

# **LEVINY FAMILY - LIVING AMONGST THE MINES**

## **Land sales and mining near Buda**

by

Clive E. Willman BSc(Hons), MSc (geology)

17 February 2022

<b>1. INTRODUCTION.....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2. MEETING HILDA .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3. ERNEST LEVINY'S MINING MACHINERY .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4. MINING IN CASTLEMAINE AND THE TOWN REEF .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>5. LAND SUBDIVISION ALONG THE TOWN REEF 1861 TO 1896.....</b>	<b>6</b>
5.1 1861 LAND SALES - MINING BOARD OBJECTIONS .....	6
5.2 NOVEMBER 1861 – PURCHASE BY REV. J. SMITH .....	8
5.3 ERNEST LEVINY BUYS DELHI VILLA - 1863 .....	9
5.4 WHEN WAS DELHI VILLA BUILT? .....	10
5.5 THE 1890 & 1896 LAND SALES.....	12
<b>6. OCCUPATION HISTORY OF BUDA'S NEIGHBOURHOOD 1860 -1921 .....</b>	<b>13</b>
6.1 RESIDENCE AREA LICENCE ON CA 5 - A STEP IN EXPANDING LEVINY'S HOLDINGS.....	13
6.2 RESIDENCE AREA LICENCE ON CA 19 - A COTTAGE SITE c1860 to c1902.....	15
<i>Establishing a Chain of Occupation.....</i>	15
6.3 THE COTTAGE ON CA 20 - 1862 to 1875 .....	19
6.4 1860s – WHEN WERE THE RESIDENCE AREA LICENCES FIRST TAKEN OUT? .....	20
6.5 SUMMARY OF LAND OCCUPATION 1860 TO 1921 - A GRAPHIC REPRESENTATION.....	23
<b>7. THE TOWN REEF - MINE WORKINGS NEAR BUDA .....</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>8. THE TOWN REEF - HISTORY .....</b>	<b>26</b>
8.1 WHAT WOULD THE LEVINY CHILDREN HAVE SEEN? .....	29
<b>9. THE PYRITES TREATMENT PLANT.....</b>	<b>30</b>
9.1 PYRITE PLANT IN NORTH CASTLEMAINE c1871 .....	30
9.2 THE FAILED PROSECUTION - 1872 .....	31
9.3 COMPLAINTS TO MINES DEPARTMENT – 1873 .....	32
9.4 IMPROVEMENTS TO THE PYRITES PLANT – 1874 .....	32
9.5 RESULTS OF GOVERNMENT INQUIRY – 1874 .....	33
9.6 THE COMPLAINTS CONTINUE – 1887 .....	34
<b>10. ERNEST LEVINY'S MINING INTERESTS .....</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>11. REFERENCES:.....</b>	<b>37</b>

**APPENDIX 1:** Ernest Leviny's letter to the Colonial Secretary and transcript

**APPENDIX 2:** Land occupation history Section 55 - a graphical representation

**APPENDIX 3:** Extracts from Castlemaine rate registers for Section 55; 1861 to 1905, 1911 & 1921.

**APPENDIX 4:** Put-away Plans C92\_4 and C85H\_3

**APPENDIX 5:** Longitudinal section of the Town Reef mine workings near Buda

**APPENDIX 6:** Some evidence presented at the Pyrites inquiry

## Acknowledgments

In compiling this research, I have received valuable encouragement and support from Laretta Zilles, Meredith Blake and Margaret Callister. Alleyne and Ian Hockley helped with the access to, and interpretation of, important archival materials – in particular, the Colonial Secretary correspondence and Castlemaine land records. I thank the Castlemaine Historical Society Incorporated for access to their archives and cheerful assistance. I especially thank Elizabeth Eager for her helpful comments and careful editing.

## Summary

1. The core component of the mining machinery that Ernest Leviny brought from England was likely to have been a portable steam engine of the type commonly used in the agricultural industry.
2. The Leviny household, more than any other family in Castlemaine, lived close to operating quartz mines with shafts as deep as 80 metres.
3. Land subdivision in the areas between Urquhart and Fletcher streets was delayed until about 1890 because of objections from the local Castlemaine Mining Board. This helps to explain why Ernest Leviny did not purchase the eastern parts of the Buda property until 1890 and 1896. Even in 1896, the Castlemaine Mining Board objected to the sale of the last 2 allotments acquired by Leviny.
4. Ernest Leviny occupied CA 5 (the allotment immediately east of the house) from as early as 1865 using the Residence Area licence system. He is recorded in a register for the period between 1882 to 1889 but there is good evidence that he had held this licence from 1865. When he purchased the land in 1890 it had improvements valued at £15 suggesting he had built a structure, such as a shed.
5. Two cottages were located just south of Delhi Villa in Bull St, one for 15 years and the other for just over 40 years. Both cottages were occupied using Residence Area licences. One cottage was located on CA 19 where the rose garden now sits; the cottage dates from about 1860 but was removed by 1903, perhaps destroyed by the 1901 tornado. Another cottage stood on CA 20 between 1860 and 1875. The cottage may have been removed about 1876.
6. The land on which Delhi Villa was built was not purchased until late November 1861. Rate records indicate that the house was under construction during 1862 and was probably completed before October 1862.
7. Two major mining areas were located immediately north and south of Buda. The precise locations are recorded by Lands Department 'put-away' plans.
8. The most important period of development along the Town Reef was between 1883 and 1887 when a headframe (poppet legs) and steam winding and crushing machinery were erected directly opposite Buda's Hunter St frontage. The mullock heap photographed by Kate Leviny in 1906 & 1912 almost certainly dates from the 1883-87 period. The Town Reef Co. machinery was dismantled and removed in 1889.
9. The presence of a pyrites treatment plant at the eastern end of Bull St caused serious pollution in the neighboured and caused Ernest Leviny concern for his family and garden.
10. Ernest Leviny maintained an interest in the mining industry and was the director of several local companies.



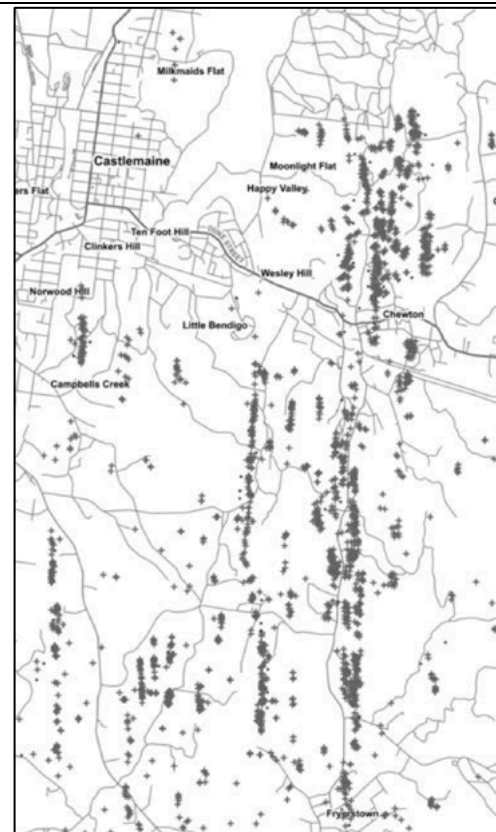
# The Levin Family - Living amongst the mines

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Ernest Levin, a Hungarian silversmith and jeweller, arrived in Castlemaine in 1853 (Zilles, 2010). In 1863, he married Bertha Hudson and purchased a large house called Delhi Villa at the corner of Hunter and Urquhart streets in North Castlemaine. Ernest and Bertha raised a large artistic family and over time they enlarged the house and added to the surrounding land holdings. Their youngest daughter, Hilda Levin, bequeathed the house and land to the Castlemaine Art Gallery and Historical Museum in 1981. Buda, as it is now known, is an important and well-preserved 19<sup>th</sup> century home and garden that is open to the public.

This document describes the 19<sup>th</sup> century mining that occurred in the Buda neighbourhood, the effect that mining had on Ernest Levin's land occupation and purchases, the details of his personal mining interests and his fight against the pollution caused by a nearby mineral processing plant.

Figure 1: Quartz reef mines in the Castlemaine district



*The only quartz mines that are located in the Castlemaine Township are next to Buda, or about 1 km to the northeast near Milkmaids Flat. GeoVic website Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions.*

Castlemaine was founded solely as a result of gold discoveries in 1851 but the reality is that most mining was located outside the main township. Although alluvial mining occurred along Forest, Barkers and Campbells creeks, the vast majority of deep reef mines, those that targeted the quartz reefs, were located east of Castlemaine along the intensely mined belt that runs from Fryerstown in the south to about 6km north of Chewton (**Figure 1**). A smaller group of reef mines operated south of Castlemaine and east of Campbells Creek and a significant group of reef mines, known as the Devonshire mines, were located near Milkmaids Flat about 1.2 km northeast of Buda.

The only deep reef mining within 19<sup>th</sup> century urban Castlemaine occurred along the Town Reef, in the area immediately surrounding Buda. Mining was concentrated between Bull, Hunter and Parker streets – an area that was so much identified with mining, it was often referred to as the Town Reef, as if referring to a suburban part of Castlemaine.

The proximity of Buda to the Town Reef meant that the Levin family, more than any other single household in Castlemaine, lived close to active reef mines. At various times small syndicates and companies sunk deep shafts as close as 50 metres north of the family's Hunter Street fence and 35

metres south of their Bull St fence. At times, even the streets were mined. The children grew up surrounded by dangerous shafts, mullock heaps and mine dams amid the clanging and banging of the mechanical infrastructure of mining.

What is remarkable, given the Levin family's proximity to active mining, is that there is no evidence they ever objected to any of these mining activities. Ernest Levin was a keen supporter of the mining industry and sat on the boards of several local companies. However, in the 1870s, he was a vocal objector to a nearby mineral processing plant that severely impacted the health of the family and the amenity of the area.

The Buda house and garden that we know today took many years to be extended into one land holding. In July 1863 Ernest Levin purchased the house named 'Delhi Villa', along with four allotments totalling one acre of land. The property fronted Urquhart St and it was not until 1890 and 1896 that he was able to purchase the extra two acres that lies east of Urquhart St, extending along Hunter and Bull streets. It was about the time of this final consolidation that the Levin family changed the name of the property from Delhi Villa to Buda.

## 2. MEETING HILDA

Gathering the evidence for this report is a small story in itself. I started working as a geologist at the Wattle Gully Gold Mine at Chewton in 1980, and one of my tasks was to compile information on past quartz mining activities, including the compilation of old mining plans. In my research, Ernest Levin's name kept popping up as a director of various local companies. In previous years I had met Hilda Levin briefly around town and so arranged to meet her at Buda in the remote chance that she knew of any old mining plans or documents amongst her father's papers.

I don't know the exact date of our meeting but it was most likely early 1981, so only months before she died. Hilda at that stage was looked after by a carer who very protectively asked me to refrain from taking photographs and to keep the conversation as short as possible (about 15-20min). I was ushered into the 'school room' to find a frail Hilda sitting in a chair with her back to the north windows. The morning light streamed into the room backlighting her hair with a remarkable ethereal effect.

Hilda was charming and easy company and despite her age was still bright and keen to chat. It turned out that Hilda knew nothing of her father's mining interests and she was somewhat surprised to hear of his involvement. This was hardly surprising because, as she explained, much of this activity would have happened before she was born or when she was very young.

We went on to have a general conversation about mining in the area surrounding Buda. Hilda had clear memories of the abandoned mine workings near Buda and spoke about an incident when a cow or goat? fell down one of the old shafts. She told me that occasionally the family would hear strange rumbles in the earth and we speculated that perhaps this was caused by air movements in the old underground workings, which are very close to the house. I was struck by her practical good sense that refused to apply any supernatural explanation for the strange noises, instead opting for the possibility of a natural cause.

### 3. ERNEST LEVINY'S MINING MACHINERY

Ernest Leviny was lured to Victoria by the gold discoveries of 1851 and 1852 and despite the failure of his plan to process gold ore on arrival, he sustained a long interest in the gold mining industry.

Gold was found in southeast Australia in 1851 but given the long turnaround of communications at that time, the significance of the discoveries was not fully confirmed in London until 1852 (South Australian Register 30/12/1851; Sydney Morning Herald 27/12/1851). Ernest Leviny, no doubt attracted by the sensational discoveries, sailed from London on the Steamer 'Melbourne' on 1<sup>st</sup> October 1852 along with mining equipment and several workmen who were to operate the machinery. The ship arrived in Melbourne 4<sup>th</sup> February 1853 after a difficult voyage with several delays (Sydney Morning Herald 1/02/1853).

Ernest Leviny took extraordinary initiative in heading for the gold fields so early in their development, and more so, by bringing expensive machinery. There is very little information regarding the machinery but two main sources provide a basic description of the equipment and how Ernest intended to use it. The first source is a letter that Leviny wrote to the Colonial Secretary 5 days after arriving (9th Feb 1853) (**Appendix 1**).

*To the Honorable The Colonial Secretary*

*Sir,*

*February 9th 1853*

*I have the honor to inform you that I have arrived in this Colony by The Melbourne Steamer bringing with me a quantity of Machinery of a very costly character for the purpose of washing Gold in a scientific manner and have also brought with me workmen to assist in the operation - Being a Foreigner I am quite ignorant of the conditions under which I and my party may be allowed to work and I shall esteem it a great favor conferred upon me if you will assist me in giving effect to my invention by facilitating my endeavours to bring it to bear upon the Gold Fields. I cannot make my invention available unless I can have a permanent location to which I can carry auriferous earth from other places as the machinery is so extensive and peculiar that it will not admit of being transported from place to place. If therefore I cannot be permitted to take any other than the usual license applying only to a small patch of earth the enterprise I have engage in must fail and the Colony lose the benefit of the introduction of a new method of washing gold which would add greatly to the value of its mineral wealth - The loss to me personally will be ruinous as I have spent Thousands in constructing the Machinery which I have brought with me to the Colony.*

*I have the Honor to be Sir*

*Your very obedient Servant*

*Ernest Leviny*

(Public Records Office of Victoria VPRS 1189 Unit 84 - B53/1519)

The letter provides very little information on the nature of the machinery except for the terms 'washing gold' and 'auriferous earth'. 'Washing gold' was a common mining phrase which refers to the treatment of auriferous alluvial gravels with water. The basic principle of processing auriferous gravel involves agitating the gravel in running water so that clay is removed and the heavier gold settles out and is separated from the less valuable gravel. In the early 1850s the Californian cradle was a well-known hand-operated machine that used this principle. In the Colonial Secretary letter, Leviny describes the machinery as 'my invention' suggesting he had personally adapted it for a special use, such as for washing gold, or perhaps he was simply referring to his ownership of the machinery. Leviny goes on to write that "*the machinery is so extensive and peculiar that it will not admit of being transported from place to place*". This might also suggest he had extended and adapted the equipment for specialised use in the gold fields.

While the letter to the Colonial Secretary is vague and ambiguous, the second source, an advertisement Leviny placed in the Mount Alexander Mail on 8th July 1854, provides a clear description of the machine and its capability. Although we cannot be absolutely certain that the advertised steam engine is the same that he shipped from London, it seems highly likely to have been a core component of that equipment.

Figure 2: Newspaper advertisement 1854

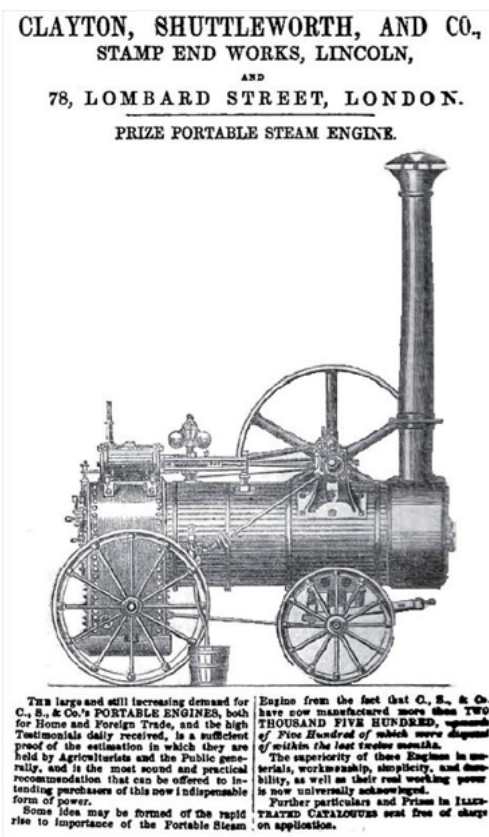
**STEAM ENGINE for Sale.**—A portable Engine of 7-horse power, readily adapted for Washing, Quartz Crushing, Flour Mill, Thrashing Machine, and Saw Mills, &c., thoroughly complete, and in working order, with saws and every requisite suitable for either of the above-named purposes, mounted on a carriage so as to be removable at any time.  
Apply to MR. LEVINY, Watchmaker and Jeweller, Market-square, Castlemaine. 646

Advertisement dated 8<sup>th</sup> July 1854 inserted in the 10<sup>th</sup> edition of the Mount Alexander Mail by Ernest Leviny.

Portable steam engines in England were becoming more common in the 1850s and were designed to drive agricultural equipment or saw mills. At this time a steam engine of 7 horse-power cost around £220. Clayton, Shuttleworth and Co were a prominent manufacturer of portable engines and successfully displayed them in the Great Exhibition of 1851 (Figure 3). It is possible that Ernest Leviny saw the engines at the exhibition. The description of the portable engine in the Mount Alexander Mail

advertisement aligns closely with the type of portable engines that Clayton, Shuttleworth and Co were making. Other manufacturers were also selling similar engines.

Figure 3: Portable Steam Engine c1852



A typical portable steam engine c1852. The Farmers' Almanac & Calendar, 1851-1852.

Ernest Leviny's obituary published in the Mount Alexander Mail 7th March 1905 provides another twist on the story of the machinery. It states that:

*"Arriving in the colony in 1853 he came to the diggings at Forest Creek and after a time he imported some machinery, but as the gold yield did not, under the method adopted, come to his expectations, he commenced business in Market Square as a watchmaker and jeweller."* (MAM 7/3/1905)

The reliability of this statement is questionable as it is 52 years after the event but it does suggest that he attempted to operate the machinery. Hilda Leviny in her 1978 audio interview spoke about the machinery with interviewer Barbara Whitley.

*Hilda: ..... "he [Ernest Leviny] came straight up here [to Castlemaine] because you see he brought machinery out from England to work in the goldfields... and the miners broke it all up and said if they could work with their hands so could he.... and he brought out two men who left the boat at Adelaide so he had no one to work the machinery."*

*Barbara: "I wonder what sort of machinery it was?"*  
*Hilda: "Oh well I have no way of knowing."*

It is possible that the portable steam engine formed the core of more extensive equipment and that other components were either sold separately or destroyed by the disgruntled miners mentioned by Hilda.

## 4. MINING IN CASTLEMAINE AND THE TOWN REEF

This section presents a brief overview of mining in Castlemaine to set the context for land sales and occupation. A more detailed examination of mining history, and how it affected the Levin family, is presented in Sections 7 to 10.

Although the majority of deep mining (> 30 m deep) occurred outside the Castlemaine township (**Figure 1**) a number of small-scale mines operated in the town, most of which were probably shallow alluvial mines. Extraordinarily, it was common practice for prospectors to sink shafts and drive tunnels in and under the town's streets. In 1870 J.W. Ford asked Council's permission to mine in Bull St just south of the present-day Buda (MAM 16/12/1870 p2c4). This practice led to road damage during mining and, in some cases, later damage was caused by the collapse of abandoned shafts. By 1860 the issue of mining on government roads was causing vigorous debate in Castlemaine but local council held the trump card because State Government gave them the authority to decide whether mining could proceed on roads and footpaths.

The dependence of the local economy on mining gave the mining lobby a huge influence on Council and generally the rights of miners were upheld. Council regularly gave permission for small-scale mining in places like Bruce St, Forest St opposite the south school, Lyttleton St near the Presbyterian Church, Campbells St and Barker St. In 1879 the Inspector of Mines asked council to "protect shafts" (meaning to make safe) along the Town Reef in Campbells St, probably between Urquhart and Fletcher streets (MAM 14/03/1879).

The attitude of local councillors, and the general support for mining, meant there was little inhibition for miners wishing to mine in Castlemaine. Fortunately for the town's residents, there are very few auriferous quartz reefs in the central urban area (**see Box 1: What is a Reef?**). The single exception is the Town (or Commercial) Reef, a discontinuous quartz reef that runs east of Urquhart St, from Forest St in the South, to just north of Parkers St in the north.

The historical record is sketchy, but the earliest record of mining along the Town Reef is in 1856. At that time, it was referred to as the Commercial Reef either because it was close to the Commercial Hotel or perhaps because it was close to the commercial town centre. A report in the Bendigo Advertiser announced that:

*"A new reef has been struck and is being opened up within a hundred yards of the Commercial Hotel (cnr of Hargraves and Forest St), at the east end of the township." (BA 7/8/1856).*

Prior to 1859 small-scale mining along the reef was probably concentrated along the southern part of the Town (or Commercial) Reef near Forest St, and between Lyttleton and Templeton streets. It is likely however, that the northern extent of the Town Reef, near Buda, was being actively prospected at this time because the Mount Alexander Mail reported that mining claims were taken out north of Templeton St and east of Urquhart St (MAM 3/10/1860).

### Box 1: What is a Reef?

The term 'reef' refers to a body of quartz that is enclosed by older sandstone and mudstone strata. A reef may be a planar body of quartz sitting along a large fault such as in the Wattle Gully Mine at Chewton. These fault-hosted reefs can be continuous for several kilometres in a north-south direction and may extend vertically for hundreds of metres below the surface. However, smaller reefs may merely consist of a set of discontinuous quartz veins - sometimes called a 'spur reef'. The individual veins in a 'spur reef' might only extend for 10s of metres and there are sometimes large gaps of barren ground between the individual quartz veins. The Town Reef is probably a discontinuous 'spur reef'.

Geologists Christopher D'Oyly Aplin and George Ulrich mapped several mines along the Town Reef for the Geological Survey of Victoria during 1859 and 1860 (Birch and Darragh, 2015). Their map shows the reef, which they named the Castlemaine Reef, running north-south just east of Urquhart St from Mostyn St to Wimble St (Aplin and Ulrich, 1861). They also noted mine workings in Templeton St, just north of Doveton St, immediately north of Hunter St and north of Parker St. The open cut workings north of Parker St are still visible.

The mine workings north of Hunter St were already in operation before the Rev. James Smith purchased his land. The presence of the Town Reef, as explained in the next section, influenced the pattern of Crown land sales.



## 5. LAND SUBDIVISION ALONG THE TOWN REEF 1861 to 1896

Crown land sales along the Town Reef, between Urquhart and Fletcher streets, were treated very differently to other parts of Castlemaine. The Castlemaine Mining Board repeatedly objected to sales along the Town Reef and the area was effectively reserved for mining purposes from 1860 to the 1890s. The presence of mining operations in the area, and the powerful influence of the Mining Board, helps to explain why Ernest Leviny did not buy the eastern portions of his eventual holdings until the 1890s.

By 1856, Castlemaine's layout was firmly established with Crown allotments surveyed between Kennedy and Urquhart streets and from Forest to Myring streets (Put-away Plan C9; Landata website). The area bounded by Lyttleton St, Urquhart St, Fletcher St and Parker St was not yet sold, perhaps partly because the area can be quite steep and rocky. Nevertheless, people were living in the area east of Urquhart St and had 'improved' more than half the Crown allotments (MAM 29/6/1860 p2c3). Improvement generally meant occupants had built dwellings and consequently there was some pressure for authorities to convert this Crown land to freehold, a process which started in this part of Castlemaine in July 1860.

### 5.1 1861 LAND SALES - MINING BOARD OBJECTIONS

In July 1860, Crown allotments in six sections east of Urquhart St were being prepared for sale, or to be alienated from the Crown (**see Box 2**). In all, 50 allotments in Sections 50 to 54 and 27 allotments in Section 54 and 55 were advertised locally (**Figure 5**) and in the Government Gazette (Vict. Gov Gaz. 77 26/6/1860 p1185-6). **Figure 4** shows the location of the Crown sections near Buda. The Government set an 'upset price' of up to £300 per acre which many locals considered excessive (MAM 29/06/1860; 30/07/1860).

Figure 5: Government Land Sale advertisement

**CASTLEMAINE.**  
Land Sale at Castlemaine, on 27th July, 1860, at the Government Auction-room, Market square, Castlemaine, commencing at 11 a.m.  
TOWN LOTS.  
Castlemaine: 50 allotments, in Sections 50 to 54, containing one rood each, with three exceptions. Upset price, £50 to £300 per acre.

