

William Hammond & Jessie (Smith) Lillingstone

In June 1887, William Hammond Lillingstone selected land in what is now North Maleny. Born in England on 19 January 1859 in Euston, Suffolk, his father was a gamekeeper (a person employed to breed and protect game) to the Duke of Grafton. His mother, Ellen Archer, was a shoemaker's daughter. The family moved to London when William was a boy, where his father gained worked as an Inland Revenue Messenger. William married Jessie Smith in 1882 in London.

They emigrated to Australia with their young son in 1884 and lived in Marburg, then Brisbane. From Brisbane, they moved to the Blackall Range where their first home was a small, two-roomed cottage with a verandah room.

During the 1890s, William helped establish Maleny's Obi Obi Sawmill Company, taught at the Maleny Provisional School, and continued to improve his farm. In February 1907, the Lillingstone farm in North Maleny had been sold and the family left the district.

Interestingly, their move was not elsewhere in Australia but to Canada. They settled in Vancouver but all the family had returned to Qld by September 1912.

In 1922, Jessie Lillingstone died at Caboolture and William died in Brisbane in 1941.



William and Jessie Lillingstone with five of their seven children, circa 1906.

