



Council and is now managed by the Society.

A new family history research facility called the Community Resource Centre was built for Alstonville Plateau Historical Society Inc., on the site of the Crawford family stables and opened 26th February 2012.

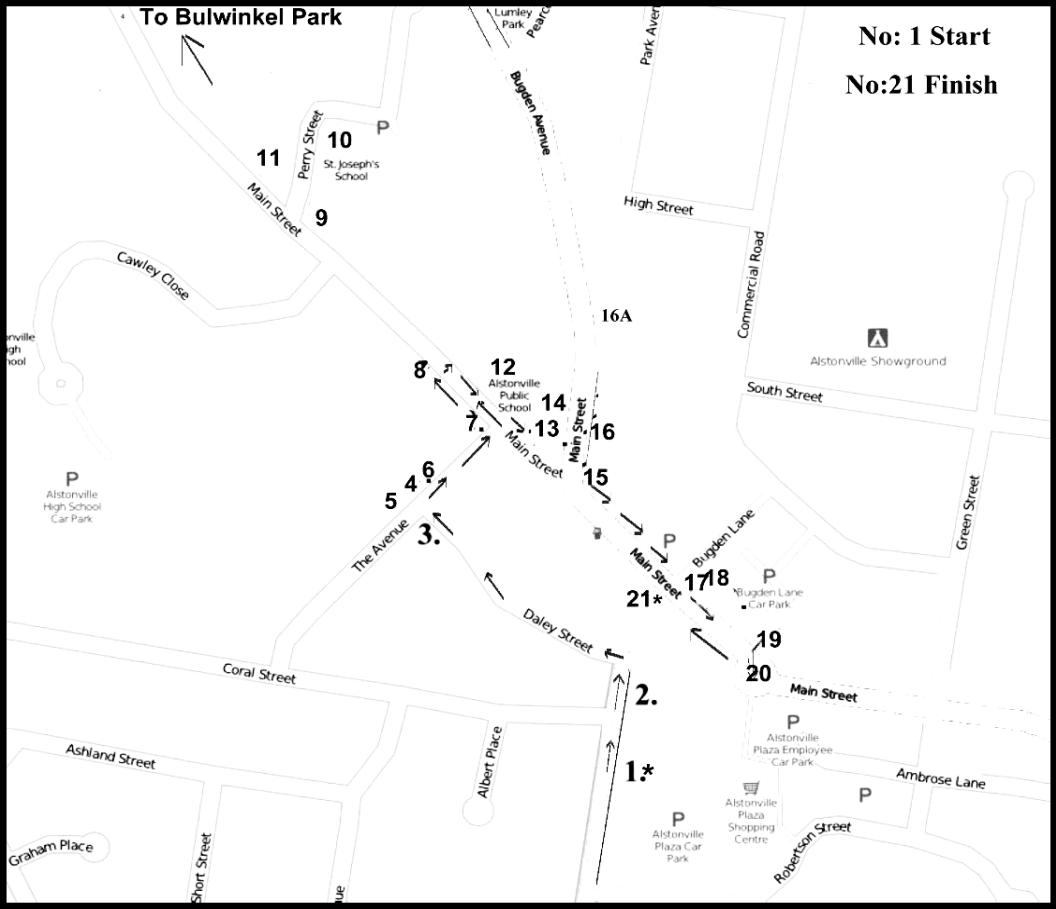
To book the centre for your next function and/or tour of Crawford house Ring 02 66281829



Alstonville Plateau Historical Society was formed 21st October 2001 and held their meetings in the Alstonville RSL hall. On 16th October 2004 Crawford House was opened as a Museum after being renovated and refurbished by Alstonville Plateau Historical Society, the community and Ballina Shire

ALSTONVILLE HERITAGE WALK

Approx 1 hour



1. CRAWFORD HOUSE



The home was built in 1910 by Ambrose Crawford to house his family. Ambrose, the son of William Crawford, Alstonville's no. 8 selector, built the home on the Crawford selection. Named after his wife, Olive, "Olivene" was the family home until 1982 when it was sold to the Ballina Shire Council with the wish that the house would be used for Community purposes. In recent times it has been used as a Community Health Centre. This has always been considered an attractive pioneer residence and like many such houses, it had a bull-nosed verandah and was surrounded by a white picket fence. It is listed by the National Trust and Ballina Shire Council.

