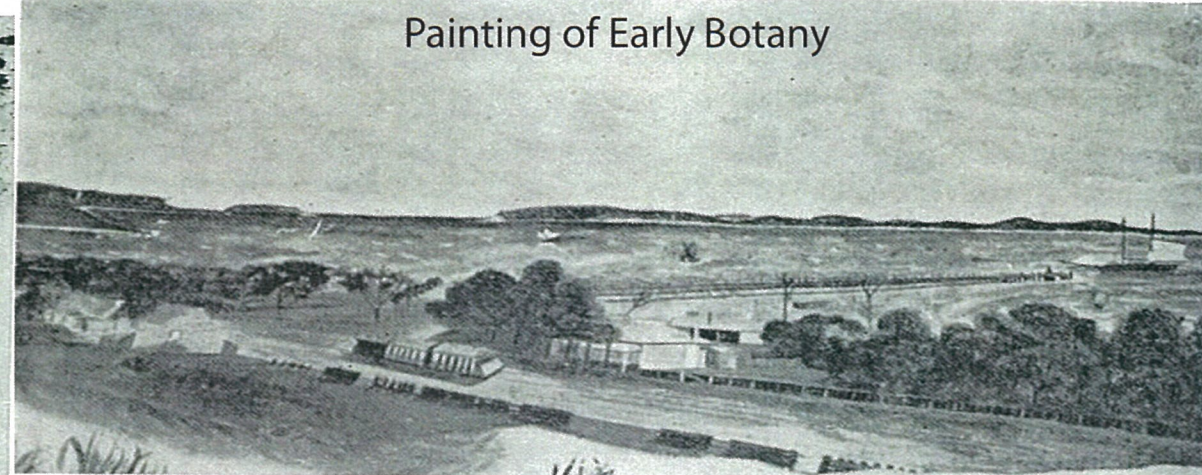
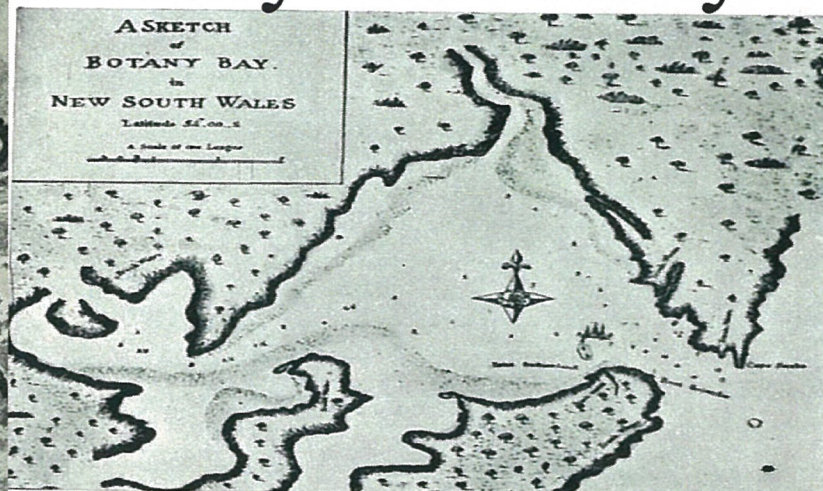


Botany The Early Years



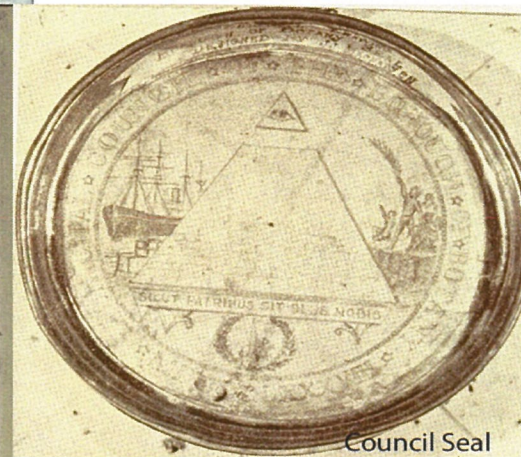
The Landing of Captain Cook at Botany Bay



