

Mungaroa Inn / Hotel - Bloomfield House / Farm

James COLLINS made application on 22 January 1851 and was granted a Bush Licence on 22 July 1851 for the "Mungaroa" Inn / Hotel. The hotel was situated in the Upper Hutt district on Main Road North Mungaroa near where the current Te Marua Golf Course is now situated. When the Mungaroa stopped operating as a hotel it was used as Tea Rooms and became known as Bloomfield House and Bloomfield Farm Company.

- 1851 James Collins built a Mungaroa hotel and was granted a bush license
- 1861 James Collins died New Zealand
- 1861 Mrs Anne Collins became proprietor of Mungaroa Inn
- 1874 Anne's daughter Jane Collins married Thomas Groom (Tom) Mabey
- 1875 Jane and her husband managed the hotel for aging Anne Collins
- 1875 Thomas Mabey became proprietor of Mungaroa Hotel
- 1876 James R Yopung (perhaps Andrew or W) became proprietor of Mungaroa Hotel
- 1876-77 Thomas Wagg became proprietor of Mungaroa Hotel
- 1878 Thomas Wagg retired from operating the Mungaroa Hotel
- 1911 The property became known as Bloomfield House and was operating as Tea rooms.
- 1920 Bloomfield House was also known as Bloomfield Farm
- 1921 Bloomfield Farm Company Te Marua Limited formed
- 1929 John Thomas and Amy Harris were operating the Tea Rooms at Bloomfield House
- 1931 Cannot locate any details of a fire at the Bloomfield House Tea Room but there was a fire at the Rimutaka Hill Tea Rooms
- 1937 Job B Bengé former farmer of Bloomfield Farm died
- 1937 Anne widow of the first proprietor James Collins of the Mungaroa Hotel died
- 1945 William Ernest Albert Gill former Managing Director of Bloomfield Farm Company died

Received 4th February 1851 Mr James Collins River Hutt Memorial for a Bush Licence at the Mungaroa in the Hutt District

Wellington 22 January 1851

Sir

I have the honor to enclose a Memorial for the Grant of a Bush Licence for the sale of liquor at the Mungaroa and beg to request you will lay the same before His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor

I have the honour to be Sir

Your most obedient servant

Alfred Domett Esquire Colonial Secretary Wellington

(Reference Archives New Zealand Wellington ACFP 8217 NM8 44 [115] 1851/155 Mr James Collins River Hutt Wellington 04 February 1851 Memorial for a Bush Licence at the Mungaroa in the Hutt 1851)

To His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor and the Executive Council of New Zealand

The Memorial of James Collins of the Mungaroa in the district of the Hutt in the Southern Division of New Zealand Stock Keeper.

Herewith – That your Memorial is anxious for the grant of a bush licence for the sale of spirituous liquors wine ale and Beer at his House and Premises situated at Mungaroa aforesaid and now in his own occupation the House and land being the property of your Memorial.

That your Memorial list has been a Resident in Wellington and its neighbourhood for a period of ten years and that the said House and Premises poses every accommodation necessary for the carrying on of the business of a Licences Victualler.

That in consequence of the large and increasing Traffic between Wairarapa and the surrounding District the want of the Houses of Accommodation is seriously felt by Parties traveling to and fro and on many occasions has been to them a cause of great inconvenient

and at their earnest request your Memorialist has been induced to memorialize your Excellency for the Grant of a Bush Licence in order to obviate existing inconvenience. That your Memorialist begs to name to be his sureties and if required to enter into the usual recognizances.

Your Memorialist therefore humbly prays that your Excellency will be pleased to cause the necessary steps to be adopted in order that a Bush Licence may be granted to your Memorialist - And your Memorialist will every pray.

