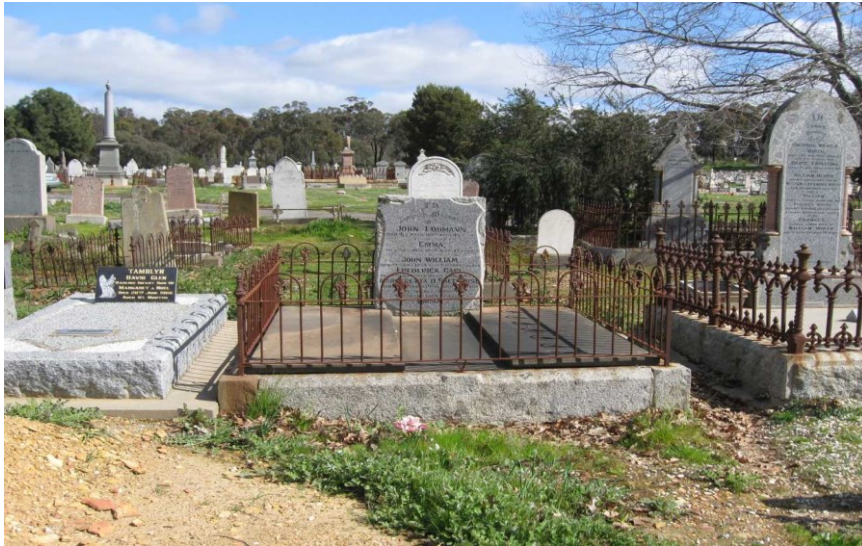


Bendigo Cemetery



Notes for John LOHMANN and his family grave #5129 in section D4.
John Lohmann was killed in an explosion of his powder factory at Flora Hill in 1885.

Probate was granted, in May 1885, to his estate, valued at £690,
to his wife Mary Ann and and three daughters.

John's 1st wife was Emma (nee: Wright). She died in 24/05/1878 aged 33 years.
John married Mary Ann (nee: Smith) in 1879 (M-1656). Mary died in 14/07/1886,
at age 29. She is buried in this grave but not named on the headstone.

Three children of John and 2nd wife Mary are also buried in this grave,
but who are not named on the headstone: Mary in Feb 1881,
John Albert in Feb 1883 and Henry George in Jul 1884.

Images:

LOHMANN_D4_197.JPG

to

LOHMANN_D4_197B.JPG

In Loving Memory Of
JOHN LOHMANN
died 16th April 1885 Aged 44 years
and his wife
EMMA
Died 24th May 1878 Aged 33 years
and their children
JOHN WILLIAM
Died 29th April 1874, Aged 9 years 11
months
FREDERICK CARL
Died 29th July 1876, Aged 4 years 6
months
MARGARETTA D. SALTHOUSE
died 16th October 1896, Aged 26 years
"Gone But Not Forgotten."
Erected by their daughter
EMMA



The following people were buried in this grave #5129 Sect D4 as per cemetery records.

5129 JOHANN WILHELM LOHMANN 30 APRIL 1874 ****
6246 FREDERICK CARL LOHMANN 31 JULY 1876 ****
6996 EMMA LOHMANN 26 MAY 1878 ****
7912 MAY LOHMANN 10 FEBRUARY 1881 ****
8654 JOHN ALBERT LOHMANN 11 FEBRUARY 1883 ****
9172 HENRY GEORGE LOHMANN 20 JULY 1884 ****
9478 JOHN LOHMANN 19 APRIL 1885 ****
9962 MARY ANN LOHMANN 16 JULY 1886 ****

There is a memorial reference to Margaretta Dorothea SALTHOUSE who died in 1896 in Geelong.

A daughter to John & Emma, married Alfred Salthouse in 1889 (M-8438).

There were 6 children born in this marriage.

John Lohmann

Bendigo Advertiser (Vic. : 1855 - 1918) Fri 17 Apr 1885 Page 2

Explosion at a Powder Factory.

In another column will be found particulars of a fatal explosion which occurred shortly before noon yesterday, at Lohmann and Co's powder factory, Flora Hill, and which resulted in the death of Mr John Lohmann. Mr Lohmann, who is a German, has resided in Sandhurst for many years, and the Bendigo Deutscher Verein flag at the Black Swan Hotel was yesterday flying half mast, out of respect to the deceased gentleman.

*

and

**EXPLOSION AT A POWDER FACTORY.
ONE MAN KILLED.**

Considerable excitement was caused, about town and particularly at Back Creek, yesterday when it was reported that Lohmann and Company's Safety Powder Manufactory at Flora Hill had been destroyed by an explosion, and Mr Lohmann blown to atoms. On enquiry at the factory, which is situated on Flora Hill, Back Creek, just outside the city boundary, it was found that the report was to a great extent true.

It appears that shortly after eleven o'clock yesterday morning Mr Lohmann and two brothers named Walter and John Conroy, who are engaged at the factory, were at work making up pellets of powder. Mr Lohmann left the elder boy, Walter Conroy, at the machine while he went into another room with a tray, for the purpose of getting some more pellets. It is surmised that while he was in the act of placing some of the pellets in the tray they fell on to two iron pipes which were overheated at the time. Lohmann rushed out of the room and called to the boys to leave the place instantly. This, they immediately did but before Lohmann could make good his escape the explosion occurred.

