**Beecroft Station garden**

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 10 April 1897, page 10**

Beecroft.

Reserve. — Mr. Farnell, M.P., wrote to the Lands Department on February 17th asking, on behalf of the Beecroft Progress Association, that land near the railway platform at Beecroft be vested in trustees to enable the residents to plant trees, etc. In reply he was informed on March 25 that the request could not be complied with. About half the land referred to, the Department added, has been reserved for school purposes, and any application for permission to plant trees on the part so reserved should be made to the Department of Public Instruction. Mr. Farnell intends seeing Mr. Garrard at once and will interview the Minister for Lands (Mr. Carruthers) on his return from Adelaide. He can see no difficulty in the way of getting these reserves dedicated.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 16 October 1897, page 11**

PROGRESS ASSOCIATIONS.

Beecroft.

Mr. Green mentioned the desirability of beautifying the station grounds, by having the vacant lands thereat trenched, fenced in and planted with ornamental trees and shrubs. Mr. Hogan had brought the matter under his notice and had informed him that Mrs. Leslie Herring was willing to con-tribute towards such an improvement. It was decided on the motion of Mr. Green, seconded by Mr. Lovell, to donate £2 towards the work, on the understanding that £8 was subscribed outside the Association. Messrs. M. Green and J. Lovell were appointed as a sub-committee to carry out the necessary arrangements with regard to subscriptions and approaching the Railway Commissioners for their sanction.

**The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 18 Sep 1897**

Mr. Frank Farnell has received the following letter from the Under-Secretary of the Department of Lands, which will be read with much interest by all concerned:

With reference to your application on behalf of the Beecroft Progress Committee, for the dedication and vesting in trustees for purposes of public recreation of certain land between the Beecroft Parade and the northern railway, in the vicinity of the Beecroft railway station, I am directed to inform you that the Secretary for Lands has approved of the area comprised in Section No. 12, in the location in question, exclusive of about half an acre at the northern extremity of the section, being reserved for public recreation as desired, and placed under the control of trustees.

**The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 2 Jul 1898**

Beecroft.

TREE PLANTING. – When the Railway Commissioners were on tour recently they were met at Beecroft by Messrs. Lovell and Abram, members of the Beecroft Progress Association, who urged upon them the desirability of having the Railway Reserve at Beecroft planted with ornamental trees. The Commissioners promised to give the proposal their favourable consideration.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 27 August 1898, page 11**

Beecroft.

Beautifying the Station. — The stumping and trenching of the vacant piece of ground included in the Beecroft Railway Station reserve has been completed, and on

Wednesday two boxes containing some 60 ornamental, and shade trees and shrubs arrived, to the care of the station-master, from the Botanic Gardens, for planting thereon. The Progress Association, which was instrumental in having this work done, is to be congratulated upon the spirit of progressiveness thus display of. The Railway Commissioners have borne the expense up to the present and it will devolve upon the residents and the Progress Association to keep the ground in order henceforward. No difficulty is anticipated in raising the funds necessary to do this.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 3 September 1898, page 12**

Beecroft.

Thee Planting. — The shade trees and shrubs, to the number of 60, forwarded from the Botanical Gardens, were planted on Saturday last on the railway station reserve, at Beecroft, under the supervision of the Progress Association. There is an old saying that the watched kettle never boils. If the same argument holds good with regard to the growth of trees it is to feared these shade trees at the Beecroft station will never grow, for they are being most assiduously watched, particularly by the members of the Progress Association. They haven't shown any perceptible growth yet, but when they do begin to grow the improvement at this particular suburban station will be very marked indeed. The clearing and trenching of the ground has already imparted an air of superior respectability to the place, which is in no way diminished by the occasional appearance of the local policeman.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 3 September 1898, page 12**

Beecroft.

Arbor Day. — The directors of the Botanic Gardens, Sydney, lately sent some trees to be planted in the play-ground of the public school at Beecroft, and at the invitation of Messrs. Holcombe, J.P., and Green, members of the School Board, they wore planted on Monday by Mr. W. S. Perdriau, J.P., Mrs. Perdriau, sen., Mrs. Holcombe, Mrs. Abram, Mrs. Perdriau, jun., Mrs. Green and Mrs. Perdriau's little daughter.

