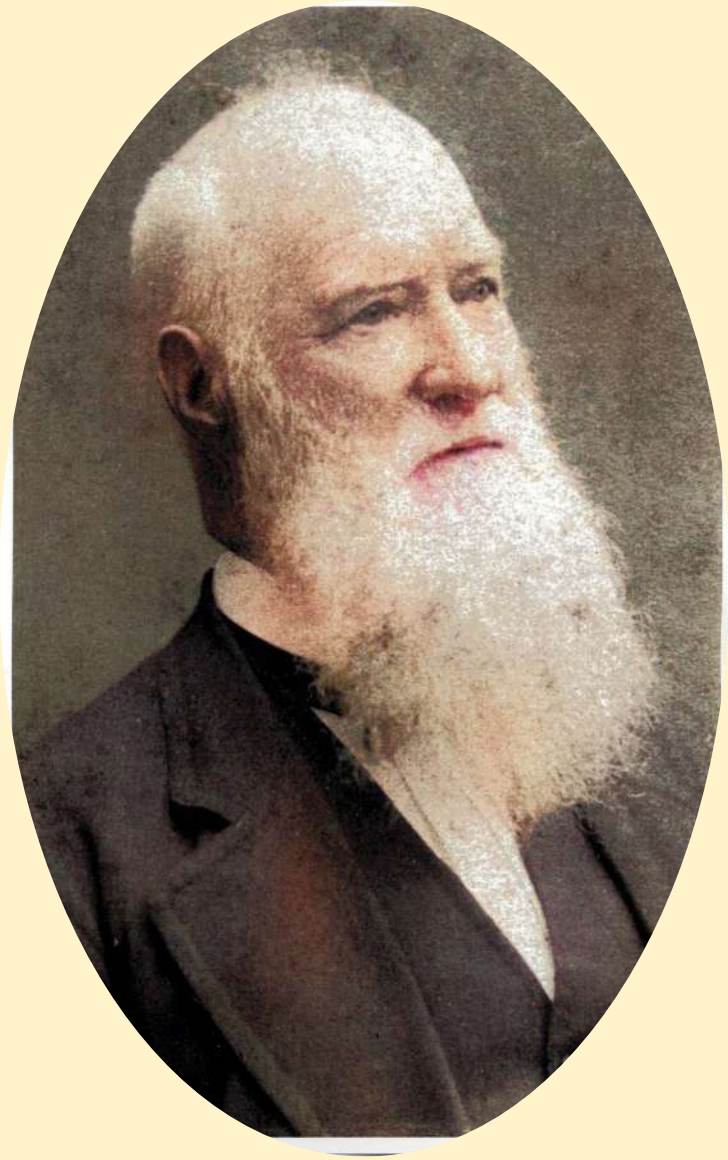
WINDSOR & DISTRICTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

Journal

Volume 38 No 2

May 2026



Who is this gentleman? See page 6

Featuring:

Society News

Windsor School of Arts

Photographer F.W.Thiel

Journal

Volume 38 Number 2

May 2026

Produced and edited by

Rob Price B.Pharm UQ

Secretary WDHS

Much of the historical material was sourced from the Society's record collection, Trove and other online data bases.

Circulation manager

Gem Cowlishaw

Delivered by email to members.

Recent issues are viewable online at www.windsorhistorical.org.au

We are dedicated to preserving the history of the old Windsor Shire / Town areas of :

Albion *

Alderley *

Eagle Junction *

Grange

Kalinga

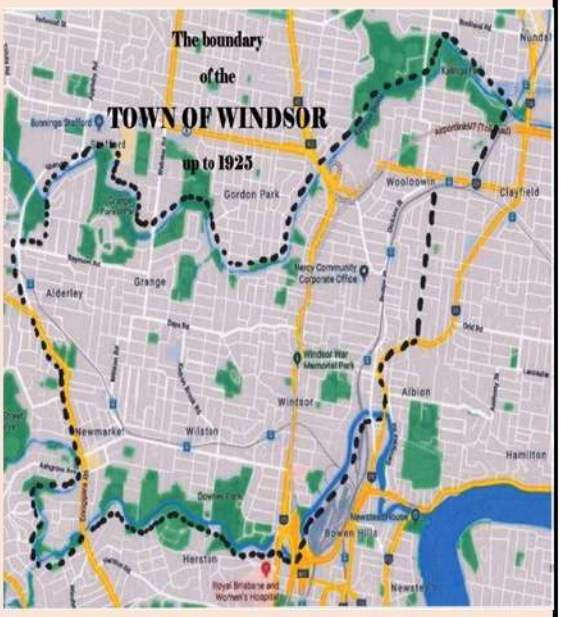
Lutwyche

Newmarket *

Wilston

Windsor

Wooloowin



And now extended to cover Gordon Park and Herston.

*** part of this suburb**

Contact details

Windsor and Districts Historical Society Inc.

Old Windsor Council Chambers

356 Lutwyche Rd Windsor

PO Box 539 Lutwyche Q'ld 4030

Phone: 0401 802 980

Email: info@windsorhistorical.org.au

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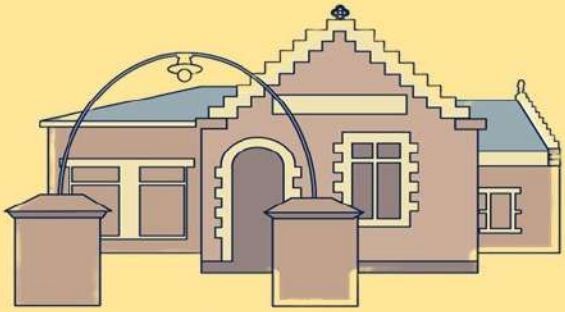


Our home

New opening hours from February 21

Saturday 10am—2pm
Sunday 10am—2pm

Also by appointment.

Closed public holidays

Society News

This year, the society will host a series of Sunday **history presentations,** open to members and the general public.

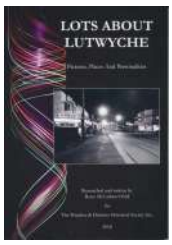
With a vast collection of local historical records at its disposal, the society offers a wealth of material for these presentations.

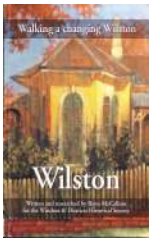
The inaugural presentation on **Sunday 15 February** followed the journey of William Jolly—from his five terms leading the Town of Windsor (Mayor), to his historic position as the first Mayor/Lord Mayor of Greater Brisbane.

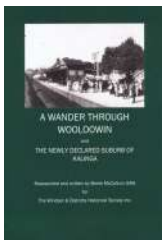
Society President Matthew Crook delivered a well received presentation to an audience of 36, including approximately 15 descendants of William Jolly.

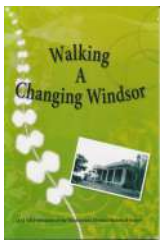
Before 1925, the present-day suburbs of Windsor, Wilston, Grange, Lutwyche, Wooloowin, Kalinga (and parts of others) were all part of the **Shire (and later Town) of Windsor**. Exploring the unique origins and evolution of these areas will provide excellent material for this year's history presentations.

