

MARY ROWLEY'S STORY

(1800-1869)

RESEARCHED AND WRITTEN BY RHONDA KROEHNERT DIP FHS

PERMISSION IS GRANTED TO USE THIS MATERIAL FOR FAMILY RESEARCH PURPOSES ONLY
PROVIDED IT IS REPRODUCED IN ITS ENTIRETY, INCLUDING THIS NOTICE.
COPYRIGHT 2025, RHONDA KROEHNERT, NSW, AUSTRALIA.

(REVISED 17 APR 2025)

The parents of Mary Rowley were Thomas Rowley (soldier and landholder) c.1753-1806, and Elisabeth Selwyn (convict) c.1775-1843. They never married. Thomas and Elizabeth arrived in Sydney on the convict transport ship *Pitt* on 14 February 1792.



< Miniature painting of **Thomas Rowley (c.1753-1806)**.
Donated to *The Women's Pioneer Society of Australasia Inc*, Sydney.

Thomas Rowley's Army Service in the *New South Wales Corps*, formed at Chatham Barracks, was part of His Majesty's 102nd Regiment of Foot. On resigning he was appointed Captain of the Loyal Association Company in 1802.

Prior to leaving England, Rowley was appointed Adjutant of the New South Wales Corps in 1789 and promoted to Lieutenant in April 1791. In Sydney he was promoted to Captain in 1796, resigning this commission (due to ill health) in 1802. Between November 1799 to 26 July 1800 Rowley was Administrator on Norfolk Island. After resigning from the Corps, Rowley was appointed Captain of the Loyal Association Sydney Company, on 22 October 1802¹, a civilian type militia force which was formed to help the New South Wales Corps to control rebellious convicts in the early 1800s. By 1804 Rowley became Captain-Commandant of both the Sydney and Parramatta Companies.² Although not called on to take part in the convict uprising at Castle Hill in 1804, the Loyal Association was stationed at Parramatta, to await orders.

¹ F M Bladen (Ed), *Historical Records of New South Wales, Vol. IV.-Hunter and King. 1800, 1801, 1802*. Mona Vale, Sydney: Lansdown Slattery & Company, 1979, pps. 342 & 861.

² Brian Fletcher (Australian Dictionary of Biography). From *A Cameo of Captain Thomas Rowley*, by Ian A Ramage, 'The Loyal Association', Ref: 13.15.

Mary Rowley and her siblings:

1. Isabella Rowley 1792-1808
2. Thomas Rowley 1794-1862
3. John Rowley 1797-1873
4. Mary Rowley 1800-1869
5. Eliza Rowley 1804-1882
6. Henry Rowley 1806-1873
7. (Possible) Mary Roberts nee Mickle 1804-1885

Thomas Rowley Jnr. (1794-1862) >

Photograph taken June 2001 by Rhonda Kroehnert
at the *Australasian Pioneers' Club*
61 York St., Sydney NSW
(© *Australasian Pioneers' Club*)



< John Rowley (1797-1873)
City rate collector

By William Nicholas, Sydney, NSW, 1847
National Gallery of Australia

<https://searchthecollection.nga.gov.au/object/69392&pictaus=true>

Mary Rowley was born on Norfolk Island on 18 March 1800. Her parents, Thomas Rowley and Elizabeth Selwin [sic], and three older siblings, Isabella, Thomas and John, arrived there on 30 November 1799.³ Mary was born 3½ months later. Rowley served as Commandant on the island for eight months, the family returning to Port Jackson after July 1800.⁴ Mary's birth was recorded in the baptism register at St John's Church of England church, Parramatta, New South Wales, by Rev. Samuel Marsden.⁵

