

ANSTEAD

John Anstead was a native of south Devon in England. He was born around 1826 in Bickleigh¹, a small village, 4 miles south of Tiverton of parents Samuel and Johanna Anstead². By 1851, John had moved a few miles south and was lodging at the quaint address of 8 Tuckers Marsh, Beer Ferris³. His occupation was given as 'agricultural labourer'⁴. In early 1858, John Anstead took the decision to find a life far afield and embarked as an assisted emigrant on the vessel *Ascendant*. He arrived in Botany Bay on 19 June and by 24 June he had landed in Moreton Bay. The list of immigrants for the *Ascendant* shows that John as one of many 'Single Males not being Members of Families'⁵. His religion was noted as 'Wesleyan' and the record also shows that he could neither read nor write.

LIST of Immigrants per Ship		<i>Ascendant</i>		Arrived on the <i>19th</i> day of <i>June</i> 1858															
NO.	NAME	AGE	AGES.												CALLING.	NATIVE PLACE AND COUNTY.	RELIGION.	READ OR WRITE.	REMARKS.
			MARRIED.		SINGLES.														
			M.	F.	14 years and upwards.	7 and under 14 years.	4 and under 7 years.	1 and under 4 years.	Under 1 year.										
	<i>William</i>	<i>Spain</i>	45	45	1	3	7	3	7	10	10	19	3						
	<i>Richard</i>	<i>William</i>	20																
	<i>Young</i>	<i>Charles</i>	32																
		<i>Sophia</i>	19																
	<i>Single Males not being Members of Families</i>																		
	<i>Anstead</i>	<i>John</i>	31																
	<i>Brace</i>	<i>James</i>	19																
	<i>Butcher</i>	<i>Thomas</i>	18																
	<i>Brandy</i>	<i>John</i>	21																
	<i>Son</i>	<i>Labourer</i>																	
	<i>Wife</i>	<i>Labourer</i>																	
	<i>Wife</i>	<i>Labourer</i>																	
	<i>Labourer</i>	<i>Wesleyan</i>																	

We do not know where John lived or how he gained employment in the next eight years, but on 8 April 1866, he married a widow named Susannah Davis, nee Williamson⁶. Susannah was born in County Down, in north Ireland around 1839, the daughter of Joseph and Isabella Williamson. Like so many Irish families and individuals, it is likely that Susannah left her home land as part of the diaspora following the potato famine. After arriving in Brisbane, she married a John Davis in 1863 and together they had a daughter, Frances Isabella in 1864, but some time thereafter, Susannah was widowed⁷.

The next record we have of John Anstead is an application he made in 1871 for the conditional purchase of 80 acres of land in Moggill, which was rejected by the Land Commissioner for Moreton District⁸. The reason for the rejection is not stated but the provisions of the *Crown Lands Alienation Act* (1868) may have precluded John from ownership. The Act specifically stated that 'The Head of the family, being a British subject ... may take up 80 acres of agricultural land, unless he has come to the colony at the expense of the public, in which case a continuous residence of three years is a necessary qualification for the privilege'⁹. Perhaps John had not resided in Queensland for the three years leading up to March 1871. However, a month later, he appears to have met this condition and his application for the conditional purchase of 85 acres of 'second-class pastoral' land' was accepted together with '40 acres adjoining'¹⁰. The annual payment for second-class pastoral land was 6d. per acre and this was to be paid for five years, after which time, if three conditions had been met, then a grant would be issued: residence had to be continuous, at least one tenth of the land had to be cultivated and the whole land fenced¹¹.

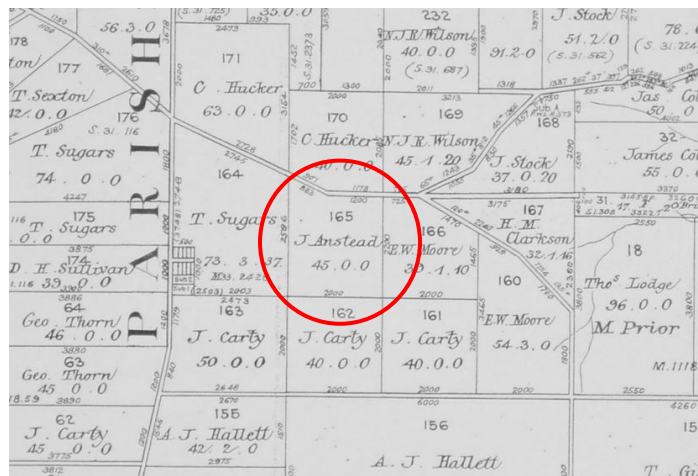


John Anstead senior. Date unknown. © Vicki Knight

By the time that John had been granted his land selection in 1871, he and Susannah had three daughters: Mary Ann born in 1867, Louisa in 1869 and Emma in 1871. Two years later, their first son John was born, and then in 1876, the family was completed with Joseph Thomas¹².

