Using Digital Photographic Resources for old Gardens

Digital Imagery as a Tool for Historical Research

Bill Oates
University Archivist







UNE Archivist Alan Wilkes. He learned to ride a horse by collecting records from the Macleay River Valley in the 1964. (Photo: UNE Heritage Centre, P2347)



New skill sets for a new archivist.

Gathering context before digitisation.

Content and dating aids.

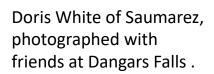
Using geographical information.

Image enhancement using mathematical analysis to add metadata.





Photographic Technology Photographers and their collections.





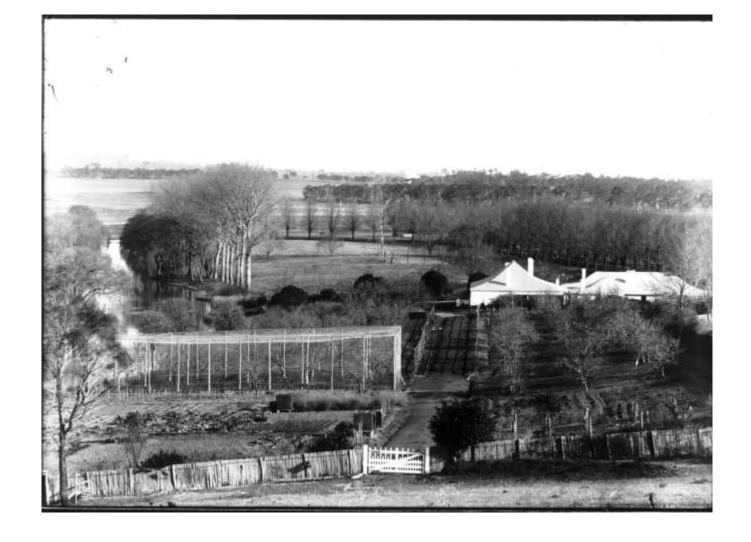


Later photos are not so easy to identify. From a family album created by Maurice Wyndham and donated into the UNE Heritage Centre by members of the family come a series of garden photos with no captions next to a page captioned 'Bukkulla' The image depicting two children on the veranda is particularly interesting because this image was also collected as part of the Gum Flat School centenary photographic project in 1985. This index names the two as Phobe Seton and Heathcote Wyndham (Photo: UNE Heritage Centre, HRCP.)

Not 'Trevenna'!



Mis-identified in the UNE MRU photo database. Subsequently identified by retired Chancellor Dr. Rob Robertson-Cunninghame as 'Palmerston' near Armidale.

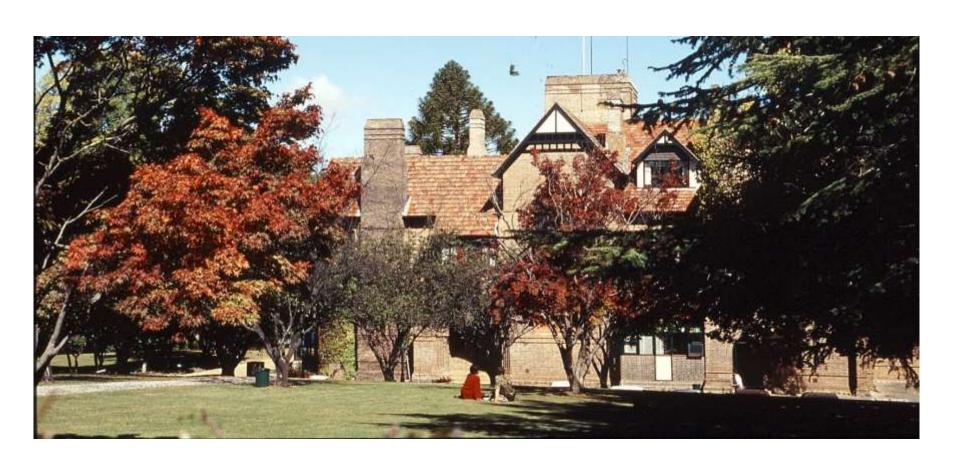




(Photo: UNE Heritage Centre HRCP1571)



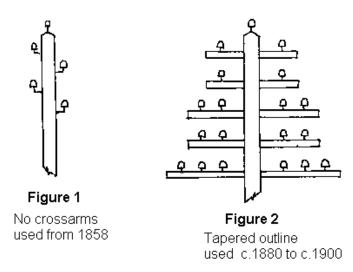
AIF soldiers circa 1918 Note the Gordon Window and the Red Cross flag. (Photo: UNE Heritage Centre White Collection)

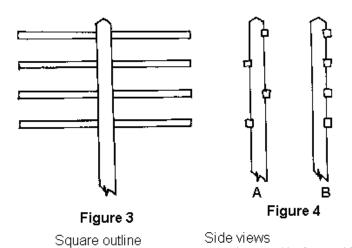


UNE grounds 1960's (Photo: UNE Heritage Centre, PS2249)



A photo found in the 'Saumarez' album showing crazy patterns in the flag stones laid as a walkway. A dominant feature is the use of stone as well as the erection of a large timber arbor. The location of this garden has been the subject of much debate. Similar stonework is evident at 'Saumarez', however the hills in the background do not match the geography of that garden. (Photo: Saumarez Collection)





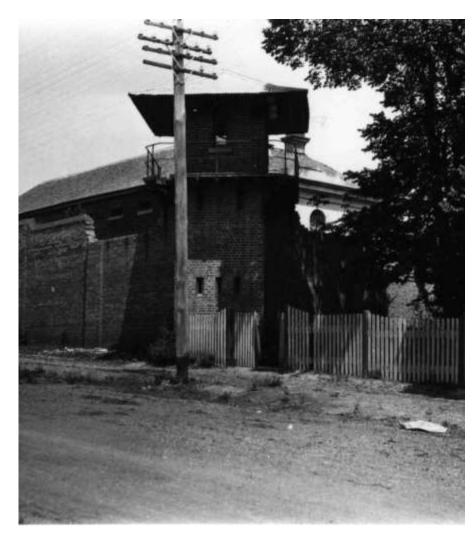
used from c.1900

type A - used before c.1910

type B - used after c.1908

Just one of the bag of techniques available to apply to the content of an image.

