

THE CUMBERLAND

Final text

The new Cumberland Guest House offers a standard of living, comfort and warmth unequalled anywhere in Victoria. Rebuilt just a few months ago the New Cumberland has luxury accommodation with bathrooms en-suite to all bedrooms, a wonderfully relaxing lounge and superb food with the very finest in wines, spirits and ales.

Advertisement, *The Age*, 10 August 1970

The Cumberland Resort, which once stood on this site, is linked to two of Marysville's most prominent families—the Bartons and the Cuzens.

A guesthouse called the Bungalow was built on this land for Emily Ada Barton in around 1917. Emily had been a guesthouse proprietor since at least 1915, when she managed the short-lived 'Chestnuts'. She was certainly well qualified for the job, having raised, cooked and cleaned for a grand total of 16 Barton children! Emily managed the Bungalow until she sold it to WC Walker in September 1923.

Sydney Elliott took over the Bungalow in 1929, changing its name to Cumberland House within the year. After he sold the business in the mid-1930s the Cumberland had a string of new owners until Geoff and Joan Cuzens purchased it in 1946.

Disaster struck in March 1969, when an electrical fault started a fire. Fortunately no-one was hurt, but the building was nearly destroyed. The Marysville community helped Geoff and Joan rebuild the Cumberland in time for the Christmas rush that same year.

Simon and Anne Cuzens upgraded the Cumberland and opened a day spa on the property in 2006. Tragically, the Cumberland was again destroyed on Black Saturday 2009.



Cumberland Guest House, c. 1940-60
Rose Series, State Library of Victoria

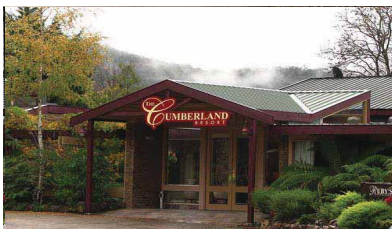


The Cumberland Guest House, n.d
Rose Series, State Library of Victoria



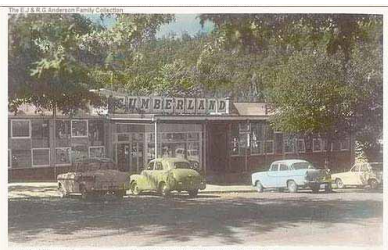
The Cumberland, c. 1950s
[Credit line to be determined]

When Geoff and Joan Cuzens took over the Cumberland in the late 1940s, the business was reunited with its original owners, the Barton family—Emily Barton was Geoff's grandmother!



The Cumberland, 2008
[Credit line to be determined]

Geoff Hyland bought the Cumberland from Geoff and Joan Cuzens, but sold it to their son Simon and his wife Anne Cuzens, in 200X.



The Cumberland, c. 1960
[Credit line to be determined]



The Cumberland, n.d.

[Credit line to be determined]



The Cumberland Resort, 2007

[Credit line to be determined]

KEPPEL'S AUSTRALIAN HOTEL

Final text

This pleasant afternoon's drive ends most pleasantly at Keppel's hostelry, best of all the inns on the Yarra Track. This establishment, in itself, is a circumstance which impresses the tourist most favourably with this beautiful health resort ...

'The Vagabond', 13 June 1885

The Keppels were one of the first families to settle at Marysville in the 1860s. Although initially lured to central Victoria by gold fever in 1852, Maurice Keppel eventually decided his fortune lay in hotels and built Keppel's Australian Hotel 11 years later.

Keppel's Hotel quickly became a popular with diggers as a place to stay and have a drink and warm meal before they continued their arduous journey along the Yarra Track from Melbourne to the Wood's Point and Jamieson goldfields.

Marysville's tourist boom in the late 19th century boosted the hotel's popularity. By this stage, Maurice and Mary Keppel were well known for their generous hospitality and Keppel's Australian Hotel had a reputation for excellent facilities. The Marysville post office and a general store were even located at the Hotel at one stage.

This Marysville icon was destroyed by bushfires in February 2009, but many nearby landmarks still bear the Keppel name.



Fryday's Australian Hotel, c. 1920-39

[Credit line to be determined]

Mrs EM Fryday bought the Australian Hotel from the Keppels in 1920 and re-named it Fryday's Australian Hotel.



Keppel's Hotel, 2008

[Credit line to be determined]



J. W. Lindt, 'Keppel's Australian Hotel, c. 1876-94'

State Library of Victoria

When this photograph was taken in the late 19th century, the Keppel family not only ran the Australian Hotel but also operated the post office and farmed crops, sheep and cows to produce food for hotel guests.



The mailman in a snow storm on the Wood's Point—Marysville Road, 25 September 1880

State Library of Victoria

The Keppel family was associated with the Marysville post office for around 75 years. Maurice Keppel became the post-master in 1869 and his daughter Kate succeeded Maurice after his death in 1914. Kate continued to run the new Post Office across the road when the family sold the hotel in 1920.

