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William James Dunlop. <sup>written by</sup>  
Jean Madolen  
Daughter

My Father, William James Dunlop was one of the pioneers of the timber industry, one of the men who fell the dense vine scrub, & worked the bullock teams. Special timbers such as red cedar, bunya & pine & beach grew on the mountain in abundance.

A lot of the beach & pine was wasted through poor prices & was burnt when felling the fallen scrub. To make provision for daisying.

Then the whole aspect of the country changed.

My Grandmother Mrs Jane Dunlop a widow & mother of the late (Francis Robert & William Dunlop (my Father) & the late Mrs Jane Tract.

Jane Dunlop was the first white woman & her family to arrive & live on the Blackall Range of which Maleny is part. The Dunlop family came per Cobb & Co Coach & horses from Brisbane on the 8<sup>th</sup> Aug 1875. arriving here on 15 Aug. to live on Mr Pettigrews selection & on the top of the big pinch at the crest of the range. where the ✓  
'Cochester Road, turns off from Landsborough



Maleny Road. The Dunlop family occupied 2 bark  
humpies on the sight where the Bald Knob  
hall once stood in recent times & now gone.  
The Dunlops bought the first 2 cows on the  
range purchased from William Gregor of  
Glasshouse mts. One cow yellow & white, the  
other red & white branded 6 on the rump & 6  
on the off side ribs on the 3. 2. 78.

They came by Cobb & Co from Brisbane to  
Landsborough & stayed the night at Mellum Club  
Hotel. When morning came they walked up the  
range, with their bags & chattels on their backs  
& settled into the two cabins. My father was  
the youngest. He was 10. He later walked to  
school in Landsborough for a couple of years  
& at 18 years of age he selected the property  
at Bald Knob on Landsborough Maleny Road.  
Each man would get a bullock team together,  
fall the timber, dense vine scrub, like the scrub  
on Mary Launcross park, & make the roads



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grew sugar cane, bananas, & plant grass for the bullocks to eat. My Dad procured books from the Agricultural dept & learned about trees & orchards, also learned to weld from a blacksmith in Sandborough, maintained all the family bullock teams. I think about 4.

He built his own little house with big log fireplace, lined with, lead or zinc? I'm not quite sure, which. He procured from tea chests a lot came from England. Those days by ship a lot of the local men used to call in for bully tea, a feed, & a shake down for the night was very acceptable.

Most of the fare was corn beef bought in casks, & very good, before the butcher started flour came in heavy sacks & sugar in sugar in sugar bags. There were lots of home grown vegetables & fruit, smoked hams which he cured himself in the chimney. also plenty of fowls & eggs



The settlers got their houses up & then built up the dairy industry. All the same they suffered a very lonely life for many years, while they battled to clear the land. There seemed to be tremendous rains those days, so much timber & vegetation. The farmer used to say "no mud, no money."

There was no gravel, no bitumen, no wireless no T.V. Before this we walked to school, some the better off, rode a pony saddle & bridle. We bought one of the first cars in Maleny a rugley 1924 model.

You may have noticed the graves, stones, situated in front of Maleny State School. They are in front of the Jennis Court & very close to the road. They are Mrs Jane Dunlop, my father's mother my grand ma & the other Mrs Hankinson 2 early pioneers.

There were no cemeteries these times, & the loved ones were buried near by their homes



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where the State School now stands was the Dunlop family home, removed after many years to promote the Maleny State School. The paddock was used as the local sports ground, before the school was put there. Francis Dunlop built a butcher shop to supply meat for the town when the fields were covered with dairy cows of various colours & the green fields of grass & clover, it was a truly beautiful sight. Now all has changed to houses, houses, shops & people & speeding cars, & for something else to do plant trees & shrubs till we can scarcely see a mountain.

My Father's property 514 Durundur was retained by me until 1992 when I left to come into Ben Bryce park. My Father selected in 1884. It has been 111 years in the family. I have now given the remainder of the property to my daughter Cheryl, son in law Ian Knight & two granddaughters Rachel & Helen Knight. (Ben Rachel is operating the hair dressing salon at Georges. My & Helen is studying to be a nurse at Griffiths University.