

Toowong History Group

We are hoping to add to our local knowledge by gathering information regarding the history behind the Toowong street names (or former name).

If you have further thoughts or can confirm or correct the information below, then please e-mail marilyn.England@bigpond.com. Your help would be appreciated.

A	
Annerley Street	
Archer Street	Archer Street is named after Alexander Archer the Bank of New South Wales manager, part of the Rockhampton Archer family. His house Arley. <i>John Bray</i>
Ascog Terrace	Perhaps from the following?? Ascog Hall was built in 1844 by the Rev. James Monteith of Dalkeith who moved to Bute at the time of the Disruptions, when he joined the Free Church. "ASCOG, bay, village, lake, and estate on east side of Bute Island, Buteshire. The bay is about 1 1/2 miles south-east of Rothesay. The estate, with mansion, was sold in 1876 for £39,420." [From The Gazetteer of Scotland, by Rev. John Wilson, 1882.] 3 Asc Askr (<i>Old Norse</i>), an ash. Ascaig Ascog
Augustus Street	Most likely named after Sir Augustus Charles Gregory who lived at Rainworth House which now faces Barton Street Rainworth. Gregory Street is almost a straight line from his house to the Town Council chambers. He was endearingly referred to as 'Gregory of Rainworth' after receiving his knighthood.
B	
Ballara Lane	
Bent Street	
Broseley Road	My ancestor Thomas James Vickers Wood and his family migrated to Brisbane from England in 1877 on the Windsor Castle. He died on the 27 May 1915 in at Broseley Road, Toowong. The notice in the paper attached talks of him dying at his residence Broseley in Toowong. His father Henry Wood was from Broseley in Shropshire. <i>Jenny Wood</i>
Bywong Street	Some place name books claim that "Bywong" means "big hill". That meaning would be appropriate, given the hill at the end of the street. <i>MDraheim</i>

C	
Camp Street	
Clayton Lane	
Coram Lane	
D	
Dampier Street	
Dean Street	
Dempster Street	The Dempster family had a house in Kapundra Street, they originally owned the land thereabouts and it was a dairy farm.
Depper	<p>These streets were named I believe after my great grandfather Martin Depper who came to Brisbane on the “La Rochelle” in 1863 . He was from a little village called Oestrich on the Rhine near Rudesheim in Hessen.</p> <p>Martin died in a house in Depper Street in 1914. His father Michael grew grapes in Patrick’s Lane in Toowong-supposed to be the first to do so in Brisbane , but he in c.1876 left Brisbane and travelled down to NSW and then back to Germany . The Deppers in QLD phone book are all related and descend from Martin and Michael.</p> <p>Martin despite not being able to speak English in 1863 worked hard to establish himself and later became the manager of the Queensland Deposit Bank.</p> <p>Martin Depper in the Queenslander newspaper 15 Sept 1883 is refusing to give land for road purposes through portion 9 Indooroopilly .</p> <p>The street was named Depper Street in St Lucia – 1891. It written up in the papers 31 Dec 1891 page 3 of 8 .</p> <p><i>Erla Angell</i></p>
Devon Street	
Dovercourt Road	Named when the Dovercourt land was subdivided in 1919 by B. Palmer (son of Sir Arthur Palmer). Dovercourt is still standing. <i>J.&J. Bigge, Dovercourt.</i>
Duke Street	