As soon as the boys got clear of the building they looked round to see whether their employer was following them or not, but he was now hard to be seen. They ran towards Quarry Hill for assistance, and met Constable English, who had observed the smoke issuing from the factory, and was on his way over to find out what was the matter.

The alarm having been raised Constables English and Walsh, and a number of other persons, immediately proceeded to the scene of the conflagration, but owing to the absence of water and the fury with which the fire burned, they were utterly powerless to arrest the progress of the flames. The body of poor Lohmann was visible in the flames when Constable English arrived, but shortly afterwards one of the stone walls fell in on it.

Meanwhile a young man named Charles Reidsdale obtained the horse and trap, which was being used by our reporter, and drove into the city, and with the assistance of several others took the engine belonging to the City Brigade out to the fire.

The engine of the No 1 Brigade also arrived shortly afterwards. The water was pumped from a race running from the Spring Gully reservoir to the slaughter yards, about 40 or 50 yards from the factory. On account of the fire having been burning for over half an hour before the engines were brought out, and also through the peculiar nature of the contents of the building, it was sometime before the water had the slightest effect on the fire.

The building contained about half a ton of powder, and five tons of saltpetre, sulphur, etc. It was composed of brick and stone, divided into three compartments, the store room, work room and oven room. The explosion, which does not appear to have been accompanied by any loud report, the powder not being confined, occurred in the oven room, and was sufficiently strong to blow down nearly the whole of the side of the building.

When at length the flames were subdued a number of volunteers set to work to extricate the body of the unfortunate man. After the debris had been removed a shocking spectacle met their gaze.

The head, arms, and upper part of the chest had entirely disappeared, leaving only the trunk, which was burnt and charred out of all semblance to human remains. What there was left, however, was collected, and having been placed on a piece of iron, removed to the Durham Ox Hotel, Back Creek.

Mr James Cahill, Mr Lehman's partner, was out with the horse and trap delivering goods at the time of the explosion, and as may be imagined was naturally very much shocked when he returned to the factory at about one o'clock to find it completely wrecked, one side of the brick portion having been blown out by the force of the explosion.

The boys had a miraculous escape, for had they delayed for an instant when the warning was given by their employer they would certainly have shared his fate. It may be a melancholy satisfaction to the friends of the deceased to think that he met his death through being so mindful of the safety of the boys in his employ instead of making good his own escape. The damage to the property is estimated at about £600, none of which is covered by insurance.

Mr Lohmann was an old Bendigonian of about 25 years standing. For a long time he kept the Imperial Hotel in High Street, but relinquished hotel keeping about two years ago. He leaves a wife and three children to mourn their loss, two grown up daughters by his first wife, and a boy by his second wife. It is understood that they are fairly well provided for.

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Bendigo Advertiser (Vic. : 1855 - 1918) Sat 18 Apr 1885 Page 2

The Fatal Explosion.

Mr G Webster yesterday afternoon held an inquest at the Durham Ox Hotel, on the remains of Mr John Lohmann, who on Thursday morning was burned to death at the powder mills, Back Creek. There were five witnesses examined, and the evidence was substantially the same as the account of the occurrence published by us yesterday.

It was shown that the deceased was removing a tray of pellets from the oven, and that when one or two had fallen on to the heated pipings he called out for the brothers Conroy. Others continuing to fall, deceased told the boys to leave the building as soon as possible. The boys immediately left, and after proceeding about seventy five yards into the bush they looked back. They could not see Lohmann, but heard an explosion. The flames broke out shortly afterwards.

It was pointed out that about two weeks ago the drying tables were removed from the middle of the room to the side. When in the former position they were a great protection to the pipings, but when removed they were entirely exposed. After hearing the evidence the jury returned a verdict that deceased was accidentally burned to death, during an explosion caused by pellets of powder falling on the hot piping, thereby igniting and setting the place on fire.

The funeral of the deceased gentleman will take place tomorrow, and will move from his residence, Palmerston Square, Quarry Hill, at four o'clock. The officers and brothers of the M.U.I.O.O.F. Bendigo Lodge, and the active and honorary members of the No 1 Fire Brigade are requested to attend.

*

and

THE Friends of the late Mr JOHN LOHMANN are respectfully invited to Follow his Remains from his late residence, Palmerston Square, to the Sandhurst Cemetery. Funeral to move on Sunday, the 19th instant, at four o'clock pm. THOMAS OAKLEY, Undertaker, Bridge Street.

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Mary Ann Lohmann

Bendigo Advertiser (Vic. : 1855 - 1918) Fri 16 Jul 1886 Page 2

Death from Typhoid Fever.

An inmate of the Bendigo Hospital named Mary Ann Lohmann, 29 years of age, admitted on the 13th ult, died on Wednesday night from typhoid fever.

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Compiled by Pat & Ian Belmont
in June 2019
for the Bendigo Cemetery Obituaries & Notes