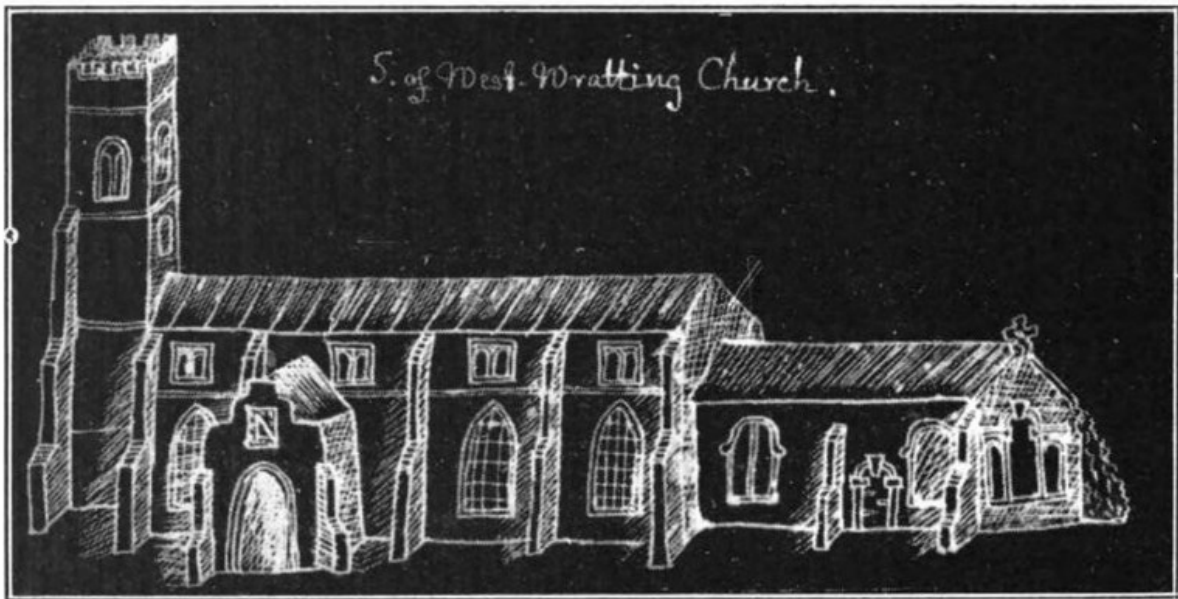


Samson Brown



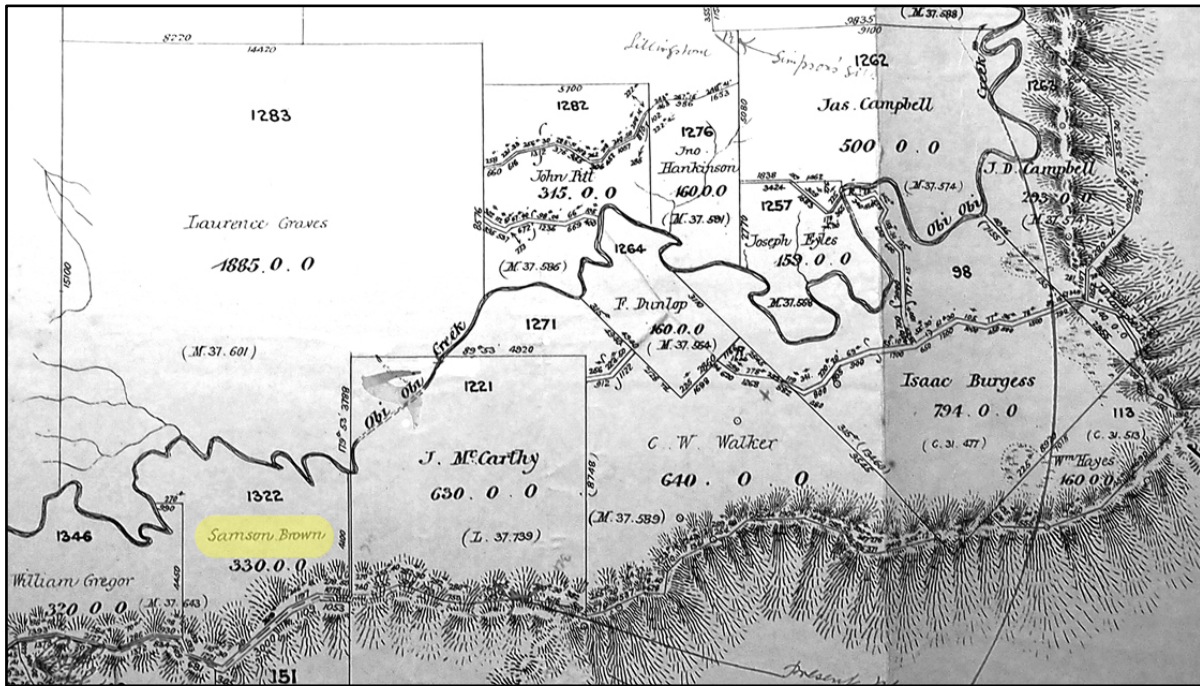
Samson Brown 1850-1934.

Samson Brown, one of Maleny's earliest settlers, was the son of Matilda and Thomas Brown. Born in West Wrattling, Cambridgeshire, England on 17 March 1850, he was baptised on 14 April 1850 in the West Wrattling Church.



West Wrattling Church, 1746.

Leaving school at an early age, Samson worked on farms, as a pageboy to the local squire, and as a ploughman. In 1873, he married a West Wrattling lass named Lydia Potter with the first of their ten children born the following year, a daughter named Amelia Elizabeth. (Amelia would become an original student at the Blackall Range Provisional School in 1886 and one day be known as the Mrs Skipper of the Skipper Musk Teahouse on the Landsborough-Maleny Road at Bald Knob.) Samson, Lydia and Amelia set sail from England on the immigrant ship *Corlic*, arriving in Brisbane in March 1875 after a voyage of 111 days.



After working in and around Brisbane, Samson bought a horse team for carting timber, then selected land at Redland Bay for timbergetting. Later, after visiting the Blackall Range, he selected 330 acres (Portion 1322, Parish of Maleny) in March 1880. When the time came for his family to join him, they arrived by coach at Mellum Creek (Landsborough). From there, the journey to Maleny was so difficult that Samson had to tie his wife and children on the horses and cut a path through the scrub to reach their new home.

As with many other Blackall Range selectors, Samson worked as a timbergetter, cleared the land, planted crops, started dairy farming and made his own cheese which was taken to Landsborough. He also raised pigs, curing the bacon himself for sale locally.

When Samson was offered a good price for his selection, he sold it in January 1904 to Alfred Marshall for £1,650. Marshall, a dairy farmer in Brisbane, then sold the land to Julie Hill in August 1905 for her sons, Eric Seymour Webster and Alan Newell Webster, to farm.

Leaving Maleny, Samson Brown purchased another property at Woodford where he became a founder of the Woodford Butter Factory. He died at Woodford on 24 September 1934, leaving two sons and four daughters by his first marriage, and one son and two daughters and his widow by his second marriage.