E	
Elizabeth Street	
Emerson Street	
Explorer Street	<p>Sir Augustus Charles Gregory</p> <p>Born: 1 August 1819 England. Died: 25 June 1905. Gregory was leader of the North Australian Exploring Expedition 1854-58 and Surveyor-General of Queensland 1859. His work relates to Australian geology and natural history as well as surveying. <i>John Bray</i></p> <p>This book is worth including in the 'further reading' section. HARD COUNTRY, HARD MEN In the Footsteps of Gregory Kieran Kelly Foreword by Janet Holmes a Court \$24.95, Trade pbk, 288 pp, ISBN 0 86806 715 6</p> <p>Sir Augustus Charles Gregory is arguably Australia's greatest explorer.</p> <p>His 1855-56 North Australia Expedition was brilliantly led, produced the final pieces in the jig-saw map of Australia, solved the riddle of the inland sea, resulted in no loss of life, produced some of the greatest colonial art of the nineteenth century and made a prodigious contribution to the understanding of Australian botany.</p> <p>In this book Kelly has intertwined Gregory's narrative with his own experience of mounting and conducting an expedition in 1999 along Northern Territory's Victoria River. Kelly believes that the Australian identity epitomised by the Anzacs was forged in the hardship of the Australian bush. Janet Holmes a Court, in her foreword to Kelly's book calls it: pragmatic acceptance of the heroic in the day-to-day ... and the grit to turn dreams into reality, which she sees both in Augustus Gregory and in Kieran Kelly's trek across her 'backyard'.</p>
F	
Fewings Street	<p>Named after Fewings who owned Karlake. <i>See Fewings Memoirs.</i></p> <p>Fewings owned the large house on the left in Sherwood Road before you get to Miskin Street. <i>John Bray, President, Bardon Community Association.</i></p> <p>JB Fewings, headmaster of the Petrie-Terrace School and chronicler of life in early Toowong. (<i>Helen Gregory, Brisbane History Group, Papers No.9</i>)</p>
Frederick Street	<p>Mr Ray Wall's grandparents William and Janet were the first to settle in what is now called Frederick Street. It was named after their first son, Frederick, who was born in 1891. (<i>Mr Wall</i>)</p>

G	
Gower Street	
Grove Cr	Sherwood Road and Grove Street were named for the house Sherwood Grove, which is a reference to the legendary Sherwood Forest. (<i>Helen Gregory, Brisbane History Group, Papers No.9</i>)
Gregory Street	<p>Most likely named after Sir Augustus Charles Gregory who lived at Rainworth House which now faces Barton Street Rainworth. Gregory Street is almost a straight line from his house to the Town Council chambers. He was endearingly referred to as 'Gregory of Rainworth' after receiving his knighthood. <i>John Bray</i></p> <p>Also Gregory Park Milton and maybe Gregory Terrace and Gregory River. His brother was an explorer in Western Australia so many landmarks bear the family name. <i>John Bray</i></p> <p>This book is worth including in the 'further reading' section. HARD COUNTRY, HARD MEN In the Footsteps of Gregory Kieran Kelly Foreword by Janet Holmes a Court \$24.95, Trade pbk, 288 pp, ISBN 0 86806 715 6</p>
H	
High Street	<p>Originally called Moggill Road.</p> <p>Moggill Road originally started in the central City but got called "The River Road" which later became Coronation Drive after the Coronation of King George and the section in Toowong Village became High Street when the ornamental planting was done up the centre so it now starts at St Thomas Church. <i>John Bray, President, Bardon Community Association.</i></p>
Howitt Street	
Hunter Street	Possibly named after Sir Arthur Hunter Palmer KCMG. The titles to the surrounding land (4 Jan 1923) were owned by Mary Jessie Hunter Palmer and Estelle Georgina Hunter Palmer.
I	
Ivy Street	Ivy Estate was sold 7 June 1884.