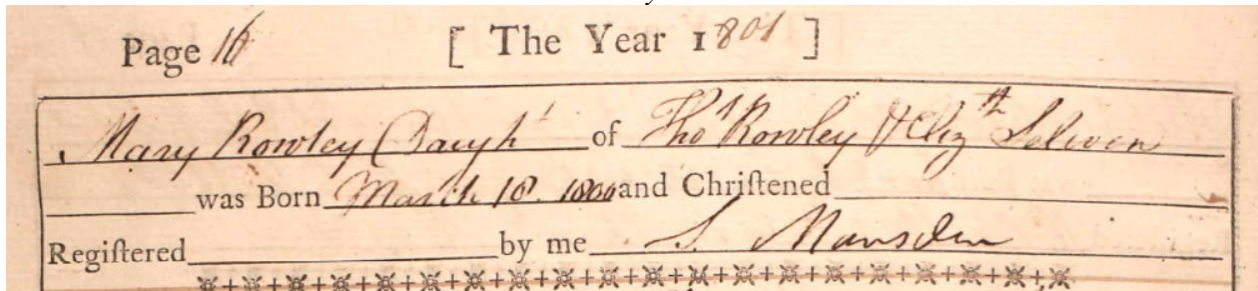
³ Family History Library, SLC, Utah, Film No. 2206102. *Muster-Table of His Majesty's Ship 'Reliance' 1 Nov & 31 Dec 1799*, PRO ADM 36/13399, Admiralty muster books (series 1), 1766-1807. (Thomas Rowley, Elizabeth Selwin [sic], Isabella Rowley, Thomas Rowley & John Rowley mustered on the ship at Port Jackson on 30 Oct 1799 and mustered off the ship at Norfolk Island on 30 Nov 1799).

⁴ F M Bladen (Ed), *Historical Records of New South Wales, Vol. IV.-Hunter and King, 1800, 1801, 1802*. Mona Vale, Sydney: Lansdown Slattery & Company, 1979, p. 79 & 342.

⁵ Ancestry.com. *New South Wales, Australia, St. John's Parramatta, Baptisms, 1790-1916* [database on-line]. Reference Number: REG/COMP/1; Description: Vol 01, Baptisms, 1790-1825; Marriages, 1789-1823; Burials, 1790-1825; Parish: St. John's Anglican Church Parramatta. Baptism of Mary Rowley.

Although the christening date is blank in the register, the Registry of Births of Deaths & Marriages, New South Wales records her baptism as 3 May 1801.⁶ Of interest, following on from Mary in the register, two other children are missing their baptism dates. Also, the register is confusing as some 1801 baptisms are recorded as 1800. Therefore, it is surmised that Mary's baptism was registered at St John's Church of England church, Parramatta between 3 May 1800 - 17 May 1800.

Baptism register St. John's Church of England Church, Parramatta, NSW.
Mary Rowley, born 18 March 1800, daughter of Thos Rowley & Elizth Selwin [sic].
Ancestry.com



Mary, one of five children, Isabella (1792-1808), Thomas (1794-1862), John (1797-1873), Mary (1800-1869) and Eliza (1804-1882), were recognised by Thomas Rowley in his Will dated 27 February 1805. (Probate was not granted until 6 February 1828). Mary, aged six years when her father died on 27 May 1806, was raised by her mother Elizabeth aka Betsy Rowley.

It has now been discovered, through DNA testing, Mary's sister, Eliza Rowley, (1804-1882), wife of Henry Sparrow Briggs, is the child of Elizabeth Selwyn, and her biological father Simeon Lord.⁷ No record of the birth or baptism of Eliza Rowley has been found. Lord, a convict assigned to Thomas Rowley in 1791, was emancipated early and helped by Rowley, becoming a wealthy entrepreneur.⁸

Other possible issue to Thomas Rowley are:

1. Henry Rowley - Henry is believed to have been born in 1806. In the *General Muster List of New South Wales 1823-25*, the listing reads 'Henry Rowley and Elisa Rowley [sic], both BC (born in the colony), the children of Elizabeth Rowley.'⁹ Henry married Mary Ann Murphy in 1839 at the Roman Catholic Church, Liverpool stating his parents were Thomas Rowley and mother Elizabeth Sullivan [sic].¹⁰

2. Mary Mickle - Mary was born in June 1804 to convict Jane Mickle (aka Jeannie Muckle). Her baptism is recorded in June 1805 at St Philip's Church of England, Sydney with no father recorded. It should be noted that there were other Thomas Rowley's in the colony at this time.¹¹

For further reading visit <https://bonesinthebelfry.com/Rowley/thomas.html>

⁶ Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages, New South Wales, Baptism Certificate for Mary Selwin [sic], No. 958/1800 V1800958 1A.

