

# CITY OF KNOX

## HERITAGE STUDY

1993

A COMPONENT OF THE  
CONSERVATION STRATEGY

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A report prepared by  
Margaret McInnes

FUNDED BY THE CITY OF KNOX



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**HERITAGE STUDY 1993**

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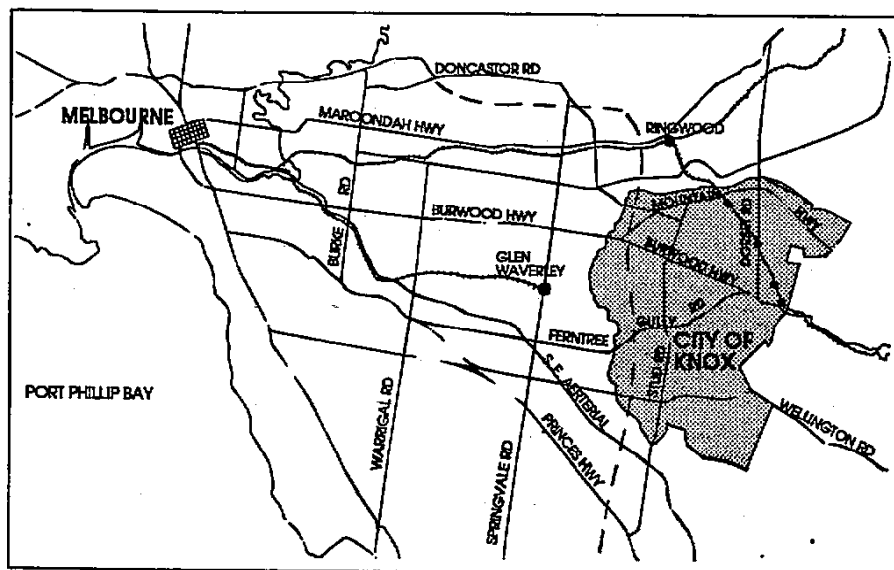
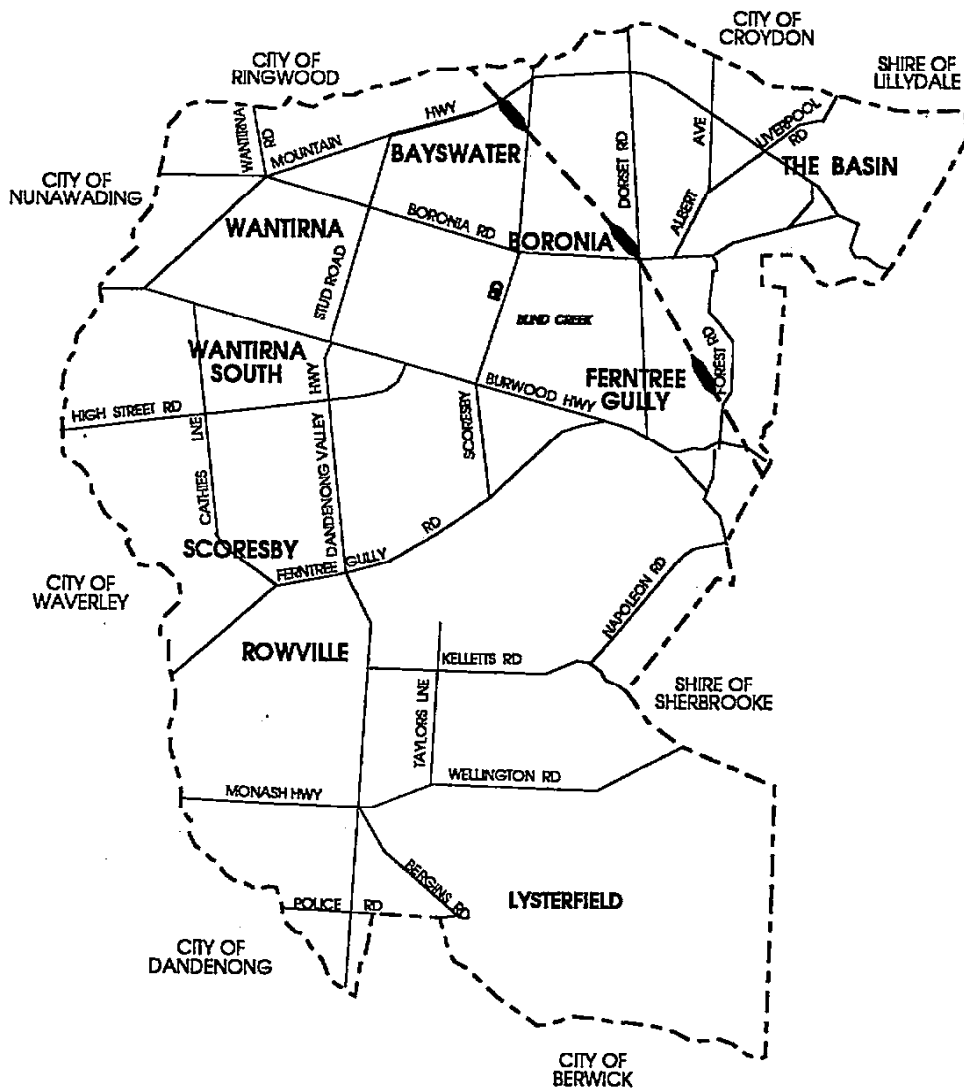




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# THE CITY OF KNOX



## FOREWORD

### THE MUNICIPALITY OF KNOX



The modern day City of Knox came about as a result of many factors, the most important of which was the resolution of a historical debate to seek a balance of rural retreat, resort destination and the popular ideal of home ownership. Central to this was a vision of a new order of local government planning to create the mix of residential, light industrial, regional and local employment opportunities. In the quest for a planned new city and regional centre, a great deal of the early history has been lost or obscured. This is common to many new town developments but fortunately today with community awareness of our heritage and introduced planning amendments, many historic buildings and places are being restored and valued.

The City of Knox was originally part of the Berwick District Roads Board, having been included in the district on 11 March, 1864. The Berwick District Roads Board was proclaimed a Shire and became the Shire of Berwick on 12 May, 1868.

On the 23 May, 1889 the Scoresby Riding of the Shire of Berwick was severed to form the Shire of Ferntree Gully. The boundaries of the Shire were redefined on 18 February, 1898 and re-subdivided into four Ridings on 29 April. The Shire of Ferntree Gully was again re-subdivided into five Ridings on 31 May, 1905.

On the 16 November, 1963, the Shire of Knox was inaugurated by the severance of the North Riding and parts of the Centre and South Ridings of the Shire of Ferntree Gully.

The original three Ridings of the Shire of Knox were subdivided into four Ridings in August, 1966 and the City of Knox was proclaimed on 4 July, 1969.





## INTRODUCTION

The City of Knox Heritage study is basically a technical document and is to be used by the Town Planning Department as the lynchpin for the management of buildings and places of historic importance. A **statement of significance** is a succinct description regarding the importance and connection of the item being assessed and is based on guidelines set by the International Council On Monuments and Sites ( I. C. O. M. O. S. )

The aim of the Heritage Study is to heighten the perception of the various statutory bodies, local government and the community to things of historical importance so that attitudinal changes can take place, buildings will be left standing and landscapes and trees will not be destroyed unnecessarily.

The boundaries of definition of heritage have shifted in the last few years from those of purely the aesthetic and grand, to wider social, cultural and working meanings. To merely describe a place on architectural merits is out of date.

A Heritage Pilot Study was carried out in the City of Knox in 1991 and was widely circulated. This was an inventory of recorded buildings, places and trees. The updated Heritage study of 1993, will show lesser known places with worthy attributes.

A brief environmental historical background has been provided to set the scene for a better understanding of the development of the City of Knox as it is not possible in a one volume study of this nature to describe in detail the social organisation, background and workings of the places in the list. Complimentary to this work are detailed social histories in the Knox Historical Society Journal and the City of Knox quarterly Newsletter.

The recording of buildings and landscapes on the National Trust (Victoria) list does not confer any safeguard as this organisation is merely a national watchdog with no statutory power. The recent changes to State Government Planning Policy (Heritage) will allow Local Government a broader role and wider discriminatory powers to control local heritage assets.



## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The historical significance of Knox lies in the ambiguities of a former small rural farming community in close proximity to the expanding metropolis of Melbourne.

Knox is a relatively new city, but the origins of European settlement of the area of the foothills of the Dandenong Ranges around the Dandenong Creek began in 1837.

Long before the area was first surveyed, the abundance of fresh water, lush grazing pastures and timber of the Dandenong Creek within the districts of Westernport and Narree Warren were deemed suitable not only for squatters to graze the first cattle, but also as a convenient place for the Colonial Administration to reposition Aborigines displaced from the environs of the town of Melbourne. It was also suitable as a depot for the first Victorian Police Force.

From 1889 the Shire of Ferntree Gully had a small, homogeneous, hard working population, drawn from English and Scottish backgrounds engaged in agricultural pursuits.

In 1893 when the Shire Hall was built largely through the efforts of local people, the wealthy land owners in Rowville, Lysterfield, Bayswater and The Basin had all but disappeared, leaving few relics of a pastoral era. Today only a few of these houses have been preserved illustrating the life, family organisation, houses, farms, orchards and gardens of the country squire and city businessman of the 1880s and 1890s.

The landscape changed with the introduction of the railway and motorised transport systems, new technology in agriculture and subdivisions. Houses and shops were built around railway stations, and hotels provided shelter and social venues. Cool stores meant a more secure life for orchardists and for a brief period more stability. Former bullock tracks became roads, and quarries, the only heavy industry, dotted the countryside.

Influenced by declining and variable markets during the Boer War and two World Wars, and the growing demand for land in a growing metropolis, agriculture declined this century. Tourism in the hills sustained the local community and boarding houses were common around the railway town of Ferntree Gully which had no major industry but became the railhead for the Dandenong Ranges.

Many people commuted to the city by train when intensive subdivision occurred after 1918 and following electrification of the railway in 1925. The real estate posters informed people the ultimate dream was a country villa with a view of the bush and flower farms near the railway. Working men's fare concessions were offered as an incentive. Many blocks were not utilised and poorly serviced. Some well established families were able to take advantage of the new modern architecture, a Californian Bungalow. The Royal Hotel facade was changed completely from the Victorian to the Moderne in the race to keep up with the latest in a small town in the 1930s.

The picturesque landscape of orchards and market gardens with east-west and north-south pine tree demarcation boundaries, disappeared almost overnight in the 1950s and 1960s. When pressure for housing in the greater metropolis of Melbourne became irresistible to landowners whose families had battled for several generations to make a living.

Newcomers were to find that the cost of the great postwar Australian dream of owning their own home on the quarter acre block near open spaces and recreation facilities was a dependency on the car. The public of Melbourne with long memories of the picturesque roads to the Dandenongs mourned the passing of an era.

Irreconcilable Shire differences brought about the modern City of Knox: a decision to develop or stagnate, the tension between a utopian dream of a retreat in the hills and commercial reality. Only a few farm cottages remain; the rest have long been replaced with modern housing development, shopping centres around the railway stations and the largest retail shopping centre and commercial business centre in the southern hemisphere. The population grew from a few thousand in 1900 to 88,000 in 1980. Today there are around 130,000 people living in the City of Knox.

Most physical evidence of the historical origins of the region were destroyed after 1963 but remnants of buildings exist from the 1880s, 1920s and 1950. Much of the beauty of the creeks is now being restored. In spite of rapid housing and commercial development, the physical evidence of small town struggles and good will is seen in the Progress Halls, the Fire Stations, and the first Kindergartens and Maternal and Child Health Centres.

The deliberate new town planning scheme with green open spaces and gardens, courts, small playgrounds, bicycle tracks and playing fields was designed for the privacy of families, a haven from city life. There was very little provision for denser housing development to suit changing family structures. The vast new suburban development in the south west of Rowville far from any transport, has locked the public into slavish worship of the car. The modern City of Knox has main arterial roads which meet at the modern icon: the shopping centre clock tower and the neon light.

The bullock tracks of early settlers between Melbourne and Dandenong, Oakleigh and Mornington have become major highways where people still travel through to go somewhere else.

## INDEX

<i>Name</i>	<i>Locality</i>	<i>Significance</i>	<i>MelwayRef</i>	<i>Page No</i>
Batterham Res.	Miller Rd. The Basin	Regional	65:D7	43
Blackwood Park House	11 Bales St. Ferntree Gully	Local	74:A6	133
Bridge Sites	Burwood Rd. Wantirna	Regional	63:A8	39
	Wellington Rd. Rowville	Regional	81:B2	39
	Bayswater Rd. Bayswater	Regional	64:G2	39
Bushy Park	Wantirna South	State	63:A11	23
Camellias	Melrose, Dorrigo Dve. The Basin	Local	65:E5	125
Canary Palm	Myrtle Gve. Bayswater	Local	64:E4	51
Cemetery	Forest Rd. Ferntree Gully	Local	74:D3	179
Chandler Oak	Sheffield Rd. The Basin	National	65:J7	53
Chesterfield Farm	Ferntree Gully Rd. Scoresby	Local	81:B2	64
Child Care Centre and house Former Dr Jones Surgery	15 and 17 Boronia Boronia	Local	65:C9	175
Church Uniting	Mountain Hwy. Bayswater	Local	64:E4	101
Church Uniting	Mountain Hwy. Wantirna	Local	63:K4	158
Church Wesleyan	Ferntree Gully Rd. Scoresby	Regional Recorded Revised Nat Trust 2215	72:D9	100
Church Organ	Our Saviour's Lutheran Church Cr Scoresby/ Burwood Hwy. Knoxfield	National Classified National Trust 6097	73:D1	192

## CITY OF KNOX HERITAGE STUDY

<i>Name</i>	<i>Locality</i>	<i>Significance</i>	<i>MelwayRef</i>	<i>Page No</i>
Churchill Park	Churchill Dve. Rowville	Regional	82:A7	33
Clevedon	Clevedon Rd. The Basin	Regional	65:J8	135
Club Hotel	Cnr. Ferntree Gully Rd & Burwood Hwy. Ferntree Gully	Local and Regional	73:J3	89
Collier Park	Stud Rd. Burwood Hwy. Wantirna	Local	63:J11	36
Corhanwarrabul Creek	Wellington Rd. Rowville	Regional	81:E1	37
Cottage 'Cloverdale'	324 Hallam Rd. North, Lysterfield	Regional Recorded Nat Trust 5763	82:K12	60
Elms, oaks	Shire Hall, Selman Ave. Ferntree Gully	Local	74:C4	51
Eucalypts	Elm St. Bayswater	Local	64:E5	51
Fern Gully	The Ravine The Basin	Regional	65:J10	51
Gallery 'The Hut'	Underwood Rd. Ferntree Gully	Regional	74:C2	190
Glen Elbourne	Basin Olimda Rd.	Regional	65:H7	134
Group of houses	8,10,12 Park Crescent Boronia	Local	64:K12	150
Gates	Stamford Park Stud Rd. Rowville	Local	72:J12	189
Garden Edna Walling	Devon Meadows Ferntree Gully Rd. Scoresby	State	72:C10	52
Hall	The Basin	Local	65:G7	170
Heany Park	Cnr. Golding Ave. Heany Rd. Rowville	Regional	82:C6	35
Henty Rose	Olivebank Road Ferntree Gully	Local	65:D12	84

## CITY OF KNOX HERITAGE STUDY

<i>Name</i>	<i>Locality</i>	<i>Significance</i>	<i>MelwayRef</i>	<i>Page No</i>
Hotel	Burwood Hwy. Ferntree Gully	Local	74:C4	91
Horticultural Research Station	Burwood Hwy. Knoxfield	State	73:C1	178
House 'Forest Lodge'	Boronia Rd. Boronia	Local Nat Trust 3229	63:E5	148
House 'Warren Park'	Hallam Road Nth. Lysterfield	Local	82:K11	62
House 'Greenlaw'	South-west Cnr. Scoresby and Ferntree Gully Rds. Scoresby	Local	73:D5	176
House	47 Station St. Ferntree Gully	Local	74:B4	153
House Former Station Master's	26 Station St. Ferntree Gully	Local	74:C3	154
House 'Baird House'	29 Commercial Rd. Ferntree Gully	Local	73:K2	78
House 'Bona Vista'	3 Lilac Crt. Bayswater	Local	64:C5	65
House remnant	884 Burwood Hwy. Ferntree Gully	Local	73:J3	69
House 'Nell's Cottage'	21 Forest Rd Ferntree Gully	Local	74:C3	70
House 'Lomond'	45 Orange Grove Bayswater	Local	64:E5	129
House	918 Burwood Hwy Ferntree Gully	Local	73:K3	67
House 'Queenlea'	490 Scoresby Rd Knoxfield	Local	73:D5	88
House	56 Edina Road Ferntree Gully	Local	73:J1	59
House 'Woodleigh'	3 Norma Cres. Knoxfield	Local	73:D4	73

## CITY OF KNOX HERITAGE STUDY

<i>Name</i>	<i>Locality</i>	<i>Significance</i>	<i>MelwayRef</i>	<i>Page No</i>
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House 'Highmoor'	6 Highmoor Ave. Bayswater	Local	64:F4	131
House Sir Gilbert Chandler's	34 Boronia Rd. The Basin	Local	65:C9	177
House 'Kitty Chandler'	70 Mount View Rd. Boronia	Local	65:D8	149
House 'Melrose'	Dorrigo Dve/ Melrose Ct. Boronia Ferntree Gully	Regional Listed Nat Trust	65:D5	120
House 'Ambleside'	Olivebank Rd Ferntree Gully	Regional Recorded Nat Trust 3128	65:E12	80
House 'Kelso'	24 Westley St. Ferntree Gully	Local Recorded Nat Trust 4873	73:K3	72
House 'Stamford Park'	Stud Rd. Rowville	Regional Recorded Nat Trust 3703	72:J12	116
Information Centre	Burwood Hwy Ferntree Gully	Local	74:F5	111
Kilcatten Park	Rowville	State	81:G3	25
Kindergarten 'Bena Angliss'	Forest Rd. Ferntree Gully	Local	74:C4	172
Kindergarten	Forest Rd. The Basin	Local	65:G8	171
Koomba Park	Wantima South	Local	63:D5	27
Landscape	Dandenong Ranges	Regional Recorded Nat Trust L359	66:D5	193



## CITY OF KNOX HERITAGE STUDY

<i>Name</i>	<i>Locality</i>	<i>Significance</i>	<i>MelwayRef</i>	<i>Page No</i>
Landscape	Western Face & N/W slopes Dandenong Ranges from Montrose to the Southern Boundary Ferntree Gully National Park	Regional Classified Nat Trust L353	74:E1,2,3.	193
Landscape	Lysterfield Forest area extending from S. Belgrave across Wellington Rd. Includes Lysterfield Reservoir and catchment	Regional Recorded Nat Trust L356	82:K7	193
Landscape	Lysterfield Valley Area bounded by Napoleon Rd. Ferry Creek, and Kellet's Rd	Regional Recorded Nat Trust L355	74:B10 73:H11	193 193
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Maternal and Child Health	Boronia Rd Boronia Centre	Local	65:A9	173
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Memorial Avenue	Wellington Rd. Lysterfield Rd. intersection Sth. Belgrave	Regional	83:E4	51
Monterey pines	Bushy Park Wantirna	Local	63:E12	51
Monterey Pines Magnolia	Hallam-North Rd Lysterfield	Local	82:J11	52
Monterey Pine Lady Franklin's Tree/Lady Stanley	Police Paddocks Rowville	State	81:K9	52
Mountain Highway	Mountain Hwy. Boronia	Local	65:B3	51
Narre Warren Protectorate Station	Police Rd. Rowville	State	81:J8	46

CITY OF KNOX HERITAGE STUDY

<i>Name</i>	<i>Locality</i>	<i>Significance</i>	<i>MelwayRef</i>	<i>Page No</i>
Norton's Park	Wantima South	Local	72:A2	24
Old Coach Road	Old Coach Rd. The Basin	Local	65:K8	24
Olive Tree	Bushy Park Wantima	Regional	63:A12	40
Orchard Dobson	Liverpool Rd. The Basin	Local	65:G5	51
Pear Tree	Wellington Rd./ Tirhatuan site Rowville	State	81:C2	74
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Primary School No.1307	Dorset RD/ Burwood Hwy. Ferntree Gully	Local Recorded Nat.Trust 3284	73:K3	95
Primary School No. 2163	Mountain Highway Bayswater	Local	64:D4	93
Primary School No.1028	Ferntree Gully Rd. Scoresby	Local	72:H7	98
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Progress Hall	Boronia Rd. Boronia	Local	64:K9	169
Quarries	Lysterfield	Local	82:H4	182
	Ferntree Gully	Local	74:E5	182
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River red Gums	Karoo Rd. Scoresby	Local	73:C10	52
Royal Hotel	Cnr. Dawson Rd. Burwood Hwy. Ferntree Gully	Local Regional	74:F5	140
Road	Old Coach Rd. The Basin	Local	65:K8	40

CITY OF KNOX HERITAGE STUDY

<i>Name</i>	<i>Locality</i>	<i>Significance</i>	<i>MelwayRef</i>	<i>Page No</i>
Road	Mountain Hwy. Bayswater	Local	65:E5	40
Road	Olivebank Rd. Ferntree Gully	Local	74:E1	40
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Salvation Army Farm	Liverpool Rd. The Basin	State Local	65:H6	102
Shepherd's Bush	Wantirna South	State	72:B5	
Shire Hall	Selman Ave. Ferntree Gully	Local	74:C4	136
Streets abutting Ferntree Gully National Park	Walbundry, Kia-Ora Heath. Mont Albert, Olivebank, Perra, and Hansen.	Regional	74:E3	44
Streetscape	The Triangle The Basin	Regional	65:G7	45
Theatre	Doongalla Rd. The Basin	Regional	66:A6	191
Tirhatuan	Rowville	State	81:C2	
Trees -	Oak Magnolia Camellias	Ambleside Olivebank Rd Ferntree Gully	Local	65:E12 52
Tree -	Oak	Sheffield Rd. The Basin	National	65:J7 53
Tree -	Oak	'Amaroo' Burwood Hwy Ferntree gully	Local	73:G2 52
Trees -	Oaks	'Wine Hall' Scoresby Bayswater	Regional listed Nat. Trust	64:G3 52
W.G.Morris Res.	Harold St. Wantirna	Regional	63:F7	41
Wicks Res.	Basin Olinda Rd. The Basin	Local	65:J7	42
Winton Wetlands	Boronia Rd. Wantirna	Local	63:E4	52
Bayswater Wine Cafe	Mountain Hwy/ Scoresby Rd Bayswater	Regional Recorded Nat. trust 3101	64:G2	112



# THEME 1

## EUROPEAN EXPLORATION AND SETTLEMENT



*The Landscape: creeks, foothills, soil.*

*Aboriginal use of the land.*

*Post contact: Aboriginal police and Protectorate Station.*

*Pastoralists.*

*Timber Splitters.*

*Significant Landscapes.*

The foothills of the Dandenongs have a rich history of early settlement and land use. Early arrivals to Victoria were curious about the long, low blue hills they named the Westernport Range which could be seen from every vantage point from the coast, bay and township of Melbourne.

From the Port Phillip region, the southern lowlands stretched west where there were no mountain ranges to divide them, and subsequently provided rich volcanic pastoral grazing and coastal plains. To the east was Westernport Bay, the Great Divide and the Gippsland Hills. For the people of Melbourne, the hills were a natural barrier and for some time this prevented further exploration by land. It was some years before Europeans were able to penetrate the great ash forests on the steep, rugged granite ridges to the northeast.

In 1839 the first recorded ascent and exploration of the Dandenong Ranges occurred when Daniel Bunce, a botanist from Van Diemen's Land struck out across the plains with his party and an Aboriginal guide. Travelling across undulating countryside they approached the western face of the range stopping in the vicinity of what we know as Bayswater today and established a camp at the foot of Mt. Corhanwarrabul, the mountain peak on which Burke's Lookout, Olinda, is situated. Bunce described gurgling brooks and treeferns (*Billardia*), thrush, lyrebird, flying squirrel, kangaroos and native bears. This was on the northern branch of the Dandenong Creek, the source of which is found on the slopes of the Dandenong Ranges and from where it winds its way to the Carrum swamp.

Some of the best descriptions of the environment from the last century have been left by Ferdinand Von Mueller, appointed Government Botanist in January 1853, by Lieutenant Governor Charles La Trobe, himself a keen botanist and observer. Von Mueller was to carry out four major excursions in Victoria in the mid-nineteenth century and spent time in the hills to the east of Melbourne accompanied by John Walters. They set out from a cattle station (thought to be Glenfern, the homestead of John Wood Beilby, the second lessee of the Corhanwarrabul run, in the vicinity of the junction of present day Glenfern and Lysterfield Roads) and travelled six miles to the base of the mountain where they saw beside two creeks, (Fernree and Ferny Creeks), the most stately tree ferns from four to forty feet high. (This was the area declared a National Park in 1867). Walters described trees of a blackened nature as though burnt, and the heavily timbered land teeming with wildlife.

At the time of contact with Europeans, the area which is known today as the Police Paddocks, lay on the boundary of two tribal groups, the Baluk-Willam clan of the Woiworung (the Wurundjeri) and the Ngaruk-Willam clan of the Bunurong. The territory of the Woiworung extended north, north-west and east of Melbourne as far as Kyneton and Healesville, bordering to the east with the Kurnai of East

Gippsland. 7 Aboriginals are thought to have been in the area for about 20,000 years before Europeans. Evidence of occupation has been found in the form of axe-heads and middens in The Basin, One Tree Hill, at Lysterfield between Glen and Brae Roads, at the old property Aura, settled by Hamill Kerr in Lysterfield in 1867 and in Burke Road, Ferntree Gully in 1926. 8 Scar trees have been located in the Winton wetlands in Boronia. 6

The migratory habits of the Aborigines included a delicate balance of land use. Hunting, fishing and gathering of food was accompanied by discreet burning. This not only exposed food sources but provided natural re-generation of trees and grassy areas in the drier Silurian soils of the foothills and creek flats where the Sclerophyll forest of eucalypts, messmate stringybark (*E.Obliqua*), manna gum (*E. viminalis*) and river peppermint (*E.radiata*) was relatively undisturbed until Europeans began cattle grazing in the swamp scrub of the Dandenong Creek Valley and its tributaries.

The arrival of Europeans in Port Phillip brought great changes to the landscape the Aborigines knew. Plants, animals, grasses and trees were cut, cleared, killed, slashed and burnt, from the first day of European occupation, for the provision of food, housing, grazing and fuel. Swamps and lagoons, waterholes and creeks were fouled and diverted. The delicate ecology was upset forever.

Because of their proximity to Melbourne, the foothills of the Dandenongs attracted the attention of the Port Phillip Administration from the earliest days of settlement.

Captain William Lonsdale, the pioneering head of government in the Port Phillip administration had specific reasons to take up land distant from Melbourne. He hoped to establish a village to keep Aborigines away from the town of Melbourne. The land chosen was good country, a favourite with Aborigines and Europeans alike. Lonsdale was anxious to preserve the area from squatters but this ultimately came to be a lost cause.

### Police Paddocks

In 1837 Lonsdale made an attempt to establish a Native Police Headquarters in the Narre Warren reserve. This was successful in 1842 and the Native Police Depot was to last for ten years. It was abandoned in 1853 when the Victorian Police Force was constituted following separation from New South Wales.

The central station of the Westernport District of the Aboriginal Protectorate was established in 1840 under the administration of George Robinson on a site easterly from the Dandenong Creek, and north-easterly on the lower slopes of the Lysterfield Hills. The Native Police were largely drawn from the Protectorate.

The Police Paddocks were not surveyed until 1851 and the first Parish Plan was drawn up by Henry Boon Foot dated 1852. On his plan the Police Paddocks is shown as a rectangular area of 3,840 acres bisected more or less equally by the Dandenong Creek rising to the foothills in the east with a contour of granite ridges, a grassed area with messmate, peppermint trees and red gums.

To the west where the land sloped to the rich alluvial flood plains there were abundant ferns, lightwood, laurels and red gum. 7

At this site of early contact, one of the most significant in Victoria, archaeological surveys have shown significant traces of organisation in the structures. Artifacts and traces of bridges and dams have been shown, but the exact location of early buildings from the first Police Camp and the Protectorate Station cannot be located. 8

The buildings from the third Native Police Corps at Narre Warren are documented in official records. In 1842 two troopers escorted the station overseer to Merri Creek to collect convicts for the construction of buildings, and records show that Charles La Trobe visited the Police Station in 1842 following which he

ordered a hospital to be built for the Aboriginal people. It is not known whether the hospital was ever built, but an inventory of all other buildings is recorded. 9

Other uses for the Police Paddocks have included a police horse stud, housing for native trackers, grazing, farming and agistment, quarrying with a tramway, wattle stripping and timber cutting.

The paddocks were stripped of timber for firewood during the 1930s depression. In the 1960s the area was used for a Scout Jamboree on the eve of which the last historic building was razed for safety reasons.

## Pastoralists

### East of the Dandenong Creek

From 1836, land for cattle and sheep grazing around the Dandenong Creek was progressively taken over, first by John Highett and John Hawdon (1836/37) south east of present day Rowville near the Eumemmering Creek, and by the Rev. James Clow (1838), who leased the first *Corhanwarrabul Run*. This was east of Dandenong Creek at Wellington Road, to the north-eastern boundary of the mountain. Clow is considered to be the pioneer within the boundary of the former Shire of Ferntree Gully. His home *Tirhatuan* was situated 16 chains north-east of the Wellington Road bridge. 10 James Beilby (1849) settled on the second portion of the Corhanwarrabul run *Glenfern*, securing title on 23 June 1853 to 160 acres of land between Ferny and Ferntree Gully Creeks. Beilby secured Clow's *Tirhatuan* property in 1854. Hugh and Henry Rourke in 1843, settled on the Dandenong Creek Run, an area of 6,400 acres. Hugh Rourke secured title to 160 acres by pre-emptive right in 1854. In 1858, Samuel Jacks of Brighton purchased 169 acres on the northern end of Koomba Park, on Boronia Road. Between 1877 and 1899 the property was in the ownership of the Clifford family. Other landowners were J. Bischoff, and Joseph Smith (1858) who grazed cattle. Later uses of the land in Koomba Park were market gardening, orchards, vineyards and eucalyptus distilling.

Madeleine Scott in 1840 established two small cattle runs of 1,920 acres at *Bushy Park* on the Dandenong Creek. A Scottish builder Thomas Napier took out the first licence for the land in October 1839 on the western side of the Dandenong Creek and established a cattle run over all the Dandenong Creek frontage from the Burwood Highway in the north to Wellington Road in the south. Napier built a hut on the western bank of the Creek where Jell's Park is today. He sold out to Alexander and Madeleine Scott in 1840 but Alexander died soon after. 11

Madeleine Scott moved east of the Creek and the homestead was located in the central area of the present Henry's property approximately 30 metres south of the Axford Road extension. The site is marked by an old well and an olive tree. 12 The hut was demolished in 1924. In 1846 and 1847 Drew, Reid and Abbott bought interests in the property for grazing and in 1848, James Delaney became the lessee.

Delaney applied for a Crown Lands Pre-emptive Right for 160 acres on 22 December 1852, and this was approved on 16 June 1853. 13 Delaney secured title on 14 November, 1856 and lived there until the 1860s. Delaney's sons lived in a house on the Mulgrave side of the Creek in the 1890s. In 1863, H. Hall and J.T. Patrick were the first Crown Grantees to Allotment 15.

### Later Land Use East of the Dandenong Creek

#### BUSHY PARK

In the 1860s *Bushy Park* was sub-divided and only a small part of this retains the name. Predominant use of the Crown Allotment 15 was cattle grazing, some sheep grazing, horses, apple orchards, vegetables and a vineyard. 14 In 1873, Joseph Smith purchased 235 acres on the Dandenong Creek south of Burwood Highway in present Bushy Park and this was later owned by Dr. G. Sollieux. Eric Fankhauser lived near the creek between Highbury Road and Burwood Highway and planted apples and pears around 1890.

Adolph Fankhauser bought 45 acres in 1904 and in the 1950s the Fankhausers owned the Burwood Road frontage between Cathies Lane and Dandenong Creek and established extensive working orchards.

In 1886 Thomas William Norris owned Bushy Park during which time he extensively developed the park. He planted cypress, yellow-box, apple, pear, peppermint, Irish Strawberries and tomatoes. In 1888, a butcher Thomas Knight Bennett used the land for fattening cattle. In 1906, ownership was transferred to the Caledonian and Australian Mortgage Company. Later owners were T. Stephens, and L. Stott, who planted 10,000 fruit trees. The 'Elanora' orchard was purchased by Melbourne Water in 1965.

During the 1920s a road was constructed through the property with a view to sub-division (Bushy Park Lane), and had a series of owners, James Jackson Morris of Glen Iris (1913), Flora MacDonald Akehurst (1922), John Robinson (1934), D.E. Wood (1938), Frank Pump (1950s) and H.D. Jenkins. The sub-divisions did not eventuate.

#### WANTIRNA ESTATE

Located east of Bushy Park Lane near High Street Road this is the closest vineyard to Melbourne. Vines were planted in 1963 by Mr Ted Egan.

#### NORTON PARK

The area south of present High Street Road bounded to the west by the Dandenong Creek and to the east by Norton's Lane is located on the former Crown Allotment 13 selected by Thomas Blood in 1865. In 1874 Blood was granted title to 303 acres. In 1888, Thomas Blood Junior sold 151 acres which was subsequently sub-divided into 10 lots in 1892. The lots varied between 7 to 34 acres. The area is known as Norton Park. Norton's Lane in Scoresby was apparently named after the Nortons, landowners this century.

#### SHEPHERDS BUSH

A farmers' grazing common and water reserve during last century, Shepherds Bush is situated between Nortons Lane and Shepherds Road.

#### CATHIES LANE

Off the Burwood Highway east of Bushy Park crossing High Street Road, Cathies Lane was originally named after William Caughey. W. Dinsdale owned the property in 1878 and had a cheese factory. Later owners were D. Owens, E.Hughes, C. Anderton and T. Billings. <sup>15</sup>

#### FOREST LODGE

Forest Lodge was part of the Dandenong Creek Run from the Dandenong Creek to Bayswater. <sup>16</sup> John Fitzmaurice bought land bounded by the Dandenong Creek, Mountain Highway, Boronia Road and Koomba Road during the First World War. The land along Dandenong Creek was sold for berry growing blocks, but was subject to flooding and became abandoned during the depression of the 1930s. In 1934 Mr and Mrs Rule bought three blocks at an auction conducted by the Shire of Ferntree Gully for the recovery of unpaid rates. The land was used for dairying and poultry farming. A Mr Dickens bought the blocks from the Rules in 1952.