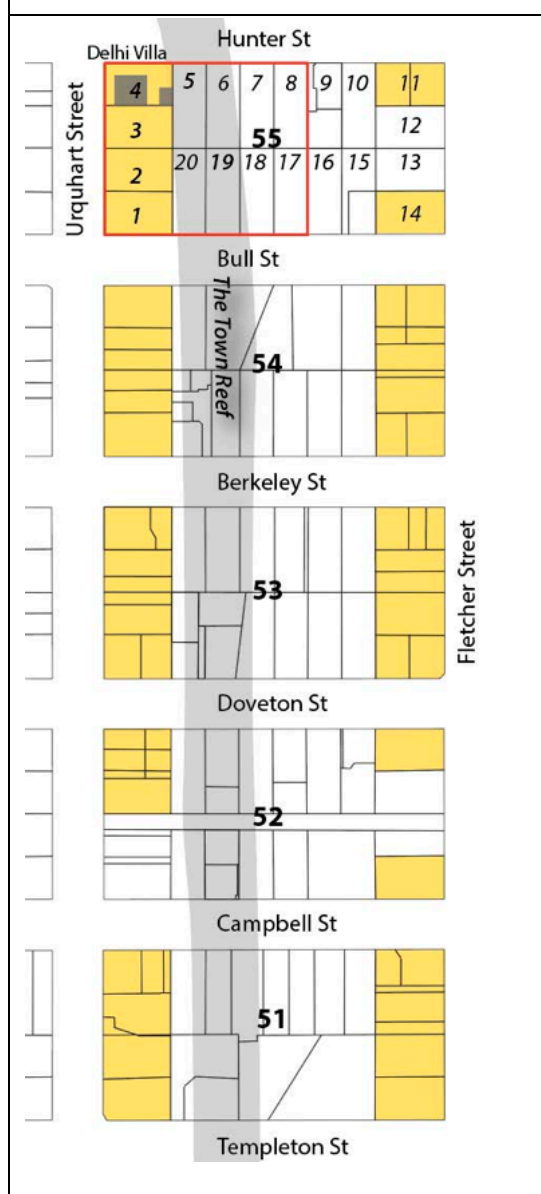
**CASTLEMAINE.**  
Land Sale at Castlemaine, on 30th July, at the Government Auction-room, Market square, Castlemaine, commencing at 11 a.m.  
TOWN LOTS.  
Castlemaine: 27 allotments, in Sections 54 and 55, containing 1 rood each. Upset price, without valuations attached, £50 per acre.

The Age 11 July 1860

Figure 4: Crown land sold in 1861-3 coloured yellow. All other allotments between Urquhart and Fletcher streets were not offered for sale due to objections from the Castlemaine Mining Board which sought to reserve the land for mining. Some unsold Crown land was occupied by Miners Right holders using Residence Area licences. The grey shaded area is the approx. area of known auriferous ground.

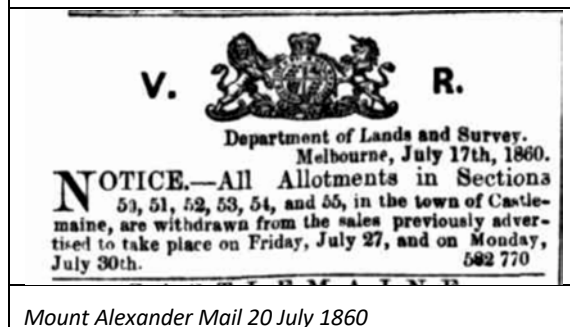
Section numbers - bold text. Crown Allot. numbers - italic text  
The total area that Leviny eventually owned is enclosed by the red box.

Figure 4: Crown allotments sold in 1861-3



But perhaps the greater irritant for aspiring landholders was that the Castlemaine Mining Board called on the Government to withdraw the proposed sale of 60 allotments in the six sections on the grounds that the area was potentially auriferous (MAM 16/07/1860; 30/11/1860). Amazingly, the President of the Board of Land and Works, Mr James Service, immediately acceded to their request on 17<sup>th</sup> July, 1860 and a notice of withdrawal was published a few days later (**Figure 6**) (MAM 20/7/1860).

Figure 6: Withdrawal of land from sale



Mount Alexander Mail 20 July 1860

**Box 2: Note on 'Alienated' Crown land and Crown Grants**

"Crown land is held by the Crown (the King or Queen) in right of the State of Victoria. Crown land can be reserved for a particular public use, or unreserved. Unreserved Crown land has not been set aside for a particular public use.

When Crown land is transferred to the public, it is said to be **alienated** from the Crown and a Crown Grant is issued in the name of the purchaser. A **Crown Grant** is the first freehold title to a piece of land granted by, or alienated from, the Crown."

DELWP (2022)

The Mount Alexander Mail took exception to this move and argued that preventing the sale of the land was unreasonable given the low gold yields along the Town Reef and the low level of previous mining activity (MAM 30/11/1860). The Castlemaine Mining Board responded to this public pressure by selecting a sub-committee to inspect the ground which duly "reported that 47 allotments might be sold without interfering with the reef" (MAM 8/03/1861; 13/03/1861). Despite their compromise, the Board's goal remained firm – to limit freehold land and to leave a large portion of unalienated Crown land where the auriferous ground was thought to lie (**Figure 4**).

The first auctions of Section 55 land were held in mid-1861. One allotment (CA 14) in Section 55 was sold on the 28 May, 1861 and another 37 allotments in sections 17 and 50 to 54 were advertised for auction on 4<sup>th</sup> June, 1861 (MAM & The Argus 3/06/1861) (**Figure 8**). The 'Buda' allotments were auctioned later in the year.

The 'Buda' allotments along Urquhart St were finally advertised for sale in October 1861. A notice appeared in the Government Gazette that Crown allotments 1 to 4, Section 55, were to be sold on 25th November, 1861 (**Figure 7**).

Figure 8: Government Land Sale advertisement



Mount Alexander Mail 3 June 1861

Figure 7: Sale of Buda site in Government Gazette

SALE (No. 424) OF SPECIAL LANDS IN FEE SIMPLE AT CASTLEMAINE, ON 25<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 1861.  
To be conducted by THOMAS COUCHMAN, Esq., Acting District Surveyor.

IN pursuance of the forty-eighth section of the Act of the Parliament of Victoria, passed in the session held in the twenty-third and twenty-fourth years of the reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, intituled, *An Act for regulating the Sale of Crown Lands and for other purposes*, the Board of Land and Works do hereby give notice that a public auction will be holden at Eleven o'clock of Monday, the twenty-fifth day of November next, at the Government Auction Room, Market square, Castlemaine, for the sale of Special Lands in fee simple. Such lands will be offered in the lots hereinafter specified, at the upset price affixed to each lot respectively, and will be sold in fee simple.

A deposit of one-fourth the price at which each lot is sold must be paid by the purchaser at the time of sale, and the residue of such price must be paid within one month from that time.

**SPECIAL LANDS.**

CASTLEMAINE, COUNTY OF TALBOT.

Situated in Fletcher street.

Upset price for unimproved lots 50l. per acre.

Lot 1. Allotment 1, section 55, 1r.

Lot 2. Allotment 2, section 55, 1r.

Lot 3. Allotment 3, section 55, 1r.

Lot 4. Allotment 4, section 55, 1r. Improvements valued at 100l. Upset price 100l. per acre.

Lot 5. Allotment 11, section 55, 1r.

Lot 6. Allotment 12, section 55, 1r.

Lot 7. Allotment 13, section 55, 1r.

Lot 8. Allotment 1, section 55, 1r. 9p.

[Note that 1r = 1 rood or ¼ acre]. The final price of £25 for CA 4 is presumably calculated based on its valuation of £100 per acre and its area of ¼ acre. Victorian Government Gazette No. 159, 25th Oct 1861, p. 2050.

## 5.2 NOVEMBER 1861 – PURCHASE BY REV. J. SMITH

The Rev. James Smith purchased the four Urquhart St allotments on 25<sup>th</sup> November 1861 – the future site of ‘Delhi Villa’, or ‘Buda’ as it is called today (**Figure 9**). He paid £12.10.0 for allotments 1, 2 and 3 but paid £25.0.0 for allotment 4 (where Buda now sits), based on its higher valuation.

The higher valuation of CA 4 was advertised in the Government Gazette before the auction. The entry states: “Allotment 4, section 55, 1r. Improvements valued at £100. Upset price £100 per acre.” (**Figure 7**). The Gazette entry provides important evidence that a structure was already located on CA 4 prior to its sale by the Crown. An ‘improvement’ valued at £100 is most likely a substantial building and this building may well have been what we now know as the kitchen wing or ‘maid’s quarters’ (Nigel Lewis & Associates, 1988). The presence of a building before ‘Delhi Villa’ is also evidenced by the 1862 Castlemaine rates that noted “house & unfn house & land”. The unfinished house was probably Delhi Villa and the house may have been the ‘maid’s quarters’.

The presence of a pre-existing building on CA 4 leaves an unanswered question regarding the ownership of the building before November 1861. One possibility is that the building was built on a Residence Area licence (see **Box 3**, page 13) associated with mining along the Town Reef. Mining occurred immediately north of Hunter St but there is very little historical record of who was mining in this area in the early 1860s. Assuming that the ‘house’ of 1861 is the ‘maid’s quarters’, which is a brick cottage, it suggests that the builder had enough resources to fund a substantial building.

Figure 9: Rev. James land purchase 1861

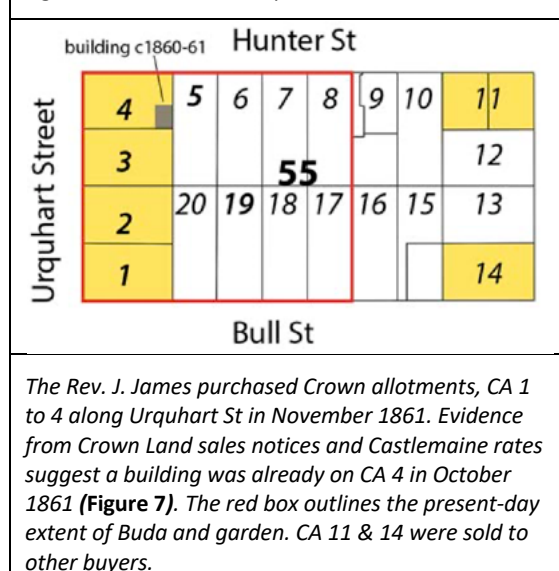


Figure 10: Notice of intention to sell Crown land

Lot 8. Allotment 1, section 55, 1r.	Upset price 50l. per acre.
Lot 9. Allotment 2, section 55, 1r.	Upset price 50l. per acre.
Lot 10. Allotment 3, section 55, 1r.	Upset price 50l. per acre.
Lot 11. Allotment 4, section 55, 1r.	Upset price 50l. per acre.
Lot 12. Allotment 5, section 55, 1r.	Upset price 50l. per acre.
Lot 13. Allotment 6, section 55, 1r.	Upset price 50l. per acre.
Lot 14. Allotment 7, section 55, 1r.	Upset price 50l. per acre.
Lot 15. Allotment 8, section 55, 1r.	Upset price 50l. per acre.
Lot 16. Allotment 9, section 55, 1r.	Upset price 50l. per acre.
Lot 17. Allotment 10, section 55, 1r.	Upset price 50l. per acre.
Lot 18. Allotment 11, section 55, 1r.	Upset price 50l. per acre.
Lot 19. Allotment 12, section 55, 1r.	Upset price 50l. per acre.
Lot 20. Allotment 13, section 55, 1r.	Upset price 50l. per acre.
Lot 21. Allotment 14, section 55, 1r.	Improvements valued at 60l. Upset price 150l. per acre.
Lot 22. Allotment 15, section 55, 1r.	Improvements valued at 15l. Upset price 125l. per acre.
Lot 23. Allotment 16, section 55, 1r.	Upset price 50l. per acre.
Lot 24. Allotment 17, section 55, 1r.	Upset price 50l. per acre.
Lot 25. Allotment 18, section 55, 1r.	Upset price 50l. per acre.
Lot 26. Allotment 19, section 55, 1r.	Improvements valued at 20l. Upset price 150l. per acre.
Lot 27. Allotment 20, section 55, 1r.	Upset price 50l. per acre.

Victorian Government Gazette 77, 26 June 1860

The construction date of this early brick building is unclear. Zilles (2010) states that it was constructed in 1856 but the valuation of the property ahead of the 1860 Crown land sales suggests otherwise. The Government Gazette notice for the planned 1860 sales listed all the 20 allotments that were intended for sale in Section 55 (**Figure 10**). Most of these allotments were probably vacant land and were given an ‘upset price’ depending on their size. Only three allotments were listed as having ‘improvements’: CA 14, 15 & 19. Strangely there is no ‘improvement’ valuation for CA 4 where the ‘maids quarters’ now sits, and which 16 months later was shown to have ‘improvements’ valued at £100 in October 1861 (**Figure 7**).

Could this mean that the early building (assumed to be the ‘maid’s quarters’) was built between June 1860 and October 1861, and if so, why did the owner build a substantial dwelling only for it to be sold as alienated Crown land? The mystery builder is unlikely to have

been Rev. James Smith because he arrived in Castlemaine not long before purchasing the land.

Once the dust had settled after all the 1861 sales, the consequences of the Mining Board’s objections can be seen in **Figure 4**. This shows a large number of allotments in Sections 51 to 55 remained as unalienated Crown land for at least the next 29 years – the Mining Board had succeeded in reserving the area for mining.



5.3 ERNEST LEVINY BUYS DELHI VILLA - 1863

Figure 11: Delhi Villa for sale

TO CAPITALISTS, TRUSTEES,  
SPECULATORS, MONIED MEN,  
And others desiring  
**A PROFITABLE INVESTMENT.**  
FOR SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION,  
Without Reserve.

**DELHI VILLA**  
AND GROUNDS,  
Also the  
**Household Furniture**  
And other Effects.

MESSRS. RICHARDS & CAREY are instructed  
by the Rev. James Smith, preparatory to  
his return to India, to sell by public auction, at his  
residence, on Wednesday, 27th May, at 12 o'clock,  
sharp.

The whole of his household furniture,  
Comprising  
Dining, Drawing and Bedroom Suites,  
Also  
A Pianoforte and Harmonium,  
Library of Valuable Books,  
Also about 200 Greenhouse plants in pots.  
And at 1 o'clock precisely will be submitted  
for  
Positive and Unreserved Sale  
**Allots. 1, 2, 3 & 4, Section 55,**  
Castlemaine,  
Comprising in all one acre of ground, on  
which is erected that elegant private  
residence known as  
**DELHI VILLA.**  
The house is built of brick, has six rooms,  
and verandah all round, with detached  
kitchen, and three servants' bedrooms.  
It is beautifully situated, and possesses  
all the advantages of a suburban villa  
and town residence, the style of archi-  
tecture being particularly adapted to  
the climate of Victoria. Domestic  
offices are attached to the villa, and  
a good supply of water from an under-  
ground tank.

The auctioneers in calling attention to the above  
sale have merely to remark that, in consequence of  
Mr Smith's return to India, their instructions are  
**POSITIVELY TO SELL,  
WITHOUT RESERVE.**  
Title guaranteed.

For cards to view, apply to the auctioneers,  
RICHARDS and CAREY,  
535 my 27 Auctioneers.

Mount Alexander Mail 6 May 1863

Delhi Villa was advertised to be auctioned on 27 May 1863 (Figure 11.) Perhaps the property failed to sell because two days later Rev. Smith advertised Delhi Villa to be leased “for a term of years” (MAM 29/5/1863). The attempt to lease the house must have also failed because the whole property was then rescheduled for auction on 22 July 1863 by “Equity of Redemption” (Figure 12).

Just before the ‘equity of redemption’ auction, a ‘wooden cottage and furniture, adjoining Delhi Villa, Urquhart St’ was advertised for sale in the Mount Alexander Mail (Figure 13). There is no other information regarding this cottage but it may have been part of the pre-existing structure on CA 4 that predates Delhi Villa. Alternatively, it may have been a neighbour’s cottage?

The Rev. J. Smith left Castlemaine by 24 July 1863 and travelled to Calcutta (MAM 24/7/1863).

Presumably, Ernest Leviny purchased Delhi Villa at the ‘equity of redemption’ auction. He became the new owner of Delhi Villa, including Crown allotments 1 to 4, and the earlier building on CA 4.

Figure 12: Equity of redemption auction Delhi Villa

AUCTION SALES.  
THIS DAY.  
D. WALLACE—Equity of Redemption of **Delhi Villa**, at Goldsmith's Hotel, at 12 o'clock.

**THIS DAY**  
WEDNESDAY, THE 22ND. INST.  
At 12 o'clock, sharp.

D. WALLACE is instructed to sell by auction,  
on Wednesday next, July 22nd, at Twelve  
o'clock, at Goldsmith's hotel, Market Square,  
**THE EQUITY OF REDEMPTION**  
OF  
**DELHI VILLA,**  
Comprising  
Six-roomed well built brick house, with  
verandah all round, kitchen and three  
servants' bedrooms detached, and large  
underground tank, the whole standing  
on one acre of ground, forming by far  
the best and most elegant residence in  
Castlemaine, occupying a site combining  
all the rural advantages of the country  
with the commercial conveniences of the  
town.  
The curtains, poles, floor-cloth and zinc tank,  
can be taken at a low valuation by the  
purchaser, or will be sold by auction  
immediately after the property.  
Such an opportunity rarely occurs for obtaining a  
first-class residence at a small outlay.  
Title guaranteed.  
Persons wishing to inspect the property can do  
so by obtaining permission from the auctioneer.  
D. WALLACE,  
Auctioneer.  
174 jy 20

Two notices of sales, Mount Alexander Mail 22 July 1863

Figure 13: Sale of wooden cottage adjoining Delhi Villa

Standard 3 15 8

AUCTION SALES.  
THIS DAY.  
RICHARDS and CAREY—Wooden Cottage and  
Furniture, adjoining **Delhi Villa**, Urquhart  
Street, at 12 o'clock.

Mount Alexander Mail 16 July 1863

## 5.4 WHEN WAS DELHI VILLA BUILT?

In some of the Buda promotional literature the Delhi Villa is dated to 1861. The date of completion of Delhi Villa however, is almost certainly mid 1862. The land upon which the house was built was purchased from the Government on 25 November 1861 and the title deeds were not delivered to James Smith until around 21 February 1862 (MAM 21/2/1862) (**Figure 14**).

Figure 14: Notice of title deeds

TITLE DEEDS	
For the undermentioned persons lie at the Receipt and Pay Office, Castlemaine:—	
Sheppard Henry, the younger, 1r 27½p, Fryers	
Bentley Henry, 1r Fryers	
Alderson George, 2r 32p, Fryers	
Bourne Charles, 2r, Castlemaine	
Smith James, 1r	do
Smith James, 1r	do
Smith James, 1r	do
Smith James, 1r	do
Traverton James, ½ 3-5p Chewton	
Lee Thomas, 12p do	
Bouudy Joseph, 16 4-5p do	
Fraser John, 2a 0r 12 4-5p do	
Fraser John, 1a 3r 2½p do	
Barry Michael, 1a 0r 32p do	
Cook Michael, 16 4-5p do	
Koster B D, 14 3-5p do	
Davie Joseph, 19l .5p do	
Nicholson James 24p do	
Smith John, 19 1-5p do	
Barry Michael, 18½p do	
Chambers Charles, 16 4-5p do	

Mount Alexander Mail 21st Feb 1862, page 5, col. 4

Even if Rev. Smith immediately started building soon after the November purchase, and before the receipt of the deeds, he could not have completed the house before the end of the year. A post 1861 completion date is also strongly implied by rate records for 1862.

In 'Buda, Conservation Analysis and Policies' Nigel Lewis and Associates (1988) found that:

*"Smith's residence was first noted in the Borough of Castlemaine assessment book in 1862. In previous years no mention was made of any buildings in Section 55 but in 1862 assessment number 1757 read "Smith, House & Land & unf(inished) House, S[ection] 55 [allotments] 1/4, [value] /£60". (Nigel Lewis & Associates, 1988). The original entry is reproduced in Figure 15.*

Nigel Lewis and Associates (1988) point out that that the first mentioned 'House' may refer to part of the kitchen complex and the 'unfinished house' may refer to the partially built Delhi Villa. Some evidence for the existence of an earlier building on CA 4 is based on the higher value per acre at sale.

*"Smith's purchase contained improvements valued at £100 per acre - twice the value of land sold elsewhere in Castlemaine on that day. This may have indicated a building of some description, existence of a garden (or at least a commencement of one) or merely better land in an elevated part of town. No other lots in Section 55 were on offer and Smith's choice of land may have been dictated by its elevated siting at the head of a gully or location of a house held under residential provisions of a miners right." (Nigel Lewis & Associates, 1988)*

In March 1862 the Mount Alexander Mail records that the:

*"Rev. Mr. Smith exhibits a model of an Indian bungalow, which affords an excellent hint to intending builders as to the class of house that should be erected in this climate." (MAM 7/3/1862)*

It seems likely that this model was part of Smith's design for Delhi Villa. The house was probably completed prior to early October 1862 as the Rev. James Smith conducted a marriage ceremony at the *"Baptist Parsonage, Hunter St"* on 6<sup>th</sup> Oct 1862 (MAM 8/10/1862).

In the 1863, the Castlemaine rates register shows Smith's name as crossed out and replaced by Levin, reflecting the new ownership. The property is now described as "2 houses & land", implying that Delhi Villa had been fully constructed (**Figure 16**). Subsequent rate records for 1864, 1865 and 1866 simply describe the property as a 'house' (**Appendix 3**).

Figure 15: Castlemaine rate book entries 1862

A	No. of Assessment.	Name of Occupier.	Section	Allotment.	Description of Property.	Assessed annual value.
	7	Rev. Jas. Smith		1/4	House & Land & unf. House	60

B	NO. OF ASSESST.	Section	DESCRIPTION.	SECT.	ARREARS.	AMOUNT.
	7	Smith	House & Land & unf. House	1/4		60

At this time two rates book were used - one to record the primary rate information (A) and the other the date of payments (B). The property description for CA 1-4 in A reads "House & Land & unf.d house" and in B reads "House & Land, unf. House". Note that the owner name in A is written as "Rev. Jas. Smith" whereas in B, it is abbreviated to "Smith".

Figure 16: Castlemaine rate book entries 1863

A	No. of Assessment.	Name of Occupier.	Section.	Allotment.	Description of Property.	Assessed Annual Val.
	18	Rev. Smith		1/4	2 Houses & Land	100

B	NO. OF ASSESST.	Section	DESCRIPTION.	SECT.	ARREARS.	AMOUNT.
	1758	Levin	2 Houses & Land	1/4		100

By 1863, when Levin purchased Delhi Villa, the property description in both the primary rate description book (A) and the rate payments register (B) had changed to "2 Houses & Land" indicating that the construction of Delhi Villa had been completed. Together with the 1862 descriptions, these entries clearly indicate that there was a house on the property before Delhi Villa was built. Note that Levin's name has replaced Smith in B.



## 5.5 THE 1890 & 1896 LAND SALES

Ernest Leviny was finally able to purchase the allotments immediately east of the house in May 1890 and October 1896, thereby completing the acquisition of the Buda footprint we see today. He purchased CAs 5, 6, 7, 18 & 20 on 28 May 1890. The notices of sale in the Government Gazette valued CA 5 at £25 which was greater than the land 'upset' value of £40 per acre, that is, £10 for a vacant  $\frac{1}{4}$  acre block (**Figure 17**). This suggests, as explained in **Section 6.1**, that there was some 'improvement' on CA 5 to the value of £15, perhaps a structure like a shed.

No 'improvements' were listed for allotments 6, 7, 18 or 20 and they were advertised at land value only which was £30 per acre, or £7.10.0 per each  $\frac{1}{4}$  acre block. Leviny was the only bidder (MAM 29/5/1890).

Crown allotment 19 was purchased from the Crown on 28<sup>th</sup> October 1890 (**Figure 18**) and his last purchases were CA 17 in Bull St and CA 8 in Hunter St which were advertised for sale in early October 1896 (**Figure 19**).

Figure 18: Notice of sale of CA 19 in Bull St

CASTLEMAINE.—Sale (No. 7031) at TEN o'clock a.m. on TUESDAY, the 21st OCTOBER, 1890, at the COURT HOUSE, Castlemaine. To be conducted by M. MACBOY, Esq., Land Officer. Auctioneer: Mr. W. ADAMS.

TOWN LOTS.

CASTLEMAINE, PARISH OF CASTLEMAINE, COUNTY OF TALBOT.

At the site of the improvements of E. Leviny, in Bull-street.

Upset price 10l. per lot.—Charge for survey 1l.

\*Lot 1. Area 1r., allotment 19, section 55. Valuation 35l.

Victorian Government Gazette 83 19 Sep 1890 p. 3798

Even in 1896, at their meeting of 26 Oct 1896, the Mining Board objected to the sale of CA 15 and 17 in Bull St and CA 8 and 9 in Hunter on the basis that it was "of auriferous formation" (MAM 27/10/1896). Despite their objections Leviny purchased CA 17 and 8 on 27th Oct 1896 leaving other neighbours to buy CA 9 & 15.

The Mining Boards in Victoria had a long history of objecting to the sale of auriferous lands. In 1896, The Minister of Mines, Mr Forster, acknowledged that mining boards in Victoria would sometimes obstruct the sale of auriferous lands for agricultural purposes (Birrell, 1998). The Mining Boards were eventually abolished in 1914.