James COLLINS

Wellington 22 January 1851

(Reference Archives New Zealand Wellington ACFP 8217 NM8 44 [115] 1851/155 Mr James Collins River Hutt Wellington 04 February 1851 Memorial for a Bush Licence at the Mungaroa in the Hutt 1851)

As the undersigned Residents, Landowners & Stations in the valley of the Hutt the Mungaroa and the Wairarapa District beg to bear testimony to the serious inconvenience experienced by us on many occasions from want of the means of Accommodation requested for Parties traveling through the above named Districts – And we beg to recommend the Memorialist James Collins to the notice of your Excellency as a fit and proper Person to be licensed for the sale of Spirituous liquors win ale and Beer on the House and Premises which are now in the occupation of them Memorialist and situated as before described And further we beg to add that in our opinion the Premises in question from their convenience and situated are in every respect well adapted for the purpose of a Licences House.

Charles Clifford

Donald Cameron

Fred Weld

Thomas Northerring

W S Donald

M O Scully

Benjamin Ling

R Collins

M S Scully

C F Nairn

George Crawford

J M Sayer

C A Wallacey

Hugh Morison

A M McMasters

Joseph Kelly

(Please note all signatures are hard to transcribe so I apologise for any errors)

(Reference Archives New Zealand Wellington ACFP 8217 nm8 48 [122] 1851/1097 The Colonial Secretary in Council 19 August 1851 recommending that bush licence be granted to James Collins)

19 August 1851

19 August 1851 The Col Sec in the Colony

Recommending that Bush Licence be granted to James Collins

Recommended -

That a Licence be issued to James Collins at the same conditions as that of the year ending the 30 June last to commence the 1st July 1851

Licence prepared 28 August 1851

And forwarded to Treasury 22 August 1851

(Reference Archives New Zealand Wellington ACFP 8217 nm8 48 [122] 1851/1097 The Colonial Secretary in Council 19 August 1851 recommending that bush licence be granted to James Collins)

15 July 1852 James Collins Application for renewal of Bush License

To His Excellency Sir George Grey KCB Governor in Chief in and over the Islands of New Zealand

The humble Memorial of James Collins of Mungaroa in the District of Port Nicholson New Zealand Settler.

Theweth

That Your Memorialist is desirous of renewing his License for the above Premises and Prays a license may be granted for the Sale of Spiritues Liquors wine ale and beer agreeably to the previsions of the amended licensing Ordinance on such towns and conditions as Your Excellency and the Executive Council shall deem meet And Your Memorialists as in duly bound.

Will ever pray
James COLLINS (signature)

License prepared 09 August 1852

(Reference Archives NZ Wellington ACFP 8217 NM8 56 [80] 1852/951 James Collins Mungaroa 15 July 1852 application for renewal of bush license)

David Hart Lower Hutt 23 July 1859 Authority for James Collins to receive Crown Grant No 113 Upper Hutt District.

ORDER (Archives NZ wellington ADXS 19480 LS-W2 8/ 1859/263)

James COLLINS died 1861 New Zealand

ORDER (Reference RGO NZ death registration 1861 folio website 1861 folio website 1861/3173 age 54 born about 1807)

James COLLINS 1862 probate records

ORDER (Archives NZ Wellington AAOM 6029 W3265 4/ 146)

James COLLINS Coroner's Inquest Case Files Wellington

ORDER (Archives NZ Wellington ACGS 16231 J46 4/P)

When James COLLINS died in 1861 his wife and widow Anne COLLINS became the Licencee of the Mungaroa Hotel.

Wellington Independent newspaper 27 January 1866

A Trip to the Wairarapa – The Mungaroa Inn was reached in due time. At the foot of the Mungaroa Hill the male passengers were requested to alight and had to walk until they reached the summit.

(Reference Papers past website Wellington Independent newspaper 27 January 1866 page 6)

Wellington Independent newspaper 03 November 1866

A Tramp through the Hutt - In the morning, I started on to Mungaroa, where a steady downpour of rain, which has now lasted, without intermission, for thirty-six hours, kept me a guest of Widow Collins but I could not desire a better retreat during that proverbial time of misery a wet Sunday in the country.

Just before reaching Mrs Collins Mungaroa Inn, I passed over a bridge thrown across the Mungaroa River a little above where it falls into the Hutt River. The view up and down the stream is the prettiest I have seen for a long time.