After the planting, through Mrs. Holcombe's kindness, the children had a scramble for lollies and nuts. The trees are Norfolk Island pines, Cypress trees, Olive trees, and Camphor Laurel trees. Some of the parents are of opinion that it would be a good thing if the children had each a little garden to look after, but to start this would require enclosing a piece of ground for the purpose, and laying out and digging the beds, and the funds are too low to have this done at present. The enclosure for the trees cost 25s for fencing and 8s for digging, which wore paid out of two guineas kindly handed to the teacher by Messrs. Skellett and Lovell for the purpose.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 10 September 1898, page 2**

Tree Planting. — The trenching on either side of the line at the railway station, undertaken at the instance of the Progress Association, for the purpose of beautifying the surroundings of the station by the cultivation of ornamental shade trees and climbers, has now been completed. About forty rods of soil have been trenched to a depth of 18 inches, the strips being eight feet wide, the cost together with the expense of planting, amounting to about £7, which sum was subscribed by some of the residents. Everything being now in readiness for the planting, application has been made to the curator of the Botanic Gardens for 120 ornamental shade trees, of different species, and 30 climbers, and the planting will probably take place in about a week's time. It has been suggested, and the idea has met with approval, that there should be some little function in connection with the planting, at which the member for the district should be asked to attend.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 15 October 1898, page 8**

Beecroft Progress Association.

Those present formed themselves into a committee of ways and means, the question being the inauguration of a fund for the purpose of keeping the reserve in order, in this connection, Mr. Willis had done a lot of work for the association gratuitously. Mr. G. B. Moran had also rendered valuable and gratuitous assistance in laying out the railway grounds, and it was decided to write to both of them thanking then and assuring them of the association's appreciation of their services. Messrs. Melbourne Green and W. Abram were appointed to collect funds for the further requirements of the reserve, and to superintend their disbursement. The sum of 25s was promised or paid in the room as the nucleus of this special fund. The inauguration of this fund and the immediate prospects of its growing to a respectable amount has relieved the committee of the Association of a little embarrassment. The Commissioners, it seems, had been good enough to send to the station about £1 worth of manure for the newly-planted trees and shrubs, and this had been carted to the grounds free of cost by Mr. Willis. Digging round the trees and mulching them with this manure was the next thing to be done, and the committee had either to tuck up their sleeves and do this themselves or find the means for doing it. The inauguration of the fund above referred to has overcome the difficulty. Mr. Abram being a practical man, the reserve has been placed under his special care.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 12 November 1898, page 10**

Tending the Trees. — A man has been employed during the past week manuring and working the ornamental trees and shrubs recently planted in the Railway Station Reserve, at the instigation of the Beecroft Progress Association.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 24 December 1898, page 10**

Beecroft.

Ornamental Trees. — Contributions have been coming in pretty freely to the fund organised under the auspices of the Beecroft Progress Association for the purpose of keeping in order the ornamental trees and flowering shrubs planted on the railway station reserve.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 17 June 1899, page 10**

Beecroft.

Progress Association. - It was also decided, to write to the Railway Commissioners asking for permission to plant ornamental trees inside the railway reserve from the tennis courts to the old platform with a view to beautifying the station surroundings.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 20 January 1900, page 10**

Beecroft Progress Association.

A supply of ornamental trees had been forwarded by the Director of the Botanical Gardens for distribution amongst those residents desirous of planting trees in front of their residences.

It was added that Beecroft obtained first prize donated by the Railway Commissioners for the greatest improvement to the station gardens during the last six months.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 19 May 1900, page 10**

Beecroft.