Figure 17: Notice of sale CA 5, 6, 7, 18 & 20

Officer.

TOWN LOTS.

CASTLEMAINE, PARISH OF CASTLEMAINE, COUNTY OF TALBOT.

Between Hunter and Bull streets.

Upset price 40l. per acre.—Charge for survey 1l.

\*Lot 1. Area 1r., allotment 5, section 55. Valuation 25l.

Upset price 30l. per acre.—Charge for survey 1l.

\*Lot 2. Area 1r., allotment 6, section 55.

\*Lot 3. Area 1r., allotment 7, section 55.

\*Lot 4. Area 1r., allotment 18, section 55.

\*Lot 5. Area 1r., allotment 20, section 55.

Victorian Government Gazette No 38, 25 April 1890

Figure 19: Sale of Crown land Bull & Hunter St Oct 1896

**S**ALE (No. 7707) of Crown Lands, in fee simple, at the Court House, Castlemaine—Auctioneer, MR W. LASCELLES, on TUESDAY, the Twenty-seventh day of October, 1896, at Two o'clock p.m.

TOWN LOTS.

Castlemaine, Parish of Castlemaine, County of Talbot. Fronting Adam-street. Upset price £7 10s per lot.—Charge for survey £1 4s. Lot 1. Area 25a 4r 10p, allotment 1a, section 121. One month to remove improvements. At the site of the improvements of Jos. Lancashire. Upset price £10 per lot.—Charge for survey £1 19s. Lot 2. Area 1r, allotment 7, section 31a. Valuation £200. In Fletcher-street. Upset price £10 per lot.—Charge for survey £1 8s. Lot 3. Area 1r 1p, allotment 12, section 55. Lot 4. Area 11r, allotment 13, section 55. One month to remove fencing. In Bull-street. Upset price £10 per lot. Charge for survey £1. Lot 5. Area 1r, allotment 15, section 55. Lot 6. Area 1r, allotment 17, section 55. In Hunter-street. Upset price £10 per lot.—Charge for survey £1. Lot 7. Area 1r 0p, allotment 8, section 55. Lot 8. Area 1r 0p, allotment 9, section 55.

COUNTRY LOTS.

Mount Alexander Mail 12 Oct 1896.

## 6. OCCUPATION HISTORY OF BUDA'S NEIGHBOURHOOD 1860 - 1921

### 6.1 RESIDENCE AREA LICENCE ON CA 5 - A STEP IN EXPANDING LEVINY'S HOLDINGS

Many residents and ratepayers in goldfield towns like Castlemaine did not own, or even live on, freehold land – they occupied Crown land using the provisions of Government acts that allowed Miners Rights holders to apply for Residence Area licences (**see Box 3**). Ernest Leviny, amongst others, took advantage of this system in order to occupy Crown land in Section 55.

The rights of licensees were significantly updated by the Residence Area Act in 1881 when a new system of recording licences was mandated. The Castlemaine Residence Area records for the period after 1881 are preserved in the Public Records Office (PROV VPRS 1751/P0003). However, Residence Area licences were often incidentally recorded in mining lease application documents and this provides the first clear indication of licences near Delhi Villa.

On 18 August 1882 the Castlemaine District Mining Surveyor, T.L. Brown, conducted a survey of the Town Reef near Delhi Villa, as part of Mining Lease application 2209. Brown submitted his plan on 12<sup>th</sup> Sep 1882

#### Box 3: Residence Area Licences

During the 19<sup>th</sup> Century a series of Victorian land acts gave certain rights to occupy and develop Crown land. In the 1855 Goldfields Act (18 Vict. 37) a holder of a Miners Right licence had the right to cultivate a garden or even to build a residence next to "his" mining claim. From 1857 the residence area could be ¼ acre and the building could be sold (Birrell, 1998).

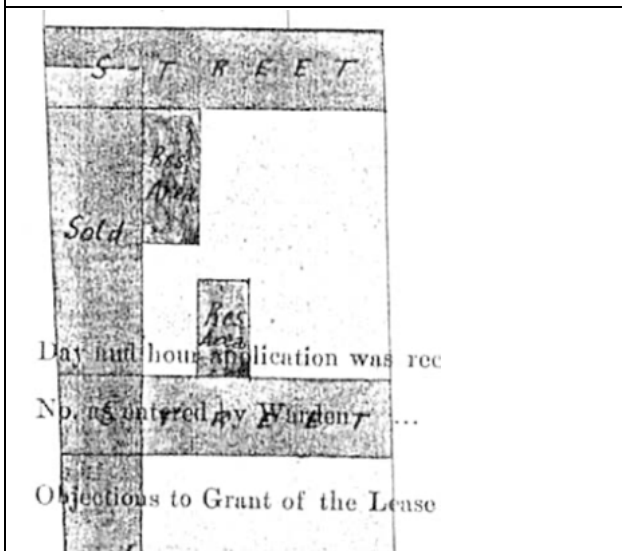
"Under the Mining Statute of 1865, holders of mining rights could occupy up to ¼ of an acre for a residence. Miners used this provision to build homes close to where they worked gold deposits, initially as alluvial prospectors and later as pioneering and self-employed quartz reefers. Early wage-earning, quartz reef miners also occupied such Crown land. Built on auriferous areas these homes were usually located on land that had not been officially subdivided for sale. Proper surveying followed in many cases years after first settlement." (Jean and Fahey, 2020)

Up until 1881, Residence Area holders held insecure tenure as they could be ejected by Mining Lease holders (Bendigo Advertiser, 12/11/1881 p2c2).

"The Residence Area Act 1881 gave Residence Area holders ownership of the improvements they made to their blocks and right to sell these improvements when annual licences were transferred. This act set the annual rent at 5/- and permitted holders to bequeath their houses to their heirs. The Mines Act 1897 reduced the rent to 2/6d, and the Residence Areas Holders Act 1910 permitted the transfer of the house to heirs without a grant of probate if total assets were less than 250 pounds." (Jean and Fahey, 2020)

showing two Residence Area licenses (PROV, VPRS 7842, M.L. 2209) (**Figure 21**). One is located where the Garden Room now sits (CA 5) and the other where the 'rose garden' has been planted (CA 19). The identity of the licensees was not stated but the Castlemaine Residence Area registers provides some crucial missing information (PROV VPRS 1751).

Figure 20: Mining Lease 2209 – Surveyor Brown's sketch



Surveyor T.L. Brown surveyed the area between Bull and Hunter St on 18 August 1882. He noted the presence of 'sold land' being Leviny's freehold land (CA 1-4). He also noted 'Res Area' over CA 5 and CA 19. 'Res Area' = Residence Area licence.

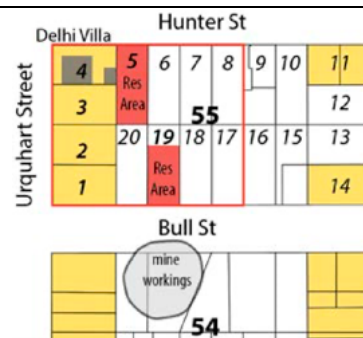
Portion of an inset plan in a Castlemaine Mining Lease register (PROV VPRS 7842 Lease 2209). See **Figure 21** for a simplified version of this information.

The information in **Figure 21** has been simplified and placed over a cadastral plan in **Figure 21**.

Just one month after the surveyor's observations there is an entry in the Castlemaine Residence Area register showing Ernest Leviny registered a Residence Area Licence No. 35 on CA 5 dated 15 September 1882 (**Figure 22**). The location is described as allotment 5, Section 55 and therefore matches the area plotted in the mining lease plan, thereby providing good confirmation of the licence's location in **Figure 21**.

It is interesting that the date of Leviny's registration of the licence (**Figure 22**) was 28 days after the original survey and 6 days after Brown submitted his mining lease plan. So how did surveyor Brown know where to plot the exact location of the licence on CA 5, given that it was not yet registered? The simple answer could be that Leviny's licence had been in place before September 1882. Residence Area registers earlier than 1881 are not available but other information suggests he had held a licence over CA 5 since 1865 – the evidence is described in detail in **Section 6.4**.

Figure 21: Simplified map showing Surveyor Brown's data



Using Surveyor Brown's plan, and other cadastral data, it is possible to show land status as of 18 August 1882. The yellow area is sold Crown land, red areas are 'Residence Areas', held under the Residence Area system. The total area that Leviny eventually owned is enclosed by the red box.

Location of the Residence Area licences from Castlemaine Mining Lease 2209, VPRS 7842. Mine workings from Put-away plan C85H\_3.

Figure 22: Registration of Residence Area Licence for Ernest Leviny - CA 5 Sec 55

No. of Registration.	Date of Registration.	Holder or Owner.	Miner's Right, &c.		Description of Allotment, &c.	Township or Parish.
			No.	Date.		
35	15 Sep. 82	Ernest Leviny	1225	30. 1. 82	Allot. 5. Sec 55	Castlemaine
"	6. 1. 83	"	20380	5. 1. 83	"	"
"	8. 2. 84	"	49885	8. 2. 84	"	"
"	7. 2. 85	"	65895	6. 2. 85	"	"
"	12. 2. 86	"	83367	12. 2. 86	"	"
"	1. 3. 87	"	15091	26. 2. 87	"	"
"	28. 3. 88	"	10680	28. 3. 88	"	"
"	8. 5. 89	"	236	8. 5. 89	"	"

Ernest Leviny held a Residence Area Licence over CA 5 Sec 55 from 15/9/1882 to c1890. PROV VPRS 1751/P0003, number 35.

New regulations regarding residence sites came into effect on 1<sup>st</sup> April 1882 after the passing of the Residence Area Act 1881. Assuming Leviny had held the Residence Area licence for some time before 1882, it is possible he may have been motivated to either renew an older licence, or re-register his claim under the new Act.

The reason for Leviny's application in the first place is unknown. He may have acquired the Residence Area license on CA 5 in order to establish a vegetable garden or he may have simply been acquiring an interest in the allotment in anticipation that he could, at some time, buy it from the Crown. This was a common strategy at the time (Ian Hockley pers. comm., 2022). However, one of the provisions of the 1881 Act was that the licensee was required to build a 'habitable dwelling' within 4 months of registering the licence. The definition of a 'habitable dwelling' was not stated but it may have been anything from a tent to a more substantial weatherproof building. Since we know Leviny held the licence until at least May 1889, he must have built something in the vicinity of the present-day Garden Room. In fact, there is evidence of a structure on CA 5 from its valuation in 1890, which indicates there was some type of structure on the property. However, there is no evidence in rate records that the building on CA 5 was ever classed as a cottage or house – the allotment was always classed as 'land'.

## 6.2 RESIDENCE AREA LICENCE ON CA 19 - A COTTAGE SITE c1860 to c1902

The second Residence Area Licence in Brown's plan is located on CA 19 (**Figure 21**). - we can be confident of this location because Brown was an experienced surveyor and mining official. The licensee in the 1882 plan is not identified, but just 3 years after Brown's survey, an entry in the Castlemaine Residence Area register shows that George Reed held a Residence Area licence in the vicinity of Urquhart St and Bull St from June 1885 to c1890 (**Figure 23**). This gives us an entry point in order to establish a chain of occupation for CA 19.

Figure 23: Registration of Residence Area Licence for George Reed - vicinity of Urquhart & Bull St

No. of Registration.	Date of Registration.	Holder or Owner.	Miner's Right, &c.		Description of Allotment, &c.	Township or Parish.
			No.	Date.		
127	15. 6. 85	George Reed	77629	15. 5. 85	Urquhart St	Castlemaine
"	15. 5. 86	do	83754	14. 5. 85	"	do
"	3. 12. 87	do	10539	1. 12. 87	Bull St	do
"	1. 12. 88	"	67	28. 11. 88	"	"
"	30. 11. 89	"	107	26. 11. 89	"	"

George Reed held a Residence Area Licence over CA 5 Sec 55 from 15/6/1885 to c1890. PROV VPRS 1751/P0003, number 127. George Reid had a fire in his Urquhart St house in Nov 1886 (MAM 8/11/1886)

It is difficult to prove conclusively that the 'Res. Area' on CA 19 in Brown's plan (**Figure 21**) is in the same position as Reed's later licence. However, as is argued in the following paragraphs, there are a number of converging pieces of evidence that strongly suggest George Reed was the licensee on CA 19 between 1885 and 1889 and that he had possession of a cottage on the allotment. Furthermore, it is possible to follow a chain of occupation back to 1860, and forwards to 1890, that shows Ernest Leviny also had 'ownership' of the cottage at various times. The following analysis also shows that someone else, possibly Ernest Leviny, had held the Residence Area licence over CA 19, before Reed's ownership c1885.

### Establishing a Chain of Occupation

Establishing a chain of occupation helps to tie together different pieces of disparate information to paint a picture of who was living on a particular allotment over time, and what buildings existed on that site.

The Castlemaine rate registers are the best source for providing a chain of occupation or ownership. However, there are two problems in the rate registers when trying to establish a chain. The first problem is that the rate collector almost never recorded the Crown allotment number for residents located on alienated Crown land, such as Residence Areas; he specified the Section number but not the allotment number. Fortunately, there is an exception to this rule, because in 1873 the rate collector recorded a cottage on CA 19.

The second problem is that the rate registers contain numerous entry errors. For example, Leviny's house, which is located on CA 4, was frequently entered incorrectly as CA 1-3 and the entry for CA 4 was often called 'land'. The reverse is true; the house is on CA 4 and CA 1-3 is 'land' (CA 1-3 is the site of the garden fronting Urquhart St). These errors were often carried from year to year because each year the rate collector tended to copy rate information from the previous year, and once a mistake was made it could be perpetuated for several years (Alleyne Hockley pers. comm., 2022).

Despite the frequency of errors in the rate registers the identification of a cottage on CA 19 in 1873 is an important piece of information that helps to establish a chain of occupation before and after 1873.

The first way to build a chain of occupancy on a rated property is by using the order of entry in the rate books. The same properties often occur in the same order in the rate assessment books, and even if the occupant changes, the order that the property appears in the book, coupled with the rated value, gives a chain of occupancy. The rate number is not so useful as it can change from year to year for a specific property.



In **Table 1** a cottage valued at £10 (red highlighted text) is consistently entered in the 3<sup>rd</sup> line of Section 55 for 1872-75. In 1872 it passes from Levin to Haynes (1873-4) then to Blake in 1875. Blake is clearly shown as continuing to occupy the cottage in 1876 despite the fact that entry is now on the 2<sup>nd</sup> line.

<b>Table 1: Sequential entries in Castlemaine rate registers 1872 to 1876: Section 55</b>									
Year	Rate No	Sec	Allot	Occupant Surname	Occupant Given Names	Occupation	Owner Name	Description	NAV £
1872	1439	55	1/4	Levin				house	70
1872	1440	55						cottage	10
1872	1441	55		Levin				cottage	10
1872	1442	55	11	Foley				land	2
1872	1443	55	14	Spicer				cottage	15
1873	1439	55	1/4, 5	Levin				house	70
1873	1440	55	20	Wilkin				cottage	12
1873	1441	55	19	Haynes				cottage	10
1873	1442	55	11					land	2
1873	1443	55	14	Spicer				cottage	20
1874	1444	55	1/4	Levin				house	70
1874	1445	55		Wilkin				cottage	18
1874	1446	55		Haynes				cottage	10
1874	1447	55	11	Foley				land	2
1874	1448	55	14	Spicer				cottage	20
1875	1475	55		Levin				house	70
1875	1476	55		Wilkin				cottage	18
1875	1477	55		Blake				cottage	10
1875	1478	55	11	Foley				land	2
1875	1479	55	14	Spicer				cottage	20
1876	1422	55	1/4	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	Levin, E.	House	60
1876	1423	55		Blake	Charles	Labourer	E Levin	Cottage	8
1876	1424	55	11	x	x	x	Foley	Land	2
1876	1425	55	14	??	Charles	Water rate collector	C. Spicer	Cottage	20

Charles Blake remained in the cottage from 1875 to 1886 and the property is consistently described as 'cottage' rated at £8 from 1876. Ernest Levin is recorded as 'owner' between 1876 and 1885. This sequence links CA 19 from Haynes, backwards to Levin and forwards in time to Charles Blake. It should be remembered that Crown allotment 19 was Crown land for this entire period and the occupancy was most likely by the Residence Area licence system for entire period before 1890.

The second method of establishing a chain of occupation is more certain; in some years the entry in the rate register shows the previous occupant's name, which is crossed out and then replaced by the new occupant – so a clear chain is established (**Figure 24**). The example in **Figure 24** is a very messy example but by careful examination the intention is quite clear and shows that Charles Blake's occupancy passed to 'Mrs Cameron' in 1886. Charles Blake's name is crossed out in the registers and replaced with Mrs Cameron and the cottage is still valued at £8. Levin's ownership (the ditto mark) is crossed out and replaced by George Reed, or Reid. The rate collector initially placed Mrs Cameron as the owner but this appears to have been a mistake because it is replaced by Andrew O'Keefe, which was another mistake and so was also crossed out. He then replaced these with George Reed which remained as the correct 'owner'. Andrew O'Keefe's name was re-entered in pencil because he was replacing S. Foley in the next property which we are not interested in. It helps to look at the years before and after 1886 to have confidence in this interpretation (**Table 2**). Trust Me!



Between 1887 and 1889 the ownership is listed as George Wood but passes back to George Reed/Reid in 1890 to 1892. George Reed's appearance in the rate books starts in 1886 which corresponds well with the term of his Residence Area licence no 127, which began in 1885 and continued to at least late 1889 and probably into 1890 (**Figure 23**).

Figure 24: Castlemaine rate register entry 1886 with example of chain of occupation established by name replacement

No. on Rate	Surname of Person Rated	Christian Name of Person Rated	Trade or Occupation	Name of Owner of Rateable Property	Description and Situation of Rateable Property	Electoral District and Division	Net Annual Value
1263	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E. Levin	House	1-3	40
1264	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E. Levin	Land	4	10
1265	Blake	Charles	labourer	E. Levin	cottage		8
1266				S. Foley	land		2
1267	Spicer	Alfred	bootmaker	W. Spicer	cottage		18

Charles Blake's name is crossed out and replaced, after a few erroneous attempts, with George Reed. Table 2 gives a clearer picture of what happened between 1884 and 1886.

Table 2: Sequential entries in Castlemaine rate registers 1884 to 1886: Section 55

Year	Rate No	Sec	Allotment	Surname	Given Names	Occupation	Owner	Description	NAV
1884	1263	55	1-3	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	House	40
1884	1264	55	4	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	Land	10
1884	1265	55		Blake	Charles	labourer	E Levin	cottage	8
1884	1266	55	11				S. Foley	land	2
1884	1267	55	14	Spicer	Alfred	bootmaker	W. Spicer	cottage	18
1885	1263	55	1-3	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	House	40
1885	1264	55	4	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	Land	10
1885	1265	55		Blake	Charles	labourer	E Levin	cottage	8
1885	1266	55	11				S. Foley	land	2
1885	1267	55	14	Spicer	Alfred	bootmaker	A. Spicer	cottage	18
1886	1263	55	1-3	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	House	40
1886	1264	55	4	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	Land	10
1886	1265	55		Blake Cameron	Charles Mrs	labourer	Mrs Cameron Andrew O'Keefe George Reid George Reed	cottage	8
1886	1266	55	11				S. Foley Andrew O'Keefe	land	2
1886	1267	55	14	Spicer	Alfred	bootmaker	A. Spicer	cottage	18

The information in the Castlemaine rates registers is at odds with the Crown land sale. We know Levin purchased CA 19 from the Crown in May 1890 and yet George Reid is shown as the 'owner' in the rate register until 1892. This could be another case of information being erroneously copied from one year to another. By 1891, CA 19 should be in the rate books as a rateable property owned by Levin but there is no mention of CA 19 until 1897. It seems that it took the rate collector 6 years to catch up with the new ownership of CA 19.

The chain from Charles Blake's occupancy, through Mrs Cameron to George Reed/Reid is established, but there is another source of information that corroborates Charles Blake's residence on, or near CA 19.

The Mount Alexander Mail newspaper reported on an inquest into the death of a male infant found in a Bull St shaft (MAM 20/8/1874 p2c4). The inquest papers are preserved in the Public Records Office (PROV VPRS 24 P0000 1874/739 Male). Charles Blake, and his son William, were witnesses at the inquest and their address was given as Bull St, Castlemaine. Young William, who found the body in a shaft, stated:

*"from the door of our house to the hole I have referred to is about twenty yards (~ 20 m). The hole is quite dry are there are foot holes cut in the sides by which we were able to get down and up the hole.....there are two houses near ours, Mr Wilkins house is to the left of ours on the next allotment and within ten yards of our house. Mr Levin's house is still further to the left."*

Charles Blake in describing the hole, stated:

*"a dry shaft thirteen feet deep, two feet 10 inches and 4ft 10 inches in length and is about 20 yards from my place ..... the hole is in the middle of Bull Street.." and that "there is another hole 60 or 70 feet deep within 6 or 8 feet of the hole in which the body was found".*

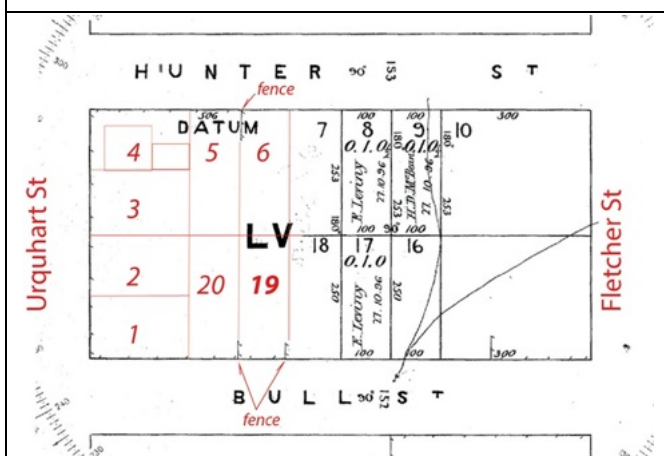
The dimensions of the shaft are typical of small shafts of that period. Shallow shafts commonly had foot holds along their sides to allow men to climb up and down without winding equipment. All these descriptions are consistent with the type of workings that lie along the Town Reef (**Figure 21**). In the early 2000s, in my role as Government geologist, I inspected several shafts of this description on the south side of Bull St directly opposite CA 19.

In conclusion, the rate records show that Charles Blake lived in Section 55 and the inquest evidence reveals he lived in Bull St opposite the Town Reef workings in 1874. This all fits with a cottage located on CA 19 and is consistent with the established presence of a Residence Area licence on CA 19 (**Figure 21**).

Another surveyor's plan, dated March 1896, provides further support for the presence of a cottage on CA 19 (**Figure 25**). The plan was prepared as a part of Levin's purchase of CA 8 and 17 from the Crown in 1896. The surveyor noted two north-south fence lines aligned either side of CA 19 in Bull St. He only drew the fences for a few metres because they were incidental to the main subject of the plan but the fences probably extended much further northwards. The presence of the fences suggests that a dwelling was on CA 19.

The surveyor also noted a north-south fence along the eastern edge of CA 5. By this stage, in 1896, Ernest Levin had already purchased CA 5, 6 and 7. It is interesting that no fences are shown along the eastern boundaries of CA 6 or 7 but there is a fence along the eastern boundary of CA 5. This may have been a carry-over from his earlier Residence Area licence on CA 5. A Residence Area licence holder was required to build a habitable structure and it is likely that Levin would have fenced the eastern boundary of on CA 5 to define his occupation.

Figure 25: The surveyor's plan prior to 1896 land purchase



The surveyor's 'put away' plan for Levin's 1896 purchase of CA 8 & 17 shows fence lines (partially drawn) either side of CA 19 and on the east side of CA 5. All the red lines and text are this author's annotations over the original black & white surveyor's plan. Put away plan 84B\_2 dated 23 March 1896. The approximate footprint of Buda is shown by red rectangles in CA 4.

The final piece of information indicating the presence of a building on CA 19 comes from the 1890 Crown land sale notices (**Figure 26**). In 1890 CA 19 was advertised for sale by the Crown and it was described as:

*"At the site of the improvements of E. Leviny, in Bull St; upset price, £10 per lot; charge for survey £1; lot 1, area 1r, allotment 19, Section 55 valuation £36."* (MAM 3/10/1890) (**Figure 26**).

This term 'improvements' and the high valuation is good evidence that a cottage was located on Crown Allotment 19 in 1890. This notice also definitely links a building, and Leviny, with CA 19 in 1890. By using the chain of occupation evidence above, it is probable that the cottage on CA 19 was occupied from a least the 1873. But could it have been there even longer?

Figure 26: Notice for sale of Crown land Oct 1890

SALE (No. 7031) of Crown Lands, in Fee Simple, at the Court House, Castlemaine, on Tuesday, the Twenty-First day of October, 1890, at Ten o'clock a.m.

TOWN LOTS.

Castlemaine, Parish of Castlemaine, County of Talbot.—At the site of the improvements of E. Leviny, in Bull-street; upset price, £10 per lot; charge for survey, £1; lot 1, area 1r, allotment 19, section 55; valuation, £36.