2. ELIZABETH ANN BROWN PARK.



This land was resumed by Tintenbar Shire Council from the estate of the late Elizabeth Ann Brown who passed away in 1946. Daughter of Charles Bulwinkel, a noted pioneer of the early sugar industry in the area, she married Anthony James Brown, who purchased two allotments when four acres of the Crawford holding

was subdivided in 1911, and this land now comprises the park.

The Pine trees were grown from seeds brought back from Gallipoli and planted in commemoration to the fallen by Jessie Eaton-Lee nee Blanch. Jessie had been a nurse during World War 11, and imprisoned by the Japanese. Jessie Blanch a book written for APHS Inc is available for Sale at Crawford House Museum.

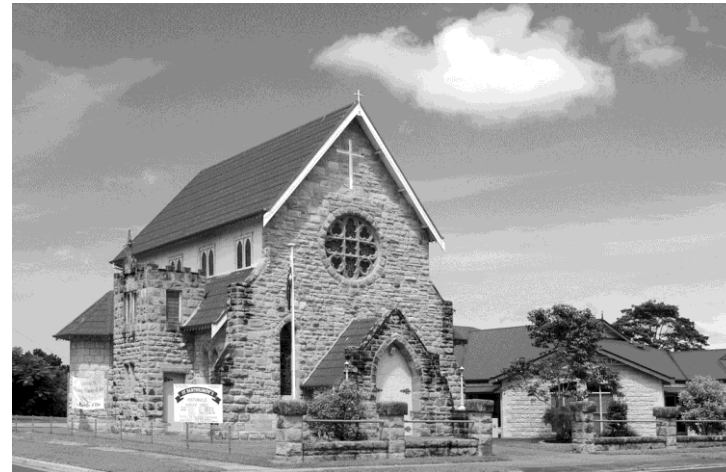
In the 1980s the memorial plaques from the Alstonville Showground were moved to the park and the RSL now has Anzac and Armistice services here.

Turn up Daley Street to Church on the Avenue corner. The McBarren's house was moved to make way for Daley Street

Was No. 6 Daley Street: Jack and Elizabeth (Virtue) McBarron lived in a small cottage which once occupied the corner of Daley Street and The Avenue. The McBarron's cottage was beside St Bartholomew's Anglican Church, which was built between 1909 and 1914. This land was part of the original Portion 18 owned by Robert John Crawford. When Jack died in 1959, the property was bought by Tintenbar Shire Council and Daley Street was widened.



4. ST.BARTHOLOMEW CHURCH



While the unusual sandstone church of St. Bartholomew's immediately catches the attention of everyone entering The Avenue The Stone for this new church was quarried locally at Anstey's Quarry near Tregeagle and donated by the Anstey family. The Stained Glass Windows are a feature.

This "new" building is listed by the National Trust, The Australian Heritage Commission and Ballina Shire Council.

Across from the church is the Anglican Church rectory (No3 The Avenue) built in 1909 alongside the timber church. The site of the old Anglican Church, was moved from its original site near Teven Road in 1905. It was used as a church until the stone church, St Bartholomew's, was opened in 1914. The old timber building has served as the church hall and now as the Anglicare Centre. The Anglican Church purchased the land from Jeremiah Andrew Daley. Daley Street named after the family.



No.5 The Avenue was once St Leonard's maternity hospital then the Anglican Care Centre.

A licence was issued to Nurse Ethel Thomas on 18 January 1921 to operate a six-bed maternity hospital. A newspaper report describes it as 'beautifully designed' and 'everything as compact and labour-saving as local conditions will allow. Spacious verandahs did much for the comfort of convalescents and the waiting patients.' The

licence of this hospital was issued to Nurse Emma Rugg in 1936, the year after Ethel Thomas married Thomas Burston Notley. It is not known when it ceased to be a hospital but after Nurse Thomas' death in 1954, her husband returned to live in 'St Leonards' and rented rooms to a number of tenants. In 1965, June (Crowther) and Graeme Dennis Watson, a plumber, purchased 'St Leonards' from Tom and Myrtle Mitchell. There had been few alterations to the original house since it was built in 1920.



