



Preserving & promoting Goldfields history

EASTERN GOLDFIELDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC

NEWSLETTER June 2018 – No. 18

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The Naming of Kalgoorlie *W Scott Wilson, EGHS President*

Much interest has always been shown as to how the town of Kalgoorlie got its name. It has had many variations over the years and the following gives some background to the various incarnations used . . .

The 30 mile (in use from June 1893 to October 1893)

Kalgoorlie started out as 'the 30 mile': this name was regularly used by mining claim applicants when registering their applications with the Mining Registrar in Coolgardie. In mid-September 1893 Hannan's or Hannan's Find starts to be used more regularly.¹ It was very common for Goldfields' rushes to be known for their distance from Coolgardie (or the nearest settlement). This was vitally important for that knowledge could mean life and death for the unwary prospector.

Hannan's, Hannan's Find, and Hannan's Rush (in use from June 1893 until 1896)

As Paddy Hannan was the person to register the reward claim with the Mining Registrar on 17th June 1893, it was natural that his name became associated with the find. The reward claim was registered in his and Tom Flanagan's names.¹ Dan Shea's name (often referred to as O'Shea) was not included in the application, but he was given a third share as Hannan was later to recount: "There was another man, by the way — Dan O'Shea was his name — to whom we gave an equal share in our prospecting claim."²

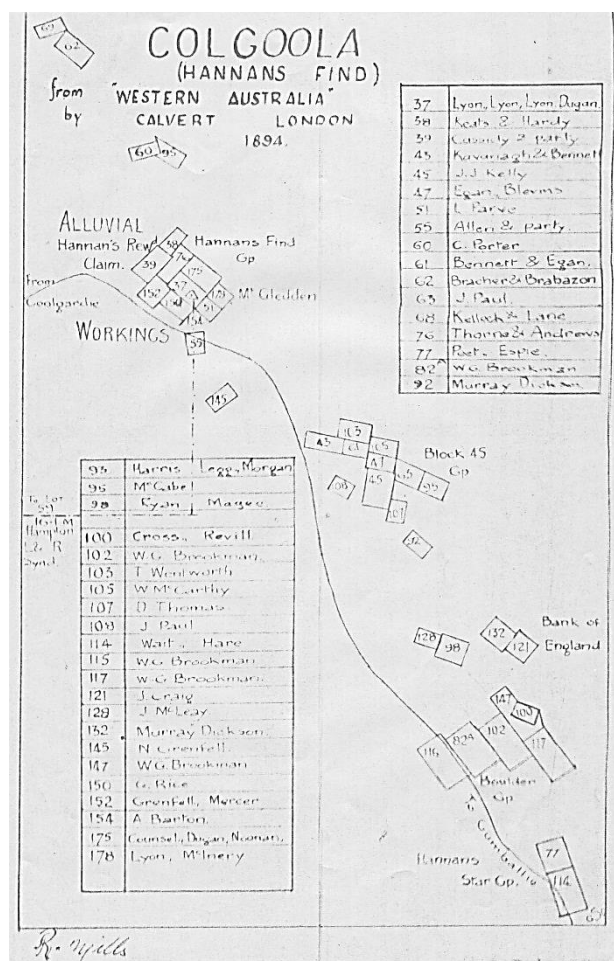
Many early reports also referred to the locality as 'Hannan and Flanagan's Rush'. It is widely accepted by researchers, that Flanagan found the first gold near Mt Charlotte. Even Hannan himself is said to have acknowledged this fact.³ It might be a vastly different history if Tom Flanagan (or Dan Shea) had gone in to register the Reward Claim!

Hannan's Tree is planted where Hannan himself found *his* first nugget.

Calgoolarrie (in use from June to December 1893)

'Calgoolarrie' appears to be the first attempt at recording the Aboriginal place name for Hannan's Rush. A newspaper correspondent wrote from Coolgardie on the 4 July 1893 "...the most exciting topic here is Hannan's Rush, the aboriginal name of which is Calgoolarrie."⁴

While the name was used in newspapers and reports it was often followed with 'Hannan's', but the name ceased to be used by the end of 1893.



