

ELIZABETH BRUFORD

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THE ESCOTT STORY by Elise Padreny (nee Browning) Written for the Family Reunion Booklet, in July 2003.

Elizabeth Escott was 48 years of age when she embarked on the new phase in her life in 1853 – the journey itself would have been traumatic enough! Why she came to Australia and suffered such hardships remains unanswered. She was truly a pioneer and a brave lady of whom we can be justly proud.

CHILDREN OF THOMAS ESCOTT AND ELIZABETH BRUFORD were – in order: Isaac, Elizabeth Winpenny, Sarah, Mary, Johanna, Thomas, Fanny, Matilda (died in England), Ann (died in England), Ellen, Rosa Jane.

After Thomas Escott died in England in 1852, his widow Elizabeth brought her daughters, Elizabeth, Mary, Johanna, Fanny, Ellen and Rosa, and son Thomas to Australia on the "Miles Barton" which sailed from Liverpool on 24/7/1853, arriving at Melbourne 24/7/1853. Their ages ranged from 24 years to 4 years. Two daughters, Matilda (Fanny's twin) and Ann had died in England in 1843.

The eldest son, Isaac, and his wife Sarah, and two children John and Elizabeth, were still in London at the time of Isaac's fathers death on 18/5/1852. Isaac's sister Sarah, second eldest daughter, and her husband William Boyce, travelled to Australia with a 1 year old infant (Emily) and a 3 year old daughter, Elizabeth, on the "James Baines" in February 1855.

The Escott's settled in Blacksmith's Gully, situated on the east side of the Chewton to Fryerstown Road. Mary died in 1855 (grave site unknown). Fanny also died later that year and is buried at Specimen Hill (opposite where they lived) with their mother, Elizabeth, who died in 1856. Their headstone inscription reads: In Affectionate Memory, of Elizabeth Escott who died 15th June 1856, aged 53 years, also Fanny her daughter who died 6th Decr 1855, aged 15 years. "A tender mother and a loving wife here sleeps in humble hope of better life, by side of daughter, loved and cherished well, we leave the Judgement Day the rest to tell."

Inscription

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Gravesite Details

Sole Grave surrounded by wrought iron fence