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## **SURVEYORS ADAMS & TWYNAM**

**Surveyors Philip Francis Adams and Edward Twynam.**

These two surveyors were responsible for the layout of the town of Wentworth. These are just a few snippets from their stories.

RUSHEEN CRAIG November 2012.

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## **PHILIP FRANCIS ADAMS, SURVEYOR.**

The Biography of Philip Francis Adams appears at:  
<http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/adams-philip-francis-2867>

Other snippets of information.

Application to Surveyor General for part of cattle market reserve in centre of East Maitland for a reserve. Mr. Surveyor Adams to report on the matter.  
Maitland Mercury & Hunter River General Advertiser, 29 Dec 1855.

NSW Parliament.

... in 1858 - long before the passing of the Crown Lands Alienation Act - Mr. Surveyor Adams had recommended that reservation of the land which was now taken exception to.  
Sydney Morning Herald, 23 Jul 1862.

Licensed surveyor. Flood map of the Lower Hunter to Surveyor General's Department. Jan 1858.

The authorities at Kiandra are taking steps to facilitate the passage of travellers to the Snowy River ranges. The Border Post states that Mr. District-surveyor Adams is engaged in marking out the road to the new gold-field.  
Argus, 4 Apr 1860.

Survey of land near Adelong. June 1858.

Mr. District Surveyor Adams at Wagga Wagga for past week making a survey to the southwards of Wagga Wagga - ... lead to additional agricultural farms; also surveying town lots for sale. Proposes laying two villages between Wagga Wagga and Albury. Sydney Morning Herald, 16 Aug 1859.

Mr. District-Surveyor Adams, of Albury, is to be the future Surveyor-General.  
The Mercury, 13 Oct 1862.

## **EDWARD TWYNAM, SURVEYOR.**

Mar 1858 Edward Twynam appointed licensed Surveyor.  
Sydney Morning Herald, 13 Mar 1858.

Apr 1859 Preliminary survey of Lang's Crossing had been done by District Surveyor Adams; Second class Surveyor TWYNAM WOULD SOON LAY OUT ALLOTMENTS THERE AND AT WENTWORTH.  
Sydney Morning Herald, 8 Apr 1859.

Aug 1860 Edward Twynam appointed on the permanent staff of Survey Department.  
Sydney Morning Herald, 8 Aug 1860.

Aug 1857 Lost - ... mare belonging to Edward Twynam, surveyor, Singleton.  
Maitland Mercury, 27 Aug 1857.

Mar 1858 Edward Twynam appointed licensed Surveyor.  
Licensed surveyors.  
Undermentioned gentlemen appointed licensed surveyors [include] -  
... Edward Twynam.  
Sydney Morning Herald, 13 Mar 1858.

Apr 1859 Preliminary survey of Lang's Crossing had been done by District Surveyor Adams; Second class Surveyor Twynam would soon lay out allotments there and at Wentworth.  
Legislative Assembly.  
Survey at Lang's Crossing Place.  
In answer to a question by Mr. Hay relative of a survey at Lang's Crossing Place.  
Mr. Robertson stated that nothing more than the preliminary survey had yet been made [ie by Apr 1859], and that had just been brought to Sydney by Mr. Adams, the district surveyor, who made it. MR. TWYNAM, second class surveyor, who would leave Sydney for the Murrumbidgee district, on Saturday next, WOULD LAY OUT FOR SALE ALLOTMENTS AND SUBURBAN PORTIONS at Lang's Crossing Place, according to the design (as approved), as his first duty. He would THEN proceed on a SIMILAR DUTY TO THE TOWN OF WENTWORTH, at the Darling junction, and to other towns on the Murrumbidgee and Murray Rivers.  
Sydney Morning Herald, 8 Apr 1859.

Aug 1860 Edward Twynam appointed on the permanent staff of Survey Department.  
Survey Office - The following permanent appointments have been made:  
Mr. Edward Twynam, to be a surveyor of the first class, on the permanent staff of the Survey Department. ...  
Sydney Morning Herald, 8 Aug 1860.

Oct 1863 Twynam, District-surveyor, to survey conditional purchases.  
Twynam, District-surveyor, instructed to survey conditional purchases in the names of John Cory, M. Donnelly (2), ...  
Queanbeyan Age and General Advertiser, 1 Oct 1863.

Mar 1864 Fire at Surveyor Twynam's camp near Goulburn.

