

Yoorrook Submission - Peter Stevenson - 241108 (As submitted)

From: Peter Stevenson

To: The Commissioners

Yoorrook Justice Commission

Date: 8/11/24

Subject: **Yoorrook Submission – George Hall / John Henry Fleming Family History – Frontier Wars / Myall Creek Massacre (Genocide) – Victoria was Part of the NSW Colony in 1838 (prior to 1851)**

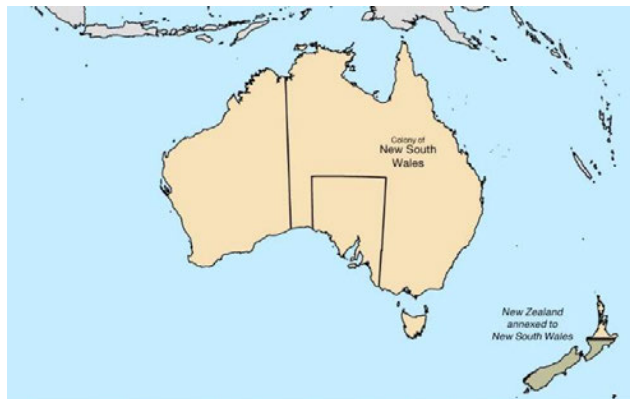
WARNING: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people should be aware that this document and its attachments discuss deceased persons and frontier massacre events.

Dear Commissioners,

Whilst my family History story extends from Dharug country in the Hawkesbury NSW to Mandandanji country in the Balonne and Maranoa districts of the Darling Downs Qld, and centers around Kamilaroi country in the Gwydir NSW, and specifically the events around Myall Creek in NSW, I make this truth-telling submission to Yoorrook in the following **Context** that:

In the same way that the Yoorrook Justice Commission is setting the standard and providing a template for the other states to follow Re truth-telling, the Myall Creek Memorial Gathering has been setting the standard for the last 24 years and providing a template for the other states to follow Re Reconciliation, providing an opportunity for ordinary Australians to walk with First Nations people.

- **Victoria was part of NSW before 1851** - At the time of the Myall Creek massacre in 1838, Victoria was part of NSW along with QLD, NT, ACT & NZ, and with SA being a Province of NSW, therefore, ALL of Australia was impacted from the fallout of the Myall Creek trial: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Territorial_evolution_of_Australia#/media/File:Australia_change_1839-06-15.png



15 June 1839: The whole of New Zealand is annexed to New South Wales.

- **Myall Creek Memorial National Committee** – I recently became a member of this committee as the Melbourne Friends Group coordinator, through a sense of responsibility for my colonial free settler ancestors being involved in the Myall Creek massacre: <https://myallcreek.org/about-us/>

Committee initiatives include getting the Myall Creek massacre included as a core element of study in the new 2025 NSW Secondary Schools History Syllabus:

<https://mailchi.mp/bbe835b0edba/myall-creek-massacres-included-in-new-history-syllabus?e=d645338caa>

Yoorrook Submission - Peter Stevenson - 241108 (As submitted)

Currently, we are organizing an event for June 2025, to live stream the Memorial Ceremony into Melbourne (More details on request).

I have also travelled and written 2x Hall Heritage Reconciliation Trails over the last 2x years in 2023/24 in a pilgrimage to the Myall Creek Memorial gathering in the June long weekend, to provide an apology on behalf of my family, still being the only member to have done so:

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1YqXY18Nur/>

Also, I have Recently completed the RMIT Post Grad subject "OART1103 – Working in First Peoples contexts: creative partnerships and cultural production", to assist my cultural awareness in this work: <https://art.rmit.edu.au/events/2024/working-in-first-peoples-contexts>