Mount Alexander Mail 3 Oct 1890

### 6.3 THE COTTAGE ON CA 20 - 1862 to 1875

In the period 1862 to 1875, the Castlemaine rate registers show that a second cottage was being rated on non-alienated Crown land in Section 55. A person named Robert Bentley occupied a cottage valued at £15 in 1862 and then William Wilkin replaced Bentley's entry in 1863. Wilkin remained in this cottage until 1875 and the cottage was variously rated between £8 and £18. The Bentley-Wilkins cottage overlaps for a full 12 years with the time period of the cottage located on CA 19, indicating that the two cottages were separate rateable properties on different allotments.

The rates for 1873 help again because the rate collector departed from his normal procedure and specified the exact allotment number, that is, William Wilkin lived in a cottage on CA 20. This is the allotment immediately west of the CA 19 cottage (**Figure 21 and Figure 25**). There is independent verification of this based on young William Blake's inquest evidence in 1874. William stated that:

*"there are two houses near ours, Mr Wilkins house is to the left of ours on the next allotment and within ten yards of our house. Mr Leviny's house is still further to the left."* (PROV VPRS 24 P0000 1874/739 Male)

William's evidence fits exactly with the relative positions of CA 19 and 20 for a person looking north, that is, Mr Wilkins house was left of the Blake's house and Mr Leviny's 'house' was left of Mr Wilkins. When William Blake's described Leviny's house as "still further to the left", he is probably referring to Leviny's property as a whole, because the house is actually located around the corner (**Figure 25**).

William Wilkin vacated the CA 20 cottage during, or just after 1875, as there was no further rating information for this property and, presumably, it was left vacant or pulled down. There is no further evidence of a structure on CA 20 after 1876.

Based on information from mining lease registers, the cottage on CA 20 was also built on a Residence Area licence – this information is discussed in the next **Section 6.4**.

## 6.4 1860s – WHEN WERE THE RESIDENCE AREA LICENCES FIRST TAKEN OUT?

When the land in Section 55 was first listed for sale in 1860, CA 19 was shown to have “improvements valued at £20” (**Figure 27**) whereas no improvements were listed for CA 5. This suggests that a dwelling was already located on CA 19 in June 1860. Ultimately, as explained previously in **Section 5.1**, CA 19 was withdrawn for sale, along with all other Sec. 55 allotments, after objections from the Castlemaine Mining Board. In May 1861 CA 1 to 4, 11 and 14 were sold but all other Sec. 55 allotments remained as Crown land.

Figure 27: Notice of sale CA 19 Section 55 1860

Lot 21. Allotment 14, section 55, 1r. Improvements valued at 60/. Upset price 150/. per acre.
Lot 22. Allotment 15, section 55, 1r. Improvements valued at 15/. Upset price 125/. per acre.
Lot 23. Allotment 16, section 55, 1r. Upset price 50/. per acre.
Lot 24. Allotment 17, section 55, 1r. Upset price 50/. per acre.
Lot 25. Allotment 18, section 55, 1r. Upset price 50/. per acre.
Lot 26. Allotment 19, section 55, 1r. Improvements valued at 20/. Upset price 150/. per acre.
Lot 27. Allotment 20, section 55, 1r. Upset price 50/. per acre.

Victoria Government Gazette 77, 26 June 1860.

Then in 1869 the Crown again attempted to sell CA 5 and CA 19 whereas no other allotments in Sec. 55 were identified for sale (**Figure 28**). The reason for this attempted sale could be that people had held Residence Area Licences over those allotments for some time and they were trying again to acquire the freehold in 1869, having failed in 1860.

In the March 1869, a notice of sale for Crown Allotment 19 was valued at £40, again indicating there was a structure on the allotment (**Figure 28**). Allotment 5 was valued at land value only. The sale of both CA 5 & 19 was never executed as indicated by the Castlemaine Historical Society's index to

Figure 28: Sale of CA 19 Section 55

Lot 10. Allotment 18, section 39, 1r. Upset price 20/. per acre.
Lot 11. Allotment 5, section 55, 1r. Upset price 20/. per acre.
Lot 12. Allotment 19, section 55, 1r. Upset price 25/. per acre.
Valuation 40/. 1.

Victoria Government Gazette 13, 5 March 1869, p. 411.

“Land Sales by Auction” (PROV VPRS 11862 & 80). The proposed sale of CA 5 was withdrawn three times: 9 April 1869, 28 May 1869 and 16 July 1869. Similarly, the sale of CA 19 was withdrawn on 9 April 1869, 16 July 1869 and 29 July 1869. The reason for the withdrawals is unknown but the Castlemaine Mining Board were actively objecting to the sale of auriferous land at that time.

The high valuations of CA 19 in 1860 and 1869 strongly suggest that a cottage was present on the site from as early as 1860. This is supported by the rate information which shows that Edward O'Brien occupied a cottage in Sec. 55 from 1862 to 1869, and probably in 1861 when he was listed but the Section number wasn't recorded. The cottage was vacant in 1870 but in 1871 a person named Smith was paying rates. It was vacant again in 1872 until the next year when Haynes appears in the 1873 register, the year that the allotment number was specified as CA 19.

The almost continuous occupation of CA 19 from c1861 to 1889 suggests that Residence Area licences had been held by various people over that period, including Ernest Levin. Levin is shown as the ‘owner’ between 1876 and 1885 and then he purchased the land in 1890. However, after 1882 the rules did not allow a Miners Right holder to have two Residence Area licences within 10 miles of each other. Given this ruling, it is unclear how Levin held ‘ownership’ of the cottage on CA 19 after 1882.

Mining Lease application files from the Public Record Office provide another useful piece of the puzzle. Each lease application included a small map in the margins of the register. The maps often show the location of pre-existing Residence Area licence such as in Lease 2209 (**Figure 21, Figure 29**). The plan for Lease 2209, described in **Section 6.1**, is unambiguous in that the Residence Area licences were annotated as ‘Res. Area’ and highlighting by a shading. Some of the earlier mining leases show the same type of information, although some interpretation is required because the lease documents in the Castlemaine Historical Society's collection are black and white photocopies. The lease plan for Lease No. 233 (**Figure 29**) simply has lines drawn around the Residence Areas, without shading or text; but we can be confident that the surveyor was outlining Residence Areas because he has written a small table of areas on the plan detailing the total area of the lease and the area occupied by ‘Residence sites’; the latter was then subtracted from the total area to show the final area of the lease. By checking these calculations, it is possible to confirm that the outlined areas do in fact, specify the locations of Residence sites.



This evidence from the Mining Lease registers (PROV VPRS 7842) conclusively shows that Residence Area licences were held on both CA 19 and 20 from as early as September 1865 (**Figure 29**). A small area was also outlined immediately east of Delhi Villa on CA 5 – this seems too small to be a Residence Area licence but later plans show that by 1868, all of CA5 was probably covered by a licence.

The lease plan for Mining Lease 389 (16 May 1868) shows that the applicants deliberately altered the shape of their application area to avoid all of CA 5 and CA 20 and the part of CA 19 that was previously noted as a Residence Area site. This is evidence that a Residence Area licence was now covering all of CA 5. It is likely that Levin had applied for this licence, or extended it eastwards, between 1865 and August 1868. Lease 389 was eventually transferred to Henry Christophers (Lease No. 635) in January 1871 but the original lease boundary was maintained.

Figure 29: Lease plans 233, 389 (635), 2042 and 2209 – showing Residence Area sites are excised or avoided.



**A:** Lease plan 233, dated 18 Sep 1865, has outlined several 'Residence sites' in Section 55. These include most of CA 19 and 20, and a small slice of CA 5. These sites were excluded from the mining lease. There may have been 2 licences on CA 20.

**B:** The boundaries of Lease 389, later 635, (first surveyed 16 May 1868) were probably designed to avoid the existing Residence sites on CA 19 & 20, and in addition, the lease avoids CA 5 next to the Levin house suggesting that a Residence Area licence covered CA 5 at this time. Lease No. 635 covered the same area and contained the same information.

**C:** In Lease 2042, surveyed on 23 Dec 1880, the Residence sites are again excised, as are the areas marked 'sold land'. The Lessees had permission from Council to mine a portion of Hunter St - but it seems a small area north of Levin's Hunter St fence may have been excised, perhaps to allow access. The Residence Area on CA 20 is no longer excised, suggesting it is no longer active. Note that the residence Area licence only covers part of CA 5.

**D:** Lease 2209, surveyed on 16 September 1882, shows that both CA 5 and 19 were Residence sites/areas and were excluded from the mining lease. CA 20 is not excluded from the lease indicating that the Residence Area licence no longer exists on this site. This accords with rate records which show the cottage was unoccupied c1876. The area of the Residence area licence on CA 5 now encompasses the whole allotment, possibly due to changes in the Residential Area Act 1881 which allowed ½ acre licence areas.

Mining Lease plans are from PROV VPRS 7842 Castlemaine leases 233, 389, 2042 & 2209. Colour shading has been added for clarity and extraneous data on the lease plans has been removed in Adobe Photoshop. Red shading denotes the lease area, yellow shading denotes 'Residence sites' existing at the time of the survey.

Crown Allotment	Time period	Licensee/owner	Building	Approximate area/notes
CA 5	Sep 1865 – May 1868	Leviný?	?	Small area along west side in Sep 1865 but larger by May 1868 - see ML 389
	May 1868 – Dec 1880	Leviný?	?	Unspecified area until Dec 1880 when 1/8 acre
	Dec 1880 – Sep 1882	Leviný?	?	1/8 acre - see ML 2042
	Sep 1882 – May 1889	Leviný	Sheds?	Probably 1/4 acre as shown by ML 2209
CA 19	1860 – Sep 1865	Edward O'Brien	cottage	Unknown area - probably 1/8 acre
	Sep 1865 – May 1890	Various including Leviný	cottage	About 1/8 acre - see ML 233, 2042 & 2209
	1902 - 1903	Leviný	Cottage removed	
CA 20	1860 – 1863	Bentley	cottage	At least 1/8 acre
	circa Sep 1865	?	?	Possible additional 1/8 licence north of Wilkins But no evidence of occupancy in rate registers
	1863 – 1875	Wilkins	cottage	At least 1/8 acre
	1875 – 1890	none	none	No evidence of licence or cottage
	1890 & after	Leviný	none	

In summary, there existed two cottages immediately south of Leviny's house (**Figure 30**), one was located on CA 20 which is where the 'lawn area' is now. This was occupied from 1862 to 1875.

Figure 30: The Leviny family's immediate neighbours prior to 1895

The map shows a residential block with the following layout:

- Streets:** Urquhart Street (left), Fletcher Street (right), Bull Street (bottom), Hunter Street (top).
- Cottages:** 20 numbered cottages arranged in a grid.
  - Cottages 1, 2, 3, 14, 12, 11, and 10 are yellow.
  - Cottages 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 17, 18, 19, and 20 are white.
  - Cottage 5 is labeled 'Leviny outbuilding?'.
  - Cottage 4 is labeled 'Delhi Villa'.
  - Cottages 19 and 20 are labeled 'Wilkins cottage' and 'Blake cottage' respectively.
  - Cottages 1 and 2 are labeled 'kitchen wing'.
  - Cottage 3 is labeled 'kitchen wing (maid's quarters)'.
- Other Features:** A red rectangle highlights cottages 1 through 8. A large number '55' is written in the center of the block.

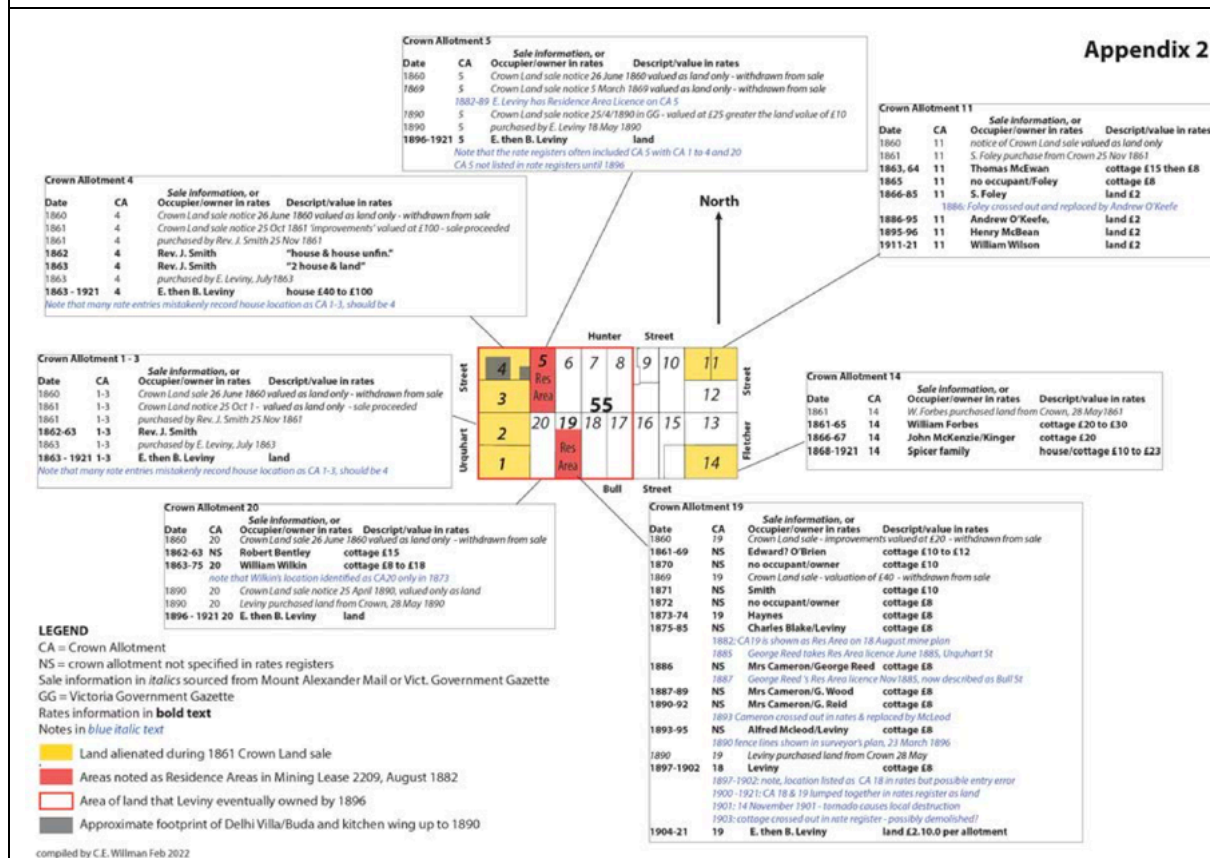
The cottages on CA 19 & 20 have been named after the people with the longest occupancy. William Wilkins was a bootmaker who moved to Templeton St about 1876. There is no evidence for the cottage on CA 20 after Wilkins left. Charles Blake was a labourer who lived on CA 19 for 10 years up to 1885. The cottage disappeared from the records in 1903. Ernest Leviny probably built an 'outbuilding' on CA 5; the Residence Area Act 1881 required that a habitable dwelling be erected on a Residence Area licence such as existed on CA 5.

## 6.5 SUMMARY OF LAND OCCUPATION 1860 TO 1921 - A GRAPHIC REPRESENTATION

In this section the chain of occupancy for selected allotments in Section 55 is presented in a graphical format (**Figure 31**). The data was derived from rate records, Crown land sales and newspaper reports. See **Appendix 2** for an A3 size version of the figure.

The Castlemaine rate records (PROV VPRS 409), which are held on microfilm in the Castlemaine Historical Society's collection, provide an excellent yearly guide to occupation and ownership. The rate records have been transcribed and are listed in **Appendix 3**.

Figure 31: Summary of land occupation - for full size version see Appendix 2

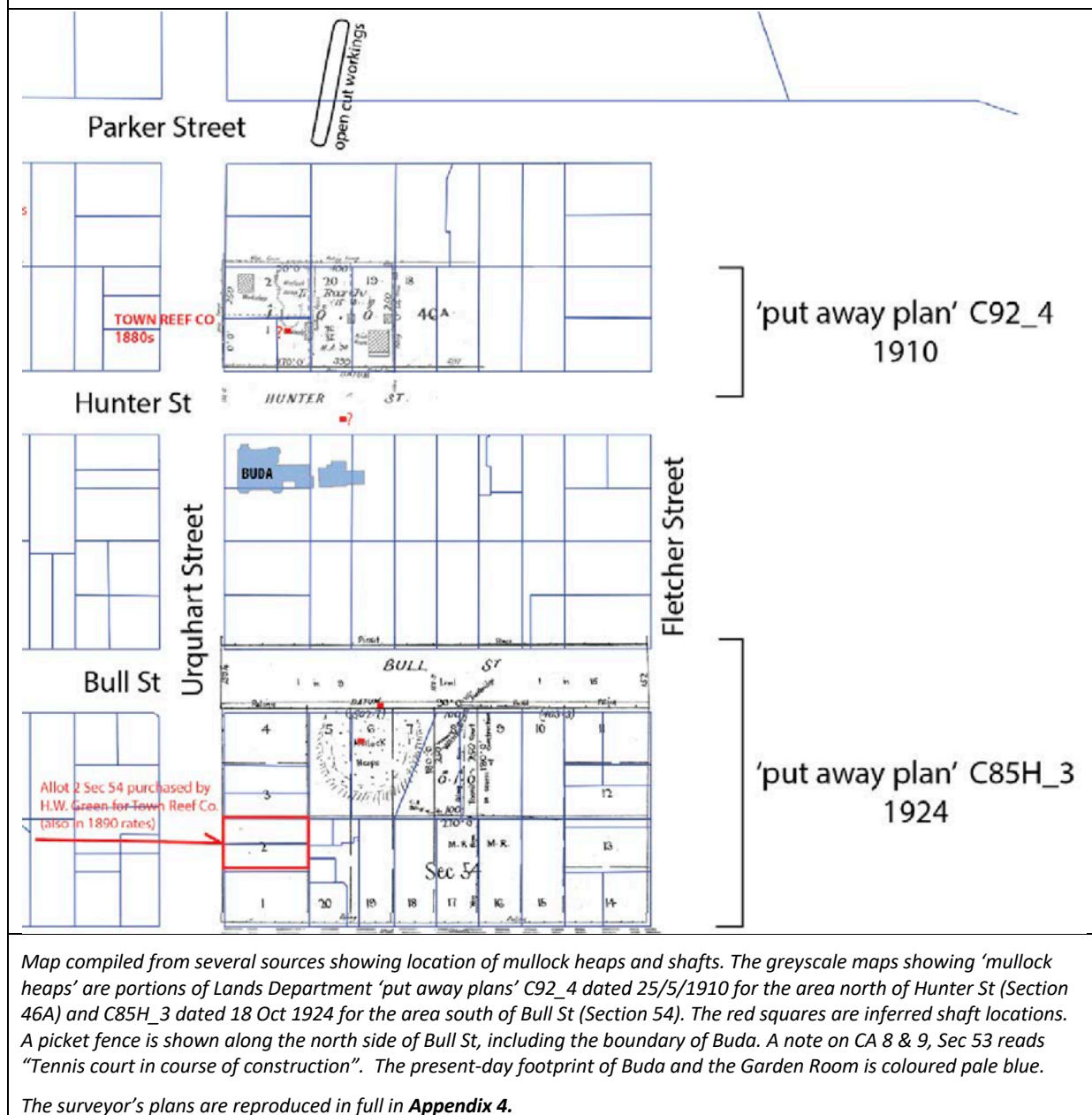


The major occupation or sale events are listed chronologically for 7 of the 20 allotments in Section 55. Data is derived from Castlemaine rate registers (PROV VPRS 409), Crown land sales as advertised in the Mount Alexander Mail newspaper or the Victorian Government Gazette. The sources of information are indicated by font style - see legend.

## 7. THE TOWN REEF - MINE WORKINGS NEAR BUDA

The deepest mines in the Castlemaine township were located immediately north and south of the Levin property. There are two very detailed survey plans dated May 1910 and October 1924 that show the precise location of these workings (**Figure 32**). These plans were prepared for people applying to convert Residence Area Licences to freehold land and during that process, the contract surveyor incidentally noted the mine workings. The surveyor's plans are reproduced in full in **Appendix 4**.

Figure 32: Map showing mine workings near Buda based on portions of 'put away plan' C92\_4 and C85H\_3

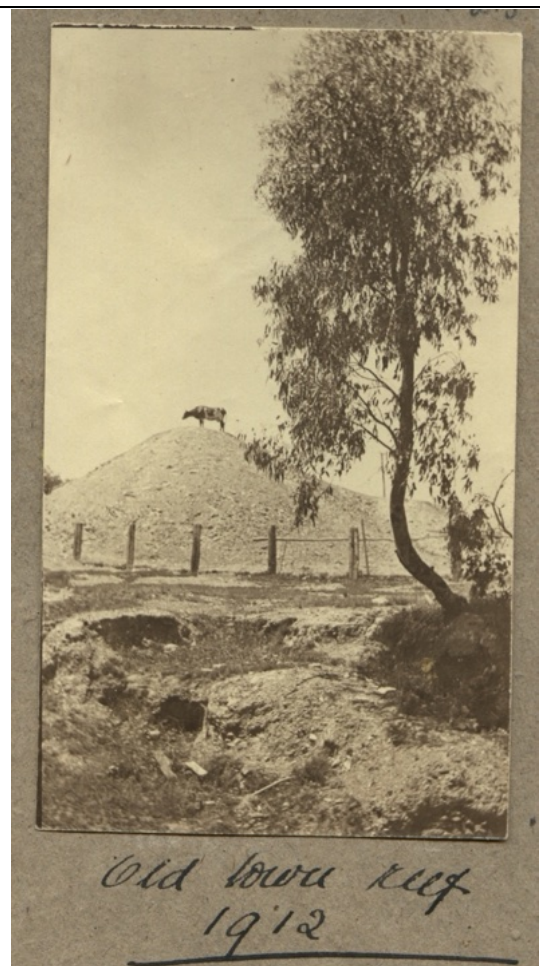




The mullock heap on CA 2, Section 46A is probably the same mullock heap that Kate Levin photographed in April 1906 and again in 1912. The shape of the mullock heap in **Figure 33** is a good match for the surveyor's sketch, which shows the mullock heap to be larger on the north side. Both photos were probably taken from the east side of Urquhart St north of its intersection with Hunter St. The shadows in **Figure 34** suggest that the photographer was looking approximately southeast. The house in the background of **Figure 34** may be the brick house shown on CA 19 in **Figure 32**. This house is in the same position as the brick house presently opposite the Garden Room. although there appears to be some differences in the roofline, namely the presence of a parapet in the 1906 photograph.

Shaft locations are not shown on the surveyors plans but the shaft associated with the mullock heap north of Hunter St was most likely on the south side of the heap, or about 50 metres north of the Levin fence. However, it is possible that the shaft was located on the north side, which is about 80 metres north of the Levin fence.

Figure 33: Photo of Old Town Reef mullock heap 1912



Note that the left side of mullock heap is larger which is similar to the shape of the mullock heap in the sketch in Figure 32. Buda photo collection.

Figure 34: Town Reef mullock heap April 1906



The shadows of the fence posts suggest the photo was taken looking approximately south east. Buda photo collection.

The mine workings on the south side of Bull St (**Figure 32**) were still visible in the 1990s but have since been filled, or covered over. One shaft was located on the south side of the street and another within CA 6.

## 8. THE TOWN REEF - HISTORY

The Town Reef mines near Buda operated intermittently from about 1860 to 1887. The Mount Alexander Mail estimated a total production of 1727 ozs of gold from 3037 tons of ore from the Town Reef (MAM 31/5/1900). In the early 1860s mining probably occurred both north of Hunter St and south of Bull St. There are several open cut workings north of Parker St that probably date from this period (**Figure 32**). Between 1865 to 1869, a prospector named Richard James mined 566 tonnes of quartz for a return of 384 ozs gold (Willman, 1995). In 1866 Richard James was living at the Town Reef (MAM 2/8/1866) (**Figure 35**). He took out a lease (No. 472 then 634) in August 1869 and employed up to 16 men (PROV VPRS 7842 Lease 472). The north boundary of the lease was Levin's Bull St fence line.

Figure 35: Richard James at the Town Reef

JAMES and DONELY, having become owners of the late Albert Company's lease, they have decided on making the Party into 24 shares, and to dispose of 12 shares at £5 each, the said money to be spent in working the same; and this invitation will be open for eight days only. For further particulars, apply to RICHARD JAMES, Town Reef. 403 jy 31

Mount Alexander Mail 2/8/1866

In 1870 the Castlemaine District mining surveyor stated that:

*"On the town Reef, a 40-horse power engine with pumping, winding, and crushing machinery, is being erected.; an engine shaft is sunk to water level, 135 feet."* (MAM 21/02/1870)

The location of this shaft is unknown but it was probably just south of Bull St. By 1871 reports indicate the shaft was deepened to 170 feet (51.8m) but there is little evidence of successful mining.

