the track near the Carnage and cut on a tree the words: To Hell or Siberia".³⁹

The last resident left the town in 1954.⁴⁰

HEALTH = The town once had its own doctor and hospital.⁴¹

HOTELS & ACCOMMODATION = There were two hotels.⁴²

SIR SAMUEL

LOCATION = Latitude 27° 38' south by Longitude 120° 33' east.⁴³ South of the present town of Wiluna.

INDUSTRY - Gold mining.

HISTORY = Gold was first discovered in this area around 1895. By 1896 the area was regarded as likely to become an important mining centre, and a request was made to survey a townsite. Following the selection of a site for the townsite, the Mining Warden for the area, A. G. CLIFTON suggested three possible names, CLIFTON after himself; Herberton after HERBERT'S the original finder of gold in the area and Newmanton, after A. W. NEWMAN, the surveyor. The Lands Department felt that the area was already too well known as Mount Sir Samuel, but decided that the Mount part of the name could be dropped. This was agreed to, and the townsite of Sir Samuel was gazetted in 1897. It takes its name from the nearby feature of Mount Sir Samuel, which was named by the explorer Lawrence Wells in February 1892. Wells was the surveyor in the Elder Exploring Expedition which had left from Adelaide the previous year, and he named Mount Sir Samuel after Sir Samuel James Way, Chief Justice and Lieutenant Governor of South Australia.⁴⁴

POLICE & COURTS - A Police Station was opened there in January 1899. This camp was apparently just a collection of tents and brush buildings and was burnt down on the night of the 13th of July 1901. Two sets of tracks were followed from the scene, but no apprehensions were made. Tenders for the rebuilding were called in 1902 on Bizant Street. The station was closed in November 1910 and the buildings were removed to Youanmi in 1911.⁴⁵

POLICE OFFICERS

BOND, [Constable] = He is known to be stationed there from April to May 1902.⁴⁶

PITMAN, [Constable/ No.425] = He was the original Officer in Charge in January 1899.⁴⁷

HOTELS & ACCOMMODATION

BELLEVUE HOTEL = A room in a hotel by this name was used as the police quarters and office following the burning down of the Police camp in 1901.⁴⁸

SIR SAMUEL HOTEL = George WESTON is listed there in the 1898 postal directory.⁴⁹ In about 1946 Alan WHITE moved with his new wife to manage the hotel, which included the telephone exchange and post office. They left in 1951.⁵⁰

OTHER BUSINESSES

BLACKSMITH = John HEIN is listed in the 1898 postal directory.⁵¹

BUTCHER & STORE = Joseph Digby [Joe] WILLIS had started a butchery business and store by 1900.⁵² Advertising in January 1901 states that this was in partnership with Bill MORRIS and William RUTLEDGE and that the men had also opened a similar business and store in Kathleen Valley.⁵³ They were advertising this as the Pioneering butchery of Sir Samuel & Lawler's by February 1901.⁵⁴ RUTLEDGE returned to run the store after marrying in 1904, but on one evening in 1906 the shop was completely destroyed by fire and never rebuilt.⁵⁵

CARPENTER = E. PETERSEN is listed in the 1898 postal directory.⁵⁶

CARTER = Thomas TOWNSEND is listed in the 1898 postal directory.⁵⁷

ENGINEER = E. DODD is listed in the 1898 postal directory.⁵⁸

STOREKEEPER 1 = Hugh MURRAY is listed in the 1898 postal directory.⁵⁹

STOREKEEPER 2 = Arthur O'CONNOR is listed in the 1898 postal directory.⁶⁰

STOREKEEPER 3 = Sydney PARKER is listed in the 1898 postal directory.⁶¹

STOREKEEPER 4 = Frank STACEY is listed in the 1898 postal directory.⁶²

STOREKEEPER 5 = T. TOOHEY is listed in the 1898 postal directory.⁶³

STONEMASON = Robert BELOW was listed in the 1898 postal directory.⁶⁴

SMITHFIELD

LOCATION = North of the present town of Kalgoorlie.

INDUSTRY = Gold mining.

HISTORY = SMITH pegged the Reward Claim there in 1894. Two of the local mines were the *King of the West*, and the *Kingsley Hall Reward Gold Mine*. Alluvial finds in 1898 renewed interest in the area as did another alluvial find in 1901, but the latter was short lived.⁶⁵

SPEAKMAN'S FIND

 - Original name for - CALLION.

