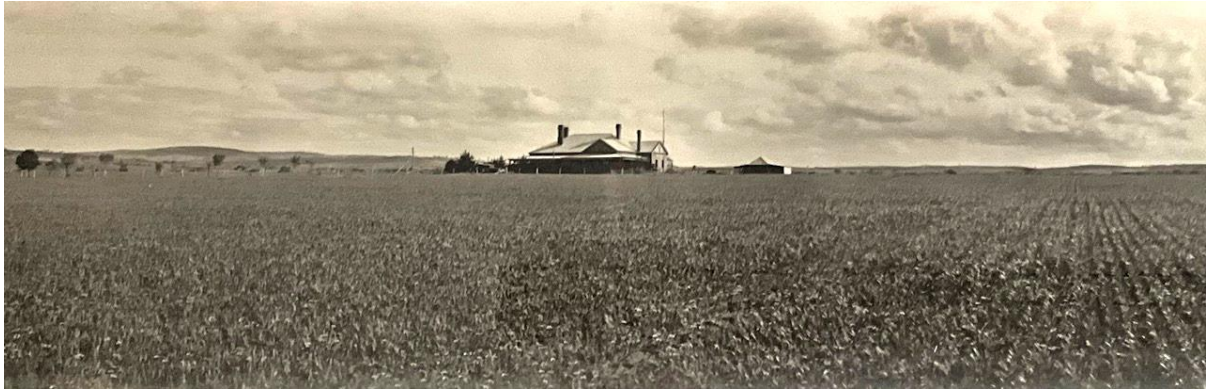


“WATERKERRY” FARM



Originally known as “Dale’s Grant” and part of the land near Burges Siding originally taken up by Ensign Robert Dale in 1832. Later purchased by William Chifney and son and then in 1891 by John Sermon, the son of William & Mary Sermon of Grass Valley, who named the property “Waterkerry” or “Watercarry” due to its permanent soaks and abundant water. The original farm house was built c1883 and a newer residence in 1913. John Sermon was a member of the Northam Municipal Council and the Northam Agricultural Society, Managing Director of the Northam Brewery and and the Northam Steam Saw Mill Company and served for a term in the York Roads Board. In 1889 he married Jane Ann Myales. Of their four sons Claude was killed in action in WW1, Percy William & Herbert Vincent went farming at Gutha and Gerald Raymond was associated with his father in farming “Waterkerry”. Daughter Ida Mary married Howard Munckton of Koolanooka and Jean Agnes married J.Green of Victoria Park.

John Sermon died in 1945 and the property was sold in 1946.

In 1959 Water Kerry was purchased by the Norbertine Canons, also known as the White Canons, who changed its name to “Kerry Downs” and continued to run it as a productive farm until 1985.