



Surveying of the Hundred of Tickera began in 1877. The land covered virtually all of the Tickera Sheep Run which had an area of 63 square miles (101.36 square Km). The head station of the Tickera run was initially situated where the township now stands. Surveyor J. Hore signed the diagram of the town plan in early 1882 and the town was formally gazetted on 5 October in that year. On "Granite Creek" halfway between the cliffs and the present day main road two wells were noted. One is still visible today.

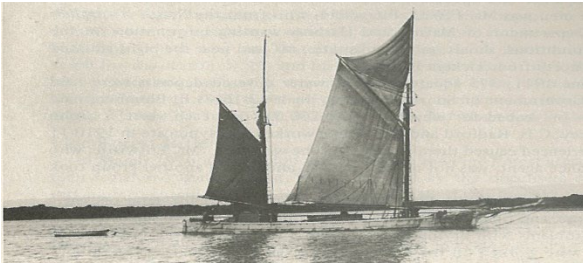
Early employment in Tickera revolved around the fishing industry, Limestone Flux Quarrying and farming. Henry Manners one of the first fishermen in Tickera first leased land in Tickera in 1886 with the option to buy, which he did in 1907. At first Henry moved back and forth between Kadina, where his wife kept a boarding house, and Tickera. He lived in a cave in the cliff face until he built a house in Tickera. Henry and his wife Louisa divided their time between Tickera and Kadina until 1889 when Louisa gave up the boarding house to live in Tickera.

Flux from Tickera was loaded into ketches from quarries along the foreshore south of Tickera to be used at the smelters in Port Pirie. This trade ceased in approximately 1905. With the Hundred of Tickera having a large amount of coastline, it was natural for the small township of Tickera to become involved with ships and the grain trade. The grain shipping trade was well established by 1908. The wheat stacks were built on top of the cliffs. One of these was established at the area now used as a boat ramp. Long chutes of wood were built which extended into the deeper water from where the ketch hands would load.

Surveying of the Hundred of Tickera began in 1877. The land covered virtually all of the Tickera Sheep Run which had an area of 63 square miles (101.36 square Km). The head station of the Tickera run was initially situated where the township now stands. Surveyor J. Hore signed the diagram of the town plan in early 1882 and the town was formally gazetted on 5 October in that year. On "Granite Creek" halfway between the cliffs and the present day main road two wells were noted. One is still visible today.

Early employment in Tickera revolved around the fishing industry, Limestone Flux Quarrying and farming. Henry Manners one of the first fishermen in Tickera first leased land in Tickera in 1886 with the option to buy, which he did in 1907. At first Henry moved back and forth between Kadina, where his wife kept a boarding house, and Tickera. He lived in a cave in the cliff face until he built a house in Tickera. Henry and his wife Louisa divided their time between Tickera and Kadina until 1889 when Louisa gave up the boarding house to live in Tickera.

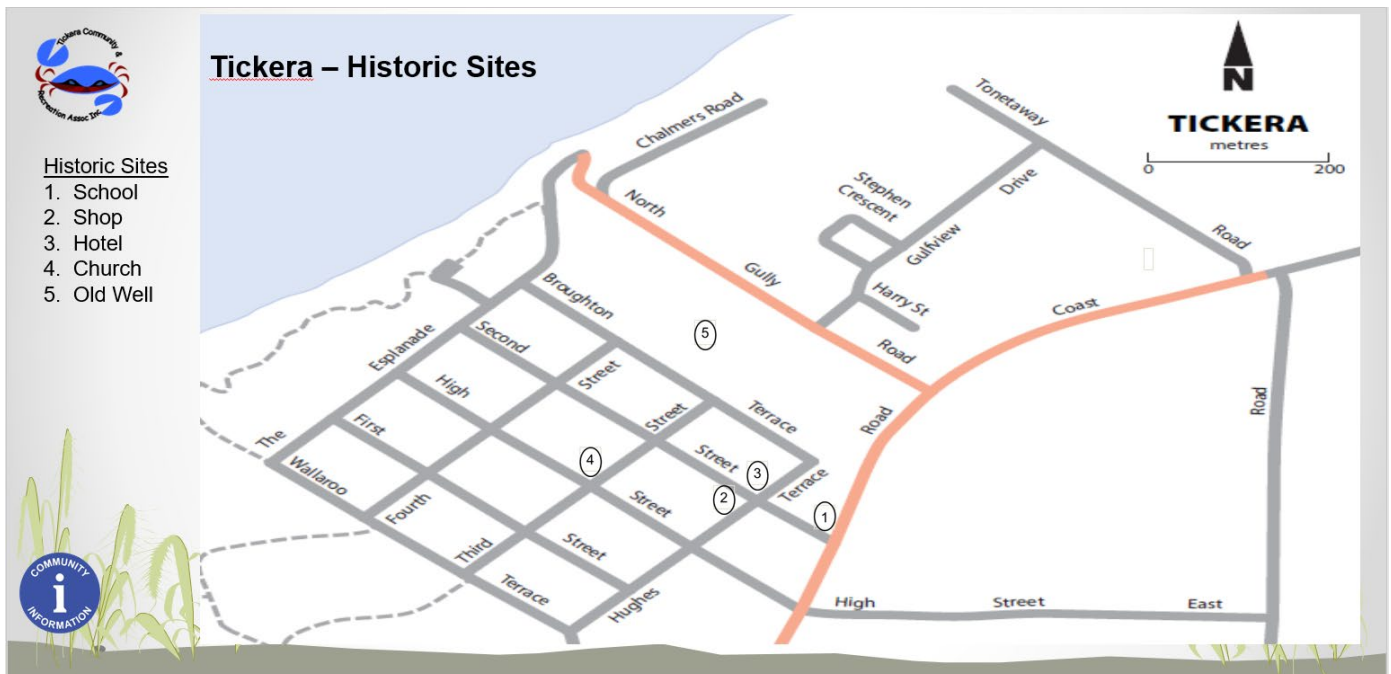
Flux from Tickera was loaded into ketches from quarries along the foreshore south of Tickera to be used at the smelters in Port Pirie. This trade ceased in approximately 1905. With the Hundred of Tickera having a large amount of coastline, it was natural for the small township of Tickera to become involved with ships and the grain trade. The grain shipping trade was well established by 1908. The wheat stacks were built on top of the cliffs. One of these was established at the area now used as a boat ramp. Long chutes of wood were built which extended into the deeper water from where the ketch hands would load.