Painting of Early Botany



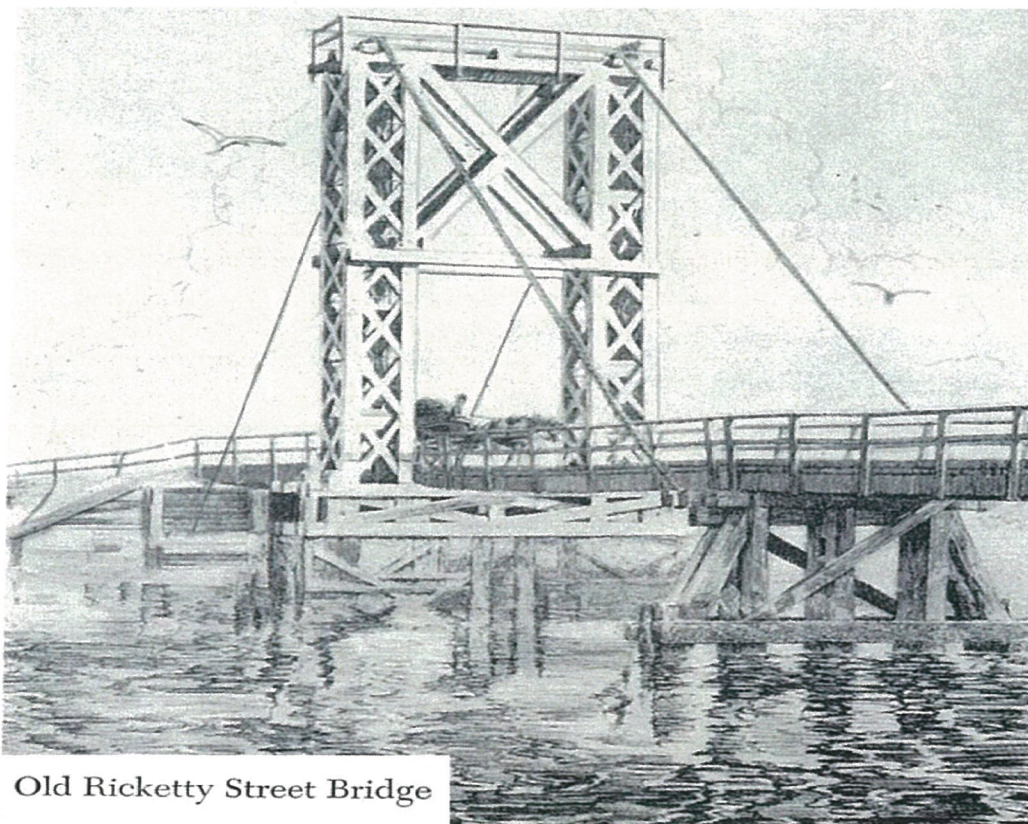
Old Sir Joseph Banks Hotel



Council Seal



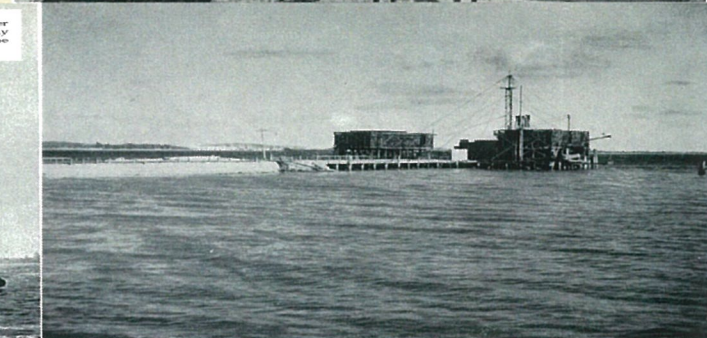
Opening of Botany Town Hall, 1898



Old Ricketty Street Bridge



The Motor Tanker Mexico September 14, 1933. Marks the use of Botany Bay as a commercial Port for the first time



Botany Pier

1. PRIMARY DEVELOPMENT

A PART from the mere possession of land, Botany's earliest white inhabitants were attracted to the area for their livelihood. The first industry was probably the manufacture of shell lime. Shell fish were gathered by aborigines as a source of food and the accumulation of shells furnished early Sydney builders with lime. Péron, the French visitor of 1802, referred to the lime kiln at Botany Bay at which a preparation of lime was made from the shells which were plentiful along the adjacent coast. The lime was transported by small craft such as the *John and Raven*, mentioned in the *Sydney Gazette* of 1803.

Sydney first obtained its salt supplies from pans set up at convenient points, one of which was Botany. The *Sydney Gazette* of 1834 refers to the two establishments for the manufacture of salt at Bennelong, near Botany, each of which had an average output of one ton weekly. Fish were plentiful both along the ocean beaches and off the shores of Botany Bay. Obed West, an early resident of Paddington, describing the region between Port Jackson and Botany Bay, referred to the sea near Coogee as being "one living mass of fish of all kinds" and Long Bay was "alive with mullet". There is no doubt that fish was an important item on the aboriginal menu and in view of the scanty food output of the colonists, it is not surprising that a fishing industry would soon develop. Early reports of the Botany Bay area state that "very early indeed a race of white fishermen began to settle upon the Bay, building their huts . . . in the fishermen's village and carrying their baskets over to the settlements". James Backhouse, a Quaker visitor to New South Wales in 1836, describes one of these fishermen colonies near La Perouse. There was "a row of fishermen's huts near to which were men mending their nets". These settlements, which still existed a century later, emphasise that fishing together with vegetable growing were the most tenacious of the early Botany industries. A *Herald* report of Fishing Town Botany, published in January 1938, refers to "the Smiths, the Duncans, the Joneses, the Thompsons, the Bagnalls and the Johnsons, whose fathers and grandfathers arrived in Sydney a hundred or more years ago. Descendants of English, Scottish and Welsh fisherfolk, they carried on the tradition of their forebears in a new colony and in all weathers pursued their calling, prawning and fishing."

