



Colyton – Timeline

Colyton is named after *Colyton House* in Devon England which had been the family home of the wife of William Cox Junior, son of the famous builder of the road across the Blue Mountains, also named William. The property of 800 acres had been granted to Cox on 17 August 1819 by Governor Macquarie. It was located on the southern side of the Western Highway opposite the present Colyton Primary School. It was only used for grazing and wheat growing. On 9 April 1842, a notice appeared in the *Sydney Herald* advertising the auction sale of William Cox's estate to form the 'Village of Colyton' with surrounding farmlets. The land was described as partly forest and partly alluvial with grass on it being 'abundant and nutritious'. The timber on the land was described as being fit for 'building and farming purposes' and the water 'abundant and never failing' from nearby Rope's Creek. Colyton is now a suburb within the larger regional district of St Marys.

1819	17 August	William Cox Junior given land grant of 800 acres and named it Colyton
1823	30 June	Land grant of 1600 acres to John McHenry between Ropes Creek & Mamre Road
1832	8 July	John McHenry died
1842	9 April	Colyton grant advertised for sale and subsequently subdivided forming the village of Colyton now in Mt Druitt
1861		First Methodist services held in Robert Thornbury's home
1861		E. E. (Jack) Hamon commenced business as blacksmith
1861	25 February	Application for National School at Colyton. First school in Simpson Hill Road
1862		First Methodist service held in a slab hut donated by Thomas Smith behind the Red Cow Inn. Service was conducted by Rev. Richard Amos
1864		School moved to the site of the Colyton Post Office on the corner of Simpson Hill Road and the Great Western Highway
1881		John McHenry's grant Mountain View Estate was subdivided and sold
1881		After an inspection of its dilapidated condition, the school was moved to a two hectare site where the present Colyton Primary School (now Mt Druitt) is located
1889		Methven Bros. established an orchard and vineyard
1892		Colyton Post Office opened

1903		Methven Bros. opened a pulp and canning factory (Balgay) in Roper Street
1950s		Colyton Hotel opened on the corner of Great Western Highway and Roper Street
1961	14 October	Bennett Road Public School opened
1967		Colyton High opened
1970s		Ropes Creek Corridor (open space) established
1975?		Colyton Shopping Centre built
1976		Methven Bros. Balgay factory closed
1983		Redevelopment of Colyton Shopping Centre