J	
Jephson Street	<p>Named after Letitia Jephson who lived at Mallow. House was built by a Mr Bennett. <i>Prue Firth</i></p> <p>Jephson Street was previously Church Street. There were at least four churches in the street at one time. <i>John Bray, President, Bardon Community Association.</i></p>
Jones Street	<p>Samuel Williams Jones was born in Wales, 1838.</p> <p>He arrived in Brisbane on the sailing ship "Wanata" in 1863 and married Emily Amos at Dalby in 1865. S.W. Jones established himself as a blacksmith and wheelwright in the township of Condamine 1866-78 beside the Condamine River.</p> <p>A replica of his bell 6 feet in height has a plaque on each side. One plaque chronicles the history of the area from 1856 and the other tells of S. W. Jones, maker of the now famous Condamine Bells.</p> <p>The monument was unveiled on 17 September 1977 to salute Jones and the pioneers that used his bells. S. W. Jones left Condamine for Toowong in 1878, and built a smithy at the rear of his shingle-roofed cottage at 23 Maryvale Street, Toowong. [Toowong Estate, Parish of Enoggera, Resub 37 of subs 45-46 of Portion 248 granted to J. C. Laycock in 1875].</p> <p>Here he continued to make bells for 34 years. He died aged 88 years on 30 April 1927 and was buried in Toowong Cemetery. S. W. Jones was a councillor on Toowong Shire Council 1881-1885. <i>John Bray</i></p>
K	
Kapunda Street	
Keltie Street	
Kensington	
Kent Street	
Kerr Street	Kerr Street was subdivided in 1903 (approx.). It was named after Rev. Kerr who was in Stanthorpe when I was a child. D.C. Cowley

L	
Land Street	<p>Named after William Land, a master butcher in the High St, with a residence in Sylvan Rd, who established a significant wholesale and retail meat business. He was also prominent on the Toowong Town Council, serving as Mayor several times, and was active in local philanthropic causes. He died in 1933. <i>Courier Mail of 3 Jan 1933</i></p> <p>Mr William Land <i>The death occurred suddenly last night of Mr William Land, master butcher, a former mayor of Toowong, at his residence, Sylvan Road, Toowong. The deceased, who was 68 years of age, was born at Somerset, England, and arrived in Brisbane as a youth. He first established his butchering business in High Street, Toowong, and during the last 40 years built up an extensive wholesale and retail trade. He also added an ice manufacturing plant. The late Mr Land took a prominent part in local authority affairs, and was a councillor of the Toowong Town Council for many years, and mayor of the town on several occasions. He was also associated with many philanthropic activities in the district. Besides his butchering business, Mr Land was interested in other companies, in several of which he was a director. About five years ago he suffered a paralytic stroke, and has been an invalid ever since. Brisbane Courier-Mail: [Tues 3 Jan 1933]</i></p>
Landsborough Pde	<p>Mrs Lewis said that Landsborough Parade used to be called Paradise Avenue. She said that the lane ran behind the hotel. It could have become the road leading up to the bottle shop. According to Mrs Lewis the lane lead to the Cobb and Co Stables, which were behind the hotel.</p> <p>Landsborough Pde is quite possibly named after a Miss FW Carr who lived in Burns Road and married a Mr Landsborough. <i>John Sinclair OR</i></p> <p>Named after William Landsborough, explorer, who lived at Toowong in the 1870s in a house called Curragbawm. (<i>Helen Gregory, Brisbane History Group, Papers No.9</i>)</p> <p>Old maps show it once was three Streets, Paradise Avenue next to the Regatta boathouse, then Landsborough Street, then Theresa Street alongside the rail line. There never was a Cobb and Co stables behind the Regatta. The hotel was built after they lost the mail contract in 1875 to the railways and they travelled from South Brisbane via Rocklea to Ipswich. <i>John Bray</i></p>
Lodge Street	<p>Said to be named after the gate keeper's lodge for the Palmer Estate which was located in this street.</p>

