

## CONVICT PIONEERS

### ELIZABETH SMITH (c1803-1880) and JOHN LEARY (1795-1854)

The lives of John Leary and Elizabeth Smith is interwoven with that of another convict Matthew Flynn as is summarised below:

Elizabeth Smith

Arrived in the Colony of NSW per the ship "Mary 3" in 1823

John Leary

Arrived in the Colony of NSW per the ship "Princess Regent" in 1824

Matthew Flynn

Arrived in the Colony of NSW per the ship "Tyne" in 1819

Elizabeth Smith  
married  
John Leary

Elizabeth Smith married John Leary in Sydney on 15 January, 1833 and on the same day baptised their daughter:

Catherine Leary  
b 30 Dec, 1832

Apparently Elizabeth Smith and John Leary, later separated and Elizabeth Leary (nee Smith) began a relationship with Matthew Flynn.

Elizabeth Leary  
(nee Smith)  
lived with  
Matthew Flynn

*Elizabeth and Matthew had 3 children:*

Mary Ann Flynn b 1837 at Goulburn  
Sarah Flynn b 6 Dec 1840 at Honey Flat, Binalong  
Harriett Elizabeth Flynn  
b 25 March 1844 at Honey Ck, Binalong

➤ After the death of John Leary

Elizabeth Leary (nee Smith)  
married  
Matthew Flynn  
at Binalong on 18 April, 1858

## CONVICT PIONEER

### ELIZABETH SMITH (c1803-1880)

**Elizabeth Smith**, aged 20 yrs, arrived in Australia as a convict per the ship "Mary 3" on the 18th October 1823.

Elizabeth was a native of Melbourn (Cambridgeshire), England, c1803.

Melbourn is a large [village](#) in the far south west of [Cambridgeshire](#), [England](#). It is located next to the [A10](#) highway just north of [Royston](#). Melbourn has over 4,400 inhabitants.

The parish has a long history of occupation, stemming from the presence of springs at Melbourn Bury and the several ancient trackways that cross the parish; the [Icknield Way](#) runs to the south of the parish and Ashwell Street and the

Roman Cambridge-Royston road are also believed to follow prehistoric trackways.

Pottery and burial finds show evidence of [Bronze Age](#) residents, and a Roman settlement has been found at the north-east edge of the village. Excavations in the 1950s discovered 28 graves from a 7th-century Christian burial site close to Ashwell Street,

The [Domesday Book](#) compiled in 1086 has a listing for the village:



Her calling was listed as a “cheese and butter maker” when she was sentenced to 7 years transportation for larceny (theft).

There are two possible baptismal records for Elizabeth Smith in Melbourn, Cambridgeshire in 1803, but with Smith being an extremely common name, the records are unlikely to ever lead back to an earlier generation.

England, Births & Baptisms 1538-1975 Transcription	
First name(s)	Elizabeth
Last name	Smith
Gender	Female
Birth year	-
Birth place	-
Baptism year	1803
Baptism date	08 Mar 1803
Place	Melbourn
County	Cambridgeshire
Country	England
Father's first name(s)	Edward
Father's last name	Smith
Mother's first name(s)	Ann
Mother's last name	-
Record set	England Births & Baptisms 1538-1975
Category	Birth, Marriage, Death & Parish Records
Record collection	Births & baptisms
Collections from	Great Britain
<small>Index (c) IRI. Used by permission of FamilySearch Intl</small>	

England, Births & Baptisms 1538-1975 Transcription	
First name(s)	Elizabeth
Last name	Smith
Gender	Female
Birth year	1803
Birth place	-
Baptism year	1803
Baptism date	31 Jul 1803
Residence	Melboume, Cambridge, England
Place	Melbourn
County	Cambridgeshire
Country	England
Father's first name(s)	John
Father's last name	Smith
Mother's first name(s)	Mary
Mother's last name	-
Record set	England Births & Baptisms 1538-1975
Category	Birth, Marriage, Death & Parish Records
Record collection	Births & baptisms
Collections from	Great Britain
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*Elizabeth Smith*  
*Baptised 8 March 1803 - Melbourn, Cambridgeshire*  
*Parents: Edward and Ann Smith*

Elizabeth SMITH (later LEARY & FLYNN)

*Elizabeth Smith*  
*Baptised 31 July 1803 - Melbourn, Cambridgeshire*  
*Parents: John and Mary Smith*

(Compiled by John Malone)

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Elizabeth Smith was just 19 years of age when she found herself before Justice Bayley at the **Old Bailey Court** in London.

*London Public Records Office Criminal Registers state the following:*

**Name:** Smith Elizabeth  
**Age:** 19 yrs  
**Crimes:** Larceny from a person  
**Where and when tried:** Old Bailey December 1822  
**Sentences:** Transportation 7 years

No. of Commitments.	NAMES.	Ages.	CRIMES.	Where and when Tried.	SENTENCES.			Acquittals.	Remarks.
					Death.	Transportation.	Imprisonment.		
	Shaw Hannah		Larceny	1822 Aberdeen 1st			14 Days		
	Snow Thomas		Larceny	"			6 Months		
	Smith James		Larceny	"		7 Years			
	Simpson Elizabeth		Larceny	"				Not guilty	
	Silver Esther		Larceny	"			14 Days		
	Steggel Martin		Larceny	"			3 Days		
	Schultz Michael		Larceny	"				Not Proven	
	Smith Richard		Sworn to commit Larceny	Aberdeen 1st October 1822			5 Months		
	Stagg Richard		Waring House Burn	"			1 Year		
9	Smith Elizabeth	19	Larceny from a person	Old Bailey December 1822		7 Years		Not guilty	
13	Stuart Henry	17	Larceny	"				Not guilty	
20	Smith Mary Ann	3	Larceny	"				Not guilty	
21	Speake James	25	Sworn to commit Larceny	"		7 Years			
29	Stephenson Sophia	20	Perjury	"			14 Years		
30	Symonds Mary	18	Perjury	"				Not Proven	
33	Thaughter Samuel	10	Larceny	"				Not guilty	

**Entry in the Criminal Register Book**

*Before Mr. Justice Bayley.*

**33. ELIZABETH SMITH** was indicted for stealing, on the 27th of November, three sovereigns and a seven-shilling piece, the monies of Nathaniel Shackle, from his person.

