KEMP Kemp Family Papers, 1763-1975

In 1958, a collection of family papers and other items was donated to the Historical Society by Mr and Mrs F.W. Kemp for preservation. Other donations followed, including donations from other members of the family. Over the years the collection was mixed with other documentary materials, including the Society's own correspondence and papers relating to the Kemp family. It is also possible that some items from other sources were also added to the collection. The collection has now been arranged and described, and materials clearly not originating from the Kemp family have been removed. Because it is now impossible to be absolutely certain as to the provenance of all the material, many of the papers have been grouped according to the member of the Kemp family to which they are most closely related.

KEM/1 Baptism, Birth and Death Certificates, 1814-1900

This is a collection of certificates, many of which were acquired before Major Kemp and his family left England in 1837. Apparently kept together as evidence of the events they record.

KEM/1/1 Baptism of Maria Blackiston, 1814

Extract from the Register of Baptisms in the Parish of Hanwell in the County of Middlesex, taken on 8 January 1814. Portion only survives, recording birth date as 28 December 1799 and baptism date 30 September [year not given, possibly 1800].

KEM/1/2 Baptism of William Henry Kemp, 1823

A true copy, issued at Cape of Good Hope, dated 10 May 1823, recording birth date as 27 April 1823 and baptism date as 6 May 1823.

KEM/1/3 Baptism of Robert August Hadden Kemp, 1830

A true copy from the Register Book of Baptisms in the parish of St Margaret, Rochester, Kent for the year 1825. Portion only survives, recording birth date as 3 January 1825. [Baptism date recorded as 10 February 1825 on reverse].

KEM/1/4 Baptism of James Hadden Kemp, 1830

A true copy of an entry in the register of Baptisms in the parish of Chatham, Kent, in the year 1829, recording birth date as 6 March 1829 and baptism date as 3 June 1829.

KEM/1/5 Baptism of Arthur Kemp, 1839

Extract from the Register Book of St Thomas Church, Port Macquarie, taken on 1 March 1839, recording birth date as 9 March 1838 and baptism date as 3 May 1838.

KEM/1/6 Baptism of Arthur Kemp, 1849

Photocopy of an extract from the Port Macquarie Register, parish of St Thomas, dated 1 May 1849, recording birth date as 9 March 1838 and baptism date as 3 May 1838.

KEM/1/7 Baptism of Harriette Anna Kemp, 1842

Extract [undated] recording birth date as 20 December 1841 and baptism date as 11 April 1842.
KEM/1/8 Confirmation of Harriete Anna Kemp, 1850
Note signed by Thomas O’Reilly, Assistant Chaplain.

KEM/1/9 Death of Arthur Kemp, 1886
District Registrar's Certificate for Undertaker, dated 20 September 1886, recording date of death as 19 September [1886].

KEM/1/10 Baptism of Herbert Robert Kemp, 1896
Certificate of record of baptism in Register of St Stephens Church, Waverley, in the parochial district of Patra, N.Z., recording birth date as 9 September 1896 and baptism date as 1 November 1896

KEM/1/11 Birth of Albert William Kemp, 1897
Certificate of registration of birth, recording birth date as 25 October 1877

KEM/1/12 Baptism of Vera Mary Kemp, 1900
Certificate of record in Register of Baptisms in Parochial district of Patra & Waverley, N.Z., recording birth date as 4 August 1889 and baptism date as 18 September 1889

KEM/2 Papers relating to Major William Kemp and his wife Maria, 1829-1963
William and Maria (nee Blakiston) were married in Rochester (Kent) on 26 November 1821. William had enlisted in the 55th Regiment of Foot in 1806, and his military career saw him serve in the West Indies, Europe, South Africa, India, and England. In 1837, he transferred to the 80th Regiment and was in charge of a consignment of convicts transported on the Asia to Sydney, arriving on 2 December 1837. His family accompanied him. First stationed at Windsor, he was sent to Port Macquarie in charge of a detachment. In 1839 he resigned to take up land on the Macleay River, making his home at Booranghii. He died there on 14 September 1857.