The corner block – facing Main Street, (a brick building on block) was the site of Mrs Lumley's home where Nurse Emma Rugg (née Patch) operated another maternity and general hospital during World War II. Nurse Rugg was assisted by her daughter, Morna. No date for closure of the hospital is known. The hospital/house was removed to 37 Green Street Alstonville c1950s. [photo on left]

Turn left into Main Street and the double faced house was once owned by Mr and Mrs Dillon who came from the south coast of New South Wales to dairy farm on Gap Road c1980s. In the 1950s the family moved onto the Gap Road property. Dillon's Lane is named after the family.

Opposite is ALSTONVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOL opened 1875. The Original building is still onsite.

NOTES:

Further down Main Street is the old Police Station, Courthouse, St. Joseph's Convent, Father Mac's pudding factory down in Perry Street and Bulwinkel Park is further down Main Street where platypuses are known to swim in the creek.

COURTHOUSE AND POLICE STATION



It was only after many years of petitioning the local member the Hon. John Perry by the local Progress Association, that Alstonville eventually obtained its police station. Opened in October 1903, with Constable Dobie in charge, the courthouse and police station was built by Mr. W. Leben of Lismore with timber supplied by Mr. William Freeborn from his Federal Sawmills.

The Courthouse does not appear to have been used until 1910 however and it was not until 1913 that a telephone was installed. Up to then the constable used a neighbour's telephone several times daily. The station was set on a large block of land as the duties of the constable often involved impounding stray cattle and horses. The courthouse closed in late 1960's and became part of the police residence. It is listed by the National Trust, Australian Heritage Commission and Ballina Shire Council.



ST. JOSEPHS SCHOOL CONVENT

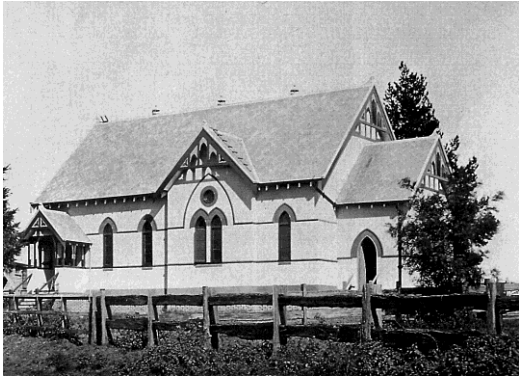
In 1919 a house belonging to the Ainsworth family was purchased and prepared as a convent building with the aim of establishing a convent and school at Alstonville. At some stage during the 1920's an annexe was built onto the convent and this became a boarding school. This use continued until the end of 1936 when the boarding school was discontinued and the building was converted to classrooms. This building is located in the grounds of the

existing church grounds and next to the "Pudding Factory", in the lower part of Perry Street.

In 1985 Father McCarthy began making the puddings for the church cake stall. Each year many thousands are now made.

The present brick church was built in 1955. The Convent is listed by the National Trust, Australian Heritage Commission and Ballina Shire Council.

THE METHODIST CHURCH



This church opened on May 30th 1909. It was the third Methodist Church to be built. The two others were built in 1873 and 1883, and both were opened *free of debt*. The church was built by Mr. T.E. Jarnian of Lismore and the architect was a Mr. F.J. Board also of Lismore. The building was designed with every convenience of that time with emphasis on lighting and ventilation. The church bell came from the Melbourne Sugar Company's Mill, Alstonville which was

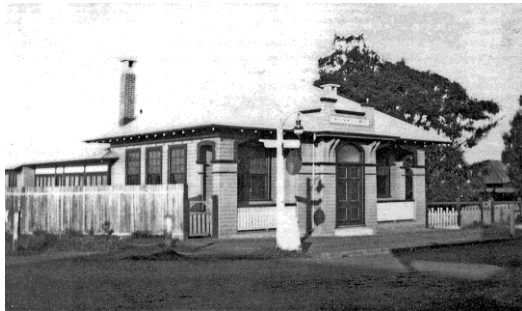
close to Maguire's Creek near the where the old butter factory was later built.