President Matthew Crook will delve into the society's archives to curate a presentation tailored for the local community Consequently, the schedule for the remainder of the year will feature a dedicated lecture series focusing on Lutwyche, Wilston, Wooloowin, and Windsor.









Sunday 22 March was the history presentation of Lutwyche.

.While attendance for Matthew Crook's excellent presentation was modest, the society anticipates a larger turnout in the future as word spreads regarding the high quality of these sessions.

Anzac Day 2026

The society held its annual Anzac Day ceremony at the Windsor War Memorial, with thanks to the sub-committee's hard work in coordinating the logistics. Despite a sudden downpour, the large crowd remained, and the ceremony's significance was in no way diminished. After the service, many of the attendees moved over to the chambers to enjoy morning tea—complete with Anzac biscuits—and a sausage sizzle provided by Rotary. Attendees also spent time exploring the Anzac display on site.

Catafalque Party at memorial

Speaker - Federal Member—Madonna Jarrett

Rain approaches

Salvation Army Band

WDHS President Matthew Crook

The rain arrives

Tim Nicholls

Tim—the sound man

Ready to cross the road

Rotary sausage sizzle

Historical display

Upcoming events.

Discover the heritage of Wilston! We're hosting a history presentation at the **Chambers** on **Sunday, 24 May, at 4:00 pm**. All welcome and refreshments will be served.

Also, please join us at the "**Taste of Wilston"** fair at the Wilston Village **Sunday 12 July -9am—1pm.**

The Windsor and Districts Historical Society is also pleased to announce that our home, the historic **Old Windsor Council Chambers**, will once again open its doors for the **Brisbane Open House** event. Visit us on **Saturday and Sunday, 18–19 July**, between **9.30am and 3pm** for a unique opportunity to explore this heritage-listed landmark. Whether you are a history enthusiast or a curious local, our volunteers will be on hand to share the rich stories and architectural significance of this iconic building.

BNE OPEN HOUSE

Chambers News

During a fierce Windsor storm in November 2025, the stone **finial** crowning the chamber's exterior was swept from its perch above the front steps. **It had been there for 128 years.**

The wind swung a nearby branch with the force of a guillotine, cutting the finial away from its pedestal.

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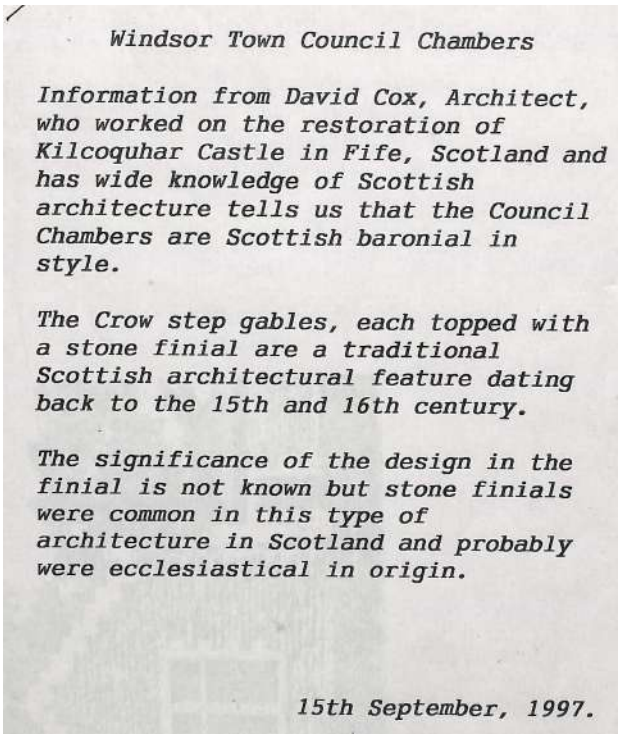
The following morning, the editor discovered the finial—largely undamaged—on the front path leading to the chambers. It was promptly moved indoors for safekeeping.

Architect David Cox is a life member of the society.



Windsor Town Council Chambers

Information from David Cox, Architect, who worked on the restoration of Kilcoquhar Castle in Fife, Scotland and has wide knowledge of Scottish architecture tells us that the Council Chambers are Scottish baronial in style.

The Crow step gables, each topped with a stone finial are a traditional Scottish architectural feature dating back to the 15th and 16th century.

The significance of the design in the finial is not known but stone finials were common in this type of architecture in Scotland and probably were ecclesiastical in origin.

15th September, 1997.

The finial is shaped like a **quatrefoil**, featuring four overlapping circles that resemble a four-leaf clover.

Following heritage guidelines, Brisbane City Council contractors successfully reinstalled the finial in March 2026.

The naming of

Wight Street

Wight Street Windsor, (a small street, approx.100metres connecting fifth and sixth avenues Windsor), was named after -

Rev. George Wight
1817—1900

George was an early Scottish settler in the Windsor area and he was prominent in establishing, in the 1860s, the first Sunday School and Church and also the Bowen Bridge Road School .

The Rev. George Wight born in 1817 was the son of James Wight of Haddington, East Lothian, Scotland & Marian Brock. Nothing is recorded of his childhood but it is certain that he was given a good education. By 1839 he was an assistant at St. Andrew's Peace Church at Leith in Scotland becoming enrolled to study for the ministry of the United Secession Church. He enrolled for a five year course consisting of two-month sessions annually in either Glasgow or Edinburgh. Education up to 1843 was under the jurisdiction of the Catholic upper class Church of Scotland. The rise of the secessionist movement of the Free Church of Scotland saw many new churches being built all over Scotland to cater for the religious needs of the lower classes. It then became their duty to cater, as the Catholic Church of Scotland had done, for the educational needs of their flock as well as to support the poor - and there were many poor at that time. The Industrial Revolution had seen machines replace many workers who moved into the fringes of the cities to look for employment. The potato famine of 1840 also saw desperate people clustering close to the wealthy industrial cities where families lived in terrible conditions creating slums. It was in this climate in 1843 that the Rev. George Wight declared his preference to work for the Congregational Church and was given his first charge in an independent Protestant Congregation which was not a Secessionist Parish.

Approached to form a Congregational Church in Brisbane in the Moreton Bay Colony of NSW he took up the challenge and arrived in Sydney on 4 February, 1858 leaving his wife and young family to follow later when he was established.