SQUARE WELL

LOCATION = In the Yalgoo area north of Narrotharra. Within about five kilometres of 116° 48' east by 28° south.

HOTELS & ACCOMMODATION = From the debris of bottles and building foundations it appears possible that an unlicensed premises was on the site.⁶⁶

STAKE WELL

 - Also known as - MUMMARRA - and later - MUNARRA.⁶⁷

LOCATION = About fifty seven kilometres north of the present town of Cue, near the Great Northern Highway.

HISTORY = Originally a shallow well sunk in the side of the creek. The name came from the well, which had a stake fence around it. The well was upgraded in 1895.⁶⁸

TRANSPORT SERVICES = The arrival of the railway circa 1893 made Stake Well a fair sized siding and the railway dug a diversion channel from the creek at Stake Well to create a large dam about half a kilometres north of the well to supply water for the steam locomotives.⁶⁹

HOTELS & ACCOMMODATION =

TRAVELLERS REST HOTEL [STAKE WELL HOTEL] = In January 1897 David SEIVWRIGHT was granted a wayside house licence for his premises, which he called the *Travellers Rest*. In 1900 a wayside house licence was granted to Matthew BROPHY. This was possibly the same premises and may also be the premises licensed to Alexander FORSYTH for the Stake Well hotel in 1902.⁷⁰

OTHER BUSINESSES

SHOPKEEPER = The SEIVWRIGHTS moved there from Bunbenoo in early 1896 and established a store and residence there near GASCARD's coaching change yard.⁷¹

STAR

 - An early name for - PORLELL.

STAR OF THE EAST

 - An early name for - PORLELL.

SUSSEX TIMBER MILL - JARRAHWOOD AREA

LOCATION = About twelve kilometres south south east of Jarrahood.⁷²

INDUSTRY = Timber.

HISTORY = This mill was operated by The Sussex Timber Company, which was incorporated as a subsidiary of Millers Timber & Trading Company in October 1922. The mill was completed in October 1923 and in June 1924 was connected by a wooden railed horse drawn tramway three kilometres long to Dellerton, a private siding on the former Government railway line to Nannup. The wooden rails were replaced by steel in 1925 and a motor trolley built to use on the line. As the nearby timber was cut out and the company extended railway lines into the forest north east and south west of the mill a locomotive became necessary. This was acquired in February 1927. The eventual length of company lines was twenty two kilometres.

The mill closed in 1939, the logging lines were removed by February 1941 and the timber stockpile was finally exhausted by September 1942. In June 1946 the mill land was sold to the mill's former accountant, whose family commenced farming there in 1956. The mill equipment was eventually scrapped by local farmers and the mill houses were relocated.⁷³

SUSSEX TIMBER MILL BUSH CAMP - JARRAHWOOD AREA

LOCATION - This was sited where the Sussex Timber Mill's southern logging railway line crossed the Vasse Highway. Unfortunately this description of the site applies to two points which were respectively two and four kilometres from the mill. At present it is not known which of these two locations is the actual site of the camp.⁷⁴

SWAN TIMBER MILL - CLAYMORE AREA

LOCATION = About three kilometres south east of Claymore on Claymore road according to one map,⁷⁵ but listed in the source text as alongside the Ludlow River and the Goodwood Road.⁷⁶

INDUSTRY = Timber.

HISTORY = Swan Saw Mills began construction on this mill early in 1920 using material from their dismantled Lowden mill and taking advantage of a section of the old Public Works Department railway formation to the Department's former mill. The line was completed in March 1920. There was a network of company rail lines to the east of the mill that eventually amounted to forty kilometres. In later years damage to the mill's engine plant became too expensive to repair and the mill closed down. The last of the stockpile was removed in 1939. The rail lines were removed that June. Most of the staff went to Delleton.

The seventy employees there were mainly English and Italian migrants. The settlement consisted of thirty to forty houses, a single mans boarding house, office, storerooms and a hall.⁷⁷

EDUCATION - The hall doubled as a school.⁷⁸

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 - ²⁰ Postal directory 1898. p 28.
 - ²¹ HARDIE, Jenny - *Nor' westers of the Pilbara Breed*. - Hesperian Press. 1988. p 23.
 - ²² Postal directroy 1897. p 18.
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