In 1876 a party of miners known as the 'United Tradesmen' started mining old workings along the Town Reef at Bull St and extended a *"tunnel which has been long deserted"* (MAM 22/3/1876).

In the period 1875 to 1881 a syndicate known as Cardwell, or Cardwell and Excell, operated on mining lease No. 1797 which extended 250 m north from the north side of Hunter St. Their south boundary was just 20 m from Levin's Hunter St fence. Cardwell mined 1,919 tonnes of quartz for a return of 770 ozs gold (Willman, 1995).

In December 1880 George John Manton and Edward David (E.D.) Williams took a mining lease (No. 2042) covering an area from north of Berkeley St to the northern alignment of Hunter St. The lease document states;

*"Excising the private property of E. Levin and protecting the surface rights of holders of Miners Rights".*

Extraordinarily, they obtained a letter from the Castlemaine Town Clerk granting permission *"to mine portions of Hunter St and Bull streets"* (PROV VPRS 7842 Castlemaine Lease 2042). The inset plan in the Lease register shows the area to be mined and it seems they excised half of the width of Hunter St, directly in front of Levin's fence, but reserved the right to mine the remaining parts of Hunter St in front of CA 5 and 6 (**Figure 29**). No work was done and the lease was declared void in July 1881.

The most determined effort to mine the Town Reef occurred between 1883 and 1887. A public company, called The Town Reef Company was organised by E.D. Williams and R.B. Thom. Mr. Williams claimed that the private land holders had given their permission for mining to occur (MAM 9/9/1882) and as their Lease No 2209 covered Levin's property, it is assumed that Ernest Levin had agreed. The warden however, excised the private property and 'protected' the streets (MAM 9/9/1882). The Town Reef Company started in 1883 by sinking a shaft "south of Bull Street, near the rear of Mr Levin's fence". The shaft reached a depth of 36 m and the miners intersected a vein 60 cm wide at the 32 m (105') level, 18.6 m west of the shaft (MAM 31/5/1884). This mining was done with the help of horse power in the form of a whip (MAM 3/12/1883) (**Figure 39**). They had intended to erect steam machinery at this site but firstly needed to purchase some freehold land on which to place the equipment; this was CA 2 Section 54, located in Urquhart St between Bull and Berkeley streets (**Figure 32**). However, in 1884 they applied for a new lease (Lease No. 2403), just 20 m north of Levin's Hunter St fence, and moved their operation to this new location. They worked in several shafts adjacent to where earlier successful miners, Cardwell and Excell, had sunk an underlay shaft (a non-vertical shaft that follows the reef downwards). This new location is probably within CA2 Section 46A (**Figure 32**). Here the company sunk a new shaft to a depth of about 80 m and excavated crosscuts (east-west tunnels) at the 20 m (65'), 49 m (160') and 73 m (240') levels (**Figure 36, Figure 37**). They prospected in several other older shafts just

north of Hunter St and even planned to use an old shaft next to Levin's fence, although the plan was probably never completed:

*Driving has been continued to the east at the Town Reef, and this will be met with by a drive to be put in from a shaft adjoining Mr Levin's fence. Gold had been found in the reef there, and the double purpose will be served by driving north of trying the reef, and the opening into the drive to the east, which will ventilate the mine."* (MAM 29/9/1884).

The 'inspector' of the Castlemaine Borough Council had previously reported on this shaft in 1879;

*"A shaft in the line of Hunter St could be filled in a day."* (MAM 11/4/1879).

It is possible that the presence of this shaft was one reason why the lessees of Lease 2042 had applied to mine portions of Hunter St in 1880 (see previous page).

During 1884 The Town Reef company erected a headframe (poppet legs), engine house and installed a steam engine to provide power for winding and crushing machinery. The Mount Alexander Mail wrote:

*"An engine house which is being erected on the Town Reef at Hunter St, opposite to the residence of Mr Levin, forms a conspicuous object in that locality."* (MAM 21/7/1884).

The poppet legs were erected on 16 & 17 September 1884 (MAM 16 & 17/9/1884). The company also built a dam in the gully north of Hunter St in order to supply water for the new crushing plant. The Mount Alexander Mail records that the machinery was first operational on Friday 28th November 1884 (MAM 1/12/1884). The estimated cost of all the machinery was £2,350 (MAM 29/11/1884). As well as crushing their own ore, they provided a public milling service for other small mines in the area; for example, in the half-yearly meeting of May 1885 the company reported earnings of £38.0.6 by "crushing for the public" (MAM 30/5/1885). Hilda Levin in her 1978 interview records that the dam was breached during floods in 1889.

By June 1886 the main shaft was deepened to 79.9m (262 ft deep) after the injection of government funds of £200 under the prospecting vote system (MAM 1/6/1886). At a depth of about depth of 53m, the north level had now been driven to 78.4 m (257 ft) north of the crosscut (**Figure 36**). At the same time as working north of Levin's house, the company resumed working in their 'south whip shaft' at Bull St (MAM 1/6/1886). The prospects were apparently not very encouraging and the company's activities decreased. Then in April 1887 the Secretary of Mines, Mr Langtree, visited the Town Reef site to evaluate the possibility of using the government diamond drill to further explore the mine (MAM 25/4/1887). The application was rejected because the company could not pay half the cost, a requirement of the Secretary of Mines (MAM 30/5/1887; 25/4/1887).

In September 1889 the Town Reef Company started selling parts of the machinery (MAM 23/9/1889) and their lease was declared void in May 1890 (MAM 27/5/1890). The remaining parts were sold to the Devonshire mine, which is not far northeast of the Town Reef site – contractors started pulling down the plant in October 1890 (MAM 28/11/1890). Official statistics record a very modest gold production of 37 ozs of gold in 274 tonnes of quartz between September 1884 and September 1886 (Willman, 1995). Baragwanath (1903) records that 70oz was produced in 1887. The mine had been a failure, a not unusual outcome in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century.

The Town Reef Company mullock heap remained largely intact until at least 1912 when Kate Levin photographed the cow (**Figure 33**). However, a report in the Mount Alexander Mail noted that:

*"the road in Hunter St has been formed for a length of 16 chains, and 200 yards of good quartz metal have been carted from the Town Reef and spread on it, for a width of 16ft and rolled."* (MAM 20/10/1893).

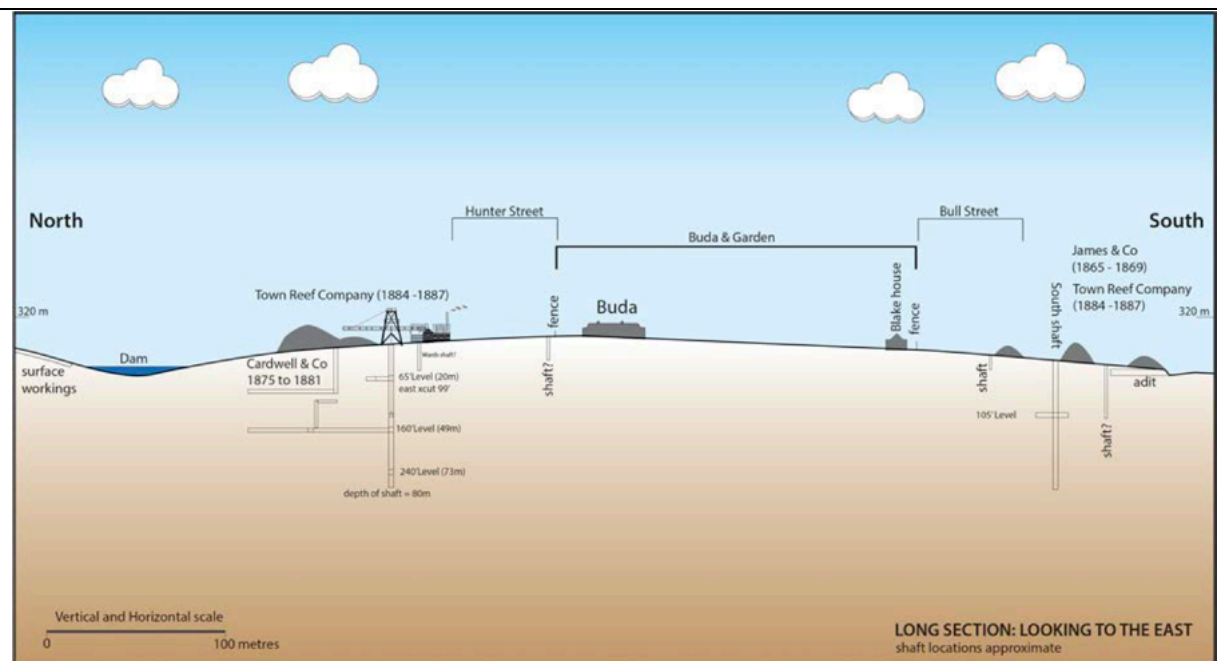
In the following years there were occasional calls to make safe the Town Reef shafts. In 1894 a note in the Mount Alexander Mail states:

*"A correspondent draws attention to the dangerous condition of the shaft formerly worked by the Town Reef Co. The mouth of the shaft had for some time been covered with slabs, but these have been removed, and as children occasionally are seen playing in the locality, the shaft should be covered to prevent an accident occurring."* (MAM 26/6/1894).

Hilda Levin would have been only 11 years old at this time. In December 1895 Cr Martin

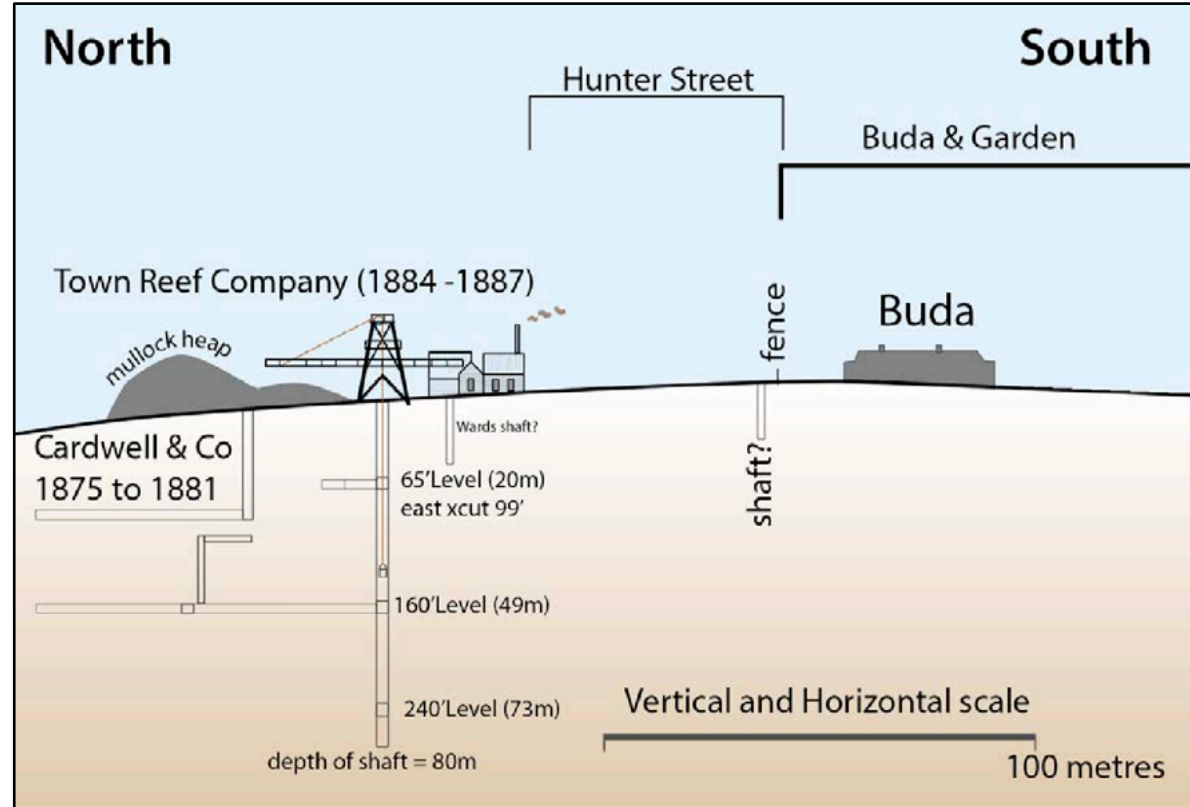
*"noticed that holes on the Town reef should be covered over for the safety of children. He moved that the Mines Department be written to on the subject."* (MAM 13/12/1895)

Figure 36: Longitudinal section of mine workings near Buda, looking East. **See Appendix 5 for larger version.**



This longitudinal section is a slice through the earth looking towards the east. The Town Reef company's workings were located immediately north of the Levin house. The older children would have seen the development of the mine and the erection of the poppet legs and steam machinery.

Figure 37: Longitudinal section - enlargement



This enlargement of a part of Figure 36 shows the detail of workings just north of Buda. The depth of the workings and the position of the mullock heap is based on reliable data in the Mount Alexander Mail and 'Put away plans' (see **Figure 32 & Appendix 4**). The shaft positions are approximate - it is possible that the Town Reef Co. shaft and Cardwells workings were located further north by up to 60 m. The form of the headframe and mine buildings is based on typical designs of the period.



## 8.1 WHAT WOULD THE LEVIN CHILDREN HAVE SEEN?

During the active periods of mining the Levin children would have seen a variety of mining infrastructure. The most impressive would have been the Town Reef Company's poppet legs, steam winding house and stamp battery in the period 1883 and 1887. There are no photos of the headframe but it may have looked like a smaller version of the headframe in **(Figure 38)**. At other times there would have been windlasses erected over shallow shafts, and for the slightly deeper shafts, a horse and whip would have been in place for hauling men and ore to the surface.

Figure 38: A typical headframe (or poppet legs), Daylesford



*This Daylesford mine is an example of the type of headframe (or poppet legs) commonly constructed in the late 19<sup>th</sup> C or early 20<sup>th</sup> C. The Town Reef Co.'s headframe was probably smaller than this example. The steam winding machinery would have been located next to the headframe in a winding and battery shed. From Whitelaw & Baragwanath (1923)*

Figure 39: 19th century to early 20<sup>th</sup> century mining machinery



*The left image is a horse and whip. The horse pulled a rope which was attached to a mine bucket. The rope was directed along two pulleys, one at the top of a pole and the other at its base. The right image is a windlass which was used in shallow shafts for hauling material to the surface. From Hunter (1909).*

## 9. THE PYRITES TREATMENT PLANT

### 9.1 PYRITE PLANT IN NORTH CASTLEMAINE c1871

In 1871 a pyrites gold processing plant was erected in north Castlemaine near the Levin property (MAM 22/4/1871; 12/1/1872). Note that the Mount Alexander Mail in 1884 stated that the plant started in 1868 but this could not be confirmed (MAM 21/6/1884). The plant operated until 1890 and extracted 10,088.67 ozs of gold over a 20 year period (Willman, 1995).

The processing plant was located between Bull and Berkeley streets about 150 metres east of Fletcher St and was owned and operated by George Yeats. This industrial plant had a profound effect on the local residents who over the ensuing years complained bitterly regarding the noxious fumes emitted from the plant's chimney. Ernest Levin was among several vocal objectors to the Yeats' Pyrites plant. There is a huge amount of information about the plant and the resulting pollution - the following summarises the main events.

Extracting gold from quartz crushing was relatively simple but during the 1860s companies realised they could also extract gold from pyrites, a by-product of quartz crushing that was easily collected but was difficult to process. Extracting gold from pyrites required specialised equipment and a new industry emerged to cater for this market.

The primary process in pyrites treatment plants was to 'burn' the pyrites in furnaces and this created noxious fumes which could be highly acidic and contain heavy metals such as arsenic.

The first signs of discontent were in late 1871 and early 1872 when a nearby resident, Mr Etchells, complained to council about the 'pyrites burning works' and noxious fumes (MAM 20/10/1871). In the 1869 rates Clement Etchells, a schoolmaster, was living at CA 14 Section 46A at the northwest corner of Hunter and Fletcher streets. In early 1872 Council received a letter from the Central Board of Health recommending that Yeats modify his plant to reduce the pollution levels (MAM 20/1/1872).

#### Box 4: What are Pyrites

Gold usually occurs as small lumps of nearly pure gold within quartz veins and is relatively easy to extract by crushing the quartz and separating the heavy gold by gravity separation techniques, usually under running water. Mercury was used in this process to capture the finest particles of gold – this is possible because mercury and gold form an amalgam that is easily separated and treated. Once quartz crushing became more common in the 1860s miners realised, they were losing a lot of gold that was not solely enclosed by quartz but was mixed with pyrite minerals.

Pyrites are minerals that combine the elements of iron and sulphur – some varieties also contain arsenic and copper. Pyrite has the chemical formula of  $\text{FeS}_2$  and is commonly known as 'fools gold'. Arsenopyrite has the chemical formula  $\text{FeAsS}$  and chalcopyrite is  $\text{FeCuS}_2$ . These minerals commonly occur in gold deposits along with other minerals such as sphalerite ( $\text{ZnS}$ ) and galena ( $\text{PbS}$ ). All these minerals may be enclosed by the quartz veins or occur next to veins enclosed by sandstone and slate. Although not part of the crystal structure, gold is often mixed with pyrite minerals in what is sometimes called 'solid solution'. This simply means that tiny inclusions of gold have been incorporated into the pyrite mineral.

The Castlemaine Borough Council received a petition, dated 23 Feb 1872, from 53 residents of Doveton, Bull, Parker, Wimble, Hargraves, Hunter, Berkeley and Fletcher streets. The petition, as reported by the Mount Alexander Mail, called for a cessation of operations at the pyrites plant until:

*"... preventative measures recommended by the Central Board of Health, and required by law, are completed; pointing out the destruction of gardens, the endangering of health, and the lessening of value of property of many persons, as opposed to the interests of one man."* (MAM 24/2/1872 p2c6)

## 9.2 THE FAILED PROSECUTION - 1872

On 15<sup>th</sup> November 1872 Yeats was successively prosecuted under the 32nd Section of the Public Health Amendment Statute for carrying on pyrites-burning operations at North Castlemaine, to the injury of the health of the inhabitants of the locality. The Castlemaine Representative and Mount Alexander Mail newspapers printed lengthy transcripts of the case in which residents complained of damage to trees and property (Thompson, undated).

In the court Ernest Leviny stated, as reported by the Castlemaine Representative, that:

*"The effect of the fumes on my garden is very bad. Last year everything was destroyed, and my children made ill. They were generally sick before breakfast. When the smoke comes over, a distressing cough seized them. When the smoke comes, the leaves shrivel and turn brown. The other gardens in the neighbourhood suffered similarly. On the 11th the pyrites were burning.....On the 11th (Monday) the garden was looking beautiful. The effect of the fumes I have experienced since the alterations to the works. In fact, the alterations made the fumes worse, in witness's opinion."* (Castlemaine Representative 15/11/1872 p2c7)

The local health officer, Dr Hutchinson, testified that:

*"he considered the fumes of the pyrites noxious to vegetation and, consequently, to health. The works were in a valley instead of on a hill and they were "a rotten affair altogether." Alterations had been made, but they were not adequate to stay the noxious effusions."* (MAM 16/11/1872)

Hutchinson was cross-examined by Mr Merrifield :

*"There had been no operations of importance since the alterations in the works but in one night's work leaves had been injured— that is, he believed, they were injured – at least leaves had been found on which the traces of the fumes were discovered. He drew his deductions from a comparison of the vegetation near the pyrites works and that in other parts of the district. He noticed the effects of the sulphur fumes on Thursday last on the firs and cherry trees in Mr Leviny's garden. Several other trees were marked, and the leaves burned at the edges. A parcel of branches and leaves were here produced by Mr Leviny, and shown in the court, the doctor deposing to the leaves being those he described. He was prepared to swear to the best of his belief that the effects on the vegetation produced were due to the pyrites. He had seen vegetation, similarly marked, but not so general as that produced. What satisfied him that pyrites fumes were the cause of injury, was his observations last season, on the difference between the vegetation, when the works were going on, and when they were stopped. The fumes were condensed and dropped on the leaves, but both sulphur and arsenic were so subtle that they might not be detected, as either might enter into chemical combination with the plant so as to disguise them. He had never seen arsenic on leaves tested chemically. Arsenic and sulphur might be wafted along for a couple of miles yet leave no trace to detect them. He had heard sulphurous acid had been applied to vines to cure oidium, but had not seen it used. He visited the works after the attempt at improvement, and tasted some of the water from the tank, but did not drink it."* (MAM 16/11/1872)

The Mount Alexander Mail's report of Leviny's statement to the court was as follows:

*"when the smoke from the works passed over his garden, if the leaves were wet, they became burned up. His children had been unwell in the morning, sick, retching, sneezing and coughing. Other gardens in his neighbourhood had suffered in the same way as his. When the works had ceased his garden was looking better than it had done for two years, but when the pyrites were being burned on the 11th, effects were perceptible in the vegetation two days afterwards. Whenever the smoke passed over his house his children's health was affected. Since the alterations had been made he had suffered more from the fumes than previously, this might be attributable to the heavy weather which precipitated all the fumes with him without wafting them away."* (MAM 16/11/1872)

Despite considerable damning evidence the Bench finally considered that Yeats had no case to answer and the complaint was dismissed. Mr Merrifield acting for Yeats applied for costs but they were not awarded.

### 9.3 COMPLAINTS TO MINES DEPARTMENT – 1873

By 1873 Ernest Leviny and Mr H. Roberts both started to complain to the Mines Department. According to the Castlemaine rates register for 1869, Horace Roberts lived on CA 10 Section 47 which is 38 Hunter St, the second house west of the Urquhart St/Hunter St corner. Both complained to the Mines Department as shown in the correspondence page of Mining Lease 1060, the lease upon which Yeats was operating (PROV VPRS 7842 Castlemaine Mining Lease 1060).

H. Roberts complaint was summarised by the Mining Warden:

*“lessees have erected a pyrites works on this ground to the great injury of the health of the inhabitants” 8/4/1873*

Ernest Leviny’s letter was summarised by the Mining Warden:

*“that lessee is not mining on the areas but has erected a pyrites calcining works and the fumes are injuring the health of the inhabitants” (ML 1060 received 18/4/1873, acknowledged 29/4/1873).*

Leviny wrote again on 25/4/1873 in a letter summarised as follows:

*“was not told in letter whether or not it was legal to erect pyrites works.”*

The response dated 22/5/1873 was summarised as,

*“Answer to Leviny ‘This Dept cannot interfere’”.*

W. Spicer wrote 10/6/1873 that:

*“A chimney is being built on the ground, Offer suggestions of a board is appointed.”*

### 9.4 IMPROVEMENTS TO THE PYRITES PLANT – 1874

The Mount Alexander Mail (16/12/1874) championed the latest improvements to Yeats’ pyrites plant which included building a new chimney high on the hill east of Leviny’s property (**Figure 40**). Other improvements included ‘condensers’ which sprayed water on the fumes. The improvements were designed to reduce the escape of fumes to the atmosphere. A long ground flue carried the fumes from the pyrites works near the east of Bull and Berkeley streets to the chimney located nearly 200 metres to the northeast. Fortuitously, the Australian Sketcher captured a view of the chimney in 1878 (**Figure 40**). The exact location of the chimney is uncertain but the approximate position is shown in **Figure 41**.

