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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL  
ACCESS STATUS

OPEN

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

Home and Territories Department.

FILE OF PAPERS.

SUBJECT: *Small Trophies.*

*West. Maitland, N.S.W.*

MINUTES NOT TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS COVER.

7/2/28

1st August, 1928.

Dear Mr. Bain,

I have to acknowledge with thanks receipt of your 8.28/364 of the 25th July relative to the use made of the collections of relics presented to towns in New South Wales.

It is regrettable that better use has not been made of them. The difficulty is doubtless the finding of funds for showcases, titling etc., and this is a difficulty which we are not in a position to help to overcome.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. L. J. Bain,  
Australian War Memorial Museum,  
Sydney.

There appears to be a discrepancy between the Town Clerk's letter of 28/5/28 and the Council's report of 25/7/28, but it would be inadvisable to try and account for it. P/B

J. L. B.  
20/5/28

COPY.

25th July, 1928.

Dear Major Treloar,

As requested in your 7/1/62 dated 17th July, I enclose herewith a brief report on the use being made of trophy allotments to each of the country towns in New South Wales which I recently visited.

As may be expected I found that the ravages of moth etc. in every case had completely ruined a part of the collections and that only the technical trophies remain fit for exhibition.

What struck me most where the relics had been placed on exhibition was the lack of descriptions or titles and, except at Goulburn, the inadequate arrangements for suitably exhibiting the trophies without interference.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.) L. J. Bain.

TELEPHONE NO. MA 4011.

COMMUNICATIONS TO BE ADDRESSED TO  
THE DIRECTOR."

IN REPLY, PLEASE QUOTE

NO. ....

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

9376  
TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS  
"AUSWARMUSE,  
SYDNEY."

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL MUSEUM,

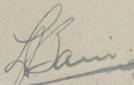
EXHIBITION BUILDINGS,  
CHALMERS STREET,  
SYDNEY.

"They gave their lives. For that public gift they received a praise which never ages and a tomb most glorious—not so much the tomb in which they lie, but that in which their fame survives, to be remembered for ever when occasion comes for word or deed . . . ."

REPORT ON THE USE BEING MADE OF WAR TROPHIES ALLOTTED TO  
WEST MAITLAND, N.S.W. ( 27/2/'28.)

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A few items of the collection - mostly hand and rifle grenades - are being exhibited at the Technological Museum. The remainder are shelved in a shed at the rear of the Council Chambers and have apparently been left untouched or unattended for some considerable time. Leather equipment is perished and clothing, packs, etc., is infested with moth.



CURATOR

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL MUSEUM

25.7.28.

In a letter dated November 19th, 1925, the Town Clerk, West Maitland, N.S.W., stated that the collection of War Trophies allotted to that town by the Australian War Museum, was destroyed by fire at the latter end of 1924, with the exception of those articles shown below :-

- 1 Machine Gun
- 2 Rifles
- 2 Trenching Spades
- 1 " Pick
- 2 Vercy Pistols
- 1 Range Finder
- 1 Automatic Rifle
- 2 Wire Cutters
- 1 Gun Sight
- 2 Water Bottles
- 1 Soldiers' Gas Mask
- 1 Horse " "
- 4 Hand Grenades
- 2 Rifle "
- 1 Trench Sign
- 5 Bayonets
- 2 Gas Bombs
- 2 Swords
- 2 Aeroplane Bombs
- 1 Steel Helmet
- 1 Tripod
- 6 Paper Bandages
- 1 Grenatenwefer.

*M. J. S.*  
*18/6.*

*Director*

*A copy of this list has been placed with the records of the West Maitland allotment. Owing to the fact that no trophy numbers were supplied by the Town Clerk, it will be difficult to identify some of the exhibits when adjusting the records. S.H.A. 15/6*

T/R.

4th June, 1926.

The Town Clerk.

WEST MAITLAND - N.S.W.

Dear Sir,

I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 28th May and to thank you for the list of war relics presented to your Council which were not destroyed by fire.

Yours faithfully,

  
Director.

*me memo*

*to note and adjust records.*



# Municipality of West Maitland

TELEPHONE No. 44  
WEST MAITLAND.

Town Clerk's Office.



May 28th. 1926.

The Director,  
Australian War Memorial,  
Exhibition Buildings,  
MELBOURNE, VICTORIA.

Dear Sir,

With reference to the collection of the war relics presented to this Council, portion of which was destroyed by fire, I enclose herewith list of the relics which were not destroyed and are now on exhibition in the West Maitland Technological Museum.

Yours faithfully,

*Chas Imjean*

Town Clerk.

Encl.

LIST OF GERMAN WAR-RELICS IN THE WEST MAITLAND

TECHNOLOGICAL MUSEUM.

- 1 Machine Gun.
- 2 Rifles.
- 2 Trenching Spades.
- 1 " Pick.
- 2 Vercy Pistols.
- 1 Range Finder.
- 1 Automatic Rifle.
- 2 Wire Cutters.
- 1 Gun Sight.
- 2 Water Bottles.
- 1 Soldiers' Gas Mask.
- 1 Horse " "
- ✓ 4 Hand Grenades.
- ✓ 2 Rifle "
- 1 Trench Sign.
- 5 Bayonets.
- ✓ 2 Gas Bombs.
- 2 Swords.
- 2 Aeroplane Bombs.
- 1 Steel Helmet.
- 1 Tripod.
- 6 Paper Bandages.
- 1 Grenatenwefer.