M	
Maraket Street	
Market Street	
Maryvale Street	
McGrath Street	
Miskin Street	<p>Named after WH Miskin who lived in Dovercourt for many years, (land bordering the road). <i>J.&J. Bigge, Dovercourt.</i></p> <p>Miskin was an early landowner in the area. In the 1950's Miskin Street was dirt, as were most streets in West Toowong. My mate lived at the foot of Miskin Street. It was great fun to watch cars sliding everywhere in wet weather. Billy cart racing down the street was quite a thrill. Gower Street was even better. <i>John Bray, President, Bardon Community Association.</i></p> <p>William Henry Miskin (1842-1913)</p> <p>The Brisbane Courier 15 October 1913 Death of a Rockhampton Solicitor. The death occurred tonight (our Rockhampton correspondent wired last night) of Mr W.H. Miskin, a well known Solicitor, who at one time held the position of official assignee. Death certificate 1913/003773 D,ofD. 14/10/1913</p> <p>Also Wikipedia http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Henry_Miskin He was also an entomologist whose collection and library was purchased by the Qld. museum. He was a trustee of Queensland Museum and President of the Geographical Society.</p> <p>Biography in "The Queensland Naturalist" 44(1-3):p.49, 2006. Author Geoff Thompson. There is additional information about him in a file him kept by Geoff Thompson at the Qld Museum. His house in Toowong still stands. His personal life was complicated and included leaving his wife. His first wife sold his collection and books which are outstanding rare volumes to the Qld Museum. <i>J Hackett</i></p> <p>supplied by G Thompson</p>

Moggill	Moggill Road originally started in the central City but got called "The River Road" which later became Coronation Drive after the Coronation of King George and the section in Toowong Village became High Street when the ornamental planting was done up the centre so it now starts at St Thomas Church. <i>John Bray, President, Bardon Community Association.</i>
Mossman Street	
Mount Street	
N	
Norwood Street	
O	
Oakman Park	The Union Athletic Club Sports Ground, part of which is now known as Oakman Park, appeared on maps and plans from the mid 1880s (McKellar plan, sheet 7, DGI). The correct name of the sports ground explains the origin of UnionStreet which runs beside it. It was usually called simply the Toowong Sports Ground by local residents. By the early 1940s the simpler name appeared in official maps and documentation and has remained; although the name Oakman Park, which dates from the 1960s and applies only to half the park, has largely obliterated the old name from general usage. <i>(Helen Gregory, Brisbane History Group, Papers No.9)</i>
Okeden Street	Okeden Street was named after the Commissioner for Police and later Protector of Aborigines, William Edward Parry-Okeden. His granddaughter said his biography makes brief mention of Ascog House. Perry, Charles, 1926, 'A Son of Australia' " moved to the then sparsely populated and exclusive suburb of Toowong" "close by his lifetime friend Henry Stuart of Stuartholme" Henry Stuart was godfather of her father. The book says he lived in the house for a short period when the subdivision of the Ascog House estate was taking place. The street was named in his honour. His granddaughter is unsure of how long or when he lived in the house but guesses it was during the 1880's. Her father born in 1874, remembered living in the house. They built a very substantial home at Kedron which is now centred in a retirement community. <i>John Bray</i>
Orchard Street	
Oxford Road	

P	
Palmer Street	<p>Probably named after Sir Arthur Palmer, owner of the estate in the 1800s and early 1900s.</p> <p>In the 1950.s there were the remnants of a derelict house where the Toowong High School now stands. The land was just overgrown bush which we called "Palmer's Paddock". There were horses kept there but the house was vacant. On the other side of the Creek was a Chinese Market garden facing Vera Street, which is now included in the school grounds. <i>John Bray, President, Bardon Community Association</i> Contact Arthur Beau Palmer</p>
Patrick Lane	<p>Would be named after AMG Patrick, who lived in a house called Clayton, then it was later used by the late JB Dixon, AV Drury, Clark of the Executive Council; JR Atkinson, Surveyor of Ipswich; AM Cooper, Manager of the Bank of Australasia and JB Fewings. Mr Patrick, once an officer in the native police force.</p>
Pictavia Street	
Pioneer Street	<p>Pioneer St was originally called Gregory Street and it and Explorer St were part of the Pioneer Estate. Already being a Gregory St, the name was changed to Pioneer as it was the name of the estate. Hilda - FOTC</p>
Q	
Quinn Street	
R	
Richer Street	<p>Named after William Richer, founding minister Baptist Church, Toowong. Richer arrived in Australia in 1869. He lived in Toowong from 1875. Richer was a builder, architect and a minister. (<i>Thanks go to Jim Gibson of Indooroopilly for this information</i>).</p>
Ryans Road [St Lucia]	<p>Re. Martin Depper. I have followed his name through the area of Ryania Rd where Martin Depper lived (now Ryans Road) through the online newspapers . It seems that when the council wanted land to make a shorter way for people to travel from the St Lucia area into town (c 1880's) that he first objected to the council taking part of his land. He then later must have allowed them to have the land on the corner of his property and while I do not have proof that a council meeting voted to give the new road his name, I believe it was indeed named Depper Street because it was part of his land . His house and land is opposite the Chinese Church – (was a Uniting Church before that I believe) in Ryan's Rd and has been added to. <i>Erla Angell</i></p>