**NATHANIEL SHACKLE.** I am a clothier, and live at Nailsworth, in Gloucestershire. I was in London on the 26th of November, and was taken to a house near the Tower, by a relation of mine on the 27th, and there I saw the prisoner; it was late in the evening—I slept there all night with her—I am certain of her—I lost three sovereigns and a seven-shilling piece. I know they were safe at twelve o'clock, and the next morning, about day-light, she awoke me, by opening the door to go out. I instantly looked for my clothes, which were under the pillow, and missed them from my watch pocket—I got up and wrote a note to the landlady, requesting her to detain the prisoner if she returned, and that I would call at seven o'clock at night, which I did, and found her in custody of an officer. She said she had spent 1*l.* 12*s.*, in Field-lane, and had 35*s.* of my property left, which she threw on the table in the bag, it was in when I pinned it in my fob.

**LEWIS BARNETT.** I am an officer. I took her into custody, she acknowledged it, and produced 1*l.* 15*s.*, saying she had spent 1*l.* 12*s.*

**GUILTY.** Aged 19

Of stealing, but not from his person:

Transported for Seven Years.

Extract from Australian Convict Transportation Register

<i>Names</i>	<i>Where Convicted</i>	<i>When</i>	<i>Term</i>
Mary Jones	Middlesex - Gaol Delivery.	23 <sup>rd</sup> October 1822	Seven years.
Margaret Murphy			
Margaret Gibbons	do do	4 <sup>th</sup> December 1822	Life.
Sophia Stephenson	do do	4 <sup>th</sup> December 1822	Fourteen years
Elizabeth Smith			
Elizabeth Wood	do do	4 <sup>th</sup> December 1822	Seven years.
Hannah Tomroy			
Catherine Baylis			

63  
34

Voyage of the ship "Mary" of London - 1823

Source: Internet Site "Free Settler or Felon" gives an account of the ship's voyage

**Convict Ship Mary 1823**

Embarked: 127 women  
 Voyage: 130 days  
 Deaths 0  
 Surgeon's Journal: yes  
 Captain J.F. Steel  
 Surgeon Superintendent Harman Cochrane

The ship "Mary" was built at Ipswich, England in 1811.

*Ipswich is a town in Suffolk, a county in eastern England. Set on the River Orwell, its waterfront is lined with cafes, galleries and shops, and the 19th-century Old Custom House, which recalls the city's maritime history.*

Female prisoners transported on the Mary in 1823 came from counties throughout England and Scotland - Oxford, Lancaster, Norfolk, Stafford, Bristol, London, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Perth etc. They were held in county gaols or Newgate prior to transportation.

## ELIZABETH FRY

*Elizabeth Fry was an English prison reformer, social reformer and, as a Quaker, a Christian philanthropist. She has often been referred to as the "angel of prisons"*

### **The ship "Mary" was visited by Elizabeth Fry on the eve of departure.....**

*I lately have had a deeply interesting visit to a female convict-ship, surrounded as I am at such times by poor sailors, and convicts, it is impossible not to feel the contrast of the circumstances in which I am placed.*

*The last time I was in the ship Mary, there was such a scene round me parting from them, probably for ever. So many tears were shed, so much feeling displayed and almost all present the low and the poor.*

*Then, within a few days to be in such a scene of gaiety, though the object in view was good, surrounded by royalty and the great of this earth. The contrast was striking and instructive. I ought surely to profit from the uncommon variety that I see, and the wonderful changes that I have experienced in being raised up, and cast down. Oh! May it not prove in vain for myself and others?*



## SURGEON HARMAN COCHRANE

Harman Cochrane kept a **Medical Journal** from 12 April 1823 to 3 November 1823. He began the journal while the ship was still in England and continued during the voyage to Van Diemen's Land and New South Wales.....

In April two female prisoners Mary Parsons and Elizabeth Maddox, were taken off the Mary and returned to hospital or prison as they were too ill to make the voyage at that time.

Free passenger Mrs. Charlotte Rapsey, age 26 was also taken ill before the Mary set sail. She was treated by Dr. Cochrane for over a month for pain in her face considered to have been caused by a bad tooth. [4] (Charlotte Rapsey was the wife of Peter Hill Rapsey who arrived on the Medway in 1822 and later in partnership with Francis Mitchell established a Store in Morpeth).

As well as Charlotte Rapsey, John Moore and wife also came as free passengers on the Mary.

## DEPARTURE

The **Mary** departed London on 16th June 1823.

Transcript notes from Harmon Cochrane's Journal:

**Mary Parsons**, aged 30, convict, taken ill off Woolwich; sick or hurt, embarked this afternoon, from Worcester in a weakly, sickly looking state, pain in her chest, cough and difficult respiration and considerably emaciated appears hectic; put on sick list 13 May 1823, sent 5 June 1823 to hospital ship Alonzo at Woolwich per order of Mr Capper, Secretary of State's office.

**Elizabeth Maddox**, aged 27, convict, taken ill off Woolwich; sick or hurt, arrived this afternoon from Liverpool, complains of cough and pains in her breast and limbs the extremities very much swollen, cancerous and covered with livid blotches; put on sick list 17 May 1823, sent 28 May 1823 back to prison in custody of Mr Amos per order of Mr Capper.

**Mrs Rapsey**, aged 26, passenger, taken ill at sea; sick or hurt, swelling and pain of the right side of her face supposed to be produced by a bad tooth; put on sick list 17 May 1823, discharged 19 June 1823 from list.

**Susannah Wood**, aged 3 months, convict's child, taken ill at sea; sick or hurt, very bad state of health from her berth, the bowels irregular and affection of the respiratory organs, apparently some malformation of the heart; put on sick list 15 June 1823, died 16 June 1823 at 4 am.

**Ellen Hardgrave**, aged 32, convict, taken ill at sea; sick or hurt, seasickness, menses appeared and have been to excess, sickness at stomach and throws a great quantity of vitiated bile; put on sick list 20 June 1823, sent 20 October 1823 to hospital at Sydney.

**Ann Darter**, aged 26, convict, taken ill at sea; sick or hurt, seized with most violent headache, no febrile action, her eyes were turgid and heavy and the bowels partly open; put on sick list 21 June 1823, discharged 25 August 1823 from list.

**Elizabeth Frindle**, aged 29, convict, taken ill at sea; sick or hurt, frequently afflicted with cancerous affections, seized with pain in her right side aggravated or full inspiration; put on sick list 23 June 1823, sent 6 October 1823 to hospital at Hobart Town.

**Martha Dowling**, aged 3, convict's child, taken ill at sea; sick or hurt, ascarides appeared in her stools, much febrile action; put on sick list 1 July 1823, died 5 July 1823 at 5 am.

**Ann Simms**, aged 25, convict, taken ill at sea; sick or hurt, severe pain in the stomach attended with sickness and vomiting of dark bilious matter; put on sick list 7 July 1823, discharged 21 July 1823 from list.

