

The Institution of Engineers, Australia

Engineering Heritage Australia

National Engineering Oral History Program**INTERVIEW TAPE LOG**

Interviewee: Ian Cameron

Tape Numbers: IEA. EHA: LJ 1,
IEA. EHA: LJ 2,
IEA. EHA: LJ 3.

Interviewer: Lesley Jenkins

Number of Tapes: 3

Place of Interview: Institution of Engineers Building, 447 Upper Edward Street, Brisbane.

Date of Interview: 11 May 2004

Restrictions on Use: None

Log prepared using Marantz CP 430

Tape: IEA.EHA: LJ 1, Side A

Time/ Counter	Subject	Proper Names & Keywords
000	Date and place of birth. (4 June 1929, Brisbane)	Brisbane
011	Names and occupations of parents and sibling	Elizabeth (sister) William & Vida Cameron (parents).
020	Early primary schooling.	Star of the Sea Convent, Southport. Buranda State School Church of England Grammar (Churchie).
053	Granny Cox's educational endowment	Educational Endowment
063	Meeting Graham McNamara at 'Churchie'	Graham McNamara
079	Early interest in Engineering	Engineering
104	Cadet with Main Roads	Main Roads
134	Drawing bridge plans; engineering projects as cadet	Main Roads Cadet
162	Scuba diving as an Engineer	Diving
170	Tertiary training	University of Queensland
195	Aesthetic considerations-Bridges	Bridge Design Main Roads
214	Timber Bridges Concrete Bridges	Logan River Main Roads post WW2

254	Completing projects below estimates	Main Roads
269	Pre-stressed concrete thesis	University of Queensland
291	Attending conference in Prague	World Wide conference on pre-stressed concrete
300	Pre-stressed concrete deck bridge, possibly the first in Australia	Tenthill Creek Gatton-Mt Sylvia Rd Alan Jones Rocla
337	Paper submitted to Canberra which resulted in winning the Chapman Medal award.	Chapman Medal
357	Shortages of materials post World War 2	Building immediately post WW2
378	Outlines input from different people into the development of the bridge as a consultant. Outlines management role.	Merivale Bridge (1979-1980) John Snelling
End Side A, Tape LJ 1		

Tape: IEA.EHA:LJ 1, Side B

Time/Counter	Subject	Proper Names & Keywords
008	Decision to leave Main Roads (age 30)	Main Roads Graham McNamara
078	Marriage in 1955. Going into private practice (1960). Personal considerations regarding leaving Main Roads.	Private Practice.
143	Moving to Pullenvale and rest given by living there.	Pullenvale (1968-'69) John Dalton
170	First jobs as consultants (6 bridges)	Murweh Shire Council Warrego River Ward River John Lavery (UQ)
204	Discusses the supervision and design of a factory complex.	High Tensile Bolted Joints Design Load John Lavery
250	Putting in a tender for a construction job which was 20% below the estimate.	Main Roads Bells Bridge, Gympie Courier Mail
285	Cost savings made through better planning & organization.	Planning & Organisation
300	Time spent working and away from family and his thoughts on this.	Work & Family
315	Interests shared with family, his sister the well-known art gallery director, educator & art writer Betty Churcher.	Gardening Betty Churcher (Ian's sister) Art
349	The first old building 'Alexandria' that became their offices. Discusses offices and premises that followed.	Wickham Terrace Empire House

352	The buildings constructed and rented until Cameron's retirement.	Leichhardt Street Ronald Percy (architect) Civil & Civic Coronation Drive
End Side B, Tape LJ 1		

Tape: IEA.EHA:LJ 2, Side A		
Time/ Counter	Subject	Proper Names & Keywords
000	Introduction of computers into Main Roads and the practice	Computer applications IBM 650 Main Roads
029	Using the computer in Sydney and the early problems with this.	Barron Bridge Design IBM 1130 (c1967)
070	Trip to Japan and Europe to look at computer aided drafting and how it was used.	Computer Aided Drafting
086	First, or one of the first, Engineering Consultancies to introduce computers. Outlines increases in productivity.	CAD Structural Design & Productivity
122	The diverse nature of the practice - Cameron McNamara including formation of AA Heath & Partners.	Town Planning AA Heath & Partners
142	The formation of Economic Associates, Scientific and Technical Computing Centre and a quality assurance arm.	Economic Associates STCC Pty Ltd Quality Assurance
173	Taking on a management role while retaining 'hands-on' role with engineering.	Management Mt Eliza Management Centre - Advanced Course (1974)
210	'Flat' organisational structure and the difficulties and rewards of this model.	Matrix Organisation
233	Loyalty among staff, and those who started independent businesses.	Management Style
242	Cameron discusses the harmonious relationship with his partner, Graham McNamara.	Graham McNamara
258	Merger with Kinhill, and retirement rules that existed with Cameron McNamara.	Kinhill
268	Involvement with the Institution of Engineers	Institution of Engineers Professor Lavery Graduates & Students Meetings
289	The positions he held with the Institution of Engineers.	Member of the Qld Division Chairman (1969)
295	Institution of Engineers in its early days & the small nature of the organisation at that time. Standards Australia Committee work.	Councillor (10 Years) Standards Australia Committee
316	Developed a whole suite of contracts in the broad range of engineering activity, which are the current general conditions of contract.	Standards Australia Committee