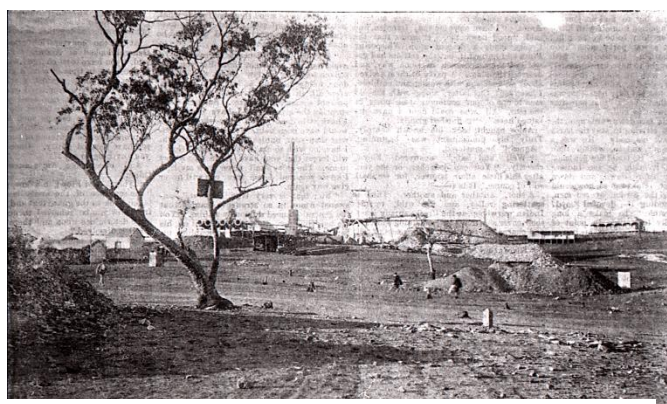
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Colgooola (in use from December 1893 to April 1894)

Colgooola (which seems to match the pronunciation of the aboriginal word for the 'Silky Pear' spelled today as *Karlakurla*) wasn't often used, but seems to have originated on a Mines Department plan dated December 1893. This stayed in use until April 1894 but was invariably used in brackets after Hannan's or vice versa.

Kalgoorlie (first used in September 1894)

7th September 1894 appears to be the first use of the name 'Kalgoorlie' in the newspapers. The papers were reporting upon the Government Proclamation, excluding the town sites created under that name.⁵ However, it took some time for the name to enter the local vernacular with the name of 'Hannan's' still being bracketed after Kalgoorlie. But, by the end of 1895 the emphasis had shifted from using 'Hannan's' to Kalgoorlie.



EG-N-006-008a (Kalgurli Gold Mine, 1898; Photographer Joshua and Dwyer)

Kalgurli, Kalgurlie (September 1895)

The 'Kalgurli' gold mining lease was pegged in September 1893, but the name doesn't get used as the town name in the papers until September 1895 (also Kalgurlie). I believe this is because of the growing popularity of the Kalgurli mine at that same time. It is more likely a confusion in the use of this spelling for the town name, rather than a determined choice to use a different spelling from the official name of Kalgoorlie. The Mining Warden, Mr Jephson was suggested as the originator of this name.⁶

The Kalgoorlie Miner started its publication at this time also (with the first edition being 14th September 1895). This finally put paid to any confusion as to spelling or future changes!

References

- 1: DMIRS, 'Register of Protection Areas, Quartz Claims, Water Rights etc' Coolgardie Goldfield Mining Registrar. Copy of original Register made in 1898.
- 2: Kalgoorlie Miner 4 Aug 1897
- 3: Sunday Times - 31 January 1909
- 4: The Inquirer and Commercial News, 28 July 1893
- 5: The West Australian, 10 September 1894
- 6: Coolgardie Miner, 29 July 1896

From the archives

“July 29 1897

Sister Veronica who has a private hospital in Boulder would like a private ambulance supplied to the police. When a dead body was removed from her hospital recently it was taken away in an ordinary vegetable cart. It was a shameful way to deal with the dead, and a menace to public health especially that the same vehicle may be used for vegetable later.

Sister Veronica paid tribute for the delicate way the police dealt with the situation, however the same could not be said of the man who took the body away. He is reported to have brutally call out “Bring out the meat”. “

Extract of compilation by June O'Brien *Hospitals & Health Boulder* (EGHS 2.14)

Lilian O'Brien (known as June) was a member of Eastern Goldfields Historical Society from 1965 until her death in 1980. She was Secretary for twelve years and in that capacity undertook a great deal of research. Many of the negatives in the EGHS collection were taken by Mrs O'Brien, comprising early Western Argus images (from 1894), photographed with permission of the paper. In October 1978, she was made a Life Member of the Society.



(F. R. Deans, photo.)

BOULDER CITY'S NEW AMBULANCE.

EG-N-055-016A

Projects, Events and Opportunities

Have you seen the stickers around town with **#PavedwithGold** and **#KBGold** hashtags? What does it mean?