**Sophia Stephenson**, aged 30, convict, taken ill at sea; sick or hurt, vomiting and pain in her stomach and severe rheumatism; put on sick list 30 June 1823, discharged 14 July 1823 from list.

**Sarah Dowling**, aged 16, convict's child, taken ill at sea; sick or hurt, headache, general pains, languors and lassitude, nausea and sickness at stomach; put on sick list 12 July 1823, discharged 28 July 1823 from list.

**Elizabeth Aarons**, aged 8 months, convict's child, taken ill at sea; sick or hurt, bowels irregular, very much emaciated, she got three months sick and has been very badly taken care of; put on sick list 12 July 1823, died 19 July 1823 at 10 o'clock.

**William Frindle**, aged 13 months, convict's child, taken ill at sea; sick or hurt, unhealthy child, his mother also in a very bad state of health and has very little milk, he has been afflicted with diarrhoea; put on sick list 14 July 1823, died 26 July 1823 at 3 pm.

**Catherine Baylies**, aged 26, convict, taken ill at sea; sick or hurt, seasickness and irritability of stomach, and has not eaten the solid food the last five weeks, she also had menorrhagia; put on sick list 17 July 1823, discharged 25 August 1823 from list.

**Caroline Darter**, aged 13 months, convict's child, taken ill at sea; sick or hurt, bowels very irregular, her mother has had very little milk for it, her bowels for the last week have been more disturbed and has had much irritability of stomach, her mother took no notice of it; put on sick list 24 July 1823, died 2 August 1823 at 3am.

**Margaret Ferguson**, aged 26, convict, taken ill at sea; sick or hurt, sickness at stomach, vomiting and constipation of the bowels, pain in her left side and general debility; put on sick list 7 July 1823, discharged 21 July 1823 from list.

**Janet Brodie**, aged 30, convict, taken ill at sea; sick or hurt, sickness at stomach, pains in her lower extremities which are now confined to the ankles and are extremely severe, little swelling of the joints; put on sick list 30 July 1823, discharged 11 August 1823 from list.

**Mary Gengell**, aged 24, convict, taken ill at sea; sick or hurt, griping and very frequent calls to stool with straining and tenesmus; put on sick list 30 July 1823, sent 6 October 1823 to hospital at Hobart Town.

**William Wood**, aged 2 and a half, convict's child, taken ill at sea; sick or hurt, slight diarrhoea, about four weeks ago a pustular eruption appeared on his face, head and limbs; put on sick list 21 August 1823, died 12 September 1823 at 8 am.

**Mrs Moore**, aged 26, passenger, taken ill at sea; sick or hurt, delicate state of health and advanced state of pregnancy, suffered from variola, about two months ago caught a slight cold; put on sick list 19 September 1823, discharged 6 October 1823 from list.

**Elizabeth Jones**, aged 24, convict, taken ill at sea; sick or hurt, pulmonis affection and has not menstruated for five months past; put on sick list 19 September 1823, sent 6 October 1823 to hospital at Hobart Town.

**Margret Murphy**, aged 22, convict, taken ill at sea; sick or hurt, catarrh which has become worse the last two days, very troublesome cough and considerable dyspnoea; put on sick list 13 October 1823, sent 20 October 1823 to hospital at Sydney.

## SURGEON'S SUMMARY

**Harmon Cochrane** wrote a summary of the voyage in his journal {extract}....

*It will be seen by the abstract that scurvy never showed itself in any form, and we had but one case of fever. This may be attributed to the lower deck or prison having been kept perfectly clean and dry, although we had much rough weather, particularly from the Cape of Good Hope to Van Diemen's Land. The convicts being allowed free access to the upper deck and indeed often compelled when they would not come up voluntarily, from day light in the morning to sunset, when the weather would permit, together with the cleanliness order and regularity which they were at all times obliged to observe, contributed in no small degree towards it.*

## HOBART

The Mary arrived in Van Diemen's Land on 5 October 1823 and Port Jackson on Saturday 18 October 1823. Sixty-seven female prisoners were landed at Hobart and fifty-nine female prisoners and 29 children landed at Port Jackson. Six children died on the passage out, having been deprived of their natural nourishment due to the illness of their mothers. Two women were sent directly to hospital on arrival in Van Diemen's Land and one, Ellen Hargraves, when the vessel reached Sydney.

## SYDNEY

A muster of 59 women was held on board the Mary in Sydney by Colonial Secretary Frederick Goulburn on 20th October 1823. The prisoners were in good health and declared themselves well treated and were well spoken of by the Surgeon Superintendent and Commander. The convict indents include the name of the prisoner, occupation, age, native place, date and place of trial and physical description. There are occasional notes regarding family members already in the colony and tickets of leave issued. There is no information regarding where and to whom the women were assigned.

## NOTES AND LINKS

### *Notes from Convict Indents about some of the female prisoners landed in Sydney*

**Rachael Aarons** - Occupation: shopkeeper. Age 33 from Hamburg. Has 4 children, Rachael 7yrs; Rosina 5 yrs; Hannah 4 yrs; Aaron Joseph 2 yrs. Husband arrived in the colony previously. Find more about Rachael and Joseph Aarons at Edges of the Empire by Lucy Frost

**Mary Anderson** - House servant. Age 35 from St. Andrews. One child Sarah age 7 years. Husband died 7 years previously.

**Jane Aynsley** - Washerwoman age 48 from Durham

**Ann Allen** - Shopkeeper. Native place Sheffield. Widow, no children. Brother-in-law came out 4 or years previously

**Elizabeth Baldwin** - ; House maid age 20 from Sunderland; unmarried, no children

**Sarah Baleman** - Occupation All work; age 28 from Leeds; unmarried, no children

**Ann Brown** - Housemaid; age 26 from Chester; unmarried no children

**Ann Branston** - Housemaid; tried 2 March 1821; age 23. Native place Warwickshire

**Sarah Bulger** - Cook; Age 40 from Surry; has 2 children at Brighton. Husband died 2 years previously

**Mary Carlow** - Housemaid; age 19, from Norwich; unmarried, no children

**Ann Curtis** - House maid and needlework; age 42, native place Worcester; 3 children in Worcester. Husband died 4 years previously

**Mary Cowell** - Occupation needle work; Age 17, from Isle of Man. Unmarried, no children

**Elizabeth Darke** - Cooks, washes, makes butter and cheese; age 40, native place Barnstaple. Married. Husband and 4 children in the workhouse in Plymouth and one, Elizabeth, aged 10 months with her

**Martha Dowling** - Housemaid. Native Place Ballyshannon. Has been here before; came with her mother Margaret Armsly\* 10 years since. Married to Christopher Dowling who was free by certificate. Returned to England with Captain Jeffries (possibly of the Archduke Charles in 1813). Her sister in VDL with 4 children. \*possibly Martha Leslie

**Eleanor Daley** - House maid; age 24, native place Co. Tipperary. No children. Husband stone mason in London

**Mary Duddridge** - Housemaid age 20

**Elizabeth Finnegan** - Cook and Confectioner; age 23, from Dublin

**Hannah Ford** - House maid; age 17. Native place London

**Elizabeth Ford** - Place of all work; age 19. Native place London

**Rebecca Furness** - Nursery maid; native place Norwich; unmarried, no children

**Mary Gays** - Laundry Maid; age 38; native place London. Has five children with her husband in London

**Jane Hewson** - Washerwoman; age 25; native place Killburn Wells. Two children Job age 6; John age 2 years with her. Husband dead?