(Reference Papers past website Wellington Independent newspaper 03 November 1866 page 5)

Wellington Independent newspaper 16 March 1867

I cannot omit mentioning that, since my visit to the Wairarapa last year, great improvements have been effected in the hotel accommodation of the district. Mrs Collins, of the Mungaroa Inn, has made a large addition to her house. Mr W Hodder has erected a spacious hotel, fitted up in the best style and Mr Abbott, of Featherston, has also largely added to his accommodation. In fact, the hotels here could provide for the necessities of a large number of visitors. I must also remark that the roads in the district are kept in capital order.

(Reference Papers Past website Wellington Independent newspaper 16 March 1867 page 5)

Wairarapa Standard newspaper 18-29 September & 06-23 October 1869

Notice – On and after Monday next a coach will leave Mrs Collins Mungaroa Hotel for Wellington at 6.30 every morning returning the same evening – Walter Harris Upper Hutt 18 September 1869

(Reference Papers past website Wairarapa Standard newspaper 18 September 1869 page 2)

Wellington Independent newspaper 21 September 1871

Fatal Accident - Yesterday a fatal accident occurred at the Mungaroa Hill to a road labourer named John Hartley. A mass of earth and rock suddenly slipped from the face of the sideling

where the unfortunate man was at work, completely burying him, and killing him on the spot. Mr Fuller, who was passing, conveyed the remains to the Mungaroa Hotel, where they await the holding of an inquest.

(Reference Papers past website Wellington Independent newspaper 21 September 1871 page 2)

Evening Post newspaper 04 June 1872

Coaches will leave Hatfield's Royal Hotel daily at 4 pm and Collins' Mungaroa Hotel at 6.15 am

(Reference Papers Past website Evening Post newspaper 04 June 1872 page 2)

Hutt Valley Independent newspaper [1874]

1874 Directory – Growth – (various details covering Petone and Upper Hutt) - Above the Gorge - Mangaroa had five families, J Benge sawmillier, J Martin grazier, C Collins sawyer, W Collins labourer and Mrs Collins Mangaroa Inn

(Reference Papers Past website Hutt Valley Independent newspaper 26 August 1911 page 4)

Evening Post newspaper 23 April 1874

Licensing Court – Country Licenses – The following licenses were granted – Isaac Wilkins Railway Hotel Upper Hutt, Annie Collins Mangaroa Hotel Mangaroa – Thomas Wagg Pakuratahi

(Reference Papers Past website Evening Post newspaper 23 April 1874 page 2)

James & Anne's daughter Jane COLLINS married Thomas Groom MABEY in 1874 in New Zealand.

(Reference RGO NZ marriage registration 1874 folio website 1874/9895)

Evening Post newspaper 10 June 1875

The application of Annie Collins, for the Mungaroa Hotel was opposed by Inspector Atchison, on the ground that Mrs Collins was an unfit and improper person to keep, the house, which always was in a filthy state, and a perpetual scene of drunkenness and fighting Sundays included. Recently when a party of travellers, seven or eight in number, called there, refreshment at first was refused to them, and on persisting, all they could get was a loaf and a tin of salmon. He himself had passed recently, and saw a number of drunken men laying about outside, several with black eyes, who evidently had been fighting. Altogether the place was conducted in a disgraceful manner. Constable Lyster corroborated this account. Mr Buckley, for the applicant, objected to the Inspector's statement that she was an improper person. He admitted she was unfit being old and feeble, and he did not deny or excuse the former conduct, but if the license was granted it would be transferred immediately to Mr Mabey. Inspector Atchison objected to Mabey also, unless he would show what improvements he proposed making. The Commissioners adjourned the case for a fortnight, to enable the new applicant to bring up his plans.

(Reference Papers Past website Evening Post newspaper 10 June 1875 page 2)

Wairarapa Standard newspaper 10 June 1875

At the Hutt Licensing Court today the following applications were opposed by the police – Anne Collins, Mungaroa Hotel, Walter and Frederick Hodder Golden Fleece Pakuratahi and Charles Harris Criterion Hotel Upper Hutt. All the opposed cases were adjourned for fourteen days. Evidence was given of the houses being badly conducted and the adjournment was to afford an opportunity for amendment all other applications being granted.