Ketch *Tickera* built and owned by Walter Dorey (Edwards Collection, S.A.A.)



Loading the *Annie Watt* with chute apparatus similar to that used at Tickera (Edwards Collection S.A.A.)



1. Tickera School

Children at Tickera first began their lessons at a provisional school which was opened in September 1884. Parents paid the fee of ten pounds, eighteen shillings and four pence (\$21.85) for their children to be taught. As there were forty children enrolled, and the existing building too small, residents pressured for many years for a new building. In 1887 the school was temporarily closed but re-opened in 1888.

Under pressure from Tickera residents the government of the day finally announced that a school would be built at Tickera, and allocated the sum of five pounds (\$10) towards the building. Work commenced in 1910, with the new grounds covering an area of two acres (.810 hectare). Whilst these proceedings were occurring, 45 children were housed in a building 30 x 14 feet (9.144m x 4.267m). Built at a cost of one thousand, three hundred pounds (\$2600), the new school consisted



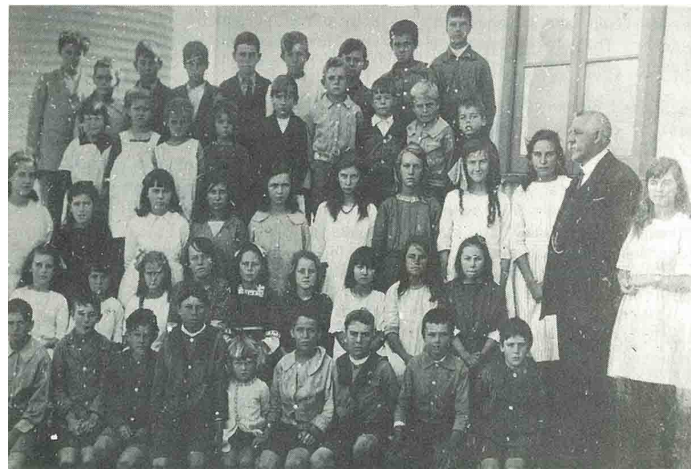
of the schoolroom, teacher's residence and a shelter shed for students. In July 1911 the school was official opened by the Minister of Education.

The depression years saw the number of children declining. However, a "Back to School" celebration was held at Tickera in 1936 with 300 attending and enjoying a concert, afternoon tea and reminiscing about the early 1900's school days. During World War 2, pupil numbers dropped low, with records showing only nine regular attendees. The school still existed with 12 pupils in 1956, but 54 scholars was the largest average attendance during 1914.

After a temporary closure in 1956 the school eventually closed on 31st January, 1958. The remaining students travelled by bus to Alford School each day situated 11km due east of Tickera.



**Opening of the new School in
Tickera (*Chronicle*, 1911)**



TICKERA SCHOOL, 1923. BACK ROW: Dan McIntosh, Gerald Coghlan, Lons. Cross, Stan Gully, Cliff Cross, Vic Manners, Bill Petherick, Claude Gully, Claud Flint. FOURTH ROW: Cass Barker, Ruth Manners, Malsie Gully, Hope Richardson, Mert Kinnear, Clyde Johnson, George McIntosh, Bill Lee, Jack Robinson. THIRD ROW: Celia Coghlan, Eileen Bayne, Eva Pearce, Verna Willis, Nell Flint, Emily Willis, Thelma Theim, Roma Mann, Hazel Petherick, Ambrose F. Coghlan (Paddy) Headmaster, Viola Johns (Monitor). SECOND ROW: Zita Petherick, Elma Johns, Nancy Mann, Bertha Theim, Grace Barker, Veronica Coghlan, Myra Willis, Edna Johns, Rita Barker. FRONT ROW: Allan Johnson, Colin Pearce, Murray McIntosh, Max Barker, Phillip Coghlan, Frances Coghlan, Howard Lee, Tom Flint, Frank Pearce.

