



The McConachy Clan

FREDERICK & ELIZABETH WALKDEN

Frederick Walkden was born in Middlesex, England in 1839 and he immigrated to Australia with his parents and six brothers and sisters.

He married Mary Brennan in 1863 at Rutherglen, and they went to the Chiltern area where Fred was a splitter, providing timber for the mines. A daughter Margaret was born in 1864, but her mother died 6 days later.

Fred Walkden as leaseholder of the Aireys Run, is named in the Winchelsea rate books of 1868. The Aireys Run was on the west side of the creek from Angahook. However, Thomas Roadknight paid the rates. Roadknight had a lease on several other runs at that time. Fred married Elizabeth Pearse in 1868, the daughter of his next-door neighbour, Martha Pearse. Elizabeth was the twin sister of Sarah Pearse who had married Robert McConachy. Farming and grazing became increasingly difficult after Austin introduced rabbits in 1859. They spread rapidly from nearby Winchelsea. Elizabeth and Fred had three children before leaving the district for Stratford in 1873.

Fred continued grazing pursuits while obtaining his teaching licence. Fred taught at Castle Creek and at Hansonville. He was head teacher from 1873-1892 of Hanson South, later to become Hansonville school. Fred and Elizabeth had 14 children. Elizabeth died in 1892 aged just 46. Fred and some of the children moved to West Melbourne. The youngest child Amy was brought up by the next-door neighbours, the Baird family.



Hansonville School

Frederick Walkden - Head Teacher

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Managed by Stewart McConachy

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CHILDREN OF FREDERICK & ELIZABETH WALKDEN (*nee Pearse*)

1869-1958 Arthur – didn't marry

1870-71 Percy – died infancy

1872-1915 Ethel

1873-1937 Alice – didn't marry

1875-1958 Percy – Boer war, remained in South Africa, m Sheppard – Children - Frederick, Thelma (*Ford*)

1877-1931 Eva m Frank White - Children - 1897 Frank, 1901 Percy, 1905 Edgar, 1906 Eric, 1907 Greta

1878-1905 Dougan - didn't marry

1880-1905 Gerald – m Abidina Pinker – Children - 1905 Alice (*Bradley*)

1881-1926 F John m Rose Strickland 1908 – Children – 1910 Francis, 1912 Percival, 1913 Harold, 1916 Doris

(*Smith*), 1920 Amy (*Kimberley*) 1923 Frederick, 1925 Gerald

1882-1897 Edith

1884 –1887 Amy

1886-1964 Elsie - m. Harold Pearce – Children - 1905 Francis, 1907 Greta (*Hill*)

1886 Walter

1887-1968 Amy m John Dinning, Children - issue – 1917 John, 1918 Joan (*Butler*), 1920 Roy, 1922 Nelson, 1924

Leslie, 1925 Ernest, 1927 Dulcie (*McAlister*), 1929 Marjory (*Edwards*), 1932 Esther (*Wickam*)

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