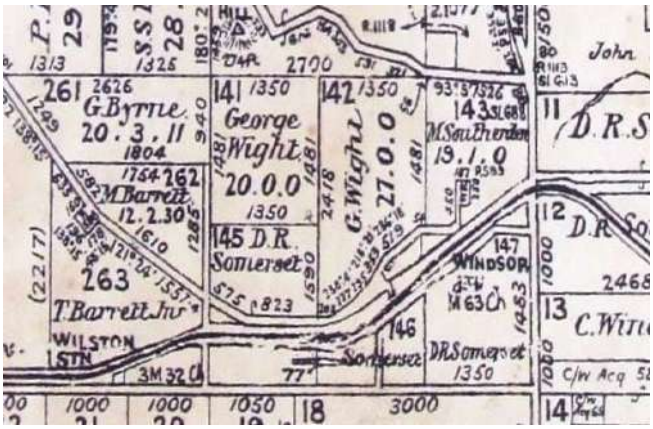
On arrival in Sydney he found that a Congregational Church had been formed there in 1853 and a substantial building erected at Balmain. Due to serious differences between the Minister the Rev. T.A.Gordon and the Home Missionary Society, the majority of the congregation had left and formed a Presbyterian Church. The remnant of the congregation did not have a minister so the Rev. Wight took over temporarily until he sailed for Brisbane on the *Star of Peace* arriving in Brisbane on 15 May, 1858. He had a lonely arrival with no one to welcome him. He wrote:-
My departure from Sydney had been sudden and the steamer that brought myself carried also the letters of introduction.
The *Brisbane Courier* reported that *No one met him as he stepped ashore to greet him and to bid him Godspeed.*

Undaunted, he held the first service of the Congregational Church in Brisbane on the same day, in the National School in Brisbane where services continued until the first Sunday of August when the School of Arts was occupied. An eligible site for a chapel was secured on the corner of Wharf and Adelaide Streets on 29 July, 1858. The land cost 260pounds, all of which was raised by May , 1859 the first anniversary of his arrival in Brisbane. The new church was opened free of debt on 29 July, 1860. It cost 1,489/8/6 pounds. In that year family matters required his return to Scotland and he notified his intention to resign the pastorate. In those first two years he had achieved two of his three objectives. – A chapel had been erected free of debt, and the church was self-sustaining and able to support a stipend for a pastor. He handed the church into the very capable hands of Rev. Edward Griffith (father of Sir Samuel Walker Griffith). .

The Rev. Geo. Wight's third aim of Education and the Church was still to be achieved when he left in 1860, but pursuing his literary interest he had founded the *Queensland Guardian* Newspaper in May, 1860. He contributed articles under the nom de plume of *Willinghood. The Guardian* ceased publication during the bank crisis of 1869.

His return to Scotland was saddened by the death of his wife, Jessie, but before coming back to Queensland he re-married to Mary Ann Laing, the daughter of Andrew Laing and his wife Jane (nee Kay) of Burnt Island, Fifeshire. He came back to Queensland in 1862, this time with his new wife, and settled at his ***Eildon Hill Station***.

These early landowners in Brisbane referred to their large acreages as *Stations*. –just as today large properties in the west are known as sheep or cattle stations.



George Wight's land Portion 141 and 142 containing 47 acres.

It is thought that George named Eildon Hill

The bare Eildon Hill Windsor in 1898

Probably named after the Eildon Hills in Melrose Scotland

They were to have another four children – a son John Andrew and a daughter Jane Anne (both birth dates show 1864 probably twins) and Catherine Isobel in 1867 and another daughter before the second Mrs. Wight died in 1868.

Jane Anne and Isobel were to die in the wreck of the *Quetta* in Torres Strait in 1890.

Isobel became a music teacher at the Brisbane Girls' Grammar school and the Wight Gold Medal for piano students is awarded annually each year.

Part of a letter to his brother in Scotland in 1863 reads:

'I have delayed writing till something definite could be said regarding our doings here. ***Eildon Hill*** *is just within the suburbs, nearly three miles from the centre of the town. There we have taken up our abode. I should tell you that there was on the property a slab humpy which we occupied for two months, till a more suitable dwelling was prepared; the then the humpy was converted into a chapel. You will be pleased to know that the few men located in the bush around us spontaneously supplied 'the forms' for the improvised chapel. It is really a comfortable place, occupying a gentle slope shaded and surrounded by huge gum and box trees such as you never see in Scotland. The first thing we did was to commence a Sunday School under the efficient management of my dear wife, and already, from 40 to 50 children are in attendance. You must understand they are not black children but children of white settlers, living within a radius of three or four miles. What pleases us much is the steady attendance of the young people, their eagerness to learn, their exemplary behaviour, and the warm interest the parents seem to take in the matter. The teachers at present are four members of my family, including myself.*

The duration of the class is only three-quarters of an hour – from 2p.m. to a quarter to three. More recently we have added to this short service another short service, chiefly intended for the parents of the children. One follows the other, and both are well attended. Sometimes my audience at the second service will amount to about eighty persons, young and old. It is a rustic sight enough, but I assure you, it is one of profound interest; for what hope is there for a young nation if its foundations are not based on the principles of morality and religion.

A new chapel was opened on the land in 1866 and representatives of at least five sections of the church were present and took part in the services. Regular services were conducted free of charge by the Rev. Wight and friends. Audiences were reasonably good. No doubt, the opening of St. Andrew's at Lutwyche in December, 1866 would have taken many of his original congregation. Annual meetings, in which both the children and the adults shared, were largely attended and in winter, popular lectures were given by prominent men such as Sir Charles Lilley, Premier of Queensland, and the Hon. John Douglas, later High Commissioner of New Guinea. The Wight's neighbours, Chief Justice Sir James Cockle and the President of the Legislative Council, Sir Maurice O'Connell were very supportive as was the Rev. Edward Griffith. The Congregation gradually dwindled causing services to be discontinued but the Sunday School continued to be an important part of life around Eildon Hill. Soon the Rev. Wight realised that it was not appropriate for the Congregational Chapel to be on private property.

Most of the **congregation** was clustered away from it along the main road, so he decided that the church should be removed and placed in the middle of the population. He purchased land on Bowen Bridge Road at O'Connelltown and made a gift of it to the Church. In 1879–80 the chapel was removed from Eildon Hill and set up. This move was so successful that in 1887 the Church had to be enlarged to accommodate the growing Sunday School which catered for between 120 to 165 children.

The congregation entering the church in the early 1900s

The Congregational Church was located at 217 Lutwyche Rd Windsor until around 2014 when sections were relocated to North Lakes.for the construction of the Uniting Church there.

The church in Windsor2009

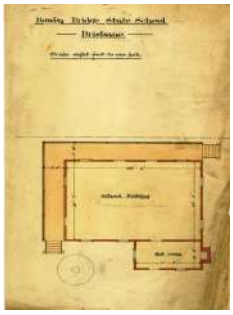
Rev. Wight's vision to establish a local school.

On Thursday evening (8.December 1864) at eight o'clock, an adjourned meeting of persons interested in the establishment of a **National School**, was held in the "humpy" on Eildon Hill farm, when upwards of twenty heads of families were present. Mr Wight was in the chair. The business of the meeting was to receive the report from two committees that had been appointed at the previous meeting (24th.Nov).