Fitzmaurice later sub-divided but retained the house he called 'Ardenhue'. There had been an old slab hut on the property thought to date from early last century. A later owner, Davie, renamed the property 'Forest Lodge'. Dickens ran prime red poll cattle and Aberdeen Angus on a total of 60 acres but running of the property ceased due to the Healesville Freeway proposal and in 1970 Mrs Dickens sold Forest Lodge to the City of Knox.

#### WINTON

The Winton property located on Boronia Road was extensively grazed and cleared for timber, and had orchards and vegetable gardens from early European settlement. Dr. L.L. Smith's farm and vineyard was adjacent, west of the Creek (today Campbell's Croft) where world famous wines were grown and exhibited in Paris in the 1880s.

Winton was acquired by the Country Roads Board in the 1960s for the proposed Healesville Freeway and in the 1970s by the Dandenong Valley Authority for flood mitigation.

#### DEVON MEADOWS (FORMERLY CHESTERFIELD FARM)

An area of 65 hectares, Devon Meadows was part of the Corhanwarrabul Run established by James Clow and is located on the north-east corner of the Dandenong Creek-Ferntree Gully Road junction. The property, Portion 8, in the Parish of Scoresby was acquired by John McKenzie in 1858 and Edmund Ashley in 1859. Devon Meadows was referred to as Ashley's Flats and the homestead was called Chesterfield. The current title boundaries were established in 1920. It was named Devon Meadows in 1970. <sup>17</sup>

#### Land Use in Lysterfield and Rowville

##### THE MONBULK CREEK VALLEY

There were many cattle roaming the Dandenong Creek and the foothills of the ranges in the 1850s and 1860s but horse breeding was particularly associated with properties in the Lysterfield area. The Monbulk Creek valley grazing land, some of the richest near Melbourne, yielded large quantities of milk for the city of Melbourne.

William Saurin Lyster realised the rich potential of the river flats. None of the extensive buildings, underground creek drainage and piping, mansion, dairies and gardens survived. Other settlers were Charsley, Wildes, Quin and Head. Crops grown were oats, potatoes, rye, clover, chicory and millet. In 1868 William Barry purchased land south of the existing junction of Wellington Road and Kelletts Road and in 1873 purchased land known as Barry's Triangle.

##### STAMFORD PARK

From 1859 this property fronting present Stud Road, was a horse stud. It was also used for fox hunts. The Row family introduced hares and sparrows. <sup>18</sup>

##### KILCATTEN PARK

Kilcatten Park was located on the south-west corner of Wellington Road and Stud Roads. The property was owned in the 1860s by Julius Politz who grew the first tobacco in Victoria. Politz had 40 acres on the Dandenong Creek and reaped the first harvest in 1863. Politz had a cigar factory in Bourke Street employing 20 men and 130 boys. The cigars were marketed to all cities in Australia and New Zealand. The property was later worked by the Golding family. Some of the original holding was used for a military camp in World War 2. <sup>19</sup>

### Timber Splitters

In the 1850s the demand for timber for houses, railway sleepers, bridges and piers in the growing Port Phillip area was a catalyst for timber splitters to move into the forests of the Dandenong Ranges. The population of Victoria grew from 76,160 in 1850 to 364,324 in 1855 and 537,847 in 1860. Houses had been brought from Van Diemen's Land first by pastoralists and later by gold seekers, but such was the demand for housing in Melbourne that sawmills were established in the hills almost overnight.

J.W. Beilby erected the first small mill in the Ferntree Gully area on the *Corhanwarrabul Run*, (later called Mountain Station), near the site of Glenfern in 1850. <sup>20</sup>

Timber splitters formed small colonies in the hills from 1854, the most notable being Thomas Dobson near Ferry Creek. (Today this site is the Ferntree Gully National Park). Others were Farquhar McRae, C. Shepperd of Lysterfield, Aurisch of Narre Warren, William O'Shea and J. Bambury. <sup>21</sup> Settlement was slow to the east of Melbourne, the country being difficult and heavily forested. A general survey of the Dandenong Ranges and foothills was not carried out until 1858 and the population of the County of Mornington, comprising the Mornington Peninsula, Knox, Sherbrooke, Berwick and Pakenham, contained only 1187 people. Gold seekers at Emerald in 1858 did little to boost the population and itinerant fossickers often disappeared before they could be accounted for.

Farmers would not come to heavily timbered areas when good land was available closer to Melbourne. Consequently farming did not begin in earnest until the 1860s in Scoresby and Narre Warren north and west from Dandenong, where the vast timber forests were already being destroyed. Although Dandenong was the commercial centre for the hills people, Ferntree Gully was the centre of district life, some streets today being reminders of former bullock tracks for timber getting and transport to Melbourne, notably Chaundy and Moore. <sup>22</sup> The timber industry was relatively short-lived; the hills were denuded in a short time on the assumption that timber was a renewable commodity. <sup>23</sup> Thomas Dobson had a share in a timber yard in Bourke Street Melbourne, but found that because of poor roads, bridges and lack of railways, he was unable to make the industry commercially viable. He also had competition from Scandinavia, New Zealand and Van Diemen's Land. A large proportion of timber taken from the Dandenongs was used for firewood for domestic purposes, for burning charcoal used in industry, and for railways and piers in Melbourne Ports.

## SIGNIFICANT LANDSCAPES

### *Police Paddocks*

One of the most *historically significant sites in Victoria*, being intimately connected with the early period of European-Aboriginal contact between 1837 and 1853.

Except for a strip of land along Stud Road belonging to the City of Knox, the Police Paddocks Reserve is within the City of Berwick. The constituted Reserve Committee of Management is made up of representatives of the Cities of Berwick, Knox and Dandenong, a descendant of the Wurundjeri and the State Government.

### *Koomba Park, (Wantirna South.)*

*Of regional significance* as the site of Rourke's Dandenong Creek cattle Run in 1843, several grazing holdings from 1858 to 1900 and distilling of the eucalyptus radiata on the banks of the creek by Joseph Bosisto from 1854 and by Adolph Ingwerson from 1878.

### *Bushy Park (Wantirna South)*

*Of regional significance* as one of the earliest cattle runs on the Dandenong Creek (1840), for the documented history of land use and for the remnants of early settlement.

### *Tirhatuan (East of Jell's Park)*

*Of state significance* as the site of the first pastoral run east of the Dandenong Creek (1838) and archaeological artifacts relating to the homestead.

### *Nortons Park*

*Of local significance* for the connection with the Blood family, the orchardists Thomas and sons George and Thomas, between 1865 and 1974.

### *Kilcatten Park (South-west corner of Stud and Wellington Roads)*

*Of significance* as the first tobacco growing area in Victoria.

### *Shepherds Bush*

Reserved for a water reserve from the early 1860s until 1900, *the area has virgin bush, and is significant as an uncommon area of indigenous vegetation.*

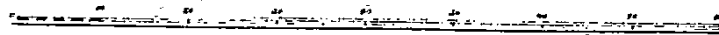
### *Winton Wetlands (North-east of Boronia Road and Dandenong Creek)*

*Of significant archaeological interest* Winton Wetlands has shown evidence of early Aboriginal habitation.

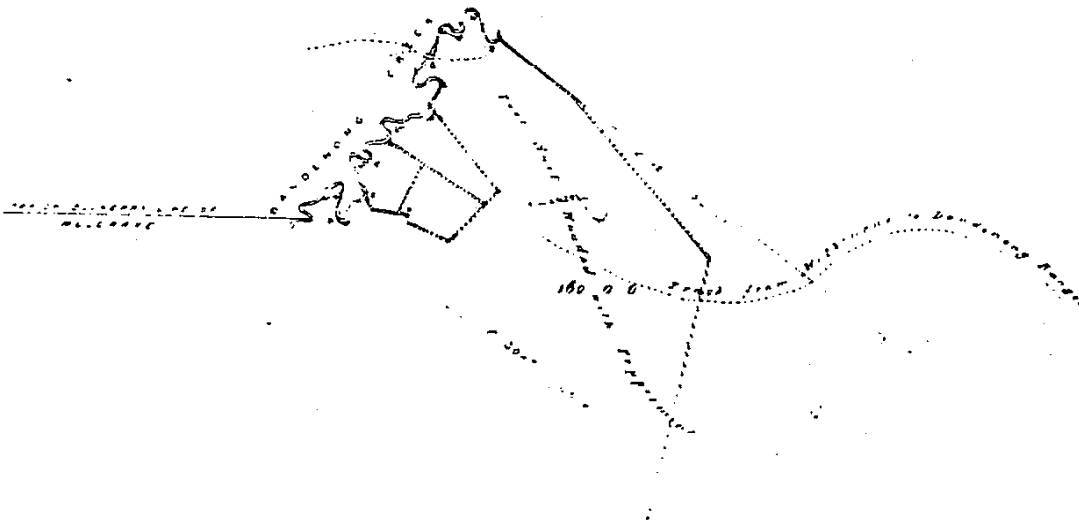
*Bushy Park*

PLAN OF  
160 acres  
MARKED FOR  
JAMES DELANEY  
COUNTY of MORNINGTON

SCALE OF CHAINS



*H. B. Foot  
District Surveyor  
1855.*



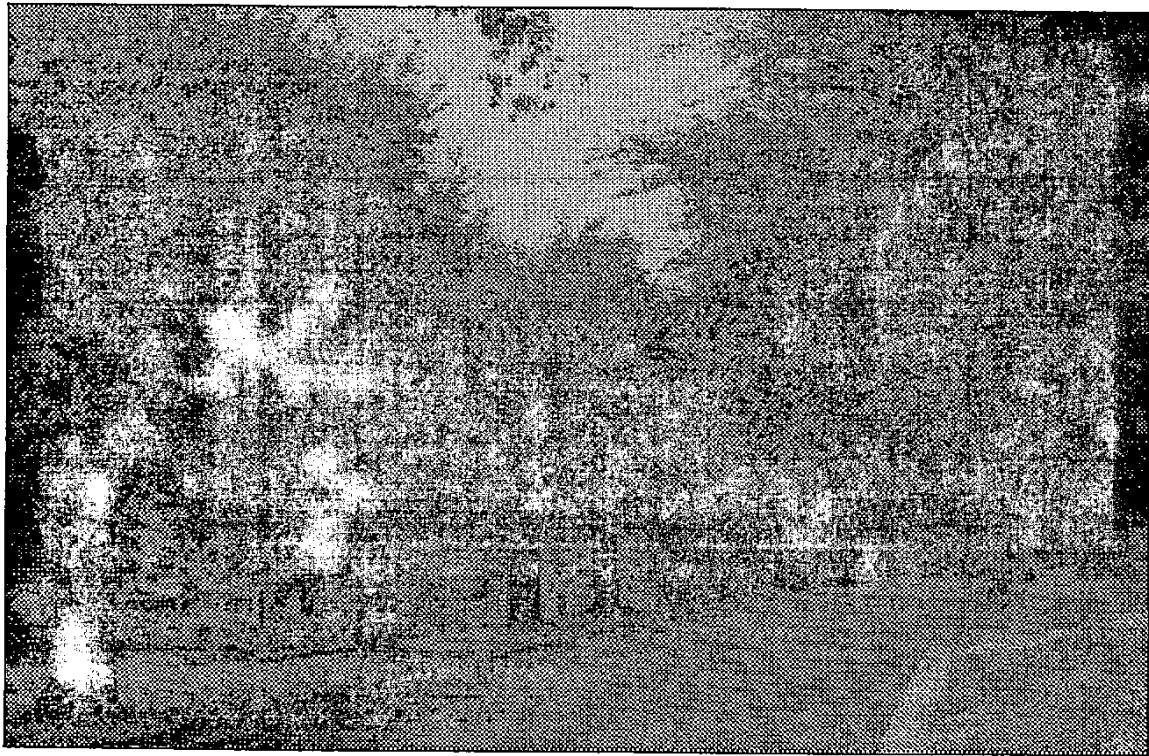
P.R.  $\frac{B}{98}$

First Survey  
Bushy Park  
by H.B. Foot District Surveyor  
21 February 1855  
Acknowledgement State Library of Victoria

Notes

1. *Australasiatic Reminiscences of twenty-three years wanderings in Tasmania and the Australias*. Daniel Bunce. 1857
2. John Walters was a gardener at the Botanical Gardens, Melbourne, accompanying Von Mueller on excursions.
3. *Botanical Tour of the Dandynoy (sic) Ranges May 6 1853*, by John Walters, published in London Gardeners' Chronicle, 24 September 1853 (pp.613-14). National Herbarium Library.
4. For the most contemporary account of Aborigines: see Smyth, R.B. *The Aborigines of Victoria*. 1878. Govt. Printer, Melbourne Vol.1 p.32.
5. Edmund Williams *Recollections of the Basin* 1993 unpub.  
Helen Coulson. *Story of the Dandenongs*. 1959  
Heather Ronald. Pers. Comm. 1993.  
David Webster. *The Historian. Journal of the KHS*. P. 27 March 1993
6. *Winton Wetlands Management Plan* Melbourne Water. 1993
7. Marie Hansen Fels. *The Dandenong Police Paddocks. Land History and Use 1851-1988* VAS 1990 Dept of Cons. and Env.
8. David Rhodes. *The Dandenong Police Paddocks, An Archaeological Survey*. 1990. P 14. Ethnography
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10. Rev. James Clow (1790-1861), the first Presbyterian Minister in Melbourne. *Historical Records of Victoria*. Vol.3 ch.34. *The Early Development of Melbourne. 1836-1839* Ed. Michael Cannon. Records and artifacts retrieved from the site of the Clow Homestead can be seen at Jells Park Information Centre. Department of Conservation and Environment. Victorian Archaeological Survey (VAS)
11. Susan Priestley. *From Cattlemen to Commuters A history of the Mulgrave District*. 1839-1961. (City of Waverley)
12. Dandenong Valley Park Future Directions Plan Resource Document 1838-1973 Parks and Waterways. Melbourne Water. Sandra Dimitrievski 1993.
13. See: *County of Mornington, in Crown Lands, Pre-emptive Rights Applications*, Victoria. 1850-1854. M. Morgan Pub. Acacia Press. 1987
14. Helen Coulson. *Story of the Dandenongs*. 1959.
15. *Dandenong Valley Park Future Directions Plan* Resource Document. 1838-1973
16. op. cit.
17. op. cit.
18. op. cit.
19. *Knox Heritage Study Part 1* 1991.
20. *Letters to Superintendent La Trobe*, 16 May 1850, from J.W. Beilby.
21. Helen Coulson, *Story of the Dandenongs*. Ch.3
22. op. cit.
23. *Timber Exploitation in the Dandenongs*. Robert Thompson, Government Lands Inspector. Special Report to the Hon. John Alexander Macpherson, Minister for Lands. 1871 PRO.

*Acknowledgement: Melbourne Water, Jell's Park Management, for access to their files of the Dandenong Creek.*



*Avenue of Elms  
Blackwood Park Road, Ferntree Gully*



## SIGNIFICANT REGIONAL LANDSCAPES

### *PARKS*

- Churchill National Park
- Heany Park
- Lysterfield Lake Park
- Collier Park

### *WATERWAYS*

- Corhanwarrabul Creek

### *BRIDGES*

- Wellington Road, Rowville
- Bayswater Road at Dandenong Creek
- Burwood Highway, Wantirna

### *ROADS*

- Old Coach Road, The Basin
- Mountain Highway
- Olivebank Road, Ferntree Gully

### *RESERVES*

- W.G. Morris Memorial Reserve
- Batterham Reserve
- Wicks Reserve
- Narre Warren Protectorate Station

### *STREETS*

- Streets abutting the Ferntree Gully National Park
- The Basin Triangle

### *TREES*

- Memorial Avenue, Sherbrooke
- Elm Street, Bayswater
- Sasses Avenue/Boronia Road, Boronia
- Miller's Homestead, Boronia
- Boronia Road, Wantirna
- Winton Wetlands, Wantirna
- Wellington Road, Rowville
- Ambleside Park, Ferntree Gully
- Lady Franklin's Tree, Rowville
- Shire Hall, Ferntree Gully
- Myrtle Grove, Bayswater
- The Ravine, The Basin
- Mountain Highway, The Basin
- Bushy Park, Wantirna
- Devon Meadows, Scoresby
- Karoo Road, Scoresby
- Warren Park







## CHURCHILL NATIONAL PARK

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<b>Location</b>	<i>Churchill Park Drive, Rowville</i>
<b>Description</b>	<i>193 hectares of Bushland containing indigenous remnants of foothills trees. The S.E.C. power line easement has disturbed the natural wild life crossing. Trees include stringybark, grey box, 14 blackwood wattle species, 20 eucalypts species, peppermint, swamp gum and native orchids.</i>

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### History

Churchill Park is situated on land formerly known as Police Paddocks. It is a part of the site of the first settlement within the Shire of Ferntree Gully and where the first native Police Force was established in 1837. Some 3480 acres of land were first surveyed on either side of the Dandenong Creek Reserve in 1851 and in 1884 some 1,185 acres were reserved for police purposes. In 1852 following the constitution of the Victorian Police Force the reserve was used as a police horse stud. From 1870 Aboriginal blacktrackers were housed in the former police quarters. In 1884 some 1,185 acres were permanently reserved for police purposes and in 1930 the Dandenong Police Paddocks Reserve was permanently reserved for public purposes under the Narree Warran Land Act 1930.

Between 1912 to 1915 the Dandenong Council opened a quarry for stone for road making just inside the northern boundary of what is now Churchill National Park and constructed a tramway, three kilometres long to cart stone to the corner of Brady and Stud Roads.

Much of the swampy land was covered with pittosporum, blackberry and watsonia and many efforts were made over the years to utilise the land including the establishment of an agricultural college. In 1923 a further 128 acres were released for private sale. On 29 November 1939, 476 acres of the hilly north-eastern portion of the Police Paddocks were reserved for a National Park and on the 20 October 1943, this was proclaimed the Dandenong National Park. In February 1944 the name was changed to Churchill National Park as a tribute to Britain's wartime leader.

The reserve was declared a National Park under the National Parks Act 1956 and a Committee of Management was appointed. It is administered by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and a special interest group 'Friends of Lysterfield Lake Park and Churchill National Park'. The land linking the two parks has been purchased by the State Government.

### Significance

Churchill National Park is of *historical significance* for the connection to one of the earliest settlements in Victoria and the site of the first Police Force. It is of *regional significance* as part of the Dandenong Valley recreation corridor featuring bird, plant and animal life unique to the area.

### Reference

Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Lysterfield Lake Park, Reservoir Road, Narre Warren.

## LYSTERFIELD LAKE PARK

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<b>Location</b>	<i>Between Wellington Road North and Logan Park Road East, Heatherton Road South and Mossgiel Park Road West. The park lies between the Cities of Berwick and Knox and the Shire of Sherbrooke and is administered by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. Listed by the National Trust L. 357. Significant Landscape.</i>
<b>Description</b>	<i>1200 hectares of plantations and a man-made lake. The non-indigenous forests are river red gums, blue gums, forest red gums and grey gum peppermint. Some remnants exist but extensive re-vegetation was required to restore the deep silt. Restorations began in the 1930s and the water storage was de-commissioned in the 1970s.</i>

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### History

The lake in the park was formerly Lysterfield reservoir which supplied the Mornington Peninsula, the Chelsea and Carrum area and the market gardens of Springvale and Dingley until the opening of the Cardinia Reservoir in 1975.

Two hundred years ago the Aboriginals frequented the hills hunting wallaby, possum and koalas as well as water fowl and duck. The first European settlers as early as 1838, J. Dobie, J.S. Kerr and J. Clow, grazed cattle and the district became known as 'The Flat.' A property was selected by Abraham Strettle in 1868 west of what is now Logan Park Road and known as Sweet Hills. The name Lysterfield was adopted at a public meeting when William Saurin Lyster, an Irish immigrant took up a selection in the area in 1867 and donated land for a school. Lyster was known for his cheese production, the pioneering of swamp land drainage and was the first to realise the potential of the rich river flats.

After European settlers cleared the trees, drained the swamps and grazed cattle, the wildlife virtually disappeared. An experimental farm was established for the Try Boys Society in the 1890s on land in the Lysterfield Park.

For several decades Lysterfield Lake and its catchment were undisturbed by people and it has now become an important refuge for wild life particularly water birds which frequent the shallows and reed beds of the Lake's upper reaches. Ducks, grebes, swans and pelicans are common and Japanese snipe may also be seen in the wetlands habitat. Forest specimens include Gang Gang Cockatoos, Bell Miners, honeyeaters and wrens.

### Significance

Registered as significant regional landscape, the area from South Belgrave across Wellington Road, includes Lysterfield reservoir and previous catchment. (L 357. National Trust).

Lysterfield Lake Park is regionally significant as one of the most valuable recreation areas developed close to Melbourne. The park contains remnant native forest and eucalypt plantations established by the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission on farmland acquired in the catchment area to protect the quality of the water.

### Reference

Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Lysterfield Lake Park, Reservoir Road, Narre Warren.

 **HEANY PARK**

**Location** *Golding Avenue and Heany Park Road, south of Wellington Road, north-east of the junction of Bergin's Road and Police Road, Rowville.*

**Description** *An area of natural bushland and water catchment*

**History**

Situated in the foothills of the Lysterfield Hills once known as the Barry Ranges, Heany Park dates back to the 1830s. On the outer edge of the original selection of the Rev. James Clow the first settler in the Knox area, it became important as the storage basin of the Dandenong and Carrum water supply and also as a recreation venue for the local people.

Belgrave Reservoir which was completed in 1894, had a capacity of 300,000 gallons and was connected by the Lysterfield pipeline to the Heany Park basin. The scheme floundered on issues of riparian rights of farmers on the creek in Lysterfield, and conflicting interests in the water catchment area of Belgrave where encroaching settlement, gold mining, tourism and railway construction for the narrow gauge, finally caused the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission to take over the scheme in 1920. On completion of the Berwick-Dandenong supply line in 1924 Dandenong was supplied with water from the Bunyip River and water from the Belgrave reservoir then became available to farmers along the Lysterfield pipeline. 1.

The Shire of Ferntree Gully took a lease on the pipeline between 1940 and 1950 finally buying it in 1952. The park, named after the Shire of Ferntree Gully Engineer Thomas Moore Heany, became the aquatic and social centre of the Shire of Ferntree Gully but following many years of neglect became polluted and unsafe from leaching. In the 1960s a commune was established but the area had to be closed for public health reasons. The Scouts have leased the park for ten years and latterly there has been much conservation activity including restoration of the caretaker's cottage, a campaign to upgrade and re-vegetate, encouragement of the return of fauna and a butterfly corridor. This is being accomplished by volunteers and funding from the Australian National Parks and Wildlife Services and Greening Australia. 2.

**Significance**

Heany Park is of regional historical significance for the location and land use on the early Tirthatuan run of the 1830s. It was the water storage basin in the Belgrave-Monbulk Creek water pipeline established in 1894. The park is an environmentally sensitive area adjacent to encroaching urban development.

**Notes:**

1. Heather Ronald. *The Story of Lysterfield*. Knox Historian. Vol.5 No.1 March 1993
2. Interview with Darren Wallace. Margaret McInnes. 1993

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 **COLLIER PARK**

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<b>Location</b>	<i>North-west corner of Stud Road and Burwood Highway, Wantirna.</i>
<b>Description</b>	<i>A grassed recreation area with a bike path and walking paths on Blind Creek, Wantirna.</i>

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**History**

In 1867 Frank Collier selected land at the north-west corner of Stud Road and Burwood Highway where he lived for 10 years. Samuel Collier selected land on the north-eastern corner to which he secured title in 1875. F. Collier's holding was later owned by Gilbert E. Handasyde, and S. Collier's land by Andrew Hansen. In the 1980s the Blind Creek was re-routed underground and the Knox City regional shopping centre was built over the site.

**Significance**

The Collier reserve on the north-west corner of Stud Road and Burwood Highway, is locally significant for the connection with the pioneering Collier brothers who were the first selectors in the area and for the landscape features providing a green buffer at the crossroads at the main highways at the Knox City Regional Shopping Centre.



## CORHANWARRABUL CREEK

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<b>Location</b>	<i>East - west to the Dandenong Creek, Rowville, joining Monbulk Creek, Scoresby.</i>
<b>Description</b>	<i>A flood-prone tributary of the Dandenong Creek, meeting at Wellington Road, Rowville.</i>

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### History

A plan of survey by T.H. Nutt, dated October 1840, shows this creek to be named the Narra Narrawang Creek. J.H. Nutt while surveying the Yarra Yarra River in June 1839 showed in his Field Book under the heading 'Native names of Mountains', the name 'Corron Warabille' as being opposite to the Parish of Bullen.

In August 1838, the Reverend James Clow came through Mulgrave looking for cattle grazing land. He settled on the eastern bank of the Dandenong Creek and the south bank of the Corhanwarrabul Creek to become the first settler in Ferntree Gully. Clow secured the rights to Corhanwarrabul and Tirhatuan Runs with frontage between Wellington Road and Burwood Highway and the Dandenong foothills.

In 1841, Clow built a homestead **Tirhatuan** adjacent to Corhanwarrabul Creek north of Wellington Road. Mrs Clow introduced the plant *Watsonia*, a pest species rampant in the area.

In 1850, John Beilby secured lease of Corhanwarrabul Run and in 1857 this was owned by Chas. Webber. In 1863, the pastoral Run was held by Dargon, Barry and Jennings and the homestead changed hands.

Today, there is no trace of the homestead. An archaeological survey has shown foundations and artifacts. There were working buildings and an 8 roomed dwelling.

A pear tree still exists on the Corhanwarrabul Creek from Clow's time.

### Significance

Regionally significant.

### References

Melbourne Water Jells Park Information Centre

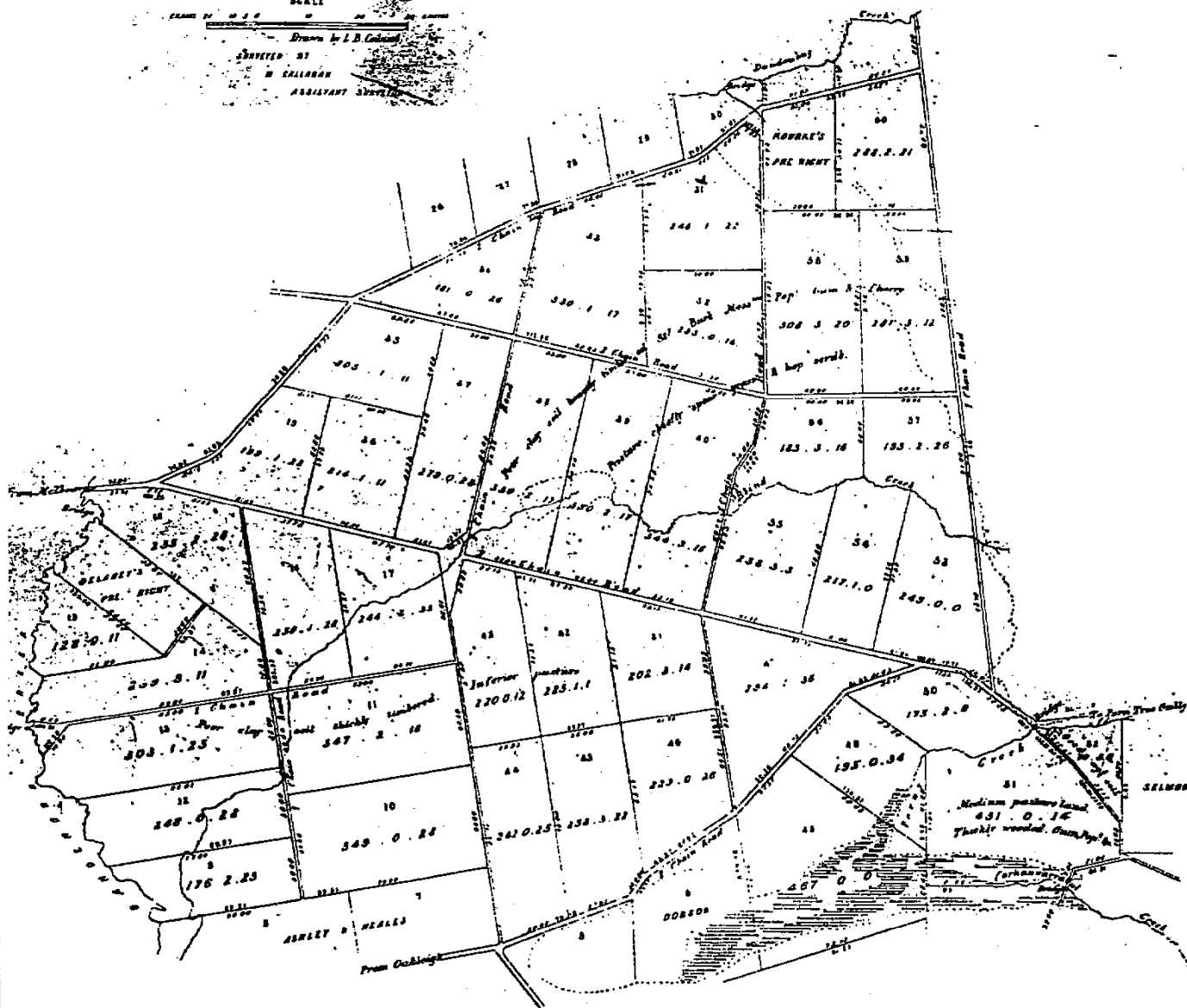
National Trust Australia '*Clow Homestead Stone Footings*' F.N. 4637.



*Photo-lithographed by J. H. Odgers at the Department of Lands & Survey, Melbourne  
14th May 1861*

**Special Lands**  
**PARISH OF SCORESBY**  
*County of Mornington*

SCALE  
 DRAWN BY J. B. COLEMAN  
 SURVEYED BY  
 H. CALLAGHAN  
 ASSISTANT SURVEYOR



**Special Lands**  
**Parish of Scoresby**  
**County of Mornington 14 May 1861**  
*Acknowledgement State Library of Victoria*

## BRIDGES

### **Wellington Road, Rowville**

This is the site of the first crossing by cattlemen in 1836/7, and by the Rev. J. Clow, the first settler in the present day City of Knox in 1838. The bridge subsequently provided an alternative access to Dandenong.

#### ***Recommendation***

A memorial be placed to mark the historic crossing at Wellington Road.

### **Burwood Road, Wantirna**

The site of the Bushy Park run. The first bridge was about 300 metres south of present day Burwood Highway and later moved to present location.

Bushy Park was settled by Madeleine Scott in 1840, who first settled west of the Dandenong Creek (today near Jell's Park) and on the death of her husband moved to a run east of the Creek to the smaller portion of Bushy Park. The crossing was used to bring cattle over by the Rourke brothers. Their selection ranged from the Creek at Bayswater to present day Koomba Park in the 1840s and 1850s.

#### ***Recommendation***

A memorial to early pioneers, particularly Madeleine Scott the first woman to manage a cattle run in the City of Knox.

### **Bayswater Road Dandenong Creek, Bayswater**

The site of the crossing for early settlers from present day Croydon (W. Turner 1836), and the Rourke brothers 1843. A bridge for the Shire of Lillydale designed and built by Sir John Monash was the first bridge to have steel girders. The bridge no longer exists.

#### ***Recommendation***

A memorial to mark the site of the engineering work of Sir John Monash.

## ROADS

From the earliest settlement of Port Phillip, bullock tracks and riding paths through the foothills of the Dandenongs were used constantly by timber workers and settlers visiting the markets of Melbourne, Oakleigh and Dandenong. Being less than a days ride from Melbourne these were well used. Diaries of early settlers tell of frequent trips to Melbourne for supplies and to seek help in times of illness. In the 1890s the nearest doctor for the people of the Shire of Ferntree Gully was at Ringwood.

The first track to the top of the Dandenong Ranges was made through The Basin by early explorers and botanists. Mountain Road, Ferntree Gully, (Olivebank Road) was a common route for visitors to One Tree Hill. Many bullock tracks used by timber cutters were in evidence well into this century. The first road between Ferntree Gully and Emerald was surveyed in 1861 and despite further surveys at intervals over the next fifty years, the bullock tracks remained unmade and rough. Dodd's coaches took visitors to Sassafras and Ferny Creek via Old Coach Road from Bayswater station until the 1920s.

Early sub-divisions often had no formed roads and many steep blocks had no access. Serious roadmaking did not begin until the introduction of the car in 1908. Our modern roads are the outcome of early bullock tracks and deviations in times of flooding of the Dandenong Creek and the many tributaries.

### SIGNIFICANT ROADS

#### Old Coach Road, The Basin

The road was used until the 1920s and the cobblestones over which Cobb and Co. coaches travelled are still evident. Mountain Highway superseded this route. This road is of historic interest as it illustrates the steep camber experienced by pioneers

#### *Recommendation*

The cobblestones and natural environment should be preserved undisturbed.

#### Olivebank Road (Mountain Road), Ferntree Gully

This was used by early visitors on horseback and in 1867 the Duke of Edinburgh rode on horseback on this route to visit One Tree Hill. From the gate at the National Park the summit can be reached by Himalaya Road, View Road or Macedon Road. Olivebank Road has important indigenous trees and understorey vegetation. It is also known for the plantation of Monterey Pine in the grounds of the Carlsruhe, a property owned by the Schultz family. The historic home Ambleside in Olivebank Road has garden plantings dating from 1875 including an oak tree.

#### *Recommendation*

Olivebank road to be listed as a historic precinct.

#### Mountain Highway

The planning and land purchase for Mountain Highway, formerly called the 1 in 20 (the gradient) between The Basin and Sassafras, or Bayswater Road from Bayswater to The Basin, began in the 1880s and was gazetted in 1899. There was a quarry on J.J. Miller's land on the roadside of Mountain Highway which is no longer visible but marked by a slight deviation in the road. A hawthorn hedge remnant of Miller's garden is visible on the roadside between Miller's Road and Colchester Road. During the 1930s depression sustenance workers built a stone retaining wall on the Highway opposite The Ravine. This is in perfect condition despite seepage from the mountain. Mill workers' houses and remnants of a saw mill still exist in The Ravine off Mountain Highway.

#### *Recommendation*

That Mountain Highway be listed as a historic precinct.



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 **W.G. MORRIS MEMORIAL RESERVE**

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**Location**      *Harold Street, Wantirna.*

**Description**      *A four hectare natural bushland reserve in the built-up suburb of Wantirna.*

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**History**

This small area of undeveloped natural bushland was named after W.G. Morris, a City of Knox councillor in 1975-76. It is distinctive for the entirely natural setting of indigenous flora which is relatively undisturbed. The history of land use has been minimal with no evidence of grazing or orcharding. The reasons for this are obscure as Wantirna is adjacent to the Dandenong Creek and was heavily grazed from early settlement last century. It became an important orchard district of Melbourne from 1900. A theory is that the high ground soil is poor and unsuitable for both these purposes. 1.