KEM/2/1 Statement of Service with the Sixteenth Regiment of Foot, 1830-1837
This statement appears to have been prepared when William Kemp ceased to be attached to the 16th Regiment in 1830, having been a Captain with that regiment from 27 May 1824, and records his previous service with the 55th Regiment as an Ensign (from 6 May 1806), as a Lieutenant (from 20 November 1807) and as a Captain (from 14 November 1822). It also records his service abroad (West Indies 1806-1812, Holland 1813-1814, Cape of Good Hope 1821-1823, and Ceylon 1825-1828). Pencilled annotations record his appointment to Chatham in 1830, and to the 80th Regiment in 1837. The statement also records his marriage, and the four children born prior to 1830. Pencilled annotations record the births three more children between 1830 and 1834. [The document is in poor condition and was pasted on to a sheet of brown paper in the late 1950s.]

KEM/2/2 Document setting out Mrs Kemp's entitlements in her father's estate,
The document records that Mrs Blackiston (her mother) has a life interest, and that Mrs Kemp, after that period, to have the uncontrolled management of the estate.
KEM/2/3  Copy of report of arrival of barque "Asia" at Port Jackson, 1837
This is a handwritten copy of the report to the Governor of the arrival of the barque Asia at Port Jackson on 2 December 1837.

KEM/2/4  Watercolour of "Booranghii", Major Kemp's home in the Macleay district,
Pencil and watercolour sketch of the Booranghii homestead, 18 x 11 cm.
[Digital copy in photograph collection as Image 2068]

KEM/2/5  Probate of the Will of Major Kemp with a copy of the will attached, dated 7 February, 1857
Probate issued by the Supreme Court of New South Wales, together with a transcription of the will, both on parchment, originally fastened with a blue ribbon with the seal of the court attached.

KEM/2/6  Consent by Maria Kemp for the sale of cattle by the Trustees of the late Major Kemp, dated 7 January, 1859
Consent for the sale of up to three hundred head cattle branded WK.

KEM/2/7  Receipt for properties received from the Executors of the late Major W. Kemp, dated 1 September, 1863
The undersigned acknowledge to have received from the executors of the late Major Kemp their several shares in the properties situated at the Macleay River, consisting of land, stations, implements, furniture, tools and stock. Signed by (or for) H. Young, G.F. Kemp, Arthur Kemp, H.A. Kemp, J.H. Kemp.

KEM/3  Papers relating to William Henry Kemp, 1837-1854
William Henry Kemp was the first son of Major William Kemp, born 27 April 1823 on Robben Island, Cape of Good Hope. He entered the 51st Regiment of Light Infantry (known as the Kings Own), and was sent to Tasmania in 1843. On leave visiting his family at Booranghii, Macleay River, he pioneered the route from Kempsey to Armidale. He retired from the army in 1850. In 1857 he drowned and was buried at Booranghii.

KEM/3/1  Reference from his tutor, dated 8 June, 1837

KEM/3/2  Portrait,
A small portrait, 6 x 6.5 cm, thought to be of William Henry Kemp in military uniform.
[Digital copy in photograph collection as Image 2067]
Receipt for the purchase of land, dated 29 November, 1852

The receipt is for £135.8.0, being the balance owing of the purchase price of £335.8.0 for 258 acres of land, the other £200 being remitted as a grant from the government as a reward for finding the route for a road from Kempsey to Armidale. The receipt is signed by Arthur Halloran, Clerk of Petty Sessions at Port Macquarie.

Receipt for the balance of the purchase price of land, dated 5 December, 1854

Receipt for £60.19.9, being the balance of the purchase price of a block of land (extent 22 acres 2 roods and 26 perches) situated at Yarravel in the County of Dudley, sold at Port Macquarie on 6 November 1854.

Book: A New Biographical Dictionary Containing an Interesting Account of the Lives and Writings of the Most Distinguished Persons in Every Age and Century, by James Ferguson, 1843

Published in 1810. Inscribed: "N A Kitson A gift from her dear Uncle W Kitson 1818". Further inscribed: "W.H. Kemp 51st Rgt. Jany 1843".

Papers relating to Robert Augustus Hadden Kemp, 1856-1912

Robert Augustus Hadden Kemp (known to his family as Gussy) was the second son of Major William Kemp, born at Rochester (Kent) on 3 January 1825. He inherited his older brother's estate (which presumably included his father's estate) and became a farmer in the Macleay valley. He married Amelia Katherine Wynter in 1874 and they had nine children. He died in Kempsey in 1922. He was interested in the family history and kept many of the family papers.