Over the past few weeks, community members and EGHS members have been researching places and people of Kalgoorlie-Boulder, bringing to life, narratives and histories of significant and little featured buildings, sites, events and

people in the Kalgoorlie-Boulder story from the past 125 years. *The project was launched on WA Day, Monday 4 June at 3pm, with over 50 people attending.* Go to www.PavedwithGold.com.au to discover more. Thank you to our sponsors the [City of Kalgoorlie Boulder](#) and [The Palace Hotel](#) for making this event possible.



Image L to R: Doug Daws OAM JP with Scott Wilson, EGHS President in background; Robin Bowden, Claire Weir, Project Coordinator, Faye Jones and Robyn Horner; visitors to the launch.

REVISITING HANNAN'S REWARD CLAIM

Revisit the pegging of the Reward Claim by Thomas Flanagan, Patrick Hannan and Daniel Shea

15 June 2018, 8.30am to 10.30am

Where? At the Rotary Club of Kalgoorlie obelisk, top end of MacDonald Street, corner of Outridge Terrace

Join with members of the EGHS to mark the site of where it all began 125 years ago for Kalgoorlie and Boulder, with the discovery of gold by the trio Flanagan, Hannan and Shea. Who did find that first gold? And what does Hannan's Tree mark? Find out the answers to these questions, and more, at this morning event: there will be a plaque unveiling and a new map marking early claims will be launched.



The event is supported by KCGM, with morning tea sponsored by [Understanding Mining](#), who provide educational resources relating to mining.

Extract from Tess Thompson *Paddy Hannan, A Claim to Fame 1893-1993* which will be available for sale on the day:

I have to report for the information of the Commissioner of Police. On the evening of the 17th instant, Patrick Hannan reported at Station that he and Thomas Flannagan (sic) discovered payable alluvial gold about 30 mile East North East of Coolgardie. Hannan applied for a Reward Claim and the Acting Warden in the absence of Mr Finnerty (who is absent at Dundas Hills) granted Hannan and Flannagan (sic) 10 men's ground besides 2 ordinary claims.

Hannan stated that they got 70 ozs of gold in the 2 days that they were there and that 150 men camped within a mile of the find for 2 days and had walked over the ground that they now held as a Reward Claim, a few days prior to their discovery.

State Archive of Western Australia, AN5 Police, Accession No 430, File 1118, Report P C McCarthy

For further information contact eghs@kalgoorliehistory.org.au or ring 08 9093 3360.



Jon Neilson, McKay Gore Collection, no date. MG 170
Neilson GN8 001

Did you get to *Revealing Hidden Treasures* at the Hannan's Club? It was a great presentation about the Digitisation Project at the Eastern Goldfields Historical Society. With over 90 people attending, all at the Society were very pleased with the response. The Society has approximately 60,000 images in a number of photographic media: colour slides, framed photographs, photograph albums, glass plate negatives, cellulose nitrate negatives, 35 mm and other negative type images, plus developed photographs.

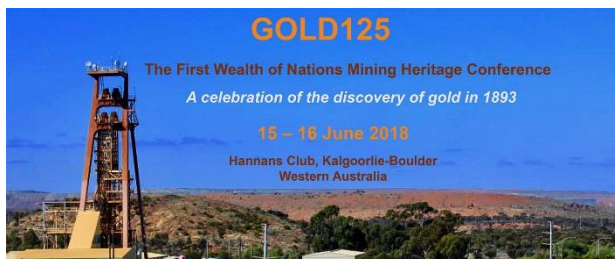
Approximately 5,000 of these images have been digitized over the last 16 months. EGHS Project Officer for the project, Claire Weir, has trained volunteers in scanning and inputting metadata to national standards. This work is ongoing. EGHS would welcome any member who is interested in learning more about the project and can make a regular commitment to volunteer.

Thanks are extended to Nathan and Kate at [HAMR Engineering](#) for sponsoring this event.

GOLD125 The First Wealth of Nations Mining Heritage Conference

Celebrating the discovery of gold in 1893

15-16 June 2018, Hannans Club, Kalgoorlie-Boulder



The organisers of [GOLD125](#), are offering Eastern Goldfields Historical Society members a half price discount on registration for this conference, which aims to celebrate Goldfields mining heritage, industry and the people who made it happen. It will also demonstrate the relevance of mining heritage and its contribution

to regional revitalization and tourism.