The report of the committee unanimously recommended a small reserve on the site of the public road near Thondley's farm. The report was unanimously adopted. Mr Wheeler, one of the committee appointed to ascertain what funds might be available, reported that the response which the committee had received was of a most encouraging nature. Every man seemed determined to do his part, and the consequence was that the sum of 105 pounds had been subscribed by the people who either live in the district, or had a property there. Over 10 pounds on the subscription money was paid at the close of the meeting.

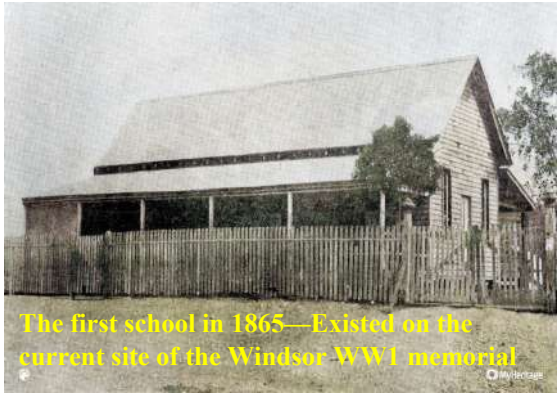
This report was very gratifying and was of course received with approbation. A local committee of ten members was then appointed to open communication with the board of General Education.

The committee consists of the following gentlemen;- Messrs. Swan, Longlands (treasurer), Wheeler, Parsons, Reid, Tiffin (secretary), Bradshaw, Crookbain and Wight (chairman).



The education Office placed an advertisement in the *Queensland Daily Guardian* on Jan 26th 1865 inviting carpenters to tender for:-

"The erection of a school house and teacher's residence, near Bowen Bridge, according to a plan and specification which may be seen at this office - the lowest, or any tender will not necessarily be accepted"



The first school in 1865—Existed on the current site of the Windsor WW1 memorial

Rev George Wight's "Eildon House"

Was situated on the current north corner of Tenth Ave and Fifth Ave Windsor

"Eildon House" - large house in foreground

Photo from Eildon Hill in the 1890s

By 1888, the Rev. Wight's health was beginning to fail and he moved to Melbourne. He died at Glenferrie Road, Borough of Kew, County of Bourke, Victoria on 25 October, 1900 of cancer of the face and senile asthema, and was buried in the Booroondarra Cemetery.

Rev George Wight

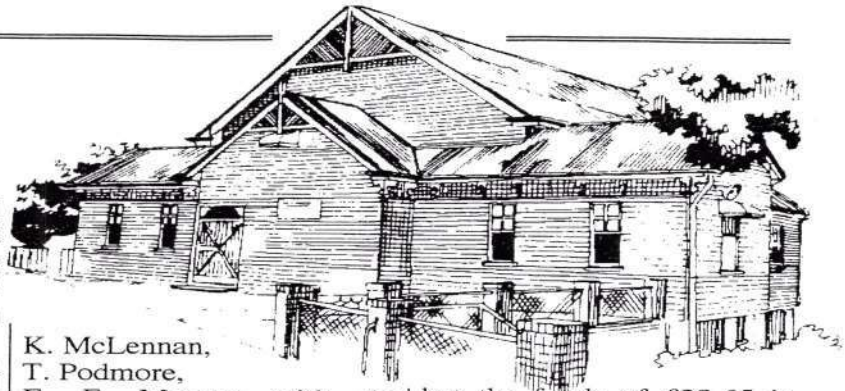
BIRTH	1817 Scotland
DEATH	26 Oct 1900 (aged 82–83) Melbourne, City of Melbourne, Victoria, Australia
BURIAL	Boroondara General Cemetery Kew, City of Boroondara, Victoria, Australia *Add to Map*
PLOT	PRES B 0467A
MEMORIAL ID	208265297 · View Source

He was most certainly one of Windsor's most valuable pioneers, giving his time, knowledge and financial help to establish the area's first religious and cultural activities.

Windsor School of Arts

Windsor School of Arts

The early days from Windsor Historical files.



The first meeting of local ratepayers of Ithaca Divisional Board who wished to establish a local School of Arts was held on 22 September, 1885.

At this meeting R. B. Lane was appointed secretary and W. Lynch became treasurer.

Subscription lists were issued and donations sought.

The institution was to be known as the Lutwyche & Albion School of Arts.

In 1877 a piece of government land stretching from the police station along Lutwyche Road to Stoneleigh Street was made available and Charles Baldwin, George R. Byrne and Kenneth McLennan were appointed as trustees.

The file does not record the early operations except that the School of Arts used the new Windsor Council Chambers after it was built.

At a meeting on 24 October, 1906 the residents of the Town of Windsor and the original subscribers to the School of Arts Fund were asked to consider what active steps should be taken to use the money collected for the School of Arts.

A provisional committee comprising of T.S. Hawkins, G. Major, T. Dodd, F.W. Thiel, Mark Taylor, W. H. Bush, J. Johnston, C. Petty, J. Green, D. W. Graham, J. H. Maynard, R. Lane, K. McLennan, T. Podmore, E. F. Morgan with the Mayor E. F. G. Hewitt as chairman.

Funds totalled £230.5.10. R. B. Lane was appointed secretary and the new treasurer was A. W. Bale. It was decided to call the building the Windsor School of Arts.

Mark Taylor was instructed to draft and submit a plan of a building suitable for School of Arts purposes.

By November the plan had been submitted and a retaining wall on the Lutwyche Road was planned. R. B. Lane resigned as secretary and T. Dodd was appointed.

In January 1907 financial assistance by way of a grant or loan was refused by the government.

Obviously the movement slowed to a halt until 26 July 1908 when local M.L.A. Andrew Petrie called a meeting where he explained that a government endowment for Schools of Arts of ten shillings for every pound collected (with a maximum of £150) was available.

There were still deposits of £186.14.5 in the Government Savings Bank but the funds of £38.65 in the Queensland Deposit Bank were frozen as the bank had gone in liquidation.

These were repaid at the rate of £4.5.1 a year until 1916.

A new working committee was formed as well as a ladies' committee. J. H. Henzell (Jr) was appointed secretary and A. W. Bale as treasurer.

A Village Fair opened by the deputy governor was held on Kenneth McLennan's property on 19 October, 1909 and raised over £300.

In December, the building on Mark Taylor's plan was estimated to cost £650 and in the next year tenders were called and a tender for £723 by Plastow was accepted on 25 August, 1910. The funds now totalled £700.2.8.