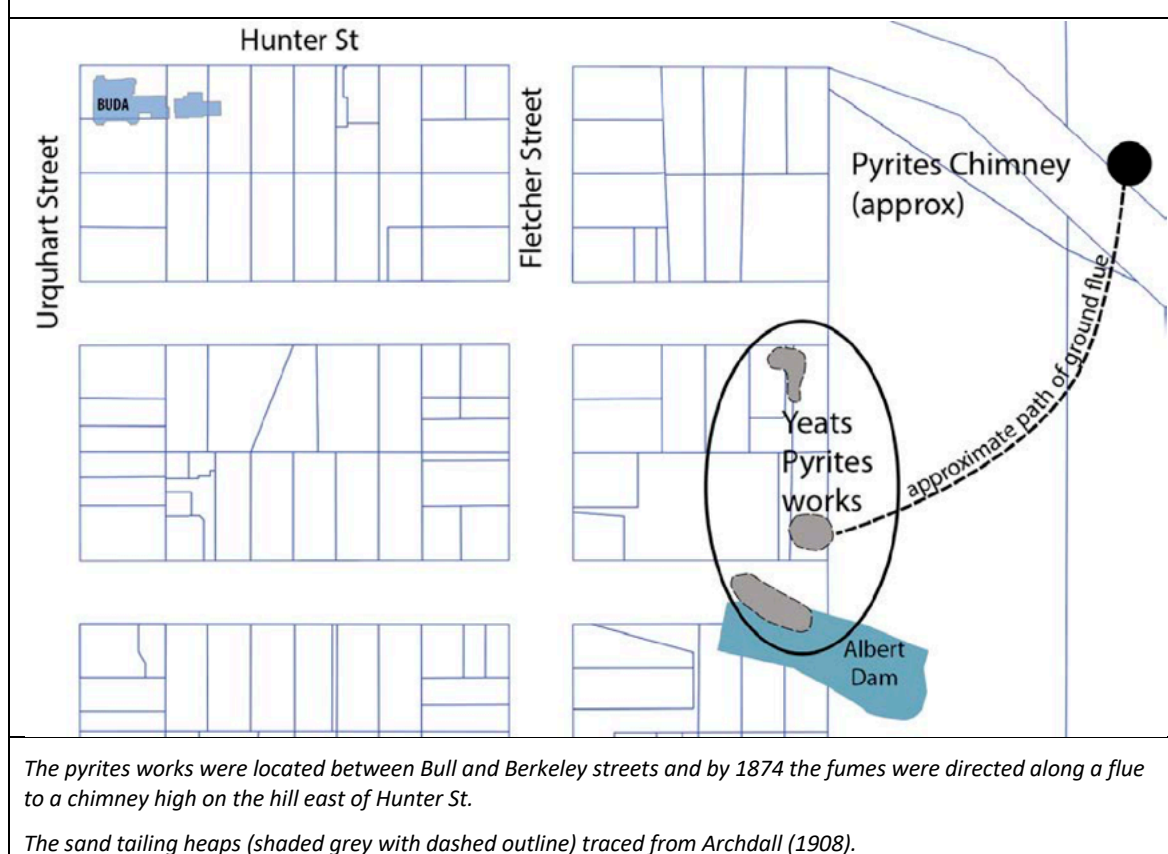
Figure 40: Pyrites works chimney 1878



Portion of sketch of Castlemaine showing the pyrites works chimney high on the hill east of Buda. The Australasian Sketcher 3 Aug. 1878 page 69



Figure 41: Location of Yeats' pyrites works



## 9.5 RESULTS OF GOVERNMENT INQUIRY – 1874

A Government inquiry into all aspects of the pyrites industry was held in 1873 and the results published in 1874 (Parliament of Victoria, 1874). Again, there were several witness statements regarding the deleterious effects of pyrite fumes. Ernest Leviny presented evidence about the effect on his garden and spoke personally about the effect on the children:

*“My children vomit before breakfast; my garden, my home are ruined; and why, gentlemen, let me ask you should I be forced to go to such expense to protect myself?”* (Parliament of Victoria, 1874, p. 54)

Some of the Castlemaine evidence is reproduced in **Appendix 6**.

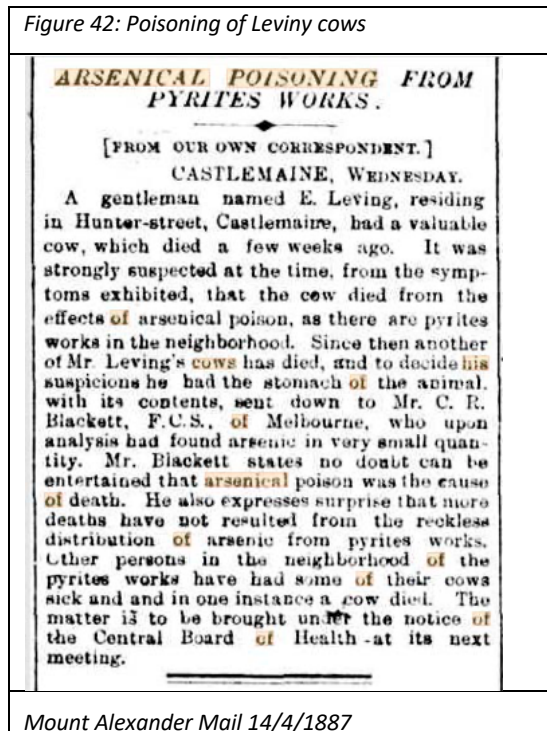
The board was unconvinced and concluded that:

*“That the evil effects of the noxious fumes on health and vegetation are not at all great, and can be easily and wholly avoided by the use of water condensers in conjunction with suitable flues and high chimney stacks; and that the water used in condensing disposed of in the most effectual manner that the local features in each case admit.”*

## 9.6 THE COMPLAINTS CONTINUE – 1887

Despite the improvements to the pyrites treatment plant in 1873-74, problems continued to 1887. In that year Leviny complained to council that he cows and calves due to arsenic poisoning from the pyrites works (MAM 14/4/1887; 15/4/1887; 29/4/1887) (Figure 42).

Figure 42: Poisoning of Leviny cows



Mount Alexander Mail 14/4/1887

A report to the Borough Council seemed to bring an end to the complaint, but perhaps not to Leviny's satisfaction.

*The local Board of Health reported in reference to the matter brought under notice by Mr Leviny, respecting the loss of three valuable cows, and the fact that Mr Blackett, Government Analyst, had found arsenic in a very small quantity in the contents of the stomach of one animal. The recommendation of the Board is that the Secretary write to Mr Leviny, informing him that his letter being so vague, and the Analyst report that the cows died from arsenical poisoning, showing no evidence where the arsenic was obtained, the Board is unable to deal with the matter. Adopted. (MAM 29/4/1887).*

Ernest Leviny did not take this lying down and wrote again to council:

*"stating he is dissatisfied with the reply he received from the Council (anent?) his communication regarding arsenical poisoning of his cows. He has every reason to believe the poison came from the water flowing from the pyrites works, which are partially situated on land which was gazetted as reserved for a park. Mr Leviny requested the Council to cause the Health Officer or any other competent person to inspect the place and report on the works, so that proper precaution may be taken to prevent more serious injury or death."* (MAM 13/5/1887)

Council resolved as follows:

*"Regarding the letter of Mr Leviny respecting arsenical poisoning, Cr Gaulton moved that the letter be referred to the Health Officer to report upon it. Crs Williams and Roberts seconded the motion. Cr Yeats thought if a cow or horse died the veterinary surgeon was the proper person to report. The motion was carried."* (MAM 13/5/1887)

The pyrites plant finally closed down in 1889 and the plant was sold off in 1890 after George Yeats was declared bankrupt. George Yeats had a lot supporters in Castlemaine having served as a Councillor and a term as Mayor. This would have acted against the best interests of Ernest Leviny and the other aggrieved residents. The conflict of interest between Yeats' position on council and his business interests seems rather breath-taking by today's standards.

## 10. ERNEST LEVINY'S MINING INTERESTS

Ernest Leviny was involved in many aspects of Castlemaine's business and community life and also maintained an interest in the local mining industry during his life in Castlemaine. He was director of several mining companies and contributed to the industry by promoting local interests.

Figure 43: Ajax Mine dam



Looking south towards Mt Franklin from the United Ajax Mine, Campbells Creek.  
Photo by Kate Leviny, Buda Collection.

Apart from mining, Leviny was involved in the Castlemaine Hospital from the 1850s serving on the committee and frequently making donations. He was actively involved in the Castlemaine Gas Company from c1861 until at least 1890, variously serving as an auditor and a board member (MAM 2/9/1861 p2c2; 21/8/1890 p2c5; 29/8/1863 p2c4; 25/8/1881 p2c3). He also served on 'special juries' (MAM 3/2/1894 p2c5) and was involved in the Castlemaine District Horticultural Society (MAM 11/11/1861 p2c6; 30/4/1897 p2c2). Ernest was also on the committee of the Castlemaine School of Mines (MAM 14/3/1888).

Ernest was involved with at least 6 local mining companies, often serving as a director:

1. Deep Lead Company (MAM 17/7/1866).
2. Dieckman's Reef Mining Company - director (MAM 26/10/1871).
3. Fryers Quartz Mining Company - director (MAM 1/1/1877)
4. Prince of Wales Company - director (MAM 1/4/1879; 2/5/1881)
5. Great Wonder Gold Mining Company, Malmsbury (MAM 1/3/1882)
6. United Ajax Company - long term director (MAM 30/6/1888; 18/12/1894) (**Figure 43**).

In 1886 the Minister and Secretary of mines visited Castlemaine and Ernest was amongst a party of local councillors, businessmen and notables who met the dignitaries at the Castlemaine Railway Station (MAM 10/4/1886). The Castlemaine delegation were seeking £10,000 in Government estimates to be allocated for gold prospecting in the Castlemaine district.

Ernest also joined the short-lived Castlemaine Deep Sinking Association, also known as the Castlemaine District Mining Association. The company was:

*"formed for the purpose of testing quartz reefs in the Castlemaine district at greater depths than hitherto attained"* (MAM 8/7/1886; 16/7/1886).

The company apparently failed to attract enough shareholders to proceed with their plans.

The most significant mine that Leviny was involved in was the United Ajax Mining Company where he was a director. This successful mine was located near Wilkie St, Campbells Creek.

According to McAdie (2006) mining shareholders index, Ernest Leviny invested modest amounts in at least eleven other companies (**Table 4**).

<b>Table 4: Ernest Leviny's mining share investments.</b>						
From 'Mining Shareholders Index' extracted from the Victoria Government Gazette by (McAdie, 2006)						
<b>Name</b>	<b>No. of Shares</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>Company Name Mine Location</b>	<b>GG Reference No</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Day/Month</b>
Levin, E.	10	£1/5	<b>Castlemaine Gold Mining &amp; Washing Co.</b> Castlemaine at Chinker's Hill	G/G Pg.1115/6	1858	2nd June
Levin, Ernest	5	£5	<b>Croesus Mining and Crushing Co.</b> Fryer's Creek at Irish Reef (Castlemaine Dist.)	G/G1506 Pg.1769	1864	6th Aug
Levin, Ernest	6	£10	<b>South Muckleford Gold Mining Co. South</b> Muckleford (Castlemaine)	G/G651 Pg.436	1865	31st Jan
Levin, Ernest	4	£10	<b>Charlotte Plains Gold Mining Co.</b> Charlotte Plains near Eddington	G/G2896 Pg.2182	1865	20th Sept
Levin, Ernest	20	£1	<b>Panic Gold Mining Co.</b> Fryer's Creek at Spring Gully	G/G46 Pg.64	1866	4th Jan
Levin, Earnest	500	10/-	<b>South Kent Quartz Gold Mining Co.</b> Launceston Gully, Barker's Creek	G/G3159 Pg.1952	1871	28th Oct
Levin, Ernest	200	10/-	<b>North Cumberland Gold Mining Co.</b> Campbell's Creek near Castlemaine	G/G3440 Pg.2130	1871	Nov.
Levin, Ernest	1000	10/-	<b>Dieckman's Reef Gold Mining Co.</b> Dieckman's Reef, Campbell's Creek, Castlemaine	G/G3161 Pg.1953	1871	1st Nov.
Levin, Ernest	50	10/-	<b>Daphne Quartz Mining Co.</b> Fryer's Creek at Spring Gully	G/G1241 Pg.889	1871	26th May
Levin, Ernest	200	10/-	<b>North Cumberland Gold Mining Co.</b> Cumberland and Aurifera Reefs, Campbell's Creek	G/G115 Pg.78	1872	2nd Jan
Levin, Ernest	1000	5/-	<b>Prince of Wales Mining Co. Ltd.</b> Maldon at Excelsior Reef, Mia Mia	G/G995 Pg.803	1879	1st Apr

## 11. REFERENCES:

- Aplin, C.D.H. and Ulrich, G., undated (c1861). Quarter sheet 14SE geological map - Castlemaine. Geological Survey of Victoria.
- Archdall, W. 1908. Plan of tailings licence application 448, dated 31/10/1908, in, 'Register of surveys under the lease and licence regulations. Public Records Office of Victoria. Copies available in the Castlemaine Historical Society Inc. collection.
- Birch, W.D. and Darragh, T.A., 2015. George Henry Frederick Ulrich (1830-1900): Pioneer mineralogist and geologist in Victoria. *Proceedings of the Royal Society of Victoria* 127, pp. 17-38.
- Birrell, R.W., 1998. *Staking a Claim, Gold and the Development of Victorian Mining Law*. Melbourne University Press.
- DLEWP website 2022. <https://www.land.vic.gov.au/government-land/first-time-here/what-is-government-land>
- Hunter, S.B., 1909. *Deep Leads of Victoria*. Geological Survey of Victoria Memoir 7.
- Jean, A. and Fahey, C., 2020: The evolution of housing on the Bendigo goldfields: A case for serial listings, The City of Greater Bendigo. <https://www.bendigo.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2020-10/23.7.20%20The%20Evolution%20Of%20Housing%20On%20The%20Bendigo%20Goldfields-%20%20A%20Case%20For%20Serial%20Listings%2023.7.2020.pdf>
- Landata website 2022. Historical survey plans, known as 'Put-away plans', can be downloaded from this website by navigating to 'Central Plan Office' <https://www.landata.vic.gov.au>
- Lewis, Nigel & Associates., 1988. *Buda Conservation analysis and Policies*. Unpublished report. Nigel Lewis and Associates.
- McAdie, M., 2006. *Mining shareholders index: an index of shareholders in mining companies 1857 to 1886* CD ROM
- Parliament of Victoria, 1874. *Pyrites*. Report of the board appointed by His Excellency the Governor in Council to report on the methods of treating pyrites and pyritous vein-stuffs as practised on the goldfields. Melbourne.
- Thompson, M., undated. *Notes on the Yeats pyrite treatment plant*. Unpublished notes and newspaper extracts. Buda research library.
- Whitelaw, H.S. and Baragwanath, W. 1923. *The Daylesford Goldfield*. Geological Survey of Victoria Bulletin 42.
- Willman, C.E., 1995. *Castlemaine Goldfield - Castlemaine-Chewton, Fryers Creek 1:10 000 maps geological report* Geological Survey of Victoria Report 106
- Zilles, L., 2010. *Buda and the Levin family*. Buda Historic Home & Garden Incorporated (revised edition)

### Other Sources

- Castlemaine Borough Rates - see Public Records Office below. Also held by the Castlemaine Historical Society Inc. in 35mm microfilm format.
- Castlemaine Mining lease registers - see Public Records Office below. Indexed by the Castlemaine Historical Society Inc. Most 19<sup>th</sup> Century leases available at the Society's rooms in pdf format.



- Newspapers**      The Mount Alexander Mail (MAM), Bendigo Advertiser and other newspapers are accessible on the TROVE website at <https://trove.nla.gov.au/>
- Public Records Office** - References to Public Records Office archival materials are listed through the text The main records used were Castlemaine Mining lease registers (PROV VPRS 7842) and Castlemaine District Residence Area registers (PROV VPRS 1751/P0003)
- Vict. Gov. Gaz.**      Victorian Government Gazettes - available online through the State Library of Victoria website. *Note that date, issue number and page number referenced in the text.*

## APPENDIX 1

B 53/579 (13) 10 February 1853  
 Mr. Ernest Leviny applying for a considerable  
 space of ground at the Gold Fields where  
 to erect very expensive Machinery  
 for washing  
 Melbourne  
 February 9<sup>th</sup> 1853

To the Honorable The Colonial  
 Secretary, -  
 Sir,

I have the honor to inform you  
 that I have arrived in this Colony  
 by the Melbourne Steamer bringing  
 with me a quantity of Machinery  
 of a very costly character for the  
 purpose of washing Gold in a  
 scientific manner and have also  
 brought with me workmen to  
 assist in the operation. Being a  
 Foreigner I am quite ignorant  
 of the conditions under which I  
 and my party may be allowed  
 to work and I shall esteem it  
 a great favor conferred upon me  
 if you will assist me in giving  
 effect to my invention by  
 facilitating my endeavours to  
 bring it to bear upon the Gold  
 Fields. -  
 I cannot make my invention  
 available unless I can have a  
 permanent location to which I  
 can carry away earth from  
 other places as the machinery is so  
 extensive and peculiar that it will

state that it is almost  
 impossible to give him  
 more fully what he  
 wants & erect the  
 Machinery with the  
 intention of bringing other  
 earth to a place other  
 places under small lease  
 regulations or in which  
 other asked he would  
 let me have the  
 in some of the  
 other is in the

Aust 11<sup>th</sup> Feb 1853  
 Received Leviny's Letter  
 14 Feb 1853

VPRS 1189/P/0 Unit 84 File 53/2918 & 1519

Ernest Leviny's letter to the Colonial Secretary dated 9<sup>th</sup> Feb 1853 (page 1 of 2)

## APPENDIX 1

VPRS 1189/P/0 Unit 84 File 53/2918 & 1519

not admit of being transported from place to place. If therefore I cannot be permitted to take in any other than the usual license applying only to a small patch of earth the enterprise I have engaged in must fail and the Colony lose the benefit of the introduction of a new method of washing gold which would add greatly to the value of its mineral wealth. The loss to me personally will be ruinous as I have spent thousands in constructing the machinery which I have brought with me to the Colony.

I have the Honor to be

See,

Your very obedient servant

Ernest Levine

Mr. David Moore Merchant  
 Little Shivers Street  
 11  
 12  
 13  
 14  
 15  
 16  
 17  
 18  
 19  
 20  
 21  
 22  
 23  
 24  
 25  
 26  
 27  
 28  
 29  
 30  
 31  
 32  
 33  
 34  
 35  
 36  
 37  
 38  
 39  
 40  
 41  
 42  
 43  
 44  
 45  
 46  
 47  
 48  
 49  
 50  
 51  
 52  
 53  
 54  
 55  
 56  
 57  
 58  
 59  
 60  
 61  
 62  
 63  
 64  
 65  
 66  
 67  
 68  
 69  
 70  
 71  
 72  
 73  
 74  
 75  
 76  
 77  
 78  
 79  
 80  
 81  
 82  
 83  
 84  
 85  
 86  
 87  
 88  
 89  
 90  
 91  
 92  
 93  
 94  
 95  
 96  
 97  
 98  
 99  
 100

Chapman  
C.S. 10

*Ernest Leviny's letter to the Colonial Secretary dated 9<sup>th</sup> Feb 1853 (page 2 of 2)*

## APPENDIX 1

### Transcript of Ernest Levin's Letter and Colonial Secretary's remarks (Public Records Office of Victoria VPRS 1189 Unit 84 - B53/1519)

Transcribed by A. Hockley with corrections by C. Willman

*To the Honorable The Colonial Secretary*

*Sir,*

*February 9th 1853*

*I have the honor to inform you that I have arrived in this Colony by The Melbourne Steamer bringing with me a quantity of Machinery of a very costly character for the purpose of washing Gold in a scientific manner and have also brought with me workmen to assist in the operation - Being a Foreigner I am quite ignorant of the conditions under which I and my party may be allowed to work and I shall esteem it a great favor conferred upon me if you will assist me in giving effect to my invention by facilitating my endeavours to bring it to bear upon the Gold Fields.*

*I cannot make my invention available unless I can have a permanent location to which I can carry auriferous earth from other places as the machinery is so extensive and peculiar that it will not admit of being transported from place to place. If therefore I cannot be permitted to take any other than the usual license applying only to a small patch of earth the, enterprise I have engaged in must fail and the Colony lose the benefit of the introduction of a new method of washing gold which would add greatly to the value of its mineral wealth - The loss to me personally will be ruinous as I have spent Thousands in constructing the Machinery which I have brought with me to the Colony.*

*I have the Honor to be Sir*

*Your very obedient Servant*

*Ernest Levin*

Notes on the side - page 1 of letter:

*Ansd 11th Feby 1853*

*Board for Leasing Lands 14 February 1853*

*?State? that it is almost impossible to give him a ?app? unless he states more fully what his operations are intended to be & whether he merely wants a piece of land on which to erect the machinery with the intension of bringing auriferous earth to it from other places under usual licence regulations or in which other respect he wishes to ????*

*Let me have this as soon as the letter is written*

Notes on lower side - page 2 of letter:

*Let this be referred to the Board now sitting & be reported on??*

*12 Feby 1853 CJL*

*Agent Mr David? Moore Merchant Little Flinders Street*

*BC To the Board for Leasing Lands for report in accordance with His Excellency Minute*

*14/2/53 C Vaughan C.S.O.*

*VPRS 1189 Unit 84*

# Appendix 2

Crown Allotment 5			
Date	CA	Sale information, or Occupier/owner in rates	Descript/value in rates
1860	5	Crown Land sale notice 26 June 1860 valued as land only - withdrawn from sale	
1869	5	Crown Land sale notice 5 March 1869 valued as land only - withdrawn from sale	
<i>1882-89 E. Leviny has Residence Area Licence on CA 5</i>			
1890	5	Crown Land sale notice 25/4/1890 in GG - valued at £25 greater the land value of £10	
1890	5	purchased by E. Leviny 18 May 1890	
1896-1921	5	E. then B. Leviny	land
<i>Note that the rate registers often included CA 5 with CA 1 to 4 and 20</i>			
<i>CA 5 not listed in rate registers until 1896</i>			

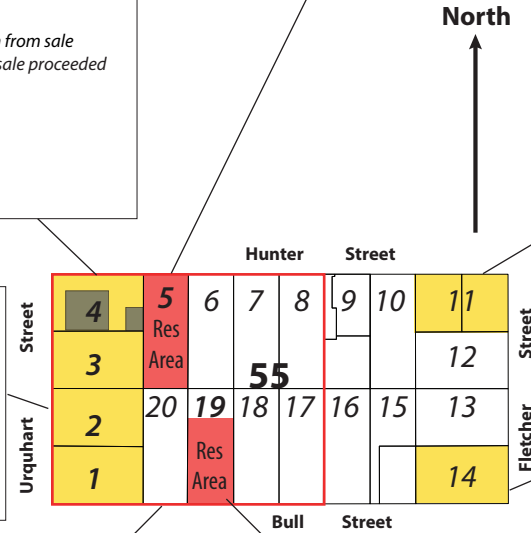
Crown Allotment 11			
Date	CA	Sale information, or Occupier/owner in rates	Descript/value in rates
1860	11	notice of Crown Land sale valued as land only	
1861	11	S. Foley purchase from Crown 25 Nov 1861	
1863, 64	11	Thomas McEwan	cottage £15 then £8
1865	11	no occupant/Foley	cottage £8
1866-85	11	S. Foley	land £2
<i>1886: Foley crossed out and replaced by Andrew O'Keefe</i>			
1886-95	11	Andrew O'Keefe,	land £2
1895-96	11	Henry McBean	land £2
1911-21	11	William Wilson	land £2

Crown Allotment 4			
Date	CA	Sale information, or Occupier/owner in rates	Descript/value in rates
1860	4	Crown Land sale notice 26 June 1860 valued as land only - withdrawn from sale	
1861	4	Crown Land sale notice 25 Oct 1861 'improvements' valued at £100 - sale proceeded purchased by Rev. J. Smith 25 Nov 1861	
1862	4	Rev. J. Smith	"house & house unfin."
1863	4	Rev. J. Smith	"2 house & land"
1863	4	purchased by E. Leviny, July 1863	
1863 - 1921	4	E. then B. Leviny	house £40 to £100
<i>Note that many rate entries mistakenly record house location as CA 1-3, should be 4</i>			

Crown Allotment 1 - 3			
Date	CA	Sale information, or Occupier/owner in rates	Descript/value in rates
1860	1-3	Crown Land sale 26 June 1860 valued as land only - withdrawn from sale	
1861	1-3	Crown Land notice 25 Oct 1 - valued as land only - sale proceeded purchased by Rev. J. Smith 25 Nov 1861	
1862-63	1-3	Rev. J. Smith	
1863	1-3	purchased by E. Leviny, July 1863	
1863 - 1921	1-3	E. then B. Leviny	land
<i>Note that many rate entries mistakenly record house location as CA 1-3, should be 4</i>			

Crown Allotment 20			
Date	CA	Sale information, or Occupier/owner in rates	Descript/value in rates
1860	20	Crown Land sale 26 June 1860 valued as land only - withdrawn from sale	
1862-63	NS	Robert Bentley	cottage £15
1863-75	20	William Wilkin	cottage £8 to £18
<i>note that Wilkin's location identified as CA20 only in 1873</i>			
1890	20	Crown Land sale notice 25 April 1890, valued only as land	
1890	20	Leviny purchased land from Crown, 28 May 1890	
1896 - 1921	20	E. then B. Leviny	land

Crown Allotment 19			
Date	CA	Sale information, or Occupier/owner in rates	Descript/value in rates
1860	19	Crown Land sale - improvements valued at £20 - withdrawn from sale	
1861-69	NS	Edward? O'Brien	cottage £10 to £12
1870	NS	no occupant/owner	cottage £10
1869	19	Crown Land sale - valuation of £40 - withdrawn from sale	
1871	NS	Smith	cottage £10
1872	NS	no occupant/owner	cottage £8
1873-74	19	Haynes	cottage £8
1875-85	NS	Charles Blake/Leviny	cottage £8
<i>1882: CA19 is shown as Res Area on 18 August mine plan</i>			
<i>1885 George Reed takes Res Area licence June 1885, Urquhart St</i>			
1886	NS	Mrs Cameron/George Reed	cottage £8
<i>1887 George Reed's Res Area licence Nov 1885, now described as Bull St</i>			
1887-89	NS	Mrs Cameron/G. Wood	cottage £8
1890-92	NS	Mrs Cameron/G. Reid	cottage £8
<i>1893 Cameron crossed out in rates &amp; replaced by McLeod</i>			
1893-95	NS	Alfred McLeod/Leviny	cottage £8
<i>1890 fence lines shown in surveyor's plan, 23 March 1896</i>			
1890	19	Leviny purchased land from Crown 28 May	
1897-1902	18	Leviny	cottage £8
<i>1897-1902: note, location listed as CA 18 in rates but possible entry error</i>			
<i>1900-1921: CA 18 &amp; 19 lumped together in rates register as land</i>			
<i>1901: 14 November 1901 - tornado causes local destruction</i>			
<i>1903: cottage crossed out in rate register - possibly demolished?</i>			
1904-21	19	E. then B. Leviny	land £2.10.0 per allotment