Horticultural. — The flower garden on the reserve at the Beecroft railway station has been one mass of blooms for the past two months, the fine chrysanthemums being especially noticeable. It must be gratifying to the residents here, as a result of their efforts, backed up by the Progress Association, to get the place formed and planted. Mr. Hopkins, the stationmaster deserves credit for keeping the garden in perfect order.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Wednesday 28 October 1903, page 2**

Railway Gardens.

The committee appointed to judge the railway gardens reported as follows: - “In the surburban section there was considerable difficulty in determining the three stations which are to figure in the list of prizes. On the main suburban line, the best displays are made by gardens established some years, and great praise is due to those who have maintained them in good order. The more recent efforts at other stations are also noteworthy, and it is hoped that by next year the few gaps which exist on this section will be filled. Granville, Rookwood, Burwood, Croydon, Ashfield, Lewisham, find Stanmore are now all well laid out, and are a delight to travellers. On the run from Strathfield, via Hornsby to Milson's Point, however, the greatest improvements were noticed, and flowers formed a greater part of the decorations. Chatswood, Lindfield, and Pennant Hills show the greatest improvement compared with last year's appearance, and other noteworthy stations are Beecroft, Thornleigh, and Gordon. Our award for this series of prizes is: — Lewisham 1 Chatswood 2 Rookwood 3.

We desire to highly commend Pennant Hills and Beecroft. The three placed stations worked very closely, and we desire to record that the first and second stations owe their positions largely to improvement during the past year. Several stations ran close to the prize-winners, and we trust that they will continue the work evidently done for the pleasure experienced in having a bright and attractive station.”

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 14 August 1909, page 10**

Beecroft.

PROGRESS ASSOCIATION.

The president mentioned that since the last meeting he had collected 17s from a number of residents towards the work of keeping the railway station gardens in good trim. He was however, of opinion that a systematic collection should be taken up, once a year, towards a fund for the upkeep of the gardens. He moved that a canvass of the town be made with a view of obtaining |the names of residents favorable to becoming subscribers to such a fund, and that he be authorised to collect subscriptions. This was seconded by Mr. Rodrick, and carried.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 23 March 1912, page 4**

Beecroft Progress Association.

Annual Meeting.

Mr. Tucker said that they should make the Beecroft station garden a feature of the northern line. The climate and soil wore admirably suited to rose culture. He would suggest that the Joint Committee be asked to approach all the progress associations along the line, with the request that they endeavour to beautify the local railway stations. They should make the local railway station a beautiful approach to the village. Mr. Dover had dug up the garden, trusting to public appreciation of his efforts. He (Mr. Tucker) had paid him a certain sum, but objected to act as collector any more. The secretary turned up the last record in the minutes, wherein the association decided that, in view of the pending alterations to the station, it was not advisable to go to any expense over the garden. Mr. Tucker had thereupon stated that as the association would not do anything, he would have the garden kept up at his own expense, and his otter was received with applause. The reading of the minute, was greeted with more applause. Mr. Holcombe said that it was everybody's duty to assist in the upkeep of the station garden. No one of them would like to see the garden go back. Councillor Nixon said that usually the start of the various stations in other parts attended to the gardens, but along this line they seemed disinclined to do anything, and the gardens were therefore left to the care of the residents. He did not think the Joint Committee could do anything, nor could this association expend its funds on this object. They could, however, take up a subscription list for the upkeep of the gardens at Cheltenham and Beecroft.

Mr. Wachsmann said that he had received a cheque for £1 from Mr. Tucker, towards the cost of making a garden at Cheltenham; but, as nothing had been done in the matter, he had not yet cashed the cheque. Mr. Chorley said that to start a garden at Cheltenham station would cost a large sum, as there was no natural soil left there. The Commissioner had stuck a tin shed as a ticket office then, and, though he would have given the value of the building if the Commissioner had put up a brick building there, the tin shed remained. At present he did not think it worthwhile to try to make a garden at Cheltenham. Mr. Forsyth said that the Commissioner, in ordering the erection of the palisading at Beecroft, had had the fence run through part of this garden. The local staff could not fairly be accused of not attending to the garden, for they were overworked now. Mr. Skellett said that the Commissioners had had the station garden at Beecroft trenched, on condition that, the residents maintained the garden without further call on them. Mr. Wachsmann moved that the Commissioner be asked to extend the same favor to Cheltenham station. The residents there would be quite prepared to maintain the garden if it were started. A member said that it was hardly worth while doing anything to Beecroft station garden, as it was hidden by the newly erected and unsightly palisading fence. At this stage, the matter of the garden was deferred till next meeting.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 27 July 1912, page 8**

Beecroft.