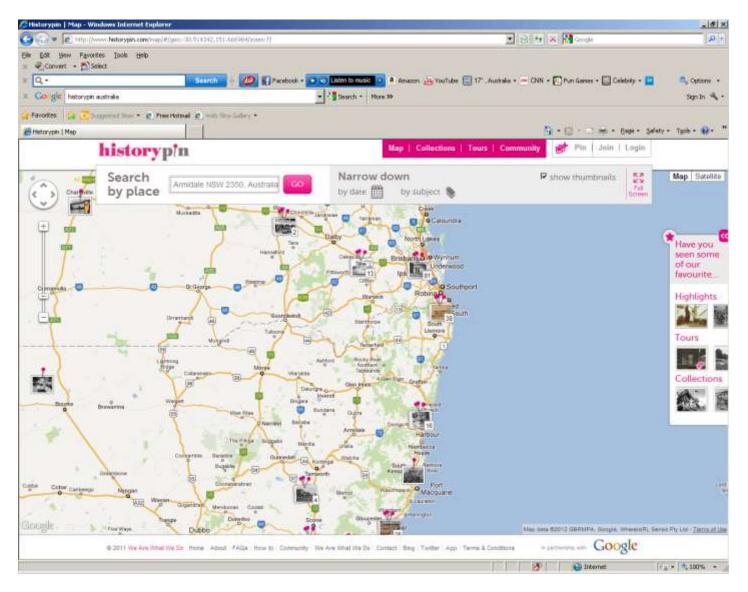




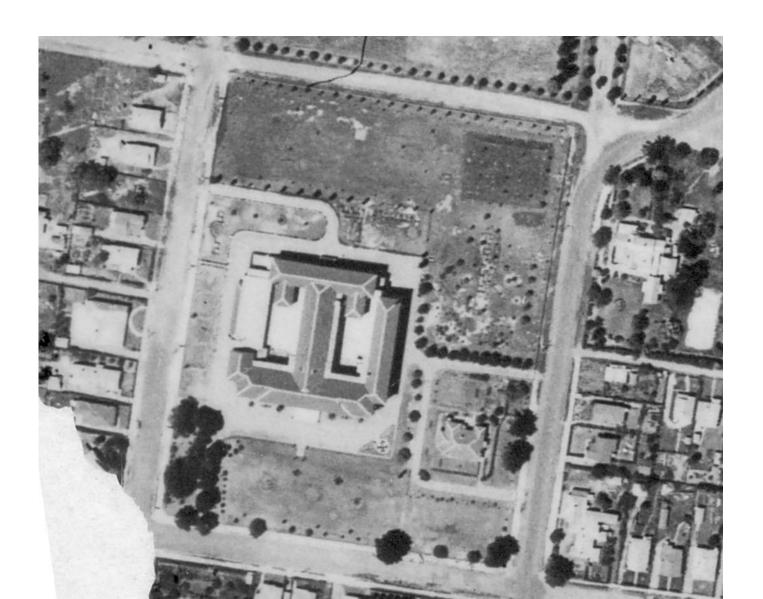
UNE Heritage Centre image HRCP4513 cropped

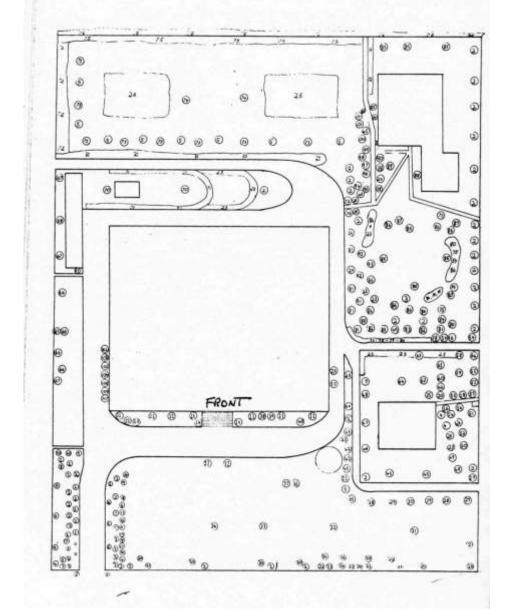
Geotagging and GPS











March 1962





Photo – AE0547-62 permission Armidale Express



March 2012

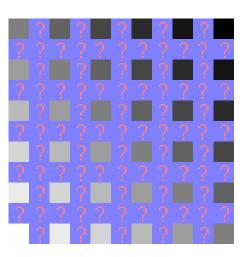












What roses used to be at 'Trevenna'?



A digitally enhanced, close up with mid-tone filters adjusted. (From a promotional photo set provided by UNE to media outlets, date unknown. MRU B1-0425)







Close up for landscape crossreference.