**Ellen Hargraves** - Sent to hospital on arrival

**Margaret Healey** - Washerwoman; native place Athlone; age 48; two children in Rochdale. Husband dead

**1828 – Census of the Colony of NSW**

When the **1828 Census** was taken, Elizabeth Smith, a housemaid aged 25, was assigned to Rev L E Threlkeld at Lake Macquarie.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Free / Gov</u> <u>Servant</u>	<u>Ship</u>	<u>Year</u>
Smith Elizabeth	25	GS	Mary of London	1823

<u>Sentence</u>	<u>Religion</u>	<u>Employment</u>	<u>Residence</u>
7 yrs	Catholic	Housemaid	Rev LE Threlkeld - Lake Macquarie

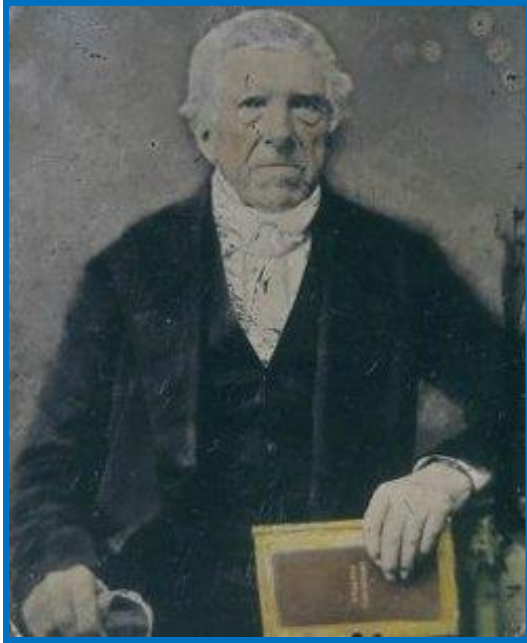
**1828 New South Wales Census**



No.	Name	Age	Sex	Ship	Year	Religion	Employment	Residence
1222	Smallman	50	M					
24	D. McEwen	50	M				Carver	St. Paul
25	D. HOB	9	F					
26	Small	46	M	St. Albans	1824		Ship	St. Paul
27	D. Thomas	32	M	St. Albans	1822		Boatman	St. Paul
28	D. Thomas	53	M	St. Albans	1825			
29	D. Thomas	14	M					
1240	D. Ann Jane	44	F	B.C.			Bookkeeper	St. Paul
4	D. Jenkins	11	M					
12	D. John C		M	St. Albans			29 Nov	St. Paul
13	D. James	47	M	St. Albans	1817		Stitch	St. Paul
11	D. James	23	M	St. Albans	1825		Labourer	St. Paul
10	D. William	26	M	St. Albans	1824		Labourer	St. Paul
16	D. William	57	M	St. Albans	1825		Labourer	St. Paul
17	Smith	20	F	St. Albans	1823		Labourer	St. Paul
11	D. Elizabeth	25	F	St. Albans	1823		Labourer	St. Paul
49	D. John	25	M				Labourer	St. Paul
1252	D. Sarah	28	F	St. Albans	1807			
51	D. John	11	M					
52	D. Charles	16	M					
53	D. Mary Ann	14	F	B.C.			Householder	St. Paul
54	D. Elizabeth	12	F					
55	D. William	8	M					
56	D. James	15	M					

## **Convict Elizabeth Smith assigned to Lancelot Thelkeld**

**Elizabeth Smith's employer was Lancelot Threlkeld. The following article outlines his life story:**



*Threlkeld, Lancelot Edward (1788–1859) by Niel Gunson*

This article was published in *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, Volume 2, (MUP), 1967

Lancelot Edward Threlkeld (1788-1859), missionary and Congregational minister, was born on 20 October 1788 in Southwark, London, the son of Samuel Joseph Threlkeld, a brushmaker, and his wife Mary. After serving a trade apprenticeship Threlkeld became an actor with the Royal Circus and later with the Royalty Theatre. He then engaged in business, and in 1808 at St George's Church, Southwark, he married Martha, née Goss, who bore him five children. Threlkeld moved to Hatherleigh, Devonshire, where he was influenced by the vicar, Cradock Glascott, and became one of his itinerant field preachers, assisting Rev. G. Moase, a Calvinistic Methodist. In 1814 he was accepted as a candidate by the (London)

Missionary Society and received brief courses in theology and elementary medicine in London. On 8 November 1815 he was ordained at Mr Leitchfield's Chapel, Kensington, in company with William Ellis, with whom he left for the South Seas in the *Atlas* in January 1816.

His wife lost their first child and became so ill that Threlkeld was detained for a year at Rio de Janeiro, where he ministered to the Protestant community. In January 1817 he joined another company of missionaries in the *Harriet* and went to Sydney, whence they sailed to the Society Islands in the *Active*, arriving at Moorea in November 1817. Threlkeld's independence brought him into conflict with the older missionaries, though he worked amicably with John Williams at Raiatea. When his wife died on 7 March 1824, Rev. Daniel Tyerman and a wealthy layman, George Bennet, were visiting the society's mission fields. Threlkeld accompanied them to Australia, intending to return to England. In Sydney the visitors proposed the establishment of a mission to the Aborigines. Governor Brisbane was agreeable; in January 1825 a site was fixed at Reid's Mistake (Belmont) on Lake Macquarie, and Threlkeld was appointed missionary.

