

Second owners of Nilja were the Rutledge family in 1948, recorded as Mrs Olive Josephine Rutledge and her daughters, Olive and Dorothy.⁵⁶³ Dorothy was a trained teacher who became interested in alternative methods of teaching children. In 1953, a house, Mulloka, was built on part of the Nilja site as a holiday home for children. It was run by Dorothy and her friend, Margaret Bennett, until it was destroyed by fire in 1965. The Nilja outbuildings were also destroyed at this time.⁵⁶⁴

After the death of her mother and sister, Dorothy became the owner of Nilja. Following her marriage in 1973 to Sir George Oswald Reid, barrister, solicitor and parliamentarian, the couple lived at Nilja. They remained there until November 1988.⁵⁶⁵ Sir George Reid had a distinguished political career and was Attorney-General in the Bolte State Government from 1955 to 1973.⁵⁶⁶

Of *local historical significance* for its associations with Angela Booth, first woman councillor in the municipality, and with Lady Dorothy Reid (nee Rutledge), an innovative district teacher.

The McAuley Cottage **2 Russell Road, Warrandyte.**

This modest timber cottage, which dates from the 1870s or earlier, has associations with district miners. However, although A. Fairweather held the Miner's Right to the property (Crown Allotment 6A Section 18) in 1892 and became the registered owner in 1893⁵⁶⁷, he was not listed in early district rate records.

⁵⁶³ Shire of Doncaster and Templestowe General and Water RB 1948-49 Warrandyte Riding No.2915.

⁵⁶⁴ Bruce Bence, *Sir George and Lady Reid*, Warrandyte Historical Society.

⁵⁶⁵ Bruce Bence.

⁵⁶⁶ Geoff. Brown, *Biographical Register of the Victorian Parliament, 1900-1984*, Parliament of Victoria, 1985, p.177.

⁵⁶⁷ Plan of Township Allotment Warrandyte Department of Lands and Survey 8 Oct. 1892; Parish Plan.

First occupier rated for a house on the site was in the 1873-74 Warrandyte Riding records. He was Murdoch Cameron McAuley, a Warrandyte miner.⁵⁶⁸ The property was described from 1875 as a house and garden in the Warrandyte township with an extremely small valuation, suggesting a very small dwelling.⁵⁶⁹ McAuley, who continued to live in the cottage,⁵⁷⁰ died in 1886, and is buried in an unmarked grave in the Anderson's Creek Cemetery at Warrandyte.⁵⁷¹ His widow, Margaret, a midwife, lived in the Russell Road house until her death from pneumonia five years later.⁵⁷² She is also buried in the Warrandyte Cemetery.⁵⁷³

Another local miner, Fredrich Johensen (1865-1923) lived in the cottage from 1892 until 1901. Johensen also owned a selection of 20 acres in Parson's Gully,⁵⁷⁴ a popular district gold-, mining area. Like McAuley, he is buried in an unmarked grave in the Warrandyte Cemetery.⁵⁷⁵

A number of other owners and occupiers were listed in district rate records in the first decades of the new century. They included Mrs Eleanor Day of Fairfield Park, George Elletson, an engine-driver; and Amy and Lilla Rouvray, who lived there from 1909 until the eve of the First World War. Throughout this period valuation of the cottage changed little.⁵⁷⁶

Some changes seem to have been made to the 1870s cottage during the ownership of Mary Reddie in the 1920s, when the valuation of the property doubled.⁵⁷⁷ This was at a time when Victoria was entering a period of deep economic depression.

⁵⁶⁸ Shire of Bulleen RB 1873-74 Warrandyte Riding No.355 (NAV 7 pounds 10 shillings).

⁵⁶⁹ Shire of Bulleen RB 1875 Warrandyte Riding No.338.

⁵⁷⁰ Shire of Bulleen RB 1885 Warrandyte Riding No.356 (NAV 8 pounds).

⁵⁷¹ *Unmarked Burials Anderson's Creek Cemetery*, 1867-1938, Bruce Bence, 1988.

⁵⁷² Shire of Bulleen RB 1887 Warrandyte Riding No.380; 1891 No.219.

⁵⁷³ Bence; *Anderson's Creek Cemetery Warrandyte*, 1866-1988, Bruce Bence, p.33 (copy of Margaret's Form of Certificate of Burial).

⁵⁷⁴ Shire of Bulleen RB 1892 No.209 (late McAuley).

⁵⁷⁵ Bence.

⁵⁷⁶ Shire of Templestowe RB 1902 Warrandyte Riding No.235 (late Johensen); 1908-9 No.50 (late Elletson); 1914-15 No.197 (NAV 7 pounds).

⁵⁷⁷ Shire of Doncaster RB 1920-21 Templestowe Riding No.940 (NAV 7 pounds); 1923-24 No.674 (NAV 13 pounds).

Even greater changes seem to have taken place during the ownership from 1934 by the notable Warrandyte builder, Constance Alexa Goyder.⁵⁷⁸ Valued at only seven pounds in that year, and down to four pounds in 1938, the cottage's valuation soared to 42 pounds by 1944.⁵⁷⁹ By this time, Goyder and her husband were living in the house she designed for herself at 300 Yarra Street.⁵⁸⁰ The Russell Road cottage was let to William McGregor.⁵⁸¹

Two cottages were listed on the Russell Road site by the late 1940s. The occupiers in 1948 were Alan Carter, a clerk, and Frank Rowan, a journalist.⁵⁸² Rowan may have been a friend from the time Goyder worked as a journalist before settling in Warrandyte.

Of local historical significance. as a typical early miner's cottage, much altered in the 1920s and 1940s, but retaining much of its earlier form. It has local significance, also, for its associations with district miners McAuley and Johensen, with McAuley's wife, a district midwife, and, from 1934, with local builder, Alexa Goyder.

The Hastings Cottage **322 Yarra Street, Warrandyte.**

This cottage may date from as early as 1873 when William Hastings, miner, lived in a modest house with a garden on the site of 322 Yarra Street (Allotment 8A Section 18).⁵⁸³ The cottage was most probably extended in 1881, when its valuation doubled.⁵⁸⁴

The tragic life of the Hastings family is told in the records of the Anderson's Creek Cemetery at Warrandyte. The oldest dated tombstone there was erected to the memory of Caroline Hastings who died in January 1873. Between that date and 1892, when William died, his wife and ten of their twelve children were dead. William, his wife Mary Anne and six of their children died of consumption.⁵⁸⁵

⁵⁷⁸ Shire of Doncaster and Templestowe RB 1934-35 Warrandyte Riding No.475(Mary Reddie crossed out)NAV 7 pounds.

⁵⁷⁹ Shire of Doncaster and Templestowe RB 1935-36 Warrandyte Riding No.188(NAV 4 pounds);1939-40 No.195(NAV 14 pounds);1944-45 No.197(NAV 42 pounds).

⁵⁸⁰ See research into 300 Yarra Street.

⁵⁸¹ Shire of Doncaster and TemplestoweRB 1944-45 Warrandyte Riding No.197.

⁵⁸² Shire of Doncaster and Templestowe General and Water RB 1948 Warrandyte Riding No.2811(NAV 42 pounds).

⁵⁸³ Templestowe District Board RB 1873 No.337(NAV 18 pounds 10 shillings).

⁵⁸⁴ Shire of Bulleen RB 1881 Warrandyte Riding No.314 (NAV 20 pounds).

⁵⁸⁵ *Anderson's Creek Cemetery, Warrandyte, 1866-1988*, Bruce Bence, p.43.