349	Cameron's first arbitration with Brisbane City Council & Thiess	Institute of Arbitrators
375	Outlines the arbitration appeals process – past & present & the support or lack of this with the Judiciary.	Arbitration Appeals Referring to referees
End Side A, Tape LJ 2		

Tape: IEA.EHA:LJ 2, Side B		
Time/ Counter	Subject	Proper Names & Keywords
000	Discusses settlement of disputes and his view of his work in Arbitration. Retired from this work at age 73.	Arbitration
052	A case in Sydney (3 months) and the lengthy process involved.	Memory & Arbitration
083	Courses and examinations for those wishing to become Arbitrators.	Arbitration Accreditation Process
098	The necessary practical aspects and experience required and drawn on for an Arbitrator	Background experience for Arbitration. Contracts & contract law.
128	Barristers & the arbitration process	Legal training & Arbitration
143	A particular arbitration case in Sydney involving 'champerty.'	'Champerty' and the law.
173	Legal representation & arbitration.	Legal representation
186	Example - a particular case with Main Roads	Main Roads & Arbitration
196	The Main Roads case and the lack of legal representation.	Appeals against the Arbitrator's decision.
243	The design of the shipbuilding dry dock for Evans Deakin at Kangaroo Point.	Corporate Governance Evans Deakin Copenhagen Shipbuilders
265	Cameron's involvement (20 years) on the boards of Evans Deakin Ltd & Carricks Ltd.	Boards of Evans Deakin Ltd Board of Carricks Ltd The Austral Group
274	Links between engineering and the corporate environment.	Engineering and the Boardroom.
315	Cameron's role as chairman of the boards of Carricks and Austral.	Chairman of Carricks & and Austral Group. Direction setting.
332	Merger of Cameron McNamara Pty Ltd with Kinhill Pty Ltd	Kinhill Pty Ltd
360	Subsequent take-overs of Cameron McNamara and Kinhills Pty Ltd.	Mergers & take-overs Haliburton KBR
370	Working for 3 years after the business was no longer in his control.	Retirement Coronary bi-pass
End Side B, Tape LJ 2		

Tape: IEA.EHA:LJ 3, Side A – 11 May 2004		
Time/ Counter	Subject	Proper Names & Keywords
009	Cameron's involvement (1998) in the Creek management Group.	Landcare Pullen Pullen Catchment Group Inc.
045	Satisfying role as Chairman of the Pullen Pullen Catchment Group Inc.	Chairman of the Pullen Pullen Catchment Group Inc.
074	Role of the group in tree planting and expanding their interests to other parks.	Pullen Pullen Catchment Group Inc.
100	Tree planting and making trees available as well as changing attitudes.	Residents & the Association
124	Cameron discusses the database he introduced.	Pullenvale
138	The book that resulted	Green & Pleasant Land
149	Cameron's other two publications, with emphasis on <i>125 Years of State Public Works – 1859 to 1984</i> . (1986)	<i>125 Years of State Public Works – 1859 to 1984</i> . (1986)
245	Research, writing and publication of a book about his family.	<i>They Came of Bold & Roving Stock</i> (1996)
274	Discusses the work involved in publishing – design, layout, typing, diagrams, etc.	Ian's publications
301	His involvement in pre-schooling & primary and secondary schooling with his children.	Educational involvement President, Kenmore & District kindergarten Association. P&C President, Kenmore State School P&C.
317	Cameron's involvement with the Queensland Institute of Technology.	Council of QIT Board of Tertiary Studies
337	Internal politics of QIT.	3 rd Chairman of QIT
358	Streamlining the meeting processes at QIT.	Meetings at QIT
381	The move to remove the fence between QIY & the Botanical Gardens.	QIY & the Botanical Gardens
390	Faculty of Engineering changes.	Engineering QIT
	End Side A, Tape LJ 3	

Tape: IEA.EHA:LJ 3, Side B		
Time/ Counter	Subject	Proper Names & Keywords
009	Background to receiving Honorary Doctorate.	Honorary Doctorate QIT (now QUT) 1996
031	Cameron's surprise when he was nominated Engineer of the Year.	Engineer of the Year – 1996 Engineering Hall of Fame

053	Highlights of Cameron's career.	Bridge Design Bridge Construction Starting and building up a business to world standards. Activities as Arbitrator Landcare
088	His son's interest in mechanical engineering and his subsequent work in a range of fields, including management.	Mechanical Engineering MBA
160	The occupations of Cameron's children.	Town Planning Brisbane Writers Festival Homemaker
184	Cameron's discusses his future plans, and the many trips he has been on.	Travel Writing Books
211	Cameron's interest in the Institution of Engineers and the role the organization has played in the profession.	Institution of Engineers
232	Close of interview	
	End Side B, Tape LJ 3	