On 20 October 1824 Threlkeld had married Sarah, daughter of Dr Thomas Arndell of Cattai Creek near Windsor; they had five children. Ten thousand acres (4047 ha) were reserved in trust for the mission. Threlkeld settled at Newcastle in May 1825; in 1826 he moved to his station Bahtahbah and began to instruct the Aborigines in simple agriculture. The apparently excessive expenditure at the mission soon brought him into dispute with Rev. Samuel Marsden, the society's agent, and with the directors in London. The breach over financial matters widened, especially as Threlkeld resented the oversight of Marsden. In April 1828 the directors decided to abandon the mission and dismiss Threlkeld, offering to pay his passage to England.

Threlkeld, however, was able to secure a grant of land from Governor (Sir) Ralph Darling in 1829, and in January 1831 the Executive Council confirmed him as missionary, and voted him a salary of £200 to replace the former stipend. Soon afterwards he moved to Ebenezer (Toronto) on the opposite side of the lake. In the next ten years he consolidated his work; with the assistance of the tribal leader, Biraban, he mastered the dialect, acted as interpreter for Aborigines on trial in Sydney, and printed regular reports. His published language studies are now regarded as landmarks in Aboriginal studies. The station became a show place and was visited by the United States Exploring Expedition and the Quakers, James Backhouse and George Washington Walker.

Threlkeld also formed an acquaintance with influential persons interested in Aboriginal welfare and later corresponded with Sir George Grey. Despite the support of such men Threlkeld was savagely criticized. In 1836 John Dunmore Lang, who had cast aspersions on the mission as early as March 1828, reviewed its history in the *Colonist*, 31 March 1836, to Threlkeld's disadvantage. He brought a libel case against Lang, and secured one farthing damages.

Although the mission had some success, Threlkeld regarded it as a failure because he made no apparent converts. By 1840 he reported that very few Aboriginals were left at the station; Governor Sir George Gipps terminated government support and refused to sanction his employment at Newcastle. The mission was officially closed on 31 December 1841. Threlkeld continued to sit on committees for the welfare of the Aboriginals and to attend the police courts on behalf of Aboriginal defendants. As the mission had been costly, Threlkeld had to supplement his personal stipend by grazing stock and, in defiance of the monopoly of the Australian Agricultural Co., by developing the coal seams on his property. In 1840 he opened the first mine in the Lake Macquarie district and held it until January 1845. In 1841 Threlkeld had moved to Sydney, and in 1842 became minister of the South Head Congregational Church which had been gathered by William Pascoe Crook, and also conducted a day school. He relinquished this pastorate in 1845 when he was appointed chaplain of seamen by the Sydney Bethel Union. A substantial Mariners' Church was built chiefly through his exertions, and he regularly preached on shipboard and in hospitals.

In Sydney he was prominent in the public meetings that protested against the French intervention in the Society Islands, and his declaration, in conjunction with Rev. Robert Bourne, to the colonial secretary was used as evidence in securing the independence of the Leeward Islands. In his later years he contributed numerous articles to the religious press. As a champion of Protestantism, much of his writing was polemical and anti-Catholic. In 1851 he was appointed a member of the Ethnological Society, London, for his Aboriginal studies.

Threlkeld died suddenly on 10 October 1859. His wife had predeceased him on 20 December 1853. Threlkeld had tendencies to be theatrical, improvident and self-righteous, yet he was quick to champion the victims of discrimination, whether Dissenters or Aboriginals. He was convinced that the intellectual capabilities of the Aboriginals were equal to those of Europeans, though his approach to missionary work was coloured by his commitment to the Calvinistic doctrine of natural depravity. Lady Jane Franklin described him in 1839 as a 'dingy elderly plain man'. Though difficult, he was enterprising and energetic.

## Elizabeth Smith – Certificate of Freedom

A Certificate of Freedom for Elizabeth Smith (No 29/1079) was issued on 30 December 1829 read as follows:

Name:	Elizabeth Smith
Ship:	Mary (3)
Master:	Steel
Year:	1823
Native Place:	Melburn (Cambridge Shire)
Trade or Calling:	House servant
Offence:	--
Place of Trial:	Middlesex S D
Date of Trial:	4 December 1822
Sentence:	7 years
Year of Birth:	1803
Height:	5 ft 2 in
Complexion:	dark
Hair:	light brown
Eyes:	hazel

CERTIFICATE OF FREEDOM.


No. *29/1079*  
Date, *30 December 1829.*

Prisoner's No. —  
Name, — *Elizabeth Smith*  
Ship, — *Mary (3)*  
Master, — *Steel*  
Year, — *1823*  
Native Place, — *Melburn, Cambridge Shire*  
Trade or Calling — *House Servant*  
Offence, —  
Place of Trial, — *Middlesex G.D.*  
Date of Trial, — *4 December 1822*  
Sentence, — *Seven Years*  
Year of Birth, — *1803*  
Height, — *5 feet 2 inches*  
Complexion, — *Dark*  
Hair, — *light Brown*  
Eyes, — *Hazel*  
General Remarks,

## Marriage of Elizabeth Smith and John Leary

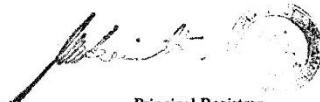
After gaining her freedom, Elizabeth Smith married John Leary at St Mary's, Sydney on the 15th January 1833.

Both Elizabeth and John were listed as residents of the ship "Mary of London".  
Witnesses to the marriage were Dennis O'Brian and Catherine Marten.

Application	84M4532/RR		
<b>NEW SOUTH WALES</b>			
Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages Act, 1973			
<b>MARRIAGES</b>			
Number	59 Vol: 129		
<b>PARTIES</b>			
Groom	John LEARY		
Abode	Ship Mary of London		
Bride	Elizabeth SMITH		
Abode	Ship Mary of London		
When married	15th January, 1833		
Where married	-		
Witnesses	Denis O'Brian and Catherine Marten		
Authority			
Where Registered	-		
Clergyman Officiating	-		

I, Vernon Mark Bennett,  
hereby certify that the above is a true copy of particulars recorded in a Register  
of Roman Catholic Marriages kept by me

Issued at Sydney,  
on 15th November, 1985


  
Principal Registrar

## Baptism of daughter Catherine Leary

On the same day, 15 January 1833 their only child **Catherine Leary** was baptised, also at St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney.

Catherine was born on the previous Sunday fortnight - *(30 December, 1832)*

PR 222



Application P 208278/86 SM

NEW SOUTH WALES

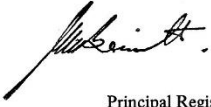
Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages Act, 1973


**BAPTISMS**


Number	116 Vol: 129
<b>CHILD</b>	
Christian name	Catherine
When born	Fortnight last Sunday
Date of ceremony	15th January, 1833
Where ceremony performed	St. Mary's Cathedral
Where registered	-
<b>PARENTS</b>	
Father	John LEARY (Ship "Prince Regent")
Mother	Elizabeth SMITH
Abode	-
Quality or profession	-
Sponsors	Edward Gutherie & Elizabeth Martin
By whom the ceremony was performed	-

I, Vernon Mark Bennett,  
hereby certify that the above is a true copy of particulars recorded in a register of  
St. Mary's Cathedral Roman Catholic Baptisms kept by me

Issued at Sydney,  
on 9th April, 1986.