- **Myall Creek was a Mopping-up Exercise** - To be clear, the Myall Creek atrocity was more a mopping up exercise than a massacre, where only involved women, children and elders were involved, to place a full stop on a systematic genocide of the Kamilaroi people in the Gwydir, with over 800 aboriginals "recorded" as having been killed in the two(2) years prior, at the Barraba, Gravesend, Anambah, Waterloo Creek and Slaughterhouse Creek massacres: <https://c21ch.newcastle.edu.au/colonialmassacres/timeline.php>
- **Genocide Bill Submission No. 91** – I make this Yoorrook submission as a covering document to my already accepted Genocide Bill submission #91, noting the 3x attachments were redacted at the following link, and I have provided here attached for Yoorrook: https://www.aph.gov.au/help/500?aspxerrorpath=/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Legal_and_Constitutional_Affairs/GCAHWC2024/Submissions
- **My Parallel Lostness** – I have been offering my family history story to every avenue of Mob and Allies I could find, but nobody really wants to talk to me in any meaningful sense? I first started researching my family history in November 2022, when my fairness button was triggered by the Nationals announcing their "No" policy before a discussion had even commenced on the Voice Referendum. During the "Yes' campaign and until now, my family and the colonial settler descendants cohort have not wanted to talk to me, for obvious reasons, and Mob have been telling me that it is my story to tell, and you white fellas need to start doing some more of the heavy lifting in truth-telling that we have traditionally done. I have inhabited this zone now for 2 years, in what I and some close Allies have come to call a "parallel lostness'. Much like the heroes of Myall Creek experienced, as published in The Age article last year "True heroes exposed the Myall Creek massacre. To our shame, we don't know their names": <https://www.smh.com.au/national/nsw/true-heroes-exposed-the-myall-creek-massacre-to-our-shame-we-don-t-know-their-names-20230530-p5dckp.html?collection=p5dexz&gb=1>
- **Myall Creek was Ground Zero for "The Great Australian Silence" & "The Black Association"** – Where, after the only trial in Australian history that successfully charged and hung white men for killing Aboriginal people, the massacring of Aboriginals went underground and was allowed to continue for another 90 years to 1928, forming "The Great Australian Silence" that exists till this very day: <https://australian.museum/learn/first-nations/unsettled/healing-nations/the-great-australian-silence/>

Yoorrook Submission - Peter Stevenson - 241108 (As submitted)

And, the “Black Association” was formed amongst the wealthy squatters and newspaper owners to fund the Myall Creek trial defense, members of which went on to be founding fathers of the State Legislative Assemblies, and whose attitudes impact Government / Constitutions / Indigenous affairs through politics until this very day via the LNP Right Wing:

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/36860697>

Quote, Deborah Cheetham Fraillon’s Q&A Reconciliation Question Response, 27/05/24: That the most chilling aspect of the referendum for her, was that the “No Vote Results” could be neatly laid over the top of the University of Newcastle massacre map, and reflects 6 generations of Squatter descendants, whose attitudes have not changed in that time towards a modern Australia: <https://youtu.be/4b5B4VfuNz4?si=914QZ86PcO520TEC>

Best indicated by the National Country Party leader David Littleproud’s Maranoa electorate having the largest No vote average of 84% in the Referendum, which contains Surat that was the northern extent of the George Hall Family Estate and their impact on the Mandandanji, as documented in “Goodbye Bussamarai”, by Patrick Collins:

<https://www.goodbyebussamarai.com/text>

These attitudes are now reflected in the LNP Wind back of Truth-telling and Treaty in Qld, after The Voice Referendum appeared bi-partisan back at the time of the last election in 2022:

<https://humanrights.gov.au/about/news/ending-qld-truth-telling-and-healing-inquiry-harmful-and-divisive>

- **Myall Creek Perpetrators Leader & Free Settler John Henry Fleming Escaped Justice** – The squatter’s quote, “that no free settler is going to hang for killing an Aboriginal”, came into reality with the leader of the Myall Creel massacre perpetrators, John Henry Fleming (my 4th Gen Great Grandfather’s nephew), using his white free settler privilege, to be placed into hiding by his Hall and Fleming family and escaping justice, only to re-enter society only 2x years after to marry and live a full life: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Henry_Fleming

John Henry was in fact working for his Uncle Thomas Simpson Hall (of Australian Cattle Dog fame) and his older brother Joseph Fleming at the time, but none of these or other involved squatters were even implicated, including Henry Danger, whose Myall Creek property was where the massacre occurred, and all of who’s convict workers and others, were the ones charged and hung.

Thomas Simpson Hall (son): https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_Simpson_Hall

Joseph Fleming (Nephew / Brother-in-law / Cahoot / Politician):

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joseph_Fleming_\(politician\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joseph_Fleming_(politician))

- **Disingenuous Politics** – These social justice events surrounding the Myall Creek trial, also made a justice precedence for the class distinction within colonial white society, as well as between white and black society until this very day, which is particularly exemplified by the nature of the disingenuous politics displayed by the LNP over recent times.

