

The P.E.I. Days (cont'd)

In our last history page for 2011, we showed the P.E.I. Tents where Eungella oval now is.

The men employed by the P.E.I (Public Estates Improvement) Branch of the Lands Department were responsible for the creating and upgrading of all the roads on the range from approximately 1929 to 1938 – 41

[A section of the leaflet "Up In The Clouds" produced by The Valley Genealogical Special Interest Group in 1995] Article from: Heather Camilleri (nee Herron)

PEI Dalrymple Rd No. 2 camp late 1930s



Photo from: Jim & Daphne Clews

Walter Mortensen's father was P.E.I. engineer Walter (now aged 81) remembers, as a lad, living on the PEI Dalrymple Rd No. 1 camp located on the first turn off after Dalrymple school (probably now Snake Rd) where there were over 100 men camped.

Dalrymple Rd No. 2 camp was further along Dalrymple Rd.

Info from: Walter Mortensen' interview June 2010

Mr. Cliff Old worked on the Crediton Roads for the PEI first in January 1934. It took him from 9am to 6pm that night to travel from 'The Top' (Eungella township), via the Diggings to Crediton. He continued to work for the PEI for 8 years to 1942.

He married in 1938 and was camped at the river.

Cliff recalls that there were between 2-300 men in the Bull Paddock P.E.I. camp at the height of construction in 1934-35.

(The Bull Paddock camp was around where the bus shelter built by Mick Sheehy now stands and opposite where Wayne Smith & Jo Freegard live).

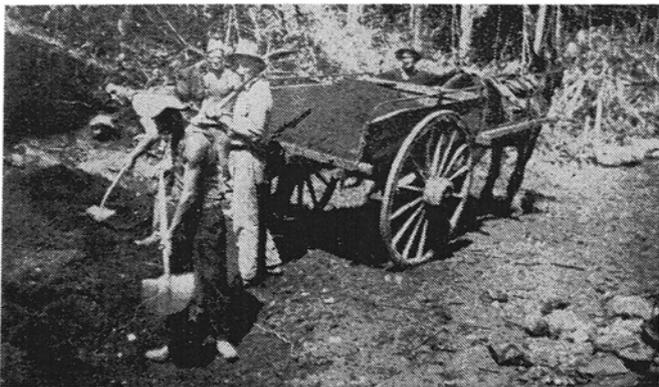
There were perhaps 50-60 men over where the Crediton Hall now stands, in single mens quarters, with a few other married gangers further down the road.

There were also other camps at the beginning of the Circle and the camp known as Bells at the Crediton Creek and Broken river junction. (that must now be the start of Cathay Creek Road)

Article from: Norm Foster's book "The Roof Garden Of Mackay" c.1985 page 53

(small font is editor Glenda's comments)

The original roads all around Eugella were built with manual labour - pick & shovel, mattocks, axes and crosscut saws. Horse drawn drays ploughs and graders were the vehicles. Some trucks were used later.



*John Thomsett shifting fill at Ross's gully
Courtesy John Thomsett*

Photos from: Norm Foster's book "The Roof Garden Of Mackay" c.1985



*John Thomsett and Tom Styles ploughing at River Hill 1935
Courtesy John Thomsett*

Thanks to Glenda for sourcing this information - her comments and sources are in small font.