

Clarendon and Brunswick, Australia

According to the Ships List web site, Henry Pridmore and his wife Harriet (nee York) set sail aboard the Ramillies on the 20th Feb 1853 with their son John.

<http://www.theshipslist.com/ships/australia/ramillies1853.shtml>

This does not quite match with the birth records for their sons Henry and Daniel currently held, as these are believed to have been born in Bourne, Lincolnshire up to 1855.

Emigrants from the UK who travelled to South Australia often came out as selected or assisted or free passengers in a government scheme. From 1834 to about 1860, assisted emigration was mainly financed from the sale of Crown land and was administered by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commission (the Commission) in London.

Henry, Harriet and John arrived in Port Adelaide on 19th May 1853 and settled initially in Clarendon. The area was one that the English settlers established, being some 25km from Adelaide and from the mid 1860's it grew as farming, dairy and fruit growing area supplying the city. Henry was a rope maker and as such would probably have been able to transfer his skills to the new land.

However, as the area was being established the family upped sticks and moved to Brunswick. This was a huge move of over 700 kilometres (440 miles) and would have taken some time to achieve in the early 1860's. The gold rush may well have played some part in the decision to go as Brunswick sprang up along with one or two more as a convenient staging post on the way to Essendon, Fitzroy and Collingwood where the mining was under way.



Brunswick was subdivided into farm allotments which were sold in 1839. Most purchasers were speculators who looked forward to further subdivision. The allotments ran east and west from the main thoroughfare, Sydney Road. One of them was resold to Thomas Wilkinson and a partner. They

named the property Brunswick Park, in honour either of the late Princess Caroline of Brunswick (late wife of King George IV), or in honour of the marriage of Queen Victoria to Prince Albert of the royal house of Brunswick. The streets each side of Wilkinson's property are Victoria and Albert. Wilkinson became Brunswick's first mayor.

Within ten years of Brunswick's farming activities the gold rushes caused a demand for building material. Bluestone was found mainly throughout the eastern half of Brunswick and clay west of Sydney Road. An early site of brick and pottery products was at the village of Phillipstown, just east of Grantham Street (1852). A school was opened there in 1853.



Goldfield Encampment

Sydney Road was the main route to several gold fields, and attracted commercial and civic development. In 1840 Wilkinson donated land in Sydney Road for Brunswick's first (Wesleyan) church, which provided the first school in 1849. The Presbyterians opened a primary school in 1855 and the Catholics in 1860. In 1875 the Presbyterians and the Wesleyans combined to open a larger school, which became the Albert Street or Central Brunswick School.

By 1856 an Anglican school was opened in Brunswick East. Schools and residential expansion came later to Brunswick West, along with Moonee Vale.

By the early 1850s the stone quarries were nearly worked out, but plenty of brick yards replaced them. In 1863, when Brunswick's brick makers had opened eight yards, the largest was opened near Pearson Street. It was named the Hoffman Patent Steam Brick and Tile Company, after the Hoffman steam brick kiln. Hoffman's later made pottery, ceasing in 1960 when its quarry became a tip.