Yoorrook Submission - Peter Stevenson - 241108 (As submitted)

Examples of this disingenuous politics being:

Peter Dutton, firstly walking out of parliament with all the LNP, abstaining from a bi-partisan apology to the Stolen Generation, then making an apology 15 years later, to make him look softer during the Voice campaign: <https://www.theage.com.au/politics/federal/15-years-later-dutton-says-sorry-for-shunning-stolen-generation-apology-20230213-p5ck2r.html>

Peter Dutton then voting for a bi-partisan agreement to hold a Voice referendum, before campaigning directly against it, all set up for political gain, and not thinking about either First Nations People or Australia as a Nation, and then offering a 2nd Referendum if the Voice fails, which has disappeared with the LNP wind back of Truth & Treaty policies:

<https://www.theage.com.au/politics/federal/backlash-over-dutton-s-plan-for-second-referendum-if-voice-vote-fails-20230903-p5e1mi.html>

Australia's past Prime Minister Abbott, as his own self-appointed Minister for Indigenous Affairs & Minister for Women, who actually used that privileged access as a fact-finding mission for himself to use against indigenous Australia in his policy formulations and leadership of the No Campaign for the Referendum.

The joke is on All of Australia here, as he promoted a scare campaign for the "No" to prevent the success of a constitutional model of the Voice to parliament, when in fact, his attitude is really about killing off Indigenous culture in a continuation of the colonial genocide, made obvious by his behind the scenes "No Campaign" attitude towards "getting sick of Welcome to Country acknowledgements": <https://youtu.be/hCUrAt540u8?si=AGOntHwoK4nt-L9>

- **Influences & Learnings on the Reconciliation Trail & the Yes Campaign** –

I discovered the Vernon Ah Kee's 2003 artwork "Australicism" during the Yes Campaign, and it really resonated with me: <https://nga.gov.au/on-demand/vernon-ah-kee-austracism/>

After doing door knocking, phone calling, railway station and traffic lobbying, pre-polling, polling and scrutineering, plus all the conversations I had experienced with family and friends, I had heard most of Ah Kee's artwork statements, and more, and I have recorded all of my experiences and advocacy efforts during the time since November 2022, and they are available if anyone would like to read (I think it should be a documentary, because no one has been on the journey I've been on I don't believe).

I have many anecdotes to relay from this period, which still shock myself even now (available on request).

Two particular redacted examples I have attach here for interest:

- i) Hall Heritage Facebook Site "Bluey" Legacy Post – which has been made totally oblivious to the "Other Genocidal Massacre" story side of the legacy as described below; and,
- ii) The Australian Cattle Dog Association Gmail Response to my Query – which can only be described as a dog breeders' perspective on racism?

As I write and submit this Yoorrook submission, it makes me think of what sort of person am I? Who am I actually? Why am I different? Why am I doing this?

This Yoorrook submission is helping me realise all of that!

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- **Some More Controversial Points that Yoorrook may or may Not wish to discuss?**

Ambiguous Aboriginals / Modern Day Native Police –

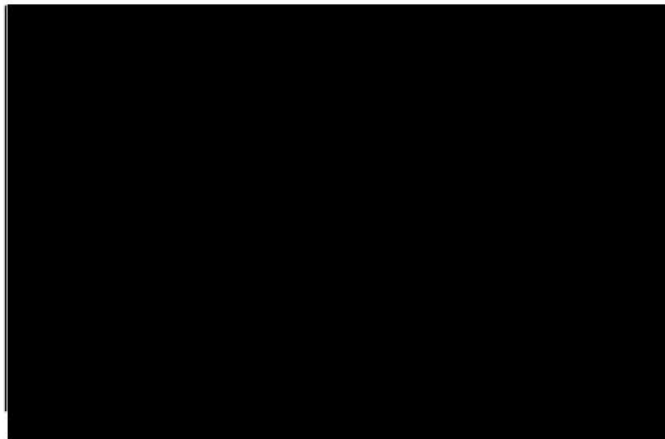
- Are the National Country Party's senate member & No Campaign leaders Jacinta Price and Warren Mundine "Ambiguous Aboriginals", as defined by Chelsea Watego in her book, "Another Day in the Colony", Chapter 5 – "Ambiguously Indigenous", by not being connected to mob and not being answerable to mob elders?
- And, with words and media being the modern-day weapons of society, are Jacinta's statements that, "she does not believe Indigenous Australians continue to be negatively impacted by colonization", equivalent to a modern-day native police attacking their own, destroying the Voice Referendum Yes campaign and negatively impacting progress in indigenous human rights?
- If the Myall Creek police magistrate from Maitland, Edward "Denny" Day returned from 1838, I believe he would say nothing much has changed: the Squatters who are now joined by industry, are still in a controlling influence of governance through the LNP, the Newspapers are still in control of the Narrative, through the Murdoch papers, despite the 2023 apology by the SMH, and the modern day Native Police are still in the employ of this group as a whole, and are attacking their own people's human rights to self-determination.

