

ABORIGINES R994.42 WAU.

1837 Convicts were used to clear land at some of the grants at Beechwood. There were a lot of Aborigines in the area, The present Beechwood Public School site was previously a Corroboree Ground. It was said that there were then two camps on the south side of the river.

1938 Barombin is thought to be aboriginal for hunting or meeting place.

1840 article by W.Neville 1923 Port News "Old Mr Gillis aged 94 told me that in the year 1840 there was fought a pitched battle with boomerangs as weapons between the King Creek and Wallaby Hill Tribes of blacks on the site where Beechwood church and the school stands to-day then known as "Cpt. Ackrights Hill". The cause of the quarel was the capture of an aboriginal named Tony Barraby, at the instance of the King Creek Tribe, and with the aid of an American negro named John Munro, Barraby had attempted the abduction of a white servant girl in the employ of Cpt. Wauch and the latter offered a reward for the offenders arrest, which was effected when the two tribes were holding a corroboree - the ill feeling caused by the incident led to the battle between them - in the scrap teh head man of the King Creek Tribe had his nose shorn off by a boomerang and subsequently died of his wounds He was buried at Wauchope when the late Mr. R. Mumford was excavating the foundations for the late Mr. James Wallas saw mill at that place he dug up the aboriginals bones.

1892 A seperate school built at Wauchope for the aboriginies children.

It was run on a half time basis with Rollands Plain. It was at one time known as "Morcom". The teacher was Mr. E.A.Kennedy and was built opposite the Seventh Day Adventist Church. of to-day 1978. in Hastings Street, Wauchope.

1903 An aborigine mission house and school was opened in Wauchope near to the present corner of Bain and Hastings Streets,

1907 The Aorigine mission house and school closed on 3.8.1907.

1905 Jack Suters was a noted swimmer he had been taught to hunt and swim by a couple of his aboriginal friends. (Including Old Joe)

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There is evidence of an aboriginal settlement south of the twon as Mr. Milen 1913, found at Tacking Point Light House and Cathie Creek, the site is continuous for about a mile and is a chain wide in places.

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two tribes of Aborigines lived in Port Macquarie before the first explorers or settlers came. The Ngamba Tribe lived on the southern bank of the Hastings river and this area covered as far south as the Camden Haven and the Ngaku Tribe as far north as the Macleay River around the Blackmans Point, Rawdon island Rollands Plain area. In all reference books the aboriginies of this area are said to be a fine race of people of 6 feet upwards much better than the people of Sydney. area, but much more aggressive and because of this buildings such as the granary had a stockade built to protect it from them, and because of their hostile attitude they were offered rewards of corn, nails blankets and trinkets for recapturing any convict who escaped into the bush and they never failed.

They slept in bark huts, used dugout canoes a photo can be seen in a reference book "A Town Called Port" page 16 and also in the Port Macquarie. News 100 years centenary issue on pages 10 and 11. Also in this issue is photos of women at a midden, men sharpening tools on a sandstone outcrop and a bark hut. But by 1911 people were complaining about the aboriginies living in West Port Macquarie, because they were often acquiring liquor, and causing brawls. Their camp was also close to the Hospital, a few months later they had been moved on a photo was taken of two aboriginies dressed in white peoples attire for a postcard it is titled "Bob Fly and Emily Fly" King and Queen of the Hastings River Aborigines. But of which Tribe the Ngamba or the Ngaku Tribes. or the West Port Tribe? When Cpt Allman came to Port Macquarie he proclaimed an Aborigine named Monunggal as "Chief of the Port Macquarie Tribe" and was presented with a brass breast plate which was an accepted thing to do by the first white settlers.

The first aborigine hanged was a man named "Terryidgee" on 25th October, 1843. In 1912 white parents objected when several aboriginal children enrolled in the school at Telegraph Point, few people of aboriginal descent remain in the Hastings Valley although Port Macquarie is the home of the Department of Aboriginal affairs.