

English - Colonial - Federation 1880 Captain Cook Hotel 2015 National - Trust - Heritage

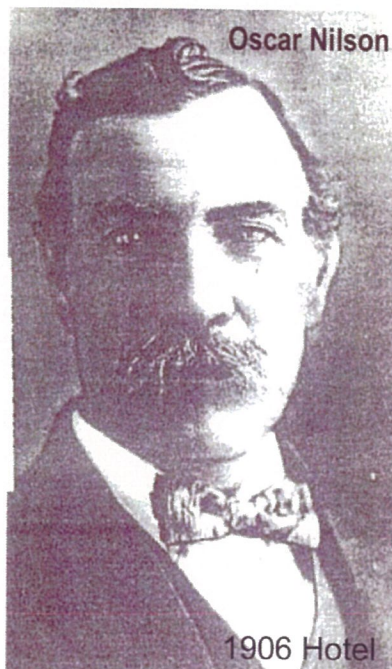
James Clarke, builder first Captian Cook Hotel 1880

James Clarke was born in England circa 1821 and most of his people are buried in Chiswick Churchyard. James married Sophia Featherstonehaugh of Staines England where her father was in the brewery business. Sophia was given £1,400 on her wedding day which her husband James Clarke lost through buildings on Turnham Green for which he did not have the rightful deeds.

James was a blacksmith having served his apprenticeship at the Great Eastern Railway works. Upon arriving in Sydney James obtained a job with the New South Railways, starting under a tarpaulin structure on a grassed paddock that later became the site of the main railway station. According to his grandson James made the first spring made in Australia and helped to couple up the first train that ran and rode on it to Parramatta & back.

It appears that James made and lost several "small fortunes". After the railways he built the Captain Cook Hotel on Botany Road, was foreman smith at Hudson's railway carriage works in Redfern, built a blacksmith & engineers shop in Wattle Street, Ultimo.

James was killed by a bolting horse at Forest Lodge when 77 years old. The Coroners Report indicated the cause of death as "Injuries accidentally received through falling down at corner of Charles and Cross Streets Forest Lodge on 14 October 1894".



Oscar Nilson

1906 Hotel

Oscar William Nilson (1861 - 1930)

Oscar William Nilson is regarded as the "father" of the Botany Council in Sydney. He was alderman for 35 years (1895 - 1910, 1912 - 1930) and Mayor twice (1900 and 1930).

Mr. Nilson was a native of Solvesborg in Sweden, and came to Australia as carpenter's mate on the "Smyrna" in 1883. Obtaining his discharge, his first shore job was at Stephen's garden. Later he became a builder on his own account, the principal buildings erected at Botany by him being the Captain Cook Hotel, the Church of England School Hall, Thompsons' shop, the Empire Picture Theatre and the A.W.P. Woolscour.

His services to the district were numberless. Practically he was permanent Chairman of the Works Committee. Other offices held by him were Vice-President of the Botany Literary Institute, Chairman and Director of the South Sydney Star Bowkett Society, a member of the Botany Road Trust, which was constituted by Act of Parliament to reconstruct Botany Road in concrete in 1926. A keen follower of sport he was president of the Botany Harriers.

A complimentary dinner was tendered him on February 19th, 1930 in the Botany Town Hall. The building was decorated with blue and gold, the colours of Sweden, the guest's native land. He was presented with an illuminating address and a substantial cheque as recognition of his valuable services to the district.

Captain James Cook (1728-1779)



On April 29th 1770 Cook discovered Australia landing H.M.B endeavour in Botany Bay

Parliament of New South Wales
Legislative Assembly



Ron Hoenig MP
Member for Hordern

THE CAPTAIN COOK HOTEL

I have lived in the Botany area my whole life and consider the Captain Cook Hotel as an iconic, heritage-listed structure that is a wonderful example of Australia's early Federation Period.

The Captain Cook Hotel was built in Federation Arts and Crafts style around 108 years ago and is still serving our community today. The architectural detailing of the hotel includes a slate roof, faced brickwork walls and sandstone coping to gable ends, windows and chimneys. A quick check of the Internet reveals how popular and how well regarded the Captain Cook Hotel is with both local patrons and with travellers.

What is even more remarkable is the story behind the building. The builder, Oscar William Nilson was an absolutely outstanding citizen who served the community for thirty-five years. Nilson was born in Solvesborg, Sweden and arrived in Australia in 1883. By 1895, Oscar Nilson was serving as an Alderman on the old Botany Council. He was an Alderman from 1895 to 1910 and again from 1912 to 1930, dying in office on March 3, 1930. Mr Nilson was Mayor twice in 1900 and 1913, a remarkable achievement.