Bluey's Relationship with the Gwydir Group of Massacres (~800 Aboriginals murdered) –

- Our Hall family history is so well documented because the Halls are colonial settler royalty from the Hawkesbury, and Thomas Simpson Hall was the foundation breeder ("Father") of the "Halls Heeler", which became known as the "Blue Heeler", the famous Australian Cattle Dog, upon which the "Bluey" character is based.
- And Thomas Simpson Hall (my 3rd Gen Great Uncle) or his workers or relations, led or were on the front line of all the Massacres in the 2 years leading up to Myall Creek (28, which in reality was a mopping up exercise), including Barraba (80), Gravesend (206), Waterloo Creek (300) and Slaughterhouse Creek (180)?
- These massacres were not one-off occurrences, but a systematic genocide that this particular group of settlers (i.e. there were more families involved), continued to the Balonne in the Darling Downs, operating under the "Great Australian Conspiracy of Silence" that was strategized in the aftermath of the Myall Creek trial, and is still part of Australian society today?
- Refer to the Attached Genocide Bill Submission attachments 1 & 2 Re my Relationship Diagram with the Leader of the Myall Creek Massacre, John Henry Fleming and the incestuous nature of the 1st Generations of George Hall Family Tree involvement on the Frontier conflicts.
- With the "Bluey" character being firmly entrenched in the John Howard "comfortable" version of Australian history, once "Bluey" becomes aware of his family history (like I have), does "Bluey" have a responsibility to assist in truth-telling and indigenous advocacy (like I have reconciled within myself)?

Yoorrook Submission - Peter Stevenson - 241108 (As submitted)

- Is “Bluey” up to this responsibility?? Or do I need to create and offer my own alter ego character “Red Ear” to the “Bluey” producers Ludo (<https://ludostudio.com.au/>) (showing a little more dingo in his breeding), as an educational tool to teach Australia “How to become a better ally for First Nations People (Refer to Clare Land’s: <https://decolonizingsolidarity.org/what-can-i-do/>)” and “How to create more opportunities for decolonization to assist First Nations people’s self-determination (Refer: Decolonizing Methodologies – Chapter 8 – Twenty Five Indigenous Projects: https://knowledge4empowerment.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/06/smith_-ch-8.pdf)
- Or does “Red Ear” need to go it alone as a rogue cousin of “Bluey”, after having unsuccessful advocacy discussions with his cousin like I have had?



- Shouldn’t Australia be aware of these facts?

Kindest Regards,

Peter Stevenson



Attachments:

- Attach 1 – Hall Heritage Fb (Private) Post – Oblivious “Bluey” Vs “TS Hall” Legacy (Redacted)
- Attach 2 – Australian Cattle Dog Association – Dog Breeders Racist Response (Redacted)
- Attach 3 – Genocide Bill Submission #91 (with Attachments as Submitted) – dated 19/07/24
 - Attach 1 – John Henry Fleming Vs Peter Stevenson Relationship Diagram
 - Attach 2 – 1st Generation Hall Vs Fleming Relationship Diagram on the Frontier
 - Attach 3 – George Hall Estate (“The Firm”) Map (Sydney to the Darling Downs)

From: Peter Stevenson

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

To: Committee Secretary

Senate Legal & Constitutional Affairs Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Date: 19/07/24

Subject: **Genocide Bill Submission – Thomas Simpson Hall – Frontier Wars (Gwydir & Myall Creek)**

WARNING: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people should be aware that this document and its attachments discuss deceased persons and frontier massacre events.

Dear Committee Secretary,

I am making this submission as a Colonial Settler descendent of George Hall, whose grandson John Henry Fleming led the perpetrators of the Myall Creek Massacre.

Myall Creek was in reality a mopping up exercise, that followed a systematic genocide over a 2-year period between 1836-1838, that included: Barraba (80), Gravesend (206), Waterloo Creek (300), Slaughterhouse Creek (180) and Myall Creek (28) = 794 in total iaw researched documents.