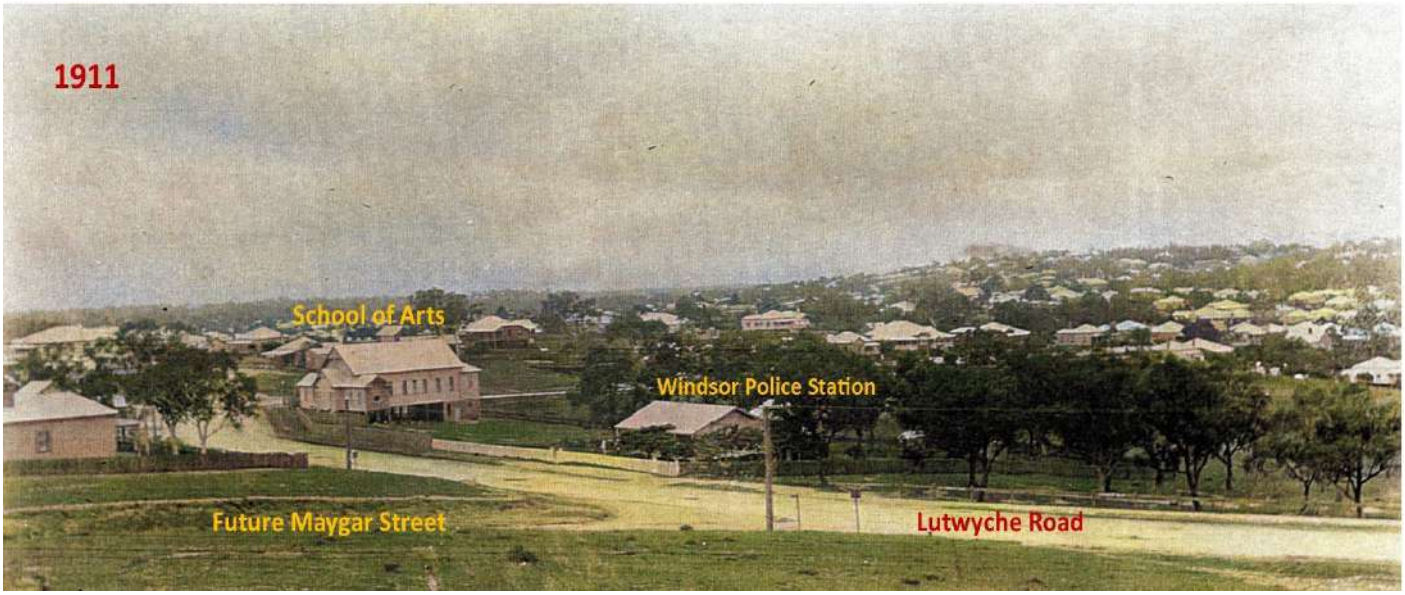
On 16 February, 1911, Mark Taylor reported that the building was complete and it was opened by Lord Lamington, the governor.

With a credit balance of £15.4.2, the committee embarked on a further program of buying chairs and a piano.

Fuller Street, formerly Williams Lane, was, until the construction of Maygar Street in 1928 the principle road from Lutwyche and Albion through to Newmarket.

The siting of the hall marked that intersection of those roads in an competent architectural and town planning composition. While at the time of its construction the School of Arts hall was the major element in a cluster of shops today much of the 'village' atmosphere has been lost to modern development.

Note: in the previous article it was stated that Lord Lamington was the governor who opened the Windsor School of Arts. This is incorrect as it was Governor **Sir William MacGregor.**



The site of the School of Arts was, from 1911 to 2008, in Lutwyche Rd opposite Fuller Street.

WINDSOR SCHOOL OF ARTS.

OPENED BY THE GOVERNOR.

Considerable interest was taken in the opening of the new School of Arts at Windsor on Saturday afternoon. The ceremony was performed by his Excellency the Governor in the presence of a numerous gathering of residents and visitors. His Excellency, who was accompanied by Lady MacGregor and Miss MacGregor, was received by Alderman W. Bale (Mayor of Windsor), Aldermen Clark, Gardiner, Taylor, Messrs. J. H. Henzell and C. Musgrave, and Mesdames Bale, Gardiner, and Petrie. There were also present: Hon. K. M. Grant (Minister for Public Instruction), Mr. A. L. Petrie, M.L.A., Alderman Gillespie (Mayor of South Brisbane), and Alderman Irving (Mayor of Hamilton). The Premier (Hon. D. F. Denham) wired expressing regret at not being able to attend. Visitors were impressed by the pretty commodious hall and the excellent arrangement of the remainder of the building, and it was a matter of favourable comment that the institution was opened free of debt.

Brisbane Courier 6 March 1911

c1916

A northern verandah was added in 1920 and a southern verandah in 1922

While the Windsor School of Arts became renowned for its efficient and effective library provision and in the early years it provided some continuing education classes, the building was let to a variety of local organisations, clubs and lodges. It was the venue for numerous cultural events such as eisteddfords, plays, concerts and dances and the Annual Show. In times of crisis such as during the war and in the aftermath of natural disasters such as the 1931 floods, the hall met other needs of the local community, quite befitting a building held to be one of the symbols of a community's social and cultural progress. Such was its success in Library services that in 1930, it obtained additional land on which to erect a new public library and reading room. The new Windsor Public Library was completed and opened on 1 July 1933

NEW LIBRARY.

WINDSOR ENTERPRISE.

OPENED BY LORD MAYOR.

"I heartily congratulate the people of Windsor upon their splendid effort in erecting this imposing building," said the Lord Mayor (Alderman J. W. Greene), on Saturday afternoon, declaring officially open the new library in Lutwyche Road.

The new brick structure, near the Windsor School of Arts, which for many years has housed the library of the suburb, is now one of the outstanding pieces of architecture of the locality. The brick cavity walls on the exterior have been plastered in roughcast, and artistically coloured, while their interior surfaces have been coated with cream plaster. The library proper is a room 30ft. by 50ft., and for six feet from the floor, the walls are boarded in grained and varnished woods. Beneath the library is a large room suitable for lodge meetings, and off it are two smaller rooms. The building was designed by Mr. J. M'Donald.

Courier Mail 3 July 1933

In 1940, the original School of Arts building was moved further back on site to accommodate the widening of Lutwyche Rd. While the Windsor School of Arts building ceased to fulfil a role as Library in the mid thirties, over the intervening 70 years it has continued to meet a great variety of needs within the Windsor community. Several of the groups, such as the Poultry Club, which were formed initially under its auspices continued to meet as the twentieth century drew to a close. The School of Arts Committee ceased to exist in 1986. The following year saw the School of Arts building and its reserve amalgamated with the adjoining block of land, so that

In 1991, a report of the status of the building was commissioned by the Windsor & Districts Historical Society and funded by a $20,000 grant from the Dept. of Environment & Heritage. Architect firm Allom Lovell Marquis-Kyle were contracted,(directed by Richard Allom). The objective was to determine the building's cultural significance and to prepare a conservation policy concerning immediate action, long term usage, security and any necessary control on future development.

This resulted in:

Windsor School of Arts getting new lease of life

ONE of Windsor's most prominent historical buildings is set for a new lease of life.

Major restoration of the 80-year-old Windsor School of Arts is underway with plans to have community groups using the building by the end of the year.

Brisbane Excelsior Band has secured a deed of trust for the property from the previous holder, St Andrew's War Memorial Hospital.

Band secretary Pam Schryver welcomed finalisation of the deal, saying band members had worked for two years to obtain the document.

"The band was established in 1912 and has never had its own rehearsal premises," Mrs Schryver said.