Oscar Nilson's contributions to Botany were invaluable. As a member of the Botany Road Trust, Nilson literally helped "pave" Botany's future. This Trust was responsible for concreting Botany Road in 1926. As a prominent Botany builder, Oscar Nilson was also responsible for the Church of England School Hall, Thompsons' shop, the Empire Picture Theatre and the AWP Woolscour. During his 35 years on old Botany Council, Nilson was virtually permanent Chairman of Council's Works Committee.

There is talk, perhaps an urban myth that Oscar William Nilson was the first person to formally become an Australian citizen. Certainly, Nilson's services to his adopted community were numerous and he was much loved and honoured when he died.

I am sure that Oscar William Nilson would be amazed and gratified that the Captain Cook Hotel is still standing in Botany today, 108 years later, as a tribute to his achievements.

As a long term Mayor of Botany, I can testify to the great, personal satisfaction it brings to serve our people. This building, Oscar William Nilson's Captain Cook Hotel, still stands as a quiet reminder of the gratitude I hold for the people of Botany who gave my predecessors and me the opportunity to serve.

Yours sincerely,

Ron Hoenig

Ron Hoenig MP

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The first reference in the Sands Directory to the Captain Cook Hotel was in 1880 when Edwin Fabrey is shown as the publican, although in 1877 a Mrs S. Devitt was listed as being at the Captain Cook inn, Botany Road, Botany. In 1878 there was no Sands Directory entry for Botany, whilst in 1879 there is no listing for the Captain Cook Hotel or inn, although Edwin Fabrey, Publican is shown as being in Banks Street and in the following year he is listed at the Captain Cook Hotel and again in 1882, there being no listing in 1881. Thomas W. Hutton is listed at the Captain Cook Hotel in Botany Road in 1883, followed by Thomas D. Sutton in 1884, Archibald A. Wood in 1885, Henry Puckeridge in 1886 with Archibald Wood again in 1887 and 1888 where the listings show the address as the Captain Cook inn.

In 1926 Valuer-General's valuation No. 593 showed the Captain Cook Hotel as situated at 105 Botany Road, Botany, being Lot 1 of Section 1 of a resubdivision of Lots 45/46 of Lords Estate with Tooth & Co as the owner and M. Falkner as Licensee. At the time the improved capital value (ICV) was £10,000, unimproved capital value (UCV), £1,050 and the assessed annual value (AAV) was £794.

1930



POLICE



GAZETTE.

AND WEEKLY RECORD OF CRIME.

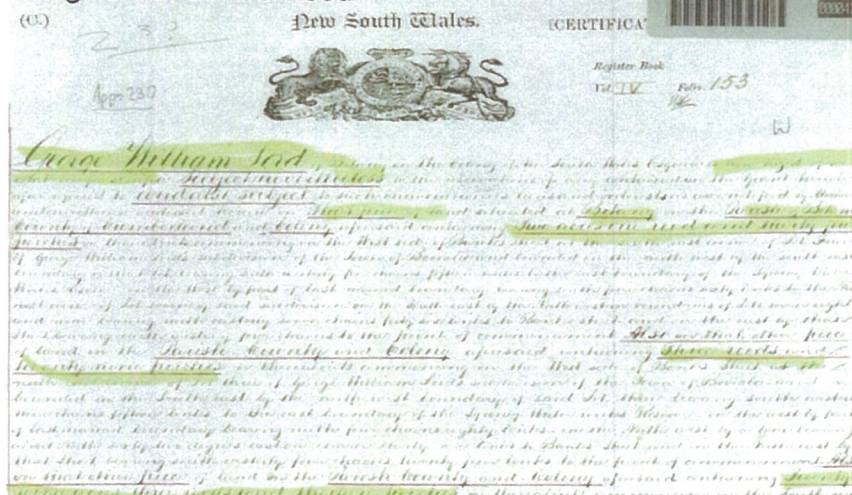
No. 46.]

WEDNESDAY, 18 NOVEMBER.

1880

Stolen, between the hours of 1 and 5 a.m. the 11th instant, from the "Captain Cook Hotel," Botany-street, the property of William Gillespie, the landlord,—About twelve bottles of spirits—brandy, gin, and whiskey, and six bottles of ale, and 9s. in fourpenny pieces and coppers; value, £2 10s. One penny piece has a piece of lead in the centre, and can be identified. Stolen, on the 9th instant, from a hut at Wickham.

Original LandsTitle Deed



Mural By Ramon Mascord

This mural by Ramon Mascord is a copy of the painting by E. Phillips Fox, Landing of Captain Cook at Botany Bay, 1770, painted in 1902 (oil on canvas, 192.2cm x 265.4cm height x width). The original painting is held by the National Gallery of Victoria, at Federation Square. Mascord has used artistic license to elongate the composition. There is a story that Mascord, who was a signwriter by trade, was paid in beer to paint the mural, and that when it was completed, he owed the pub 15 pounds.