... two miles from Goulburn ... camp recently erected by Mr. Surveyor Twynam ... everything in one burning mass ... none of Mr. Twynam's party were in the hut...

Maitland Mercury & Hunter River General Advertiser, 24 Mar 1864.

Fifty Years ago. Surveying Experiences (of Mr. C. B. Brownrigg).

... Whilst at Albury Mr. Brownrigg joined the camp staff of Mr. Surveyor Adams with whom he remained until Mr. Adams was appointed Surveyor-General. He was then transferred to Surveyor Twynam, and assisted in the survey of the Murray River, forming the boundary between New South Wales and Victoria. It was only during the spring months that work could be proceeded with, as the melting of the snow brought down every now and then a fresh in the river. "More than once," said Mr. Brownrigg, "we were compelled to remain all night on the rocks waiting for the snow to harden again. Owing to the precipitous cliffs, we were obliged to "chain" in the water. Before completing the survey Mr. Twynam was appointed district surveyor at Goulburn. I remained with him for three years when, at the request of Mr. Woods (district surveyor at Albury) I was chosen for further work in connection with the Murray survey."...

Sydney Morning Herald, 28 Dec 1928.

1923 Ex-Surveyor-General. Death of Mr. E. Twynam.

The death occurred yesterday, at Riversdale, North Goulburn, of Mr. Edward Twynam, formerly Surveyor-General of New South Wales. He was 91 years of age, and died after a short illness of four days.

Mr. Twynam was the sole survivor of 12 surveyors brought out from England in 1855. He became an assistant surveyor in the Surveyor-General's Department in 1856, and was next appointed a district surveyor, being promoted to the post of Surveyor-General in 1887, in succession to Mr. P. F. Adams. That office Mr. Twynam held until 1890, when he retired. Throughout the Lands Department he was noted for his high professional attainments, and his splendid qualities as a man.

[Photograph]

Mr. Twynam was born at Bishopstoke, Hampshire, England, coming to Australia when he was 23 years of age. He carried out the original survey, and, in a great measure, the exploration of the Lachlan and Darling Rivers; also the survey and lay-out of the base line for the trigonometrical survey of New South Wales. Mr. Twynam proceeded from Albury as district surveyor to Goulburn in 1864. He was married in 1866 to Emily Rose, daughter of the Rev. Robert Thorley Bolton, and remained in Goulburn until he went to Sydney to take up his duties as Surveyor-General of New South Wales.

Fifty years ago Mr. Twynam acquired Riversdale, North Goulburn, and assisted in the building of the parish church of St. Nicholas, of which he was a church warden for many years. He was also a member of the Cathedral Council and patron of the Goulburn Club, being the last surviving member of the 12 founders.

Mr. Twynam left two sons - Mr. H. Twynam, of Richlands, and Major E. Twynam, of Yalbraith - and four daughters, viz., Mrs. Cunningham, widow of late Mr. Jas. Cunningham, of Lanyon, Mrs. Gordon Wesche, wife of Mr. A. Gordon Wesche, general manager of the P. and O. S. N. Co.; Miss Twynam, and Sister Joan Twynam, R. R. C.; also 13 grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

Sydney Morning Herald, 3 Apr 1923.

Riversdale, an old colonial home on the outskirts of Goulburn.

... The property was turned into a school in 1852. After the school closed it was leased to Mr. Edward Twynam who bought it in 1875. He was District-Surveyor at Goulburn until his appointment as Surveyor-General from 1880 to 1900. The Twynham family lived at Riversdale for 100 years. ... 1967 the Trust acquired the property.

Australian Women's Weekly, 3 Jun 1970.

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[There is also a William Edwin Twynam (W. E. Twynam) in many ads over the years as a solicitor of Kilmore, Victoria.

Then -

I, William Edwin Twynam, formerly of Gilmore, in the colony of Victoria, but now of Albury, NSW, do hereby give NOTICE, that I intend to apply to their Honors the Judges of the Supreme Court of NSW, on the last day of the first term in the year 1865, to be admitted to practice as an Attorney, Solicitor, and Proctor of the said Court.

Dated 23 Feb 1865.

W. E. Twynam.

Sydney Morning Herald, 10 Mar 1865.

Jan 1871 - William Edward Twynam appointed trustee of Hay cemetery.  
Sydney Morning Herald, 21 Jan 1871]

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