

William Woodward, of Yorkshire, married a widow, Mrs Thomas with two children in the late 1830's and lived at Norfolk Plains (Longford) until attracted to Emu Bay about 1839 by employment offers by the Van Diemen's Land Company. After working on the company's farms fronting Bass Strait, from Emu River to Messenger Creek, growing wheat and potatoes in "fair abundance," the Woodward's were transferred to the company's farm settlement at Ridgley where son George was born in September, 1843. When the Ridgley homestead station was abandoned, William Woodward, his wife and young family (there were eventually eight girls and four boys) were placed in possession of two thirty-acre sections of partly-cleared land, good quality red soil on the Ridgley Road about two miles south of Burnie.

Son George became an unusually proficient bushman, skilled in the use of the axe, crosscut and pit saws and the paling knife. (Export of palings to mainland Australia and New Zealand was the North-West Coast's biggest single industry for years). During his early married life he split palings at Lower Stowport and in 1872, after the discovery of tin moved to Mt. Bischoff to work in saw pits and at tree felling and splitting various kinds of timber needed at the tin mine for buildings, water dams and tramways.

Then in 1887, in middle age, George and Annie Woodward settled on the Cam Road, Somerset, and survived for another forty years, rearing a family of four sons and six daughters, including Ada Maria, who married James Andrew Dodd, a bullock teamster and later Mooreville Road pioneer where members of his family still live on the original farm at the junction of Poimena Road. A double link between the Woodward-Carty and Dodd families occurred when Mary Dodd, James' sister, married Michael Carty junior, Annie Woodward's brother and eldest son of Michael and Annie Carty. One of their homes, before moving to Elliott, was the Ferry House on the east bank of the Cam River, now occupied by Dr. J. B. Mackie. They had two sons and six daughters, including eighty-two-year-old Charles Edwin Carty, of Austin Street, Wynyard. He was born in the Ferry House and is the only surviving member of the Carty family who were so prominent on the North-West Coast for almost one hundred and fifty years.