In addition to being a signwriter, he drew cartoons and published three books of humorous sketches based on his wartime experiences, when he served in Libya, Crete, Greece and New Guinea. He was also a keen amateur arachnid fancier, known as The Spider Man and he researched, collected specimens, drew and photographed thousands of spiders. Many of these were donated to the Australian Museum. He published three books on spiders as well as five papers in journals.

He lived locally, in Tupia Street, Botany and is remembered by members of his family. He died in 1983. Mascord is an interesting person who would warrant more investigation.

The mural offers some colourful, local history, which is specific to the Captain Cook Hotel. For interpretative purposes, it is proposed to restore the mural where it is flaking and to permit some view of it from the public bar through the use of windows, licensing laws permitting. Some biographical information on Mascord would be placed in a public area. His cartoons, framed in an appropriate way, could make an effective display in a dining or other public area. Alternatively, they could be printed as souvenir postcards or beer mats for publicity.

Interior

While much "modernisation" has been carried out, traces remain of the original interior, especially as regards timber joinery, staircase and windows, as well as two ceilings of different patterned pressed metal. The main Bar fittings are outdated counters and refrigerator doors, and the walls are decorative tiling typical of this style of building, with old display cases and mirrors. early original staircase.

Exterior

the "Captain Cook" with a frontage to Botany Road Botany, numbered 1114, just south of Bay Street. The building is of brick construction with some timber shingle panelling. Roofs are mainly slate on the original sections, with tile and corrugated iron on later additions. The original building was estimated to have been erected C. 1880, by observing the style of the brickwork, slate roof, chimneys, windows and cast-iron lacework. Additions to the side and rear of the building have been erected at various intervals over the succeeding 100 years.

2015



Lonely Outpost 1928 Matraville Hotel 2015 Community Icon

The Matraville Hotel was known as "The Jew's" after Joe Levy an early Publican (1929/42). Levy committed suicide in the Hotel in 1941. He had interests in Malaya and when it fell to the Japanese he lost all. According to Vic Toms...

The first Licencee was named Ryan and the Pub was begun in 1928 and Vic's father was the first boarder.

25/7/27 - Conditional Licence for premises to be erected in Perry St & Bunnerong Rd, Matraville to be known as "Matraville Hotel" (Cost £11,000)
29/10/28 - New Licence for premises granted.

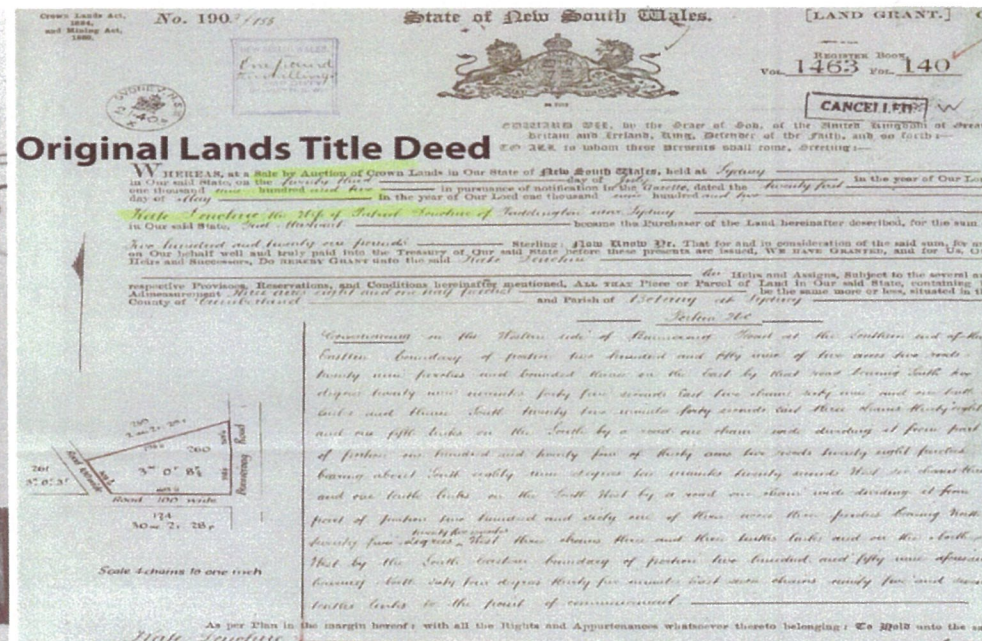
29/10/28	Bunnerong Rd & Perry St.	John C. Crossley
5/11/28	do.	John A. Doyle
28/10/29	do.	Joseph V. Levy
18/5/42	do.	Harry O. Fletcher
7/12/42	do.	James R. Wilkinson
19/5/43	do.	John H. Keogh
17/10/60	do.	Robert H. Beaumont
17/6/63	do.	Noel P. Lumby
26/9/66	do.	Alan P. Meagher

The "OASIS HOTEL GROUP" took over ownership of the Heritage listed hotel in 1997 and have continued the tradition of providing the local community with a friendly well run social meeting place with recent extensions providing sports enthusiasts with all audio visual facilities including ultra modern T.A.B.