Letter from the Principal Secretary, dated 20 November, 1856

The letter enquires whether it would be acceptable to R.A.H. Kemp that his "name should be included in the Commission of the Peace as a magistrate of the Territory", i.e. appointed as a Justice of the Peace.

Transcript of Proceedings in Court, Kemp v Chapman, dated 1 August, 1863

Transcript of the proceedings in the case brought by R.A.H. Kemp against George James Chapman "for having on or about the 4th day of June last past feloniously stolen, taken, and carried away one cow branded W.K. the property of the said Robert Augustus Hadden Kem and Frederick Richard Kemp as Executors of the late Major William Kemp".

Loan interest and payment record, 1886

A single sheet of paper recording a loan of £500 made (apparently to R.A.H. Kemp) on 14 February at the rate of 7%, the calculation of interest due on 30 June and 31 December, and payments of interest made.

Lease agreement, dated 1 February, 1904

Agreement between R.A.H. Kemp and Albert William Kemp for the lease by the latter of land owned by the former at Dungee, Macleay River for the term of ten years.
KEM/4/5  Statement of balance of purchase money paid on completion of purchase on 28 September, 1910


KEM/4/6  Agreement for sale, dated 8 March, 1912

Agreement for sale by R.A.H. Kemp to Walter Everard Kemp of several portions of land comprising 920 acres for the sum of £1,500.

KEM/4/7  Letter to R.A.H. Kemp from Adeline Tozer, dated 28 May, 1869

KEM/4/8  Letter to R.A.H. Kemp from Adeline Tozer, dated 16 January, 1870

KEM/4/9  Letter to R.A.H. Kemp from Adeline Tozer, dated 8 April, 1870

KEM/4/10 Letter to R.A.H. Kemp from Adeline Alkin, dated 27 July, 1870

KEM/4/11 Letter to R.A.H. Kemp from Adeline Alkin, dated 20 December, 1870

KEM/4/12 Letter to R.A.H. Kemp from Adeline Alkin, dated 17 June, 1871

KEM/4/13 Letter to R.A.H. Kemp from [unknown], dated 20 December, 1871

KEM/4/14 Letter to R.A.H. Kemp from his brother J.H. Kemp, dated 22 July, 1872

KEM/4/15 Letter to R.A.H. Kemp from the rector of St Pauls, Charlton, dated 17 May, 1873

KEM/4/16 Letter to R.A.H. Kemp from his brother J.H. Kemp, dated 28 [month not specified], 1873

KEM/4/17 Letter to R.A.H. Kemp from his brother J.H. Kemp, dated 18 August, 1874

KEM/4/18 Letter to R.A.H. Kemp from his brother J.H. Kemp, dated 20 March, 1875
Frederick Richard Kemp was the third son of Major William Kemp, born in Ceylon on 5 September 1826. He was ordained a minister of the Church of England, and served as assistant minister at Muswellbrook (Sep 1850-May 1852), minister Scone (May 1852-Mar 1853), minister Warralda (Mar 1853-1857), minister Macleay River (1858-1859), and minister at St Thomas, Port Macquarie (1860-1877). He died in Hobart on 3 August 1877, and his body was brought to Port Macquarie for burial.

Most of these papers are concerned with his ministry, and some reflect an interest in indigenous languages. Most of these papers were donated by his granddaughter Vera Kemp.

**KEM/5/1**  
**Job's History and Trial, 1862-1863**  
A book containing a handwritten sermon, based on the text "After this opened Job his mouth, and cursed his day" (Job III, 1). Given at Port Macquarie on 4 June 1862 and at Rollands Plains on 15 June 1863.

**KEM/5/2**  
**Letter re cask of pork, dated 23 September, 1863**  
Letter from a supplier advising how a cask of pork sent to the Rev. Kemp was empty of brine, and advising that it was properly cured and could be pickled with 10 pounds of salt in two gallons of water.

**KEM/5/3**  
**Christian Hymns with Tunes, 1869**  
A printed book published by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.

