

HERITAGE FACT SHEET

NO: 3

STEAM LOCOMOTIVE 1919

Glenreagh Mountain Railway Inc.
PO Box 5104
Glenreagh NSW 2450

Notes prepared by Dr John Kramer, 2004.

Overview

This historic locomotive was built in Manchester, England in 1878 by the famous firm of Beyer, Peacock & Co. Ltd. It was then shipped to Australia and entered service with the NSW Government Railways in December, 1878. In all, there were 77 members of what later became known as the '19' Class

These tender engines were initially used on main line goods trains all over NSW. As more modern steam locomotives were introduced, the '19' Class began to appear on specific branch lines throughout the state. Their simple 0-6-0 wheel arrangement suited these tasks well. They also were widely used as shunters in goods yards. Despite their age, they were amongst the last steam locomotives to work on the NSWGR.

In its earliest years, 1919 worked in the Newcastle district, then Taree and Lismore. It was based at Bathurst from 1949 to 1952. It then was allocated to South Grafton Loco Depot from 1953 to 1957. During this period it was used extensively on the Dorrigo line. A trip behind 1919 along the line in 1957 has been beautifully described in Ron Preston's classic work, *'Tender into Tank'*.

Locomotive 1919 was withdrawn from service in Sydney in the early 1970s and stored at Enfield. Soon after, it was sold to the Lachlan Vintage Village at Forbes. In 1986, it was bought at auction by the Dorrigo Steam Railway and Museum. Several years ago, ownership passed to the Glenreagh Mountain Railway and it was moved by road from Dorrigo to Glenreagh in 2001.