Rediscovery of the Goggs Family Mausoleum

The second proprietor of Wolston Estate, Matthew Buscall Goggs senior, had a mausoleum for family burials built on the Wolston property in 1871, on a rise overlooking a gully running back from the river. As a result of damage by the 1893 floods, the remains of family members interred in the mausoleum, including those of Matthew Buscall Goggs senior himself, were moved to Toowong cemetery. Read more about the Goggs family and 19th century Wolston Estate in our book *Pastoralists of Brisbane Town’s Fringe* at [http://cshsoc.org.au/pastoralists-of-brisbane-towns-fringe/](http://cshsoc.org.au/pastoralists-of-brisbane-towns-fringe/)

*Mausoleum on Wolston Estate Bearing the Inscription “M.B. G. 1871”:* 20th century image showing bricks added by later owner when the structure was used for storing cattle fodder. *The Queenslander* 7/9/1933

Tess and Arthur Maurer, descendants of 19th century pioneers of the Centenary suburbs area, had informed CSHSoc researcher Meg Gordon that stone from a small quarry on the river at Westlake had been used to build the Goggs mausoleum. For further information about this early quarry, see chapter 15 in the book *Pastoralists of Brisbane Town’s Fringe* at [http://cshsoc.org.au/pastoralists-of-brisbane-towns-fringe/](http://cshsoc.org.au/pastoralists-of-brisbane-towns-fringe/) Partly with an interest in verifying what materials had been used in the mausoleum, members of the Centenary Suburbs Historical Society initiated a search to find the mausoleum site in 2010.

Information provided by the manager of Wolston House, Jenny Squire, indicated that the mausoleum was on land that is now part of a correctional facility. Permission was obtained to enter the site and three CSHSoc members, Meg Gordon, Bernhard Landmann and Lynda Young did so in 2010. Guided by information given to National Trust by a 20th century occupant of Wolston House, and with a small amount of rubble providing further clues, the site was located after considerable removal of long grass.

*Lynda Young and Bernhard Landmann pulling back grass at suspected Mausoleum site, 2010.*
As a result of the site having been located, the National Trust of Qld initiated a project to have the site excavated and examined by an archaeologist from the University of Queensland. Volunteers from the National Trust assisted with some of the labour in a series of working bees. Lynda Young, who participated in a working bee in May 2011, captured the work in progress on camera.

It is understood that the site has now been closed and that the National Trust will make the results available in a display at Wolston House.