She said the musicians had been based in locations such as scout halls all around Brisbane.

"Our last place was always being vandalised," she said.

"As we're a non-profit organisation — all our money goes into buying instruments and uniforms — it has been difficult to find a place because charges are so high."

The last two years had been extra lean times with all money raised going towards the restoration costs, Mrs Schryver said.

"We've doubled our work load, cut our expenditure and bought no uniforms and instruments to save up for this project."

A conservation study completed last year estimated urgent building repairs would cost in excess of $105,000.

Mrs Schryver said strong support from the business community was helping the band find a major portion of the restoration costs.

"It's been a big undertaking for the band as we're all volunteers but it's been a great community effort," she said.

Major structural safety works needed have included restumping, support beam installation, rewiring, replumbing, installation of new windows and improved security.

Mrs Schryver said it was planned to hold an official reopening in November once major works were completed.

"We also will have a public open day soon after that and although there will still be work to be done on the building it will then be available for public use," she said.

• *Now — scaffolding encases the building as restoration work and repainting goes ahead.*

The band committee has been approached by other community groups eager to find a base.

"When we took this on we found there was a crying need on the northside for a building for other community groups," Mrs Schryver said.

Windsor and Districts Historical Society archives curator Mick Hayes welcomed the works and reopening of the building.

He said it had not been used for the past few years since it was condemned following a fire brigade inspection.

"It was basically a hall to let on State land that was not cared for properly and fell into disrepair," Mr Hayes said.

He said the society had saved the building from demolition by obtaining a 12 month stay of execution on the demolition order while it lobbied for funding for the conservation study.

"It's good to see the building will be used again," Mr Hayes said.

The School of Arts was opened in February 1911 by the then Queensland Governor Sir William McGregor.

Sporting and social clubs held regular meetings and functions. School dances, public lectures and concerts all vied for time in the building.

Popular annual events included the Windsor Eisteddfod and the annual Windsor Show — the first of which was held in 1913.

North West News 19 Aug. 1992

The President and Members of

BRISBANE EXCELSIOR BAND

take pleasure in inviting

Mr. Mrs A WEBSTER

to the official opening of The Windsor School of Arts, 409 Lutwyche Road, Windsor on Friday 4th December 1992 at 5.45 pm by the Rt Honourable The Lord Mayor, Alderman J.G. Soorley

R.S.V.P. 25th November 1992. The Secretary, Pam Schryver Box 704 Lutwyche 4030 Telephone 359 3666

Band drums up funding

WINDSOR'S old School of Arts is set to return to its former prominence as a major northside cultural venue.

Months of restoration work has been completed and this Sunday the community will celebrate the historical building's official reopening.

Brisbane Excelsior Band secured the deed of trust earlier this year from St Andrew's War Memorial Hospital.

The band committee embarked on a major fund raising venture to have the building returned to its former glory.

Band secretary Pam Schryver welcomed the approach of this Sunday's reopening.

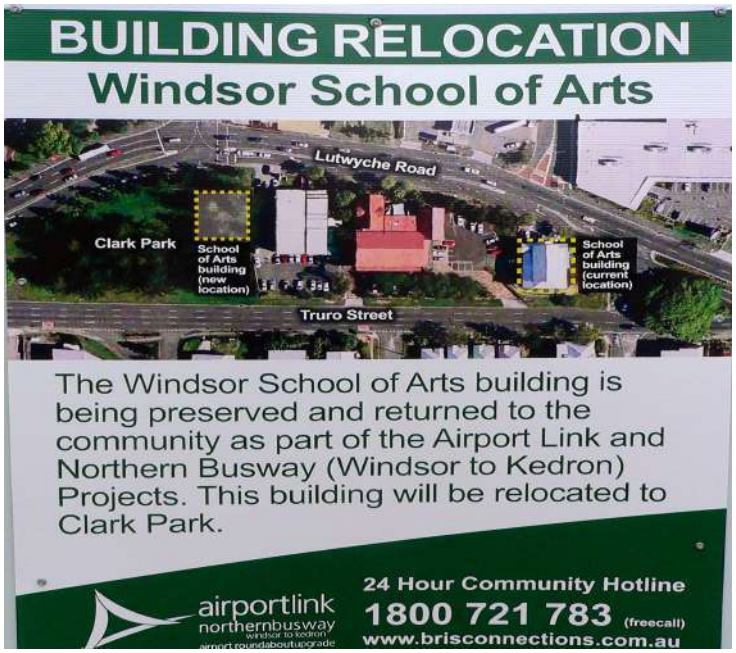
A public open day will be held soon after the invitation-only ceremony this weekend.

Mrs Schryver called for anyone with memorabilia relating to the hall to come forward.

The 81-year-old building was the focus of the community in its earlier years.

North West News 2 December 1992

During the 1990s and early 2000s The School of Arts remained in the same position, but with the proposed Airport link and Northern Busway projects to be commenced later in the decade, the **Windsor School of Arts had to be preserved, but relocated**.



2008—before the relocation

The relocation to Clark Park
- opposite Maygar Street

Relocation completed

RD158002

■ Moving in ... Windsor Historical Society secretary Beres McCallum at the new site of the Windsor School of Arts at Clark Park.

Move carried out

By PENNY BRAND

ONE of Windsor's oldest buildings has been moved, while demolition continues to make way for the inner north's new road networks.

The 97-year-old Windsor School of Arts building was moved along Lutwyche Rd about 100m to Clark Park on Monday.

It followed the demolition late last week of the Kedron on the Brook Motel.

The motel was one of the last remaining buildings to be knocked down near the intersection of Lutwyche and Kedron Park roads.

More than 200 properties from Bowen Hills to Kedron have been resumed to make way for Airport Link and the Northern Busway.

State Member for Brisbane Central Grace Grace said the Windsor School of Arts building would remain a community assest during construction of the two road projects.

"The School of Arts is a beautiful building and has long played a part in the community life of Windsor," Ms Grace said.

"It's new home at Clark Park will ensure it remains a community asset for many decades to come."

The building had been moved, but installation work such as stumping and connection to electricity and water was expected to be completed in the first half of 2009.

JC157761

■ All over ... the motel's last days.

The State Government appointed BrisConnections to design, build, operate and finance the 6.7km Airport Link from Bowen Hills to Clayfield and the 3km Northern Busway from Windsor to Kedron.

The same company will be responsible for the Airport Roundabout Upgrade projects, at the intersection of Airport Drive and the Gateway Motorway.

Motel owners Blair and Janelle Gamble were devastated when they were told in 2006 the building would be demolished.

"We built that building. We've been there for (14) years. Now it will all get knocked down," Mr Gamble said.

The motel hoped to extend, with plans to add 30 rooms.

It was not known where Mr Gamble had moved.

North West News Nov 2008

On 21 August 2009, an official opening ceremony was held and a ribbon was cut by Stirling Hinchliffe, the State member for Stafford. Also present was BCC Central Ward alderman, David Hinchliffe & Grace Grace. Windsor Historical Society members including Beres McCallum, Rita Butler, Jean Gray, Rosalie Raciti and Judy Willis also witnessed the opening.