(Reference Papers past website Wairarapa Standard newspaper 10 June 1875 page 2)

Wairarapa Standard newspaper 12 June 1875

Inspector Atcheson opposed the Mungaroa House on the ground of want of proper accommodation and unfitness of the applicant Mrs Collins from advancing years to control it.

(Reference Papers Past website Wairarapa Standard newspaper 12 June 1875 page 2)

Evening Post newspaper 23 June 1875

Jane Collins license was granted on condition that it is transferred to Thomas Mabey at the next quarterly licensing meeting and that alteration be made in the building

(Reference Papers past website Evening Post newspaper 23 June 1875 page 2)

Jane Collins was the daughter of Anne Collins the previous proprietor. I was informed that Jane's husband Thomas Groom MABEY worked at the Hotel.

Evening Post newspaper 16 September 1875

Notice had been given by Inspector Atchison that he should apply to the Court to cancel the license of the Mungaroo Hotel held by Anne Collins on the ground that that house was improperly conducted.

(Reference Papers past website Evening Post newspaper 16 September 1875 page 2)

In 1875 Mr James MABEY took over the license of the Mungaroo Hotel.

Evening Post newspaper 27 September 1875

Thursday 30th September – Mr J Duncan has receive instructions from Mr C Collins to sell by auction, at his saleroom, on above date, at 2 o'clock - 128 acres land at Mungaroo, situate on the main trunk line of road, and within a short distance of the new railway station. Nearly the whole of this valuable property is level land (all excepting 5 or 6 acres), principally covered with good timber, and adjoining Mr Mabey's Mungaroo Hotel. Further particulars and plans may be seen at the auctioneers. After which will be offered.

(Reference Papers past website Evening Post newspaper 27 September 1875 page 3)

Evening Post newspaper 30 September 1875

The case of Ann Collins of the Mungaroo Hotel was first considered. The Inspector of Police had made an application to the Licensing Bench to cancel the license for failing to carry out the conditions on which the license had been granted at the annual meeting. Mr Buckley appeared on behalf of Ann Collins. The Inspector of Police drew the Commissioners attention to the fact that at the annual meeting the license was granted on condition that the license should be transferred to Mr Mabey as soon as possible. A further condition was made that certain improvements to the house should be made, and plans were then submitted to the Bench, indicating the improvements required. These improvements were to have been commenced without delay but instead of the license being transferred to Mr Mabey, Mrs Collins continued in occupation, and the business had not been conducted in a proper manner. Mr Buckley stated that Mr Mabey had taken possession of the house on the 7th of this month. He admitted that what had fallen from Inspector Atchison was correct, but that Mr Mabey having now taken possession of the house, the improvements required would be carried out in fact, the work had already commenced, and would be completed in six weeks. He would venture to say that in the hands of Mr Mabey the house would be properly conducted. The Commissioners stated that if Ann Collins had been still in possession of the house they would have cancelled the license but under the altered circumstances, they would consent to the transfer being given to Mr Mabey.

(Reference Papers past website Evening Post newspaper 30 September 1875 page 3)

Evening Post newspaper 04 February 1876

The meeting of the Licensing Court held this afternoon when the license held by J Mabey was transferred to W Young for the Mungaroo Hotel.

(Reference Papers Past website Evening Post newspaper 04 February 1876 page 4)

Coroner's inquest held at the house of James R Young Mungaroo Hotel Mungaroo Hutt on 20 May 1876 for Henry Hodgson.

(Reference Archives NZ ACGS 19211 J1 187 1876/1533 Coroner Hutt 17 May 1876 inquest proceedings on Henry Hodgson)

In 1876 Andrew YOUNG took over the license of the Mungaroo Hotel.

Wairarapa Standard newspaper 08 June 1876

At the Hutt Licensing Court to-day, Young's application for the Mungaroo Hotel was adjourned for a fortnight, the police opposing. Andrew Young has got the contract for the tri-weekly coach service between Napier and Tauranga.