The Parsonage was built 1917 and is part office and residence today. Christopher Barr is the Uniting Church minister in 2013 .

Cross Street and on the corner is a building that was once a bank

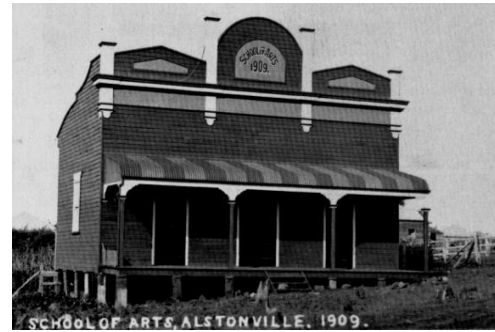
BANK OF NEW SOUTH WALES



The Bank of New South Wales opened in a rented cottage leased from Mrs. Louise Richards for one year. New premises were opened on 14.4.1923 on the present site on the corner of Main Street and Lismore Road. The bank closed on 20.11.1942 and transferred to the Lismore Branch. After the war the building was sold to the Gough family who lived in the residence and rented

the bank section back to the Bank of N.S.W. and its new manager Mr. Hassell. It operated in this location until the 1950's and then the Gough's rented surgery space to a succession of doctors. Maranoa used the front as an opportunity shop. A visit inside reveals the original safe, wooden counters and doors etched with the words "Bank of New South Wales."

THE RSL HALL



Built in 1909 for the School of Arts Committee on the site where a Garage stands it was moved and enlarged onto its present site in 1917. In its day as a School of Arts it housed a piano and two billiard tables as well as a library [some of these books are in the Crawford House Museum drawing room]. It was then moved closer to the village in the hope that it would attract more members. The "School" was always plagued by lack of funds and in 1933 closed briefly. The RSL was meeting in the Anglican Hall so was offered the task of managing the "School" in conjunction with their own activities. The RSL accepted and managed the hall until the President of the RSL in 1950, Mr. K.T. Arrowsmith put the arrangement on a proper footing by having the Hall transferred legally to the sub-branch.



Over the years alterations and additions have been made, but the original structure is still in excellent condition.

THE PADDY BUGDEN MEMORIAL – *No. 16A on map



Paddy Bugden is the only VC recipient on the NSW Far North Coast. He was awarded the VC for his bravery in France during World War 1. Paddy was living in Alstonville at the time of his enlistment with his mother and stepfather who were managing the Federal Hotel. The site contains two memorials. A simple cross is thought to have been erected by members of the community in 1946. In 1999, on the 80th anniversary of his death, a new memorial was unveiled by the Alstonville Rotary club and the Alstonville RSL sub-branch. It shows Paddy rescuing three fellow soldiers under a hail of bullets, which are simulated by bursts of water from an adjacent waterspout. The designer and sculptor is Max Maxted from Nimbin.

NOTES*:Further along Main Street is *Tintenbar Shire Council building, *Lumley Park” and the old Butter factory building on left hand side over Maguire’s Creek bridge.



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The second Presbyterian Church built 1899 and sold 1999 to the Alstonville Dance Studio

TINTENBAR SHIRECOUNCIL

Originally built in 1908, this building was continuously

used for this purpose until Tintenbar Shire amalgamated with Ballina Shire in 1977. Since then the building has housed the Summerland Coast Tourist Authority, antique shops, Kolinda Gallery and a variety of community organizations. The Council Chambers are Ballina Shire Council heritage listed.



LUMLEY PARK



When the ladies of Alstonville decided to form a Croquet Club in 1930, the decision had to be made as to where they would put their two lawns. It was decided to use the area we know today as Lumley Park and in order to make room for the lawns, it necessitated the removal of some trees which caused murmurings around the village. When it was rumoured that all the trees would eventually go, local tree enthusiasts formed a delegation which presented a

case for saving them to council and “Scrub Reserve Committee” was formed and work commenced to clear the weeds and lantana from the three acres of forest bushland. The chief instigator in saving the trees was Ambrose Crawford. The name “Lumley” was given in recognition of Councillor Clarence Thomas Lumley who gave his life in World War 1. In November 1970 the Lumley Park Transport Museum was opened by Ambrose Crawford.