The Station Garden. — In view of the proposal of the Chief Commissioner to proceed with the erection of a new railway station of the island type for Beecroft, many residents think that it is not worthwhile to have the present station garden cultivated. The garden contains some very handsome ornamental trees, and it is hoped that the alterations will not necessitate their destruction.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 24 August 1912, page 10**

Beecroft Progress Association.

Mr. Tucker moved that the association invite the co-operation of the Joint Committee in urging upon the Railway Commissioners the necessity of providing a permanent stall of gardeners to lay out and keep in order station garden plots on all railway stations where practicable. He said that a station-master had told him that the reason he had not gone in for keeping the station garden in order of Iate was because gardening made them a bit dirty, and he had been reprimanded for not keeping himself as spick and span as the Commissioners thought necessary, Some of the old men who understood gardening could be appointed travelling gardeners to attend to the gardens on the stations along the line. Killara station was well kept up, because the residents contributed to the cost. Mr. Holcombe said that years ago Beecroft people did the same. The gardens vastly improved the appearance of the stations, and he heartily supported the motion.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 24 May 1913, page 8**

Beecroft.

Progress Association. — At a meeting of the Beecroft Progress Association on Tuesday, Mr. H. O. Holcombe presiding, a letter was read from the Railway Commissioners, agreeing to supply palms for planting on Beecroft and Cheltenham stations.

**The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 11 Oct 1913**

Beecroft.

**Tree Planting**. – In commemorating the arrival of the Australian fleet, the elder boys of the Beecroft school planted about 16 palms of the Washington robusta variety, on the new island platform at Beecroft station. Mr. Allmann, the assistant teacher, demonstrated his expert botanical knowledge by giving the boys a practical lesson in planting these trees. The boys are taking a personal interest in the trees, and water them on their way home from school.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 13 November 1915, page 8**

BEEGROFT.

STATION GARDENS.

The unsightly fence on the western side of the line at the local railway station has been removed, and some 16 or 17 loads of manure have arrived from Flemington as a preliminary to the creation of a station garden that, it is predicted, will easily eclipse all other station gardens on this or any other line.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Wednesday 27 September 1916, page 1**

STATION GARDEN.

Mr. Tucker put forward a suggestion to Beecroft Progress Association that returned soldiers might be employed in beautifying the railway stations, and that the cost of the work might be met by a special tax levied on railway tickets. One soldier might look after several stations. The proposition was not favorably entertained. A committee has been appointed, consisting of Messrs. W. M. Nixon, J. G. North, J. I. Forsyth, A. Moore, Anderson, Layton, and C. C. Tucker, to take charge of the work of beautifying Beecroft station. It is proposed to plant palms, Christmas trees, and flowering shrubs at the side of the line, rose-bushes over the subway, and annuals on the platform. Donations from the residents are being solicited.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 2 December 1916, page 8**

BEECROFT.

The Railway Commissioners have had water stand-pipes erected at intervals all along the area at Beecroft station which the presidents intend to make into a garden.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 19 January 1918, page 8**

BEECROFT.

In reporting to the station garden affairs to the Beecroft Progress Association on Tuesday, Mr. Albert Moore handed in a balance-sheet together with a cheque for £3/12/9, that being the amount to the credit of the station garden fund.

It was decided to hold working bees to improve the garden.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 20 July 1918, page 8**

THE STATION GARDEN.