John Henry Fleming was placed into hiding by his Fleming and Hall colonial free settler families and never met justice, whilst his convict worker accomplices were convicted to hang, and John Henry was able to come out of hiding after only 2 years and live a normal life.

This event in our history resulted in the formation of the secret Black Association of wealthy squatters, and is ground zero for the beginning of the Great Australian Silence, which unfortunately, still permeates the Australian identity today.

It is a well-documented and irrefutable story, because of the “success” of the “Firm” (as the George Hall Trust Estate was called), and its connection with the iconic “Halls Heeler”, which later became known as the “Blue Heeler”, the foundation breed of the “Australian Cattle Dog”, which is another large element of the Australian identity.

The irony of the “Halls Heeler” is that, much in the same way as the Native Police were used against our local First Peoples on the Frontier as part of the genocide strategy, the “Halls Heeler” used the native dog the Dingo in its cross breeding, which enabled the squatters droving work to be more efficiently and to a much larger scale with those indigenous skills, that forced our First Peoples off their land at an accelerated rate.

I want to make special mention that in the 20 years existence of the Myall Creek Memorial Gathering (<https://myallcreek.org/about-us/>), only one descendant of the Fleming Family (Refer to the 8min mark of: <https://nga.gov.au/on-demand/ben-quilty-painting-myall-creek/>) and one descendant of the Hall Family in myself, have made the pilgrimage to make an apology at the memorial rock in a shared embrace with the descendants of the First Peoples victims.

This fact is a disgrace on the Australian Nation and our families, and I see the Genocide Bill as a small crack in the wall to break that Great Australian Silence.

There are many other families involved here on the Australian Frontier shared history.

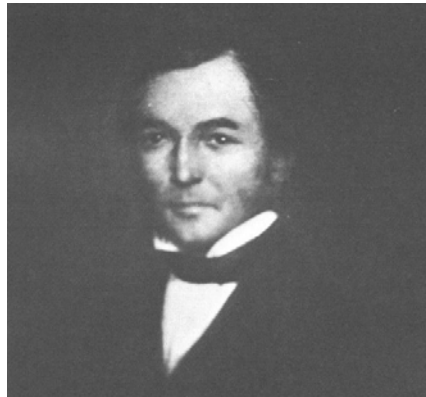
Kindest Regards,

Peter Stevenson [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Attachment: Submission (3x Pages + 3x Attachments = 6 Pages)

Genocide Bill Submission - Peter Stevenson - 240719 (Submission)

OUTLINE SUMMARY - “T S Hall (Thomas Simpson)” by Peter Stevenson



Documented Research for the “T S Hall” Story:

The T S Hall Story is already documented in the following 4x Books (it just needs to be stitched together chronologically by searching for T S Hall in the associated Indexes):

- “Over-Halling the Colony (George Hall – Pioneer)”, Hall Family History Book (*written by the Family with obvious gaps in the truth-telling*):
[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/11TEym - NF6wHtIGIL2hXRQjW6vKeEvOW?fbclid=IwAR2AgMUWhXZSw7Yby3tgGbQIE3YfR36MauAKrM OG3SoiNsvGcCiMoRIEJuU](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/11TEym-NF6wHtIGIL2hXRQjW6vKeEvOW?fbclid=IwAR2AgMUWhXZSw7Yby3tgGbQIE3YfR36MauAKrM OG3SoiNsvGcCiMoRIEJuU)
- “Waterloo Creek (The Australia Day Massacre of 1838)”, by Roger Milliss:
<https://catalogue.nla.gov.au/catalog/2024266>
- “Goodbye Bussamarai, by Patrick Collins: <https://www.goodbyebussamarai.com/text>
- “A Dog for the Job (Australia’s Cattle Dogs), by Noreen Clark:
<https://cattledogworld.com/australian-cattle-dog-history/>

Summary Outline for the “T S Hall” Story:

- Setting the scene, I imagine this as a story similar to the ABC iView mini-series “The Secret River”, based on Kate Grenville’s award-winning novel set in 1806-1817, except Thomas Simpson was born in the Hawkesbury in 1808, with his father George having been granted his land in 1803 at Bungool: <https://iview.abc.net.au/show/secret-river>
- Thomas Simpson grew up in these times playing with local aboriginal children, most probably learning to swim from them, and then going on with his brothers to manage his father George’s vast estate growth on the frontier from the Hawkesbury to Surat in the Darling Downs from 1825-1848, Thomas being the most like his father.
- Along the way, Thomas Simpson bred the Hall’s Heeler, which became the Blue Heeler Australian Cattle Dog, and shorthorn cattle, and he and his brothers or workers or Fleming’s relations, are on the record of having participated in all of the Aboriginal Massacres on the Gwydir (Barraba, Gravesend, Waterloo Creek - Australia Day Massacre and Slaughterhouse Creek, leading up to Myall Creek).