1992 The building became the home of the Brisbane Excelsior Band.

2013 The building also became the home of the Growl Theatre

F W Thiel

Photographer

Frederick William Thiel (1896–1960) was more than just a photographer; he was a visual historian of Brisbane's coming of age. Born in the city on March 3, 1896, Thiel began his career with a sense of civic duty and a sharp eye for the momentous.

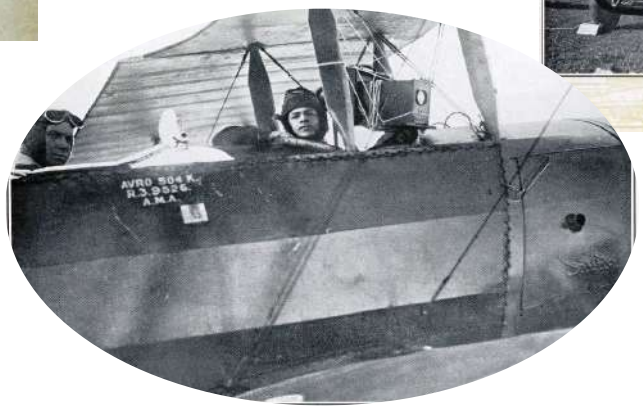
At just 18, Thiel documented the departure of the *SS Omrah*, the first troopship to leave Brisbane in 1914. Demonstrating early philanthropic roots, he donated an enlargement of the image to the Wounded Soldiers Fund.

THE FIRST TROOPSHIP TO LEAVE BRISBANE.
Departure of S.S. Omrah from Pinkenba with the original 9th Battalion (now Anzacs) on Sept. 24, 1914

By 1916, he opened his first studio in Edward Street. Following the war, he curated the city's collective memory through publications like ***Brisbane's War Pictorial 1914–1918*** and ***Brisbane Illustrated.***

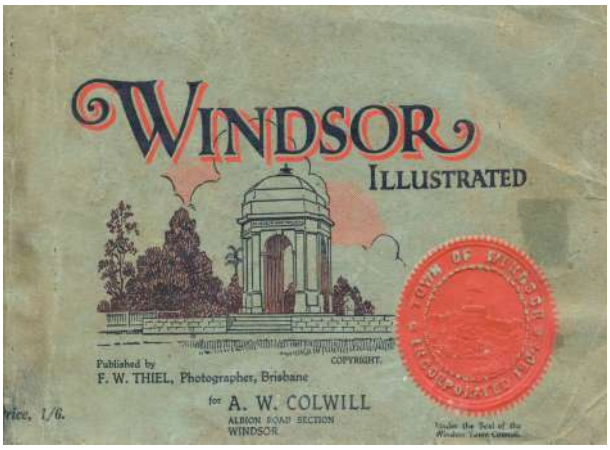
Fred was a Pioneer of Aerial Photography**:** In 1920, Thiel took his craft to the skies. Flying as a passenger in a single-engine biplane, he captured the city from a bird's-eye view, later publishing these rare perspectives in ***Brisbane from the Air.***

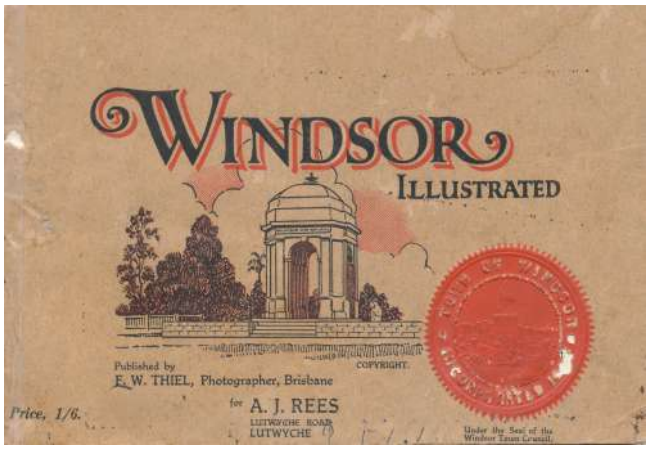
No. 1 The Pilot, Captain F. R. Smith, M.C., D.F.C.
No. 2 The Aeroplane at 2,000 feet.
No. 3 The Photographer, F. W. Thiel.



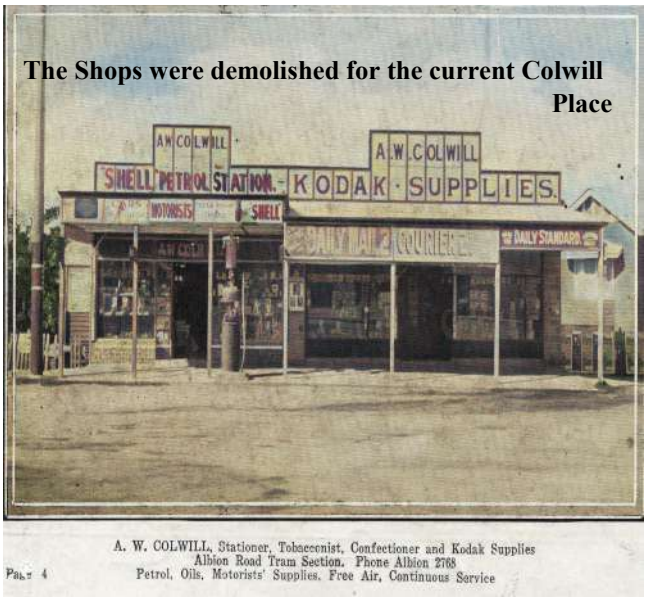
On Saturday 6 December 1919 there was a crowd of 3000 people at the Kedron Park Racecourse to see Captain Frances R Smith arrive in his Avro biplane to promote the Peace Loan. He arrived shortly after 11am and made several flights. **On another occasion he took photographer F W Theil aloft to take the first aerial photos of Brisbane.**

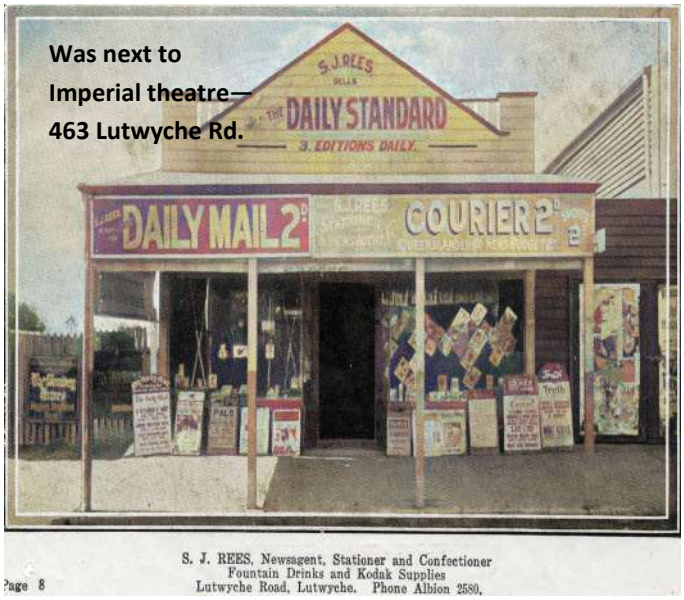
As a side business F W Thiel engaged in producing **customised booklets** that he produced for local northside businesses with photos and information about the local area.
The photos below from 1925,(produced for Arthur William Colwill—shopkeeper and Steven James Rees—Newsagent—*recorded as A J Rees in the booklet?)* are examples of what is in the booklets. We have several of these booklets in our society's collection

