



Bendigo Remembrance Park - Notable Graves Tour

14. JAMES BUICK

Born: c1824 Angus, Scotland

Died: 7 Nov 1910 Lorne, Victoria, Australia

Buried: 10 Nov 1910

Arrived in Melbourne in 1848

Miner and discoverer of the
New Chum Gully.

Draper & Drapery Importer &
Merchant

Proprietor of "The Beehive"
Building

Located in Section D2

Grave number 5670

Interment number 20862



The Bendigo Independent
(Trove link) Wednesday 9
November 1910, page 3.

Obituary: AN EARLY PIONEER
MR JAMES BUICK

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/news/paper/article/227147888/24142864>

Bendigo Advertiser Wednesday 9 November 1910 p 3 Article Illustrated

DEATH OF MR JAMES BUICK.

AN OLD BENDIGO PIONEER.

Bendigonians, and particularly the few remaining pioneers, will be deeply grieved to learn of the death of Mr James Buick, which occurred at Lorne yesterday morning. Mr Buick, who was 86 years of age, had been in indifferent health for some time past, and when in Bendigo about eight weeks ago his friends noticed with sorrow that he was gradually failing.

The late Mr Buick was born in Scotland in 1821, and, leaving school at the age of 14, he devoted his attention to learning the drapery business in his native district. In 1848, after having mastered the ramifications of a drapery enterprise, he embarked on the ship Royal George for Melbourne. After spending a few weeks in the metropolis, he went to Adelaide, where in Hindley-street he opened a wholesale importing drapery establishment. Upon the discovery of gold at Ballarat, Mr Buick relinquished his business, and hurried with the crowd to Fryer's Creek. After a few weeks of arduous toil as a miner, he left Fryer's Creek but little richer, and went to Forest Creek, Castlemaine. In October, 1851, he arrived at Castlemaine, and not many weeks later, rumours were circulated that gold was being found at Bendigo. In December Mr Buick razed his tent, and with three others made for the new field. They pitched their tent about the present site of Harkness's Foundry, and as the place had no other inhabitants, the diggers of Golden Gully, who had directed Mr Buick and his party, gave the locality the name of "New Chum Gully." Mr Buick and his party were rewarded by



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rich finds, and when they returned to Melbourne they divided £12,000 among the four. Mr Buick purchased a partnership in Mr Langland's drapery importing business, Flinders-street, and the new firm was known as Langlands, Buick and Co. Mr Buick then made a three years tour of the old world, buying stock on the continent of Europe, and at the leading manufacturing centres of England. Subsequently Mr Langlands established a large foundry in Melbourne, and Mr Buick took into partnership with him Messrs L. L. Christie and Andrew Lyell. The firm's name was changed to Buick, Christie and Lyell, and after a most important business had been established, the partnership was, in 1868, dissolved. In that year Messrs Buick and Lyell purchased the Bendigo Beehive drapery business from Francis Bros., and thus Mr Buick's connection with Bendigo was renewed. Messrs. James Buick and Co carried on a highly-successful business, but in August, 1871, the whole building was burnt by the largest fire that has ever occurred in the district. Messrs Buick and Co sustained an immense loss, but immediately arranged for the erection of a new building, which was completed in June, 1872, at a cost, of £19,000. The business rapidly expanded, and in 1885 the firm sold the drapery business, but still retained its interest in the Beehive building. Messrs Henderson and Goodisson were the purchasers, and in course of time Mr James Buick became the sole proprietor of the present Beehive buildings. In 1885 Mr Buick retired from active business, and for a number of years he resided at "The Grove," Big Hill. Some years, ago Mr Buick acquired large property interests at Lorne, and he then decided to make that popular watering place his home. The deceased gentleman's sons, Dr James Buick, Mr Jno Buick, architect, and Mr Alex Buick, draper, of Wangaratta, are well known.

The family grave for Mr James Buick



Image from RPCV records