The reserve is a conservation area with a walking track and has been cleared of weeds by volunteers.

**Significance**

This is a regionally significant conservation area in a dense urban development. It has the last remaining untouched indigenous vegetation in the City of Knox.

**Notes**

1. From talks with Darren Wallace, Knox Environment Society. Margaret McInnes.

 **WICKS RESERVE**

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<b>Location</b>	<i>Basin Olinda Road, The Basin</i>
<b>Description</b>	<i>Small reserve of natural vegetation with recreation amenities. The grassy area forms a natural drainage runoff for the surrounding hills and creeks creating a special environment of rare flora</i>

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**History**

In 1877 the pioneer Edmund Wicks acquired 210 acres from the north-east corner of Forest Road to Mountain Road, now Olivebank Road, and a holding in Old Forest Road The Basin. The family lived on the latter holding where the family carried on the farm. The Wicks family was also associated with the pioneering Dobson family through marriage. <sup>1</sup>

Nine acres of The Basin land was purchased by the Shire of Ferntree Gully from the Wicks family in 1942 for a park and an oval for the people of The Basin. A committee carried out timber clearing but there were severe drainage problems as the land is at the lower level of Old Forest Road, a steep cutting. The park went into a decline largely because of these problems and other amenities became more popular.

In 1965 the Shire of Knox appointed a controlling committee and made a financial grant for earthworks to create a picnic ground with amenities. Today the reserve is well patronised and subject to environmental conservation. <sup>2</sup>

**Significance**

Wicks Reserve is of regional historical and environmental significance for the association with the pioneering Wicks family. The geographical location in the environmentally sensitive area of The Basin, contains wet heathland vegetation, the last major occurrence in Knox..

**Notes**

1. *The Basin 1867-1992 Fire On The Hill, Flowers in the Valley. Wicks Reserve. P.36.*  
Edited by R.Coxhill. 1992 Pub. The Basin Progress Association.
2. Knox Environment Society.

 **BATTERHAM RESERVE**

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<b>Location</b>	<i>Miller Road, The Basin.</i>
<b>Description</b>	<i>Two sporting ovals, a brick pavilion, store room, 5 tennis courts, a reticulated water system for summer watering and ornamental planting designed to an original plan by Fergus Chandler.</i>

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**History**

The Batterham Reserve is on land formerly owned by J.J. Miller the first President of the Shire of Ferntree Gully (1889) and the owner of Melrose in Dorrigo Drive, built in 1888. The area was swampy with a variety of shrubs, and other indigenous plants. Miller had the area drained and built a horse trotting track.

In about 1912 John Maguire bought 50 acres owned by Miller and in 1927 the Boronia Church of Christ formed a cricket team which used the bottom paddock donated by Rowley Batterham, one of three foster children of the Maquires.

In 1947, Rowley Batterham sub-divided his land and Council bought 12 1/2 acres which is now Batterham Reserve. A landscape design submitted by Fergus Chandler of The Basin formed the basis of the layout and landscaping of the reserve. The Basin Football Club used the reserve from 1949 and a pavilion was built on the southern side midway between the two ovals. Later additions were 5 tennis courts, flood lighting, fencing and extensive landscaping according to Fergus Chandler's design.

**Significance**

The Batterham Reserve is a community facility of regional significance for the history of the use of the land, for the community involvement in the facility and for the design of the landscaping by Fergus Chandler.

**Note**

1. *The Basin 1867-1992 Fire On The Hill, Flowers in the Valley. Batterham Reserve* p.36. Edited by R. Coxhill 1992.



## STREETS ABUTTING THE WESTERN FACE OF FERNTREE GULLY NATIONAL PARK

**Location** *Walbundry Avenue, Kia Ora Parade, Heath Avenue, Mont Albert Road, Seascap Road, Joan Avenue, Perra Street, Olivebank Road, Hansen Road, Ferntree Gully.*  
**Western Face,- Classified National Trust L.535. National Park**

### History

The diverse range of landscape of the Dandenongs has been subject to development pressures since last century. This included excisions of portions of land decreed by Government Acts to deliberately allow settlement to take place during times of great economic distress and hardship in the city of Melbourne. The natural beauty attracted explorers and settlers almost from the very first settlement of Port Phillip. The history of land use included timber cutting and sawmilling, water catchment, farming and recreation. During times of metropolitan expansion, the sub-division of agricultural land for urban and rural residential purposes has sometimes caused inappropriate developments particularly along the main roads. This complex history of land use has often created controversy.

The western face of the Dandenongs has been the subject of encroaching urban sprawl to the very line of the Ferntree Gully National Park. Housing development abutting the western face has provided the owners with some of the most spectacular and sought after views in Melbourne scanning the horizon from Mt. Macedon to Westernport.

An evaluation of the impact of the suburban sprawl has not always been considered when development is about to occur. The people of Metropolitan Melbourne have valued the landscape of the Dandenongs as an outstanding asset of world heritage which can be seen from almost every vantage point. In particular, the people of Knox and surrounding municipalities have been conscious of preservation of the unique attributes of the green belt provided by the Ferntree Gully National Park. This area is protected by Government Act but there is some concern that development of housing may interfere with the visual corridor and green belt.

### Significance

The Ferntree Gully National Park and foothills western face of the Dandenong ranges, provide a unique natural and built landscape and are of state significance. The classified -western face of the Dandenong Ranges (part) extends from Montrose to the southern boundary of Ferntree Gully National Park. National Trust Australia. L 535.

### Recommendations

Before further physical development takes place in the region of the foothills abutting the western face of the Ferntree Gully National Park, further detailed research and evaluation should be carried out regarding:

- the likely impact of further housing development on the visual and environmental aspects of this important region of Melbourne.
- the appropriate street plantings to compliment the natural qualities of the foothills.

## THE BASIN TRIANGLE STREETScape

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### **Location**

*Intersection of Mountain Highway, Forest Road and the Basin-Olinda Road, The Basin.*

### **Description**

*The Triangle has been attractively landscaped and contains service amenities such as the Fire Station, Elderly Citizens Centre, Scout Hall, Progress Hall, kindergarten and some shops and a restaurant.*

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### **History**

The Basin was the subject of early exploration by Baron Von Mueller, the official government botanist of the La Trobe administration in 1851. Official reports show that the uniqueness of the flora and fauna were a national treasure. Von Mueller camped at what is known today as the 'Small Basin', an area east of the open natural basin topography where the Salvation Army complex is today.

The Triangle is the hub of The Basin village and residents have fought for many years to contain the uniqueness of the open space and simple characteristics. An area of great natural beauty unsurpassed in Victoria, The Basin, a basically rural community with an urban population, has been the scene of intense local lobbying against landscape destruction over many years. Many residents are second generation.

The area is much admired by thousands of visitors per year and the tranquil village-like atmosphere has many times been in danger of disruption due to threatened sub-development and commercialisation. The pending development of land adjacent to the village on Mountain Highway is the subject of intense local pressure.

The Ravine has been developed with a residential area in a fire prone funnel formerly vegetated with pre-historic ferns first described by early explorers.

### **Significance**

The Triangle is of regional significance as the central focus of an area of great natural beauty and for the planning of amenity for the local hills community.

### **Recommendation**

That any development in The Triangle of The Basin and surrounding open space be subject to delicate scrutiny taking into account the heritage value of a unique landscape and one of few remaining visually beautiful areas in the City of Knox.


**NARRE NARRE WARREN PROTECTORATE STATION**


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<b>Full Name</b>	<i>Native Police Res./Dandenong Police Paddocks 013865 2118/29210-009101 1.</i>
<b>Location/ Boundaries</b>	<i>About 85ha, comprising the area bounded by a line commencing at the intersection of Greystanes Crescent and Belair Avenue, Endeavour Hills, then westerly via the northern side of Belair Avenue to Greenbank Avenue, then northerly via the eastern side of that road to AMG northing: 7922-III-SE-'Dandenong'-9765, then directly northerly to drain at AMG easting: 4518 and approximate northing: 978, then westerly via the northern side of that drain to its confluence with another near AMG point: 44809758, then due west to Dandenong Creek, then upstream via the left bank of that creek to Stud Road, then northerly via the eastern side of that road for 230m, then directly to a point on the boundary between the cities of Knox and Berwick 400m north of the intersection of that boundary with Dandenong Creek, then northerly via that boundary for approximately 350m to a fenceline, then easterly via that fenceline to Frankston Drive, then directly to a corner of Greystanes Crescent at approximate AMG point: 45569796, then southerly via the western side of that road to the commencement point. 2</i>

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**Acknowledgement:**

The information in this report is taken from the published works of Marie Hansen Fels 1988, 1990, 1902 and David Rhodes 1990. The recommendations for the Proposed Management Plan February 1991, have been prepared by the Dandenong Police Paddocks Reserve Planning Committee under the auspices of the Department of Conservation and Environment. The City of Knox is represented on the Committee and will have responsibility for the Rowville Reserve.

The citation is from the Australian Heritage Commission - entered in the interim list.

**Listing**

Nomination - to be entered in the interim list, National Estate.

**Statement of Significance**

The Narre Narre Warren protectorate station is one of a few 19th Century Aboriginal reserves in Victoria with physical remains. It was the headquarters for the 1837 Corps of Native Police, the site of the 1840 Westernport Aboriginal Protectorate and the headquarters for the 1842 Corps of Native Police until 1852. The site is also significant because it marks one of the few early European attempts to integrate Aboriginal people into European society, where Aboriginals were involved in the selection of the settlement site and defence of that place against attempts by European landowners to appropriate it for grazing and farming purposes (criterion 82).

The Narre Narre Warren site represents thirty years of government policy to integrate Aboriginal people into a European lifestyle. These attempts at assimilation failed despite an unusual degree of co-operation between both Aboriginal and European people (criteria A4 & D2).

## History

The land that constitutes the Narre Narre Warren protectorate station has been used for three Aboriginal/European institutions - the 1837 corps of native police under superintendent C.L.J. De Villiers, the Westernport Aboriginal Protectorate under Assistant Protector W. Thomas and the 1842 Corps of Native Police under Commandant Henry E.P. Dana. The area was later used by the Victorian Mounted Police as their stud reserve.

The site itself was selected in 1837 by the eventual members of the Native Police Corps, the men of the Boonerong and Woiwurong (now known as the Wurundjeri) tribes. The 1837 Native Police Corps only lasted from October 1837 until January 1838. The site was then re-selected by the tribal groups in 1840 for the Westernport Aboriginal Protectorate. This was to be modelled on the standard structure of protectorate reserves - one square mile for the central homestead, surrounded by an area of land of radius four miles, to be used for agricultural purposes and hunting. The inner reserve was to be permanent and the outer reserve only temporary, to tide the Aboriginal people over the period while they still hunted until they were ready to adopt a sedentary agricultural lifestyle in line with the aim of the government. The area served as a protectorate for only a short period and was eventually broken up and made a police station after the Aboriginal inhabitants deserted it for a period of six to eight months. M. Fels suggests that Aboriginal numbers at the protectorate probably fluctuated in response to two factors: annual movements around the country and the periodic abandonment of the camp on account of sickness and deaths. She suggests that this fluctuation in numbers was taken as evidence by the government authorities of the failure of the reserve.

In 1842 the site was re-occupied by a new Corps of Native Police under Dana. Although the site was still designated as the central protectorate, the tribal people followed Dana and the Native Police Corps to Merri Creek before moving back to the Narre Narre Warren site in 1843. In 1844 the site was officially handed over to the Native Corps as a police reserve. This reserve functioned successfully until 1852 when it disintegrated on the death of Commandant Dana. Regarding the type of structures present on the site, between 1841 and 1842 the Westernport Aboriginal Protectorate included five buildings of wattle and mud, roofed with bark or thatch. These buildings were occupied by the Assistant Protector, the overseer, the schoolmaster and the convict labourers. A nine by ten acre fenced paddock, used for cultivation, a stock paddock and a school were also constructed. It was hoped by the European administration that the aborigines living on the protectorate would gradually discover the value of a sedentary life based on agriculture. The records suggest the aboriginal people preferred a combination of lifestyles with limited agricultural work tied into a more important traditional cycle of movement around their territory.

The place is the site of a number of burials. Eight Aboriginal troopers died on the station and were buried there, with military funerals appropriate to their rank. Three Aboriginal people associated with the police died and were buried there. The European Sergeant-Major died there and may have been buried there. As well, a number of Aboriginal people who died during the period of the protectorate may be buried there. So far, the site of the Native Police cemetery has not been found.

## Condition

Surface manifestations of the use of the site during the pre-contact and early post-contact period comprise scatters of archaeological material. No above-ground remains of structures relating to the 1837 Corps or the Protectorate Station can be located. Regarding the later post-contact period, from 1842 to 1852, the remains of a number of structures which relate to the 1842 Corps can still be found. Most archaeological features and historic structures within this place have suffered considerable disturbance. This is because the place has been subject to such a wide variety of uses in the past.

## The Management Plan

The Plan is for the protection, use and development of the Dandenong Police Paddocks Reserve. It recommends the future system of management and the implementation of the contents of the Plan.

### Reserve Description

The Reserve, which is commonly called the Police Paddocks, is 499 ha in area and located 4 km north-east of Dandenong, about 30 kilometres south-east of Melbourne. It extends from the Dandenong Creek easterly and north-easterly into the lower slopes of the Lysterfield Hills and abuts the urban areas of Endeavour Hills, Dandenong North and Rowville. The Reserve has as its western boundary Dandenong Creek and Stud Road, a major north-south road linking Dandenong and Wantirna. To the north is Police Road and Churchill Park Drive, the latter giving access to the adjacent Churchill National Park. The eastern and southern boundaries are the urban areas of Endeavour Hills. There are extensive areas of grassland on the floodplain of Dandenong Creek that grade into open woodland then forest as the land rises.

The Reserve derives its name from its use by the Native Police Corps between 1837 and 1853 and its subsequent occupation by the Victoria Police for a horse stud until 1931. Prior to 1835 the Reserve was part of the territory inhabited by the Wurundjeri Tribe for at least 10,000 years.

Many activities have been allowed in the Reserve; areas have been set aside for particular uses, facilities developed for recreation, and engineering works undertaken to provide community services and flood mitigation. Present uses include a golf course, soccer complex, softball centre, picnic grounds, sports ovals, informal recreation in the forest areas and grazing of horses on the floodplain.

### Creation and Legislation

The Reserve is Crown Land which was permanently reserved in 1930 for public purposes under the Narree Worrar Act 1930. Reservation is under the Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978. There are sets of Regulations for four sections of the Reserve. Three are called "Regulations for the Care, Protection and Management of the Public Purposes Reserve, Parish of Narree Worrar" and were published in the Victorian Government Gazette as follows:

Berwick Council Section (Churchill Park Golf Course) 1 March 1978

Berwick Council Section (excluding Churchill Park Golf Course) 26 July 1967

Dandenong Council Section - 24 November 1965

The Knox Council Section has Regulations called the Municipal Reserves By-Law under the Local Government Act 1958 published in the Victorian Government Gazette on 26 June 1974.

Additional legislation is the Narree Worrar Land Act 1969 which authorises the Berwick Council to grant a lease for the Churchill Park Golf Course.

The Reserve was formerly part of a larger reservation for police purposes which included the adjoining Churchill National Park and Tirhatuan Park Golf Course. It is zoned Public Open Space under the Berwick and Knox Planning Scheme administered by the Cities of Berwick and Knox respectively.

The Department of Conservation and Environment (DCE) is responsible for administration of the Police Paddocks. The management of sections of the Reserve has been delegated to the Berwick and Dandenong Councils as Committees of Management since 1959 and the Knox Council as Committee of Management since 1961. Knox Council has delegated management of Rowville Reserve to the Rowville Reserve Recreation Committee.

Melbourne Water (formerly the Dandenong Valley Authority DVA), is responsible for drainage throughout the Reserve and flood mitigation in the section of the flood plain of the Dandenong Creek delineated by the limits of the highest flood recorded (1934) under the Dandenong Valley Authority Act 1963.

Under the Water Act 1989 the DVA is also responsible for the control of clearing and cultivation within 40 metres of the banks of the Dandenong Creek.



Apart from a strip of land along Stud Road which is in the City of Knox, the Police Paddocks are within the City of Berwick.

The Victoria Archaeological Survey is a branch of the Department of Conservation and Environment and is responsible for the management of Victoria's archaeological heritage. The Wurundjeri Tribe Land Compensation and Cultural Heritage Council is the Aboriginal organisation responsible for Aboriginal cultural heritage in the Melbourne and Westernport areas.

#### Period of Management Plan

The Plan is intended to guide management for the five years to the end of 1995, when the need for a review of the Plan will be considered. This Plan will, however stay in force until replaced.

#### Notes

1. The Australian Heritage Commission.
2. Fels, M.H. 1986 *The Dandenong Police Paddocks. Early Use as Native Police Station and Aboriginal Protectorate Station, 1837-1853*. Conservation, Forests and Lands Department Victoria.
3. Rhodes, David 1989 *The Native Police Headquarters, Dandenong. An Archaeological Survey* Vas. Melbourne.
4. *Dandenong Police Paddocks Reserve Proposed Management Plan (Draft)*. Department of Conservation, Forests and Land, Melbourne 1989, 1991.



*Former Commandant's House, circa 1920s.  
Photo permission: Jean Uhl*

 TREES

**Memorial Avenue**

*North-east corner of Wellington Road and Lysterfield Road, Shire of Sherbrooke*

An avenue of 10 silky oaks commemorating the men who returned and two English oaks commemorating men who died from the Lysterfield district who served in the First World War. Planted and cared for by Gus Powell, a pioneer of the Lysterfield district. A memorial plaque has been placed on the bank but many trees have died from neglect. The Shire of Sherbrooke is restoring the site.

**Avenue**

*Blackwood Park Road, Ferntree Gully*

An Avenue lining the former farm house drive to the Blackwood Park Estate, Bales Street, Ferntree Gully.

**Ferny Creek, Ferntree Gully**

Area of significance with Manna Gum, Yellow Box and shrubs including Musk Daisy Bush, Hazel Pomaderris and Muttonwood. Remnant of wet ferny gully.

Glenfern Road Bridge - significant Manna Gum.

**Ferntree Gully Community Centre Environs, Ferntree Gully**

Elms and Oaks.

**Shire Hall**

*Corner of Selman Avenue and Burwood Highway, Ferntree Gully*

The car park on Burwood Highway. Four elms (*Ulmus proceau*) and two oaks (*Quercus*) on the perimeter, one of these planted by the Duke of Gloucester in 1934 to mark the centenary of Victoria.

*West Courtyard*

Lombardy poplar, Monterey Pine, bamboo, shrubs.

*Rear of the State Government building in Spring Street, Ferntree Gully*

Claret Ash (*Fraxinus Raywoodii*) planted by the Governor of Victoria, Maj. Gen. Sir Rohan Delacombe.

**Elm Street, Bayswater**

Street eucalypts. Untouched since early settlement.

**29 Elm Street, Bayswater**

Ancient eucalypt said to have been known by early settlers. Kleinert property

**Myrtle Grove, Bayswater**

1890s Canary Palm (*canariensis*)

**Sasses Avenue / Boronia Road, Boronia**

Group of Liquidamber

**The Ravine, The Basin**

Fern Gully. First identified by early explorers

**Miller's Homestead 'Melrose' Dorriggo Drive, Boronia**

Camellia walk. 1890s Historic

**Mountain Highway, The Basin**

South Side between Miller Road and Colchester Road. Hawthorn thicket, remnants of J.J. Miller's extensive gardens.

**Boronia Road, Wantirna**

Roadside thickets, briar, hawthorn, gorse. Dates from early European settlement 1830s.

**Winton Wetlands, Wantirna**

Aboriginal scar tree, (manna gum) and indigenous vegetation. Managed by Melbourne Water.

**Devon Meadows, Ferntree Gully Road**

Edna Walling Garden. Managed by Melbourne Water

Bunya Pines and plants from seed on the Dandenong Creek. Managed by Melbourne Water

**Karoo Road, Scoresby**

Ancient river red gums. Red gums were indigenous to the Dandenong Region and appeared in pockets of the Corhanwarrabul and Monbulk Creeks and flood plains. Used extensively for housing and public works in the City of Melbourne last century, the species is almost extinct.

**Wellington Road / Corhanwarrabul Creek, site of 'Tirhatuan', Rowville**

Pear Tree planted by Clow Family, 1838, first settlers in Knox. Managed by Melbourne Water

Tirhatuan no longer exists.

**"Amaroo" burwood Highway, Ferntree Gully**

Oak tree

**"Ambleside", Olivebank Road, Ferntree Gully**

Oak 1870s, magnolia 1880s, camellias 1900, 'Henty' rose, small bushy rose, probably gallica, (remnant from the Henty properties, Portland), cuttings transplanted from Portland to the Burnley Yarra gardens by Ellis Collings a gardener for James Henty of Richmond. Generations of the rose came through the Kleinert family, Bayswater. The garden demonstrates eras of development from early slab hut to established homestead.

**"Wine Hall" Scoresby Road, Bayswater**

Oak Trees

**Warren Park**

Hallam North Road, Lysterfield. Monterey pines and a magnolia tree. Said to be 120 years old. Land selected by J.F. Walker 1865.

**Lady Franklin's Tree**

*Police Paddocks Rowville.* Monterey Pine. The tree planting is supposed to have occurred in 1839 when Lady Jane Franklin visited from Van Diemen's Land en route to Sydney. Evidence shows that no visit to the Police Paddocks occurred and that there was no Police Station there at that time. Oral tradition and a note found in the Dandenong Day Book in 1959 suggests that Lady Stanley (wife of Sir Arthur Stanley, Governor of Victoria 1914 - 1920) placed a plaque on the tree to commemorate the establishment of Police Depot. There were many Vice-regal visitors to the eastern region last century including the Governor, and Commander - in - Chief (1889 - 1895), Earl of Hopetoun and Lady Hopetoun who visited Stamford Park in the 1890s. It is believed one of these vice-regal guests planted the tree. The National Trust plaque has been removed due to the lack of authenticity.

**Note**

1. Marie Fels. *Vol 1. The Dandenong Police Paddocks.*  
*Early use as Native Police Headquarters and Aboriginal Protectorate Station, 1837-1853*  
P.8. 1990
2. Earl of Hopetoun (John Adrian Louis Hope), G.C.M.G. Governor and Commander-in-Chief. 28 November 1889, to 12 July 1895. *Source:* Australian Encyclopedia Vol 4.  
Sir Arthur Lyulph Stanley Governor of Victoria 1914 - 1920.

## HISTORIC OAK TREE

**Location** *Sheffield Road, The Basin. On the bank of Dobson's Creek and adjacent to Chandler's 'Como' Nurseries of Doongalla Road.*

**Circa** 1874

### Classification Report

**Species** English Oak

**Nomenclature** Botanical Name: *Quercus robur*  
Common Name: Oak  
Name of the particular tree: Chandler family oak.

**Classification** Of outstanding historical importance to the City of Knox.

### Categories of significance

- \* *The age.* The tree is reputed to have been planted from an acorn by William and Kate Chandler about 1875 soon after they settled in the district to commemorate the birth of the fourth son (Archibald), one of eleven children. The tree is one of the first imported species planted in the district and although young by European standards for an oak, is nevertheless one of the finest examples of early English oak in Australia.
- \* *The size and condition.* The tree is a magnificent aged specimen of large girth and canopy.
- \* *The history.* The tree planted by William Chandler one of the first Councillors in the district, is connected to the story of the pioneering Chandler family in Australia, identified with activities in horticulture, public service, religion and sport. It is adjacent to, and was once part of the property of the famous 'Como' Nursery gardens, well known throughout Victoria as the first producer of the boronia, and specialists in azaleas, camellias and rare plants, imported from Japan, and other Eastern countries.
- \* *Of public interest.* The Como Nursery has an established show garden adjoining the area around the tree honouring Mr. Bert Chandler, one of William's and Kate's sons who lived and worked there for 90 years. The garden is open to the public free of charge every day of the year. A memorial cairn has been placed near the oak tree by the Chandler family depicting the history.

### Summary

The oak tree, formerly on the Chandler property, now zoned Sheffield Road (formerly a bullock track), is cared for by Knox Council.

The tree required major attention in 1983 when thinning, deadwooding, and shaping of the canopy was carried out. Attention to the cavity area by way of cleaning and filling was also carried out.

Installation of support cables was carried out by Council's consultant arboriculturist (Ashton Tree Services Pty. Ltd.), in consultation with five members of the Chandler family and representatives of the National Trust and the Botanical Gardens.

The tree remains a healthy, magnificent specimen.

### The Chandler family

William Chandler, market gardener, settled at The Basin in 1873 and the district may be regarded as the cradle of the Chandler clan, since it was here that the family - now consisting of some 160 members - was founded. Wm. Chandler, Snr., emigrated from Surrey, England, in 1854 and took up land in Glenferrie Road, Malvern, where he planted a market garden. Chandler was far in advance of other gardeners of the day and his produce gained a splendid reputation. By crossing cauliflower seed with that of a giant drumhead cabbage, he produced a cauliflower which was in such demand that the seed was exported. Wm. Chandler, Jun., selected 54 acres beside the Dandenong Creek in 1873, for which he paid 1/- an acre, and after clearing the land, Chandler began growing vegetables, later turning his attention to fruit-growing and flowers. He grew the first boronia in the district 70 years ago. <sup>1</sup>

Many of William and Kate Chandler's eight sons and three daughters (and their children) were associated with horticulture in the hills. Arch Chandler and another brother, H.R. Chandler, lived over the creek in Kilsyth throughout their lifetime and today a sister, Mrs. F.J. Goodwin, lives at The Basin. A.E. Chandler was perhaps the best known of Wm. Chandler's sons, since he was a prominent public man and a member of the Legislative Council for many years. Wm. Chandler was a foundation councillor of the Ferntree Gully Shire in 1889 and the tradition of municipal service was carried on by his son, Hon. A.E. Chandler, M.L.C., and grandsons, Hon. G.L. Chandler, M.L.C., and Allan Chandler. <sup>2</sup>

### Notes

1. Coulson Helen, *The Family of William Chandler Horticulturist 1853-1976* Pub. D.E. Chandler 1978 Highway Press.
2. Ikin, R.R. *The Basin Centenary 1867-1967* 1966.

## THEME 2

### SETTLERS AND AGRICULTURE

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#### *The first division of Crown Allotments.*

#### *Farms, orchards and market gardens.*

The first general settlement within the former Parish of Scoresby took place in the 1850s with the closing of the pastoral era. The first sale of Crown land took place on 4 October 1855 when the allotments included in the first survey in the Parish of Narre Warren undertaken by Thos. Couchman were carried out at a public auction in Melbourne. Fourteen allotments embracing most of the land in present Rowville were offered for sale. Only three were sold and they were bounded by Wellington and Stud Roads and the Dandenong Creek. These first properties became Kilcatten Park, Stamford Park and Hynam Park. Prospective settlers chose to live in the foothills of the well watered plains of the Dandenong Ranges. By this time surrounding parishes of Mulgrave, Nunawading, Springvale and Narre Warren were well settled, Scoresby being settled almost exclusively by families spreading out from these areas.

Earliest settlement of the district of Ferntree Gully centred around the present Ferntree Gully Hotel where a sawmill was established about 1850 by J.W. Beilby on the Ferny Creek. In 1857 a shack was erected as the first hotel serving liquor to the sawyers and pastoralists from the surrounding areas. No trace of the early hotel remains today and the present hotel, the third on the site, illustrates architectural and town influences development of the 1930s.

A second phase in the development of the district took place in the early 1870s at the junction of the present day Ferntree Gully Road and Burwood Highway. Slightly west of the Club Hotel was the Huntingtower Hotel which was journeys end for the coaches carrying tourists to the famous Fern Tree Gully in the National Park. The track through thick forest to the park is now Burwood Highway.

The coming of the railway in 1889 from Ringwood to Ferntree Gully curbed further growth in the Ferntree Gully Road area (this was known as Oakleigh Road), and caused the commercial centre to move further towards the hills. This was partly in anticipation of the railway being extended in a circle to Dandenong and Oakleigh, something that never eventuated. The township became located near the railway station on the Main Road (Burwood Highway). A store, Roman Catholic Church and Shire Hall were built in quick succession in the 1890s. The narrow gauge railway was opened in 1900 from Ferntree Gully which had now become Upper Ferntree Gully, to Gembrook, and this further consolidated the position and social hierarchy of the small town.

During the 1860s and 1870s settlers in the foothills around Ferntree Gully and Lysterfield predominantly carried on small mixed farms some owning large holdings where they ran cattle, sheep and horses. Today Stamford Park in Rowville, Willowvale in Lysterfield and Blackwood Park in Ferntree Gully are the only physical remnants of the era.

In the 1870s significant use of land for orchards began in Bayswater, pioneered by German immigrants, and in Wantirna South, Lower Ferntree Gully and Scoresby. Land along the Menzies Creek - Emerald Ridge was thrown open following a revocation of portion of the State Forest in 1878 and the first real difficulties with seepage and drainage into the valleys occurred. Bullock tracks were virtually impassable in the winter months causing great isolation and hardship. The same difficulties were experienced in the Upper Ferntree Gully area.

On 1 September 1893, the Settlement of Lands Act authorised the establishment of village settlements in Victoria and 6,500 acres of land in the Dandenongs were excised for this purpose. The Rev. Horace Finn Tucker espoused the Village Settlement Scheme and called for the introduction of co-operative rural settlements. The assumption was that the country side would restore innocence and all would be well. The Government also required religious organisations to care for the poor and destitute, children in need of protection and older boys at risk from moral and criminal activity. The evils of living in the cities were seen not only in terms of sin and suffering but as a contrast to the country where a purer simpler life of hard work and simple pleasures was good for the soul. A social experimental farm begun at The Basin in 1897 by the Salvation Army for boys in need of care and protection, is still operating today but with changed philosophy and integrated programs. Some of the buildings destroyed by fire have been replaced.

The rural life also attracted people from the middle and upper classes. At Bayswater, Paterson, Bruce and Laing, city business men, had a retreat for their male employees.

The Chandler family, pioneers in the importation and propagation of plants, supplied much of Melbourne with daffodils and boronia and the streets of Boronia bear the family names. Around the turn of the century, significant numbers of Italian and Spanish families settled on the flood plains of Rowville and Lysterfield and formed successful market gardens. The first portion of the Parish of Monbulk was settled in 1893 in the valley of the Emerald and Woori Yallock Creek and this was officially known as the Monbulk (Dandenong State Forest) community. At the same time the Scoresby village settlement (named for the Parish) was created at Ferny Creek, Tremont. Further land was opened at One Tree Hill, Ferny Creek and Mast Gully Road, Upwey but by 1895, of 42 settlers and families, only 29 remained. The main difficulties facing the village settlers, clearing the land and making roads, were not resolved until the 1900s by the Shire of Ferntree Gully when motorised transport was beginning and the tourist and weekender era was established.

The main industries supporting the population between the years of 1850 and 1900 were timber, cattle, sheep, horses and small farms. In the hills, gold fossicking at Emerald in 1858 and 1896, and eucalyptus distilling in the 1860s, 1870s and 1890s were followed by berry and general fruit growing near the summit of Mount Dandenong.

In the 1880s the Dobson family were remarkably successful with orcharding and exporting fruit to Britain. They were also responsible for the beginnings of local government, the formation of schools, churches and other community pursuits.

#### Notes

1. Marjorie Morgan *Crown Lands Pre-emptive Right Applications Victoria. 1850-1854* Acacia Press Blackburn 1987.
2. Helen Coulson. *Story of the Dandenongs* Longman Cheshire 1958
3. Graeme Davison. *The Rise and Fall of Marvellous Melbourne.* Ch.10 M.U.P. 1979
4. From the Salvation Army Social Operations in Australia 1899-1900. *Children's Work*. (Courtesy Jim Stephens). *The War Cry, Bayswater Farm. An Interesting Experiment.* November 24, 1900. Pub. Salvation Army.





## **SIGNIFICANT HISTORIC BUILDINGS**

### **HOUSES**

- 56 Edina Street,
- Kelso, 24 Westley Street, Ferntree Gully
- Woodleigh, 3 Norma Crescent, Knoxfield
- House, 109 Underwood Road Ferntree Gully
- Baird House, 29 Commercial road, Ferntree Gully
- Ambleside Park, 3 Olivebank Road, Ferntree Gully
- Queenlea (Pine Lodge), 490 Scoresby Road, Knoxfield
- Cloverdale Cottage, Hallam Road North, Lysterfield
- Warren Park, Hallam Road North, Endeavour Hills
- Bona Vista, 3 Lilac Court, Bayswater
- Kingston/Bretonneux, 53 Dorset Road, Ferntree Gully
- House, 918 Burwood Highway, Ferntree Gully
- House Remnant, 884 Burwood Highway Ferntree Gully
- Nell's Cottage, 21 Forest Road, Ferntree Gully

### **HOTELS**

- Club Hotel, Ferntree Gully Road/Burwood Highway, Ferntree Gully
- Ferntree Gully Hotel, Burwood Highway, Ferntree Gully

### **SCHOOLS**

- Bayswater Primary School, Mountain Highway, Bayswater
- Scoresby State School, Ferntree Gully Road, Scoresby
- Ferntree Gully State School, Dorset Road, Ferntree Gully

### **CHURCHES**

- Scoresby Wesleyan Church, Ferntree Gully Road, Scoresby
- Church, Mountain Highway, Bayswater

### **OTHER**

- Youth Training Centre, Liverpool Road, The Basin



## **SIGNIFICANT REGIONAL LANDSCAPES**

### **ORCHARDS**

- Dobson Orchard, Liverpool Road, The Basin

### **PLANTS**

- Bushy Rose, Ambleside Park, Olivebank Road, Ferntree Gully





## 56 EDINA ROAD

### Location

56 Edina Road, Ferntree Gully

Date of Construction circa 1868



### Description

Timber cottage with verandah, supporting posts, sash windows and timber linings. There is a filled-in well at the rear and the garden has remnants of old roses, briars and a hedge of pittosporum.

### Heritage

The cottage was built on Crown Allotment 53 selected by George Wilkes in 1868. Bounded by Blind Creek and present Burwood, Burke and Dorset Roads, the property included the Lower Ferntree Gully School and the precinct of the Commercial Road-Westley Street areas.<sup>1</sup>

George Pickett the Elder made his home on the westernmost portion of the Wilke's selection. Pickett was a brickmaker by trade and was responsible for making by hand, all bricks used in the construction of the local school, Royal and Club Hotels, and the house on the former property of J. T. Dobson at 918 Burwood Highway.

