

CHINESE MEMORIAL GARDEN

A Memorial Garden at the rear of the complex commemorates the role of early market gardeners and share-farmers in the development of Manilla & District. The headstones were moved from private property and placed in care of Council before Manilla Historical Society undertook their relocation to the Museum complex in the 1990s. Translation of the headstone texts is provided and although we have little written history of the Chinese story in Manilla, this Garden goes some way to recognising the significant contribution to prosperity the Chinese community made here as elsewhere in Australia.



FAMILY & COMMUNITY HISTORY

LOOKING for FAMILY HISTORY? Manilla Museum has an extensive Family & Community History Archive. Copies of collected Community Histories can be found in the General History Research Room located at the Museum entrance. Original History documents and photos are kept in the Manilla Community Archives at the rear of the Museum. This facility is regularly staffed on Thursday of each week with a Historian in attendance. If you have a special history question, or some history to contribute, please contact to arrange a meeting.



M.H.S. CONTACTS:

FAMILY & COMMUNITY HISTORY

Email: shirley.coote2@bigpond.com

ADMINISTRATION

Email: manillamuseum@gmail.com

RURAL MUSEUM HISTORY/DONATIONS

Contact: Ian Bignall 0428 421 668

Street/Postal: 197 Manilla Street Manilla NSW 2346

Phone messages: +61 2 6785 1207*

*Please leave contact details with the receptionist!

VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE

In 2006, the need for an accredited Tourist Information Centre led to the consideration of several potential Manilla town locations, resulting in the choice of the Museum's shop-front as the most suitable. MANILLA's Level 3 accredited Visitor Information Centre located at the museum Entrance, was officially opened by former Manilla resident Fiona Coote, in May 2007.



PUBLICATIONS

- MANILLA'S LOST FOLKS
- MANILLA & DISTRICT TIMELINE
- MANILLA'S PLACES & SPACES
- INDEX—Transformation of Manillae
- HISTORY of WATSONS CREEK
- WATSONS CREEK Public School
- LITTLE TOWN of MANILLA song CD
- GUNNEDAH'S LOST FOLKS
- POEMS from PLATYPUS COUNTRY
- The LOCAL PICTURE POSTCARD Book

POSTCARDS, SOUVENIRS & BOOKS are available at the MUSEUM SHOP

Museum Entry & Archive Access

Open daily - closed Christmas Day & Good Friday

Adult: \$ 4 - Concession: \$3

Child: 6-16 & School Groups: \$1 p/p

Family: \$10 (2+3)

Adult Group Tours of 10 + : \$3 p/p

Advance Tour Bookings: (02) 6785 1207

MHM Guide 2012

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MANILLA HERITAGE MUSEUM



A TREASURE-TROVE of COMMUNITY HISTORY

INSIDE you might DISCOVER...
Miss PUMBLE'S Pink Pocket Watch
Three Nineteenth Century BRIDES
Burrell's PLATYPUSARY or...
The Dreaded DENTIST'S CHAIR!
You NEVER know WHAT you'll FIND

at MANILLA HERITAGE MUSEUM

Open Seven Days—9am to 4pm
197 Manilla Street MANILLA 2346



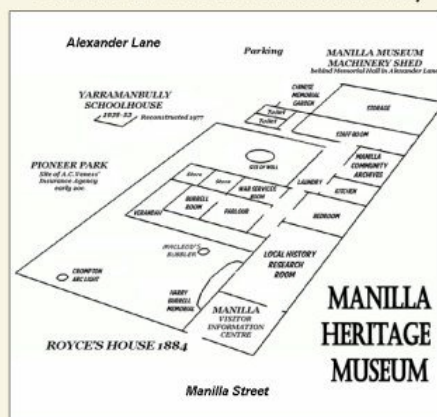
THE STORY OF ROYCE'S HOUSE

In 1883, tenders were called for the erection of a high level bridge over the Namoi River at Manilla. It would be one of several iron lattice bridges in the region, designed by John MacDonald and constructed by G.H. Royce. T.J. Bowen built many of the town's major buildings and most likely this brick house. The Royce's stayed until 1886, after which the building served as general offices until 1889. It was then used as doctor's rooms. In 1908 the IXL Bakery was established by Mr Bates. He extended the house at the rear to include a bakery and kitchen and at the front to create tea rooms and a shop-front. Bakery operations carried on until the 1960s, after which the building became a private rental residence, prior to acquisition by the former Manilla Shire Council. It is the oldest building of its type in Manilla Town.



The MUSEUM incorporates...

- The ROYCE HOUSE COLLECTION
- The MANILLA COMMUNITY ARCHIVES
- The MANILLA RURAL MUSEUM
- The MANILLA CHINESE MEMORIAL GARDEN
- The YARRAMANBULLY SCHOOLHOUSE
- PUBLIC RESEARCH FACILITIES available 7 days...
- COLLECTED MANILLA & DISTRICT HISTORIES
- CONTRIBUTED FAMILY HISTORIES
- The compilation, "MANILLA'S LOST FOLKS"
- OBITUARY FILES & NOTICES from 1880s to today



HISTORY OF MANILLA'S MUSEUM



The former Royce family home was acquired by Council in 1975, restored under Government grant and handed over to Manilla Historical Society to set up as a museum. 'Royce Cottage' opened to the public in 1976. Renamed Manilla Heritage Museum in 2000, it houses the MANILLA COMMUNITY COLLECTION, items of local significance displayed throughout the complex and the Manilla & District Document and Photographic Archives, safely kept in a protective environment. Tourists are welcomed daily by Manilla Visitor Centre Staff and the Collection is lovingly maintained by Manilla Historical Society Volunteers.

YARRAMANBULLY SCHOOLHOUSE



The first Yarramanbully one-teacher school operated during the 1920s, the second between 1935 & 1953. In 1977 the schoolhouse was brought from Yarramanbully Hamlet to Pioneer Park, in celebration of Manilla's Centenary of Public Education. It now serves as a little Museum of Rural Schooling.



The MANILLA RURAL MUSEUM

Safehouse for preservation of the
**MANILLA & DISTRICT
RURAL COLLECTION**



Alexander Lane MANILLA
[Behind Supermarket]

Open casual hours—most Saturdays 10am-3 pm
or by appointment - contact: 0428 421 668