  
Principal Registrar



 S.O. 5178

## ELIZABETH LEARY (nee Smith) - continued

Until recently it was thought that Elizabeth Leary (nee Smith) continued to live with John Leary until his death.

However the recent discovery of an extract from the book:

"Kissin Cousins" written by Marjorie Kendall of Milton NSW has thrown a completely different light on their relationship.

(Thanks to Sheila Harper and Elaine Slavik for their emails)

### SARAH FLYNN'S FAMILY

Matthew Flynn, aged 16, occupation shoemaker and sailor, with freckled face, dark hair and eyes, five feet two and a quarter inches tall, was sentenced, May 1818, in Cork and transported on the *Tyne*, which arrived in Sydney Jan 4 1819<sup>ii)</sup>. In 1822 he was working for Mrs Broughton of Appin<sup>i)</sup>. By 1828 he was a shepherd at Goulburn Plains, still working for Mrs Broughton<sup>m)</sup>.

March 1831 at C of E Chapel, Lake George, he was married by Revd Thomas Hassall, with Banns, and with the Governor's consent to, Eliza/Elizabeth Wooler, who died very soon after<sup>nn)</sup>.

The mother of his three daughters was Elizabeth Smith who arrived in the colony on the *Mary of London* in 1823<sup>m)</sup>. She had been sentenced to seven years at the 1822 December Sessions of the Old Bailey for 'Larceny from a Person'. According to her

Certificate of Freedom dated Dec 30 1829 she was 19 when transported, Protestant, a housemaid who could make butter and cheese, five feet two inches tall, a dark complexion, light brown hair and hazel eyes, born in Melburn, Cambridgeshire. She was assigned to Revd Threlkeld.

John Leary was born *circa* 1795, Catholic, arriving in the colony on the *Prince Regent* July 15 1824, sentenced to 7 years. He was assigned to John MacArthur Esquire as a farm labourer, as he 'ploughs, fences and thatches'. After he served his sentence he farmed at Menangle. John Leary died Sept 1854 and is buried at St John's Catholic Cemetery, Campbelltown.

Elizabeth Smith and John Leary married Jan 15 1833 at St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney. Their daughter, Catherine (born Jan 4 1833), was baptised the same day.

Elizabeth left her husband, John Leary, took their daughter, Catherine (who later called herself Flynn) and went to live with Matthew Flynn.

At Mr Murphy's, Binalong<sup>i)</sup> April 18 1858 Elizabeth and Matthew were finally married<sup>o)</sup>.

✚ Two sentences from the above extract is of great importance:

Elizabeth left her husband, John Leary, took their daughter, Catherine (who later called herself Flynn) and went to live with Matthew Flynn.

The mother of his three daughters  
was Elizabeth Smith .....

*(referring to Matthew Flynn)*

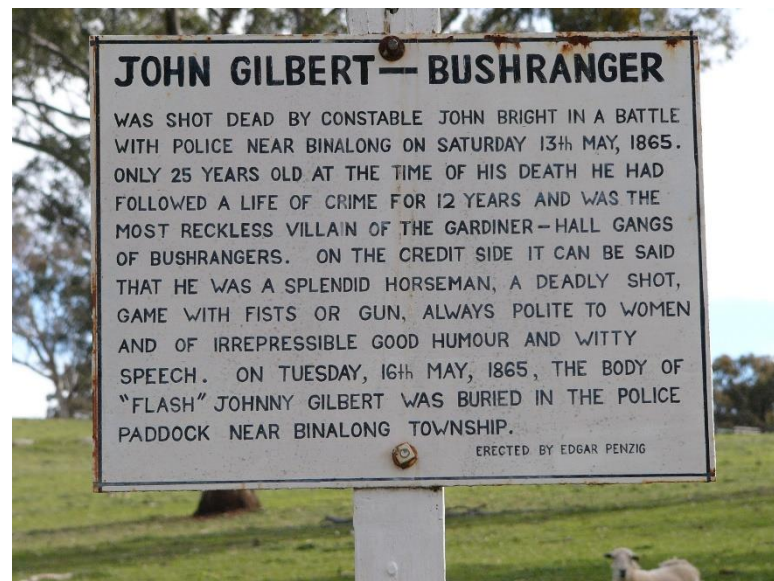


Elizabeth was residing at Binalong when on 18 April 1858 she married Binalong shepherd, tradesman, shoemaker and widower Matthew Flynn.

The ceremony was performed at **Mr Murphy's residence**, by Father Bermingham, under the rites of the Roman Catholic Church.

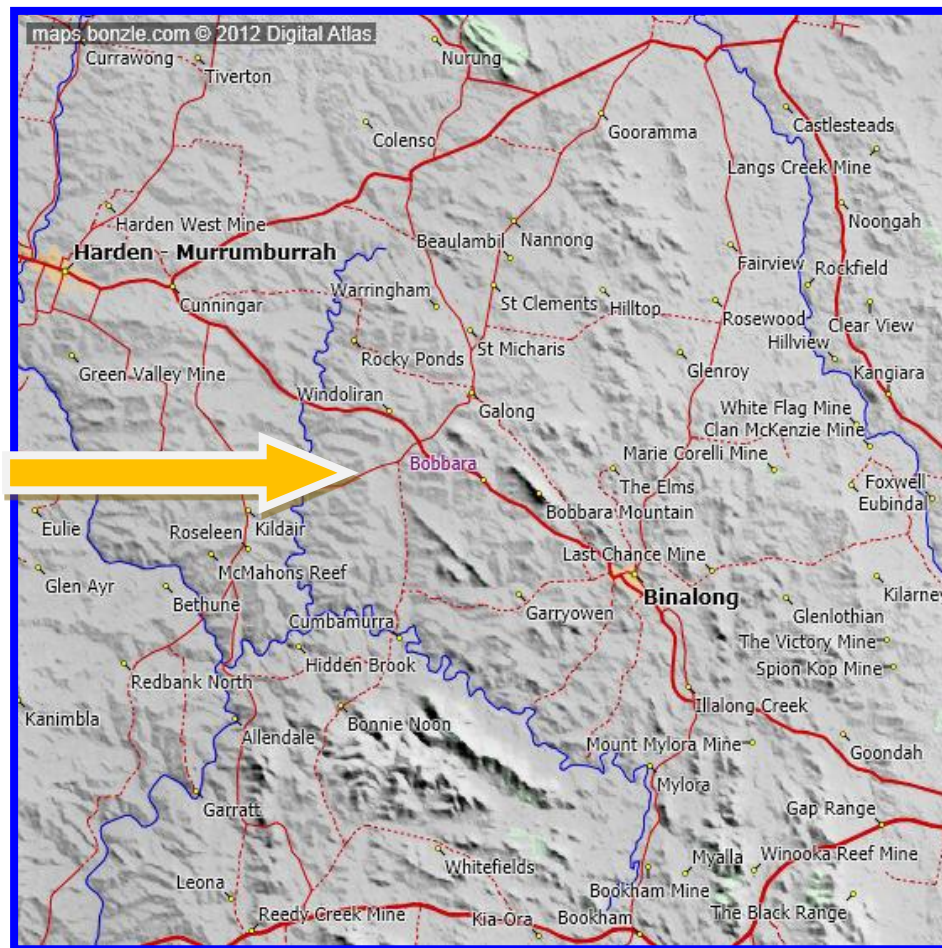
*(Note: Mr Murphy was **Mr Miles Murphy** who was an early settler and owned what is now known as the "Black Swan" in Binalong.*