⁷ Bones in the Belfry, <https://bonesinthebelfry.com/Rowley/thomas.html> (2025)

⁸ D R Hainsworth, *Simeon Lord* (1771-1840), Australian Dictionary of Biography, <https://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/lord-simeon-2371> (2025)

⁹ Carol J. Baxter (Ed.), *General Muster List of New South Wales 1823, 1824, 1825*, Sydney: ABGR, a Project of the Society of Australian Genealogists, 1999.

¹⁰ 'Finding Henry by Alan Hagenson', Bones in the Belfry, <https://bonesinthebelfry.com/Rowley/thomas.html> (2025).

¹¹ Bones in the Belfry, <https://bonesinthebelfry.com/Rowley/thomas.html> (2025)

Mary Rowley married John Lucas eight days before her 17th birthday (recorded as aged 20 years), on the 10 March 1817 at St. Philip's Church of England, Sydney. John Lucas, son of First Fleeter convicts Nathaniel Lucas and Olivia Gascoigne, was aged 21 years (recorded as aged 22 years). The marriage was performed by Chaplain William Cowper and witnesses were Eliza Rowley (sister of Mary) who signed by X mark and Richard Shaw.¹²

Over 20 years of their marriage, John and Mary Lucas had ten known children:

1. John Lucas 1818-1902
2. Mary Ann Lucas 1821-1822
3. William Henry Lucas 1822-1871
4. Nathaniel Thomas Lucas 1824-1903
5. Eliza Jane Lucas 1826-1908
6. Caroline Isabella Lucas 1828-1863
7. Charles Lucas 1830-1837
8. Mary Ann Lucas 1832-1857
9. George Burwood Lucas 1836-1894
10. Edwin Charles Lucas 1838-1890

(Another child, 'Charlotte I' incorrectly transcribed on the Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages, New South Wales Index is in fact Caroline Isabella Lucas 1828-1863).¹³

From their marriage in 1817 to about 1821, John and Mary Lucas were living at Kingston Farm (Camperdown). Referring to the children's baptisms, the Lucas' lived at Kingston (1818-1821), Liverpool - probably the Brisbane Mill (1822-1828), Burwood (1830), Liverpool, Brisbane Mill (1833) and Burwood (Sep 1836-1838).

Estranged from her husband, John Lucas, by possibly as early as 1839, Mary Lucas was residing at a rural station at Molonglo NSW (now ACT), with ex-convict and Lucas employee, John Walker. On 14 May 1843 their first child, Lucy Anne Walker was baptised at Christ Church, Church of England, Queanbeyan.¹⁴ The family, probably including Mary's younger children by John Lucas, then moved to Murrumbateman Plains where another two children, Thomas Walker and Elizabeth Walker, were baptised at St Clements Church of England, Yass, on 1 June 1846.¹⁵ The church baptisms record parents as 'John & Mary Walker'. John Walker's occupation recorded as Overseer. Employment was plentiful as some of the most successful rural stations were in these districts.

It is suggested that Mary had left John Lucas as early as 1839. Their youngest child, Edwin Charles Lucas, was born at Burwood in 1838, and baptised on 17 March 1839 at St Peters Church of England, Cooks River (now the Sydney suburb of St Peters) in the parish of Petersham. Mary's mother Elizabeth Rowley, and sister Eliza Briggs, were living at Kingston in the parish of

¹² Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages, New South Wales, Marriage Certificate for John Lucas & Mary Rowley, No. 255/1817 V1817255 7 & 2017/1817 V18172017 3A.

¹³ (1) Museums of History New South Wales - State Archives Collection: *Registers of Baptisms, Marriages and Burials, 1787-1877*, NRS12937, Reel 5003, Vol: 11-16. (NSWBD&M Birth of Charlotte I Lucas [sic], No. 294/1828 V1828294 12); (2) Museums of History New South Wales - State Archives Collection: *Registers of Baptisms, Marriages and Burials, 1787-1856*, NRS12937, Reel 5001, Vol: 1-2. (NSWBD&M Birth of Caroline I Lucas, No. 8624/1828V1828624 1C).

¹⁴ Christ Church, Church of England, Queanbeyan. SAG Reel No.0212, Vol: 155, Baptism: Lucy Anne Walker, No.1993/1842; SAG Reel No.3068, Vol: 27A, Baptism: Lucy Anne Walker, No. 1615/1843.

