



## THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE ARCHIVES

<b>NAME OF COLLECTION</b>	CHEESMAN, JOHN
<b>ACCESSION NO</b>	A.1969.0008
<b>CATEGORY</b>	Business, organisations
<b>ACTIVITY</b>	Postmasters, Farmers, Shopkeepers
<b>DATE RANGE</b>	1870-1953
<b>SIZE OF COLLECTION</b>	1 m. 6 archives boxes; 3 OS vol.
<b>HISTORICAL NOTE</b>	<p>John Cheesman was a native of Sussex, England, and was educated in France. He was apprenticed to the drapery trade for three years and followed a seafaring life for five. He left London for Australia in the ship Union, was wrecked on the Isle of Sal and arrived in Sydney by the ship Pacific in 1856. For a short time he was engaged in the coastal trade before going to the diggings, where he was fairly successful. He commenced dairy farming at McIntyre's and Moliagul, and then slaughtered for Dunolly and district until 1870 when he moved to Barkly and commenced business as a butcher. Two years later he bought the hotel and store from a Mr. Blair. He was postmaster and electoral registrar for the district. He selected 630 acres of land and bought more, turning to the breeding of draught horses.</p>
<b>DATE OF TRANSFER</b>	2 September 1969
<b>ACCESS CONDITIONS</b>	Access: Open
<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<p>Store account books, 1890-1953; Day Books; postal-note sales book, 1911-1919; Barkly Cemetary Accounts, 1872-1910; Minute Book of town meetings, 1918-1919, 1925-1926, 1933. Newscutting from the St. Arnaud Mercury, "Landmark Disappears from Barkly", account and photograph of store, 1895. Account by Mrs. L. Driscoll.</p>
<b>LISTED BY</b>	Cecily Close
<b>DATE</b>	October 1969

UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

ARCHIVES.

RECORDS RECEIVED INTO CUSTODY.

NAME: CHEESMAN, John.

MAIN ACTIVITY: Storekeeper, Barkly (near Avoca), Victoria.

RECEIVED FROM: Miss Cheesman (granddaughter of the above)  
Cataloguing Dept., Monash University Library.  
Acknowledgement to Mrs. L. Driscoll, Avoca.

DATE OF TRANSFER: 2 September 1969.

GENERAL NOTE: Note on John Cheesman, founder of the business, in A. Sutherland's Victoria and its Metropolis, Past and Present, Vol.2, p.226:

Cheesman, John, Barkly, is a native of Sussex, England, and was educated in France. He was apprenticed to the drapery trade for three years, and followed a seafaring life five years. He left London for Australia in the ship Union, was wrecked on the Isle of Sal, and arrived in Sydney by the ship Pacific in 1856. For a short time he was engaged in the coasting trade, and then gave up the sea and went to the diggings. He was fairly successful. He next commenced dairy farming at M'Intyre's and Moliagul, and was at that industry for eight years, after which he carried on slaughtering for Dunolly and the neighbourhood until 1870, when he removed to Barkly and started in business as a butcher. Two years later he bought the hotel and store, which he now conducts, from Mr. Blair. He is postmaster and electoral registrar for the district. Mr. Cheesman has selected 630 acres of land, and has bought 30 acres, and pays considerable attention to the breeding of draught horses.

LIST OF RECORDS.

- Box 1. Day Books (sometimes labelled "Counter Book" )
- 1 1/1 May 1870-Oct. 1876.  
At back, notes of produce bought.
- 1/2 Feb. 1877-Dec. 1884.  
Cover missing.
- 1/3 Aug. 1888 - Oct. 1891.  
At back, produce bought, newspaper accounts showing papers taken.
- 1/4 7 Oct. 1891 - 13 June 1893.
- Volume 1/5 June 1893 - Sept. 1900.  
xx Unit 7 At back, produce bought, newspaper accounts, "Sleeper cutters prices".
- xx Unit 8 1/6 29 Sept. 1900-28 Oct. 1905.
- xx Unit 9 1/7 Oct. 1905-Feb. 1912.  
P.743 "Statistics for year 1906 given to constable": numbers of sheep, lambs, bee-hives, items of machinery etc.  
Newspaper accounts.
- Box 1/8 1917-Feb. 1920.  
2 First 170 pages damaged by mould.
- 1/9 May 1922-March 1925.  
At back, list of "Books lent".
- 1/10 July 1936 - Aug. 1937.
- Box 1/11 Nov. 1936 - June 1938. Inside back cover notes on  
4 "Barker's sheep at Dipping".
- 1/12 Feb. - Nov. 1938.
- 1/13 Dec. 1938 - Aug. 1939.  
Cover and pp. 1-27 missing.
- Box 1/14 16 Aug. 1939 - May 1940.
- 5 1/15 July 1942 - May 1943.
- 1/16 Feb. - Dec. 1945.
- 6 2. Ledger Aug. 1873 - Sept. 1896.
- 5 3. Book noting rebates, commissions, flour returns, produce bought, cheques paid.  
1940-41.
- 3 4. Book (foolscap) in which are noted cash takings, butter bought, cash purchases, cheques paid etc.  
July 1952-Mar. 1953.

LIST OF RECORDS (continued).

- Box  
3
5. Book labelled "Postal rates and pound notes". Sales of postal notes 1911-1919; cuttings relating to land laws.
- 6
6. Quarto exercise book containing day book entries 28 Oct. - Nov. 1905, then notes of meetings held at Cheesman's store: "to arrange for raising funds towards an Honor Board in memory of the soldiers from Barkly and Frenchmans", 12 Nov. 1918 - 15 Jan. 1919.  
Meeting and Public Hall to set up a Bush Fire Brigade at Barkly, 5 Jan. 1925, 2 Feb. 1925. Money collected (amounts related to number of acres held). 1 Feb. 1926-6 Jan. 1933.  
Meeting in Hall 9 July to arrange picnic to celebrate peace.  
1 March meeting to consider holding sports.  
Correspondence and accounts relating to Honor Board and medals 1919. Names of those to go on Board.  
Loose inside book: Allotment form from Australian War Museum for machine-gun to town of Redbank. Gives unit from whose captures trophy is to be selected. Receipt attached.
- 3
7. Barkly Cemetery Accounts.  
May 1872-Jan. 1910.
- 6
8. Cutting from St Arnaud 'Mercury'  
'Landmark disappears from Barkly'. Account + photo of store 1969.

8th October, 1969.

Cecily Close.  
Senior Asst. Archivist.