**KEM/5/4**  
**Sermons, 1872-1875**  
A book containing two handwritten sermons. One based on John XVI, 5-6, was given at St Thomas and the Gaol on 28 April 1872, again at St Thomas on 25 April 1875 and again at the Gaol on 28 April 1875. The second, based on II John 1, was given at St Thomas on 5 May 1872, and again at Telegraph Point and at St Thomas on 9 August 1874.

**KEM/5/5**  
**The Triumph of the Christian Minister,**  
A sermon from a printed book, based on 2 Corinthians II, 14.
Keeping Christmas,
Extract from a printed book, apparently used as a sermon.

Words and Phrases of the Native Blacks at Boonboorian or (the town of) Muswell Brook, 1851
A small booklet with handwritten lists.

Gurre kamilaroi, 1856
A handmade booklet containing Kamilaroi sayings and translations. Possibly a handwritten copy or a draft of the following item.

gurre kamilaroi, 1856

Scripture Narratives in Kamilaroi, 1856
A printed booklet, with literal English translations, and a pronunciation guide. [One copy appears to be held by the Mitchell Library.]

The Youths's Companion and Counsellor, 1962
Book edited by William Chambers, printed by W. and R. Chambers, London, 1858. Inscribed: "F.R Kemp, a Present from J.B. Casey Esq. C.P.S., Port Macquarie Parsonage, July 24th 1862"

Papers relating to William Frederick Kemp, 1868-1876
William Frederick Kemp (W.F. Kemp, often refered to as Willie) was the son of Frederick Richard Kemp. These papers are mostly letters written by W.F. Kemp to his parents, but included with them were a few other items (KEM/6/36-38).

Letter from W.F. Kemp to his mother,
Written when he was very young.

Letter from W.F. Kemp to his mother, dated 3 May, 1868
Written from The Kings School.

Letter from W.F. Kemp to his father, dated 22 June, 1868
Written from East Kempsey.
KEM/6/4  Letter from W.F. Kemp to his parents, dated 12 July, 1868  
Written from East Kempsey.

KEM/6/5  Letter from W.F. Kemp to his father, dated 16 July, 1868  
Written from East Kempsey.

KEM/6/6  Letter from W.F. Kemp to his mother, dated 26 May, 1869  
Written from The Kings School.

KEM/6/7  Letter from W.F. Kemp to his father, dated 21 July, 1869  
Written from The Kings School.

KEM/6/8  Letter from W.F. Kemp to his father, dated 25 April, 1870  
Written from The Kings School.

KEM/6/9  Letter from W.F. Kemp to his father, dated 18 May, 1870  
Written from The Kings School.

KEM/6/10 Letter from W.F. Kemp to his father, dated 4 July, 1870  
Written from The Kings School.

KEM/6/11 Letter from W.F. Kemp to his father, dated 8 August, 1870  
Written from The Kings School.

KEM/6/12 Letter from W.F. Kemp to his parents, dated 7 November, 1870  
Written from The Kings School. Separate letters written on the same sheet of writing paper.

KEM/6/13 Letters from W.F. Kemp to his parents, dated 16 February, 1871  
Written from The Kings School. Separate letters written on the same sheet of writing paper. Included with the letter [found in the envelope] is a letter to his sisters dated 17 February 1871.

KEM/6/14 Letter from W.F. Kemp to his mother, dated 10 June, 1871  
Written from The Kings School.
KEM/6/15  Letter from W.F. Kemp to his mother, dated 24 March, 1872
Written from Paradise Creek.

KEM/6/16  Letter from W.F. Kemp to his mother, dated 3 April, 1872
Written from Tenterden.

KEM/6/17  Letter from W.F. Kemp to his mother,
Written from Gostwych.

KEM/6/18  Letter from W.F. Kemp to his father, dated 30 May, 1872
Written from Paradise Creek, Armidale.

KEM/6/19  Letter from W.F. Kemp to his father, dated 6 July, 1872
Written from Tenterden.

KEM/6/20  Letter from W.F. Kemp to his father, dated 12 August, 1872
Written from Tenterden.

KEM/6/21  Letter from W.F. Kemp to his mother, dated 8 December, 1872
Written from Paradise.

KEM/6/22  Letter from W.F. Kemp to his mother, dated 21 December, 1872
Written from Paradise Creek, Armidale.

KEM/6/23  Letter from W.F. Kemp to his mother, dated 3 April, 1873
Envelope only.