2. THE MARKET GARDENERS

As well as the sea, the early settlers turned to the soil as a source of food supply, and for many years afterwards Sydney obtained its main vegetable supply from Botany gardens. The industry, like the fishing, has persisted until this day. Backhouse in the 'thirties described the conversion of swamps into gardens, the produce of which was sold in the Sydney markets. Another traveller, Marjoribanks, who visited New South Wales about 1840, referred to the barren nature of the Botany Bay hinterland, but a large number of marshy spots were "uncommonly fertile, producing vegetables with the exception of potatoes, sufficient to supply the whole town". In times of drought, the Botany market gardeners were particularly fortunate. The failure of crops on the dry grounds enabled them to obtain almost any price for their vegetables . . . when others, therefore, pray for . . . these market gardeners pray no less fervently for a continuation of dry weather."

A large portion of Lord's grant was let to market gardeners, most of whom by the 'sixties were concentrated along the fringes of Veterans' camp. The land here was very fertile and picturesque. Most of the owners red hands with wages from fifteen to twenty shillings a week excluding dging and rations. Some gardeners cleared as much as £500 a year in 7 seasons and a Mr. Nield was reported as having constructed the Caulfield Hotel out of the profits of a bumper crop. Another gardener, William ephen, a well-known identity and later Mayor of Botany, was reputed to have received up to five shillings each for cabbages. Other early gardeners included W. Lobb, T. Smith, R. Whisker, J. Brichen, J. Saxby, J. Neale and W. Pemberton at Banksmeadow; J. Pemberton, E. Davis, E. Furze, W. Saxby, W. and J. Hambly and S. Hudson at Hancock's Gardens and J. Yeoman at Bay Street. In later years the Chinese, originally attracted by the gold discoveries, returned to their traditional occupation and became keen market garden competitors.



Botany Road (Bay Street) Shopping Centre.

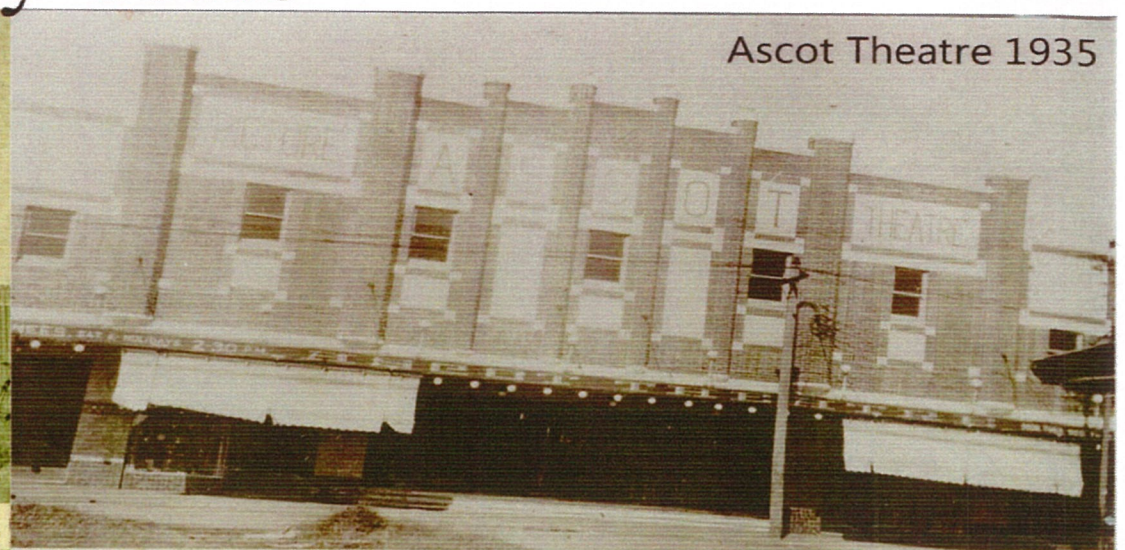
Mascot & Pagewood The Early Years



Botany Road—Part of Jubilee Procession.



Jubilee Procession—Mascot Junior Red Cross Contingent.



Ascot Theatre 1935



Sydney, Thursday, October 14: The One and a Half Millionth Holden, a special sedan to be exported to Trinidad, was produced at the Pagewood, Sydney body and vehicle assembly plant, this morning, announced Managing Director, David L. Hegland, at a Sydney Press Conference. 1965



PAGEWOOD BUILDS ONE AND A HALF MILLIONTH HOLDEN
OUR NEWEST VEHICLE ASSEMBLY PLANT
1966 GM CARS



A nation celebrates as aviators arrive

In 1928 two Australians, Charles Kingsford Smith and Charles Ulm, became the first aviators to make the 11,585 km flight from America to Australia in the Southern cross. The crew, (L-R) American James Warner, Ulm, Kingsford Smith, and US navigator Harry Lyon, arrives in Australia as heroes. A crowd of 300, 000 welcome them at the Mascot Aerodrome.



Early TAA Passenger, Kingsford Smith Airport



Ald. J. S. Elphick, Mayor, and Mrs. Elphick greeting the Queen Mother on arrival at Mascot on February 21, 1939



The Vickers Vimy machine, first Aeroplane to land in Australia from England. Piloted by Sir Ross Smith, February 14, 1920