

# JUNCTION HOTEL

## later CARLISLE GUESTHOUSE

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### Location

On the southwest corner of Murchison Street and Pack Road (Section C, Lot 11), this lot occupied by Martin Cussens at the time of the first land sales (Dec 1864) and then sold to William Henry Kirwan on 28 April 1865. The property was sold to Mary and Henry Coney in 1914 and the Coneys lived there until son Harold James Robert Coney died in 1968. Sometime in the early 1970s the original building was demolished. Mr and Mrs Boyle built their shop on the corner and then later in the 1980s Phelps moved their Bakery across the road into a new larger building on this site. This building survived the 2009 Black Saturday fires.

### History of the Building

**Martin Cussen**<sup>1</sup> was in Marysville prior to the Land Sales of December, 1864 with a 7 roomed wooden house with shingled roof and verandah on Block C Lot 11 on the corner of Pack Road and Murchison Street, valued at £300. William Kirwan, Martin's brother in law, purchased this block on 28 April 1865 and William and Bridget nee Cussen ran their Junction Hotel from this building, providing accommodation for travellers on route to Woods Point.

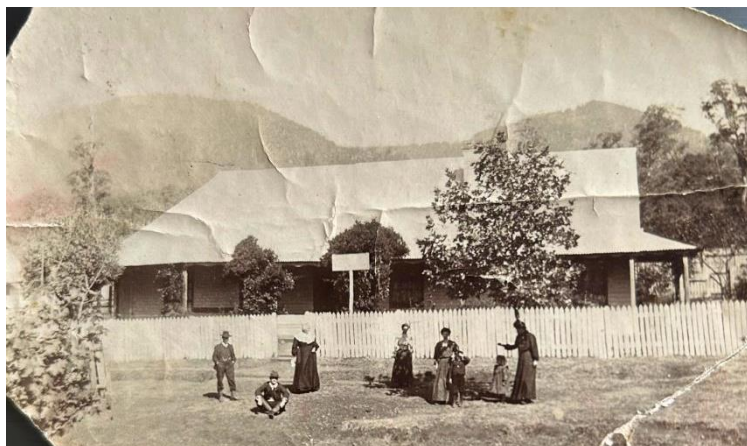
Only two families owned it - **William and Bridget Kirwan** and then **Henry and Mary Ann Coney and son Harold**. Occupied by Harold James Robert Coney until his death in 1968 the house was in a parlous state, its contents frozen in time past. The building was pulled down in the 1970s. It had stood on the corner for over 100 years, the only survivor from the beginnings of Marysville.



*The Junction Hotel is in the centre of this original 1880 sketch drawn on site by J W Curtis, MDHS Collection <sup>2</sup>*

## Under the Kirwan Family

Records of the early days are sketchy. Land Sale records for Marysville show W Kerwan (sic) bought Lot 11 Section C on 28 Apr 1865 and was amongst applications for a Publican's License on 7 February 1866 - 'Wm Kirwan, 8 rooms, own property, to be Junction Hotel'. Butlers Woods Point Directory 1866<sup>3</sup> records Wm Kairwen operating the Junction Hotel and Balliere's Directory 1868 also has William Henry Kirwan as the operator. William had married Bridget Cussen, daughter of James Cussen and Catherine nee Dooley<sup>4</sup> in Inglewood in 1861.



The hotel was generally referred to as 'The Junction Hotel', although there is a reference to Henry's Hotel<sup>5</sup>. In the Holiday Ramble 1881, it is being called 'The Temperance'<sup>6</sup>.

"On the Pack road side of the Hotel, Grandfather conducted a food store. This business didn't pay as there were too many of the customers unable to pay. To the rear of the hotel, pigs were kept as well as a cow or two. There was always a good bay tree growing outside the old house "

*Alma Barry, granddaughter*

*Bridget and her extended family in Pack road outside the Hotel c1904. From Alma Barry.*

William Henry Kirwan had a nasty horse accident and suffered severe head injuries which he did not recover from and spent the last 10 years of his life in Asylums. He died in 1899.

In the meantime Bridget ran the establishment as a guesthouse house with her daughter Maria Chester's family often living there in winter when their Golden Secret mine was snowed in. She sold it about 1914 to Henry and Mary Coney who renamed the building "The Carlisle".

Bridget went to live with her daughter, Belinda in Fairfield and died there in 1921, aged 77.

*Details on the Cussens Family and the Kirwan Family are available filed with the Junction Hotel.*

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<sup>1</sup> Rev George Edwards' Notes and Book.

<sup>2</sup> J W Curtis prepared this sketch to be a feature illustration in the January 1881 edition of the Illustrated Australian News produced monthly in Melbourne.

<sup>3</sup> Facsimile reprint of Balliere's 1865 Wood's Point Directory.

<sup>4</sup> From Marriage record 21 April 1861 in Inglewood between William Kirwan, 31, a Reefer from Galway, Ireland, parents John Kirwan, gentleman & Jane Brockman and Bridget Cussen, 17 (she required her mother's permission) from Limerick, Ireland parents James Cussen, farmer & Catherine Dooley (copy of record in files).

<sup>5</sup> Henry as in William Henry Kirwan.

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<sup>6</sup> Henry's Hotel was called "The Temperance" – (mentioned in the Holiday Ramble 1881, diary excerpt from the Latrobe Library.) although it was also known as "Junction Hotel". Rev George Edwards.