Fred Pickett is known to have lived in the house which was a farm with grazing cattle with a dairy.<sup>2</sup> Significant Monterey pines line Edina and Burke Roads. In the 1950's the area was still sparsely built and surrounded by market gardens from Blind Creek.<sup>3</sup>

The oral history of the area reveals that the house was 90 years old in 1958 which dates the house at 1868.<sup>4</sup> The present owner believes the house to be at least 120 years old. Bullockies (Moore and Chaundy) commonly used the rote from the hills through this area, and Edina Road, formerly mount View Road, was a major intersection.

### Significance

The cottage is locally significant and dates from the division of Crown Land and settlement of the area. The oldest known cottage in the Ferntree Gully area.

### Recommendation

That the cottage be preserved for further investigation regarding architectural characteristics as an example of the oldest known cottage in Ferntree Gully. That the owner be notified accordingly.

### Notes

1. Helen Coulson. *Story of the Dandenongs*. p. 157
2. Information supplied by Mr F. Dinsdale
3. 4. Oral history of the area. by M McInnes



## CLOVERDALE COTTAGE

### Location

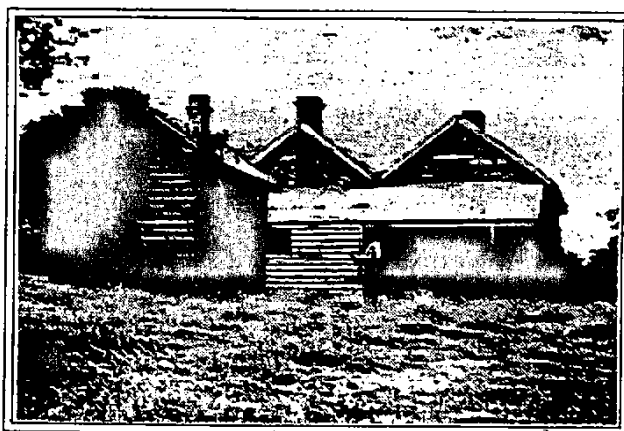
*Hallam Road North, Lysterfield*

**Date of Construction** 1870

### Type of Place

*House / Residential*

*Privately Owned*



### Listing

Recorded but unclassified (due to private ownership) by the National Trust Australia (Vic.) F.N. 5763.

### Statement of Significance - citation (1986)

"A charming and picturesquely located farmhouse of rubble fieldstone from the site, with brick dressings, built in about 1870 by Charles Battersby. Though now in a state of dilapidation, it remains a good illustration of nineteenth century rural building as now being absorbed into the fringes of the suburban sprawl."

Since the citation was prepared the owners have restored the cottage.

### Description

The cottage has been recorded by the National Trust as contributing to the heritage of Australia and should be preserved. It is the oldest known detached dwelling in Knox.

Over 120 years old the building was sound, with rubble fieldstone walls, the stone being quarried from a site within the Lysterfield Lake Park. Remnants of the life of the early settlers still exist such as old peppercorn trees and brick walls.

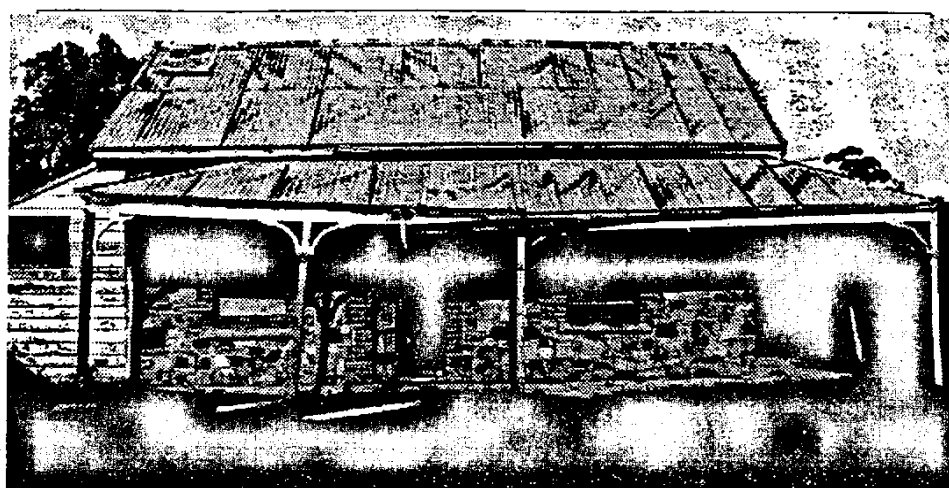
### History of the Battersbys

George Battersby of Dandenong purchased 195 acres on Boundary Road towards Narre Warren at a sale of Crown Land held on 29 August 1862. His son John lived in the house on Hallam Road on part of the original holding. He had ten children. Formerly part of the Wat Will Roon pastoral run, Battersby named the property 'Devon'.

The first house on the property was demolished in 1870 when the original holding was subdivided and acquired by John and Charles (the sons). John is purported to have built the cottage which stands on the land he acquired called 'Cloverdale'.

### Summary

Council, after consideration and considerable research towards purchasing the property or relocating, resolved on 18th November 1986, not to purchase the property but to negotiate with the new owners on how the building may be preserved either on the site or through being relocated.



*Cloverdale Cottage and grounds, 1986*



## WARREN PARK

### Location

*Hallam Road North, Endeavour Hills (inside the City of Knox boundary)*

**Date of Construction**    *circa. 1875*

### Type of Place

*Farm House /Private property*

### Description

Single storey brick farm house, part of the old Warren Park Estate, with a northwest aspect over the Lysterfield Valley. Bluestone side fences flank the circular driveway and the horse paddocks are extensively fenced. It is not known if the fences and sheds are original. The house has extensions but the original rooms still exist. The property is 25 acres (10 ha). The foundations are bluestone, and there is an extensive underground brick water tank. The kitchen is rendered brick, and the walls in the house are rendered plaster over concrete.

The Victorian garden has old trees and a circular driveway, a central feature of which is a Magnolia, the oldest one to be found in the area of the City of Knox. The cypress pines, a feature of the property, are at least 120 years old.

### History

J.F. Walker selected 1100 acres (440 ha) in 1865 and this once adjoined the existing Churchill National Park as part of the Lysterfield, and present day Boundary Road. Walker is believed to have built the Warren Park Homestead in 1875 out of local materials.

The land was used extensively for horse breeding, dairying and for sheep. Citrus orchards (no longer seen today) were planted extensively by the Finger Family, well known orchardists in the 1920s and 30s. The Finger family dispersed during World War 2 but there were many members particularly in the Lysterfield and Wantirna area.

A section of the property was bought by Violet Lambert in 1926, naming it Chandanagore. Another part east of Powell's Road was taken over by the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission two years later to form the Lysterfield Reservoir. This large dam was used to supply the Mornington Peninsula leaving the local farmers and property holders in the surrounding areas on tanks and small dams. Subsequently, most farmers left the area between 1946 and 1960. Chandanagore was later flooded by the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission which acquired a 3000 acre (1200 ha) catchment area for the reservoir. This was abandoned in 1975 when the Cardinia Creek Reservoir was opened.

Warren Park House survives in good condition to the present day.

Unfortunately, one of the most beautiful outlooks in the Lysterfield area has been impaired by distant SEC towers.

**Significance**

An early property connected to pastoral and agricultural land use. The house is original with extensions, the garden has early cypress pines and a Magnolia. It was built by J.F. Walker the original selector. **Of local and regional importance.**

**Notes**

1. Pers. comm. with the owner, Mr P. Walsh.
2. Helen Coulson. *Story of the Dandenongs* P.192.
3. Heather Ronald. *Story of Lysterfield* . KHS Journal, *The Historian*, Vol.5 No.1 P.11



## OLD FARM BUILDINGS & MANAGER'S RESIDENCE

### Other Names:

*Chesterfield Farm, Devon Meadows*

### Location:

*North-east junction of Dandenong Creek and Ferntree Gully Road, Scoresby*

### Date of Construction:

*Farm Buildings - 1876, 1947    Residence 1951*

### Type of Place:

*Beef Cattle Farm*

### Description:

The simple old brick farm house building forms a U shape. The nearest description of the southern facade is colonial Georgian with symmetrical multi-paned windows and doors. Later timber additions including the kitchen are from the 1930's and 1950's. The adjacent 1950's timber villa has an eastern facing *ha-ha garden wall* which provides an uninterrupted picturesque outlook to the Dandenong Ranges. Significant trees are Bunya Pines and plantings from seeds collected by Edna Walling on Dandenong Creek.

### History:

Devon Meadows or Chesterfield Farm was part of the Corhanwarrabul Run established by James Clow in 1838 and surveyed by P. Bromfield in 1857. Edmund Ashley, an iron founder from St.Kilda bought a portion of crown allotment 8, Parish of Scoresby, from John MacKenzie in 1858. (1) It appears that several houses were built on the property also known as Ashley's Flat, but the existing farmhouse is said to be dated from 1876.

Edmund Ashley died in 1892 and in 1893 the property was leased to Edmund William Ashley through the Trustees, Emily Ashley and the Union Trustee Company of Australia Limited. The Ashley's bred show horses and grazed cattle and were known to be affluent and influential in the Scoresby area. The first Edmund Ashley was instrumental in the development of the first Scoresby school and the second Ferntree Gully hotel in the 1870's.

The property has changed hands several times this century and was converted to a dairy farm by the Adeneys from 1938 to 1950. In 1951 the present main homestead was developed by Edward Smith and was said to have a garden designed by the Australian Landscape Designer, Edna Walling. Little evidence is available of this with the exception of the ha-ha wall. In 1970, South Lodge Investments purchased the property and named it Devon Meadows. The property of about 58 hectares is today managed by Melbourne Water Corporation as a beef cattle farm and forms part of Melbourne linear parks and waterways. 2

### Significance:

Chesterfield Farm (Devon Meadows) is locally significant as an example of farm buildings from last century and for the association with the pioneering Ashley family.

### Notes:

1. Story of the Dandenongs. Helen Coulson 1958. P. 171.
2. Melbourne Water. Future Directions Plan 1993.



**BONA VISTA****Location**

*3 Lilac Court, Bayswater.*

**Date of Construction** *circa. 1880*

**Type of Place**

*House /Private Ownership*

**Description**

Single storeyed, symmetrical house of brick, with a central front door, double hung windows with leadlighting and a front verandah. There is a bluestone drive, iron picket fence and picturesque garden.

**History**

Martin Kleinert, a Prussian emigrant from the Polish border towns, first settled at the Merri Creek where he had a market garden. He came to Bayswater in 1864 and acquired C.A. 33F. (The first public auction of Crown land had occurred in the Bayswater - Wantirna district on 8 March 1858). Kleinert's first wattle and daub hut, remnants of which could be seen until the 1950s, was next to the Bayswater School on the Mountain Highway on Crown allotment 33. Kleinert first had a eucalypt charcoal business supplying fuel for the city of Melbourne industries, the Mint, for local bakeries, coppersmiths and blacksmiths. His sons later conducted a blacksmith's shop and coach building works.

Bona Vista, was built by Martin Kleinert of bricks he made himself on the site in the 1880s. The land was subdivided in the 1950s and early 1960s and is a densely populated suburb. The house has undergone some changes but the present owners appear to have conserved and restored the original homestead. Many descendants live in the area today.

**Significance**

The house is of **local historical importance** for the association with the Kleinert family, one of the oldest surviving families in the Bayswater area. The building illustrates the use of local materials and was built by the original settler.

**Notes**

1. Edene Kleinert. Pers. Comm.
2. Map showing the subdivisions and Crown allotments. Scoresby County of Mornington. KHS.

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 **BRETONNEUX**

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**Location**

*53 Dorset Road, Ferntree Gully*

**Other Name** *Kingston*

**Date of Construction** *1882*

**Type of Place**

*House / residential*

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**Description**

A timber bungalow villa built with local materials. The original messmate stumps were replaced with red gum in the 1930s. There are four main rooms, two front bedrooms and two dining-living rooms. A kitchen and a cook's room are at the rear.

A central billiard room was also used as a ballroom. Leadlight windows have been removed for safekeeping. There are various outbuildings, a milking shed and feed shed, two wells, and two cast iron pumps. The property originally on 60 acres, still has remnants of the orchard and willow trees. The house underwent many changes fifty years ago.

**History**

The house was built by Frederick H. Lording and later sold to Harry Thomas Dobson. It is connected to the agricultural days of orchards and is one of several houses occupied in the 1880s and 1890s by the descendants of the pioneer Dobson family, in the Ferntree Gully area. Originally called *Kingston* the house name was changed to *Bretonneux* by Harry Thomas Dobson on his return from the First World War.

The orchards on the surrounding land in Dorset Road no longer exist but the adjacent cool store is still under the management of Mr Ken Dobson.

**Significance**

The house and the outbuildings are of local importance for the connection to the orchard industry and way of life of the Dobson family.

**Notes**

1. Pers. Comm. Dr. Byron Dobson.
2. For information about the Dobson family see the K. H.S.


**HOUSE**
**Location**

918 Burwood Highway,  
Ferntree Gully

**Date of Construction** *circa. 1883*

**Type of Place**

*House / Private ownership*

**Description**

A rendered brick building of two rooms. There is no verandah. The central front door has glass side panels. The pitch of the iron roof is Georgian, the style of early Hobart and Sydney. The house is in poor condition.

The attached rear timber building was once the spare bedroom and kitchen. The timber garage is said to have been added in the 1940s. Older people who lived in the area as children remember the house with a verandah and that it was built with bricks made at the clay pit site at the Ferntree Gully Primary School, established circa 1882 / 83. ,

**History**

This house is on the original C.A. portion 50 Parish of Scoresby, County of Mornington, in the name of W. Clarke, 1861. In the 1880s John Thomas Dobson had some 50 acres of fruit trees, and a nursery of 200,000 young trees on this land. He had built the substantial brick house Lynburn, further west on the main road. Dobson, one of the three sons of Thomas Dobson, a pioneer of Ferntree Gully, had joined his father in the settlement of the area of the National Park, Ferntree Gully, in 1855. He was born in 1834 at Haddington, Scotland and his occupation was gardener. The rate records of 1893 show that J.T. Dobson owned an acre with a house on this land, and in 1894, 55 acres with 2 houses. Also on the same rate was Henry Monk. In 1895 Dobson and Monk had 55 acres and three houses. Dobson, a successful orchardist, also owned land on the north of the Main Road C.A.53 A and B, south of Dorset Road. He was famous for his apples, pears and cherries which were exported to England in the 1880s and 1890s. ,

Dobson died in 1899 and his wife Rosina in 1909. A title search shows a transfer to their daughter Susan Cree Monk, wife of Henry Monk. Between 1911 and 1929 Susan Monk part transferred land to five women, the last being Annie Margaret Monk. ,

The Dobsons and the Monks were two of the most well known families of Ferntree Gully, J.T. 'Jack' Dobson being prominent in public life for more than 30 years. He became a Shire Councillor and Shire President, founded the first public hall, was instrumental in the formation of the first school in Ferntree Gully and the Shire Hall. Henry Monk, his son-in-law, was a Shire Councillor for 22 years. There are many descendants in the eastern region of Melbourne.

### Significance

The brick cottage is of local importance for the connection with the Dobsons and the Monks, two of the most influential families of the era associated with community development and the working orchards. It is an example of a 19th century working man's cottage.

### Notes

1. Reminiscences of Mr Jack Clarke who lived in the house as a child. Reminiscences of Mrs Ivy Porter who played in the house as a child from 1912 to 1920 and is related to the Dobsons. She remembers visiting her Uncle Miles (Bob) Monk and Aunt Maggie at this house, also *Kelso* in Westley Street, the second home of Thomas Dobson Sen. and the house called *Lynburn*, now part of Ensign Tyres Ferntree Gully.
2. Helen Coulson. *Story of the Dandenongs* Longman Cheshire 1958 P.150
3. Shire of Ferntree Gully ratebooks on microfilm at the Shire of Sherbrooke Records Office.
4. From the cemetery records, Knox Historical Society.
5. Title search courtesy of Mr Ken Thompson.  
Vol. 3969 Fol. 793659  
Vol. 3481 Fol. 696132



## HOUSE REMNANT

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**Other Name**

*Ensign tyres, commercial garage.*

**Location**

*884 Burwood Highway, Ferntree Gully*

**Date of Construction** *circa 1880s*

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**Description**

Three solid double brick walls and the hipped iron roof have been incorporated into this commercial building. The blue paint on the brickwork prevents a proper appraisal of the condition. Bricks were known to have been made on site at the Dorset Road Primary School in 1882-3. George Pickett also had a brick works on the north-east corner of Commercial Road.

Rooms are being used for storage, a waiting room and an office. High ceilings have been removed to expose the wooden support beams. A small portion of the Baltic pine ceiling has been left in the entrance passage. Windows are double hung sash and single paned. Some have been bricked in.

**History**

This was the family home and first substantial house built on the property *Gifford* of John Thomas Dobson (1834 - 1899), orchardist, agent, Shire Councillor and former President of the Shire of Ferntree Gully. He was the eldest son of the founder of Ferntree Gully, Thomas Dobson. J.T. Dobson was one of the pioneering orchardists in the eastern region of Melbourne, and the first to export fruit to the United Kingdom in the 1880s.

**Significance**

Although grossly altered to commercial purposes, the site and remaining building is of **local importance** to the history of the City of Knox, as an historic agricultural precinct, as the first site of the village of Ferntree Gully and for the association with the pioneering Dobson family.

**Recommendation**

That a memorial plaque be placed in the path outside this building to mark the former house of J.T. Dobson, his contribution to the orchard industry, and his civic contribution to Ferntree Gully. (Cross reference to the site of the Dobson Hall, Post Office and first School.)



## NELL'S COTTAGE

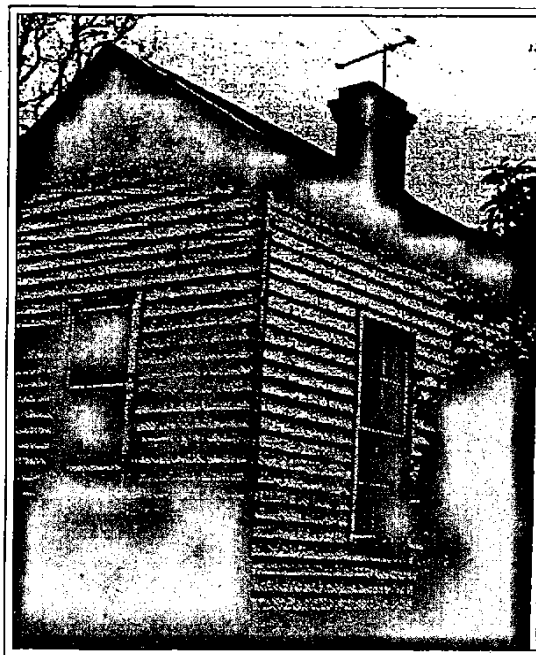
### Location

21 Forest Road, Ferntree Gully

**Date of Construction** *circa. 1895*

### Type of Place

*House / Women's Community Centre*



### Description

An asymmetrical timber cottage with a side gable. There are four main rooms leading off a central passage. A feature of the house is the fine construction of the walls, (Baltic pine) and the slightly vaulted pine ceilings.

The kitchen has been modernised and does not interfere with the integrity of the front rooms. The rear washhouse is old. This small cottage has been well preserved. The garden has an old style rambling rose at the front fence and remnants of a cottage garden. The roof is iron, the chimneys of old red brick.

### History

Local folklore has it that this was originally a miner's cottage, but that it was lived in by Robert 'Bob' Moore, a bullocky, last century. <sup>1</sup> There was some portability of houses between Ferntree Gully, Sassafras and Ferny Creek in the 1890s, for example, Breen's house on Sherbrooke Road was transported from Ferntree Gully. <sup>2</sup> Moore transported the One Tree Hill School in sections from Mt. Macedon to Mt. Erin in 1895 <sup>3</sup> on a bullock wagon

There were about 200 pre-fabricated houses erected in the Shire of Ferntree Gully area c.1895. <sup>4</sup> A correct analysis of building methods and materials used in the construction of the cottage will be required to date this house precisely.

The house was the residence for many years of the housekeeper, Nell O'Connor, for the Presbytery of St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Church in Ferntree Gully and is owned by the church. Nell died in the 1980s, and it was decided to keep the property in perpetuity in memory of Nell and turn it into a women's learning centre. The housekeeping function for the Presbytery still operates from the house but not on a live-in basis. <sup>5</sup>

**Significance**

Of local importance to Ferntree Gully as an example of a worker's cottage. It has exceptional interior timber work and needs further analysis. It is also notable for the later functional connection with the church.

**Notes**

1. Information from Mr Fawcett Dinsdale, Ferntree Gully.
2. National Trust, Dandenong Ranges Branch.
3. Helen Coulson. *Story of the Dandenongs* P. 345. 1958
4. Cross reference with 490 Scoresby Road. Knoxfield.
5. Information from the St. John of God Church Women's Learning Centre

 **KELSO**

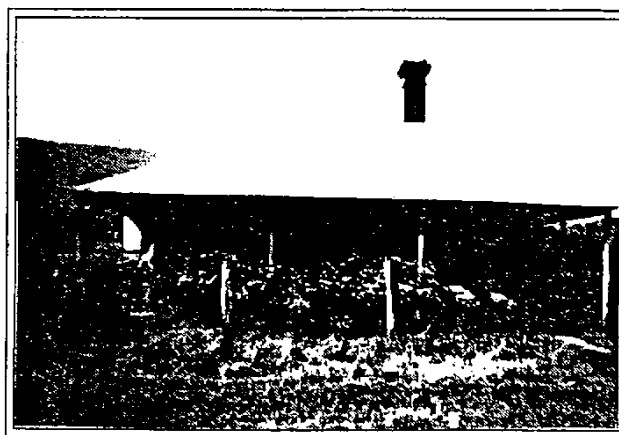
**Location**

*24 Westley Street, Ferntree Gully.*

**Date of Construction** *1887*

**Type of Place**

*House / Private Ownership*



**Listing**

Recorded but unclassified (due to private ownership) by the National Trust Aust. (Vic). F.N. 4873

**Building Citation**

*Kelso*, Westley Street, Ferntree Gully, is a single storey cottage erected for the early pioneer of Ferntree Gully, Thomas Dobson Senior. The four room cottage is made of Hawthorn bricks which appear in perfect condition and has a return verandah, Baltic pine ceilings and thick plaster walls. It was built by Dobson's sons and was a smaller version of the family's farmhouse in Ferntree Gully Road. Left to run down as a rented property and no longer owned by the Dobsons, it was restored in 1984-88, and changed hands in 1988. The original character has apparently been kept intact.

**Summary**

One of the earliest pioneer homes in private ownership, this house is in good condition through private restoration.

For a further history of the Dobson family, readers are referred to:

*The Dobson Family* Published by the Scoresby Historical Resources Centre

Topic Guide No. 7

*Pioneers of Knox* Published by the Scoresby Historical Resources Centre

Mounteasterly Reprints No. 2




**WOODLEIGH**
**Location:**

3 Norma Crescent, Knoxfield.

**Date Constructed** *circa 1895*

**Type of Place:**

*Private residence*

**Description**

A four room weatherboard cottage with sash windows. The interior is of Baltic pine (ceilings and wall linings). The verandah has wooden posts and the roof is iron.

**History**

The cottage was built in c.1895 for the wife of Henry Thomas Williams, Caroline Head, by members of the Malvern Cricket Club after William's dray had crushed him to death on Ferntree Gully Road. Williams and his brothers had a local road-making contract and also a quarry at Altona. They constructed many of the roads in the Glen Iris and Malvern areas. Caroline Head married her husband's twin brother, Thomas Henry in 1896 and had six children in all.

It is not known if the cottage was of local materials. Timber for building was scarce in the area until the late 19th Century. The trees in the area of the Ferntree Gully National Park were completely cleared by timber splitters by the late 1850s. It is thought that about 200 portable houses were constructed in the Scoresby, Ferntree Gully area between 1890 and 1900.<sup>2</sup> Timber was commonly imported from Tasmania, New Zealand and Scandinavia.

The original property on which Woodleigh is sited had been selected in the 1860s by Thomas Williams. The three hundred acre property was bounded by present day Scoresby Road, Ferntree Gully Road, Kathryn Road and Kent Street. After Thomas Williams died in 1878 his wife Hannah Strickland kept the property until her death in 1893. The land was then subdivided between all of her children, the six sons receiving 28 acres each and the three daughters 20 acres each.

**Significance**

The cottage is of **local significance** as one of very few remaining in the City of Knox, illustrating domestic architecture of the simplest kind.

**Recommendation**

To be preserved and registered with the National Trust Australia (Vic).

**Notes**

1. *19th century Historic Buildings of Scoresby*. John Waterhouse and Brendan Naylor. P.27 The Scoresby Historical Resources Centre. 1982

2. Personal communication with a former resident in the area. *Queenlea* or *Pine Lodge* c.1900, on Scoresby Road near Woodleigh was known to be one of 200 pre-fabricated houses erected in the area. Margaret McInnes to Florence De Coite.



## APPLE ORCHARD

### Location

*Liverpool Road, The Basin*

**Date of Establishment 1897**

### Description

A working apple orchard with packing sheds, house, garden and outbuildings on 57 acres (23ha). This historic orchard adjacent to the Dobson Creek, on Liverpool Road, The Basin, has been owned and managed by successive generations of the same family since 1897. The present family house was built in 1940. A remnant of the old house (destroyed by fire in 1972) is the Virginia Creeper growing on the chimney.

### History

David Dobson was born in 1838 and left his home in Gifford, Scotland and emigrated to Australia with his parents, brothers and sister in 1853. The family settled in Ferntree Gully in the area of the National Park and after some years of timber felling, settled in Scoresby and began farming and grazing.

Dobson purchased land in 1872, crown allotment 72A, between Liverpool Road, Sheffield Road, Mountain Highway and Pig Lane, The Basin, for which he paid 81 pounds. He rode to The Basin every week from his Scoresby property (Crown Allotment 45B), to clear the land and build a house near the creek (now known as Dobson's Creek), a tributary of the Dandenong Creek. He lived in the house with his family and after purchasing additional land in 1874, became involved in dairy farming and vegetable production. (This house is occupied by the Salvation Army). In 1897 David Dobson retired after selling 409 acres of land to the Salvation Army for a boys' home and farm. 1

Robert Lum Dobson (son of David), established the vegetable garden and orchard on the remainder of the land which is still working. A house was built for Robert and his family by his father in 1895 (destroyed by fire in 1972). The apple trees were re-planted in the 1920s and today are of higher density but in the same formation.

Many descendants of the Dobson pioneers live around the Knox area and the orchard on David Dobson's land is the last example of the farming activities of this well known family. It is one of the last surviving orchards east of Melbourne in the foothills of the Dandenongs.

Documented family history and the diaries of Janet Dobson begun in 1902, tell the story of day to day activities on the vegetable farm and orchard. 2

### Significance

This working orchard, is **locally significant**, as one of the few remaining examples in the foothills of the Dandenong Ranges, and has been owned and occupied by members of the Dobson family since 1897 on land purchased successively by David Dobson in 1872 and 1874. Social aspects of the family life of the pioneers in the orchard industry can be traced through the family photographic records and diaries.

### Notes

1. *Fire on the Hill, Flowers in the Valley. The Basin 125 Year* Ed. Rick Coxhill. Pub. The Basin Progress Assoc. 1993.
2. Family history and diaries held by Mrs Janet Dobson, The Basin.



*Dobson Orchard and sheds, The Basin*



*Aerial map of the Basin showing Dobson Orchard, Liverpool Road  
Acknowledgement City of Knox Design Department*


**HOUSE**
**Location**

*109 Underwood Road, Ferntree Gully.*

**Date of Construction** *circa. 1890*

**Type of Place**

*Residence Privately Owned*

**Description**

A weatherboard cottage of flat unmilled boards with red brick chimneys. The sash windows have cedar frames. A particular feature is the very decorative original window shade awnings made of metal similar to those seen on nineteenth century houses in Geelong, and thought to have been imported from Singapore. The interior has some remnant Baltic timber lining. The front and side verandahs have been added later. This house is set back with a commercial garage at the front.

**History**

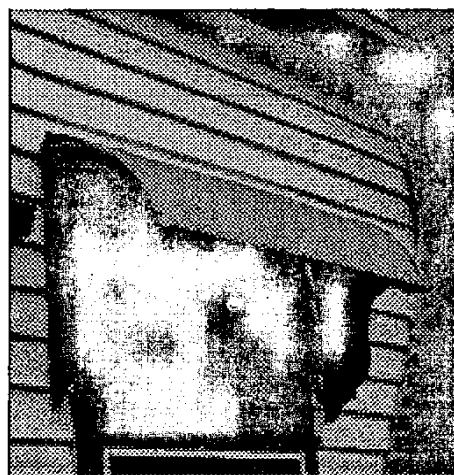
The only early history available is the illustration in the land sale brochures which feature the house standing in bush with the railway in the foreground. <sup>1</sup> This was an undated land publicity brochure, thought to be in the early 1900s. Local folklore has it the house is from the 1890 era. <sup>2</sup>

**Significance**

Of local significance as an early landmark and for the status as an intact early cottage of Ferntree Gully. <sup>3</sup>

**Notes**

1. Knox Historical Society
2. Pers. Comm. Mr William Ireland
3. Pers. Comm. Mrs Margery Haley. Ferntree Gully.



*Detail of decorative metal window shade awning.*

**BAIRD HOUSE****Location**

*29 Commercial Road, Ferntree Gully.*

**Date of Construction** *1890 - 92*

**Type of Place**

*House / Privately Owned*

**Description**

The single storey Hawthorn brick house with a northerly aspect on .9ha is situated on the highest point of Commercial Road. The symmetrical house has a central front door with side panels of etched glass. The front veranda has iron lace decoration and is complemented by a formal central circular garden edged with bluestone and planted with old camellias and a Canary Palm.

The house consists of four well preserved original rooms, sash windows and high ceilings. Side bay extensions to these rooms were added by a later owner. The rear part of the house has been extended by the present owner as near as possible to the original style and incorporates a large living and dining area with modern kitchen.

The garden has many original trees including the Monterey pines. The well, which is still functional, is close to the rear of the house as a consequence of rear extensions and was originally some distance from the back entrance.

**History**

The house, built by William Baird, and lived in by the Baird family until the 1970s, was central to the northern residential heart of the early village of Ferntree Gully. The early commercial area of shops, school, Post Office and Public Hall was opposite, south of the old Main Road (today Burwood Highway). The commercial heart shifted in the 1890s following the coming of the railway to Upper Ferntree Gully, and was reinforced in the early 1900s by the further development of the tourist era with the implementation of the narrow gauge line to Gembrook, and electrification in 1925.

The Baird family is associated with early settlement of the Ferntree Gully area, William Baird settled on 34 acres of Mountain Road in 1877. In 1890 he purchased land in present Commercial Road and built the brick house later occupied by his son, William Ross Baird. Mrs W.R. Baird lived there until the late 1950s. The house was occupied by Bairds until the 1970s.

William Baird was appointed a dayman (a leveller of roads) for Centre Riding by the Ferntree Gully Shire in the 1890s. The formation of the Shire in 1889 coincided with the extension of the railway line to Upper Ferntree Gully. This factor together with later village hill settlements of city people created a need to improve and reorganise access roads.

This job carried great responsibility and status as an essential service during a time of economic depression, lack of Shire funds, poor machinery and difficult terrain. It was some years before the horse and drays used by day men were replaced by crude machines, the forerunners of today's graders.

Baird probably had access to Public Works Department expertise in the construction of his house, a more substantial type than many others in the area. Although brick houses were being constructed from clay bricks quarried in the area well before this date, it was uncommon. Local bricks were mainly used for public buildings such as the school and hall. In 1975 the symmetrical bay wings were added. Although the bricks are a slightly different colour, the additions are in keeping with the architectural style.

### Significance

The house is of great local interest as part of the early Ferntree Gully settlement and connection with the Baird family from 1890 to 1975. The architecture of the house is related to the Victorian domestic style of the 1880s with features such as iron lace decoration, a rarity in the Ferntree Gully area.

### Notes

1. Helen Coulson. *Story of the Dandenongs* P. 159. Cheshire 1958
2. Interview with the present owner, Dr. Brian Dunne.
3. Knox Historical Society.

## AMBLESIDE

### Other Names

*Ambleside Park / Hansen Homestead*

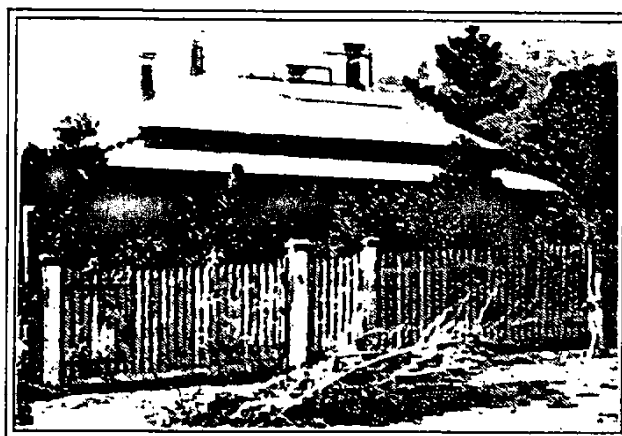
### Location

*3 Olivebank Road, Ferntree Gully*

### Date of Construction 1899

### Type of Place

*Farm house, later a private residence, currently headquarters of the Knox Historical Society.*



### Listing Status

Listed by the National Trust Aust. (Vic.) as of historical interest. F.N. 3128

### Description

This single storey former farm house of the very late Victorian era was built on one of the early Crown Allotments in the Berwick Shire (Scoresby Riding) later known as Ferntree Gully. A mixed farm of 210 acres, the selection was taken up in-1872. The house represents the later stability of the settlers. Ephraim Hansen gained the Crown Grant in 1887 and built the house in 1899 having first lived in a modest timber dwelling. The solid practical Hawthorn brick house is built in the Italianate style of multi-chrome brick and is a reflection of progressive building techniques of the time. Built in the transition between the Victorian and Edwardian era just before Federation, the house is on a slight rise with views to the City of Melbourne and a backdrop of the Dandenongs National Park.

The garden has significant trees and shrubs dating from the 1870s, 1890s, 1920s and 1950s.

### History

Selection of what was later to be known as Ambleside Park dates from 1872. This coincides with the first use of the Land Act (1869) which allowed wider powers to revoke proclamation in areas previously reserved for timber, according to political pressures of the day.