The Museum was a joint project of the Richmond River Historical Society and the Tintenbar Shire Council to mark the Captain Cook’s Bi-centenary year. All that remains now is the Clubhouse.

THE OLD BUTTER FACTORY



This was the 1882 site of the Melbourne Sugar Company’s Mill. The Butter factory was opened in November 1900 in the presence of about 600 people. Named the “Alstonville Central Factory”, it was built next to Maguire’s Creek on land purchased from

Mr. Bulwinkel. Although machinery from overseas and filtered water was used, it did not prosper and failed in 1903. A group of dairymen saved it buying shares and renaming it “Alstonville Co-op Refrigerating Co”. In 1923 it was rebuilt in brick as the butter was being affected by mould and amalgamated with Norco in 1930 finally closing in 1947. The factory won many Silver and Gold medals for butter-making. Since then the building has been used to manufacture caravans, as a peanut processing factory and is currently a furniture store. It is heritage listed by Ballina Shire Council.

Back to Main Street to see the Post Office and see the tiles in the footpath depicting the old post office and C.B.C Bank.



ALSTONVILLE POST OFFICE

Now a restaurant, this building was Alstonville’s fourth Post Office. The first post office was situated at Perrys Hill in John Perry’s store. The second post office was at the corner of Bruxner Highway and Teven Road. It was built about 1888. In 1901, the residents asked that the post office be moved to the center of the town. The then

postmaster Mr. E.O. Hodgson, had premises erected for use as a post office. This post office was in Main Street, just up from the Federal Hotel and continued there until this building was opened in February 1908. The building was built by Mr.S. Percival at a cost of £942. It was designed to provide a post and telegraph office and residential quarters for the postmaster and his family. Notable changes to the building occurred in the 1980’s when the original entrance on the eastern side was infilled and a new entrance formed on the western corner. In 1997 post office operations were moved yet again to new and bigger premises in the Plaza shopping center. A stone verandah was added to the western side. .



THE C.B.C. BANK

This building is reputed to have been built in 1896. John Daley placed a tender in the Northern Star of 18/1/1896 for the erection of a wooden cottage in Alstonville. He was a local butcher, who later built the “Federal Hotel”. After the Hotel was built in 1901 the Daley family moved across the road into that building. In September 1902 the house was leased to the Commercial Banking Co. of

Sydney and was Alstonville’s first bank. At this time some changes were made to the building to accommodate the bank. CBC leased the building until 1907, when they purchased the property. In 1908 alterations again took place and a strong room was built. In 1910 there was a problem with rain soaking through the bricks of the chimney-stacks and Mr. Gibson, a plumber and tinsmith, recommended that the application of lime, linseed oil and three coats of paint to the three stacks would solve the problem! One of the first customers was Ambrose Crawford and his daughter Dorothy still has his pass-book.

The house is listed on the National Trust Register, Register of the National Estate and the Ballina Local Environment Plan and is now called “Freeborn House”.

Across the Road is a small park known as Freeborn Park Gardens in which is a Mosaic display depicting the environment.



This was made 2010 by Wollongbar TAFE and local school students.



The original memorial wall and bubbler commemorating Andrew Freeborn and being the first 1865 selectors has been removed. The plaque was relocated to the ‘Cooke’ cairn in Tanamera Drive.

Walk along Main Street to the Federal Hotel.

THE FEDERAL HOTEL



The Federal Hotel opened on 29th May 1901. Originally going to be called the “Tattersalls”, the name was changed at the last moment to the “Federal”, no doubt due to it being the year of Federation. The hotel was built by Mr. John T. Daley, and plans for the building were drawn up by Brown and Jolly, Lismore contractors and suppliers of timber. The hotel

stood on the junction of Ballina Road and Wardell Road. The Northern Star of 5th June 1901, tells us the hotel had 34 rooms which must have included the outside toilets and stables. Sadly Mr. Daley had to sell the “Federal” in early 1902 and he died in March 1906.



1970’s hotel.

There is a mystery regarding the painted bar doorway sign Est. 1896.

The building is listed on the National Trust Register, Register of the National Estate and the Ballina Local Environment Plan.