¹⁵ St Clements Church of England, Yass, County Murray. SAG Reel No.3070, Vol: 31A, Baptism: Thomas Walker, No. 1870/1844; Baptism: Elizabeth Walker, No. 1871/1844.

Petersham. St Peter's was the only church south of the city at this time. The Briggs and Rowley's used this church for the baptisms of many of their children.

Children of Mary Lucas & John Walker:

1. Lucy Anne Walker, 1842-1891 - mar: 1862 Yass, Joseph John Lovat
Lucy Anne Lovatt [sic] buried 1891, St Lukes C/E Upper Gundaroo NSW.
Joseph Lovat [sic] buried 1917, Catholic Cemetery, Rookwood NSW.
2. Thomas Walker, 1844-1924 - mar: 1868 Yass, Elizabeth Kirwin
Thomas Walker buried 1924, Roman Catholic Cemetery, Gundaroo NSW.
Elizabeth Walker buried 1922, Roman Catholic Cemetery, Gundaroo NSW.
3. Elizabeth Walker, 1846-1928 - mar: 1871 Yass, Duncan McIntyre
Elizabeth McIntyre buried 1928, Presbyterian Cemetery, Rookwood NSW.
Duncan McIntyre buried 1897, Tambo Cemetery, Tambo QLD.

John Walker arrived in Sydney on 7 August 1820 aboard the convict ship *Mangles* (1). He became known to Mary Lucas in June 1822 when assigned to John Lucas on the Bakers Road Gang and Lucas' Brisbane Water Mill at Liverpool.¹⁶ He was still in service to Lucas in 1825.¹⁷

Walker, convicted of burglary on 31 July 1819 at the Derby Assizes, England, received a sentence of death. However, on receiving capital respite, the sentence, was commuted to 14 years transportation to New South Wales. A tall man of 5ft 9¼ins (180cm) tall, he was described as aged 24 years, with black hair and hazel eyes. His occupation described as a Gardener and Farmer's Man. In other records he is described as a Labourer. After sentencing, Walker was sent to the hulk ship *Retribution* moored at Woolwich, arriving on 30 September 1819. His conduct on *Retribution* described as 'orderly', and that he performed "robberies in Derby". Walker departed for New South Wales aboard the convict ship *Mangles* on 15 March 1820.¹⁸

¹⁶ (1) Museums of History New South Wales - State Archives Collection: *Convict Assignments Index 1821-1825*, Ship: *Mangles*, Citation: NRS 12194 [4/4521 p.025]; Reel 586, Fiche 747-748, Date: 2 Jun 1822-2 Jun 1822, Residence: Liverpool. John Walker, Convict Assignment. (2) Ancestry.com. *New South Wales, Australia, Colonial Secretary's Papers, 1788-1856* [database on-line]. Series: NRS 898; Reel or Fiche Numbers: Reels 6020-6040, 6070; Fiche 3260-3312. John Walker on list of prisoners assigned. (3) Ancestry.com. *New South Wales, Census and Population Books, 1811-1825* [database on-line]. State Records Authority of New South Wales; Kingswood, New South Wales, Australia; *Population musters, Dependent settlements*; Series: NRS 1264; Reel: 1253. John Walker, Ap'd Servant assigned to Brisbane Water Mill. & Series: NRS 1261; Reel: 1254, John Walker, Ap'd to Mr John Lucas.

¹⁷ (1) Ancestry.com. *New South Wales, Australia, Colonial Secretary's Papers, 1788-1856* [database on-line]. Series: NRS 897; Reel or Fiche Numbers: Reels 6041-6064, 6071-6072. John Walker on statement of Government men assigned to John Lucas; from Jun 1822. (2) Museums of History New South Wales - State Archives Collection: *Index to the Colonial Secretary's Papers, 1788-1825*, Ship: Per "Mangles", Citation: [4/1840B], File No.26, p.175, Start Date: 01/01/1825. John Walker, convict mustered in the employ of John Lucas.

