



The Deep Creek Hotel

aka

The Monkey Shanty

Although it was built on the upper stages of the Narraburra Creek which still holds this title today, in the earlier times of settlement the landmark was known as Deep Creek.

It isn't really known when the hotel at Deep Creek was built, or who was the first publican to hold the licence, but what is known is that somewhere about the time of the discovery of gold at Temora, the hotel was an established business open for trade. On 15th October, 1880 Hugo Larsen was granted a parcel of land one acre in size on the southern side of the road, Temora to Cootamundra for business purposes. A small map shows that as of the 7th April, 1881, Clara Larsen applied also for one acre of land next to her husband's for a garden, one would guess to supply the hotel for meals, the diagram shows as well the home/hotel and stable as well.

Reports in the Cootamundra Herald state that Hugo's premises were searched in a matter concerning the supply of sly grog selling but he was acquitted quickly of the charge on the 14th May, 1881.

The hotel was commonly referred to as Mrs Larsen's "Monkey Shanty" because of the owner's pet monkey who was kept at the front of the building, supposedly for the clientele's amusement. Mrs Larsen strongly objected to this name as it wasn't the establishment's real name. The Temora Star newspaper notes that on 24th May, 1882, that the hotel was still referred to as the "Monkey Shanty."

Clara Larsen, went on to marry Joseph Deitz who owned The Royal Exchange Hotel in Temora. In 1891 at Cootamundra Joseph Dietz died in 1895 and she continued the Royal Exchange until 1914. She herself died as a result of severe burns in 1928.

It seems that most likely it was licensed to Bernard Bannon in the period 1881-83 as the "Travellers Rest Hotel". It was often noted with having to comply with licensing court rulings to be able to continue trading. It served as a Cobb and Co Coach Line refreshment stop as it was still another six miles (9.5 kilometres) to Temora. Bernard (also called Barney) sold the hotel and his surrounding farm "Sandy Creek" of 1400 acres on the 17th March, 1883, to John Mc Lintock of Framptom.

April 1884, was indeed an interesting time for the publican and the hotel as a carrier named Richard Parkinson was found hanged in one of the rooms and to the full knowledge of the barman, James L Dixon, who invited people to take a look.

The next publican was Peter Nolen who took over on 2nd December, 1884.

In March 1894, William Kennedy of the "Monkey Shanty" (noted as a farmer) had a sequestration order placed upon him by Mr L T Lloyd. This gives rise to the question that the hotel had by this time ceased operation. In 1904, Mr Kennedy was in court again with persons stealing from the dwelling at Deep Creek.

Also of interest is the location of the dwelling, with Temora maps of the time indicate that the hotel is on the right-hand side of the road, but a large yellow box gum tree across the road on the left is located on higher ground, more suitable against flooding from the nearby creek, and there are the remains of some old bricks against the tree. Some question, whether these were used in the fireplace of the hotel? We will never really know.....