This is a great opportunity to participate in this conference and hear a wide range of guest speakers including our own EGHS President, Scott Wilson, who will be giving a presentation on *Kanowna and other ghost towns of the Goldfields*.

The Conference day, 15 June 2018, will be filled with speaker presentations and discussions, while on the following day, 16 June, there will be a field trip where delegates can see regional heritage sites. This combination will provide a full showcase to attendees about the significance of the Goldfields region, both past and present. GOLD125 will bring the international and national attention to the region and become the first stepping stone to include City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder and surrounding area on a World Heritage Listing.

To register for the EGHS member's discount please make direct contact with Professor Steve Hall miningprof@gmail.com or Dr Nina Hall ninahall.discovery@gmail.com

Further information can be found at the Conference website:

<https://www.understandingmining.org/heritage>



It was great to celebrate National Volunteer Week with a breakfast for EGHS Volunteers. The Historical Society has over thirty volunteers, and fifteen were able to attend the event at Queen Bees Coffee in Burt Street, Boulder, on Wednesday 23 May 2018.

Executive Officer, Lucia Pichler, spoke and thanked volunteers for all of their work during the last twelve months.

EGHS President presented Certificates of Appreciation to all of the volunteers.

Gathering History *Diana Stockdale, Volunteer Research Team member*

How do we gather history? Before computers and the internet, we would perhaps go to the local Library, to the local Newspaper (if they had archived their papers), local identities and of course the people who may live or work in the building or house that you could be gathering information on.

Of course, for the last 20 years, we have had computers and by Googling the subject, you can hope, if there is anything written about what you are searching for, that the information is right.

Last month I was trying to find out the history about an iconic caravan/building, the “Hot Spot”, which was for a long time, a part of many Goldfielder’s lives. People sat by the fires to keep warm and eat a hamburger, late at night, after being out to the local nightclub, hotel or cabaret.

I didn’t think this would be a hard subject to find out about and to get photographs of the place, but then I suppose we didn’t take our Box Brownies with us to the night club. Not like today when everyone has a Smart Phone and we can click off a photo or video in seconds.

I spoke to people about the “Hot Spot”, I went to John Matthew’s and Sons, just in case they archived the properties that they sold.

Dead End.

I learnt by talking to one of our Monday Volunteer Ladies that Mr & Mrs Gordon LeStrange started “The Hot Spot” in 1948, cooking on a barbeque over a drum fire, hence the fire that remained until “The Hot Spot” closed down. Mr LeStrange would take his basket full of burgers and stand outside the picture theatres and hotels, selling his product.

That was as far as I got, so I then turned to Social Media, yes Facebook. I put a request on ‘Remember Back in Kalgoorlie When’ and ‘Good Ole School Days in the Goldfields’. I learnt from the last owner that it closed in December, 1998, after an unsuccessful relocation to a shop in Hannan Street. I still couldn’t get a photograph of the original premises.

My daughter remembered seeing a story from one of the owners, back in 2015. She found the story on another site called ‘Where Are You? Help Reconnect with our Kalgoorlie/Boulder Past Friend’ and tagged me into that site.

From there it began to fall into place. One of the owners, Steve Balaam, had the whole story. I then contacted him and learnt he had bought the land from St John Ambulance, relocated the caravans, and built a small shop. He also had photographs of the old caravans and the building of the new building.

I had struck gold.



Want to know more about “The Hot Spot”? The full story is told at www.PavedwithGold.com.au, an online archive of stories and images that was launched on 4 June 2018 as part of the celebrations of the 125 years since the discovery of gold in Kalgoorlie-Boulder.

From the Library Shelf *Jan Lamont, Honorary Librarian*

110° In The Waterbag: A History of Life, Work and Leisure in Leonora, Gwalia and the Northern Goldfields, edited by Lenore Layman and Crienda Fitzgerald, published Western Australian Museum, 2012

Jan Lamont, EGHS Librarian, chose this book from the Library shelf. She writes: “this publication will be of interest to those wishing to learn more about the early years of the Goldfields, the hardships and challenges that faced these hardy settlers.

Those that have a connection through family to this region will also find this book of interest and may even find that their family is mentioned. The book contains many photographs of people and places.”