(Reference Papers Past website Wairarapa Standard newspaper 08 June 1876 page 2)

Evening Post newspaper 28 June 1876

At the Hutt Licensing Court to-day Mr Young's license was granted
(Reference Papers Past website Evening Post newspaper 28 June 1876 page 2)

In 1876 Thomas WAGG took over the license of the Mungaroa Hotel.

Evening Post newspaper 07 September 1876

At a Licensing Court held at the Hutt yesterday there were two applications for the transfer of licenses which were unopposed and granted. The Taitai [sic] Hotel was transferred to Mr Worth and the Mungaroa Hotel to Mr Wagg
(Reference Papers Past website Evening Post newspaper 07 September 1876 page 2)

Evening Post newspaper 14 June 1877

The Licensing Court sat at noon yesterday – Renewals - The following licenses were renewed, no opposition being made in regard to them Albion Hotel J H Corbett, Golden Fleece Hotel R F Petford, Railway Hotel N Valentine, Railway Hotel (Upper Hutt) Isaac Wilkins, Mungaroa Hotel Thomas Wagg.
(Reference Papers past website Evening Post newspaper 14 June 1877 page 2)

Evening Post newspaper 02 September 1878

Tomorrow Mr J H Wallace will sell as advertised at the Mungaroa Hotel Upper Hutt household furniture and effects for Mr Thomas Wagg who is retiring from the hotel business Bloomfield House
(Reference Papers past website Evening Post newspaper 02 September 1878 page 2)

Between 1878 and 1911 the Mungaroa Hotel ceased operating and became known as Bloomfield House. During this period the property was operated as Tea rooms.

Hutt Valley Independent newspaper 10 June 1911

District News - Notice to Tourists and others. As most of the Settlers have run short of food of late owing to increase in family, the following may be useful when touring or seeking work 1. Accommodation House, 2 miles from here known as "Bloomfield House" good feed, (towards Featherston). 2. Railway-guide to Stations, at all Rly Stations, price threepence. 3. Tourist Guide at Tourist office in all cities giving price for Fishing, Shooting, Localities, Coach fares and distances through Colony, price sixpence. 4. Names of places in New Zealand and general guide to complete New Zealand Index with Directory, Wise & Co., Lambton Quay, Wellington, opposite Dominion Newspaper office, Dominion Avenue. 5. Dog Boxes attached to Railway Vans see conditions in No. 2 as above.
(Reference Papers past website Hutt Valley Independent newspaper 10 June 1911 page 2)

Hutt Valley Independent newspaper 18 January 1913

District News – May Morn Sports on February 22nd at the Bloomfield House paddocks. Particulars later.
(Reference Papers past website Hutt Valley Independent newspaper 18 January 1913 page 1)

Bloomfield House also became known as Bloomfield Farm.

Evening Post newspaper 20-27 February 1913

May Morn Sports, to be held on Saturday, 22nd of February, at Bloomfield Farm, Upper Hutt. Blackberries in abundance on the Farm, Great Chopping and Foot Running and all sorts of Amusements. Geange's Brakes will meet morning trains and run to sports and back for 2 return. H Hall Secretary
(Reference Papers past website Evening Post newspaper 20 February 1913 page 8)

Evening Post newspaper 14 August 1913

Big Scheme – Sawmilling and Settlement – May Morn Estate at Mangaroa - From the sawmill, with its immense steel chimney stack, nearly as high as the destructor chimney in the city, a standard gauge light railway, properly sleepered and ballasted, with 40 lb steel rails, runs

down the Mangaroa Valley to its junction with the valley of the Hutt River at Bloomfield House, some five miles from Upper Hutt.