Even Beecroft is not without petty-minded and mean-spirited sneak-thieves. The residents at considerable expense had gardens laid out on Beecroft station, and had them stocked with choice roses and other plants. Some of the rose plants have been stolen at various times and the committee has had to replace them. It was proposed at the progress association meeting on Tuesday to reopen a subscription list to raise funds to keep these gardens going. Last year £27 was raised, and most of the subscribers last year are willing, it was understood, to make their subscriptions annually.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 17 January 1920, page 8**

BEECROFT.

A JOB FOR SOME ONE.

Just now our station gardens are bright with blooming roses, creating a very pretty effect; and yet there is much to be desired. The aim of the late Mr. Churchill Tucker, to make our station premises a thing of beauty and a joy forever, is missing fire jest now, for the want of attention on some one's part. With the late Mr. Tucker were several gentlemen who were constituted a garden sub-committee, to see that the plants were well pruned and fertilised. Just now some of them have a wild look, and the beds on the lower side are impoverished, owing to the soil being washed away. These beds want banking up, to save the soil when the storms come. A little work in that direction would make the surroundings of our station a real picture.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 21 April 1917, page 8**

PROGRESS. ASSOCIATION.

Beecroft station garden is progressing well, and Mr. Nixon, the treasurer of the garden committee, states that he has still over £15 in hand.

**The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate, Sat 19 May 1900**

PERSONAL.

**Horticultural**. – The flower garden on the reserve at the Beecroft railway station has been one mass of blooms for the past two months, the fine chrysanthemums being especially noticeable. It must be gratifying to the residents here, as a result of their efforts, backed up by the Progress Association, to get the place formed and planted. Mr. Hopkins, the stationmaster deserves credit for keeping the garden in perfect order.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 23 January 1915, page 8**

The Green in Beecroft’s Eye.

Mr. Rowley called attention to the very heavy grade being formed by the Railway Department at the subway. It was nearly precipitous, and if the surface became slippery, accidents were likely to happen there. Mr. Holcombe said that the bungle made at the western entrance to the station was really appalling. Very coarse cinders had been spread over the path, and these were ruinous to footwear. The precipice at the entrance was really dangerous. Mr. Stobo said that the name given to the subway was Fraser's Folly. The latest act was to cut down a clump of shade trees, by the side of the road, which was not in the way at all. A fence had been built a few months, ago and this was pulled up to-day. Dr. Holt said that the condition of the entrance was perfectly scandalous. On Sunday night it was not lighted; and it was really dangerous for women to come by it. Mr. Moore said it appeared to him that the Department had got themselves into a hopeless tangle over this subway, and really didn't know how to finish it. The fence was propped up by sticks and it looked as if work was being done without any plan. If heavy weather came on within the next few days the subway would be impassable and the people would have to cross by the vehicular bridges. Beecroft people had made every effort to preserve indigenous trees along the footpaths, and a very strong protest should be sent to the Department about their vandalism. Dr. Holt said there was a bunya bunyah tree at the station, which was a botanical curiosity. Could the Commissioners have this cut down? The President: Yes. Voices: And if, they got to know that we valued it, they would most probably cut it down at once. Dr. Holt: Then all I can say is that we should turn out an armed guard to protect it.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 12 June 1920, page 8**

Hornsby Shire Advancement Association, which, by the way, is proving a "live wire" force in the town, is endeavoring to induce the railway authorities to lay out garden plots at the approaches to the station. It is hoped that the effort will be successful. Any movement in the direction of town beautification deserves cordial support. Beecroft station is a noteworthy example of what a little good taste can do. The beautiful shrubs and choice seasonable blooms that adorn this station are a credit to those responsible for the work.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 24 September 1921, page 8**

BEECROFT.

A PICTURESQUE STATION.

One of the gladdest spots on the Northern line is Beecroft railway station. At present it is aglow with the blooms of spring. The flowering peach, a shrub of glorious color and beauty, is a source of much attraction to the travelling public. The station garden is a credit to all those responsible for its upkeep.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 22 April 1922, page 8**

Northern Line Flashlights.

Beecroft railway station always presents a particularly pleasing appearance. The flowers and shrubs which adorn it bear evidence of tender care.