KOORINGA

Final text

*The Premier Guest House in this beautiful Mountain Resort.
“A Lovely Home in an Old-World Garden.”
Every modern comfort and convenience.
Electric light. Splendid hot water service. Unequaled cuisine. Sewerage.
Tennis. Swimming Pool. Golf. Dancing. Trout fishing. Croquet Lawn. All Games and Sports.
Lock-up Garages. Library of 1800 volumes.
A special care is made of convalescents and children and guests on a diet.
Tree-shaded grounds. Glorious views. Beautiful walks and drives in all directions.
Centre for Winter Sports at Lake Mountain. Skiers specially catered for.*

Advertisement, c. 1930s

Kooringa was built by the Cuzens brothers as a private home for the Webb family in the early 20th century. The family were active local builders, responsible for a number of other buildings in the town including the Cumberland guesthouse and Christ Church.

During the 1920s, tourists arrived in droves in Marysville as motor cars and buses cut travelling time to the town. Soon Kooringa had been converted into a guest house, complete with ‘modern’ facilities. The Pitman family, who also owned the Log Cabin souvenir shop, ran Kooringa during the 1920s, but sold the business to Wilbur Anderson and his wife by February 1930. The Andersons then managed Kooringa for over 10 years.

Kooringa was one of the guesthouses in Marysville that provided lodgings for children evacuated from the Melbourne Church of England Girls Grammar School during the Second World War. Three hundred and twenty girls stayed in Marysville and attended the local school from 1942 until 1944 while the Royal Australian Air Force commandeered the school’s South Yarra grounds.

Malcolm Reed purchased Kooringa and Mary-Lyn, one of the Mary Chain guesthouses, in 1980 and later joined the two buildings by a passageway. Kooringa’s new owners renovated the building extensively in XX, transforming the guesthouse into a successful family resort and conference centre.



Under the rose arch at Kooringa, c. 1920s

[Credit line to be determined]

Kooringa while it was owned by Olive and Gwen Pitman, relatives of the famous Sir Isaac Pitman who invented shorthand.



Kooringa, c. 1940

[Credit line to be determined]



Kooringa, c. 1940-60

Rose Collection, State Library of Victoria



Kooringa, c. 1913-20

[Credit line to be determined]

Kooringa while it was still a private home.



Kooringa, c. 1925

State Library of Victoria



Kooringa, c. 1940s

[Credit line to be determined]

THE LOG CABIN

Final text

Fine days followed by cool nights are greatly enjoyed by visitors. The walks, shaded by tree-ferns are most popular ... A social evening, organised by Miss G. Pitman, was held in the Marysville Hall recently, an enjoyable programme being contributed by visitors.

The Argus, 23 December 1921

The Log Cabin souvenir shop and tearoom was built here for the Pitman sisters, Olive and Gwen, in the early 1920s, when tourism was booming. Tearooms sprang up to cater for the many visitors who wanted a restful holiday and guesthouse owners organised music, sporting matches, dances and walks for the more adventurous.

Marysville had offered visitors an assortment of fun-filled holiday activities for over 130 years. In the 1880s, tourists flocked to the region to walk along the tracks through the towering mountain ash forests and catch a glimpse of nearby waterfalls, especially the spectacular Steavenson's Falls.

The Log Cabin is also part of a mystery that has never been solved. Olive Pitman vanished in 1926, a few months after the death of her father. 39-year-old Olive left home without saying where she was going on the morning of 12 July. Her mother raised the alarm when she failed to return that afternoon. The police and Aboriginal trackers searched for Olive for over a week in rugged country and bad weather, but did not find her.

Human remains, believed to be those of Olive Pitman, were discovered in the bush about one mile from Marysville in 1939, nearly 13 years after her disappearance. By this time, the Pitmans had already sold Log Cabin and left Marysville behind.

The Log Cabin continued to be a popular souvenir shop and tearoom until the 1960s. It was destroyed by bushfires on Black Saturday, 2009.



The Log Cabin, 2008

[Credit line to be determined]



The Log Cabin, n.d.

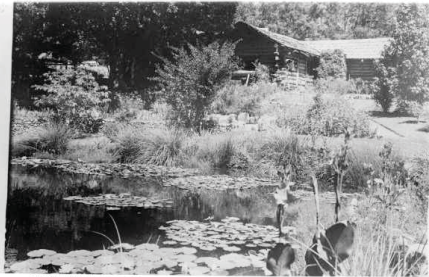
[Credit line to be determined]

The Pitman sisters also ran the guesthouse Kooringa from 1920 until 1930. Both women had tragic fates—five years after Olive’s disappearance, Gwen suffered severe burns in a house fire and died of her injuries in hospital.



The Log Cabin, c. 1930s

[Credit line to be determined]



THE ROSE SERIES P. 3734

THE LOG CABIN, MARYSVILLE, VIC.

The Log Cabin, c. 1940-60

The Rose Series, State Library of Victoria



THE ROSE SERIES P. 4571

SOUVENIR & GIFT SHOP, MARYSVILLE, VIC.

The Log Cabin, c. 1950s

The Rose Series, State Library of Victoria



Nancy Higgs in front of the Log Cabin, c. 1950
[Credit line to be determined]