

People of the Yankalilla District



Lucy, George, Cyril, Margaret, Cynthia Page & Friend

Colourised photo courtesy Page family

Henry Orlando PAGE (1839 - 1902)

Married: Hannah BUTTON (1850 -1899)

Arrived in Yankalilla district: c.1873

Settled at: Myponga

Occupation: farmer

Buried: unknown

Children:

William (1871 - 1949)

George (1873 - 1955) m Lucy SKINNER

Alice Jane ROWSWELL (1874 - 1904)

Theodore James (1877 - 1956) m Elizabeth Rose CLARKE

Hannah Mary RUSSACK (1880 - 1966)

John Henry Orlando (1881 - 1943)

Emily Martha (1884 - 1884)

Florence Bertha May HARRIS (1885 - 1970)

George PAGE (1873 - 1955)

Married: Lucy SKINNER (1870 - 1960)

Occupation: labourer, wattle barker

Buried: Myponga Uniting Church Cemetery

Children:

Mabel CARTER (1901 - 1989)

Clarrie (1902 -1976)

Alaine HUNT (1903 - 1998)

Margaret FOWLER (1906 - 1987)

Cynthia SYMONDS (1909 - 1934)

Cyril (1914 - 1974)

Henry Orlando Page at age 5 years arrived in South Australia from Tasmania with his parents. At the age of 31 he married Hannah Button at Aldinga, where their first child was born. Their next child George, was born at Myponga in 1873. Henry and Hannah went on to have a further 6 children, although their daughter Emily Martha only lived for two weeks. By 1883 Henry was farming section 289 Myponga, renting it from W J Pengilly. It would appear that about 1893 he retired, handing over the farm to his eldest son William. Henry died in 1902 at Myponga.

George Page grew up at Lovely Valley, Myponga, and attended Myponga Primary School. In 1900 George married Lucy Eleanor Skinner in Christ Church Yankalilla. Lucy was the daughter of Yankalilla blacksmith William Thomas Skinner, and her mother was Eliza Nixon. In 1902 George and Lucy bought 5 acres of section 709, on which stood the former Lovely Valley Creamery. The Pages converted the old creamery into their home, where they lived for the rest of their lives. After Lucy's death it was transferred to the Minister of Works and became part of the Myponga Reservoir.

Lucy Page had a strong interest in native plants and conservation, and was made a life member of the Field Naturalists Society of South Australia in recognition of her work. In 1915 She and George purchased section 80 (22 acres). This section was natural bushland and contained eucalypts, native pines, acacias, grass trees, hakeas, orchids, and a variety of ground cover plants. In 1956 Lucy donated this land to the Commissioners of National Parks and Wildlife Reserves. The reserve was named the Nixon Skinner Reserve, and a plaque was placed there in 1980, which states:

This plaque commemorates the donation in 1956 of this reserve by Mrs Lucy Eleanor Page, a long standing and active member of the Field Naturalists Society of South Australia. Mrs Page lived in this locality for sixty years. Named in honour of her grandfathers, the land was the first privately donated reserve to be established in South Australia for the preservation in perpetuity of native plants and animals and for the enjoyment of nature lovers.



Page house painted by Ken Whitford



2022 compiled by Margaret Morgan

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For more information on other notable people of the district
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