S	
Sandford Street	<p>Sandford Street, currently in St Lucia, used to be in Toowong and was the site of Richard Gailey's original house Glenolive. The house and grounds were purchased by Dr Sandford Jackson in 1901 as his family home. He subdivided some of the grounds in 1921, and Glenolive and the remaining grounds in 1924. The new road created was originally named Glen Olive Drive but was renamed Sandford Street in 1943. <i>[Peter Brown]</i></p> <p>It was originally called Glen Olive Drive, because of the grove that grew there.</p> <p><i>Jackson actually resigned from the Brisbane Hospital in 1898, and ran a private practise in Wickham Tce for three years. Then in 1901 he purchased St Helen's hospital in South Brisbane, and travelled each day between Glenolive and the hospital for the next twenty years or more. [Peter Brown]</i></p>
Sherwood Road	<p>Sherwood Road and Grove Street were named for the house Sherwood Grove, which is a reference to the legendary Sherwood Forest. <i>(Helen Gregory, Brisbane History Group, Papers No.9)</i></p>
Sleath Street	<p>I believe SLEATH STREET is in Toowong - at least it was when I was a kid of 8 - 14 roaming the area on my bike. <i>(Sleath Street is located off Frederick Street).</i></p> <p>Sleath Street was named after Henry Walter Sleath: Henry apparently had a music business in George Street (city) in the late 1800's, where he and family lived before moving to Glenn Rd Toowong. In 1881 he was elected as a councillor for Toowong. Two streets were named after him - Sleath Street in Toowong and Sleath Street in Ormiston. Source:</p> <p>q <i>Koss Siwers</i></p>
Soudan Street	<p>You are probably aware that the Toowong Street got named around the time of the relief of Khartoum. It probably was the centrepiece of a Soudan Estate. Part of the land subdivided by Joshua Jeays in present Bardon, then Paddington was called the Soudan Estate.</p> <p>I met a lifetime resident of Warburton Street (formerly Main Street) who said her address 1920's was written as Main Street, Soudan Estate, Paddington. You will have seen streets in Gordon Park have names such as Khartoum, Victoria and Gordon. <i>John Bray</i></p> <p>Soudan Street on the Ivy Estate (in the West Toowong area) which was first advertised for sale in 1884, is the old spelling of the Sudan in Africa (Ivy Estate plan, JOL). <i>(Helen Gregory, Brisbane History Group, Papers No.9)</i></p>

Stanley Terrace	Francis Drummond Greville Stanley lived in what become Stanley Terrace for a while in a house called Ormlie which he built in about 1869 (Fewings, letter 9). Stanley later moved to the Kensington Terrace Area. Ormlie became known as Easton Grey when it was owned by the squatter-politician Sir Arthur Hunter Palmer, premier of Queensland 1870-74. The Easton Grey estate was sub-divided in the late 1880s (Easton Grey Estate plan, JOL). It seems most likely that Stanley Terrace was named for FDG Stanley and not for his brother, Henry Charles Stanley, the railways engineer, who lived further west in Toowong before moving to Tighnabraich in Indooroopilly in the early 1890s. (<i>Helen Gregory, Brisbane History Group, Papers No.9</i>)
St. Osyth	Perhaps from here??? 1 St. Osyth is a parish within the Tendring District Council administrative area and in the County of Essex. The centre of the village is dominated by the medieval remains of the Priory on its 383 acres of land, building of which began in the year 1118.
Sussex Street	
Sylvan Road	Previously known as Cemetery Road. <i>Leigh Chamberlain</i> Sylvan Road ran from a railway platform where the Scout hut is now to the cemetery gates. Coffins were unloaded of the train and taken by horse drawn hearse to the cemetery. <i>John Bray, President, Bardon Community Association</i> A newspaper article in 1930 described Toowong as a 'sylvan suburb'. Not surprisingly, therefore, there is a Sylvan Road in Toowong. (<i>Helen Gregory, Brisbane History Group, Papers No.9</i>)
T	
Terrace Street	