*When bushranger Johnny Gilbert was killed in Binalong, Miles Murphy had the job of burying the notorious bushranger on the outskirts of Binalong - Miles Murphy is an ancestor of my son-in-law **Stephen Howse**)*



**Gilbert's Grave at Binalong**


**Matthew Flynn was to die some 8 years later on 10 April 1866 at Bobra Dam near Binalong.  
Matthew's death certificate was certified by his wife Elizabeth Flynn of Bobra Dam near Binalong.  
(*Mount Bobbara and Bobbara Creek are located between Binalong and Galong NSW*)**



***PS: Further information relating to the death of Elizabeth Flynn (formerly Leary- nee Smith) has yet to be uncovered – updated below!***

On 25 November 2014, I was having a "throw out" of old documents when I accidentally came upon the following document issued by NSW Births, Deaths and Marriages, issued in 1986 (28 years ago).

P286586 186.

New South Wales Government 

## Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages

In response to request for information relating to <sup>Death</sup> records (numbers provided by applicant) the following details are furnished -

1860   5119	- Elizabeth Flynn	- 11 months old
1861   0335	- "	- 13 " "
1875   3645	- "	- 17 days old
1876   5611	- "	- 13 year old child
1880   5913	- "	- nee Harden married Matthew Flynn
1883   1921	- "	- nee O'Keefe married James Flynn
1885   6132	- "	- nee Edmunds married Thomas Flynn
1889   8031	- "	- nee Lynch married James
1898   11259	- "	- 22 yrs not married.

for V.M. Bennett,  
Principal Registrar. S7

The entry of interest is 1880 / 5913 Elizabeth Flynn (nee Harden) married Matthew Flynn.

A search of Births, Deaths and Marriages drew a blank for some time until I narrowed the surname down to FLYN not FLYNN - Death of Elizabeth Flyn registered at Grenfell. (Grenfell was where her youngest daughter Harriet Elizabeth Bellamy had died, so at last the search for my long lost ancestor was unfolding in a most promising manner.

**The arrival of the death certificate of Elizabeth Flynn (Flynn) produced the following details:**

5923	19 <sup>th</sup> May 1880	Elizabeth Flynn	(1) Old age (2) 7 months (3) None (4) —	(1) Alexander Harden (2) Carpenter (3) J. H. Brown	H. Bellamy Daughter Seven Mile	(1) H. Bellamy (2) 19 <sup>th</sup> May 1880 (3) Grenfell	20 <sup>th</sup> May 1880	John Howell Grenfell H. S. Johnson	England 56 years N.S.W.	(1) Lake George (2) 32 years (3) Matthew Flynn	2 females living 1 female deceased
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In summary the information provided by her **daughter Harriet Bellamy** was as follows, bearing in mind that death certificates often include inaccuracies.

- Elizabeth Flynn (Flynn) died on 19 May 1880 at Seven Mile near Grenfell
- Elizabeth was aged 77 years and died of old age after being ill for the last 7 months
- Elizabeth's father was listed as Alexander Harden, a carpenter
- Information was provided by H Bellamy, her daughter, also residing at seven mile
- Elizabeth was buried at the Grenfell Cemetery on 20 May 1880
- Elizabeth was born in England and had spent 56 years in New South Wales
- She had married at Lake George aged 32 years to Matthew Flynn (Flynn)
- Her children consisted of 2 females living and 1 female deceased.

Comparing the information above with Elizabeth Smith (convict per the ship "Mary 3") provides both matching and mis-matching information.

**Matching Information:**

- ✓ Elizabeth was 77 years of age which gives her birth c1803 (**this matches with Elizabeth Smith aged 19 years when tried at the Old Bailey in 1822**)
- ✓ Elizabeth had spent 56 years in New South Wales, giving her arrival date as c1824 (**this matches with the arrival of Elizabeth Smith as a convict in 1823**)
- ✓ Elizabeth's children were 2 females living and 1 female deceased (**daughters Sarah Evans and Harriet Bellamy were alive while daughter Mary Ann Jenkins was deceased – no mention of Catherine Leary**)

**Mis-matching Information:**

- ✓ Elizabeth's father was listed as Alexander Harden – as opposed to having a maiden name of Smith **{the Harden name will entail further research}**

*Research pertaining to common surnames such as **Smith** is extremely difficult but the following two baptisms possibly relate to our Elizabeth Smith*

England, Births & Baptisms 1538-1975 Transcription	
First name(s)	Elizabeth
Last name	Smith
Gender	Female
Birth year	1803
Birth place	-
Baptism year	1803
Baptism date	31 Jul 1803
Residence	Melbourn, Cambridge, England
Place	Melbourn
County	Cambridgeshire
Country	England
Father's first name(s)	John
Father's last name	Smith
Mother's first name(s)	Mary
Mother's last name	-
Record set	England Births & Baptisms 1538-1975
Category	Birth, Marriage, Death & Parish Records
Record collection	Births & baptisms
Collections from	Great Britain
<small>Index (c) IRI. Used by permission of FamilySearch Intl</small>	