## LEGEND

CA = Crown Allotment

NS = crown allotment not specified in rates registers

Sale information in *italics* sourced from Mount Alexander Mail or Vict. Government Gazette

GG = Victoria Government Gazette

Rates information in **bold text**

Notes in *blue italic text*

- Land alienated during 1861 Crown Land sale
- Areas noted as Residence Areas in Mining Lease 2209, August 1882
- Area of land that Leviny eventually owned by 1896
- Approximate footprint of Delhi Villa/Buda and kitchen wing up to 1890



# Appendix 3

Year	Rate No	Section	Allotment	Surname	Given Names	Occupation	Owner	Description	NAV
1861	1661	-	-	Blake	Charles			tent	6
1861	1662	-	-	Charles	Grover			cottage	10
1861	1663	-	-	Forbes	Wm			cottage	20
1861	1664	-	-	Hasler	Jno D			cottage	15
1861	1665	-	-	Walker	Marmaduke			cottage	8
1861	1666	-	-	Benham	Josh			tent	5
1861	1667	-	-	O'Brien	Edward			cottage	10
1861	1668	-	-	Collins	Thos			tent	6
1861	1669	-	-	McEwan	Thos			tent	6
1861	1670	-	-	Mason & Webb				piggery	6
1862	1743	55	14	Forbes				Cottage	30
1862	1744	55		Shaw	Mrs			Tent	5
1862	1745	55		O'Brian	Edward			Cottage	12
1862	1746	55		Bentley	Robert			Cottage	15
1862	1747	55	1/4	Smith	Rev. Jas			House & unfn house & Land	
1862	1748	55		Collins	Mrs			Tent	6
1862	1749	55		McEwan	Mrs			Tent	6
1862	1750	55 46A		Swift	W.N.			Tent	5
1862	1751	55 46A		Nason	J.R.			Piggery	10
1863	1754	55	14	Forbes	William			cottage	30
1863	1755	55		Shaw	Mrs			tent	5
1863	1756	55		O'Brien	Edward			cottage	12
1863	1757	55		Bentley/Wilken	Robert			cottage	15
1863	1758	55	1-4	Smith/Levin	Rev. J.			2 house & land	100
1863	1759	55	11	McEwan	Thomas			cottage	15
1863	1760	55 46A		Etchells	Clement			cottage	20
1863	1761	55 46A		Cresswell	Mrs?			Wooden tent	6
1863	1762	55 46A		Spicer/Rawlins	A.H.			Wooden tent	8
1863	1763	55 46A		Johnston	A			land	5
1863	1764	55 46A		Collins	Thos.			tent	6
1863	1765	55 46A		Swift	W.H.			tent	5
1863	1766	55 46A		Nason	J.R.			piggery	10

## Appendix 3

Year	Rate No	Section	Allotment	Surname	Given Names	Occupation	Owner	Description	NAV
1864	1631	55	1/4	Leviny				house	80
1864	1632	55		Wilkin				cottage	8
1864	1633	55		O'Brien				Cottage	12
1864	1634	55	11	McEwan		96-1921		Cottage	8
1864	1635	55	14	Forbes				Cottage	20
1865	1631	55	1/4	Leviny	E			House	80
1865	1632	55		Wilkin	William			cottage	8
1865	1633	55		O'Brien	C.			cottage	12
1865	1634	55	11					cottage	8
1865	1635	55	14	Forbes	William			cottage	20
1866	1611	55	1-4	Leviny				house	80
1866	1612	55		Wilkin				cottage	8
1866	1613	55		O'Brien				cottage	12
1866	1614	55	11	Foley				land	4
1866	1615	55	14	McKenzie				cottage	20
1867	1570	55	1-4	Leviny				house	70
1867	1571	55		Wilken				cottage	8
1867	1572	55		O'Brien				cottage	10
1867	1573	55	11	Foley				land	4
1867	1574	55	14	McKenzie				cottage	20
1868	1570	55	1-4	Leviny				house	70
1868	1571	55		Wilken				cottage	8
1868	1572	55		O'Brien				cottage	10
1868	1573	55	11	Foley				land	4
1868	1574	55	14	Spicer				cottage	10
1869	1573	55	11				Foley	Land	4
1869	1574	55	14	Spicer	William	Builder	Spicer, W.	Cottage	10
1869	1570	55	1/4	Leviny	Ernest	Gentleman	Leviny, E.	Cottage	70
1869	1571	55	x	Wilkin	William	Bootmaker	Wilkin, W.	Cottage	10
1869	1572	55	O'Brien	x	x	x		Cottage	10
1869	1572	55	x	x	x	x	x	Cottage	10
1870	1570	55	1-4	Leviny				house	70

## Appendix 3

Year	Rate No	Section	Allotment	Surname	Given Names	Occupation	Owner	Description	NAV
1870	1571	55		Wilken				cottage	10
1870	1572	55		x				cottage	10
1870	1573	55		x				land	4
1870	1574	55	14	Spicer				cottage	10
1871	1439	55	1-4	Levin				house	70
1871	1440	55		Wilken	W			cottage	10
1871	1441	55		Smith				cottage	10
1871	1442	55	11					land	2
1871	1443	55	14	Spicer	W			cottage	10
1872	1439	55	1/4	Levin				house	70
1872	1440	55						cottage	10
1872	1441	55		Levin				cottage	10
1872	1442	55	11	Foley				land	2
1872	1443	55	14	Spicer				cottage	15
1873	1439	55	1/4, 5	Levin				house	70
1873	1440	55	20	Wilkin				cottage	12
1873	1441	55	19	Haynes				cottage	10
1873	1442	55	11					land	2
1873	1443	55	14	Spicer				cottage	20
1874	1444	55	1/4	Levin				house	70
1874	1445	55		Wilkin				cottage	18
1874	1446	55		Haynes				cottage	10
1874	1447	55	11	Foley				land	2
1874	1448	55	14	Spicer				cottage	20
1875	1475	55		Levin				house	70
1875	1476	55		Wilkin				cottage	18
1875	1477	55		Blake				cottage	10
1875	1478	55	11	Foley				land	2
1875	1479	55	14	Spicer				cottage	20
undated	1338	55	1/3	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	Levin, E.	House	40
undated	1339	55	4	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	Levin, E.	land	10
undated	1340	152							
undated	1341	55		Blake	Charles	labourer	Levin, E.		8

## Appendix 3

Year	Rate No	Section	Allotment	Surname	Given Names	Occupation	Owner	Description	NAV
undated	1342	55		Foley				land	2
undated	1343	55	14	Dodd	Ebenezer D.	clerk	M. Spicer	cottage	18
1876	1422	55	1/4	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	Levin, E.	House	60
1876	1423	55		Blake	Charles	Labourer	E Levin	Cottage	8
1876	1424	55	11	x	x	x	Foley	Land	2
1876	1425	55	14	??	Charles	Water rate collector	C. Spicer	Cottage	20
1877	1400	55	1-4	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	Levin, E.	House	60
1877	1401	55		Blake	Charles	Labourer	E. Levin	Cottage	8
1877	1402	55	11				Foley	Land	2
1877	1403	55	14	Hayne?	Charles	SWB rate collector	Spicer	cottage	20
1878	1400	55	1-4	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	Levin, E.	House	60
1878	1401	55		Blake	Charles	Labourer	E. Levin	Cottage	8
1878	1402	55	11				Foley	Land	2
1878	1403	55	14	Hayne?	Charles	SWB rate collector	Spicer	cottage	20
1879	1325	55		Blake	Charles	Labourer	E Levin	Cottage	8
1879	1326	55	11	Foley				Land	2
1879	1327 (now)	55	14	Dodd	Ebenezer		W Spicer	Cottage	20
1879	1327 (was)	55	14	Wayne	Charles	V W S Rate Collect	W Spicer	Cottage	20
1879	1323	55	1-4	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	House	40
1879	1323A	55	4 part	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	Land	10
1880	1322	55	1/3	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	House	40
1880	1323	55	4	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	Land	10
1880	1324	152							
1880	1325	55		Blake	Charles	Labourer	E Levin	Cottage	8
1880	1326	55		Foley				Land	2
1880	1327	55	14	Dodd	Ebenezer		W Spicer	Cottage	20
1881	1315	55	1/3	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	House	40
1881	1316	55	4	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	Land	10
1881	1317	55		Blake	Charles	Labourer	E Levin	Cottage	8
1881	1318	55		Foley				Land	2
1881	1319	55		Dodd	Ebenezer		H Spicer	Cottage	20

## Appendix 3

Year	Rate No	Section	Allotment	Surname	Given Names	Occupation	Owner	Description	NAV
1882	1293	55	1/3	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	House	40
1882	1294	55	4	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	Land	10
1882	1295	55		Blake	Charles	Labourer	E Levin	Cottage	8
1882	1296	55	11	Foley				Land	2
1882	1297	55	14	Spicer	Alfred	bootmaker	Spicer	cottage	18
1883	1286	55	1-3	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	House	40
1883	1287	55	4	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	Land	10
1883	1288	55		Blake	Charles	labourer	E Levin	cottage	8
1883	1289	55	11				S. Foley	land	2
1883	1290	55	14	Spicer	Alfred	bootmaker	H. Spicer		
1884	1263	55	1-3	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	House	40
1884	1264	55	4	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	Land	10
1884	1265	55		Blake	Charles	labourer	E Levin	cottage	8
1884	1266	55	11				S. Foley	land	2
1884	1267	55	14	Spicer	Alfred	bootmaker	W. Spicer	cottage	18
1885	1263	55	1-3	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	House	40
1885	1264	55	4	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	Land	10
1885	1265	55		Blake	Charles	labourer	E Levin	cottage	8
1885	1266	55	11				S. Foley	land	2
1885	1267	55	14	Spicer	Alfred	bootmaker	A. Spicer	cottage	18
1886	1263	55	1-3	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	House	40
1886	1264	55	4	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	Land	10
1886	1265	55		<del>Blake</del> Cameron	<del>Charles</del> Mrs	labourer	<del>Mrs Cameron</del> Andrew O'Keefe George Reid George Reed	cottage	8
1886	1266	55	11				S. Foley	land	2
1886	1267	55	14	Spicer	Alfred	bootmaker	A. Spicer	cottage	18
1887	1238	55	1-3	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	House	40
1887	1239	55	4	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	Land	10
1887	1240	55		Cameron	Mrs		George Wood	cottage	8
1887	1241	55	11				Andrew O'Keefe	land	2
1887	1242	55	14	Spicer	Alfred	bootmaker	A. Spicer	cottage	18



## Appendix 3

Year	Rate No	Section	Allotment	Surname	Given Names	Occupation	Owner	Description	NAV
1888	1237	55	1-3	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	House	40
1888	1238	55	4	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	Land	10
1888	1239	55		Cameron	Mrs		George Wood	cottage	8
1888	1240	55	11				Andrew O'Keefe	land	2
1888	1241	55	14	Spicer	Alfred	bootmaker	A. Spicer	cottage	20
1889	1231	55	1-3	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	House	40
1889	1232	55	4	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	Land	10
1889	1233	55		Cameron	Mrs		George Wood	cottage	8
1889	1234	55	11				Andrew O'Keefe	land	2
1889	1235	55	14	Spicer	Alfred	bootmaker	A. Spicer	cottage	20
1890	1231	55		Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	House	40
1890	1233	55		Cameron	Mrs		George Reid	Land	8
1890	1234	55	11	A O'Keefe				Land	2
1890	1235	55	14	Spicer	Alfred	Bootmaker	A Spicer	Cottage	20
1890	1232	55	4	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	Land	10
1891	1211	54	2	Town Reef			H.W. Green	Land	2
1891	1226	55	x	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	House	40
1891	1227	55	4	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	Land	10
1891	1228	55		Cameron	Mrs		George Reid	Land	8
1891	1229	55	11	A. O'Keefe				Land	2
1891	1230	55	14	Spicer	Alfred	Bootmaker	A Spicer	Cottage	20
1892	1247	151	2, 5, 20	Yeats	George	Pyrite works	National Bank of A'sia	land	11
1892	1244	55	1,2, 3	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	house	40
1892	1245	55	4				E Levin	land	10
1892	1246	55		Cameron	Mrs		G. Reid	cottage	8
1892	1247	55	11				O'Keefe	land	2
1892	1248	55	14	Spicer	Alfred	bootmaker	A Spicer, bootmaker	cottage	20
1893	1232	151	6, 7	Putney	Malcolm	Bank clerk	National Bank	Pyrite works	20
1893	1240	55	1,2, 3	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	house	40
1893	1241	55	4				E Levin	land	10
1893	1242	55		Cameron McLeod	Mrs Alfred		E Levin	cottage	8
1893	1243	55	11				O'Keefe	land	2
1893	1244	55	14	Spicer	Alfred	bootmaker	A Spicer	cottage	20

## Appendix 3

Year	Rate No	Section	Allotment	Surname	Given Names	Occupation	Owner	Description	NAV
1894	1227	151	6, 7				National Bank of Australasia	sheds	20
1894	1235	55	1,2, 3	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	house	40
1894	1236	55	4				E Levin	land	10
1894	1237	55		McLeod	Alfred	carter	E Levin	cottage	8
1894	1238	55	11				O'Keefe	land	2
1894	1239	55	14	Spicer	Alfred	bootmaker	A Spicer	cottage	20
1895	1237	55	1,2, 3	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	house	40
1895	1238	55	4				E Levin	land	10
1895	1239	55	x	<del>McLeod</del>	<del>Alfred</del>	carter	E Levin	cottage	8
1895	1240	55	11				<del>O'Keefe</del> Henry McBean	land	2
1895	1241	55	14 (entry next page not scanned)	Spicer	Alfred	bootmaker	A Spicer	cottage	20
1896	1247	55	1,2, 3, 4, 5, 20	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	house	50
1896	1248	55	4				E Levin	land	10
1896	1249	55					E Levin	cottage	8
1896	1250	55	11				Henry McBean	land	2
1896	1251	55	14	Spicer	Alfred	bootmaker	A Spicer	cottage	20
1897	1252	55	1,2, 3, 4, 5, 20	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	house	50
1897	1253	55	6, 7, 8, 17, 19	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	land	10
1897	1254	55	18	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	cottage	8
1897	1255	55	9	McBean	Henry	builder	Hy. McBean	land	9
1897	1256	55	11 & 12	McBean	Henry	builder	Hy. McBean	cottage	10
1897	1257	55	13				Jane Spicer	land	2
1897	1258	55	14	Spicer	Alfred	bootmaker	A Spicer	cottage	20
1897	1259	55	15				G.J. Spicer	land	2
1898	1255	55	1 to 5 & 20	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	house	50
1898	1256	55	6 to 8, 17 & 19	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	land	10
1898	1257	55	18	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E Levin	cottage	8
1898	1258	55	9	McBean	Henry	builder	Hy. McBean	land	2
1898	1259	55	11 & 12	McBean	Henry	builder	Hy. McBean	cottage	10
1898	1260	55	13				Jane Spicer	land	2

## Appendix 3

Year	Rate No	Section	Allotment	Surname	Given Names	Occupation	Owner	Description	NAV
1898	1261?	55	14 (entry next page not scanned)	Spicer	Alfred	bootmaker	A Spicer	cottage	20
1899	858	55	1,2, 3, 4, 5, 20	Levin	E.	Gentleman	E Levin	house	60
1899	859	55	6,7,8,17,18,19	Levin	E.	Gentleman	E Levin	land	12
1899	860	55	9	Wilson	James	Railway employee	Hy. McBean	cottage	12
1899	861	55	12	Wilson	John	carpenter	Hy. McBean	cottage	10
1899	862	55	13, 14, 15	Spicer	Alfred	bootmaker	A Spicer	House & land	20
1899	1259	55	15 to 20	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E. Levin	house	50
1899	1260	55	6 to 8, 17 to 19	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E. Levin	land	15
1899	1261	55	18	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E. Levin	cottage	8
1899	1262	55	9	Wilson	James	Railway employee	Hy. McBean	cottage	10
1899	1263	55	10, 11, 16				Hy. McBean	cottage	10
1899	1264	55	12	Wilson	John	carpenter	Hy. McBean	cottage	10
1899	1265	55	13				A. Spicer	land	2
1899	1266	55	14	Spicer	Alfred	bootmaker	A Spicer	house	20
1899	1267	55	15				G.J. Spicer	land	2
1900	1259	55	15 to 20	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E. Levin	house	50
1900	1260	55	6,7, 8, 17,18,19	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E. Levin	land	15
1900	1261	55	18	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	E. Levin	cottage	8
1900	1262	55	9	Wilson	James	Railway employee	Hy. McBean	cottage	10
1900	1263	55	10, 11, 16				Hy. McBean	cottage	10
1900	1264	55	12	Wilson	John	carpenter	Hy. McBean	cottage	10
1900	1265	55	13				A. Spicer	land	2
1900	1266	55	14	Spicer	Alfred	bootmaker	A Spicer	house	20
1900	1267	55	15				G.J. Spicer	land	2
1901	928	55	1 to 5 & 20	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	Levin, E	House	60
1901	929	55	6 to 8,17 to 19	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	Levin, E	Cottage & Land	20
1901	932	55	12	Wilson	John	Carpenter	Hy. McBean	Cottage	10
1901	933	55	13	Spicer	Alfred	Bootmaker	Spicer, A	Land	2
1901	934	55	14	Spicer	Alfred	Bootmaker	Spicer, A	Cottage	23
1901	935	55	15	Spicer	G J		Spicer, G J	Land	2
1901	931	55	19,11, 7, 16	McBean	Henry	Contractor	McBean, H	Land	6
1901	930	55	9	Wilson	James	Railway Employee	McBean, H	Cottage & Land	12

## Appendix 3

Year	Rate No	Section	Allotment	Surname	Given Names	Occupation	Owner	Description	NAV
1902	941	55	1 to 5 & 20	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	Levin, E	House	60
1902	942	55	6 to 8,17 to 19	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	Levin, E	Cottage & Land	20
1902	943	55	9	Wilson	James	Railway Employee	McBean, H	Cottage & Land	12
1902	944	55	10, 11, 16	McBean	Henry	contractor	Hy. McBean	land	6
1902	945	55	12	Wilson	John	Carpenter	Hy. McBean	Cottage	10
1902	946	55	13	Spicer	Alfred	Bootmaker	Spicer, A	Land	2
1902	947	55	14	Spicer	Alfred	Bootmaker	Spicer, A	Cottage	23
1902	948		15	Spicer	G J		Spicer, G J	Land	2
1903	949	55	1 to 5 & 20	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	Levin, E	House	60
1903	950	55	6 to 8,17 to 19	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	Levin, E	Cottage & Land	20 1
1903	951	55	9				McBean, H	Cottage & Land	12
1903	952	55	10, 11, 16	McBean	Henry	contractor	Hy. McBean	land	6
1903	953	55	12	Wilson	John	Carpenter	Hy. McBean	Cottage	10
1903	954	55	13	Spicer	Alfred	Bootmaker	Spicer, A	Land	2
1903	955	55	14	Spicer	Alfred	Bootmaker	Spicer, A	Cottage	23
1903	956	55	15	Spicer	G J		Spicer, G J	Land	2
1904	945	55	1 to 5 & 20	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	Levin, E	House	60
1904	946	55	6 to 8,17 to 19	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	Levin, E	Land	15
1904	947	55	9				McBean, H	Cottage	12
1904	948	55	10, 11, 16	McBean	Henry	contractor	Hy. McBean	land	6
1904	949	55	12	Wilson	John	Carpenter	Hy. McBean	Cottage	10
1904	950	55	13	Spicer	Alfred	Bootmaker	Spicer, A	Land	2
1904	951	55	14	Spicer	Alfred	Bootmaker	Spicer, A	Cottage	23
1904	952	55	15	Spicer	G J		Spicer, G J	Land	2
1905	946	55	1 to 5 & 20	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	Levin, E	House	60
1905	947	55	6 to 8,17 to 19	Levin	Ernest	Gentleman	Levin, E	Land	15
1905	948	55	9 & 16	Williams/Goulds		Carpenter/miner	McBean, H	Cottage	12
1905	949	55	10, 11, 16	McBean	Henry	contractor	Hy. McBean	land	6
1905	950	55	10 & 12	Wilson	William John	Carpenter	Hy. McBean	Cottage	10
1905	951	55	13	Spicer	Alfred	Bootmaker	Spicer, A	Land	2
1905	952	55	14	Spicer	Alfred	Bootmaker	Spicer, A	Cottage	23
1905	953	55	15	Spicer	G J		Spicer, G J	Land	2

### Appendix 3

Year	Rate No	Section	Allotment	Surname	Given Names	Occupation	Owner	Description	NAV
1911	938	55	1 to 5 & 20	Levin	Bertha	Widow	Levin, Est. E	House	60
1911	939	55	6 to 8 & 17 to 19	Levin	Bertha	Widow	Levin, Est. E	Land	15
1911	942	55	10 & 12	Wilson	William J	Carpenter	Wilson, William J	Cottage	10
1911	941	55	11	Wilson	William J	Carpenter	Wilson, William J	Land	3
1911	943	55	13	Spicer	Alfred	Bootmaker	Spicer, Alfred	Land	2
1911	944	55	14	Spicer	Alfred	Bootmaker	Spicer, Alfred	Cottage	23
1911	945	55	15	Spicer	Florence May	Married Woman	Spicer, Florence May	Cottage	10
1911	940	55	9 & 16	Lovejoy	John	Carpenter	Lovejoy, Sarah	Cottage	12
1921	946	55	1 - 5 & 20	Levin	Bertha	Widow	Levin, Bertha	House	75
1921	947	55	6 - 8 , 17 -19	Levin	Bertha	Widow	Levin, Bertha	Land	15
1921	951	55	10 & 12	Wilson	William J	Carpenter	Wilson, William J	Cottage	15
1921	950	55	11	Wilson	William J	Carpenter	Wilson, William J	Land	4
1921	954	55	13	Faull	H	Smith, Edgar A	Cottage	20	
1921	953	55	14	Spicer	Alfred		Spicer, Alfred	Cottage	23
1921	952	55	15	Brammer,	Jas			Land	2
1921	949	55	16	Lovejoy		Carpenter	Lovejoy	Land	2
1921	948	55	9	Wood	Elizabeth Wv Married Woman	Wood, Elizabeth W	Cottage	18	



Application of L. Burch

SHIP  
TOWNSHIP OF CASTLEMAINE

Parish of Castlemaine County of Talbot

Area 1.0.0.

Scale 2 Chains to an Inch.

DESCRIPTION

Application No 36

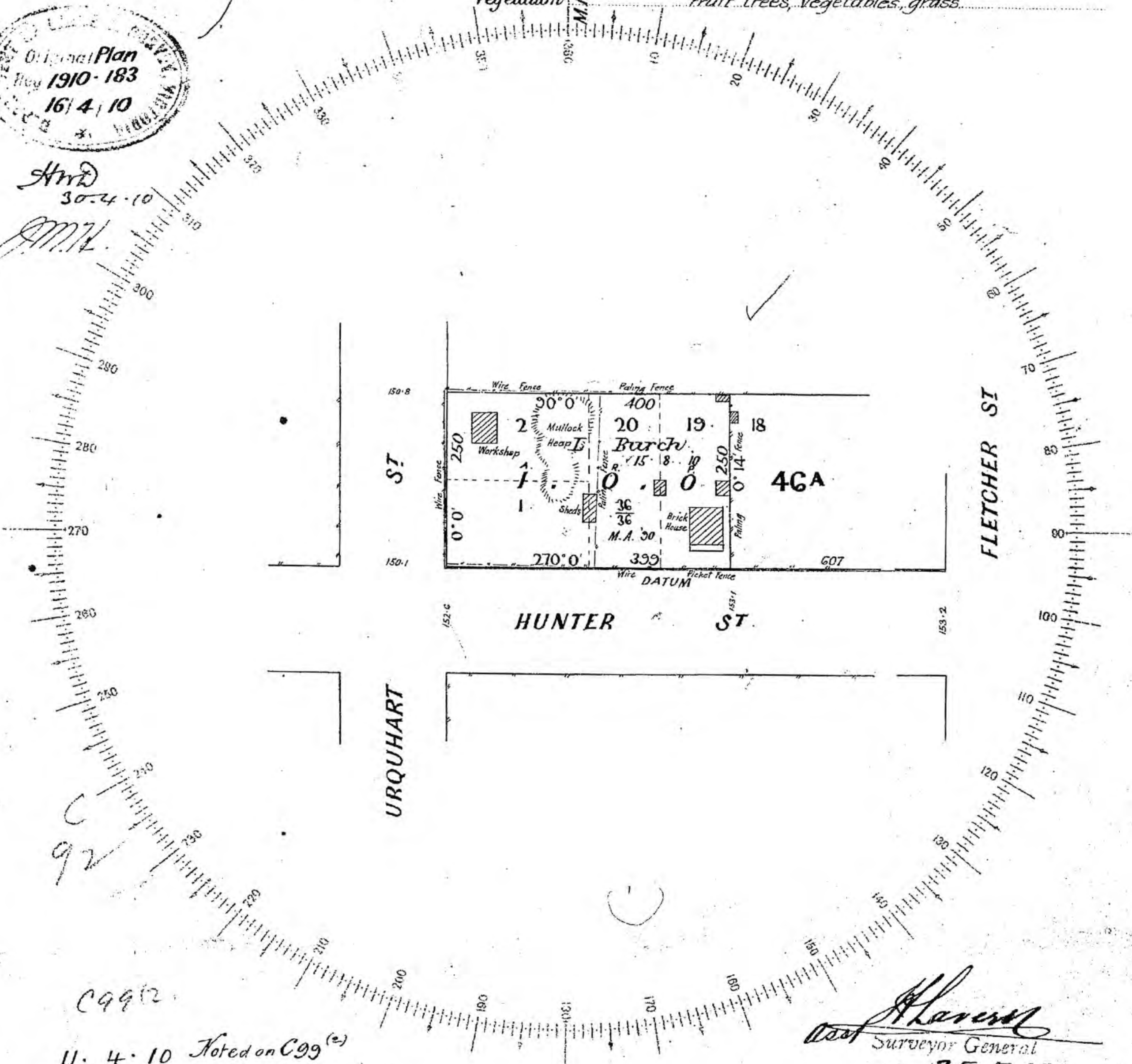
Certif. of Reg. No

Geological form Schistose  
Physical features Undulating  
Soil Clayey loam  
Vegetation Fruit trees, vegetables, grass.