Five years after the land grant, John had established a homestead in Moggill¹³, and would have moved into the Mount Crosby Road home with his family. Then in 1879, John met the conditions of land ownership for Selection 1270 imposed eight years earlier and was granted a 'Certificate of Fulfilment of the Conditions' under the *Crown Lands Alienation Act (1868)*: he was established at last in the hamlet of Moggill¹⁴. A later map below shows a land holding of 45 acres extending southwards from Mt Crosby Road and between Hawkesbury Road and Kangaroo Gully Road.

John worked as a timber-getter¹⁵. These artisans were often self-employed and carried out the initial harvesting and transport of trees to a river or road terminal for onward carriage to the saw mills. There was a flourishing pine timber trade in Moggill and John was no doubt part of that trade. After felling, logs were transported by dray to Pullen Pullen Creek and then rafted to the saw mills in Brisbane¹⁶. John died 3 September 1893¹⁷. Susannah was his sole executrix and applied for probate in November. In the advertisement, John was described as a farmer¹⁸. He is buried in Moggill Cemetery.



By the time Susannah died on 1 October 1910, four of her children had married: Mary Ann, the eldest daughter, married George Sansom Holt in 1889, the next daughter, Louisa, also married in 1889 to Francis James Hutchins and the youngest daughter, Emma, married Roderick McAskill in 1895. The eldest Anstead son, John, married Mary Maria Burdett in 1898. Between them, they produced 14 grandchildren¹⁹. The remaining son, Joseph Thomas, married a member of another pioneer family, Isabella Brown Bainbridge on 30 April 1913. The 'pretty' wedding took place in Pullen Vale and was of sufficient note to be reported in *The Queenslander*. Isabella, who was given away by her father Robert Bainbridge, wore 'a



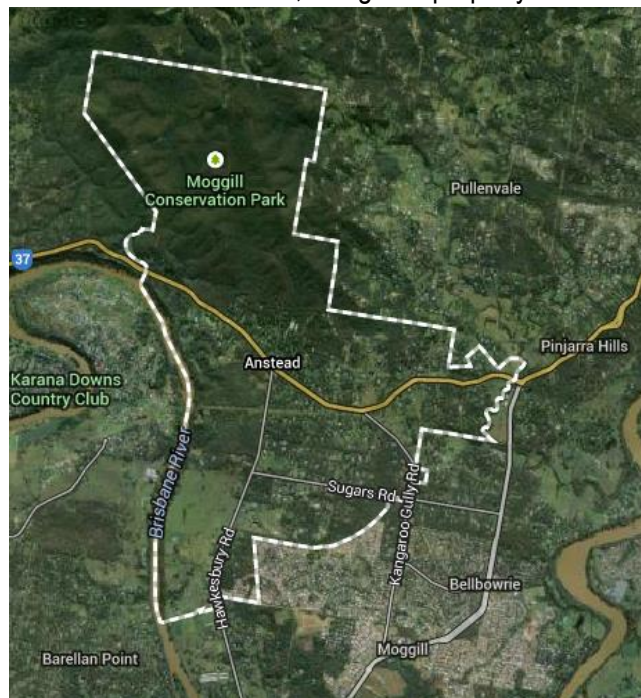
Men of the Anstead family. Date unknown. Joseph Anstead is seated on the extreme left. © State Library of Qld, neg. no. 91559

presumably to trade in meat products from his farm²¹. Later, he managed Sugars' basalt quarry until its closure and then worked as a general carrier in the Moggill area and also ran a dairy farm²². Interestingly, in 1925, not only John but his two sons William and John, were also working as quarrymen²³. Joseph Anstead moved from Moggill in 1925 and settled in Mt Crosby where he worked at the water treatment works for the Brisbane City Council. His address and that of his wife Isabella, is given as the Pumping Station, so they lived 'on the job'²⁴. In 1932 Joseph returned to Pullenvale, bought a property from his brother-in-law, Tom Bainbridge and retired. The last newspaper insertion for these Anstead family members appeared in 1948: Mary Agnes Anstead, unmarried sister of John Anstead junior, announced that 'no more cricket is being allowed on John Anstead's estate at Moggill'²⁵. One can only wonder who and what was played on their paddock!