(Reference Papers past website Evening Post newspaper 14 August 1913 page 3)

Dominion newspaper 16 October 1913

Wanted a strong Working Housekeeper wages £1 no objection to child address Bloomfield House Upper Hutt

(Reference Papers Past website Dominion newspaper 16 October 1913 page 1)

Hutt Valley Independent newspaper 27 February 1915

Peeps into the Past – Oddfellows Rose of Sharon Lodge - The opening of the Rose of Sharon Lodge, No 4675, of the Manchester Unity, Independent Order of Oddfellows, took place on 25 April 1857 fifty eight years ago. At that time the township (such as it was then) being located in the neighbourhood of the blockhouse which is still to be seen in rear of the Trentham post-office. There were a number of "Inns" in the upper end of the Hutt Valley in those days the Coach and Horses at Silverstream, the Highland Home (afterwards named the "Railway Hotel and subsequently destroyed by fire) on the east side of Kitchen's store, the Shepherd's Inn afterwards re-named the Criterion Hotel, dismantled at a later date and known as Dalton's Hall and remodelled to serve as the Upper Hutt Coach Factory, the Mungaroa Inn, now Bloomfield House, and another at the Pakuratahi (since, burnt down) on the place where Stevens manager now lives. The Shepherd's Inn was established by James Brown, senior, a Paisley man, (father of James and Andrew Brown and Mrs Alexander Martin senior, of Upper Hutt). It was at this inn then called the Criterion Hotel that the Duke of Edinburgh stayed when he visited Upper Hutt in 1865. The minutes of the first meeting show that the opening ceremony took place at Upper Hutt at the house of Matthew Sharley sign of the Shepherd's Inn, and that GM Brother Canning installed the following officers of the new Bro Perry VG, Bro Hinds, Sec Bro Wilson RHS to V G, Bro J Condon LHS to NG Bro R B Loughton, RHS to VG Bro Crabb L, HS to VG Bro R Humber. The minutes record that the following were then initiated as members of the Rose of Sharon Lodge, having been previously proposed in the Loyal Good Intent Lodge - Walter Lee, George Harrison, George Freeman, James Wall, Thomas Simmonds and Robert Wilson. The members admitted in 1857 were Bros, Hirst, Prescott, Selby, McLaughlin, Aldred, McHardie, Hackett, Williams, Nelson, Morgan, Hercocok, Greenwood and Cruickshank. Among those admitted to membership were Richard William Pearse (full member) and Richard Barton (honorary) in 1858. In 1858, the Lodge was removed to Host McHardie's Highland Home Inn.

(Reference Papers past website Hutt Valley Independent newspaper 27 February 1915 page 4)

Evening Post newspaper 06 December 1920

Wanted good Woman, Girl or Married Couple, one child not objected to, homely people. Apply Bloomfield Farm Upper Hutt

(Reference Papers Past website Evening Post newspaper 06 December 1920 page 1)

1921 Bloomfield Farm Company Limited

ORDER (Reference Archives New Zealand ADSN 17631 W3445 CO-WW3445 245/ 1921/14 Bloomfield Farm Company Limited no date)

Bloomfield Farm was also known as the Bloomfield Farm Co (Upper Hutt). The Bloomfield Farm Co. entered various stock competitions and won many a prize for their stock.

Evening Post newspaper 24 October 1927

A son of the late Mr Hodder of the Golden Fleece is Mr James Hodder senior, of Dalefield Wairarapa, who bears well his advancing years, and who remembers the chain of hotels in the old Hutt Valley. In addition to his father's at Pakuratahi, he remembers a hotel at the Mungaroa (the building of which, he says, still survives as Bloomfield House, now an afternoon tea institution), two at Upper Hutt, and one at Taita, but the Golden Fleece was of special importance as a place for changing horses.

(Reference Papers Past website Evening Post newspaper 24 October 1927 page 10)

In the 1920's Amy and John Thomas Harris were operating the Tea Rooms at Bloomfield House.

Evening Post newspaper 26 January 1929

Wanted to Sell, Quantity Black and White Fowls and Ducks, good condition, laying, also Afternoon Tea Tables and Chairs, etc.; manager leaving. Apply J Harris, Bloomfield Farm, Upper Hutt.

(Reference Papers Past website Evening Post newspaper 26 January 1929 page 1)

I was informed that the Bloomfield House Tea Rooms of burnt down in 1931. The only details regarding a fire in 1931 I could locate was the fire that destroyed the tearooms at the top of the Rimutaka Hill. Perhaps my informant made an error.