Excerpt from the back cover: “*110° in the Waterbag* is the first history of the richest and most sustained area of gold mining in Western Australia outside the Golden Mile. Illuminated by the fascinating life stories, it explores work, life and leisure in Leonora, Gwalia and the Northern Goldfields.

It is a history of mineral riches and the people who came to mine them, prospectors, mineworkers and mining companies, migrants and their families, Aboriginal inhabitants, pastoralists and townspeople, woodcutters and Afghan traders.

The history is a microcosm of the larger goldfields story - a rich intense tapestry of life in Western Australia over more than a century.”

Books from the Library are available for loan by EGHS Members.

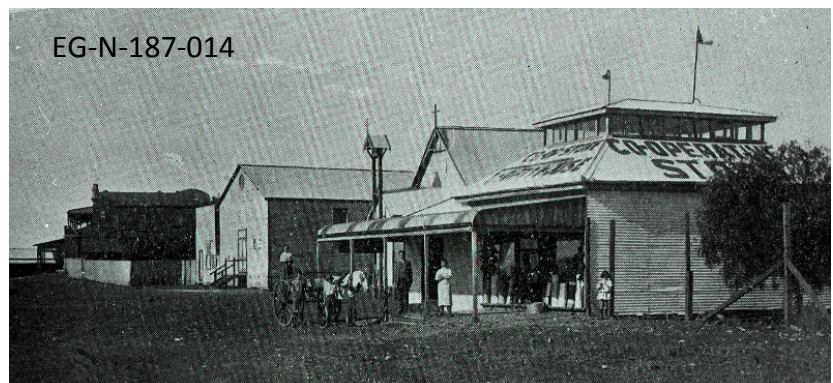


EG-N-187-013

In the chapters on life in Gwalia, the book explains the complicated and limited allocation of land for business purposes, because of the contemporaneous perceptions of Leonora as the business centre. There were limited shopping opportunities at the Gwalia Block,

which was not conveniently located for people who lived and worked in Gwalia. Support from the Sons of Gwalia mining company led to the formation in 1917 of the Gwalia-Leonora Industrial Co-operative Society. The Co-operative had both mine staff and union members on its executive.

The Co-operative Society was able to move a building from The Block to a ‘special case’ business lease, near the State Hotel. It was a very profitable business enterprise, with a charter to disperse some of its profits to local community events and causes.



EG-N-187-014

“The House That Matt Made” 213A Hay Street, Kalgoorlie

Compiled by Robyn Horner ©



What a wonderful and interesting history this house has. Situated on the corner of Nethercott and Hay Streets, Kalgoorlie, this brick house was the home of Matt and Esther Turich and their family.

Matt was born in Boulder on 10 March 1919, the son of Yugoslav migrants, Mate and Angeline Turich. Growing up in Boulder, Matt became engaged at Christmas 1944 and married Esther (nee Tenni), the daughter of a Somerville market gardener, at St Mary's

Church on the 27 April 1946. Matt's mother brought the land for Matt and Esther as a wedding present, paying just £25 for the block.

Planning of the house began immediately. Still serving in the services (RAAF) and receiving only army pay, he bought a bag of cement, and also sand and metal, when sufficient funds were available.

Much interest was created when news of his cost saving scheme became known. First reported in the Kalgoorlie Miner on the 11 October 1945¹, at a meeting of the Returned Sailors, Soldiers, Airmen's and Nurses, and Fathers Association, the question of housing 'the boys' when they returned was discussed.

It is a very big problem in view of the present house shortage and the number of servicemen living with their parents who will require their own homes when their husbands are demobilised. To say nothing of the number of young people who will marry as soon as the uniforms have been discarded.



Recalling the spirit of mutual help which prevailed among the early settlers on the goldfields when a man desiring to build a home sought and freely received the help of his mates, a member suggested that perhaps a similar scheme might be adopted in the present emergency.

Matt's project was also discussed, and the Men's/Dad's Association inquired if Matt would conduct a brick making demonstration to prove what could be achieved. Of course Matt was keen to enter into the spirit of the Dad's Association's suggestion, and desiring to help his fellow servicemen, he consented to give a demonstration of brick making at 525 Hannan Street, the home of his mother Angeline.