V	
Vera Street	Named after the builder (Hughes) daughter Vera. My Mum told me that. <i>Kev</i>
Valentine Street	<p>James Valentine was a Toowong Shire Councillor and is buried at Toowong Cemetery.</p> <p>He was born 1849 at Haughton Green, Cheshire, England, and died 17 January 1904 in Brisbane. He married LOUISA SEAGER 05 September 1869 in St Peter's Blackburn, Lancashire, England. They migrated on the ship "Indus" which arrived in Brisbane on 29 Dec 1874.</p> <p>From Arcadian Simplicity, J. B. Fewings Memoirs of Toowong; Edited by Helen Gregory, Boolarong Publications; 1990 ; Page 112-113 "It speaks well of the respectability of Toowong that whether the dwelling be that of the merchant, the Civil Servant, the artisan, or the labourer they... display a taste and refinement which are usually the result of sobriety and industry and highly creditable to all concerned... Mr Valentine, once a Shire Councillor and a candidate for Parliamentary honours, as well as an intelligent and shrewd man of business." Also, on Page 128 of above: "The following gentlemen have successively had seats at the Council table... Mr Jas. Valentine in 1885."</p> <p>James and Louisa had 8 children: James, Herbert Jackson, Edward, Louisa, James Edward, Henry Percy, Florence Margaret and May Evelyn.</p>
W	
Warrawee Street	Warrawee is believed to have been built in the mid 1880s, for Albert Henry White, owner of the three acre site. E. John White, manager of the New Zealand Accident Insurance Company, was then in residence. <i>We believe that the estate below the grand house was called "Warrawee".</i>
Whitmore Street	<i>John Sinclair</i> tells us that Whitmore Street used to be called Wilson Street until the 1930s.
Wienholt Street	Quite possibly named after the original owner (as shown on map from 1887) - A. Wienholt, who owned most of the land bordered by what is now Milton Road, Birdwood Tce, Gregory Street and Wienholt Street.

Wilmac Street	
Woodstock Road	
Wool Street	<p>The first Wools to arrive in Brisbane were Margaret Elizabeth and Eliza Wool both born in London, who arrived in Brisbane on 28th January 1862 aboard the ship "Jessie Munn".</p> <p>In late 1863 their mother Mary Ann Wool, brother Leonard John and his wife Mary Ann Frew, and younger brother John Lover Wool also all of London, England arrived aboard the "Fiery Star". Mother Mary Ann died a few months after arrival and was buried in the Paddington Cemetery.</p> <p>John Lover Wool was 11 years old when he arrived in Queensland. We don't know at this point where he spent his early years but by 1874 he had married Mary Ann Cunnington. In the Queensland Post Office Directories from 1892 - 1897 the Wool family is living at Church Street Toowong although there is an earlier entry in 1888 at Maryvale Street.</p> <p>In any case the family were fruiterers or involved in the fruit and vegetable trade. At the time of Mary Ann (Cunningtons) death in 1911 they are living at Maryvale Street Toowong which is quite close to Wool St. We don't know when Wool Street came into being but we assume it was named for John Lover and/or wife Mary Ann.</p> <p>Mary Ann seems to have been quite a formidable woman and in her will it lists two properties owned by herself. John Lover Wool and wife Mary Ann are buried in the Toowong Cemetery as are many of their nine children. <i>Pat Wales</i></p>