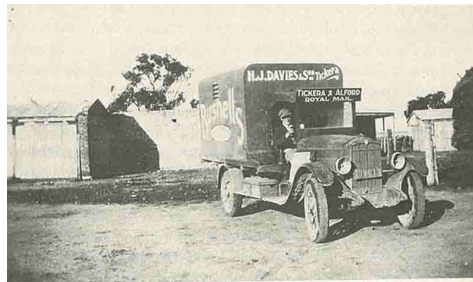
2. Tickera Shop

In October 1883 Peter Gervasi who was a store-keeper of Wallaroo, purchased Lot 11 within the Tickera Township. Soon after this time he opened his shop at this site, Lot 6, which also acted as a Post Office. The business continued to trade until 1908. The shop then closed for a number of years until it was re-opened by Harry Lee in 1925.



When the hotel across the road ceased operation as a hotel in 1905 it commenced trading as a grocery store. The business traded in the old hotel until 1925 when it moved back to these premises at Lot 6 Tickera. The telephone exchange was installed in this year. On May 17th 1925, H.J. Davies and Son took over the business. At this stage 10 to 12 subscribers were on the exchange. The store stocked groceries, cool drinks (kept cool in the cellar), boots, hardware and some haberdashery. In 1926 Bill Davies who had taken over ownership installed a kerbside petrol bowser.

The store continued to operate on these premises until it closed in in 1941. The exchange and post office moved into the Hotel across the road which Mr Bill Davies had leased and was operating as a store at this time.



Bill Davies and his early Truck carrying the mail between Alford and Tickera

3. Tickera Hotel

On 18th October, 1883, Elizabeth Alford, wife of Charles Alford, a labourer of Terowie, purchased 10 blocks of land in the township of Tickera. By June the following year, her husband was preparing plans for the Tickera Hotel. On 4th June 1884 he deposited plans for the proposed hotel with the licensing Bench [Adelaide Observer Sat 14th June 1884]. The hotel opened for business by October and a ball was held in the hotel to celebrate. Mr Isaac Rayson the new licensee advertised in the Kadina and Wallaroo times, 18th January, 1886:

This hotel which is situated in the rising township of Tickera and near the beach is about eleven miles from Wallaroo and about the same from Kadina. Visitors are informed that the roads are good from these townships. The surrounding neighbourhood offers splendid opportunities to marriage and picnic parties for an enjoyable outing. Wines and spirits, only the best brands kept. Good stabling. Communications promptly attended to.

In the same year, Dr. Carr was advertising that he consulted at Rayson's Hotel. At this stage there were six bedrooms in the hotel. The hotel changed licences a number of times over the years until it closed its doors to the public in October 1905.

To support her family the licensee of the time, Mrs. J. Tippet was advanced one hundred pounds (\$200) worth of groceries by the wholesale grocery firm of Grasby's. With the groceries, Mrs. Tippet commenced trading as a grocery shop, until Benjamin Lee bought the hotel/store and post office. In 1919 Ben's son, Harry, took over the store until early in 1925, when he moved back across the road into Peter Gervasi's old shop.



Tickera Hotel. c. 1935

H.J. Davies Truck

4. Tickera Church

Methodist Church services at Tickera first commenced in 1885 in the provisional Tickera School. After services at the nearby Springfield Bible Christian Church ceased due to a collapsed wall and a debt of one hundred and twenty pounds (\$240) a trust was set up with the remaining materials from the church for residents to work towards the building of a church in Tickera.

On the 14th August 1889, The Kadina and Wallaroo Times reported:

The largest gathering that was ever witnessed in the township of Tickera, assembled on Wednesday last, August 7, to take part in the ceremony of laying two of the corner stones of the new church. Shortly after 3 o'clock the service was commenced by the singing of a hymn followed by reading and prayer.

The corner stones were donated by the Wallaroo Mining Company through Captain Hancock. Residents guaranteed to raise and cart the necessary stone and sand and burn the lime needed to complete the building. Busy bees were held involving as many as 28 men and the new church grew on these premises at Lot 44 in the town centre. Opening services of the Tickera Bible Christian Church were held on 22-23 October 1889 to an overflowing congregation.

The church served a great need with many marriages taking place from 1889. Sometimes the church accommodated 100 guests. Residents congratulated themselves on having one of the neatest little churches in the country districts.

Church services, Sunday School and social gatherings continued in the church until it was finally closed in September 1953, when residents were urged to transfer their loyalties to the Alford or Kadina church.

In 1954, the building was purchased by the Tickera Seventh Day Adventists. They renovated and used it for about ten years. It is now a private holiday residence.

The Methodist Church at Tickera