He gave a demonstration to 40 - 50 men, who gathered on Sunday 14 October 1945. Among whose present were W.R. Hall, MLC and chairman of the Kalgoorlie Roads Board, W.J. Mann, a member of the board, E.B Elliot, secretary of the "Dad's Association" and several men in service uniform. This demonstration was reported in the Kalgoorlie Miner on 15 October 1945.

The "Dad's Association" was a large group of fathers of the men and women in the services, who had banded together to assist the men after their discharge. Unfortunately Matt's father (Mate Turich senior) had passed away in 1932.

The scheme did indeed become reality in the goldfields, called the "War Service Homes Scheme". Many houses after the war were erected by local ex-servicemen, with the help of their mates. Bricks were procured from old mining stacks in the goldfields to build many of the chimneys in the houses.

Making the cement blocks

At the demonstration Matt explained the mould and its various parts first. Stating “the mould itself, could be made from sheet-metal and easily constructed by the average handyman, a saving of at least £8 pounds if a factory-made one was bought”.

The mixture used was four parts sand, two parts metal screenings and one part cement. Four tons of sand (brought from Kanowna), two tons of metal screenings (supplied by Road Board or Municipality), and one ton of cement, would make 500 hollow blocks (giving the effect of “cavity” walls in ordinary brickwork), 18 inches by 6 inches by 8 in. Or a similar number of solid blocks 18 in. by 4 in. by 6 in. for internal walls, at a total cost of £10 or approximately five pence per block. Each hollow block was equivalent to eight ordinary fired clay bricks which at that time cost £10 per 100 or 2 ½ d each. The total cost of cement blocks for a four-roomed house is estimated at £40.

Using a kerosene tin as a measure, a “mix” was prepared, with the correct proportions of materials placed on a flat surface, turned over three times, to ensure a good blending of the ingredients, then moistened with water and turned again until the whole was thoroughly damp and friable, but not as wet as is usually used for concrete work. The mixture was then shoveled into the mould and rammed lightly with a stick, the surplus on top being patted down with a shovel. The filled mould was then carried to a level surface, inverted and removed from the moulded block. Matt also made a “machine” for the brick making, most likely to invert the bricks once they had been formed (see photo right).



Making bricks L-R: Sam Divitini (Esther's Uncle), Matt Turich, Phyllis Salinovich (Matt's niece), Wally Castle (family friend)

The final recipe for the house didn't follow the block building instructions to the letter, with Matt replacing sand in the suggested mix with the much coarser metal screening from the Roads Board's crusher, which, along with the cement and metal, made a relatively dry mix that, when compacted in the mould, produced very strong bricks that didn't weather.

Various types were made, the ordinary straight wall block, another recessed to take the smaller dividing wall brick, and another with a protrusion to overlap the inserted block, thus giving an extremely strong union between the outer and inner walls. Half blocks and blocks of smaller size for pillars were also made. This gave Matt enough cement bricks to build a modern four-roomed house.

Turning bricks into a home

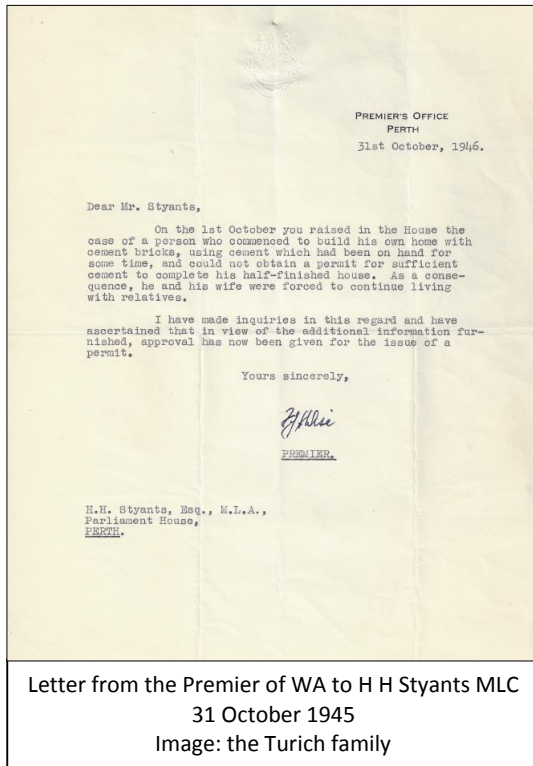
<p>GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA</p> <p>THE WORKERS' HOMES BOARD</p> <p>ST. GEORGE'S TERRACE, PERTH.</p> <p>PERTH, 19th December, 1945.</p> <p>KINDLY QUOTE JCD 3942/45.</p>	
<p>Mr. M. Turich, 309 Hamilton Street, Boulder.</p> <p>Sir,</p> <p>I have received your application for permission to build a house at Boulder. I regret to inform you that I am unable to grant the building of this house at the present time.</p> <p>The reason for this is that the building materials are in short supply and the Government is unable to supply the materials for the construction of this house at the present time.</p> <p>For this reason it has not been possible for me to grant your application at the present time.</p> <p>Yours faithfully, J. C. Dwyer, Secretary.</p>	
<p>Letter of refusal for cement from The Workers' Homes Board 19 December 1945</p>	