The Victorian Selection Legislation 1860-1880 Part 2, stated 'that after survey a person may select a block no more than 640 acres, may pay purchase money for whole allotment, or purchase money for part and rent the rest. No infant or married woman whose marriage is still valid to become a selector, to cultivate 1 acre in 10 or erect a habitable dwelling or enclose his selection with a substantial fence.' Payment was 1 pound per acre and 2/6 per acre per year for eight years for the balance.

The original selector was recorded in 1875 in the Berwick Shire (Scoresby Riding) as William Edwards, whose licence was revoked and forfeited. A series of selectors followed, Edward Perry Amesbury 1875-76, Edmund Wicks 1876, E.P. Newcombe 1877-1880, Edmund Wicks 1880-81, Janet Wicks 1881. Edmund Wicks died on 29th November, 1880 and the leasehold was transferred from the widow to Ephraim Hansen who received a Crown Grant for 210 acres in 1887.



The history of multiple leases between 1872-1887 is indicative of the inability to comply with conditions of selection under the Land Act. In addition to there being heavily timbered country, isolation and no transport, there was no running water on the property. The Hansen brothers however, had many years of working on other settlements in Victoria.

In the decade 1889-99 several events occurred. The railway reached Upper Ferntree Gully from the Ringwood Branch (1889), Ferntree Gully Shire came into being with its own administration, and the alienation of further Crown Land in the Dandenongs (1893 Land Settlement Act) increased the population.

### The Hansen Family

The Hansens were well and truly settled and experienced before the village settlement occurred, and began to contribute to civic affairs. A nearby street is named after the Hansen family.

Andrew and Ephraim Hansen were Swedish immigrant brothers who came to Australia in the 1860s. They worked for 14 years around Victoria including the Henty property at Portland in 1865.

Andrew settled at the site of the plains of the Dandenong Ranges (where Knox City Shopping Centre stands today) and grew flowers and vegetables. Ephraim settled at Ferntree Gully on the site now known as Ambleside (only 2 acres remain). A general farm, the land extended from Forest Road to Mountain Road (now Olivebank Road). Later subdivision, 92 northern acres in 1919 and 89 acres in 1921, left 29 acres. In 1952 on the death of Ephraim's son (also Ephraim), the property was sold to O. and M. David. After provision for their family, the David's bequeathed the house and 2 acres to the City of Knox in 1970. It was made available to the Knox Historical Society in 1977.

### The House

The house of solid brick construction has been adapted to Australian conditions with verandahs facing north-west. Facing south with views to the west where the Melbourne city skyline can be seen, it has a central passage leading to a rear vestibule. Four bedrooms and a parlour lead off this passage. (A rear kitchen, bathroom and laundry were added later). Certain Victorian features give the house a more sophisticated look than the average farmhouse. For example, stained glass leadlighted side door panels and fanlight, ceiling roses, picket fence and six feet wide verandahs.

Sheds (outhouses) for farming implements and a dairy room are intact.

### The Garden

There are easily identifiable trees and shrubs in terms of each stage of settlement. At the rear, an oak and magnolia, date from 1872/76. Another oak tree to the west is of similar age. At the front of the house a hedge of camellias, an arch of rhododendrons, a holly, a magnolia and a blackwood are attributed to the late 1890s, when the house was built. To the east, the garden contains a row of roses along the drive, two Lorraine Lee roses from the 1950s, a strawberry guava (date unknown), and feijoa dates from the 1940s.

The small climbing rose between the rear shed and the house is said to be a descendant from the Henty property at Portland (originally from Tasmania). The cuttings were first sent to the Hawthorn farm of Edward Henty on the Yarra, then to the property manager's (Collings) land at the corner of Canterbury Road and Station Street, Box Hill. Cuttings were later distributed to Kleinert family members at Bayswater. From more cuttings, a sixth generation of the rose was planted at Ambleside. A pear tree to the south east of the drive grew from a slip from the Clow property, Tirhatuan. (Rev. James Clow (1838-1850) was the earliest pastoralist of the Dandenong and Ferntree Gully area. The curving path from the front verandah to the picket gate was upgraded by the City of Knox in recent landscaping (1990).

## Summary

This former farmhouse represents an historic era of settlement in Ferntree Gully and is now surrounded by suburbia. Owned by the City of Knox, it is being cared for and preserved as closely as possible to the original. The Knox Historical Society has the right of occupation for a peppercorn rent and has the best collection of records and memorabilia in the Knox area. The original furniture and chattels were removed by request in 1976. Very little structural history remains of the district pioneers but this beautifully preserved house represents this important period of early Ferntree Gully.

## Significance

**Of local significance.** The solid but modest farmhouse, is representative of the end of the land settlement of the last quarter of the 19th century following the boom and bust 1880s. and 1890s. although not connected with this. Ferntree Gully gained an identity and stability and, although not as grand as the "boom" houses, this home nevertheless shows that families were able to become established and to identify with the township they helped to build. This is a heritage of struggling pioneer families who carved a living out of the bush, and became active in the local community as well as contributing to the agriculture of the area.

## Notes

1. Knox Historical Society, Crown Document Allotment 53K, Parish of Scoresby.
2. Jones, Michael, *Prolific in God's Gifts, A Social History of Knox and the Dandenongs* Ch. 5  
1 Pioneer agriculturists, Allen and Unwin 1983.
3. Clarke, C.M.H., *Select Documents in Australian History*, P. 124, The Victorian Settlement Act,  
Part 2 1860-80.
4. Knox Historical Society Records - Crown Grantee Ephraim Hansen - who received title to 210  
acres on June 7th, 1887.
5. This information is attributed to Maud Hansen Hodgetts, daughter of Andrew Hansen in an  
interview with the *Melbourne Herald* 7/11/1977. Copy property of the Knox Historical Society.
6. *Knox Sherbrooke News* undated, "A Rose is a Rose". Interview with Mr. Edenev Kleinert by R.  
Curlewis. Permission of the Knox Historical Society.
7. *Historical Records of Victoria*, Foundation Series 1984, Vic. Govt. Printer Vol. 3 Ch. 34,  
*History of the Presbyterian Church in Australia*.

## Acknowledgement

Knox Historical Society



*Ambleside House and front garden, 1990*



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 **BUSHY ROSE**

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**Other Names**

*Henty rose or Kleinert rose.*

**Location**

*Ambleside, Olivebank Road, Ferntree Gully.*

**Age**

*Thought to be a descendant from the first garden in Victoria at Portland in 1834.*

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**Species**

Not known. Probably descended from one of five old European roses. These came to Europe and the British Isles from the Near East before the introduction of rose species from China in the 18th and 19th centuries.

There were five main groups, *R.alba*, the red *R.gallica*, *R.cannina*, the scarlet *R.damascena* and *R.arvensis*.

**Size**

A small spindly bushy rose with large, sharp thorns, shiny leaves and nondescript carmine flowers. Each bush is about 1.5 x 1.5 metres.

**Foliage**

Thin, small leaves.

**Historical Background**

There is a great deal of family folk lore in the Kleinert family of Bayswater concerning the rose. Mr Edney Kleinert's maternal grandfather (Ellis Collings) worked around the Portland area in the 1850s and for a time on the Henty properties. The rose was purportedly brought to Melbourne by Collings.

**The Henty Family**

The Henty family came from West Tarring in Sussex. Thomas the father, a stock breeder and banker, was attracted by the promise of a liberal grant of 80,000 acres in Australia, and influenced by the state of his son James' health. James was sent on a mission to the Swan River area in Western Australia in 1829 but disillusioned by the land there, he went to Van Dieman's Land. Thomas set out on the barque 'Caroline' from England at the age of sixty with farm implements, 10 draught horses, ten choice cattle, 180 pure merino sheep he acquired in Spain, (a great rarity and the first in England), stores and seeds. Three sons and 30 labourers accompanied him.

There is no mention in early Henty records of ornamental seeds and plants. All stocks and provisions were purely for survival.

No land was available in Van Diemen's Land as the grants ceased while the Hentys were on the ship. James stayed in Launceston as a merchant banker and the responsibility of exploration devolved on Edward who visited Western Australia in 1832. He found the first reports to be correct and on the return journey surveyed Portland.

In 1834 Edward crossed from Launceston on the 'Thistle' with labourers, 33 head of cattle of which 16 were lost, a plough, seeds, trees, vegetables and other provisions. The crossing took 34 days. He was followed in December 1834 by his brothers Francis, Stephen and John.

There are no early records of plants other than those used for food. However, when Thomas Mitchell the explorer arrived overland from Sydney down the Wannon he was 'inexpressibly amazed' at the sight: the schooner Elizabeth anchored in the bay, sheds, whaling stations, and a fair garden attached to the houses abounding with vegetables, potatoes, turnips.....surpassing anything. Regular communication was kept up with Launceston with a ship turning around every month.

In addition by this time there were women in the settlement, including Jane Henty, Stephen's wife from Freemantle. With the rapid village development and enormous traffic to and from Launceston it is most likely that ornamental gardens were growing at this time.

James was to later return to England following the economic crisis of the 1840s with the slump in the price of wool, but he finally settled in Melbourne at Richmond. He would almost certainly have brought plants on the return journey.

Early in the history of Van Diemen's Land plants were imported such as hawthorn, sloe, rambling roses, stray briars and a variety of fruits and seeds, walnuts, filberts and mulberries, the idea being to recreate the English hedgerows and country lanes. Apples were planted as early as 1788 at Adventure Bay. (Capt. William Bligh).

By 1840, the Hentys had 6 sheep runs, 1 house( 12 rooms), 6 cottages, sheds, barns, stores, stables, dairies, blacksmiths and carpenters huts as well as miles of fencing for stock and vegetable gardens.

All of the brothers later built mansions in and around Kew, and shared in market gardens produce on the Yarra. In the 1850s Edward Henty had an early portable house on St. Kilda Road on which site he later built 'Offington', a mansion with the finest garden houses in Melbourne (1873). He had sewage pumped from the Alfred Hospital directly on to his gardens.

### The Collings Family

Ellis Collings (sic) Collings, or Collins (he was unable to read or write), was born at Cambridgeshire, England, on August 26, 1831. He arrived with his wife in Victoria on January 9, 1854. He first accepted situations for a short time, and began business as a carter, conveying goods to the goldfields for four years.

There is no record of him working for the Hentys at this stage but descendants are sure that he did. (Mr Edeney Kleinert).

In 1859 he obtained a contract from the Crown to lay out the Kew cemetery, Boorondara. The plans were drawn up by Fred Acheson and the architect responsible for the ornamentation was Albert Purches. Collings subsequently entered the employment of the Hon. James Henty MLC, as manager of his gardens on the Yarra until 1865. Collings then rented the property from Henty which he cultivated as a market garden for six years. This property was off Muir Street and today is between the Bridge Road and Barkers Road bridges. The address was Hawthorn. Properties along the Yarra suffered badly when the river flooded during the 1860s and the gardens of George Pearson, Joseph Roberts, James Palmer, Henry Creswick and James Henty were ruined in 1863.

In the newspaper advertisements and rate books of the day it is recorded thus: James Henty's garden, (Ellis Collings) Muir Street, Oranges, pomegranates etc. Collings is known by the family to have brought the Portland rose from the Henty garden on the Yarra to his house in Box Hill.

In 1864 Collings purchased half an acre at Kew and also several suburban allotments, upon which he built. In 1866, he secured 30 acres at Box Hill, part of which he cultivated, and the rest he disposed of to his brother-in-law. He lived at Box Hill, his property being (present day) on the corner of Canterbury Road and Station Street Box Hill.

Collings took a deep interest in the development of the area and was a Shire councillor for 10 years in Box Hill (1876-85). He secured many first class prizes from the horticultural and agricultural societies of Victoria for fruit and flowers.

Collins Street Box Hill is named after Collings.

### The Kleinert Family

Collings daughter Esther married Ernest Kleinert, and they became the parents of the living descendents in Bayswater.

Martin Kleinert the elder (father of Ernest) a Prussian who fled from towns on the border of Poland following the general unrest in Europe after the 1848 revolution, had a market garden at Merri Creek, and then settled at Bayswater in the 1860s. His original wattle and daub hut was adjoining the Bayswater school. A later house was built at Bona Vista Road of hand made bricks on the site. The property was subdivided in the 1950s and 1960s but the house still stands.

Cuttings from the 'Henty Rose' were grown at both these houses and today are growing at Mr Edney Kleinert's House at Elm Street Bayswater, his sister's house in Orange Grove Bayswater and Ambleside, Ferntree Gully.

### Significance

The "Henty Rose" is of local and state significance because of the continuous association with the Collings and Kleinert families and also because it is associated with early settlement of the Hentys in Tasmania and Portland.

### References

#### *The Hentys*

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Ms Pam Stringer, former owner of 'Burrswood' the home of Edward Henty. Portland. Correspondence with M. McInnes 1993.

Further contact: Ms Stephanie Olver, present owner of Burrswood, Portland Interview with M. McInnes 1993.

*The Collings Family*

*The Jubilee History of Victoria* Vol.2 P.54 1888

Mr Edeney Kleinert, Elm Street Bayswater. Interview with M.McInnes. 1993.

*The Kleinert Family*

Mr Edeney Kleinert, Bayswater. Interview with M.McInnes 1993.

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Cuffley, P. *Cottage Gardens In Australia*. Five Mile Press. 1985.

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**QUEENLEA**
**Other name***Pine Lodge***Location***490 Scoresby Road, Knoxfield.***Date of Construction** *circa. 1900***Type of Place***Residence / Private Ownership***Description**

Weatherboard with twin gables. There are large storage buildings to the rear, and a food storeroom and kitchen. The house is said to have been erected of portable pre-fabricated materials with an Oregon timber frame. Large sheds on the adjacent property were probably storage for fruit. The well known Dobson family had orchards in the area.

**History**

The land was the original property selected by Thomas Williams in the 1860s, C.A. 46. William's widow Hannah Strickland subdivided in 1893 and the area bounded by Ferntree Gully Road, Scoresby Road, Kathryn Road and Kent Street was divided between six sons and three daughters.

The earliest known occupier of the house was Charles Dobson from 1903 to 1933. He did not build the house which local folklore tells was built for a lady. (The widow of William's son Thomas Henry, Caroline Head, had a house built nearby in 1895), see the report on *Woodleigh*. The next owner was S.G. King from Menzies Creek who lived there until 1956. The property had two dams and a pig farm. There was an intensive planting of pine trees some of which can be seen today in the area. The house was built towards the end of the intensive agricultural period of the area which had begun to decline following the death of J.T. Dobson in 1899 and the reversal of market forces with the advent of the Boer War. This was later compounded during the first World War. During the period of the 1940s and 1950s there was a furniture manufacturing business at the rear of the house.

**Significance**

This is one of the only known pre-fabricated houses in the Ferntree Gully area. **Of local interest.**

**Notes**

1. *19th Century Historic Buildings in Scoresby* J. Waterhouse and B. Naylor. P.27 The Scoresby Historical Resources Centre. 1982.
2. Information provided by Mrs Florence De Coite.



Anne Freeman was one of the longest serving publicans in the history of the Club Hotel and a local personality. Born Anne Frost near Edinburgh, Scotland in 1836, she came to Australia with her parents in 1854. She married George Scott in 1857 and soon after they moved on to 20 acres in Wellington Road, Mulgrave. In 1869 they moved to Wheeler's Hill where George was the Post Master. On his death she became the Post Mistress and in 1877 married Rowland Freeman, a hotel keeper in Mulgrave. In 1879 Mrs Freeman became the owner of the Huntingtower which was rebuilt in 1884. The front bar was added sometime in the late 1880s. The area became a landmark with an avenue of pine trees and horse troughs on the Main Road (Burwood Highway), but unfortunately the pine trees, which were cherished by the locals as a social meeting place, were removed in 1927, it is thought, for road widening. Some elderly residents remember these today. 2

Many short term licensees were to take over the hotel including Mrs Freeman's daughter Mary and her husband, Frederick Charman, in 1883. Mrs Freeman returned in 1891 and established her own residence on Ferntree Gully Road, a store and a bakery occupied by her daughter Agnes Jennings. Between 1905 and 1931 there were many short term owners after which James Cleal became licensee and remained until 1950.

The hotel was popularised in the 1950s by Peter and Ann Vassallo and was known as Vass' Place frequented by the artistic community of Ferntree Gully. 3

Today the popular hotel is part of the 'Billabong' chain of family hotel restaurants.

### Significance

The Club Hotel is of **local and regional significance**, being one of the oldest intact Georgian style hotel buildings in the east of Melbourne and is a local landmark.

### Notes

1. John Waterhouse. The Club Hotel in *The Historian*, Journal of the Knox Historical Society. Vol 2. No.1 P6. 1982.
2. Interviews with members of the Knox Historical Society, 1993. M. McInnes.
3. Interview with Mr Frank Lowe, 1993. M. McInnes.

## CLUB HOTEL

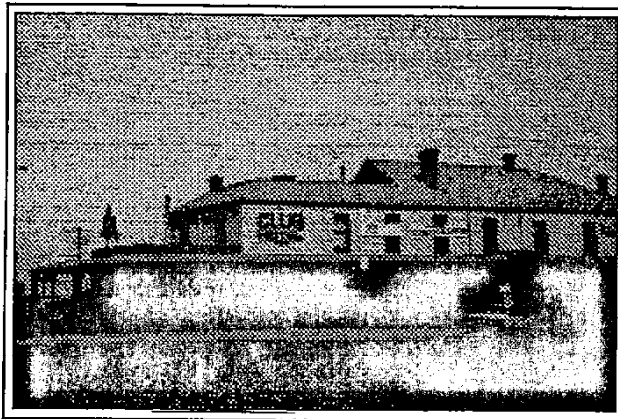
### Other Name

*Formerly the Hunting Tower*

### Location

*Junction of Ferntree Gully Road and  
Burwood Highway, Ferntree Gully*

**Date of Construction** *circa 1884*



### Description

A brick two storey corner hotel in the heart of the first site of the Ferntree Gully township. The building has retained the elegant simple Georgian style despite the additions of a front corner verandah sheltering the bar, and a rear drive-in bottle shop. Although there is no true Georgian period in Victoria, this building would approximate the nearest style of this architecture. The building materials are believed to be of local origin as bricks were being made at the clay pit site of the Ferntree Gully Primary School from the early 1880s.

### History

The Club Hotel was constructed about 1884 by Mrs Anne Freeman. This was not the first hotel on the site. In 1866 William Kennedy Ross secured title to crown allotment 47, consisting of 396 acres bordered by Scoresby Road, Burwood Highway and Ferntree Gully Road and built a small weatherboard building with stables known as the Hunting Tower Hotel on the eastern corner.

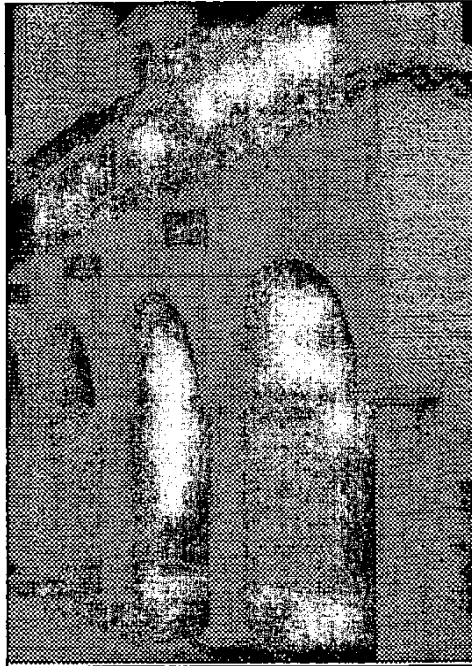
Ross migrated to Australia from Greenoch, Scotland in 1852 working his way as a ship's carpenter. On arrival in Melbourne he is said to have erected the first immigrants' home for the influx of gold seekers. He also erected a hotel in Collingwood. He gained experience in the wine and spirit trade in Collingwood and South Yarra before moving to Ferntree Gully (formerly Parish of Scoresby, County of Mornington).

In 1874 Ross established the first Post Office in a small building to the west of the hotel in Ferntree Gully Road (formerly Oakleigh Road). The Post Office was eventually transferred to the hotel as it was the end of the coach journey operated by Bevins between Oakleigh and Ferntree Gully. The route to Ferntree Gully Park was thick forest with a single winding track. The hotel was the central meeting place and most important disembarkation point until the railway opened in 1889 after which the town centre re-located.

In the 1870s Ross transferred the hotel to his sister, Mrs Annie Cathcart Baird who remained the licensee until 1879 when Mrs Anne Freeman bought the hotel.

Notes

1. Helen Coulson *Story of the Dandenongs*. 1959 P.159.
2. *National Trust Research Manual Cultural Landscapes*. Celestina Sagazio. Allen and Unwin 1992. P. 67.



*Details of the Fern Tree Gully Hotel showing the Spanish Mission style architecture.*

GRIMWOOD'S

FERN TREE GULLY HOTEL

*The most popular Picnic Outing from Melbourne.*

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CONVEYANCES LEAVE THE CITY DAILY.

The Fern Tree Gullies and Fern Sceneries are close to Grimwood's Hotel, where Visitors may rely upon the Cuisine and Wines, &c., as being equal to the leading Melbourne Hotels.

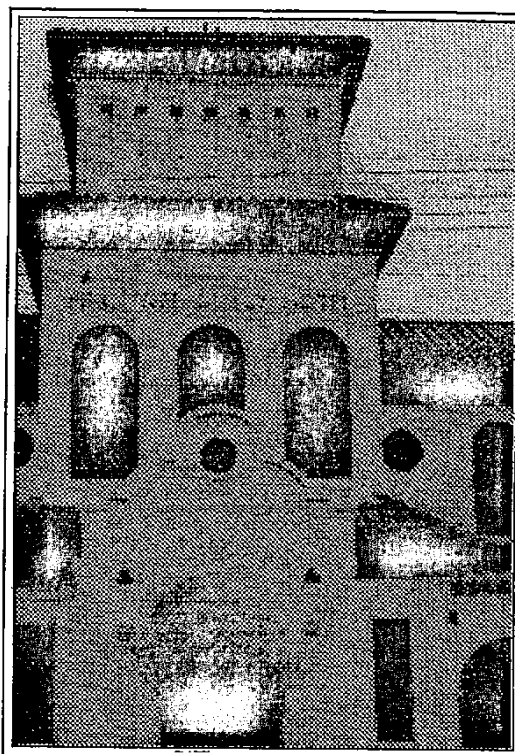
*Early advertisement for Grimwood's Fern Tree Gully Hotel circa 1890s  
Acknowledgment Knox Historical Society*

## FERNTREE GULLY HOTEL

**Other Name**  
"The Middle"

**Location**  
*Burwood Highway, Ferntree Gully.*

**Date Constructed** *circa 1930*



### Description

A Spanish Mission architectural style hotel with roughcast rendered walls of off white, pink and ochre trim. The entrance has a series of arched loggias and double hung windows. The roof has glazed terracotta tiles. A motel added later on the eastern side of the hotel is complimentary to the building complex. This is the third hotel on the same site dating from 1857.

### History

Ferntree Gully began to develop in the middle 1870s with two hotels, a hall, and a school, but the earliest settlement in the district centred around the Ferntree Gully Hotel adjacent to the Ferny Creek in the 1850s.

A paling slab hut with a shingle roof was erected in 1857 by Dickson, a publican of St. Kilda where he kept the Prince of Wales Hotel. The hut was managed by his brother George Charles Dickson and was known as Dickson's Beer Shanty. Edmund Ashley purchased the hotel and surrounding two acres for 11 pounds and 10 shillings per acre in 1870 and shortly afterwards erected the second Ferntree Gully Hotel, a wooden structure almost in the centre of the main road. Thomas Grimwood leased the hotel in the 1870s and 1880s and offered accommodation for sportsmen and excursionists journeying to the National Park. It was owned by Mrs Susan Grimwood and her family in the early 1900s. Edward Lording bought the hotel in 1908 and remained until his death in the 1930s.

The hotel was completely rebuilt in the 1930s in the Spanish Mission style of the West Coast of America.

### Significance

The Ferntree Gully Hotel is a significant local landmark, the only example of Spanish Mission architecture in the area. It is also the site of the first hotel in 1857.

In 1890 the name of the school changed from Scoresby North No. 2163 to Bayswater No. 2163. In 1891 members of the Board of Advice for the School District No. 101 in the new Shire of Ferntree Gully, were John T. Dobson and David Dobson. Many improvements over the years were implemented by community action and the 1910 Education Act abolished the Boards of Advice authorising the setting up of school committees of seven, nominated by parents for three year periods.

In 1950 additional land was acquired on the western side of Birch Street bringing the total area to 7 acres (2.8 ha). Sewerage was connected in 1976 and the school generally updated. The modern school buildings were incorporated around the original school and residence.

The population of Bayswater reached a peak in 1968 when school enrolment reached 1021 and declined over the next 20 years to less than half of that number. 2

### **Significance**

The Bayswater State School, in continuous use since 1879, is symbolic of the importance of the transfer from a German Lutheran Church based education, to the state system of the 1880s. It also illustrates the development of a rural, farming, grazing and agricultural settlement to an industrial and commercially based urban town. **Of regional significance.**

### **Recommendation**

That the original Bayswater Primary School No.2163 be registered as a historic building.

### **Notes**

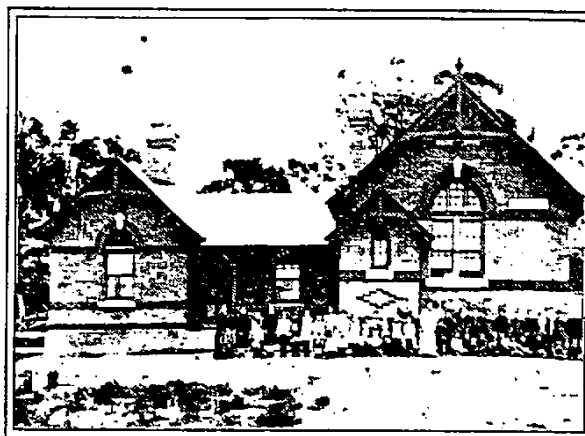
1. Centenary of the Bayswater Primary School No. 2163 1879-1979  
Pub. Bayswater School Council 1979.
2. Statistical analysis. School records. Census City of Knox.

## FERNTREE GULLY STATE SCHOOL No. 1307

### Location

*Corner of Burwood Highway and  
Dorset Road, Ferntree Gully*

**Date of Construction 1883**



### Listing

Recorded by the National Trust (Vic.) No. 3284. To be entered on the Register of the National Estate (see Commonwealth Gazette Nov. 1991)

### Statement of Significance

Ferntree Gully State School dates from 1874 and was established on the present site in 1883. This was the decade of the introduction of the Victorian Education Bill (1872) establishing free compulsory, secular education. The school is one of the two earliest schools in the old Parish of Scoresby, and located in the area formerly known as Lightwood Gully (attributed to Thomas Dobson, an early settler), which later became Ferntree Gully.

The building of hand made adobe brick and American slate, retained the number 1307 when the original school moved from the Dobson's Assembly Hall site on the main road opposite the end of Dorset Road.

The first 25 children registered to attend the school came from a radius of two and a half miles. These were from pioneer families, many of whom became prominent in local civic affairs.

The school is greatly expanded and still functions today with the original buildings intact.

### History of Ferntree Gully State School

The school commenced in Dobson's Assembly Hall, south of the main road opposite Dorset Road and continued there until November 30th, 1883. A petition, dated June 9th, 1882, from the residents of Ferntree Gully had asked for a good substantial school as the population was increasing and there were many visitors in the summer months.

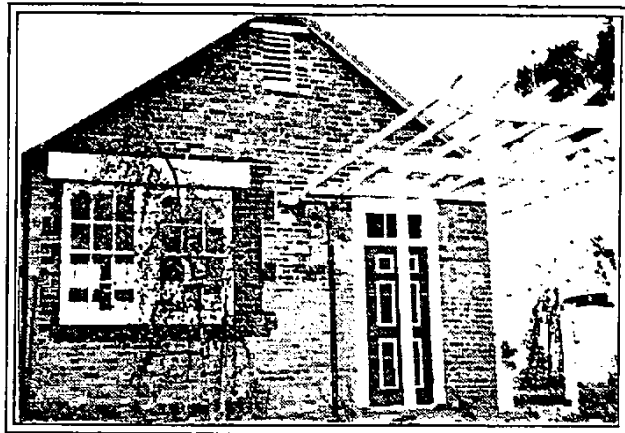
Ferntree Gully had begun to develop in earnest in the 1870's and the Education Department taking into consideration children from One Tree Hill, Tecoma, Upper Ferntree Gully and other settled areas, finalised the purchase of a piece of land on the main road at Ferntree Gully (part of G. Brown's selection) in 1879. A heated argument between two factions of parents over the suitability of the location ended with the block of land in Brown's selection being sold and one acre of land in G. Wilke's selection purchased in 1882 for the sum of 15 pounds. The site was more suitable because it was near the main road, in the centre of the most populous area of the district and almost opposite the Schoolhouse that had been in use for many years.

## SCORESBY STATE SCHOOL (PRIMARY) No. 1028

### Location

*Ferntree Gully Road, Scoresby*

Date of Construction 1872



### Listing

None

### Significance

Scoresby School was the first school in the Knox area and opened on March 11th 1872. This was in the year of the introduction of the Victorian Education Bill, establishing compulsory, free, secular, education. The school greatly expanded in the 1950s and was re-located. The original building was purchased by the City of Knox from the Education Department in the 1980s and has been restored. It now functions as a meeting room.

### History

Moves to build the school in 1868 were activated by a Committee consisting of pioneering names such as Kellett, Dobson, Horner and Foster. 1

The cost of the school was 450 pounds and it opened with 60 children in the first year. One of the school principals (Romeo Sloss 1923-1928) laid out a rose garden in the school grounds and in 1932 the school won a State prize for the most improved garden. 2

With great expansion in the 1950s and 1960s the school closed down and moved to Ingrid Street. Following years of neglect and damage, Knox Council bought the property and restored the building to its former glory.

### Summary

The original school once set in 2 acres, forms part of the historic Scoresby Village. Restored faithfully, it is owned and maintained by Knox Council.

### Notes

1. Knox Historical Society
2. Scoresby Historical Resource Centre, *19th Century Historic Buildings of Scoresby* John Waterhouse and Brendan Naylor.



*Rear of Ferntree Gully Primary School. Circa early Twentieth Century.*



*Class photograph. Circa early Twentieth Century.*



## SCORESBY WESLEYAN CHURCH

### Location

*Ferntree Gully Road, Scoresby*

Date of Construction 1874



### Listing

Recorded by the National Trust (Vic.) and removed from the list on 23rd July, 1987 following renovations and additions.

### Significance

Built of clay bricks in the Gothic style, the Wesleyan Church is one of the earliest known buildings in Knox. It is significant for the connection with the pioneers and is a tribute to their tenacity and effort.

### History

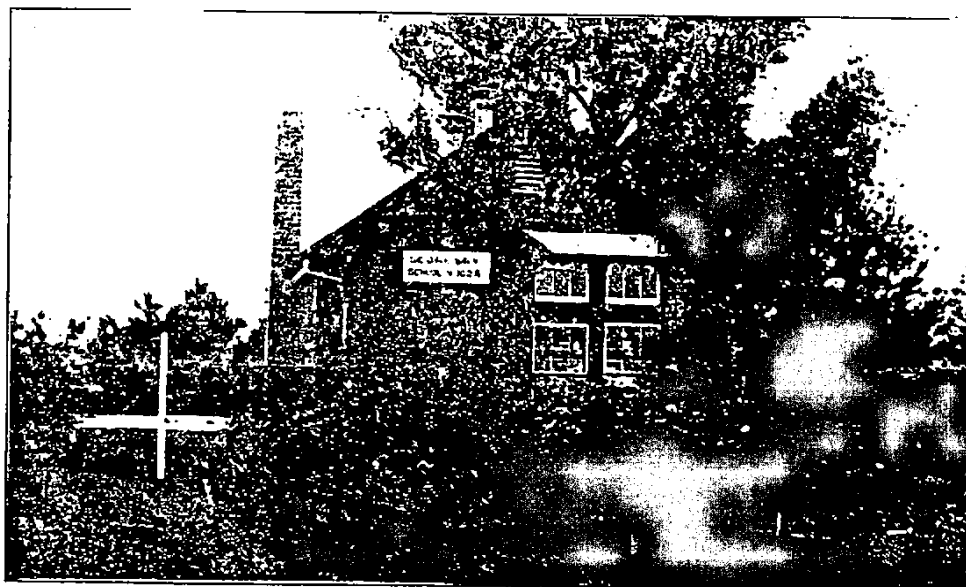
The first church services began in the area in 1866 at the home of William Horner and in 1872 at the Scoresby State School. Permission was given to build a church by the Berwick circuit and in 1874 the first service was held. Although the membership was small, it was nevertheless an important facet of local activities. The Dobson family, and later the pioneer families of Pepperell, Prossor, Sheppard and Jenkins were all associated with development of the church. 1

### Summary

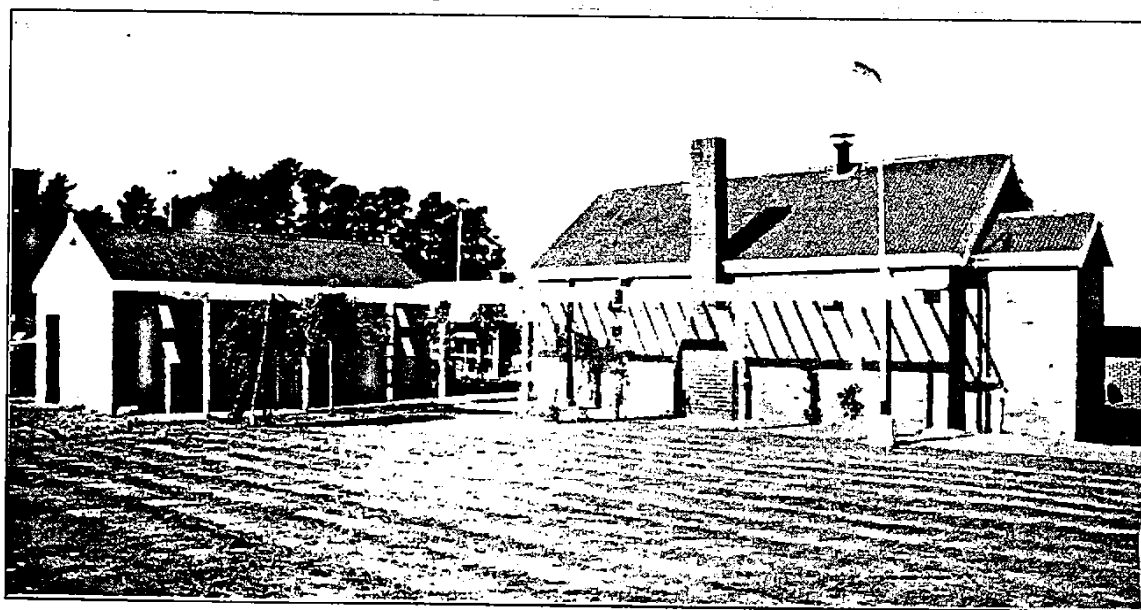
One of the earliest buildings, well preserved and used today, within the complex of Scoresby Village, the Wesleyan Church is the only building of its kind in Knox. 2 Listed and later removed from the National Trust list, for additions carried out by the City of Knox, it has nevertheless been faithfully restored and maintained.