KEM/6/24  Letter from W.F. Kemp to his father, dated 10 June, 1873
Written from Tenterden.

KEM/6/25  Letter from W.F. Kemp to his mother, dated 4 July, 1873
Written from Tenterden.

KEM/6/26  Letter from W.F. Kemp to his mother, dated 12 August, 1873
Written from Tenterden, Armidale.
KEM/6/27  Letter from W.F. Kemp to his mother, dated 23 November, 1874
Written on Bank of Australasia, Sydney, letterhead.

KEM/6/28  Letter from W.F. Kemp to his mother, dated 25 March, 1875
Written from 105 Palmer Street, Wooloomooloo.

KEM/6/29  Letter from W.F. Kemp to his father, dated 16 April, 1875
Written on Bank of Australasia, Sydney, letterhead.

KEM/6/30  Letter from W.F. Kemp to his mother, dated 1 December, 1875
Written from Bank of A/asia, Sydney.

KEM/6/31  Letter from W.F. Kemp to his mother, dated 4 May, 1876
Written from Bank of A/asia, Sydney.

KEM/6/32  Letter from W.F. Kemp to his mother, dated 27 May, 1876
Written on Bank of Australasia, Sydney, letterhead.

KEM/6/33  Letter from W.F. Kemp to his mother, dated 20 July, 1876
Written on Bank of Australasia, Sydney, letterhead.

KEM/6/34  Letter from W.F. Kemp to his mother, dated 23 August, 1876
Written on Bank of Australasia, Sydney, letterhead.

KEM/6/35  Fragment of a letter,
A small fragment that appears to have been included in a letter from W.F. Kemp to his father.

KEM/6/36  Half-Yearly Report, dated 28 June, 1871
Half-yearly report from The Kings School.

KEM/6/37  Letters from Albert R. Gall to Nelly and Penny,
Written from The Kings School. Two letters written on the same sheet of writing paper. Albert would appear to have been a friend of W.F. Kemp's. Penny would seem to be his sister, while Nelly is possibly Ellen Kemp, W.F. Kemp's sister. The letter Nelly refers to Willie (as W.F. Kemp was known).
KEM/6/38  Letter from Rev. J.H. Johnson to Rev. F.R. Kemp, dated 2 August, 1872
Written from Glen Innes. Johnson writes that he has met W.H. Kemp and is preparing him for confirmation.

KEM/7  Miscellaneous letters and documents, 1763-1927
These are various letters and documents apparently collected by R.A.H. Kemp and his son F.W. Kemp.

KEM/7/1  Poem, Oh! Merry goes the time, 1899
Written on writing paper from Brent's Bathgate House, Rotorua, N.Z.

KEM/7/2  Letter written by Emma Kemp to Mrs Parker, dated 17 December, 1900
Written from Gladesville. The recipient is possibly Mrs Louisa Parker.

KEM/7/3  Letter written to Mr A.R. Kemp from his mother, dated 7 December, 1926

KEM/7/4  Letter written to Mr A.R. Kemp from Polly and his mother, dated 13 December, 1926

KEM/7/5  Letter written to Mr A.R. Kemp from Polly, dated March, 1927

KEM/7/6  Account of rents received, dated 21 May, 1763
An old document [pasted on to brown paper] recording rents received and the payment of window tax (property unknown).

KEM/7/7  Kemp Family Crest,
A piece cut from a letterhead or envelope with an embossed crest.

KEM/7/8  Book: Introductory Latin Exercises, by Nathaniel Howard, 1817
Published in 1814. Inscribed: "F Glasse 1817 Dec 9".

KEM/7/9  Agreement between Arthur Kemp, George Scott and T.G. Wilson, 1871
Agreement by Scott and Wilson to sell to Kemp female cattle in consideration of two promissory notes (for £169.6.8 and £175.19.2) held by Kemp. [Document is missing the top quarter.]

KEM/8  Photographs and Drawings, ?-1919
Various photographs and drawings, exact provenance unclear.
Mounted photograph of Admiral Sir Frederick Henry Hastings-Glasse,

The back of the photograph is inscribed "Admiral Sir Frederick Henry Hastings-Glasse, V.C., K.C.B. Lord High Admiral and First Sea Lord. Counsellor of Queen Victoria, and Governor of many of Her Majestys possessions. To His Cousin From His Grandson. In return for many kindnesses received."