¹⁸ (1) Ancestry.com. *UK, Prison Hulk Registers and Letter Books, 1802-1849* [database on-line]. Source Citation: Home Office: Convict Prison Hulks: Registers and Letter Books; Class: HO9; Piece: 7. (2) Ancestry.com. *England & Wales, Criminal Registers, 1791-1892* [database on-line]. Class: HO 27; Piece: 17; p. 92. (3) Ancestry.com. *Australian Convict Transportation Registers – Other Fleets & Ships, 1791-1868* [database on-line]. The National Archives of the United Kingdom; Kew, Surrey, England; *Convicts transported*; Class: *HO 11*; Piece: 3. (4) Ancestry.com. *New South Wales, Australia, Convict Indents, 1788-1842* [database on-line]. State Archives NSW; Series: NRS 12188; Item: [4/4007]; Microfiche: 644. (5) Ancestry.com. *New South Wales, Australia Convict Ship Muster Rolls and Related Records, 1790-1849* [database on-line]. New South Wales Government. *Musters and other papers relating to convict ships*. Series CGS 1155, Reels 2417-2428. State Records Authority of New South Wales. Kingswood, New South Wales, Australia. Re: John Walker.

Receiving a Ticket of Leave (No. 27/175) on 30 March 1827, Walker had to stay in the district of Liverpool.¹⁹ A Ticket of Leave allowed convicts to work for themselves provided that they remained in a specified district. A new Ticket of Leave (No. 29/875) was issued on 5 November 1829 to allow Walker to work in the district of Goulburn Plains.²⁰

Walker became a free man on 30 August 1833 on receiving a Certificate of Freedom (No. 33/996).²¹ A Certificate of Freedom was issued at the completion of a convict's sentence. They were free to travel anywhere, including the United Kingdom. On 13 November 1840, a new Certificate of Freedom (No. 40/1872) was issued cancelling the 1833 ticket. General remarks describe Walker "Two middle front teeth in both jaws apart, small scar left side of lower lip, another inside right thumb, large scar back of left hand thumb".²² Descriptions were a way of identifying a person at the time.

John Walker (also known as Thomas Walker)²³ died on 21 September 1857 at his property at Mantons Creek near Yass. He was buried on 23 September in the churchyard at St Clements Church of England, Yass. In his Will dated 19 September 1857, he left his estate containing the Mantons Creek property totalling 186 acres, "household furniture, bedding linen and kitchen utensils to Mary Lucas the mother of my several children". Mary was an executor of the Will. On Mary's death, the estate was to be equally divided between their three children, "Lucy Anna Walker [sic], Thomas Walker and Elizabeth Walker" as long as they lived with their mother until that time. Probate was granted on 9 December 1857, the estate was valued at £60.²⁴

In 1867 the property at Mantons Creek (Lot 26) was sold to Clara Remmington for £280. Mary, her children Lucy Anna Lovat [sic], Thomas Walker, Elizabeth Walker and son-in-law Joseph John Lovat moved to Nanama Creek [sic].²⁵

Mary Lucas died at Nanima [sic] on 4th May 1869. The coroner's inquest held at Yass on 6 May found she died instantaneously from a "Fit of Apoplexy." Buried the same day as the inquest, at St Luke's Church of England Cemetery, Upper Gundaroo, she is recorded in the church burial register as 'Mary Walker'. The undertaker at the burial was her son-in-law, Joseph Lovat, the witnesses, John Greig, (Mary's granddaughter's husband), and Joseph Edgar, postmaster and teacher at St

¹⁹ Ancestry.com. *New South Wales, Australia, Tickets of Leave, 1810-1869* [database on-line]. State Archives NSW; Series: NRS 12202; Item: [4/4063]. John Walker, Ticket of Leave No. 27/175.

²⁰ Ancestry.com. *New South Wales, Australia, Tickets of Leave, 1810-1869* [database on-line]. State Archives NSW; Series: NRS 12202; Item: [4/4072]. John Walker, Ticket of Leave No. 29/875.

²¹ Ancestry.com. *New South Wales, Australia, Certificates of Freedom, 1810-1814, 1827-1867* [database on-line]. State Records Authority of New South Wales; Kingswood, New South Wales, Australia; Series Name: *Butts of Certificates of Freedom*; Series Number: NRS 12210; Archive Roll: 991. John Walker, Certificate of Freedom No. 33/996.