### Notes

1. Knox Historical Society
2. The Scoresby Historical Resource Centre - *19th Century Historic Buildings of Scoresby*. John Waterhouse and Brendon Naylor.



*Scoresby Primary School, No. 1028*



*Rear of Scoresby State School, 1988.*



## YOUTH TRAINING CENTRE

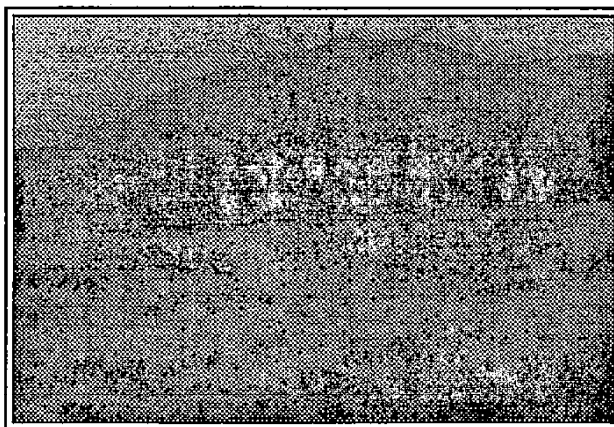
### Location

*Liverpool Road, The Basin*

### Known as

*The Salvation Army Basin Centre.  
"The Eden"*

Date of Established 1897



### Description

A series of buildings and farm lands known as the Salvation Army Home For Boys since last century, the buildings are situated in one of the most fertile and picturesque areas of Melbourne. The complex of buildings includes a youth training centre, a boy's home (rebuilt in 1956, the architect was Baxter Cox), a government building transferred from Coode Island and a school. There are extensive milking sheds, a piggery and a stud farm. A series of fires since early this century caused extensive re-building, the latest being in 1972 when a fire destroyed nearly half the buildings. 1

### History

The late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries saw considerable growth in the power of governments to intervene in the private life of families in Victoria, particularly those perceived to have had children in need of care and protection from neglect and exposure to delinquency. The Salvation Army homes were established in 1897, on approximately 400 acres of land. (There is some discrepancy on the exact amount bought from David Dobson, orchardist, thought to be 80 acres of lot 72A, 102 acres from Watson, 127 acres from Woodhouse, Yeadon and Bruce, and 56 acres from J.C. Schild known as the 50 acre paddock. In 1901, a lot of 100 acres was purchased from the Collier Estate but fifty had been sold to Robert Dobson. 2 Land was also deducted for The Basin School.)

The homes originally commenced in response to a government request for religious organizations to open homes for care and protection of boys who had committed offences. A farm had been established in 1891 in New South Wales due to the influence of General Booth who believed in the therapeutic value of farming and fresh air. In 1893, a few acres were brought in Heidelberg but it was necessary to transfer to Pakenham to a larger property for unemployed men and boys in need of care and protection. 3

When the government requested assistance from churches in the care of delinquent youth, the Roman Catholic Church responded with the founding of the Morning Star Reformatory at Mornington and the Salvation Army at 'Eden' at Bayswater, described as a 'private reformatory', partly subsidised by the government. A home was established at Canterbury Road, Box Hill for very young children without guardians, and the Liverpool Road home (No.1 home) for boys who were neglected or in danger of becoming involved in criminal tendencies. The No.2 home was for boys as an alternative to gaol. There was a preventive home for small boys established in 1899 on Millers Estate accommodating 20 boys under 12 years. They lived in Melrose.



## CHURCH AND HALL

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### Location

*Adjacent to the Uniting Church, Mountain Highway, Bayswater*

**Establishment date** *Church 1898,  
Hall 1933*

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### Description

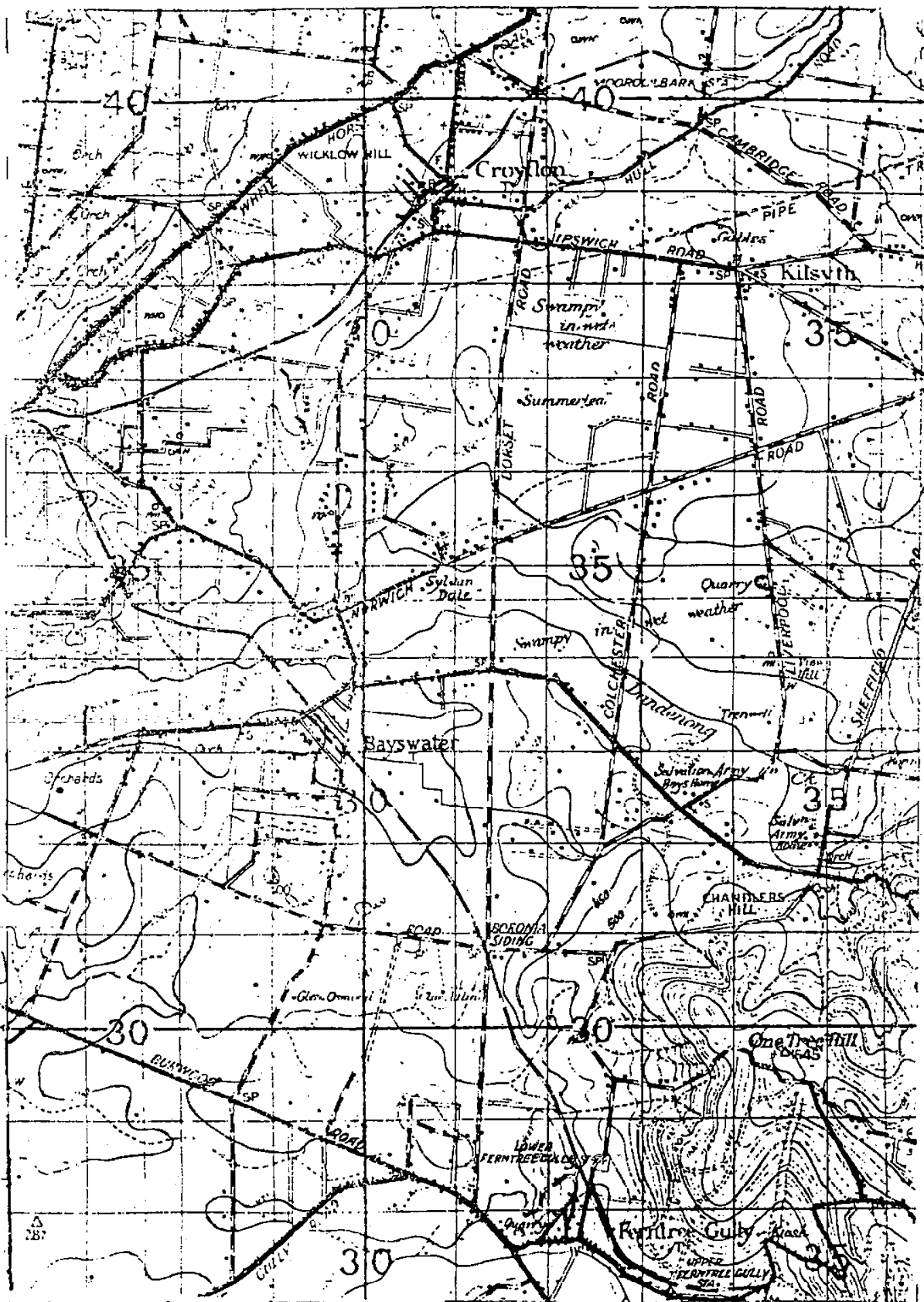
A single roomed wooden gothic church connected by a walkway to a large wooden hall of several rooms. The complex is being renovated and restored. The property is on land owned by the Uniting Church.

### History

The trustees of the Methodist Church acquired land on the corner of High Street and Bayswater Road (Mountain Highway) late last century and moved the church by bullock dray down the Bayswater Road from Mitcham in 1898. The church hall was built in 1933. Nothing further is known about this.

### Significance

This church is only one of three left in the City of Knox from last century, the others being in Scoresby and Wantima. The distinct nineteenth century gothic style is *locally significant* as the only example in the Bayswater area.



Army Survey Contour Map circa 1920s  
Acknowledgment William Ireland

While the central building on The Centre is not older than about 45 years, one of the houses was built in 1919 for the manager. Another was built for a sub-manager in 1924 and yet another was built in 1994 but from the original materials of the old dining room 4.

From 1931 to 1946 there was also a third home at the base of Sugarloaf Hill, the building being transferred from Coode Island. The senior home was re-built in brick in 1946 and in 1958 the junior home was rebuilt, the architect being Baxter Cox. A fire in 1972 destroyed most of the buildings and they became vacant for some time.

Over many years the homes have provided for special needs of many thousands of boys and still operate as a dairy farm, piggery and stud farm. It is one of the rare farms within the metropolitan area of Melbourne. The administration has moved with the times and the buildings have been well utilised, in keeping with changing attitudes and values, particularly regarding cyclic models of care for families in need, and training for young people.

The Salvation Army is the longest established institution in The Basin community. No.2 Home is now used as a conference centre, and the No.1 is used as a farm and Skillshare centre. The primary school was integrated into the community in the 1980s. Several acres of the western aspect on Mountain Highway are being sub-divided for development but this is being negotiated between the local community and Knox Council.

### Significance

This former institution is of state and local significance as it is representative of the continuous activities of the Salvation Army in welfare and care of families since last century. The farming landscape is of particular significance as a viable, carefully controlled environment within the metropolitan area of Melbourne.

### Notes

1. *Fire On The Hill Flowers In The Valley. The Basin 1868-1992 125 Years.* Edited by Rick Coxhill. Page 57.
2. Research by Mr Jim Stephens.
3. From an interview with Kate Stephen by Mr Richard Curlewis.N.D.
4. Information attributed to Mrs.Gloria B. Zoutendyk (Major Assistant to the Superintendent, Salvation Army The Basin Centre).

Additional Reference: see: *The Salvation War.* Blair Usher in *The Outcasts of Melbourne.* Ed.G.Davison, D. Dunstan and C. McConville. Allen and Unwin 1985.

Further information on the Salvation Army activities in The Basin is in the extensive collection of Mr Jim Stephens, The Basin.

For further information about the origin of the activities of the foundation of the Salvation Army Welfare Services in Melbourne and Dr. Singleton, Captain Barker and General Booth, see: *The Australian Encyclopedia Vol.7. 549B 1976.*

The single story mansion could accommodate sixty people and was the social hub of the racing season well into the 1890's.

J.J. Miller of The Basin, a city businessman had the show place of the foothills with extensive picturesque gardens, agricultural drainage, and imported trees and plants. The hawthorn hedge remnants can be seen today in Mountain Highway. Miller also contributed significantly to public life although his time was brief before the economic decline of the 1890s. He was the first Shire President.

Hotel and land development companies were formed in the 1880s through partnership with local businessmen and Melbourne investors. Notable were the *Lower Fern Tree Gully Land Company Limited*, the *Ferntree Gully Property and Hotel Company Limited* and the *Scoresby Station Estate Company*, all of which wound up between 1891 and 1894. *The Freehold and Investment Company of Australia Ltd.* formed by Sir Matthew Davies, bought up the 240 acres of the original crown allotment 31 in the Bayswater area in 1891. The Company was liquidated in 1892. The land between High Street, Mountain Highway, Elm Street and Orange Grove in Bayswater was sub-divided in the period up to the first World War. Some names on these early sub-divisions are familiar today.

Following the failure of the Mercantile Bank Sir Matthew Davies was arrested in Colombo in Sri Lanka as he was on his way to England on June 16, 1893, leaving a legacy of some outstanding houses in Bayswater, Mt.Dandenong and at Belgrave Heights.

The railway brought thousands of visitors to the hills annually. The popular use of the motor car in the early 1900s provided many people with employment transporting visitors on mountain roads to their weekend retreats.

The need for better roads created a source of employment and the first heavy industries, the quarries, begun in 1889, were located in the township of Fern Tree Gully. The *1883 Settlement of Lands Act* with the accompanying excision of 6,500 acres of land in the Dandenongs for the purposes of settlement, was opposed by the Shire of Fern Tree Gully Council for environmental, economic and public health reasons, but settlements occurred at Monbulk, Ferny Creek and Sherbrooke. Some employment was created through clearing and establishment of weekenders, but the men of the settlements often travelled via the railway to seek other work leaving families in the hills.

Weekenders, guest houses, berry farms and gardens were rapidly established through the foot-hills and ranges of Mt Dandenong and when the narrow gauge line was completed from Upper Fern Tree Gully to Gembrook in 1900 tourism became a source of income for many people living around the railway precinct. While inner middle class suburbs of Camberwell, Hawthorn and Kew proliferated with red brick Edwardian Federation style houses with leafy streets, Ferntree Gully essentially became a railway town. There are very few houses today which show the wider architectural influence of the era. The Royal Hotel is an exception with a streamlined Moderne facade of the 1930's.

Most of the buildings around the railway precincts, railway cottages, tea rooms and boarding houses have not survived, but occasional remnants can be seen, of fibro cement and timber.

Following electrification of the railway in 1925, the villages of Ferntree Gully, Boronia and Bayswater became commuter suburbs. The agricultural era was declining as orchards and market gardens were subdivided for housing.

#### Notes

1. Scoresby Tramways. APW Research Report No 8. 1983
2. Margaret McInnes. *Tarella Quin. The Knox Historian*. P.42. Vol.4 No.1 May 1992.
3. From the titles search of the Public Records Office, Melbourne.
4. For the life and times of Sir Matthew Davies and other directors of the land boom companies, see: Michael Cannon, *The Land Boomers*. MUP. 1977

## THEME 3

# THE IMPACT OF THE RAILWAYS



### *Tourism.*

*A desirable place to live.*

*The boarding house era.*

*The city entrepreneurs.*

The railway came comparatively late to Ferntree Gully, the line having first been debated in 1880 when residents had to travel to Oakleigh, Dandenong or Ringwood to board a train. Farm produce was taken over-night to Victoria Market by horse and dray via High Street, Oakleigh Road (Fern Tree Gully Road), Main Road (Burwood Highway), L.L. Vale Road (Boronia Road), Bayswater Road (Mountain Highway) and West Prussia Road (Wantirna Road).

The decision to construct a railway was promised by Sir Thomas Bent, Commissioner for Railways in the O'Loughlen government of 1881-83 but was further delayed by years of political wrangling. Considerations of land speculation and sub-division dominated the debate. The route via Oakleigh and Dandenong was not seen as advantageous to orchardists needing transport for agricultural produce north and west of the Shire and it was also some distance further to the city of Melbourne. The Dandenong route was also regarded by some as a threat to the independence and growth of the Shire.

The *Oakleigh and Ferntree Gully Tramway Company Limited*, formed in 1888, was authorised to construct a tramway from Oakleigh to Fern Tree Gully, the directors being local businessmen. The rails were to be laid along the sides of roads similar to the light lines in England and Wales and to be used for carting heavy materials, stone, timber, bricks and produce as well as local passengers and tourists. The scheme was abandoned in the 1890s when the share market collapsed and capital dried up.

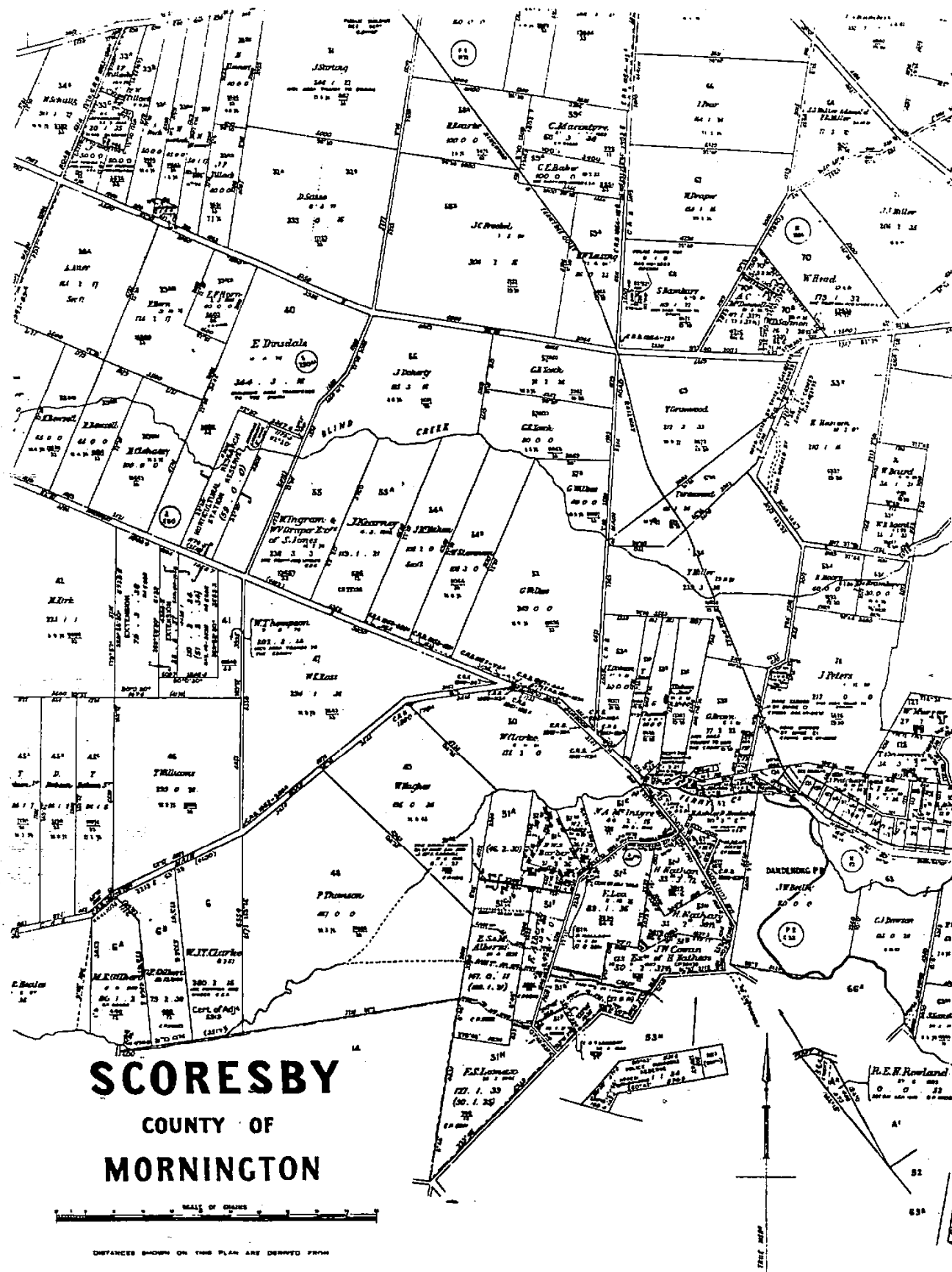
The railway from Ringwood to Fern Tree Gully the site of Victoria's first National Park, opened on December 4, 1889 but hopes for economic growth evaporated with the economic depression. Victorian tourism proved to be a saviour to the commercial sector as Fern Tree Gully became one of the most popular destinations for Melbourne people especially those from the inner suburbs of Carlton, Collingwood and Fitzroy.

Mt Macedon had been the preferred summer retreat of titled and Vice-Regal families and other colonials from the earliest days of settlement of Melbourne. From the early 1880s, in anticipation of the extension of the railway and subsequent land development, and better access to the hills, entrepreneurial new rich city business and professional people speculated in land in the foothills of the Dandenongs. Tracks proliferated with names such as Himalaya Road, Mountain View and Mont Albert.

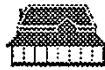
From the 1880s the lush plains of the Monbulk Valley had been used for country retreats, with sophisticated drainage and pasture systems. Charsley, Lyster, Wildes, Quin and Clarke were absentee landlords and their farms supported a small workforce of local labour for maintenance and improvement of the properties. The Quins came from their sheep station in Wilcannia each summer with a coterie of personal staff, governesses, maids and family relatives. Locals were employed to cater for elaborate picnics, shooting and rowing on the lake at their house the *Leasowes*. A notable house symbolic of the country gentleman is *Stamford House* further west in Rowville on the Corhanwarrabul Creek on land formerly owned by James Quirk and built by Frederick Row of Goldsbrough Row and Company, Melbourne wool brokers.

The wide sweeping driveway was entered from Wellington Road to grounds which had extensive stables.





Map depicting subdivisions around railway. Circa early 1900's  
Courtesy Shire of Sherbrooke



## SIGNIFICANT HISTORIC BUILDINGS

### *RAILWAY STATION*

- Upper Ferntree Gully Railway Station

### *PUBLIC BUILDINGS*

- Tourist Information Centre, Upper Ferntree Gully
- Old Ferntree Gully Shire Hall, Ferntree Gully

### *COMMERCIAL PREMISES*

- Bayswater Wine Cafe
- Royal Hotel, Ferntree Gully

### *HOUSES*

- Stamford Park, Rowville
- Miller's Homestead and garden, Boronia
- Lomond, Bayswater
- Highmoor, Bayswater
- Blackwood Park, Ferntree Gully
- Glen Elbourne, The Basin
- Clevedon Gardens, The Basin

### Significance

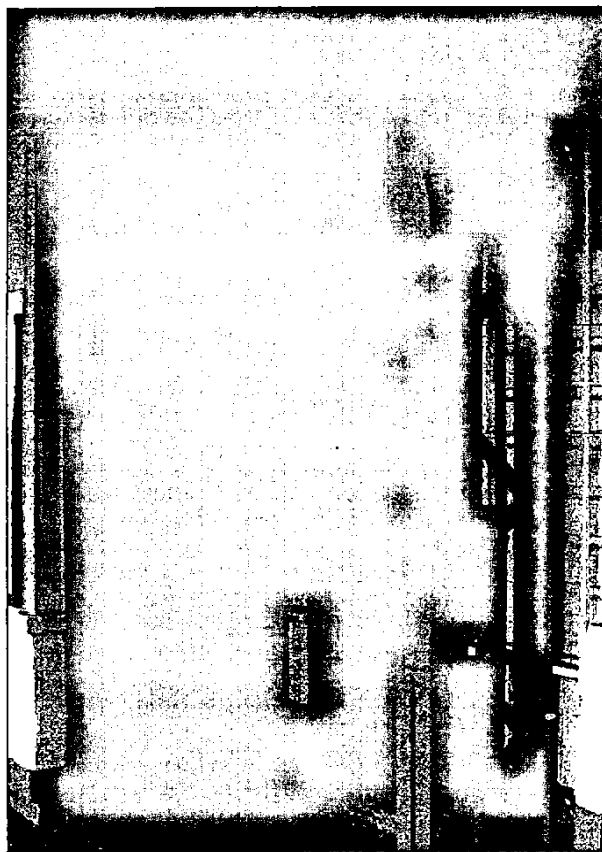
The Upper Ferntree Gully station is a largely intact nineteenth century complex and was the most important link to the Ferntree Gully National Park and to the narrow gauge line to Gembrook. It is of state importance.

### Recommendations

To be registered with the National Trust Australia (Vic).

### Notes

1. *South Bourke and Mornington Journal* December 4, 1889.
2. Hugh Anderson. *Place of many Eagles*. Red Rooster Press 1988
3. Information supplied by the Australian Railway Historical Society Victorian Division. (Ian R. Barkla).



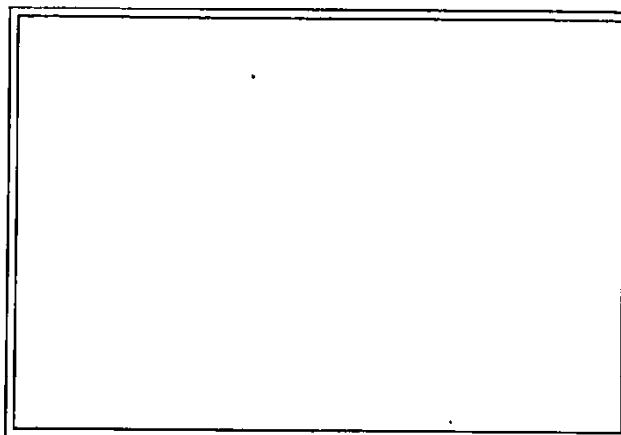
*Detail of Upper Ferntree Gully railway station.*


**UPPER FERNTREE GULLY RAILWAY STATION**
**Location**

*Burwood Highway, Ferntree Gully  
(Shire of Sherbrooke).*

**Date of Construction**

*1889 - 1900*

**Description**

The Upper Fern Tree Gully Railway buildings are largely intact and one of the very few original complexes standing in the metropolitan area of Melbourne. The cedar timber work, iron supports and bluestone entrance walls date from the last century. The Royal Hotel south of the Burwood Highway on the corner of Dawson Street was opened in August 1889 to co-incide with the railway extension and, complementing the station, formed the business and tourist centre of Ferntree Gully after 1890.

The buildings consist of station platforms and shelters, station master's office and parcels room. The fireplaces have been bricked in. The timber ceiling and wall linings of the waiting room appear to be intact. The buildings are well preserved and in good order. A Tourist Information Bureau in the 1930's Moderne style stands at the entrance.

**History**

The station is one of three built for the extension branch line from Ringwood between 1884 and 1889, the others being Macauley (Bayswater) and Cemetery (Lower Ferntree Gully) and is situated on the northern side of Burwood Highway within walking distance of the Ferntree Gully National Park. Extension of the railway from Ringwood to Upper Ferntree Gully, a distance of 12.5 kms was authorised by an Act of Parliament dated 12 December 1884 and it was opened on the 3 December, 1889.

In 1882, in determining the direction of the railway line to Ferntree Gully considerable pressure was applied through local Railway Leagues. At a public meeting of the Camberwell and Ferntree Gully League on 24 June 1882 in the Protestant Hall Burwood, it was resolved that the route should be by way of Burwood, but a much earlier survey had reported on the merits of lines from Spring Vale, Dandenong or Ringwood. The Springvale route was ruled out on the physical conformation but the Dandenong route presented the least difficulty through the Corhanwarrabul and Dandenong Creek Valleys. The final decision to build the railway from Ringwood through Boronia was based on economics as the land was less valuable. It was also a shorter distance.

The original station building was on the south of the broad gauge lines and the present goods shed was where the BG station is now. Early plans show the narrow gauge line circling around at the 'up' end of the yard but this idea never eventuated. The station building and goods shed were swapped over in the early 1900s after the implementation of the narrow gauge from Upper Ferntree Gully to Gembrook. The railway to Upper Ferntree Gully was electrified in 1925.

## BAYSWATER WINE CAFE

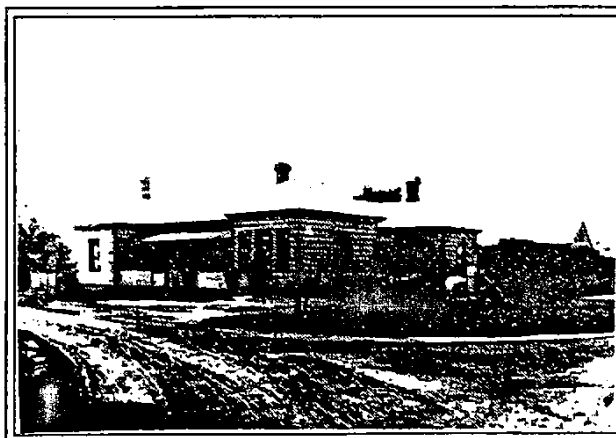
### Other Names

*Wine Cellars, Wine Saloon  
Wine Hall, Bayswater Cellars  
Bayswater Cafe*

### Location

*Corner of Scoresby Road  
and Mountain Highway,  
Bayswater*

**Date of Construction 1899/1901**  
*(Licensed 1899 as a Wine Cafe)*



### Type of Place

This was a wine cafe, coach service headquarters, and boarding house dating from the late 19th Century and still functions today as a retail wine cellar under private ownership.

### Listing Status

Recorded as "of historic interest" by the National Trust.

### History

This corner-sited, single storey former coach house, boarding house and wine cafe was built on the site of the original cattle run "Dandenong Creek" which was established by two Irish brothers, Hugh and Henry Rourke in 1843. The site was also within the camping area of the Wurundjeri tribe which used the banks of the nearby Dandenong Creek as a resting place or stopover to the hills for the summer.

The original wine licence was handed from J.J. Miller, an influential business man and horse breeder in The Basin, to Michael Cronin in 1894 who had established a wine hall nearby on Mountain Highway. The Wine Cafe was then built for Mr. Harry Dodd and Mrs. Sarah Cronin who had been selling wine from a small house behind the cafe. 2

The building was associated with the district as a popular tourist resort, a respite on the way to Sassafras and Olinda and an important link to the Bayswater Railway Station where visitors alighted for a coach to the popular Dandenong Ranges resorts. It was also linked to the local and Yarra Valley wineries. 3

It is a local landmark and one of the only remaining Victorian era buildings in the area, with verandahs and a large lounge and dining room with smaller rooms leading off for guests.

There are extensive wine cellars under the house which is built of Australian cedar and originally had red gum stumps.

Harry Dodd is listed in the Victorian Post Office Directories as a storekeeper at Bayswater from 1895/96 and a Mrs. Catherine Dodd's Wine Cafe is listed there from 1903. In that year, John Dodd, storekeeper, is listed as well as Henry Ingwerson, Bayswater distiller - suggestive of the existence of a local wine industry. Henry Dodd appears in the Directories from circa 1908 when he is listed as a coach proprietor. Mrs. C. Dodd ran the Wine Cafe and Ingwerson was still recorded as the distiller in that year. 4

## TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE

### **Location**

*Upper Ferntree Gully Railway Station  
- Shire of Sherbrooke -*

**Date** *Circa 1930*



### **Description**

A Moderne style two storey small building complementing the architectural style of the Royal Hotel.

### **History**

Tourism was heavily promoted by the Victorian Government from the 1890's. The first National Park or 'Peoples Park' was declared at Ferntree Gully in 1882. This was followed by Wilsons Promontory (1898) and Mt Buffalo (1909).

Tourism was given a boost by the opening of the Government Tourist Bureau opposite the Melbourne Town Hall in 1906, during which time Ferntree Gully and the Dandenongs were heavily patronised by inner city people in need of fresh air and recreation. Until the 1920's the fresh air and health movement had largely concentrated on Mountain Resorts as the favoured treatment of lung disease particularly tuberculosis, and other respiratory ailments. With the changing fashions and increased knowledge, the dryer inland resorts and beaches become all the rage. Motorised transport also shifted the focus from the railway distractions. The hills became more residential with post-war subdivisions, and weekenders were taken up by those seeking cheaper rental in the 1930's depression.

Ferntree Gully enjoyed somewhat of a resurgence in the late 1930's and 1940's particularly with visiting American troops from nearby camps in war time. The Hotel, a favourite mecca, was redecorated with a Moderne facade complemented by the Tourist Information Centre opposite.

### **Significance**

The Tourist Information Centre is of architectural significance as an example of the Moderne style of the 1930's and complements the precinct of Railway Station and Royal Hotel.

By 1913 the Dodd buildings had further usage and in that year, the Directories list Henry Dodd as running a wine hall and boarding house. From 1916 to the 1920's he is listed as a storekeeper and coach proprietor. Henry Ingwerson was listed as a Bayswater farmer in that year. In the 1930's L.C. Walker ran the Bayswater wine hall.

A 1908 publication "*Picturesque Victoria*" s. published by the Railways Department, tells of a daily bus service carrying passengers from Bayswater to Olinda in winter and meeting trains to and from Melbourne daily, with additional coaches provided on busy holidays. There is a reference to Henry Dodd of the Bayswater Wine Cafe, as the proprietor with whom bookings could be made for accommodation.

The Wine Cafe is still a going concern today owned by the widow and sons of the late Edward Mortiboy and is a retail liquor outlet.

### HISTORY OF THE AREA

#### As a wine-growing district

The importance of the Yarra Valley was cited in a paper by *Francois De Castella* (a well known Victorian wine grower) in 1942 before the *Victorian Historical Society*, to the wine industry. The first Victorian Vineyard was planted at Yering, seven miles north of Lilydale, by William Ryrie and his brothers Donald and James, who overlanded from NSW bringing vine cuttings with them. The first wine was made in March 1845, a red resembling burgundy and a white resembling sauterne.

Other well-known Yarra Valley vineyards were St. Hubert's and David Mitchell's vineyard at Coldstream planted in the 1890's. There was also Chateau D'Yves established by A. de Bavay in the hills near Emerald in the 1880's.

The vineyards later fell into decline (early 20th Century) and developments took place. s.

#### As a tourist resort

*The Guide for Excursionists 6. of 1868* tells of visits to the Lilydale vineyards and a journey to Yarra Glen and the Christmas Hills to "enjoy the spacious panorama of the beautiful valley, its meadows, woods, vineyards, and winding river."

Bayswater was described as a tourist resort in 1908 after the Wine Cafe was established (in *Picturesque Victoria*). The Ferntree Gully and District Railway with three stations at Bayswater, Lower and Upper Ferntree Gully, was a short line branching out at Ringwood from the Healesville trunk line to provide access to the beautiful fern glades and wooded hills of the Dandenong Ranges. Bayswater station was heavily patronised, from where a coach service ran to Sassafra and Olinda.

The journey was described as very steep and slow but the return accomplished in much less time - "The track runs through wonderfully beautiful country, on every side the fern glades and gigantic eucalyptus." The writer also described the journey to Olinda where every train was met by Dodd's mail coaches. Bayswater was described as a postal township with a hotel, several refreshment rooms, and a few private residences.

#### Description of the House

A typical Australian bungalow of cedar pine with several small verandahs, the front resembles a shop or post office. The arrangement of the rooms is such that a small vestibule or wine bar leads into a large lounge adjoined by a dining room with a kitchen at the rear. The ceilings are high and fireplaces intact. There are many pictures and artifacts of the early days, belonging to the Mortiboy family. Land has been

eroded by development and the intersecting roads built almost to the front door. A large oak tree more than a 100 years old is situated on the northern Scoresby Road side. The interior of cedar boards is painted and in good condition. The stumps have been replaced. There are brick chimneys still in good order.