On 11 August 1975, the Queensland Place Names Board approved the name and boundaries of the location to be named 'Anstead'. The database includes the note that the district was named after local resident John Anstead, 'timber getter and quarry master 1860s'²⁶.

handsome gown of cream silk trimmed with silk guipure (lace) edging and her gift to her husband was a handsome pair of gold sleeve links²⁰. Two of John (junior) and Mary Anstead's children also married members of local pioneer families: William married Violet Currie in 1925 and John married Ivy Florence Doyle in 1934.

The two sons of John and Susannah Anstead continued to live and work locally. John junior remained in Moggill, where he worked as a farmer; in 1909, he applied for a slaughtering licence,



Aerial view of Anstead bounded by the Brisbane River in the west & Moggill Conservation Park in the north. Mt Crosby Rd. (in yellow) transects the district. © 2014 CNES/Astrium, Cnes/ Spot Image, DigitalGlobe, Landsat, Sinclair Knight Merz, Fugro

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- ¹ National Archives of the UK, 1841 census, Class HO 107, Piece 1883, folio 6, page 5
- ² Parents shown on the Death record for John Anstead, Queensland Government, Historical Deaths Index record no. 1893/C4198; accessed online: www.bdm.qld.gov.au, 17 August 2014
- ³ Now known as Bere Ferrers, at the head of the Tavy River, some 5 miles north of Plymouth.
- ⁴ National Archives of the UK, 1841 census, Class HO 107, Piece 1883, folio 6, page 5
- ⁵ New South Wales Archives Assisted Immigrants Arriving at Moreton Bay Reel 2138
Image of Ascendant immigrants downloaded from <http://www.records.nsw.gov.au/state-archives/guides-and-finding-aids/nrs-lists/nrs-5316#the-list-of-ships>, accessed 13 Aug 2014
- ⁶ Queensland Government, Historical Marriages Index record; record no. 1866/B1695, accessed online: www.bdm.qld.gov.au, 17 August 2014. Note that John Anstead's marriage to Susan (sic) Davis is incorrectly entered as 'Austead' in the Index
- ⁷ Queensland Government, Historical Marriages Index record; record no. 1863/B762; Birth Index; record no. 1864/B3286, accessed online: www.bdm.qld.gov.au, 17 August 2014.;
- ⁸ *The Brisbane Courier* Thursday 9 March 1871, p.3. Note that this newspaper report also mentions applications under Section 98 of the Act, which provided for a free grant of 10 acres of land to any member of the Queensland Volunteer Force.
- ⁹ *The South Australian Advertiser* Monday 29 May 1871, p.2
- ¹⁰ *The Queenslander* Saturday 8 April 1871, p.5
- ¹¹ *The South Australian Advertiser* Monday 29 May 1871, p.2 and the *Crown Lands Alienation Act* (1868), Section 51 (2), page 507 and Section 51 (7), page 508.
- ¹² Queensland Government Historical Births index: accessed online: www.bdm.qld.gov.au, 13 August 2014
- ¹³ *The Brisbane Courier* Wednesday 5 January 1876, p.3
- ¹⁴ *The Brisbane Courier* Thursday 26 June 1879, p.4
- ¹⁵ Bruce Sugars and Mabel Kelly (editors) *A Time to Remember - Descendants of Moggill Pioneers*, published 1988, pp. 22-23. The Anstead Family entry compiled from interviews with Vicki Knight and Noel Anstead
- ¹⁶ *The Moreton Bay Courier* Saturday 5 February 1859, p.2
- ¹⁷ Queensland Government, Historical Marriages Death record; record no. 1893/C4198, accessed online: www.bdm.qld.gov.au, 18 August 2014
- ¹⁸ *The Brisbane Courier* Saturday 2 December 1893, p.7
- ¹⁹ Records of these births and marriages can be found on the Queensland Government Family History Research webpage www.bdm.qld.gov.au
- ²⁰ *The Queenslander* Saturday 24 May 1913, p. 15
- ²¹ *The Brisbane Courier* Thursday 8 April 1909, p.7
- ²² Bruce Sugars and Mabel Kelly *ibid*
- ²³ Commonwealth of Australia 1925 Electoral Roll, State of Queensland, Division of Brisbane, Roll of Electors for the Subdivision of Moggill
- ²⁴ Commonwealth of Australia 1925 Electoral Roll, State of Queensland, Division of Moreton, Roll of Electors for the Subdivision of Ipswich North
- ²⁵ *The Courier-Mail* Monday 6 December 1948, p.5
- ²⁶ Queensland Government: Queensland Place names database; accessed 13 August 2014
<http://www.nrm.qld.gov.au/property/placenames/details.php?id=41502>