Hotel Extension 1940



The Matraville Hotel built in 1928, was once regarded as a lonely outpost. It provided refreshments for thirsty farmers in its earliest days. The area was once dotted with pig farms, poultry farms and market gardens. Later, it recouped the spirits of the workers from the Bunnerong Power Station and the Sewerage construction. It has been well patronised by the local community for past 86 years.



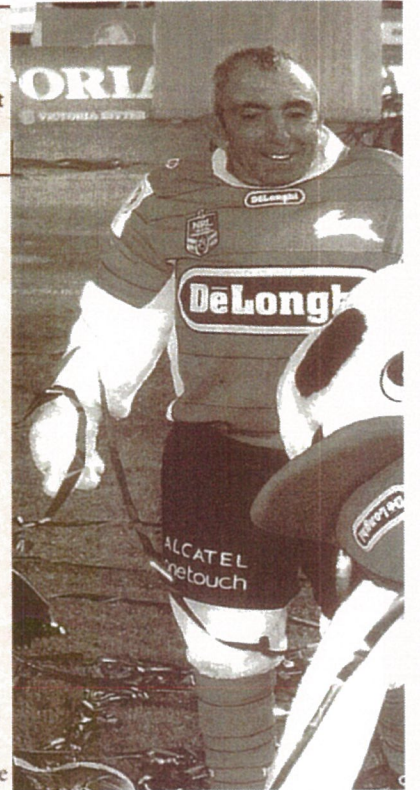
MATRAVILLE

Municipality of Randwick

Location: 11 kilometres south-east of Sydney between Maroubra and Malabar

This suburb, a near neighbour of Maroubra, owes its name to a school established in the area in 1904, thanks to the efforts of J. R. Dacey, the state member for Botany at that time, after whom nearby Daceyville is named.

The school's historical significance in honouring James Mario Matra is also interesting. Matra sailed as a midshipman in the Endeavour on Captain James Cook's epic voyage to Botany Bay. Matra was obviously a man of intellect, as he became British consul at Tenerife in 1772, and served Britain at the embassy in Turkey in 1778. An appointment as British consul at Tangiers followed. Matra was born in New York but later settled in England. In his journal, Captain Cook wrote Matra's name as Magra, a spelling Matra himself used in the early years of his life, although later he signed himself Matra.



Reggie Rabbit "Aka" Charlie Gallico Local Celebrity and regular at hotel. Charlie has been Rabbitoh's Mascot since 2000

MATRAVILLE OIL REFINERY SITE: Adjoining Botany Cemetery is the site of Australia's first oil refinery, shut down in 1984 after 36 years of operation. Bitumen and Oil Refineries of Australia Ltd. built the refinery in 1948. In the 1963 to 1965 period the founding company adopted the name "Boral" and subsequently sold the enterprise to Total Australia Ltd. A new refinery at Matraville was proposed by Total in 1976 and in 1979 a joint Total-N.S.W. Government venture was announced. With this proposal unrealised, Ampol Ltd. acquired Total in 1982. The obsolete refinery ceased production two years later. In its prime it produced a range of petroleum products including jet aircraft fuel. Crude oil was pumped through a submarine pipeline from tanker moorings in Phillip Bay to Yarra Point, thence underground to the site.

BURGLAR ALARM MATRAVILLE ARRESTS

Monday 17 March 1930

A CHARGE of having attempted to break and enter the dwelling of Joseph Victor Levy, the Matraville Hotel, at the corner of Bunnerong-road and Perry-street, Matraville, on March 16, was, preferred against Mervyn Cunningham. 27, musician. Victor Hoare, 27, car proprietor and Essie Deham, 19, domestic duties, at the Central Court today.

It was stated by Constable Magill that about 4.15 a.m. yesterday the licensee of the hotel heard the burglar alarm ringing. Going downstairs and into the street he met one of the defendants. Covering him with a revolver, Levy asked what he was doing there. He replied that two men had attempted to rob the female defendant who was seated in a motor car close by and he had come to the hotel for assistance.

When the hotel was examined at day light, marks were found on a window sill and trap-door as though an attempt had been made to force an entrance. The defendants were remanded until March 26. the men on bail of £40 each, and the woman on £10.



Hotel has early close association with local junior rugby league