The property is situated on one of the busiest intersections in the eastern region of Melbourne. It is situated in a dangerous position and several cars have jumped the kerb in Mountain Highway. The traffic noise at the front entrance is overwhelming. Security has been stepped up, windows boarded, and efforts made to generally plan future use of the building by the owner. The grounds are neglected and car bodies are strewn in the yard. Fences have collapsed.

### Interior

The rooms are all used for storage of wine and the domestic residence has not been used for some time.

There are four bedrooms and a large dining room. One of the side rooms (west) was reserved permanently for the policeman and has a street entrance. The fireplaces are intact and of dark varnished wood. The bar counter in the sales area is New Zealand Kauri and in excellent condition.

### Garden and Stables

The oak trees are recorded by *National Trust*. Stables and outbuildings are vandalised and burnt.

### Significance

This property is of historical, regional and local importance. The regional link to two of Melbourne's most important developments is unmistakable, namely, the wine industry of the Yarra Valley and the Dandenong Ranges, a popular playground for Melbourne before the beach culture of the twentieth century with the coming of the motor car. It is probably the last Victorian era building in the area.

### References

*Wine Cafe Bayswater Research*

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### Notes

1. Waterhouse, John, *When the wine flowed, Our History for the Knox Historical Society* Historic Buildings series No. 2 Mount easterly Tuesday August 3, 1982.
2. Critchley, Cheryl, *Corner Building is Living History* Knox-Sherbrooke News Tuesday October 1, 1985.
3. *Guide for Excursionists from Melbourne 1868* pp 92, 93 (copy held at Latrobe Library)
4. Post Office Directory 1908.
5. *Picturesque Victoria*, Dec. 1908, pp 37-39(copy held at Latrobe Library)
6. *Victorian History Magazine*, Vol. 19, pp 140-168 (copy held at the Latrobe Library)
7. *Victorian Guide for Excurionists 1868*.





*Henry Ingwerson and family. Circa early Twentieth Century.*



*Bayswater Coaches 1907*

## STAMFORD PARK

### Location

*Stud Road, 300 m north of  
Lakeview Avenue, Rowville  
The site presently abuts Stud Road*

**Date of Construction** 1882



### Listing Status

Recorded by the National Trust (Vic.)

On the Register of the National Estate (See Commonwealth Gazette November 1991)

### Statement of Significance

Stamford Park dates from an early period in the district history and has an association with late 19th century and early 20th century Melbourne horse breeding and racing circles and other social elite. (Criterion A.4. Register of the National Estate). The homestead was built for the Row Family who played a notable role in the history of the area, an area which has subsequently been named after the family. (Criterion H.1.). The building is one of the last remaining substantial 19th century homes in the local region (Criterion B.2.).

### Description

The house, built in 1882, is a magnificent example of 19th century architecture featuring Gothic gables, fretted barge boards, intricate wrought iron and five metre high ceilings. It is typical of the era with a long tradition in the district. Frederick Row named the house Stamford from his English connections. The name Rowville was adopted in 1908 as a compliment to the family because the property was focal to the district. The building is one of the last remaining substantial 19th century houses in the region.

### History

(Acknowledgement to reminiscences of Mrs. B. Foster, great-granddaughter of Edward Row, 1981).

The land on which Stamford Park was built was originally bought by James Quirk in 1856. It afterwards became the country residence of Frederick Row, a partner and co-founder of the firm Goldsborough, Row and Company, Melbourne Wool Brokers. Frederick Row bought the property of 440 acres in 1858 and this was increased to 1,100 acres. Edward, one of the sons, created an English estate by planting English trees and shrubs. The property became a successful horse stud and centre for social occasions.

In 1858, 424 acres of land on the north-western corner of Stud Road and Wellington Roads, were sold to a Frederick Row for one pound ten shillings an acre. Later, 6,000 acres surrounding the property

took on the name Rowville. This was suggested by the local blacksmith, Nicholas T. Bergin, in 1903 as appropriate to the impact on the area of Frederick and his descendants.

Frederick Row was born in Bourne, Lincolnshire, England in 1825 and came to Australia in 1846. Both he and his cousin, Richard Goldsborough, had arrived in a Melbourne that was to boom with the wealth of the Victorian Goldfields. Goldsborough had landed in Melbourne on the 29th of November, 1847.

Frederick Row joined his cousin in the wool and hide business, Goldsborough having been fairly experienced as the owner of a small wool stapling business in England. The first entry of this is in the Melbourne Directory 1861 - F. Row and Co. Wool and Hide Fallow Dealers. 4.1.1

Three sons were born to the Rows, Frederick, Edward and Richard. The property was used mainly as a holiday retreat as the family lived at Thompson Street, Collingwood from at least 1863, a few minutes walk from "The Rest", a mansion owned by Richard Goldsborough. Edward and Richard were given the property by their father in their early twenties, and Edward built the house in 1882. There is evidence that another house existed on the site (later the library area), probably used by the family as a holiday cottage.

Edward, the most creative and inventive of the sons, had already landscaped the grounds to create an English country garden. Richard lived on the estate but had little to do with the farm. Frederick joined his father in the wool business.

Stamford Park was turned into a highly successful horse stud and racing horses from Edward's stables performed well all over the country. Horses were also raised for export, many of them being shipped to India for use as remounts for the Indian Army.

### The House

Described as a "commodious gentleman's residence of the times", the house was built as a single storey dwelling. Constructed of bricks, the house has two bay windows dominating the western facade with fretting and ornate cast iron decoration, featuring on the verandah. There are several outbuildings with Gothic style windows.

The house is built in a hollow and not readily seen from Stud Road. Facing west across Corhanwarrabul Creek it appears that flood waters may have contributed to damp rising in the house which had poor sub floor ventilation.

The main house comprises seven large rooms, a toilet room and an external kitchen, while the servants' quarters located to the east, comprised a total of at least five rooms each in two separate buildings one of which has been demolished. Internally the walls are double brick with plaster linings, and the floors are of New Zealand Kauri. The fireplaces of slate were rendered with marble. The ceilings of lath and plaster are highlighted with ceiling roses.

The south-east room with a lower ceiling is thought to be the original cottage on the site built in 1864 over the cellar. The guest rooms have cavity walls dating from the late 19th or early 20th century.

The external walls are rendered with cement.

The grounds contained a substantial number of European and English trees and a herb garden behind the kitchen reflecting the period.

The Row family sold the property in 1910 to the Murrays who used it as a summer residence and dairy farm. It was renamed "David". In 1936 it was sub-divided by the Drummond family who added two rooms for sharefarmer use and reverted to the name Stamford. In 1950 further sub-division occurred and it was sold in 1954 to a retired gentleman Mr. Alfred Stevens who although actively interested in horse racing did not use it for that purpose. Knox Council bought the property in 1988 and embarked on a major capital works program of restoration.

Stamford House has been the focus of a long history of early settlement in the Rowville area. Built in 1882, the house remains largely as it did at the turn of the century.

It was in an advanced state of disrepair when it was acquired by Knox Council in 1988. Little in the way of renovations and maintenance had been carried out since the previous owner had vacated the property.

A committee including a consultant from the *National Trust* and the great grand-daughter of Edward Row is overseeing the restoration.

One room has been completely restored to give visitors an appreciation of the homestead as it was in its heyday.

#### Notes

1. Statement of Significance quoted from the Register of the National Estate, Registration No. 017211.
2. Helen Coulson, *The Story of the Dandenongs*, Longman Cheshire 1982
3. Beverley Foster, - Great granddaughter of Edward Row (as told to Debra Truin 1981).
4. Post Office Directory, 1861.
5. The Age Newspaper, *Extract 27/11/1937 Goldsbrough Mort and Co.* Latrobe Library Victoria.



*Verandah area of Stamford Park during early restoration work in 1990.*

Restoration Photos  
to come

## MILLER'S HOMESTEAD

### Name of Structure

*Miller's Homestead*

### Other Names

*Melrose*

### Location

*Corner Melrose Court and  
Dorrigo Drive, Boronia*

**Date of Construction** 1888



### Type of Place

Formerly a private residence. Owned by the City of Knox as part of Knox Heritage and use for exhibitions, seminars and performances.

### Listing Status

Classified National Trust Australia (Vic.) File No. 2173

#### BUILDING CITATION FOR THE NATIONAL TRUST VICTORIA

'Melrose', Miller Road, The Basin, is a single storey villa erected for former printer and first Shire President John James Miller in 1888. The stuccoed dwelling, which replaced an 1870's house, is believed to have been designed by English architect Thomas Hunter. Symmetrical in design, the dwelling is characterised by its two large bay windows with French doors instead of windows and by the encircling timber and cast iron verandah. Construction is in brick with a corrugated iron hipped roof.

'Melrose', Miller Road, The Basin, is an Italianate Boom style villa of consequence for its historical associations with the settlement of the district and especially with first Shire President J.J. Miller, who built the house. The house is part of the historic landscape of the district and is architecturally of note. While a fairly typical house of its period, 'Melrose' is unusual for the use of French doors instead of windows and for the mergings of the bay window roofs into the ridge, a most uncommon detail.

### Statement of Significance

This single storey Victorian residence was the home of James John Miller, the first President of Ferntree Gully Shire (1889). Stables and training facilities were established on the original property of 400 acres, developed out of wilderness and scrub.

The building is the best example of the Victorian style boom era of the 1880's in the City of Knox, and has been restored faithfully. The garden has also been landscaped as far as possible to the original design with propagation of remnants of vegetation including a camellia walkway dating from the 1890's.

### History of J.J. Miller

James John Miller was born at Bayswater, England, in 1832 and came to Victoria when 18 years old in 1849. Soon after this, like many others at the time, he went looking for gold at the Forest Creek gold diggings near Castlemaine. He struck gold, came to Melbourne and bought a hotel in Bourke Street. This very soon became a gathering place for the sporting fraternity. As a bookmaker in the firm of Miller, Jones and O'Brien, he laid the biggest individual amount in one bet in Australia for those days.

In 1868, Miller purchased his first horse (Blue Jacket) from Mr. Tozer of Warrnambool. His colours as an owner were a white and purple sash and cap. Trotting was also of great interest and Miller imported well-bred trotters from America.

About 1872, Miller acquired land at The Basin on the side of the Dandenong Hills and became interested in breeding, spending much time and money in the endeavour to build a successful stud farm, however things did not turn out well.

In 1875 he took over a printery in Williams Lane, Melbourne and the firm of J.J. Miller and company became very well-known in Melbourne. Theatrical printing was catered for and "Millers Sporting Annual" and "Millers Australian Diaries" were successful ventures. At Miller's death the Sporting Annual had been going for 47 years.

The most famous achievements of Miller were the sweepstakes originating at the Bull and Mouth Hotel in Bourke Street, where the tickets cost one pound. At that time he became quite prosperous and lived at Royal Terrace, Rathdowne Street, opposite the Exhibition Gardens.

Miller was prominent in local affairs and ran a private coach service from Forest Road, The Basin, to Bayswater Station to encourage summer tourists. He also secured a wine licence at his home. This was in 1880 and the first in the area. His effort to publicise the district included a gigantic fireworks display each Christmas. When the new Shire of Ferntree Gully was formed in 1889 Miller became the first President, an honour he carried for the next three years. Of course, it was his honour to design the Shire emblem with the centre piece a Sherbrooke Lyrebird.

Despite blindness which overcame him in the 1890's, he was able to hold his own at the Council table. He became a familiar sight around the Shire whilst being driven in a horse and buggy by his son Frederick Miller.

Miller faced financial ruin in the 1890's when the sweepstakes were declared illegal and he had to give up his property at The Basin. The venture just before this with H.J.A. Panton in buying pastoral land in Western Australia was not successful and helped to cause his retirement from the active life he led for so many years, with so many interests. John James Miller's death was reported in the Sporting Globe of December 1922, in his 91st year. 3.

Acknowledgement for this biography is given to the Knox Historical Society for a copy of the article by Mr. R. Curlewis, also in the Herald Library.

### The House

At one stage; J.J. Miller owned 1000 acres at the Basin. His first home, called Bayswater House after his birthplace, was standing until recently, and the second, 'Melrose', was built in 1888. (It is not known for certain that the house was called Melrose by Miller or by later owners). It was one of the showplaces of The Basin together with Ferndale (home of the Griffiths tea family) and the Doongalla Estate (bought by Sir Matthew Davies in 1891). 4.

The 400 acres on which the house stood was bordered by Mountain Highway, Albert Avenue, and Old Forest Road. Miller's first house "Bayswater House", was built on the present site of The Basin township in 1878.

## As It Was

During the 1890's many people regularly visited Melrose daily to see the stables, training facilities, and horses. In the book *Visitor's Guide to the Upper Yarra and Ferntree Gully Districts (1888, A.H. Massina)*, the stud farm, training and racing tracks, and residence of Mr. J.J. Miller are described as being:

"about five miles from Ringwood by road, half way to Ferntree Gully. The house is briefly described as being situated on the crown of rising ground, and commands from the verandah a magnificent view of the mountain and forest scenery around. On the right is the densely green timber covered mount known as Schneider's Hill, and beyond, forming the sky line, is the bold line of the Dandenong spurs. Immediately in front is the giant Corhanwarrabul, rising timber ridges, seeming to act as its buttresses. Away to the left, Mount Juliet and the whole group of the Yarra and the Plenty Ranges stretch clean away to the north, range rising over range till dimly melting into the horizon, each chain tinged with a distinct glow of various shades of colour as the period of sunshine changes".

The description goes on:

"with richly swarded cultivation paddocks, looking like well kept lawns, surrounded by hedge rows of whitethorn, and an excellently planted garden of fruit trees, flowering plants, and shrubs. At the foot of the garden, some four acres in extent, was the pretty, one-time residence of the family, with its garden of choice, well developed trees of the apple, pear, walnut, chestnut, cherry, peach, fig, plum, filbert, and the smaller fruit - yielding shrubs or bushes. There is a grove of lemon trees, marking the fitness of the soil and climate and the filbert and chestnut grow surprisingly well. Mr. Miller planted trees very extensively, in the new large garden formed this season, all the main walks having, near their margins, plants of the Lisbon Lemon, interspersed with filberts, cobnuts, and the usual fruit-yielding trees.

Of the house itself, it may be truly said to be quite up to the requirements of anyone possessing a cultivated taste for beauty, convenience, snugness, and true sanitary conditions. It is of brick, of chaste design, and replete with every appliance which in these times are deemed essential to health and that ample means can supply".

Bayswater farm as it was called then:

"was quite up to the modern standard of agriculture. The land has miles of underground drains, is well fenced into paddocks, and these fences are supplemented with well-grown and well-managed quick or whitethorn hedgerows".

## The House and Garden Today

The original property is reduced from 400 acres to .5 hectares. The house is situated on a corner of rising ground and commands a view of the mountain from the front verandah. It is surrounded by urban development.

A typical Victorian bungalow design with a passage through the centre and verandah around three sides, the front rooms are large enough for receptions. The kitchen and cellar have been restored, as well as toilets modernised, although old fittings retained where possible. There are several rooms leading off the passage to the back entrance, but it is difficult to know which were bedrooms. The outhouses including a garden shed are of solid construction.

The garden has been restored from a study of components of planting, surfacing materials, structure and other elements which were typical of gardens designed in the area. Additional information was provided by photographs and written material.



It is considered the camellias are of horticultural and historical significance due to the age (about 100 years) and the development of camellias from Camden NSW to nurseries in Victoria in the 1880's (Sangster Taylor, Guilfoyle and others). The garden illustrates the composition of Victorian gardens of the late 19th Century in the gardenesque manner. Large trees still existing include, peppercom, New Zealand piparea, engeni vinli, phonix palem, anzutiuseds, poplar, oak, hawthorn. The garden beds were bordered with locally quarried rock and built up to verandah height with acanthis, and succulent cacti. The entrance steps have planted aloe (circa 1917). The rear garden has a pergola once covered with wisteria.

Miller's Homestead has been faithfully restored from evidence available. Although not a Victorian house in the very grand manner, it nevertheless represents a very important period in the development of the area and is indicative of the boom and bust of the 1880's, the owner having to give up the property in the 1890's. The house is architecturally sound and used for specific purposes by Knox Council.

It is now seen to be the only significant building of the era in Boronia.

#### Notes

1. Knox Historical Society - photographs and information 1888-1900.
2. Curlewis R., *James John Miller - A Sketch of His Life* (date unknown).
3. Coulson H., *Story of the Dandenongs 1838 - 1958* 1959 Longman Cheshire.
4. *The Sporting Globe*, December 1922.
5. Massina A.H. *Visitors Guide to the Upper Yarra and Ferntree Gully Districts* 1888. A.H. Massina & Co. Printers and Publishers; Melbourne. Original held at Latrobe Library, Victoria.
6. Arts, Community and Environment Department - City of Knox. December 1922.

#### Principal sources of information

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Knox-Sherbrooke Gazette.. *'Old Homestead may become Museum'*, 19th September 1972.

Herald, Melbourne. *'City Plans Full Restoration of Historic House'*. 24th July 1974.



*J.J. Miller, first President of the Shire of Ferntree Gully*



*Millers Homestead after restoration, 1989.*


**CAMELIA SHRUBS**

<b>Item</b>	Camellia Shrubs
<b>Location</b>	Miller's Homestead Garden, Dorrigo Drive, Boronia.

**CLASSIFICATION REPORT**

<b>Species</b>	Camellia japonica (fam. Theaceae)
<b>Specific Types</b>	Alba plena, white formal double. William Bull, rose pink, light in the centre, formal double. Lady Loch, light pink veined deeper pink and edged with white.
<b>Nomenclature</b>	This century there has been much duplication. <i>William Bull</i> is also known as <i>Wrightii</i> , large crimson <sup>1</sup> , or rose pink and white, formal double <sup>2</sup> .  <i>Lady Loch</i> , a sport of <i>Aspasia Macarthur</i> , is also known as <i>Edward Billings</i> and <i>Duchess of York</i> , informal double, cream with soft flecks of carmine red. <sup>3</sup>

**Statements of Significance**

- (i) **Horticultural** - evidence suggests the camellia shrubs were planted between 1889-90, and therefore may be considered to be of horticultural significance (National Trust Guidelines) <sup>4</sup>
- (ii) **Historical** - all the types date to last century. The camellia reached a peak of popularity in the boom 1880's and was a component of the overall high Victorian design of house and gardenesque landscape characteristic of the era in Victoria but which had largely gone out of fashion in England <sup>5</sup>.

## Historical Background

Camellias were first sent from England to the Macarthurs in February 1831 and planted at Camden Park near Sydney, where some have survived to this day. William Macarthur (1800-1882) horticulturalist and agriculturist, fifth son of Captain John Macarthur, named 69 of the seedlings he raised from the first six that were shipped from England.

Although the most popular and widely cultivated species in Australia are *C. japonica*, *C. sasanqua* and *C. reticulata*, the genus has over ninety species. Most of these are indigenous to South East Asia and islands of the China Sea <sup>6</sup>.

*Alba plena* was among the six imported by Macarthur and from these he raised hundreds of seedlings. It is thought the plants were first supplied to Melbourne from Michael Guilfoyle, a well known nurseryman at Double Bay, Sydney, and father of William Guilfoyle, a landscape gardener and later Director of the Melbourne Botanical Gardens. William Guilfoyle succeeded Ferdinand von Mueller in 1873, bringing with him fresh ideas and became a proponent of the "gardenesque" which reached a peak in Victoria in the last half of the 19th Century. *Camellia japonica* was all the rage until the late 1880's when people became tired of the same type. The Victorian preoccupation with things oriental was also seen in the names of properties at Mt. Macedon and the planting of the large estates with camellias, rhododendrons, and azaleas. Between 1873-75 Guilfoyle brought into Victoria eighty five varieties of camellias, ninety eight dahlias and fuchsias, chrysanthemums, and pelargoniums <sup>7</sup>.

*Lady Loch* was first listed in 1889 in Victoria by Taylor and Sangster who had nurseries in St. Kilda Road and Mt. Macedon. It was named after the wife of Sir Henry Loch (Governor of Victoria 1884-89) and listed by Cremorne Nursery in 1898, 1900, and 1905. The two oldest plants in the variety in Melbourne are to be found in East Melbourne and Carlton <sup>8</sup>.

*William Bull* is attributed to Michael Guilfoyle and named after a gardener at the Guilfoyle Nursery. It is listed in Taylor and Sangster's catalogue in 1887 as *Wrightii* <sup>9</sup>.

## Historical Evidence of Miller's Garden

The earliest photograph held by the Knox Historical Society shows the house in 1888 but the garden was not laid out. Scrub had been cleared and there were indigenous trees in the background.

Written evidence shows that the house and property were a showplace in 1889 and had "an excellent garden planted with fruit trees, flowering plants and shrubs" <sup>10</sup>. Miller fell on hard times in the late 1890's and had to forgo the property.

When the City of Knox acquired the property in the 1980's remnants were found in the garden.

## Development of Gardens in the Dandenongs and Environs

Although not in the grand manner of forty or fifty gardens developed at Mt. Macedon in the 1870's and 1880's by Guilfoyle, Taylor and Sangster, J.J. Miller's home was one of the showplaces with 'Doongalla' and 'Ferndale'. Miller's was chiefly known for the fine agricultural and grazing land, and racing tracks.

The main source of plants, trees and shrubs was through Como Nursery, at The Basin owned by William Chandler and dating from 1876 <sup>11</sup>. In the 1870's William Chandler established a fine nursery specialising in such cool-climate plants as rhododendrons, azaleas, and camellias <sup>12</sup>. Chandler supplied Doongalla with camellias and John Chandler (grandson of William) remembers his father (Bert), telling stories of how the plants were delivered to the big gardens and how he accompanied his father <sup>13</sup>.

The Miller's Homestead garden was restored as faithfully as possible in 1985-6 by the City of Knox which owns the property. The camellia shrubs are of historical and horticultural significance and illustrate the composition of the Victorian garden of the late nineteenth century, and the development of the popularity of the camellia from the earliest beginnings when it was imported to Camden Park.

### Alba Plena 1792

One of the oldest camellias in cultivation, and very slow in growth, *Alba Plena* is recognisable in Chinese manuscripts as far back as the Sung Dynasty, when it was known as Ta Pai (Great White). It gained its present name in 1792, when it was imported by a Captain Connor of the British East India Company, and thus became the first double camellia seen in the West. The bloom to which all other doubles are compared, it is a medium sized double flower of porcelain white, with a hundred or more petals, and blooms very early. Few camellias are so widely grown.

### Aspasia 1850

(Syn: Flore Celeste *Paeoniaeflora*)

One of the great sport camellias, *Australia Cultivar Aspasia* first bloomed in the garden of Camden Park, New South Wales in the 1840's, where it was named by William Macarthur. The original plant is still to be seen there, and its scions bloom right around the world, though in the USA under the name *Paeoniaeflora*. *Aspasia* itself is a fine camellia, although its principal claim to fame may well be an inherent genetic instability. At least half a dozen other superior camellias (of similar form but different coloration) have appeared as sports on plants of its descendants (see Margaret Davis). The original *Aspasia* is a medium-sized informal double camellia of peony form. The ruffled petals are creamy white with the odd streak or line of carmine pink. An earlier red camellia named *Aspasia* appears in old catalogues.

### Notes

1. Withers, Dr. R.M., *Australian Camellia Research Society* 1991.
2. Hazelwood, Walter G., *The Lansdowne Book of Gardening* Lansdowne Press Sydney 'Camellias' P. 283 1983.
3. Chandler, John formerly, *Como Nurseries, The Basin* Personal communication to Margaret McInnes, 1991.
4. Johnson, Christine, *National Trust of Australia (Vic.) Assessing Gardens* 1987 Pub. Nat. Trust.
5. Watts, Peter, *Historic Gardens of Victoria* O.U.P. 1983.
6. *Encyclopaedia of Australia Gardening* Helen Simon 'Camellias' 1980.
7. Pescott, R.T.M., *The Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne, A History 1845-1970* O.U.P. 1983 P.P. 82-115.
8. Waterhouse, Professor E.G., *Camellia Trail 1952 Camellia Quest 1947* Pub. Australian Camellia Research Society.
9. Withers, Dr. R.M., Researched by Dianne Bamba, Easten Regional Librarian.
10. Massina, A.H., *A Visitors Guide to the Upper Yarra and Ferntree Gully Districts* 1888-89 Pub. A.H. Massina.

11. Withers, Dr. R.M., *Doongalla Estate - The Basin: A pleasant Surprise* June 1973 Pub. by Australian Camellia Research Society.
12. Souvenir issue of *Nurseryman and Seedsmen's Association of Victoria Inc. of the Pioneers of Horticulture in Victoria* 1940 P. 31. Kindly loaned by Mr. John Chandler.
13. J. Chandler, Personal communication to Margaret McInnes.
14. Stirling Macaboy. *The Colour Dictionary of Camellias*, Lansdowne Press 1981

#### Organisations Consulted

Knox Historical Society.

Carringbush Library (Local History Department) 'Cremorne Gardens'.

Australian Camellia Research Society.

La Trobe Library, State Library Victoria.

#### People Consulted

Mr. John Chandler (formerly Como Nursery, The Basin) Leongatha.

Manager, Camellia Lodge, Bakers Road, North Dandenong.

#### Acknowledgement

Eastern Regional Libraries - Dianne Bamba


**LOMOND**
**Location**

45 Orange Grove, Bayswater

**Date of Construction** *circa 1889*

**Type of Place**

*Residence Private Ownership*

**Description**

An Edwardian timber bungalow with side verandah and bay windows, the house has high ceilings and spacious rooms. There are four bedrooms, a large lounge with a six panelled bay window. The passage, bedroom and lounge room ceilings have highly decorative pressed metal panels and ornate cornices. The walls and ceiling are lined with Baltic Pine in the room to the right of the front door thought to be the original house. Rendered plaster has been stripped to reveal newspaper linings over the pine dated 1920s and 1930s. The lounge is rendered plaster. The first mention of the house titled *Lomond* is in the land title of 1916.

The house appears to have been substantially re-decorated as each new generation took occupancy. There are 4 distinct styles:

- Early verandah, main room and rear kitchen, baltic pine walls, floors, cedar architraves, dadoes and picture rails, fuel stove. One bedroom has a metal fireplace.
- Eastern extension, bay window. metal ceilings.
- Wall linings of cedar over plaster and lathe in all the passages. A tiled entrance. Fireplaces of tuck pointed brick and mantelpieces are shallow, one fireplace has a metal fire guard. Fretwork arches in the passage.
- Later additions - en-suite from closed-in eastern verandah.

The property is .75 of an acre and is dominated by old Monterey Cypress and remnants of fruit trees including a giant quince.

**History**

The land was part of crown allotment 31 occupied by John Stirling in 1874 and described as an agricultural area of Narree Warren. In 1891 the land bounded by Station street, Mountain Highway, Elm Street and south of Orange Grove was transferred from George Gilbert Miller a gardener of Nunawading, to the Freehold and Investment Banking Company of Australia limited, the Director of which was Matthew Davies. Davies began building a Wine Hall (present day Highmoor), but the company went into liquidation and sub-divisions began to take place from 1894. Until 1899 when Benjamin Pershouse Bayley of Bayswater became owner, proprietors were absentee graziers with Melbourne addresses. Julia Elizabeth Boyd gained title to portions 137 and 138 in 1916, and the house name '*Lomond*' first appears in 1930 as the address of Amelia Allen on portion 137. 1 It can be assumed that the house was built after 1899.

The architectural features of the house show that the west front room and verandah were probably earlier than the eastern wing. The room to the west is lined with Baltic pine found in some Bayswater structures dating from last century.

The house was on red gum stumps which have been replaced. The ceiling panels have the Wunderlich stamp. Pressed metal was available in Melbourne from 1889 when Alfred and Ernest Wunderlich (Sydney) sold the patent rights for the manufacture of pressed metal ceilings to W.H. Rocke and Co. Rockes had a factory in Melbourne and after 1892 when the company became insolvent, was bought back by Wunderlich. Other pressed metal manufacturers were G.E Crane and Sons of Sydney (1908), and Dobson Franks limited, 1914. 2

The fretwork in the hall archway and green ripple glass in the upper panels of the casement windows is reminiscent of the Edwardian era.

### Significance

*Lomond* has features of architectural interest, rare in the City of Knox. In particular, the pressed metal ceilings, the Edwardian timber facade and casement windows. Of local significance.

### Notes

1. Land title search. Vol. 766 Fol. 153159. Vol. 3974 Fol. 794734 Vol. 1130 Fol. 2255927 Vol. 2345 Fol. 468870.
2. *Physical investigation of a building. Technical Bulletin 9.1* National trust. (Vic.)

### Acknowledgement

I wish to thank Mr Andrew Woodward for access to his Certificate of Title which enabled me to proceed with the research.



## HIGHMOOR

### Location:

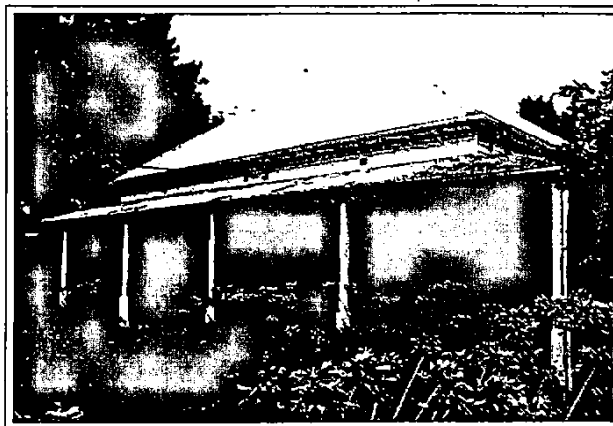
6 Highmoor Avenue, Bayswater

Date of Constuction Circa 1889 - 1893

### Type of Place

Residence / Private Ownership

Listing Status None



### Description

This is a single storey timber bungalow with return veranda and wooden posts, slate roof, white rendered tall brick chimneys, six large rooms with (4.3 m) ceilings, baltic pine wall linings and floors, cedar architraves and side panelling. The centre passage is distinguished by a graceful arch through which the original front door can be seen flanked by panels of etched ruby glass and leadlighted fanlight.

The passage is particularly spacious, and may have been a reception area. The marble fireplaces are intact and French doors lead into the garden from all main rooms. The present owners have enlarged and modernised the rear of the house but have retained original features such as French doors. The wine cellar still exists.

The property was once on five acres and surrounded by orchards. Today it is reduced to 1.5 ha. Out buildings comprise a loft and feed sheds. The garden contains many of the original plantings and trees including an oak and an elm. An avenue of pines flanks the southerly aspect of the property on Alwyn Street. The back veranda flooring is brick.

### History

One of the oldest surviving houses in the Bayswater area with a once spectacular outlook to the Bayswater Hills, Highmoor is thought to have been built by Sir Matthew Davies as a hotel or wine hall on the land owned by the Bayswater Freehold Investment and Banking Company of Australia Limited. The existence of an extensive wine cellar and the history of the connection of the Mountain Highway, Bayswater as a stopover to the Yarra Valley wineries and the holiday resorts of Sassafra and Ferntree Gully for Melbourne people certainly supports this. A distinctive high arched iron gate opened on to Mountain Highway through to the orchards in Myrtle Grove. The gate no longer exists and the entrance is a long gravel drive flanked by agapanthus off the Highmoor Avenue.

The Shire of Ferntree Gully rate books show the first recorded owner as Morphett, gentleman, (1893) with a house and 1 lot, part Crown Allotment 31, Scoresby. <sup>2</sup>

There was continuous occupancy by the Morphet family until 1914 when it passed to Annie Fraser Box (nee Mitchell) sister of Dame Nellie Melba.

Melba was said to have visited the house frequently for musical soirees accompanied by her flautist. This is borne out not only by local folklore, but also by the fact that following her return to Melbourne in 1909 Melba stayed for the several years of the first World War at her home at Lilydale between tours of country Victoria. 3. The Lilydale Hunt Club members were also known to have visited Highmoor at this time, riding across the Bayswater Hills.

After the Box family there were a series of short term owners including Miss Charlotte Dobson (member of a well known local family). The property was subdivided in 1922 by Matt Rafferty and the house became one of the three private hospitals established in the Shire of Ferntree Gully in the 1920s. 4.

Later owners included John Wallace, George Collie, Ernest Deuner, and Dr Lawrence. Harley Griffiths, one of Australia's foremost craftsmen in the field of art restoration owned the house in the 1940s and 1950s.

The present owners have been in residence for 16 years and have faithfully conserved and restored features of the original building.

### The House Today

The view of the hills has been obscured by commercial development.

The owners are very conscious of the history of one of the last remaining historic houses in the Bayswater area and have been mindful to preserve the authenticity. The house is substantially intact but the out-buildings are very fragile.

### Significance

Of great local interest as a well preserved original house of the district, for the spacial design and qualities and for the social connections in the Bayswater and Eastern Region of Melbourne.

### Recommendation

That the house and garden to be registered with the National Trust Australia (Vic).

### Notes

1. For the early days of wine industry, the Bayswater Winehall and transport to the Dandenongs, see *The Bayswater Wine Cafe in Part 1 of the City of Knox Heritage Study*.P.33
2. Rate books at the Shire of Sherbrooke now on microfilm. Unfortunately records before 1892 have been destroyed or deteriorated. A search of the directories has not revealed any new information about the origins of the house. The house is on the C.A.31 1874 J.Stirling, Narre Worran, Scoresby, County of Mornington. Source, Knox Historical Society. The land was acquired by the Freehold Investment and Banking Company of Australia Limited in 1891, and sub-divided from 1893 in liquidation for land title see Vol. 2345. Folio. 468870
3. John Hetherington, *Melba, a Biography* Cheshire, 1967. Ch.6.P.159
4. Helen Coulson. *Story of The Dandenongs* P.382. Longman Cheshire 1958.  
Private Hospitals: 1925, Belgrave, Tecoma and Bayswater. (1927, Ferntree Gully.)

### Acknowledgement

1. Mrs Marjorie Brown, Knox Historical Society
2. Mrs Annette Hunter, present owner of Highmoor

 **BLACKWOOD PARK**

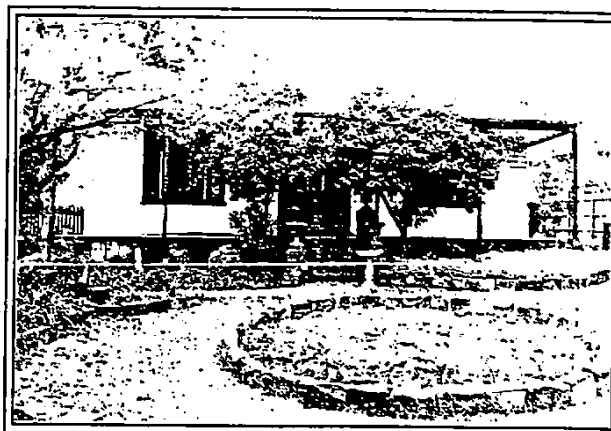
**Location**

*11 Bales Street, Ferntree Gully*

**Date Constructed** *circa 1872 - 5*

**Type of place**

*Residence / Privately Owned*



**Description**

A symmetrical timber cottage with a front verandah. The central front door is cedar with side panels of ruby etched glass, and a daisy glass fanlight. The interior is particularly striking with Baltic pine walls, ceilings and floors and deep double sash hung windows. The garden is Victorian in layout with circular flowerbeds, camellias flanking the front steps and cypress pines on the eastern fence. The house is now on a quarter acre. The avenue of elm trees on Blackwood Park Road from Glenfern Road to Bales Street is significant.