The actual building of the house was delayed for quite some time due to the short supplies of building materials. Faced with living with his wife's parents in Somerville for approximately a year after their marriage, Matt was keen to complete his house. Matt's cement problem was in obtaining permission to buy the five tons of cement for the mortar to lay the blocks. He had applied to the Workers Home Board in Perth for a permit in November 1945 to acquire the cement. However due to him not being a family man, the request was refused.

Matt was described at the brick making demonstration as a “Trier”. This proved to be an apt description of him, as Matt didn't give up on getting the permit for the cement for his house. There were an unbelievable twenty letters transacted between Matt, the Workers Home Board, H H Styants MLA between November 1945 and

March 1947 for the permit to be issued and the cement delivered to enable the house to be completed.

With the support of Esther, who wrote most of the letters, Matt's other supporter was Mr Herbert H Styants MLC Kalgoorlie, who raised in Parliament the problem of obtaining the cement permit. This caught the ear of none other than the Premier of WA, Frank J Wise who at once made inquiries and advised Mr Styants by letter that "approval has now been given for the issue of a permit".



Letter from the Premier of WA to H H Styants MLC
31 October 1945
Image: the Turich family

Mr. M. Turich
525 Hannan Street
Kalgoorlie

24 February 1947

The Secretary
Workers' Home Board
Perth

Dear Sir,

Quoting BM 3742/45

With reference to our previous correspondence, as you know you have granted the release for 5 ton cement to make cement bricks for my home.

I now wish to advise that I have duly received the cement and have made the necessary bricks, and have almost completed the necessary tiles for the roof. I therefore, hereby make application for permit to build as well as release for the remainder of the material to complete my home.

As you already hold full particulars of my case, your very kind consideration for the necessary permit would be very much appreciated.

Awaiting your reply at your earliest possible convenience.

Yours faithfully,

Re written 1945 letter
Kindly supplied by the Turich family

By February 1947 the house was only half completed, but after receiving the required cement, the bricks were all made, and the tiles for the roof, also hand-made by Matt, were almost ready. It was time for the rest of the house to be completed.



House under construction

Builder F.J. Keenⁱⁱ erected the house, estimating that it would be worth £1,150, with the cost to Matt Turich being just £700. The house consisted of 2,100 cement bricks and a further 500 were used for the front fence. The bricks 15in. x 8in. x 6in. formed the exterior, and those for dividing walls were 18in. x 8in. x 4in. Mr Keen stated at the time that Perth bricks for the house would have cost £216. The home-made product cost £60. The house was the first brick house built in Kalgoorlie after WW2.

Matt and Esther moved into their house in early 1949 just in time to welcome their first daughter Christine. It then consisted of 2 bedrooms, lounge, kitchen, bathroom with shower added later in the year.

However the house still didn't have all the floorboards in the rooms. With timber in short supply Matt brought enough jarrah floor boards for some of the internal rooms and used Karri for the roof for strength, because of the weight of the cement tiles. He laid concrete floors on the front and back



Completed house c. 1950

verandas. The internal walls were rendered, and an open fire place built into the lounge room and a stove in the kitchen, both with brick chimneys. Later an outside laundry was added, fruit trees planted, flower beds, chook pen and workshop erected. As the children arrived, the verandas front and back were enclosed to provide extra bedroom space.

