

Ann MARONEY per *Eliza Caroline*



Ann Marony (Maroney) is shown on the passenger list of the *Eliza Caroline* which arrived in Port Phillip on 31 March 1850 as an 18 year-old, Catholic house servant who could read only. She was a native of Ballyna, Tipperary (her birthplace and the workhouse from which she came is yet to be confirmed). She was employed by Mrs Roycroft, Little Collins St, Melbourne at £10 for 6 mounts. On 6 December 1850 she married Gabriel Church at Benalla in country Victoria and they had 12 children, each of whom also had 11 or 12 children, so, as one descendant notes, she was the matriarch of quite a dynasty. Another descendant noted that the daughters were brought up Catholic and the sons as Anglicans.

Gabriel was a carrier and farmer but in 1874 he and Ann built the *Racecourse Hotel* [pictured] in Benalla and ran it until the 1890s.



Ann died of typhoid fever on 26 March 1898 and is buried under a large Celtic cross in the Lake Rowan Cemetery with her husband and a number of her Church family members. Ann's estate was valued at £801. Some family members still leave on Ann's property, 'Erindale', near Lake Rowan.



In loving remembrance of  
Ann Church  
who died at St James 26 March 1898 aged 66 years.

We miss thee from our home dear mother  
We miss thee from thy place  
A shadow o're our life is cast  
We miss the sunshine of thy face  
We miss thy kind and willing hand  
Thy fond and anxious care  
Our home is dark without thee  
We miss thee everywhere

Erected by her loving  
Sons and daughters

[Information provided to Trevor McClaughlin in the 1990s by descendant Brenda Cooke and additional information from Debbie Lang & Margaret Melnyk; photographs from Margaret Melnyk]