²² Ancestry.com. *New South Wales, Australia, Certificates of Freedom, 1810-1814, 1827-1867* [database on-line]. State Records Authority of New South Wales; Kingswood, New South Wales, Australia; Series Name: *Butts of Certificates of Freedom*; Series Number: NRS 12210; Archive Roll: 1007. John Walker, Certificate of Freedom No. 40/1872.

²³ Recorded as John Walker and Thomas Walker throughout his probate papers, and recorded as Thomas Walker as the father on the death certificates of his three children, Lucy Anne, Thomas and Elizabeth.

²⁴ Museums of History New South Wales - State Archives Collection: *Probate packets*. NRS-13660-1-[14/3299]-Series 1-3942. Title: John Walker - Date of death 21 September 1857, Granted on 9 December 1857.

²⁵ NSW Land Registry Services, Book of Conveyance No. 724, Book 103, 31 May 1867. Indenture between Mary Lucas, Joseph John Lovat, Lucy Anna Lovat, Thomas Walker, Elizabeth Walker of Nanama Creek.

Lukes Church of England School. There was no Minister present.²⁶ No headstone marks her grave. The shell of the church and graveyard are now in private ownership. The newspaper death notice follows:

Trove, NLA. *Empire* (Sydney, NSW), 10 May 1869, p. 4

SUDDEN DEATH.-On Tuesday morning Mrs Walker was found dead in her bed, by her daughter, at her residence, near Nanima, about twenty-two miles from Yass. She had been complaining for a long time, though on Tuesday morning she got up quite well, and in the course of the morning she told her daughter that she would lie down again. She accordingly went to bed, and shortly afterwards her daughter heard her snoring until she turned in the bed. Some-time after that her daughter thought she had been sleeping long enough, and went into the room to call her up, when she found that her mother was dead. The coroner (Dr. Blake) and Dr. O'Connor went out to her place on Thursday to hold an inquest on the body. The deceased was an old resident of this district, about 60 years of age, and mother of Mr. Lucas, the member for Hartley. - Southern Argus.

The Lucas brothers, George Burwood Lucas and Edwin Charles Lucas were long time residents and early Sawyers of the Murrumbateman district and surrounds. They were raised with their Walker siblings. Their brother, Nathaniel Thomas Lucas, arrived in the area in 1853. Their numerous descendants resided in areas including Nanima/Nanama Creek, Murrumbateman, Yass, Tallagandra and Sutton.²⁷

George Burwood Lucas, Edwin Charles Lucas and John Greig, (husband of Susan Lucas, daughter of Nathaniel Thomas Lucas), were appointed by the Department of Justice and Public Instruction to form the *Public School Board of the Public School* established at Murrumbateman on 29 April 1875.²⁸ All three owned property in the area. Nathaniel Thomas Lucas was a leaseholder and it is believed never owned any property. The land was most suitable for farming and grazing cattle and sheep.

The 1885 Land & Stockholdings show the Lucas family owning approximately 6,000 acres in the Murrumbateman area including Joseph Lovat (husband of Lucy Anne Walker) with 250 acres. Mary and John Lucas' eldest son, John Lucas M.L.A. (1818-1902), also invested in property at Bedulluck near Yass. In his will of 1901, he bequeathed 553 acres of land at Beadulick [sic] (at the time being leased to Daniel Leahy), to his son William Wentworth Lucas.²⁹

Nathaniel Thomas Lucas, (1824-1903) - The fourth child of John and Mary Lucas.

Moved from Sydney to Burrowa then Nanima in 1853.

Sawyer and Farmer - On 11 January 1842, Nathaniel aged 17 years, married Mary Grounds (aged 19 years) in the district of Brisbane Waters (Gosford NSW area). They went on to have 11 children. The four eldest were born in the Sydney area, but Louisa, the fifth child, was born at Pudman

²⁶ (1) Ancestry.com. *New South Wales, Australia, Registers of Coroners' Inquests, 1821-1937* [database on-line]. State Archives NSW; Series: 2922; Item: 4/6614; Roll: 343. Inquest into the death of Mary Lucas. (2) Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages, New South Wales, Death Certificate for Mary Lucas, No. 6669/1869. (3) St Luke's Church of England, Upper Gundaroo NSW burials. Burial transcript of Mary Walker [sic], from Alan Wilson, Hon. Parish Archivist, St John's Anglican Church, Canberra. Email to Rhonda Kroehnert, 12 Feb 2025.

