

EXERT FROM "HOMESTEADS OF THE MID REGION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA"
(Geraldton Camera Club 1997)

Woorree

Woorree was established by a Dr Foley in the very early days of the Swan River Colony. Dr Foley landed at Port Gregory on a convict ship on which he had been a doctor. He took up Victoria Location 13 in 1853 and two years later he also took up Location 1076 on which Woorree homestead now stands.

Woorree has passed through a number of hands since being established by Dr Foley. Among these is Mr du Boulay, a local solicitor for whom a street has been named in Geraldton. Later it was owned by Mr Hans Irving whose interests included gold mining in W.A. and the Great Western Vineyards in Victoria, which were subsequently bought out by Seppelts.

The Rowan family moved from N.S.W. to Woorree in 1913. The current owner John Rowan was a small child at the time. The stone wall that now surrounds the house and gardens was built in 1950 to replace a berry bush hedge that had been planted around the house to deter intruders. The house was refurbished in 1950 and the second storey was added. In 1980 the homestead was reroofed. The palms in front of the house were planted by Mrs Rowan Snr soon after moving into Woorree. At that time the pine trees were already well established. They were probably planted about the turn of the century. The reproduced photograph in the top right hand corner shows the homestead in 1920.



WOORREE