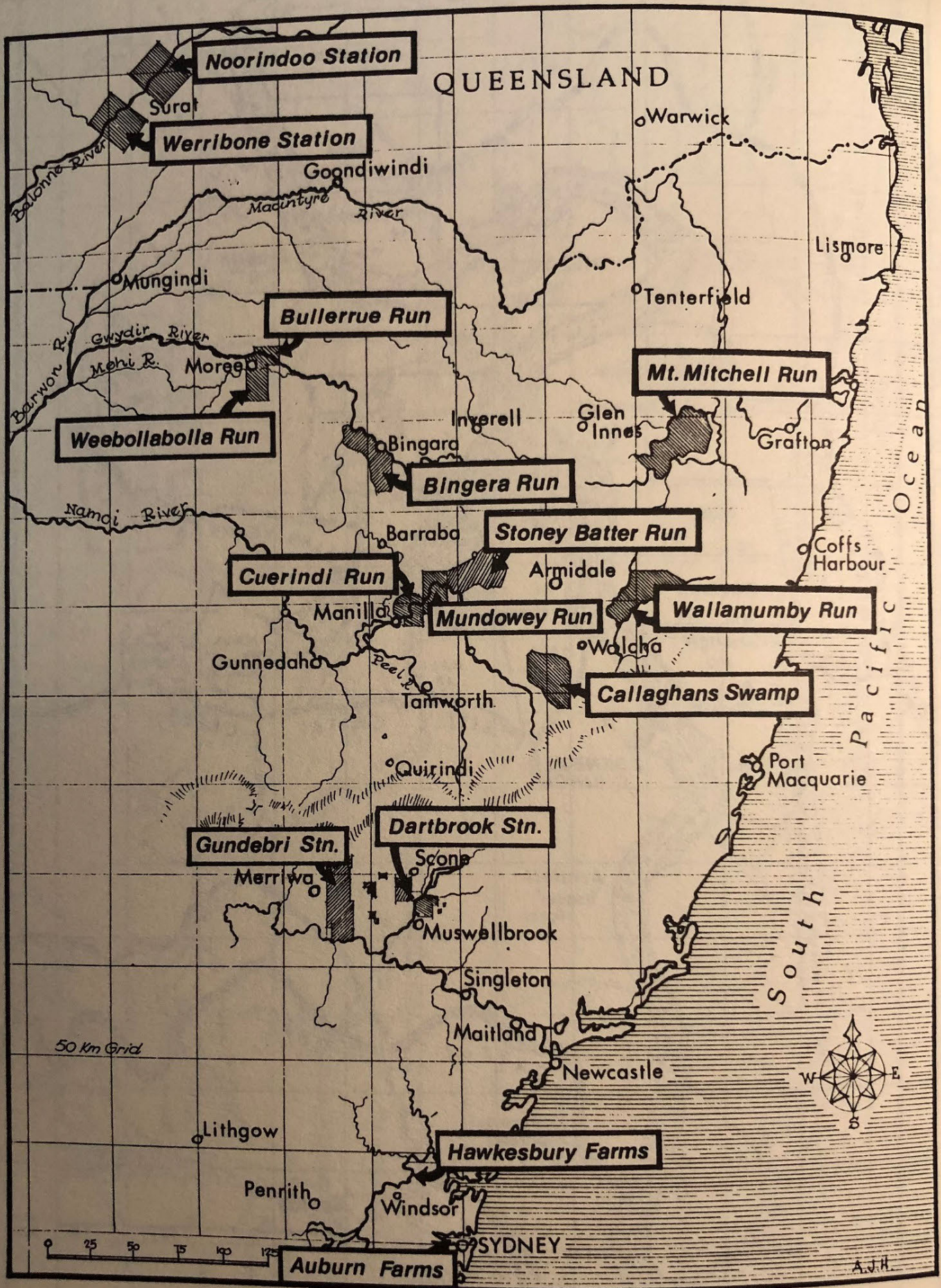


Plate 27: Map of George Hall's estate in New South Wales and Queensland, before it was broken up.