²⁷ Errol Lea-Scarlett, *Gundaroo*, Fyshwick ACT: Roebuck Society Publication No.10, 1972, p. 44.

²⁸ 'Government Gazette Appointments and Employment'. New South Wales Government Gazette (Sydney), 30 Apr 1875 [Issue No. 91], p. 1254, No. 1075.

²⁹ Will of the Late Hon. John Lucas, M.L.C., died 1 March 1902. Supreme Court of New South Wales, No. 25767. Probate granted 12 June 1902. Estate sworn under £18,612.

Creek, (near Burrowa), when the family moved from Sydney to Burrowa then Nanima in 1853.³⁰ Another six children were born at Nanima. Having a useful trade as a sawyer Nathaniel found plenty of work between Nanima and Murrumbateman clearing the densely thick timber forests that grew in abundance in the 1850s.³¹ Six years after the death of Mary (Grounds), Nathaniel married widow Ellen Marks nee Hines on 10 April 1876. Seven more children were born at Nanama Creek, Murrumbateman and Yass. Many of their descendants resided in the area for many years. Nathaniel Thomas and Ellen Lucas were buried in the Church of England section, Yass Cemetery. His first wife Mary (Grounds) who died in 1871 at Nanama Creek, was buried at Murrumbateman, by Presbyterian Clergyman John Gibson.

It appears marriage separation was not uncommon in the Lucas family. Two daughters of Nathaniel Thomas Lucas and Mary Grounds, Eliza Jane (aka Elizabeth) Lucas, and Emma (aka Amy) Berry, were not living with their husbands in 1873.³²

George Burwood Lucas, (1836-1894) - The ninth child of John and Mary Lucas.

Sawyer and Grazier - George, when a young boy, most likely left Sydney with his mother and John Walker. Living most of his life at Murrumbateman and Yass, George married Elizabeth Cheeseman at St Clement's Church of England Yass in 1856. They had 12 children, the majority being born at Murrumbateman. George Burwood was buried in the Church of England section, Yass Cemetery in 1894. His wife Elizabeth was also buried there in 1919.

Edwin Charles Lucas, (1838-1890) - The tenth child of John and Mary Lucas.

Sawyer and Farmer - Edwin, when an infant, most likely left Sydney with his mother and John Walker. Living most of his life at Manton's Creek, near Yass, and Murrumbateman, Edwin married Harriet Petty at St Clement's Church of England Yass in 1860. They had 11 children born at Murrumbateman. Edwin Charles was buried in the Church of England section, Yass Cemetery in 1890. Harriet was the daughter of William Petty, occupier and later purchaser in 1843 of an 836 acre property near Milford naming it *Elizabeth Fields* after his wife, Elizabeth nee Wall.³³

William Henry Lucas, (1822-1871) - The third child of John and Mary Lucas.

William seems to have stayed in Sydney for most of his life. He appears in Murrumbateman in one record found so far. However, William's son, John Thomas Lucas, a Grazier, purchased land and married his first cousin Eliza Jane Lucas (daughter of Nathaniel Thomas Lucas & Mary Grounds) in 1867 at the Wesleyan Parsonage, Yass. They purchased the property known as *Wantagong* at Tallagandra, Parish of Bedulluck, near Hall ACT. Nathaniel Edgar Lucas (1869-1937), the eldest son of John Thomas Lucas, inherited the property after his fathers death.³⁴ Both John Thomas & Eliza Jane Lucas are buried in the Roman Catholic section of Yass cemetery.

³⁰ Children of Nathaniel Thomas Lucas & Mary Grounds :- death of daughter Henrietta Lucas on 25 August 1853 at Camperdown (Sydney), birth of daughter Louisa Lucas on 28 December 1853 at Pudman, Burrowa.

³¹ Errol Lea-Scarlett, *Gundaroo*, Fyshwick ACT: Roebuck Society Publication No.10, 1972, p. 44.

³² Trove, NLA. 'Assault of Amy Berry', Yass Court of Petty Sessions. Yass Courier (NSW), 25 April 1873, p. 2

³³ Errol Lea-Scarlett, *Gundaroo*, Fyshwick ACT: Roebuck Society Publication No.10, 1972, p. 14.

