

Archdeacon Glennie

Memorial Cairn Dedicated At Drayton

TOOWOOMBA, Sunday.—St. Matthew's Church, Drayton, was filled to overflowing this morning when a special Darling Downs thanksgiving service was held. The service was taken by the rector, Rev. E. H. Smith, and he was assisted by the Ven. Archdeacon W. P. Glover and Rev. S. Atherton, of Toowong, a former rector of Drayton.

Mr. Smith in his sermon said that Drayton held the honour of being the first town on the Darling Downs. The late Archdeacon Benjamin Glennie began work on the Darling Downs in August, 1848. He rode on horseback from Moreton Bay and conducted the first service on the Darling Downs at the Bullshead Inn, Drayton, in 1849. In 1850 he was appointed first incumbent of the Darling Downs.

Archdeacon Glennie could be truly called the apostle of the Darling Downs. He was statesman-like and a man of vision. He was a true pioneer and carried out his duties with high courage and determination.

There was an attendance of 500 people at the dedication of the cairn which marks the site of the first church. The cairn was unveiled by Cr. P. H. Wuth, chairman of Drayton Shire Council, and dedicated by Archdeacon Glover.

The history of the Darling Downs was a story of brave pioneers, humble beginnings, outstanding developments and brave endeavours and achievements, said Archdeacon Glover. It was right and fitting that the story should be recorded by a monument. This memorial was a monument to the pioneer shepherd of souls on the Darling Downs. There were many present that day who remembered with loving gratitude the personal administration of Archdeacon Glennie.

Rev. S. Atherton reviewed the life of Archdeacon Glennie.