England, Births & Baptisms 1538-1975 Transcription	
First name(s)	Elizabeth
Last name	Smith
Gender	Female
Birth year	-
Birth place	-
Baptism year	1803
Baptism date	08 Mar 1803
Place	Melbourn
County	Cambridgeshire
Country	England
Father's first name(s)	Edward
Father's last name	Smith
Mother's first name(s)	Ann
Mother's last name	-
Record set	England Births & Baptisms 1538-1975
Category	Birth, Marriage, Death & Parish Records
Record collection	Births & baptisms
Collections from	Great Britain
<small>Index (c) IRI. Used by permission of FamilySearch Intl</small>	

- ✓ *Elizabeth married at Lake George aged 32 yrs (c1835), which is probably when Matthew and Elizabeth began their relationship as their daughter Mary Ann was born in 1837.*
- ✓ *As per their marriage certificate 1858, Elizabeth did not marry as she was still legally married to John Leary.*
- ✓ *When John Leary died in 1854 she thus became eligible to re-marry.*

### **7 Mile, Grenfell**

*The Seven Mile at Grenfell where Elizabeth Flynn (Flynn) was residing with her daughter Harriet and son-in-law Edward Bellamy had a most interesting history.*

#### **SEVEN MILE RUSH/WEDDIN**

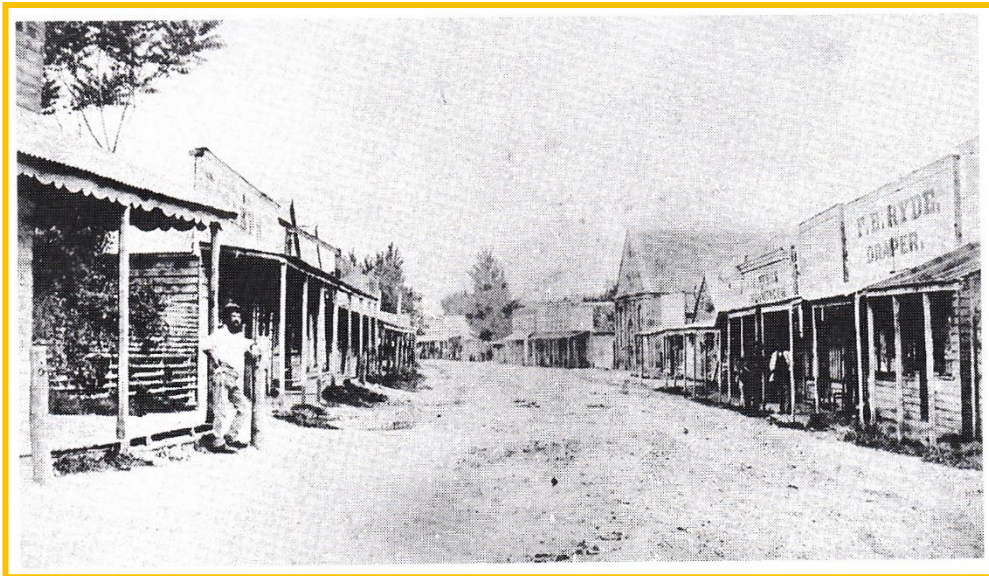
In 1867 Thomas Holton was working in Prince Alfred Gully, seven miles (11 km) from Grenfell. There were several leads in this find, all of which met at the spot known as Seven Mile. At least 5000 men were working on alluvial claims. There were numerous hotels and stores set up, as well as a blacksmith's shop.

The Peep of Day was the most successful claim, with the two owners taking out £550 each for three months work. H J Slee, who later became Inspector of Mines, had a claim on which a large nugget weighing 7½ oz (213 g) was found.

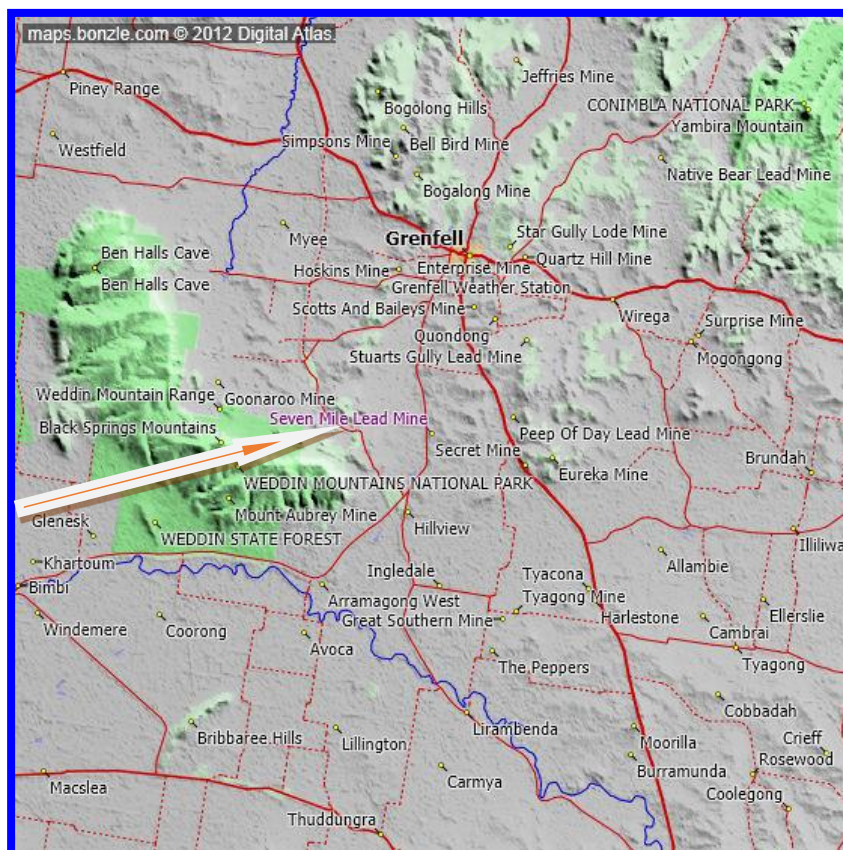
After the gold petered out, many men stayed on and fossicked around, getting enough money to live, but not much more.

A school opened at Seven Mile in 1876 in a building donated by Mr John Simpson, who was involved with getting the school established. It started with 40 pupils. The school closed in 1937. Mr Simpson was also involved with the local store, and became Postmaster in 1884. His mother-in-law Mrs McKenzie opened the Weddin Hall in 1890.

Seven Mile is now known as Weddin.



*George Street, Grenfell 1881*



7 Mile Mine,  
near Grenfell

*The **Bellamy family**, living on the goldfields at the 7 Mile had quite a full household. Elizabeth Flynn's daughter **Harriet Bellamy** was to give birth to her seventh of ten children in 1880 at the time of the death of her mother.*