



PIONER

Orchard Cottage



Orchard Cottage located on the corner of Broadway & Lowrey Sts, Stroud is one of our original cottages built by the Australian Agricultural Company. Whilst an exact date is unknown it is believed that it was built at a similar time

It is recorded in the Australian Agricultural Company's (A.A.Co.) archives that Orchard Cottage was the residence of their assistant accountant Mr Thomas George Rodwell. Rodwell was a convict sentenced to 14 years in Australia. He arrived in 1830 on the ship, Royal Admiral. In 1837 he was granted a "ticket of leave" and became Stroud's assistant accountant that same year. He also became

to its sister Georgian style buildings circa 1830's.

Stroud's postmaster so it is believed that Orchard Cottage was the site of Stroud's original Post Office. This is illustrated on the town map of 1855. In 1857 Rodwell was transferred to Newcastle, finally resigning from the A.A.Co. in 1861. The Post Office we have today was opened in 1884.

In May 1886 an evaluation of the A.A.Co's Stroud buildings was conducted and Orchard Cottage was described as:

Mr Rodwells:

Brick and shingled, 6 rooms, verandah, kitchen & Shed behind. In very good repair. £275.00.

In 1909 it is recorded that Orchard Cottage was held by Philip Henry Street and William Crick as joint tenants upon trust for the site of Stroud's Hospital. In 1924 the property was sold to the Tull family as a private residence and has had a number of owners to date. The building is much the same as it was originally except for the kitchen wing & shed which has disappeared over the years.

Information obtained from The Australian National University Canberra ACT and from the property's Old System Title Deeds. Reference is made to map (131/4/33D Map XII Neg 1130)



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