³⁴ Trove, NLA. 'Obituary - Mr. N. E. Lucas'. Yass Tribune-Courier (NSW), 5 Aug 1937, p. 7.

John Lucas (1796-1875) - husband of Mary Rowley



< Photograph of **John Lucas (1796-1875)**
Taken June 2001 by Rhonda Kroehnert
at the *Australasian Pioneers' Club*
61 York St., Sydney NSW
(© *Australasian Pioneers' Club*)

It is unknown when John Lucas (1796-1875) moved to the Murrumbateman district. It appears he was still in Burwood in 1847 (see newspaper article below). The 150 acre grant to John Lucas in 1822 at Holsworthy, named *Brisbane Water Mill* on Harris Creek, was granted to Solomon Levey³⁵ on 19 October 1831.³⁶ Lucas may have forfeited the grant by not paying the quit-rent payment required by the Crown. Levey and Lucas had known each other since at least 1821 when Lucas offered land for sale being part of Kingston Farm, originally granted to Thomas Rowley. The sale to Levey of 159 acres, 2 roods and 32 perches went through ten years later for £489.³⁷ The Lucas family were still residing at *Brisbane Water Mill* in 1833. The Woronora Mill Estate was advertised for sale in March 1843, however, the mill itself had been destroyed by fire in 1830s.

Trove, NLA. *Bell's Life in Sydney and Sporting Reviewer* (NSW), 18 September 1847, p. 2

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

BURWOOD.-John Dark makes the following bet with John Lucas, viz., one pound sterling to ten shillings, that ten pounds a-side was put down in the Tennis Court at Hough's Benefit for Hall to fight Brown. The money was offered on both sides, but not staked.

³⁵ (1) Australian Dictionary of Biography, *Solomon Levey*, <https://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/levey-solomon-2353> (2025)
(2) Wikipedia, *Solomon Levey*, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solomon_Levey (2025)

³⁶ (1) Ancestry.com. *New South Wales, Australia, Land Grants, 1788-1963* [database on-line]. State Records Authority of New South Wales; Kingswood, NSW, Australia; Archive Reel: 2653; Description: Register of Notices of the Intention to Issue Deeds of Grant for Lands, 10 September 1830-6 November 1837. (2) Ancestry.com. *New South Wales, Australia, Land Grants, 1788-1963* [database on-line]. State Records Authority of New South Wales, Kingswood, NSW, Australia; Archive Reel: 2561; Series: 1217; Description: Registers of Land Grants and Leases 1816-1822. (3) Ancestry.com. *New South Wales, Australia, Registers of Land Grants and Leases, 1792-1867* [database on-line]. State Records Authority of New South Wales; Copies of Deeds to Grant to Land alienated by Grant, Lease or Purchase; Series: NRS 13836; Item: 7/505; Reel: 2705. Re: John Lucas, Mary Lucas & Solomon Levey.

³⁷ Ancestry.com. *New South Wales, Australia, Land Grants, 1788-1963* [database on-line]. State Records Authority of New South Wales; Kingswood, NSW, Australia; Archive Reel: 1572; Series: 12992; Description: Registers of Memorials For Land 1825-1842. Re: John Lucas, Mary Lucas, Solomon Levey.

The only records, pertaining to John Lucas in the Yass district, located so far, are a listing in the *1875 Grenville's Official Post Office Directory* "Lucas, John. Farmer. Murrumbateman", and in the same year, his death certificate and church burial record. John died at Murrumbateman on 5 June 1875 and was buried in the 'Davis Private Cemetery', known as *Gounyan Cemetery*, near the homestead on the *Gounyan* estate. His occupation recorded as a Farmer of Murrumbateman (church burial record) and Millwright (death certificate). The informant on the death certificate, George Lucas [sic] (*George Burwood Lucas*), son, of Murrumbateman.³⁸

A special thank you to Wilma Tanswell, Archives Officer, Yass & District Historical Society Inc. who made me aware of, and supplied the initial information on, John Walker.

My sincere gratitude to the staff of the following for their kind assistance:
Yass & District Historical Society Inc., Yass NSW.
Society of Australian Genealogists, Kent Street, Sydney NSW.
Museums of History New South Wales - State Archives, Kingswood NSW.

³⁸ Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages, New South Wales, Death Certificate for John Lucas, No. 10607/1875.