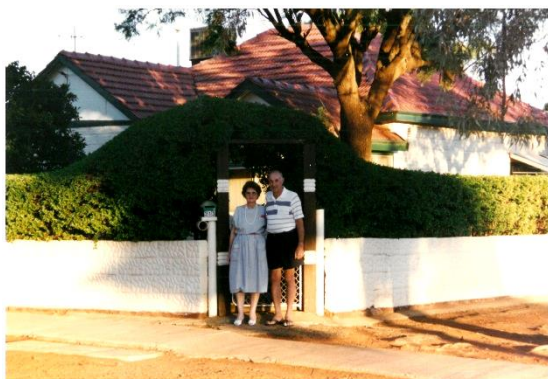
The Turich's lived in their house for a total of 50 years. During that time three children, Christine, John and Julie, grew up in the house. Matt worked for the Kalgoorlie Brewery in Brookman Street, and then for the Kalgoorlie Municipal Council as Works Supervisor, from April 1964 until 1980, the year he retired. Esther loved her home, and can be remembered for the fresh flowers put on her kitchen table each day, some with the Sweet Peas grown in the garden every year.

Esther and Matt assisted many in the migrant community over many years. Esther helped especially with translating and writing letters and filling in forms, for those whose English language wasn't the best. Her meals were always made larger to cater for the many visitors the house saw coming and going on a regular basis.

They eventually sold their home in January 1996 and moved to Perth, as their children had left the nest. It would have been hard for Matt and Esther to leave their beloved home. It was a place that had so many wonderful memories associated with it. They took one of the hand-made bricks with them, as a reminder of their happy time at 213 Hay Street, Kalgoorlie. Their daughter Julie holds this precious brick at her home in Perth today.

Matt passed away in Perth 2013 aged 94. Today he is remembered by Kalgoorlie people for his generous help to whoever required it. Matt was a gentleman, kind, considerate and well liked and remembered with appreciation by the Kalgoorlie community; he was a man who left his mark on Kalgoorlie in the "House that Matt built". Esther passed away in 2017, at the grand age of 96.

A remarkable goldfields couple, with a remarkable house!



Matt & Esther Turich, outside 213A Hay Street in January 1996, just before their departure for Perth

ⁱ Kalgoorlie Miner, 11 October 1945 p2.

ⁱⁱ Daily News, 9 April 1947 p11

Note: Information and photographs were kindly supplied by Matt & Esther's three children, Christine, John and Julie, from the Turich family archives. All photographs remain copyright of the Turich family.

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PAVED WITH GOLD

kalminer.com.au
Monday, June 11, 2018



Michael Bryant and Maria Wilson.



Tony and Julie Snelling.



Faye Jones and Robin Bowden.

Historic gems unearthed in project

Eastern Goldfields Historical Society's Paved With Gold project aims to bring to life stories of historically significant yet lesser-known buildings, sites and events, which form part of Kalgoorlie-Boulder's 125-year history.

The project has seen EGHS members as well as members of the public populate a new website with Kalgoorlie-Boulder stories to coincide with the city's 125th anniversary celebrations.

Stories about the Ardross Chambers on Maritana Street, Tippet's bakehouse on Hannan Street, the Masonic Hall on Egan Street and the Telephone Exchange on Hannan Street are some of the tales already explored on the site.

As part of the project, stickers

directing the public to the new website will be located close to the featured sites. Last Monday, to celebrate the launch of the project, a collection of photographs from pioneering Goldfields photographers and an array of research images found through the project were exhibited to the public.

The collection was on display at the Historic Park Building at 141 Hannan Street, formerly the studio of renowned Goldfields photographer John Joseph Dwyer.

EGHS president Scott Wilson said being able to expose the work of the volunteers involved to a wider audience was the most exciting aspect of the project.

The new website can be found at pavedwithgold.com.au.



Eastern Goldfields Historical Society president Scott Wilson, executive officer Lucia Pichler, digitisation project officer Claire Weir and volunteer Pamela Moore. Pictures: Kelsey Reid



Jacinta, Cara, 12, and Danny Ireland.



Michelle Rodgers and Lindsay Stockdale.



Caron Milner with Kerry and Roger Greenhill.



Jan and Gerry Lamont.

Photos available at
westpix.com.au