

The CREBERT/GREBERT family of North Waratah

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My maternal 2 x great-grandfather Peter Grebert was born in Germany in April 1824 and married Maria Luise Wagner in December 1848. They were expecting their first child when they decided to emigrate to Australia in 1849. They were amongst 165 other German immigrants to arrive on the Parland. Peter had been trained as a vine dresser and vigneron.

He purchased land at 'The Folly' Mayfield in 1853 to grow his grape vines and citrus fruit gardens and after a few years had a very successful business, where he sold the first wine produced in Newcastle in 1859. He became a Naturalised Australian Citizen in 1854 where his surname shown on this document was anglicised to CREBERT.

Crebert's 'Folly Gardens' were well-known throughout the district, and on Sundays (and often during the week) parties spent the day out at the Folly, to walk through the Gardens and purchase fruits and wines.

Peter paid for the passage of his parents, Franz and Catherine, to come out from

Germany and they arrived in Australia on the *Daniel Ross* in April 1855 together with Peter's brothers Michael 1832–99, Anton 1835–76 and Lorenz 1841–1919.

Peter and Maria (WAGNER) GREBERT had a large family of 11 children who all kept the CREBERT surname, while all the descendants of Peter's 3 brothers descendants are GREBERTS. Peter's sister Elizabeth 1837–1914 married Henry MAYAR/MYER 1826–92 and although some of their 9 children were registered as MAYAR, various spellings of MAYER, MYER and MYERS were also used.

When Peter CREBERT died in October 1895 he was buried in the Old Church of England Burial Ground at North Waratah. When Maria (WAGNER) CREBERT died in 1914 she was buried in the Sandgate Cemetery.

In the late 1950s an order for the removal of the St Andrew's Cemetery was made, and all the historic headstones were either placed in a wall or smashed up to make a rubble drain at Blackbutt Reserve in Newcastle. The historic old original St Andrews Church was also demolished.

In June this year Ron CREBERT of Adamstown, another of Peter and Maria's great-great grandchildren, was contacted by a couple from Blackalls Park who had heard that a family reunion was being held this year. They had found the Memorial Inscription of Peter's headstone in an overgrown part of the backyard of their newly purchased home and wanted to return it to family members. Arrangements are now being made to have this part of Peter's headstone placed next to his wife's headstone in Sandgate Cemetery.

Sources

NSW Assisted Immigrant Passenger Lists 1828–1896

NSW BDM indexes www.bdm.nsw.gov.au/bdm_fh.html

NSW Department of Lands

Sandgate Cemetery Records www.sandgatecemetery.org.au

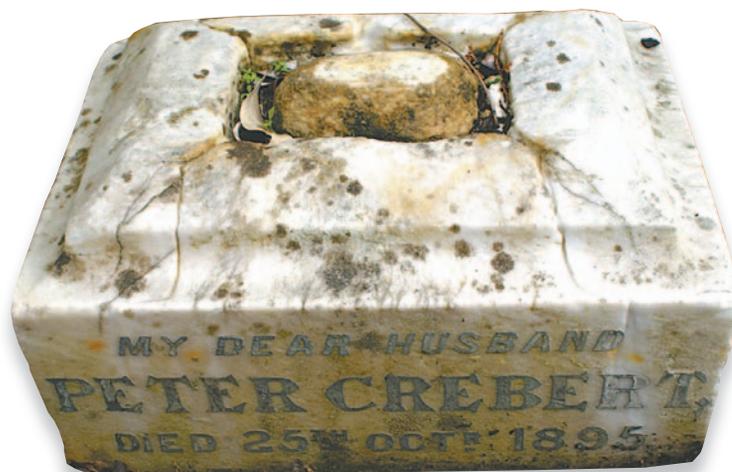
State Records NSW

Trove <http://trove.nla.gov.au>



Above: Peter CREBERT's headstone in Old Church of England Burial Ground, North Waratah

Right: The Memorial Inscription from Peter CREBERT's headstone



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