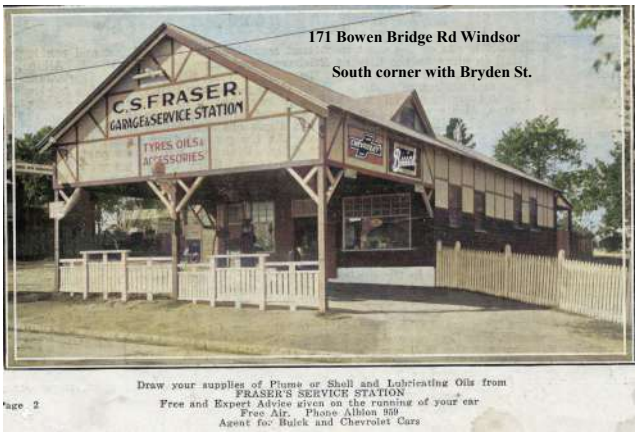


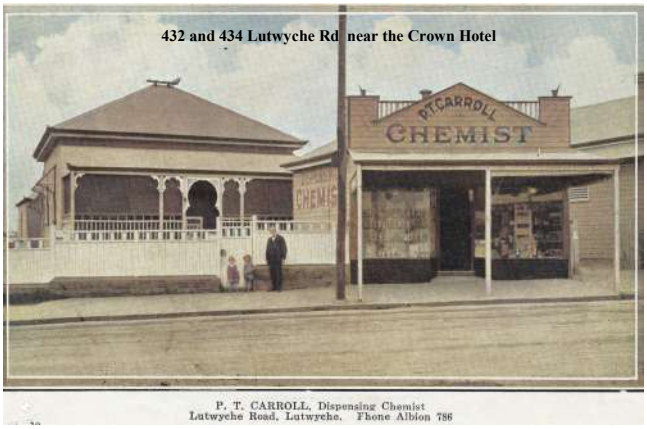


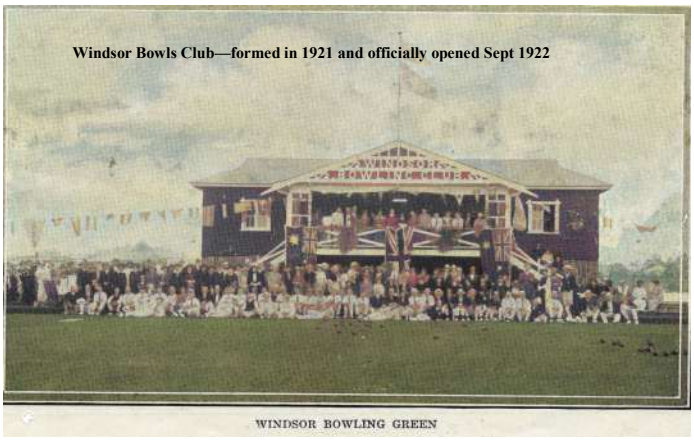
Note: The original photos were Black & White - Coloured by the editor

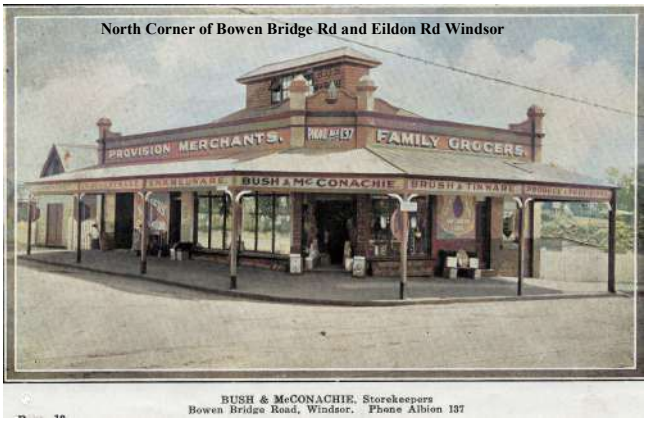


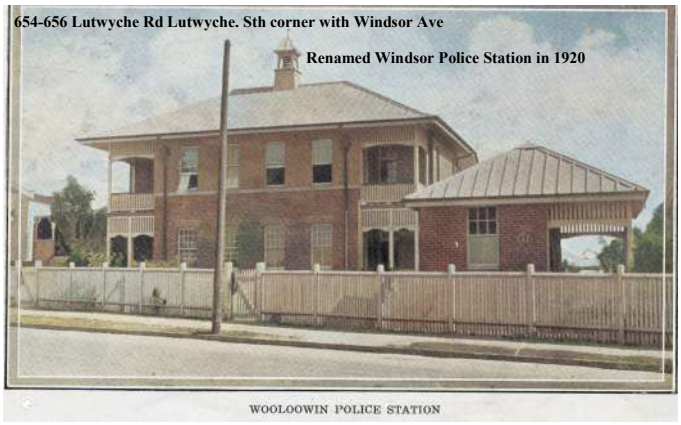


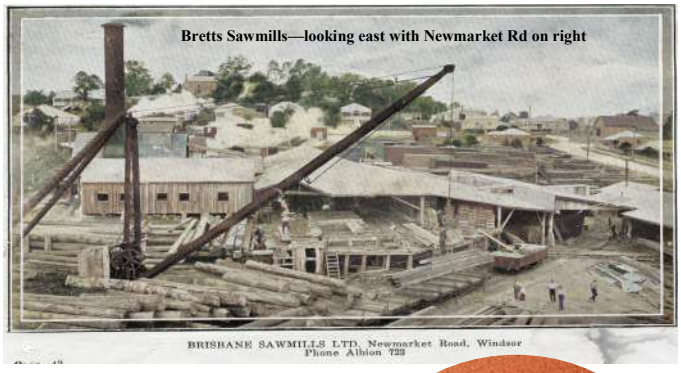












June 1932, disaster struck when a fire destroyed his Terraca House studio (233 Adelaide St.) The blaze resulted in the tragic loss of **60,000 negatives**, a massive portion of the city's visual record. Undeterred, the Thiel Studio continued, eventually relocating to 284 Queen Street during World War II Frederick William Thiel passed away on December 9, 1960, at the age of 64, leaving behind a **legacy that continues to define how we view the history of Brisbane.**