

Edward Henty arrived in Portland on November 19, 1834 and established the first permanent settlement in Victoria. Henty was a young man, just 24 years old.

The Henty diaries suggest that Edward and his younger brothers were fit and active young men, and put in long working days along with their servants.

The ship's manifest from his diary lists this simple single furrow plough. The plough was used to turn the first sod of soil in Victoria on December 6, 1834 when Henty's workman Robert Crowley planted a crop of potatoes in the area we now know as "the ploughed field" on the cliff top in Bentinck Street.

The plough consists of a mouldboard and share. The iron work was made by John Wilkie of Uddingston, Scotland, and Henty added the beam of Australian hardwood. The plough was drawn by a team of bullocks.

The Henty plough is one of the most significant objects associated with the development of Victoria.

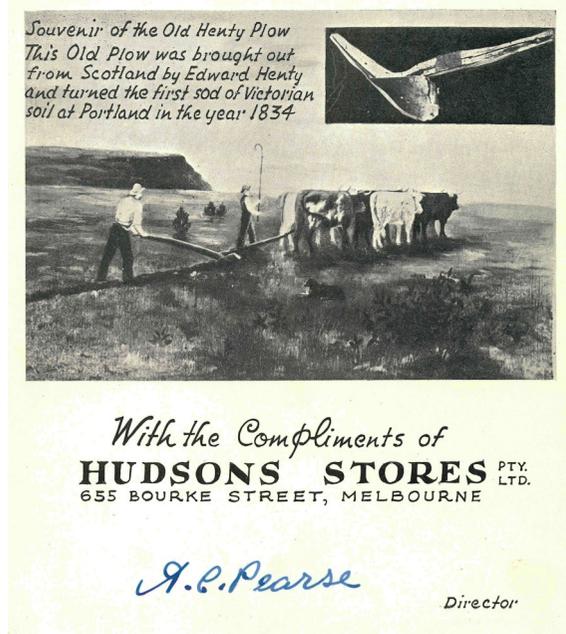


History House

Museum and Research Centre
Cliff Street
(P.O. Box 409)
Portland VIC 3305
Tel: 03 5522 2266
Email: historyhouse@glenelg.vic.gov.au



HENTY'S PLOUGH



plough (plow) *n.* implement for furrowing and turning up soil

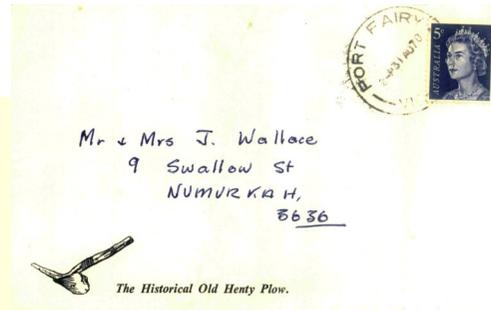


TURNING THE FIRST FURROW IN VICTORIA
WITH A REMODIFIED CO. OF HENTY'S SOIL PLUGH AT PORTLAND IN 1834.

On Edward Henty's death in 1878, the plough was bequeathed to Hugh Lennon, A renowned plough-maker, in appreciation of the great improvements made to farm machinery by his plough manufacturing business. The plough went on display at Lennon's factory in Spotswood.

For many years the plough was exhibited annually at the Royal Melbourne Show. The late H.V. McKay was said to have offered £1,000 for it to add to his collection of historic implements.

After Lennon's death, the plough was sold at public auction for £190 to Mr A. C. Pearse, Managing Director of Hudson's Stores, and it went on display at the Bourke Street business. At the time the auctioneer described the plough as "Australia's most genuine antique".



The Historical Old Henty Plow.

In 1945 the Historical Society of Victoria approached Mr Pearse, suggesting that the plough should go on display at the National Museum where it could be seen by more people. Mr Pearse declined the request.

With the impending royal visit of Princess Elizabeth and Prince Phillip in the early 1950s, the people of Portland wanted the plough back in its "home town" for the occasion. Mr Pearse also declined this request.

In January 1970 the Henty plough finally returned to Portland after Mr Pearse decided that "Portland was its rightful home".

The Old Henty Plough finds a new home at Hudson's Stores

We extend to all country people an open invitation to view plough. Your visit will be appreciated.

HUDSON'S STORES

Specialising in all Kinds Hardware Lines for Farmers' Use.



Edward Henty's Plough, with which the first sod of Victorian soil was turned in 1834, was sold by auction to Mr A. C. Pearse, for Hudson's Stores, Bourke Street, for £190.

Edward Henty presented the plough to Mr Hugh Lennon, sen., in 1879, to mark the progress made in the manufacture of ploughs. About 10 years ago the late Mr H. V. McKay offered Mr Lennon £1000 for it, as he wanted the plough for his historic collection of agricultural implements at Sunshine, but the offer was refused for sentimental reasons.



Note Address:
655 BOURKE STREET, Near Spencer Street.
Phone M5873, 2 lines.