Evening Post Newspaper 29 January 1931

Tea-Rooms Burnt – The well-known tea and refreshment rooms at the top of the Rimutaka Hill were destroyed by fire either on Tuesday night or early yesterday morning. The little wooden building will be missed by motorists. For some .years it has been a popular stopping-place, in fact, it was seldom that one or more cars were not to be seen parked outside at most times of the day.

(Reference Papers Past Website Evening Post Newspaper 29 January 1931 page 12)

Anne COLLINS age 90 years died 1937 New Zealand. Anne was the widow of James COLLINS the original licence of the Mungaroa Hotel. There are probate records for Anne COLLINS

(Reference RGO NZ Death registration 1937 folio website 1937/28081 age 90 born about 1847 & Archives NZ Wellington AAOM 6029 904/ 61548)

Upper Hutt Weekly Review newspaper 08 January 1937

Obituary - Job B Bengé - The death occurred early on Monday morning last of Mr J B Bengé, of Ebdentown, at the age of 59. Mr Bengé, who had been ill for some time, was at Nurse Nelligan's [sic] private hospital, at Victoria Street, Upper Hutt. He was well-known in the Upper Hutt district, having lived there most of his life, and his death came as a great blow to many of his friends. Born at Taita, Lower Hutt, he was the son of the late Edward Bengé, one time sawmiller and farmer in the Hutt Valley. Up to a few years ago Mr Bengé was farming at Bloomfield Farm, at the foot of the Kaitoke Hill. Mr Bengé leaves a widow, two sons, Messrs L and K Bengé, and two daughters, Mrs Haggerty (Auckland), and Mrs J Golding (Upper Hutt). He was a brother of Mrs Harper, Mrs Burrell and Mr T Bengé, all of Upper Hutt. The funeral took place on Tuesday afternoon, under very adverse conditions, but notwithstanding the weather there were over 50 cars in attendance. The Rev G V Kendrick, Church of England, conducted the service, the first part in the church, and the latter at the graveside. Among those present were members of the farming and business community of Upper Hutt and surrounding district. There were many beautiful floral tributes, including some from the members of the family. The sympathy of residents is extended to the widow and family in their bereavement.

(Reference Papers Past website Upper Hutt Weekly Review newspaper 08 January 1937 page 2)

Evening Post newspaper 11 July 1945

Obituary - Mr W E A Gill - One of Wellington's best-known businessmen, Mr William Ernest Albert Gill, died last night at the age of 70. He had been for many years a principal of the accounting firm of Rowley, Gill, Hobbs, and Glen. Mr Gill was born in Middlesboro, Yorkshire, and came to New Zealand in 1887. He joined the Union Fire and Marine Insurance Company in Auckland, and was subsequently on the staff of the Commercial Union, Standard, and Phoenix Insurance Companies. He joined the firm of Badham and Biss and managed the Northern Assurance and Canton Company under that firm for 10 years. He later joined the firm of J H G Rowley, who acted as attorneys for the Norwich Union office. In 1924 he became controlling officer for New Zealand of the Phoenix, Norwich, and Union Marine companies, being manager of the Norwich Union for many years. Mr Gill had many sporting and social interests. He was a life member of the Miramar Golf Club, the Star Boating Club, and the Wellesley Club. He served for many years on the New Zealand Golf Council, and was a member of the Wellington Racing Club. He had strong musical inclinations and was in

earlier days an enthusiast of amateur theatricals. He was managing director of the Bloomfield Farm Company in the Hutt Valley, chairman of directors of the Scoullar Company, and a director of the Wellington Investment Company. Mrs Gill predeceased him two years ago, and he is survived by two daughters, Mrs J N S Wallens of Sydney, and Mrs T R Balharry of Wellington, and one son Mr J O Gill of Hawera.

(Reference Papers Past website Evening Post newspaper 11 July 1945 page 8)

1954 Bloomfield Farm Company Te Marua

ORDER (Reference Archives New Zealand AATE W3389 6/ 21/9/32/0/6 Highways Masterton Wellington State Highway Land Claim Bloomfield Farm Company Te Marua 1954)