T/R.



20th April, 1926.

The Town Clerk,  
West Maitland,  
New South Wales.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 19th November, advising that portion of the collection of war relics presented to West Maitland in 1923, had been destroyed by fire, a request was made for a list of the relics which were destroyed or alternatively of those which were not destroyed. This information was required for record purposes.

2. It will be appreciated if you will kindly let me know when the information asked for may be expected.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "J. H. ...".

Director.

BF 2075

23rd December, 1925.

Town Clerk,  
West Maitland,  
New South Wales.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 19th November, it is noted with regret that portion of the collection of relics presented to West Maitland by the New South Wales State Trophy Committee was destroyed by fire at the end of last year. It would be appreciated if you will kindly let me know if it is practicable for you to supply, for record purposes, particulars of the relics which were destroyed or, alternatively, of those which were not destroyed. The relics were labelled and a list of the numbers appearing on the labels would be quite sufficient for this purpose.

Yours faithfully,

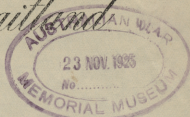
*J. L. R.*  
Director.

BF-28/1/26.

# Municipality of West Maitland

TELEPHONE No 44  
WEST MAITLAND.

Town Clerk's Office.



November 19th. 1925. 19

The Director,  
Australian War Memorial,  
Exhibition Buildings,  
MELBOURNE.

Dear Sir,

In reply to yours of 14th. inst with reference to the collection of war relics of the A. I. F. accepted by my Council I beg to advise that what remains of it is now on exhibition at the Technical College Museum. Unfortunately portion of the collection was destroyed by fire at the latter end of last year whilst stored in cases at the College.

Yours faithfully,

*Chas Morgan*

Town Clerk.

14th November, 1925.

The Town Clerk,  
WEST MAITLAND.  
New South Wales.

Dear Sir,

Towards the end of 1922, a representative and varied collection of war relics of the A.I.F. was accepted by your Council and in the following year was despatched to you.

It will be appreciated if you will kindly advise if these relics are on public exhibition and if so where, or if not, when it is expected that they will be available for inspection by the public.

Should the relics still be stored you will of course not overlook the necessity for periodical inspections and treatment for the purpose of preventing damage by moths, damp, etc.

Yours faithfully,



Director.

# Municipality of West Maitland

TELEPHONE No 44  
WEST MAITLAND.

Town Clerk's Office.

September 26th. 1922. 19

The Secretary,  
N.S.W. State Trophy Committee,  
Exhibition Buildings,  
MELBOURNE.

Dear Sir,

In reply to yours of 22nd. instant. re the acceptance by this Council of allotment of small trophies recently made, Attached hereto please find Agreement form duly filled in as requested.

Yours faithfully,

*Chas. Imrie*

Town Clerk.

(Encl. 1.)

Town..... *West Maitland, N.S.W.*

AGREEMENT.

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED TRUSTEES, appointed by the town of  
*West Maitland*.....to receive trophy(ies) allotted  
it by the State Trophy Committee, accept the trophy(ies) as  
set forth in the Committee's circular dated. *1st August 1922.*  
and will comply with the conditions laid down, viz:

1. Arrange for the trophies to be permanently housed in a building within the town and for their subsequent preservation and safe custody.
2. Bear all expenses connected with transport and installation after arrival at the nearest railway station.
3. Arrange a simple ceremony, at which the trophies should be formally taken over.
4. That, where given, the name of the donor of the trophy will be shown on the description card exhibited with the trophy.
5. That the Australian War Museum will not be responsible for the accuracy of the descriptions attached to the various trophies.

1. Signature. *Municipality of West Maitland*  
*Chas. [unclear]*
2. Signature. .... *Town Clerk*
3. Signature. .... *Sept 16<sup>th</sup> 1922.*

Ex-member of (unit).....A.I.F.

Date.....1922.

# Municipality of West Maitland

TELEPHONE No. 44  
WEST MAITLAND.

Town Clerk's Office.

September 16th. 1922. 19

The Secretary,  
N.S.W. State Trophy Committee,  
Exhibition Buildings,  
MELBOURNE.

Dear Sir,

In reply to yours of August 1st, relative to the allotment to this City of a collection of smaller trophies such as those mentioned in the correspondence, I beg to advise that my Council will be pleased to accept a collection of same, and further, that arrangements have been made to house them at the Technical Museum.

Yours faithfully,

*Chas. Implean*

Town Clerk.

File

1st August, 1922.

Dear Sir,

I am directed by the New South Wales State Trophy Committee to inform you that it has been pleased to allot to your City a collection of smaller trophies comprising rifles, bayonets, swords, trench daggers, raiding clubs, uniforms, steel helmets, body armour, signalling and gas equipment, etc., and I have been asked to enquire if this allotment will be acceptable to you.

It is desired to point out that this collection is obviously material which must be exhibited in show cases and is therefore most suitable for inclusion in a Museum. In the event of your City accepting this allotment, will you kindly inform me in what manner you propose to exhibit the material, if you intend to establish a small War Museum, and whether you require a large or small representative collection.

The conditions on which the trophies will be made available are set out in the attached agreement form which I will be glad if you will have signed by three trustees appointed to represent your City, and returned to this office.

It is requested that an early reply as to your acceptance or refusal of this allotment be given.

Yours faithfully,

SECRETARY TO COMMITTEE.

The Town Clerk,  
West Maitland,  
N.S.W.