A piece of paper pasted on the mount states (in part): "Sir Frederick Glass & Major Kemp were brothers-in-law having married sisters. Mrs Kemp and Lady Glass were daughters of Dr Blackiston, of Rochester, Kent."

[Archivist's note: much of the above appears to be incorrect: he was appointed Rear-Admiral in 1864 and Admiral 1877 (never First sea Lord); he was nominated a Companion of the Order of the Bath (CB - not a knight) in 1857; no-one of this name appears on lists of recipients of the Victoria Cross.]

Pencil drawing of a village or large farm with a number of buildings,

Pencil drawing of a man being pursued by a pair of hounds,

The man is labelled "Alfred Waugh" and he is saying "Save me from the Bloodhounds!!!

The hounds are labelled "Miss Oakes" and "Mrs Oakes" and the one labelled "Mrs Oakes" is saying "Stick to him Bella! He's nearly done!"

On the reverse is a pencil drawing entitled "Breadalbane or the Devil's Delight"

Photograph of an unidentified woman at a gate at Holebrook Place, Hobart, 1919

Pencil inscription on reverse: "Holebook Place, Hobart. 19-3-1919"

Photograph of an unidentified man and woman in a street,

Photograph of two unidentified women in a garden,

Photograph of three unidentified people in a garden, two in wheelchairs,

Photograph of three unidentified people in a garden, one in a wheelchair,

Photograph of an unidentified woman, taken on 30 April, 1917

Taken at Cremorne, N.S.W. Woman shown sitting in the interior of a house or flat.

Papers accumulated by Felix Wynter and Laura Kemp, 1901-1975

Felix Wynter Kemp was the fifth child of Robert August Hadden Kemp. He and his wife Laura were keenly interested in the history of the Kemp family and collected and preserved most of the papers in this collection and donated them to the (then) Hastings District Historical Society. Subsequent donations included their own correspondence relating to the origina donations.
Handwritten note on Kemp Lineage,
Possibly transcribed from entry in Burke's Landed Gentry or similar.

Memos from my Mother, 1901
Handwritten notes. Appears to have been copied by Francis Gall from a note by his mother Emma (nee King), later the wife of Frederick Richard Kemp.

Letters to Laura Kemp from Dr Haddon Kemp, 1971-1973
These are photocopies of letters, in which (inter alia) Haddon Kemp expresses his gratitude to Laura for preserving the family history.

Photocopy of letter from R.N. King to R.A.H. Kemp, 1892
Richard Napoleon King was the husband of Minnie (Maria Susan) King, nee Kemp, sister of R.A.H. Kemp.

Photocopy of letter from Minnie King to R.A.H. Kemp, 1876
Minnie (Maria Susan) was R.A.H. Kemp's sister.

Letter from Hastings Shire Gazette to Mrs F.W. Kemp, 1958

Letters from the Hastings District Historical Society, 1958-1973
Correspondence about material donated or lent to the Historical Society.

Recollections of Felix W Kemp, 1959
Typed recollections of facts and events as narrated to F.W. Kemp by his father R.A.H. Kemp.

Letter from Mitchell Library to Mrs Laura Kemp, 1975
Acknowledging receipt of material sent to the Library and enclosing photocopies of items that might be of interest.

Letters and handwritten notes by Arthur Percy Kemp, 1956
Includes a pencil rubbing of the Kemp coat of arms.

Typed copy of a letter from Arthur Percy Kemp to F.W. Kemp, 1962
Questions the donation of Kemp materials to the museum at Port Macquarie.
KEM/10  Papers accumulated by Vera Kemp, 1959-1968
Vera Kemp was the daughter of William Frederick Kemp and the granddaughter of
Frederick Richard Kemp. She retired to Port Macquarie and joined the Historical Society as
a volunteer. Some of these papers might have been accumulated by her in that capacity.

KEM/10/1  Transcription of article in Macleay Argus, 1959

KEM/10/2  Transcription of letter from Anna Kay to Maria Kemp, 1837

KEM/10/3  Notes about Major William Kemp and his family,

KEM/10/4  Correspondence with Sydney Philip Haddon Kemp, 1968