Hand  
30.4.10

MT



C9912  
11. 4. 10 Noted on C99 (2)  
G.T. 13. 6. 10

Surveyor General  
25.5.10

I certify that this survey has been effected and marked on the ground in accordance with regulations and that this plan is correct

Examined.

Computed.

Charted. & traced J.H.G. 11.5.10

Surveyor  
9.4.10

I certify to the best of my belief that this survey has been effected with due regard to instructions and that the Plan is correct.

District Surveyor  
13.5.10



Appendix 4



# PLAN OF ALLOTMENT

Put Away Plan C85H\_3 13 Nov 1924

TOWNSHIP OF CASTLEMAINE

## PARISH OF CASTLEMAINE

J. Brammer

W46073

COUNTY

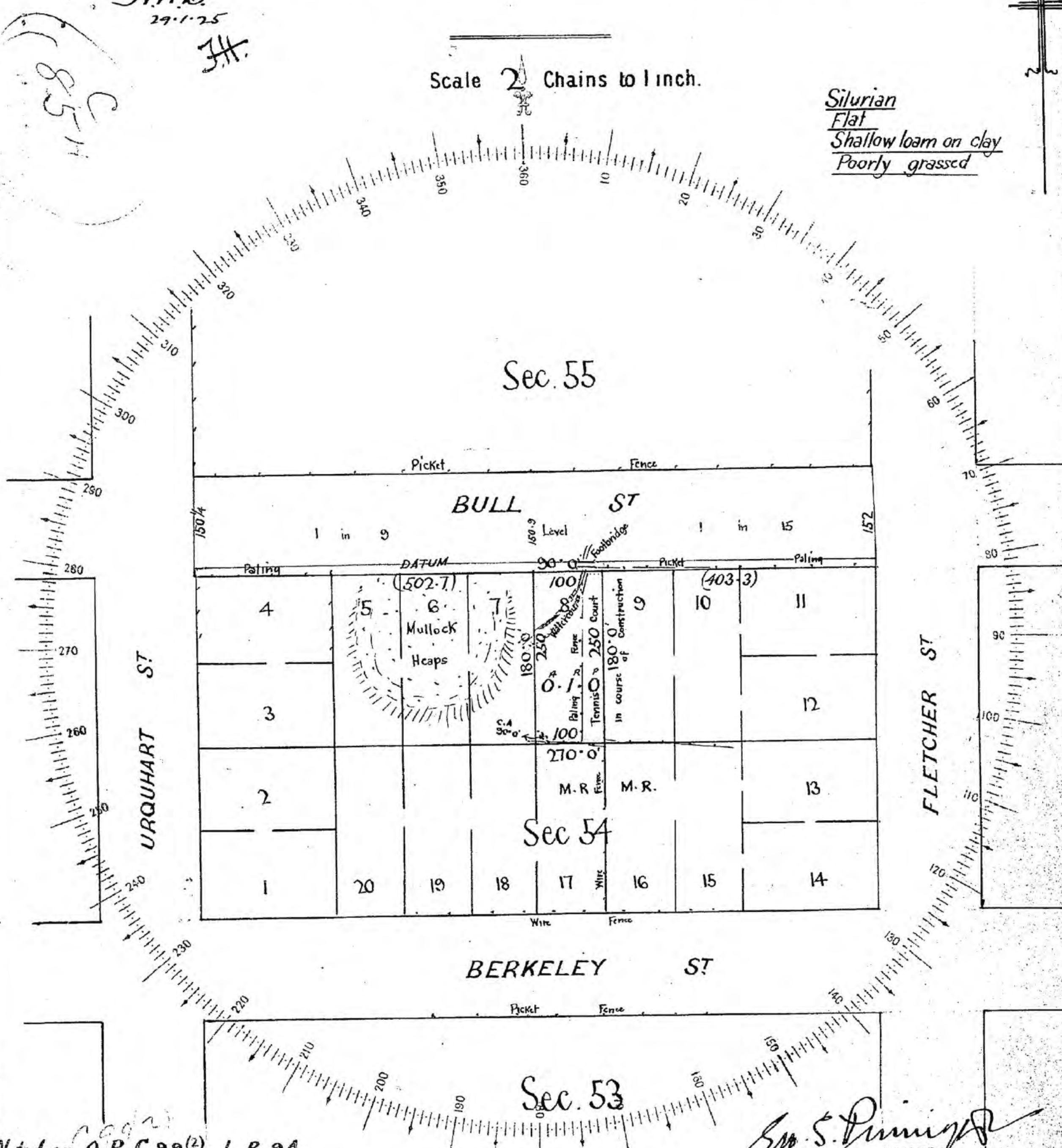
OF

TALBOT

*Handwritten:* H.M.D. 29.1.25 J.H.

Scale 2 Chains to 1 inch.

Silurian  
Flat  
Shallow loam on clay  
Poorly grassed



Noted on O.P. C99(2), L.P. 9A

I certify that this survey has been effected and marked on the ground in accordance with regulations and that this plan is correct.

*Handwritten signature:* E.S. Dinning  
SURVEYOR-GENERAL  
31.3.25  
Surveyor.

Examined *PUT AWAY*  
Computed *See C 99 s.v*  
Charted *new* 2.3.26

*Handwritten signature:* H.W. Moore acting  
District Surveyor  
18.10.24  
I certify to the best of my belief that this survey has been effected with due regard to instructions and that the plan is correct.



ORIGINAL PLAN OF  
TOWNSHIP ALLOTMENT

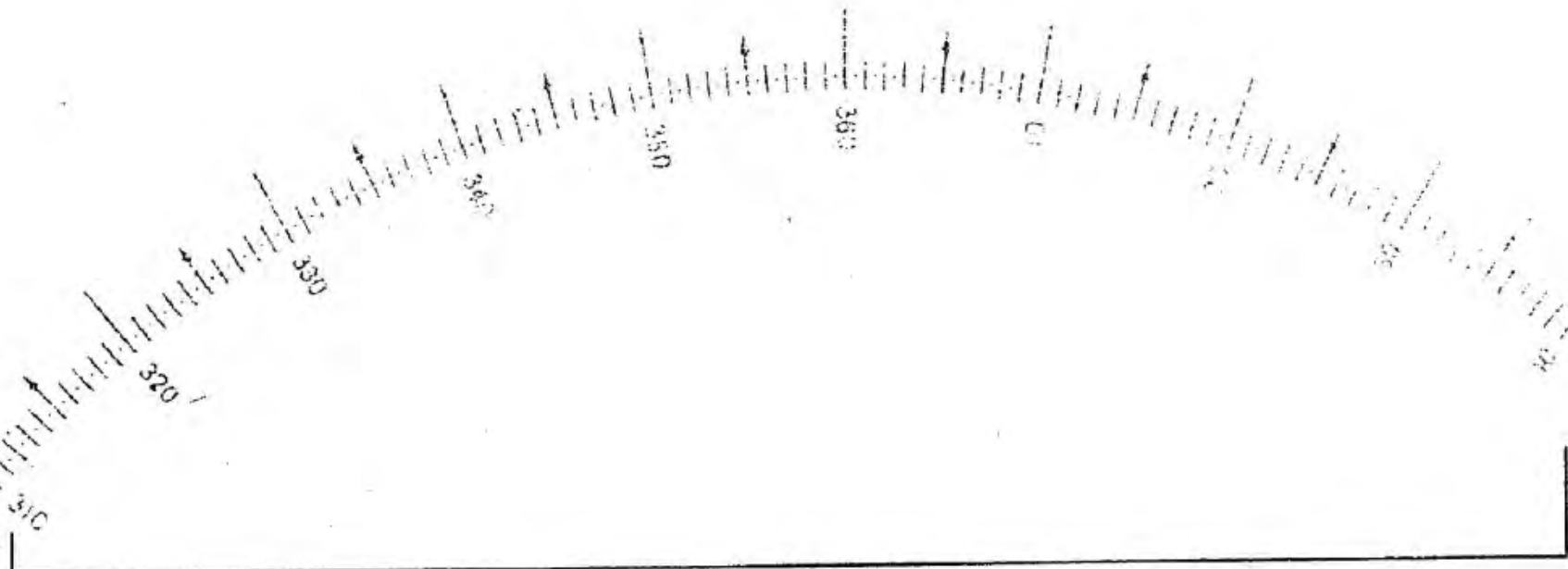
Put Away Plan C84B\_2  
29 May 1896



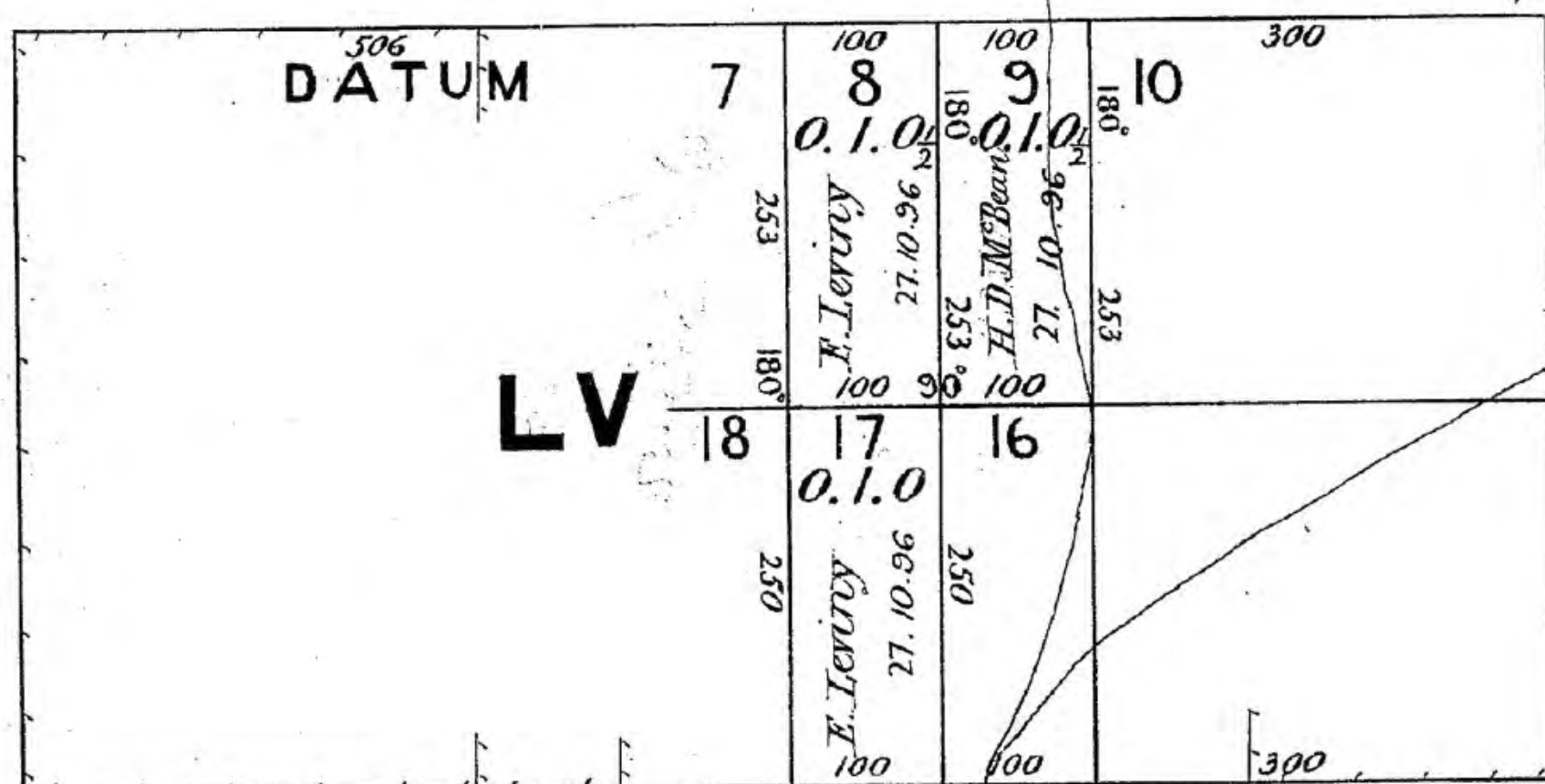
140297

CASTLEMAINE  
PARISH OF CASTLEMAINE  
COUNTY OF TALBOT

Scale, 2 Chains to an Inch.



H U N T E R 90° 153 S T



B U L L 90<sup>5</sup> S T



S. K. Vickery  
 Deputy Sheriff  
 Hefpe.

Exd  
Rhorben  
2.6.96  
JHA

I certify that this survey has been effected on the ground in accordance with regulations, and that this plan is correct.

C B Noted RNC 2/2/66

*J. T. Burnett* *Authorised Surveyor.*  
23.3.46

Examined *W. H. Clark*  
Traced  
Charted

*I certify to the best of my belief that this survey has been effected with due regard to instructions and that the plan is correct.*

District Surveyor.



## APPENDIX 5: SOME EVIDENCE PRESENTED AT THE PYRITES INQUIRY 1873-74

Parliament of Victoria, 1874. Pyrites. Report of the board appointed by His Excellency the Governor in Council to report on the methods of treating pyrites and pyritous vein-stuffs as practised on the goldfields. Melbourne

### EVIDENCE OF DR BONE

**Board:** Will you favor the Board with a general statement of your views relative to the treatment of pyrites in the Castlemaine District?

**Bone:** When the pyrites works were first started in Castlemaine, no means whatever were adopted with a view to the preservation of the public health, and there were at that time undoubted cases of gastric irritation brought under my notice, caused doubtless by drinking water from the roofs of houses in the vicinity of the works. I brought the matter under the notice of the Borough Council and the manager of the works, and suggested to the latter certain alterations which I considered would obviate these deleterious effects. The improvements I recommended were carried out: they consisted in the erection of condensing apparatus, by means of water thrown in fine spray through chambers, by which the arsenious acid and sulphurous acid gases, both extremely soluble in water, would be dissolved and conveyed away in a channel, instead of floating through the atmosphere. My attention was then directed by Mr. Leviny to the deleterious effects on his shrubs, and I suggested the advisability of having some of the leaves analysed, for the purpose of discovering whether or not arsenic was present.

**Board:** Did Mr. Leviny get any analysis made?

**Bone:** I am not aware whether he did so; I did not myself make any analysis.

**Board:** [Specimens of leaves from Mr. Leviny's garden handed to witness.] Were the leaves to which you refer affected in a similar manner to these?

Yes; but I may mention that I have since seen precisely similar mottled appearances on the leaves of plants in the garden of Colonel Anderson at South Yarra, particularly on the Pittosporum.

**Board:** Are there any works near Colonel Anderson's garden to account for this similar appearance?

There are none.

**Board:** To what do you attribute the mottled appearance on the leaves?

**Bone:** I think it not improbable that in summer time, after a shower of rain, the drops of water remaining on the leaves act as lenses, and the concentrated rays of the sun burn the leaves, and thus cause these decayed spots. Subsequent to the completion of the improvements, I met a member of the Melbourne Board of Health, and at his request, in company with Mr. Reid, chemist of this town, made a visit to the works, and made a careful analysis of the water drained from the condensers. We found the water to be so saturated with arsenious acid and sulphurous acid that it might have been used with advantage for the extraction of arsenic and sulphur. There was also obtained from the condensers a large mass of crystal arsenious acid. (Arsenious acid will form in crystals on the iron doors of the furnace, even when they are too hot to touch, perhaps to so high a degree as 150°F.) After this conference with the member of the Melbourne Board of Health (Mr. Le Capelaine), we advised still further improvements, consisting of an increased flow of water and the erection of a taller chimney. These improvements were carried out at a great expense; and it is my belief that any chemical test that could now be applied at the mouth of the flue would not detect the presence of any arsenious acid, although there might be a trace of sulphurous acid.

**Board:** Are you the health officer for this district?

**Bone:** No, I am not.

**Board:** Have you at any time made an examination of the water from the roof of Mr. Leviny's house?

**Bone:** I have not done so.

**Board:** Since the improvements you have described have been effected, have any further cases of gastric irritation come under your notice?

**Bone:** None have come under my notice. There is one thing that I have suggested, which should, I think, receive attention—it is that the dam which receives the water from the condensers should be carefully fenced off, and not allowed to pass into any place where it could be partaken of by children or animals. The water from the condensers could be evaporated, and the collected salts made valuable. The same heat which is roasting the pyrites could be utilized for the distillation of the water, and the water so distilled could be used over again. There is an improvement which is adopted in some of the large manufacturing towns in England

that is, I think, worthy of trial - it consists in placing in the stack a large iron cage full of charcoal (not too large to obstruct the draught), with water trickling through it.

**Board:** Would the benefit be of a chemical or of a mechanical nature?

**Bone:** It would be partly of both. The capillary attraction of the charcoal would give a mechanical advantage.

#### EVIDENCE OF ERNEST LEVINY

**Leviny:** Gentlemen, I have suffered severely from the proximity of the pyrites works, both from injury to my health and in the destruction of my garden. I agree with Mr. Roberts, that it would be difficult to single out any particular day during which the injury is most noticeable, as it must of necessity be a comparatively gradual process; but, sometimes when the wind is blowing in the direction of the house, everything becomes smothered with the fumes.

**Board:** Do the prevailing winds in Castlemaine blow in the direction of your house from the chimney of the pyrites works?

**Leviny:** Yes; the prevailing winds in Castlemaine are from the east and north-east, and these would carry the fumes over my house and garden.

**Board:** Have you ever had the water from the roof of your house analyzed?

**Leviny:** Yes; Dr. Bone recommended me to get the leaves of some of my plants and some of the water from the roof of my house analyzed. Dr. McCrea stated that the leaves were injured by the action of sulphurous acid, and forwarded a letter warning us against drinking any water collected in the neighborhood of the pyrites works. This is the analysis of the water:

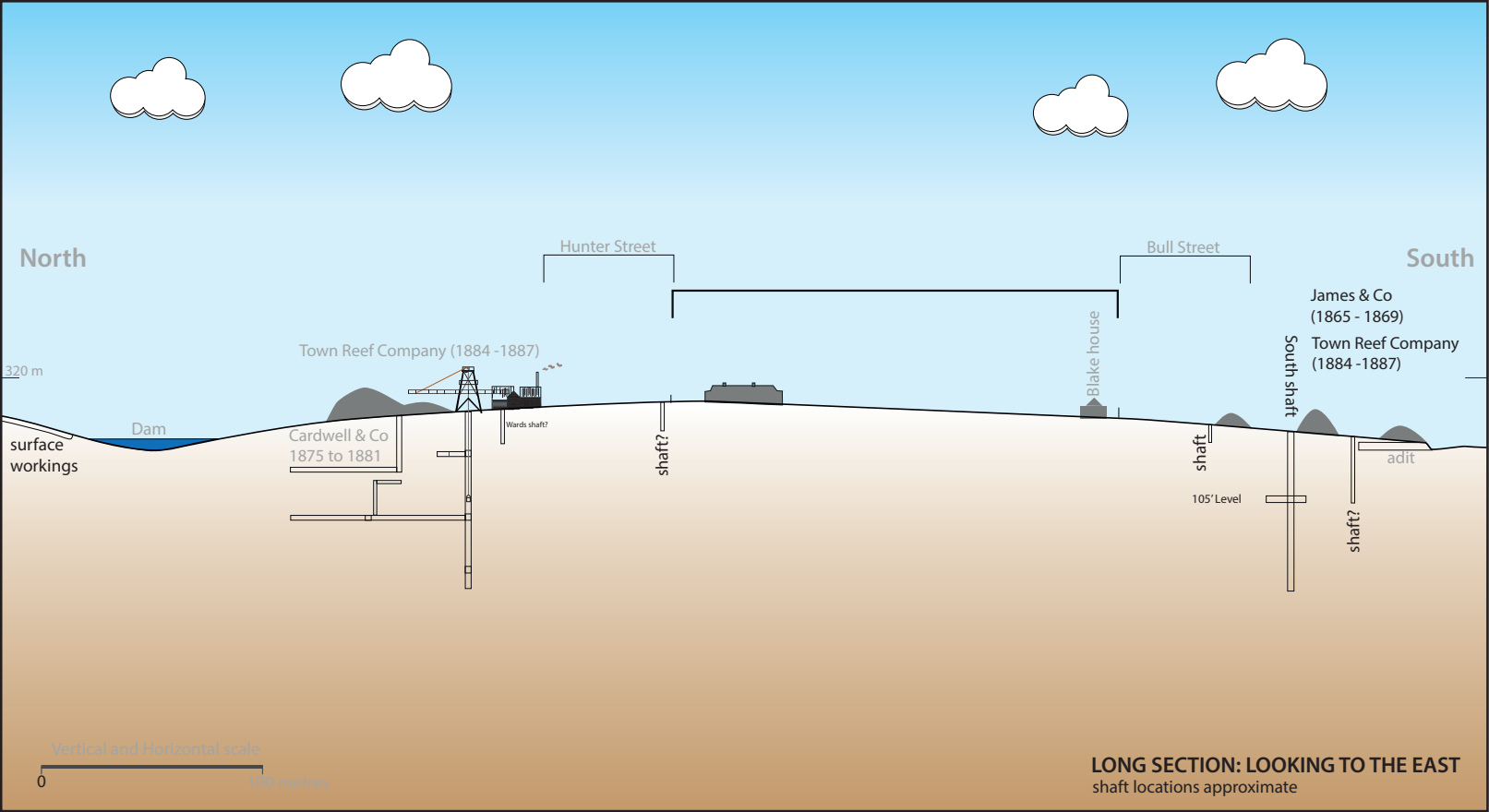
(Copy) " Report on a sample of water received from J. Leviny, Esq., Castlemaine :- " Upon analysis, I find that the water contains an amount of sulphate of zinc equal to 42 to 42 88 grains per gallon, rendering the water totally unfit for domestic purposes. If used for drinking, its effects would be poisonous. The water has all the character of water collected from a galvanized roof acted on by the fumes from pyrites furnaces. It contains minute traces of arsenic and iron, and a little free sulphuric acid. "The water collected on the roof by heavy dews, or the first part of a shower of rain, will contain more sulphate of zinc than water collected after the roof has been well washed by the rain, though in any case it would be dangerous to drink it. The probable reason for not finding arsenic in greater quantity is that the sulphuric acid, acting on the zinc of the galvanized iron, has eliminated it as arsenuretted hydrogen. 20th May 1873. (Signed) J. COSMO NEWBERY.

**Board:** If steps were taken to prevent the evil effects of the noxious fumes, would you then object to the pyrites works remaining in their present position?

**Leviny:** I suppose I could not then raise any objection; but I should like to see the works removed to some other spot away from any private residences. I do not think we can ever be restored to perfect health and comfort while the works remain in their present position.

**Board:** If you suffer injury to the extent you state, have you not a remedy in a court of law?

**Leviny:** My children vomit before breakfast; my garden, my home are ruined; and why, gentlemen, let me ask you should I be forced to go to such expense to protect myself?



North

Hunter Street

Bull Street

South

320 m

Town Reef Company (1884 - 1887)

James & Co  
(1865 - 1869)

Town Reef Company  
(1884 - 1887)

South shaft

Blake house

Dam

Cardwell & Co  
1875 to 1881

Wards shaft?

shaft?

shaft

105' Level

adit

shaft?

Vertical and Horizontal scale

0 100 metres

**LONG SECTION: LOOKING TO THE EAST**  
shaft locations approximate