**History**

The house is a part of the former Blackwood Park Estate purchased by Thomas Gander at a sale of Crown land held on the 9 June 1865. Gander paid 1 pound per acre for the 431 acre holding. In 1878 Samuel Renwick purchased the property. In 1879 H.P. Haywood bred Welsh and Shetland ponies and draught stock at Blackwood Park. James Patterson owned the property in 1898 where he grazed horses. George and Alan Tye of Tye's furniture store in Bourke Street, owned Blackwood Park from about 1910 until after the first World War. When it was said to be the finest stud of American trotting horses in Australia.

In 1918 three Spaniards, the Alberni brothers, purchased part of the Blackwood Estate having first purchased Fulham Grange on Kellet's Road where they bred beef cattle. After World War one, Tye's property was sub-divided for soldier settlement into 8 sections of 40 acres each some of which were abandoned partly because of lack of experience, the blocks being too small for dairying. Following tender in 1925 several blocks were taken up, and a successful dairy farm was established by L.Jungwirth in 1920 and a dairy by G. Backhouse in 1925. Market gardens were a feature of the area. In the 1950s only one of the original soldier settlers remained.

The owners of Blackwood Park house have conserved the original four rooms and restored the garden. There is an outstanding view over the Lysterfield Valley which is being rapidly eroded by housing development.

**Significance**

This house is of regional and local significance as an example of a country cottage of the last century and for the connection with one of the earliest settlements of Ferntree Gully. It was also connected to the horse breeding industry by city businessmen and it was known as a rich dairying and market gardening area.

**Notes**

1.Helen Coulson. *Story of the Dandenongs* P.154

**Acknowledgement** Mrs Linda Backhouse



## GLEN ELBOURNE

### Location

*Basin-Olinda Road, The Basin.*

### Description

A house of 32 squares in the bungalow style with 3 hectares of botanical gardens. There is a second house of 12 squares on the site.

### History

Glen Elbourne built in the 1900's, is situated on the Basin-Olinda Road near Hazel Dell, it was once known as The Bungalow. The main fame of the property is the extensive 3 hectares of botanic garden which reached a pinnacle in the 1930s with waterfalls, a gazebo, a trout pond and a bowling green. .

### Significance

A regionally significant garden landscape of the Dandenong Ranges.

### Notes

1. From *Fire On The Hill, Flowers in The Valley*. The Basin 1868-1992. 125 years. P.27.

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 **CLEVEDON GARDENS**

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**Other name**

Cleve House.

**Date of Construction** Circa 1893

**Location**

*Clevedon Road, The Basin.*

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**Description**

Very little of the original guest house remains having been destroyed by fire in 1972. The original home-  
stead garden and steps exist on the property. The new structure build in 1973 is a guest house and confer-  
ence centre owned by the Uniting Church.

**History**

Cleve House now known as Clevedon was built in 1893 by Robert Charles Chandler on a large property on  
Mountain Highway and later became a guest house. The main house had 8 rooms, large verandahs,  
detached ladies' and gents' bathrooms, 8 sleepouts and 3 bungalows. .

In 1956 the Methodist Church purchased the guest house for church and youth groups. The Church re-  
located a house and a hall on to the site. The entrance is distinguished by a concrete cross erected in 1961.  
The house was destroyed by fire in 1972 and a new conference centre built.

The outstanding feature of the property is the original garden overlooking the Dobsons Creek Valley. Wide  
sweeping lawns to the creek valley with indigenous trees make this one of the most visually beautiful  
natural landscapes in The Basin area.

**Significance**

One of the oldest guest house properties in the Dandenongs, Clevedon is **regionally significant** for the  
natural landscape qualities.

**Notes**

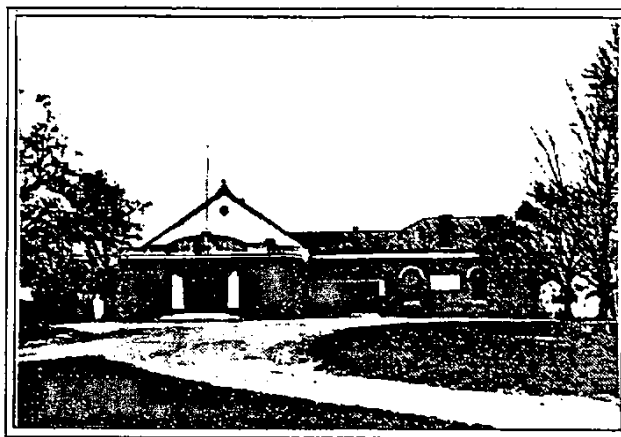
1. *Fire On The Hill, Flowers In The Valley*. The Basin 1867-1992 125 Years .  
Ed. R. Coxhill. P. 27. 1993

## OLD FERNTREE GULLY SHIRE HALL

### Location

*Corner of Selman Avenue and  
Burwood Highway, Ferntree Gully*

**Date of Construction** 1893



### Statement of Significance and Description

The Shire Hall of Ferntree Gully is a pre-Federation style country meeting place of consequence for its association with the small pioneering community which bore the brunt of bitter local factional fighting coloured by class, wealth and poverty relating to wider economic woes in Victoria. Many momentous events were celebrated at the Hall including decisive battles of the Boer and first World Wars. It became the symbolic heart of the Shire of Ferntree Gully the antecedent of the City of Knox.

**The Shire Hall is an historically significant building.**

### Brief History

The Shire Hall on the corner of Selman Avenue and Burwood Highway, Ferntree Gully, quite a large building in its day, was erected by the Council in 1893, to a design submitted by Henry Lording, architect of North Melbourne. It was built by Renshaw and Tyrer on land offered by John Martin. The building of simple design included a hall 50 feet by 35 feet, a President's chamber 21 by 15 feet, and a smaller sized room for the Shire Secretary and local Clerk of Courts. Construction is in brick with a slate roof. The gabled front entrance has a rounded brick vestibule and steps leading to double doors added in 1950.

The area of Ferntree Gully was first annexed to the Shire of Berwick Roads Board as Scoresby Riding from the County of Mornington in 1864. It became relatively easy for growing areas to break away from a larger Council and form a Shire or Borough. The number of Shires grew from 45 in 1865 to 108 in 1875 and 130 in 1889. 2

The Shire of Ferntree Gully was formed in 1889 during a period of relative prosperity and with substantial government contribution that was larger than the rates. One reason for severance was that people in the Gully felt neglected by the Berwick Councillors and State Parliamentarians. Although only 20 miles from the City Centre of Melbourne, in 1884 there was no Post Office, no railway, no telegraph office and spasmodic daily mail.

The movement for independence was also closely connected with the economic boom of the 1880's. Land values were soaring and the arrival of the railway together with a grand Town Hall were symbolic of prosperity and local importance. However, the Shire Hall was built later at a time of great economic depression, and liquidation of several companies, namely the Ferntree Gully Property and Hotel Company Ltd., the Lower Ferntree Gully Land Co. Ltd., the Scoresby Estate Company and the Bayswater Freehold Investment and Banking Company had already occurred in 1892. The land speculation was already over, having peaked in 1888.

Severance occurred on 23rd May 1889 and the next ten years were to be occupied with severe financial problems and factional fighting, particularly between the prominent families of the Dobsons and the Kerrs.

The Shire of Ferntree Gully was one of the fastest growing areas in Victoria in 1891-1900 but continued to be in an economic crisis. The population increased by 67 per cent between 1891 and 1901 and 60 per cent between 1901 and 1910. The population in 1911 was 3613. (Census).

The Council had been meeting in several venues between 1889 and 1893, notably Dobson's Hall, the railway rooms and the Royal Hotel. Even though by 1890-91 the Shire was in poor financial condition, the President of the Gully Council (Robert Hart Kerr) decided to construct a Shire Hall at a cost of 1100 pounds, which was about one year's rate revenue. The roads were in a mess and there was much poverty and social distress at this time with many families having settled in the foothills.

In 1893 the Victorian Government had passed the Land Settlement Bill, and 7000 acres in the hills were to be thrown open to the unemployed artisans and mechanics of Melbourne. It was also proposed to establish a poor man's or labour farm adjoining the head of Ferntree Gully Station at One Tree Hill. The Council was against the village settlements as they were to be known, on the grounds of unsuitability and environmental pollution of the creeks. It was later found that families had little skills in adapting to agricultural life, were very poor and could not succeed because of the quality of the land.

Although erection of a Shire Hall in the midst of such economic depression was attacked as a monument to the President, Robert Kerr, nevertheless it became a symbol or centre of village life for the farm people. The official opening was on the 8th January 1894, amidst much pomp and ceremony, attended by more than 200 people. Kerr admitted that the Shire Hall would never have been built had it been known that a severe economic depression was to follow. However, the residents considered the Hall as the heart of their community.

By the end of the century Ferntree Gully had become an outer area of Melbourne and favourite holiday retreat. Farmers were gradually replaced by speculators and tourists. With the pressures of urban expansion and the growing popularity of cheap land, the Shire was unable to cope and in 1963 severance occurred with the formation of the Shire of Knox (the forerunner of the modern City of Knox) and the Shire of Sherbrooke.

The Shire Hall of Ferntree Gully was the symbolic heart of the municipality and associated with some of the most turbulent times of the history of the "Gully". The only one of its kind erected by Council, the Hall was the scene of many important events.

In 1974 the Victorian Government purchased the former Knox municipal offices in Spring Street, Ferntree Gully, for use as State Public Offices. However under the conditions of sale the City of Knox retained the use of the Shire Hall and adjoining portable timber buildings for library purposes until 31st December 1976 on a rent-free basis and at that date had the right to remove such buildings from the site at its cost. It was proposed to have the Shire Hall site and other Crown Land re-reserved for Public Buildings. 3

In 1975 portion of the Shire Offices were put to use for Police purposes. 4 In October 1977 Council resolved that the plaque and tree commemorating the proclamation of the municipality as a City be shifted from the old City Offices to the Civic Centre.

In December 1977 the Public Works Department advised the City of Knox in the event of the building being demolished, advice would be given to Council to enable the foundation stone, plaque and other items of interest to be removed.

The City of Knox moved to the new Civic Centre in 1975-76 and the old City office became neglected. The former building surveyor's office was removed by the Shire of Sherbrooke at a cost of \$2,000 purchase fees paid to City of Knox. Currently the additional buildings are used by the CIB, the Traffic Licencing Branch and the Police. 5

In 1989 Knox Council proposed that the old Hall be leased and used for activities of the Knox Historical Society but was advised that the Charismatic Church of God were in occupation (since 1981). This Church vacated the building in 1992.

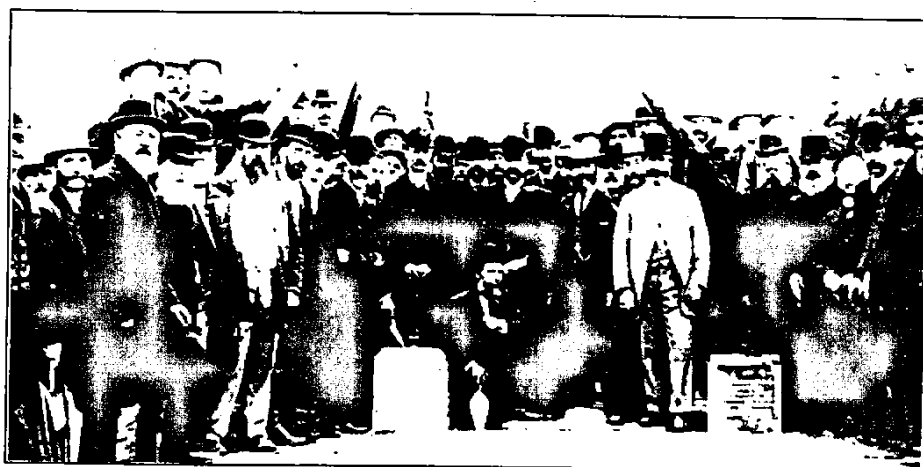
The building being part of the larger area of Crown Land, the Department of Property and Services is considering future use, including sale.

In 1991 - 1992 the Knox Historical Society campaigned for Council to ensure its safety for future generations pending the wide assets sales of the Victorian government. Negotiations between the City of Knox and the State Department of Finance are continuing with a view to the Shire Hall being transferred to Council as part of the 5% open space contribution within a schematic planning proposal.

#### Notes

1. Jones, Michael, *Prolific In God's Gifts - A Social History of Knox and the Dandenongs 1983* Allen and Unwin. Knox Historical Society.
2. Newspaper Report "*Express*" 10th January, 1894
3. Department of Crown Lands and Survey *Rs. 6531 Rs. 9255 to the Town Clerk City of Knox* 23rd January, 1976 13th December, 1977
4. Communication 11/9/1975 City of Knox Town Clerk to Chief Commissioner of Police *Ref No. 26/13*
5. Communication 22/3/1976 City of Knox City Engineer to the Secretary for Lands State Public Offices Melbourne *Ref No. 26/3*
6. City of Knox





*Laying the foundation stone for the Shire Hall in 1893*



*A group of local children supporting the War effort, 1918*



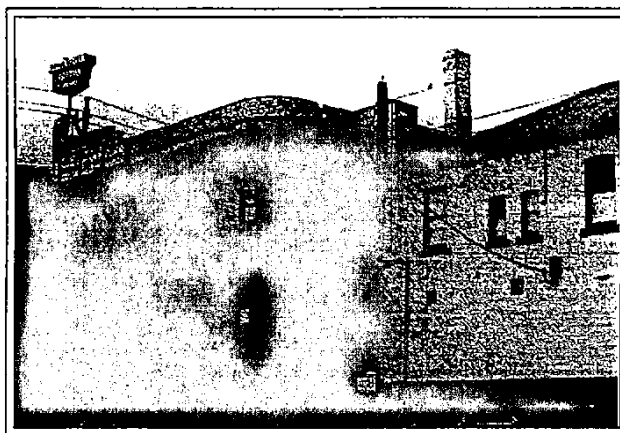
*Ferntree Gully Shire Hall showing the rounded brick vestibule which was added in 1950.*

## ROYAL HOTEL

### Location

*Corner Dawson Street and  
Burwood Highway, Ferntree Gully  
- Shire of Sherbrooke -*

**Date of Construction 1889**



### Description

The Royal Hotel, a double storied building of 62 rooms is a modified Moderne architectural style with a rounded corner parapet topped with a tier of the Art Deco style. Small bands of decoration are continuous around the roof parapet. The interior reception area has been modernised and a large leadlight window placed at the head of the wooden balustraded staircase in the main entrance. The external windows are steel framed in the style complimentary to the streamlined Moderne. This is the third stage of architectural style the hotel has been subjected to, from the original Victorian (1889), through Art-Deco or Moderne (1935) and modified Moderne (1960s).

### History

(The Royal Hotel has been included in this study because of the importance to the area formerly Shire of Ferntree Gully, now City of Knox.)

The Royal Hotel has been one of the most significant landmarks of the foothills of the Dandenongs since it opened on August 28, 1889.

At a special banquet prepared by the licensee, Mr C.H. Dawson to mark the opening of the hotel, toasts were proposed to Queen Victoria and the Royal Family, the Parliament of Victoria, the Ferntree Gully Property and Hotel Company responsible for erecting the building, the Ferntree Gully Shire Council and the architect, Mr Pitt. Many councillors from surrounding Shires were present, having alighted at the Lower Ferntree Gully siding from the special train on the day, as the line had not been completed in time for the grand opening. After the official banquet the general population were treated to a day of entertainment in the special marquee at the side. The hotel was of the Victorian style of the 1880s with decorative cast iron on the verandahs from which picturesque views could be seen directly over the railway to the hills. Thousands of tourists were to take in the beauty of the National Park while staying at the hotel in the following years and the area became a favourite mecca for Melbourne people. The Ferntree Gully Property and Hotel Co. had seen the enormous potential of the site with the extension of the railway from Ringwood to a location on the doorstep of fern gullies of the National Park.

During the 1890s the Royal Hotel was one of four significant buildings in the foothills, the others being the two storied Coffee Palace, a manifestation of the temperance movement, the Monbulk Jam Factory and Head's Tea Rooms.

The tourist trade became vitally important to the small town of Ferntree Gully which had no light industry and little potential for survival. The proliferation of tea rooms, guest houses and street vendors at the turn of the century was the outcome of a struggling community having come to terms with the end of the timber and pastoral era, severe setbacks for the agricultural industry during the Boer and Great Wars, poor access and transport to the Dandenong Ranges and lack of opportunities for employment on the several large landholdings in the Lysterfield and Rowville area which were in the main, horse breeding stations.

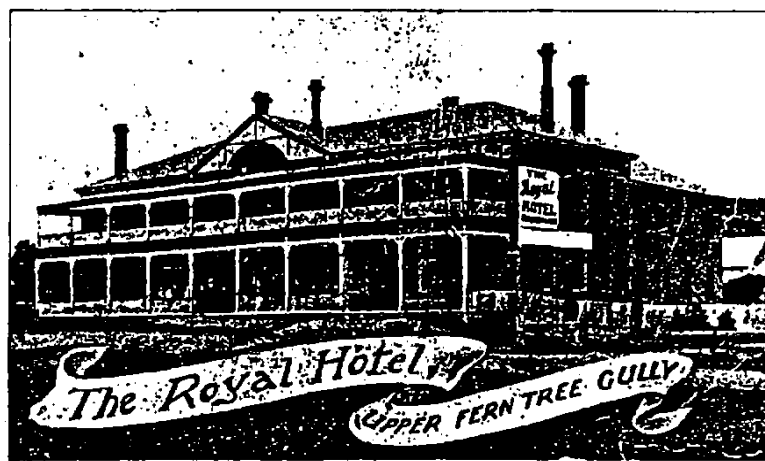
The centre of the Ferntree Gully commercial area gradually shifted focus from the Club Hotel to the precinct of the railway station and the Royal Hotel after 1889. This was later compounded in 1900 by the implementation of the narrow gauge from Upper Ferntree Gully to Gembrook, the implementation of motorised transport in the 1900s and the subsequent employment created through the Shire Road Building Program. (There had also been an expectation of a railway line between Oakleigh, Dandenong and Upper Ferntree Gully, but this did not eventuate). In 1935 the hotel was modernised by the proprietor F.J.Shaw, and the architect is thought to have been Harry Norris the designer of Burnham Beeches. The early pictures of this era show that the hotel was a more distinctive Moderne building with very pronounced parapets on the northern side. It is thought this was modified to the present state after the Carlton and United Breweries takeover in 1968. The interior remains essentially the same.

### Significance

The Royal Hotel is of local and regional significance as a landmark in the development of the Ferntree Gully tourist industry. The three architectural styles of 1880s, 1930s and 1960s are to be seen in the exterior and interior of this building.

### Notes

1. *South Bourke and Mornington Journal*. August 28, 1889
2. Helen Coulson. *Story of the Dandenongs*. P. 318 Longman Cheshire. 1958
3. National Trust Australia (Victoria) Dandenong Ranges Branch.



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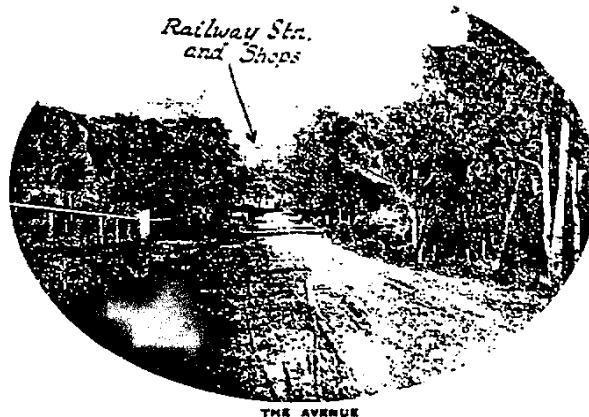
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TIMBER ON EAST SIDE OF ESTATE

Real Estate Brochure dated November 1925  
Courtesy Knox Historical Society

The tourist trade became vitally important to the small town of Ferntree Gully which had no light industry and little potential for survival. The proliferation of tea rooms, guest houses and street vendors at the turn of the century was the outcome of a struggling community having come to terms with the end of the timber and pastoral era, severe setbacks for the agricultural industry during the Boer and Great Wars, poor access and transport to the Dandenong Ranges and lack of opportunities for employment on the several large landholdings in the Lysterfield and Rowville area which were in the main, horse breeding stations.

The centre of the Ferntree Gully commercial area gradually shifted focus from the Club Hotel to the precinct of the railway station and the Royal Hotel after 1889. This was later compounded in 1900 by the implementation of the narrow gauge from Upper Ferntree Gully to Gembrook, the implementation of motorised transport in the 1900s and the subsequent employment created through the Shire Road Building Program. (There had also been an expectation of a railway line between Oakleigh, Dandenong and Upper Ferntree Gully, but this did not eventuate). In 1935 the hotel was modernised by the proprietor F.J.Shaw, and the architect is thought to have been Harry Norris the designer of Burnham Beeches. <sup>3</sup> The early pictures of this era show that the hotel was a more distinctive Moderne building with very pronounced parapets on the northern side. It is thought this was modified to the present state after the Carlton and United Breweries takeover in 1968. The interior remains essentially the same.

### Significance

The Royal Hotel is of **local and regional significance** as a landmark in the development of the Ferntree Gully tourist industry. The three architectural styles of 1880s, 1930s and 1960s are to be seen in the exterior and interior of this building.

### Notes

1. *South Bourke and Mornington Journal*. August 28, 1889
2. Helen Coulson. *Story of the Dandenongs*. P. 318 Longman Cheshire. 1958
3. National Trust Australia (Victoria) Dandenong Ranges Branch.



Just Think of It! **ELECTRIFICATION COMPLETED**

... By Public Auction ...

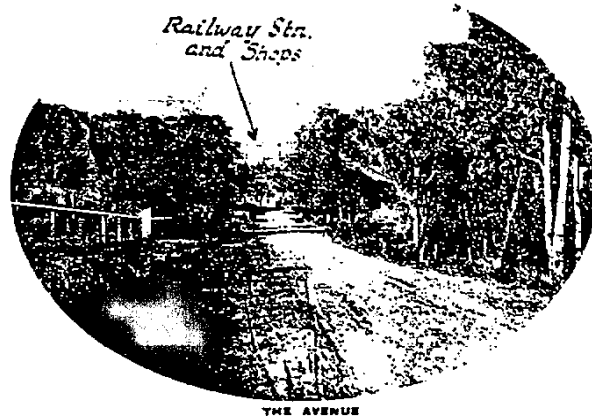
**SATURDAY, 21st NOV., 1925,**

At 3.30 p.m.,

On the Estate, in a Seated Marquee.

**40  
SPLENDID  
ALLOTMENTS**

ONLY 3 MINUTES TO THE STATION.



**Sunny Hill Estate**

Lodged Plan 10,755

**Lower Fern Tree Gully**



TIMBER ON EAST SIDE OF ESTATE

THE FIRST SALE AFTER THE  
ELECTRIFICATION of the RAILWAY LINE

The Last Opportunity to Secure the  
Picked Sites of Fern Tree Gully.

**Note the Remarkably Easy Terms**

**£3 Deposit. Balance £1 Monthly.**

Interest at 6 per cent. The Who's o Reserve  
in Four Years. 5 per cent Discount for Cash.

**TITLE CERTIFICATE.**

Solicitors: Messrs. OAKLEY, THOMPSON and DAVIES,  
Temple Court, 422 Collins Street.

**Mahony's Agency,**

(JOHN T. MAHONY, Auctioneer)

314 COLLINS STREET, MELBOURNE  
Telephone, Central 10324

UPPER FERN TREE GULLY,  
Telephone, Fern Tree Gully, 29

BELGRAVE Telephone, Belgrave 1

In Conjunction with ..

**Thos. Grogan,**

Auctioneer, RIDDELL RD, BAYSWATER

Real Estate Brochure dated November 1925  
Courtesy Knox Historical Society

## THEME 4

### BETWEEN THE WARS

---



*Sub-division.*

*Soldier settlement.*

*Dairying and market gardening.*

Early Shire subdivision in 1891, 1898, 1903 and 1905, raised the number of ridings from three to five, but did not prevent unequal distribution of development of the foothills. From earliest times the Shire had been subjected to population pressures from the City of Melbourne particularly around the time of the coming of the railways and following the first World War.

The size and boundaries of the Dandenong National Park had been subject to government proclamations decreasing or increasing the area since 1867 for conservation or economic reasons. General settlement of the area between One Tree Hill and Mast Gully Road, Upwey, occurred by proclamation in 1893 of 10 acre blocks available to village settlers.

With the liquidation of many speculative companies, urbanisation begun in the late 1890s and early 1900s accelerated in the 1920s with cheap blocks available to those willing to tackle the herculean task of clearing and creating a frugal living. Hundreds of house blocks were offered by estate agents with the lure of incentives such as a free lunch, free travel to and from the railway station and in some cases a free block for a block.

Selling was concentrated around railway stations particularly in Boronia and Ferntree Gully. Low cost land on cheap, long-term finance was possible because there were no services, no electricity or reticulated water. However, the coming of the motor car and the proliferation of holiday shacks had made the need for better roads an imperative. Shops and housing estates fanned out from the railway station. In Ferntree Gully the village was built up to the perimeter of the cemetery and the quarries.

After World War One a small scale Soldier Settler scheme occurred near the Blackwood Park Estate in Ferntree Gully between Napoleon and Lysterfield Roads. The 40 acre blocks were too small to keep dairy herds and many farmers grew flowers and vegetables. The settlement was a failure and most walked off during the depression of the thirties although some families remained to eke out a living and become successful market gardeners.

The timber trade was still at a peak in the higher hills and timber mills scattered throughout the Ferntree Gully area provided employment until the 1940s.

In the Ferntree Gully and Lysterfield district the population continued to be supported by mixed farming, dairying, cattle and market gardening. Italian and Spanish families were represented in the population at this time and provided valuable market garden expertise. Some families are still in the district.

Agricultural export markets were affected during the First World War and although more sophisticated farming and storage methods were available post war, farmers became antagonistic to government controls and formed their own co-operatives. Farmers were also lured by the land developer.

#### Notes

1. From an interview with, Mr Duncan McColl, formerly of Ferntree Gully.

FOR PRIVATE SALE

# Mount-View Estate

## BAYSWATER

### 48 Lovely Lots 48

**A**LL Beautiful Blocks, varying in size to over one acre, at the foot of the picturesque and ever-changing

#### Dandenong Ranges

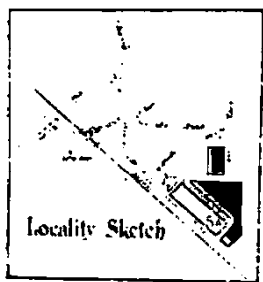
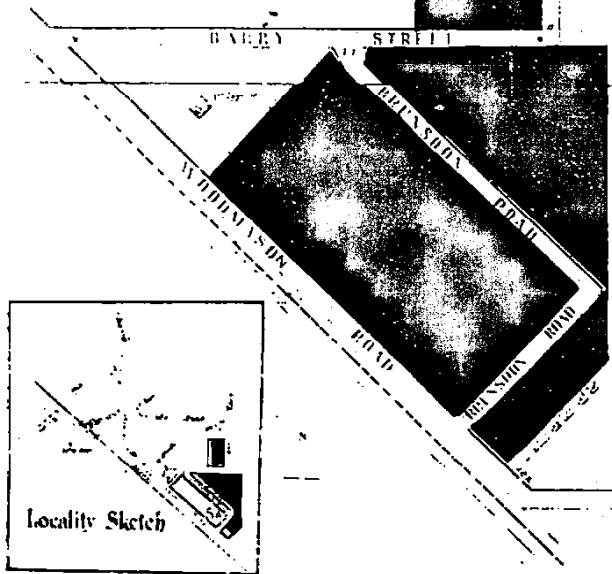
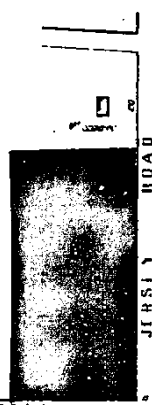
Every lot has a gentle slope, which ensures a fine outlook and perfect drainage



#### BAYSWATER

is the first station past Ringwood on the main Fern Tree Gully line, and is rapidly increasing in favor as a residential and week end centre

**Easy Terms**  
 £3 Deposit  
 £3 Quarterly  
 Interest 6 per cent. quarterly  
 Title Certificate



**M**UCH Money has been made and more will be made by growing

#### FLOWERS

in this wonderfully productive district; or if you favour

#### POULTRY

or **SMALL**

#### FRUITS

the position is ideal. The Estate fronts the Railway Line, and is within 10 minutes walk of the station and township; only 18½ miles from the City

For present use or future profit

**Buy Two Lots**

SOLE AGENTS—

# COGHILL & HAUGHTON

79 Swanston Street, Melbourne And at CANTERBURY and HEIDELBERG

Phones Central, 2793; Canterbury, 59; Heidelberg, 34

#### PRICES—

£50 each lot for Woodmason Road. £45 Brunson Road and Barry Street (except Lot 39).  
 £65 for Iersev Street and Lot 39. Lots 13, 14, 15, 16 are not for sale at present.





## SIGNIFICANT HISTORIC LANDSCAPES

- Ferntree Gully Market Gardens and Dairy Farms



## SIGNIFICANT HISTORIC BUILDINGS

### *HOUSES*

- Forest Lodge, Boronia Road, Boronia
- 8, 10 and 12 Park Crescent, Boronia
- 26 Station Street, Ferntree Gully
- Kitty Chandler's House, 70 Mount View Road, Boronia
- 47 Station Street, Ferntree Gully

### *SCHOOLS*

- Wantirna Primary School , Wantirna

### *CHURCHES*

- Wantirna Uniting Church, Wantirna





## FERNTREE GULLY MARKET GARDENS AND DAIRY FARMS

### Location

*Between Monbulk Creek, Napoleon Road and Blackwood Park Road, Ferntree Gully and east of Lysterfield Road, Shire of Sherbrooke within the area listed by the National Trust Australia (Vic) Significant Landscape L355, an area bounded by Napoleon Road, Ferny Creek, Glenfern Road and Kellets Road.*

### Description

Market gardens and dairy cattle country in the Monbulk Creek Valley south-east of Glenfern Road. Sub-division is encroaching on the area from Kellett's Road.

### History

The area of Ferntree Gully between Napoleon Road and the Monbulk Creek is connected to the horse breeding and beef cattle industries, dairy farming and market gardening.

Thomas Gander acquired a 431 acre holding at a sale of Crown Land held on 9 June 1865. In 1878 Samuel Renwick purchased the property and in 1879 H.P. Haywood bred Welsh and Shetland ponies. Later owners were Alan Selman, James Patterson, and George and Alan Tye of Tye's Furniture store, Bourke Street Melbourne. Known as Blackwood Park the property became famous for the stud of American trotting horses. <sup>1</sup>

In 1918 three Spaniards Enrique, Salvadore and Martin Alberni came to live in Ferntree Gully and settled on Fulham Grange estate on Kellett's Road but later purchased portion of Blackwood Park where they bred cattle and other animals. In 1920 L. Jungwirth established a dairy farm on a Closer Settlement block at Blackwood Park but others were not so successful, the blocks being too small for dairying. Following the 1930s depression most of the Soldier Settlers walked off. <sup>2</sup> The area was later developed as market gardens.

The vista of the market gardens is distinctive and is complimented by the names of streets in the nearby residential area such as Rio and Allora.

South east of Lysterfield Road on hilly land in the Shire of Sherbrooke can be seen the red brick building remnants of the property Willowvale owned by the Selman family from 1860 to 1952. This land overlooking the Monbulk Creek Valley and the bridge was portion of the Glenfern pastoral run and the first privately sold land in Ferntree Gully. Two of the lots offered in Melbourne by public auction on 22 October 1855 became Willow Vale which was bought by Albert Selman from W.J.T. Clarke the famous Melbourne speculator about 1860. The willow trees lining this portion of the Monbulk Creek are said to date from around this time and were planted by Albert Selman from cuttings from the Yarra near Melbourne. <sup>3</sup>

### Significance

This green corridor is of regional historical significance. It also has aesthetic appeal and is one of the last remaining undeveloped vistas in the Shire of Ferntree Gully forming a visual corridor of great beauty.

### Recommendation:

That any further sub-division be halted until the landscape has been fully assessed from aesthetic and environmental aspects.

### Notes:

1. Helen Coulson *Story of The Dandenongs*.
2. From an interview with Mr Duncan McColl, 1993. M. McInnes
3. The Victorian Producer. March 1919.

---

 **FOREST LODGE**

---

**Location**

*Boronia Road, Boronia*

**Date of Construction**

*Cottage about 1906, house about 1920.*

**Type of place**

*Residence / Private Ownership*

---

**Lisitng**

Listed by the National Trust (Vic) F.N. 3229

**Description**

There is a cottage and main house on the property of about 30 acres which is owned by the Road Traffic Authority. The garden is now very overgrown and neglected but significant trees are a feature, including 4 oaks, 2 American red cedar, and claret ashes. Both houses are extremely neglected with sunken floors. A fire damaged the main house several years ago and this has never been restored.

**History**

The Forest Lodge property, was part of the O'Rourke cattle holding which in the 1850s extended from the Dandenong Creek to Bayswater. Before World War One John Alfred Fitzmaurice, who conducted a newsagency in Prahran, bought an area of land bounded by Dandenong Creek, Mountain Highway, Boronia Road and Koomba Road.

Fitzmaurice subdivided this land into ten 12 acre blocks suitable for berry growing but the land was eventually abandoned due to flooding. In 1934 Mr and Mrs C.E. Rule purchased three blocks and ran a poultry farm and milking cows.

Fitzmaurice retained the land on which the house stood calling it and the road, 'Ardenhue', in memory of his native North of Ireland.

The main house thought to be built in the 1920s, apparently underwent several additions and alterations. The gardens were relaid and replanted in the 1940s by a Mr Davie and became something of a showpiece when the house was re-named Forest Lodge. S. E. Dickens bought the property in 1952.

In June 1970, Mrs Dickens sold the property to the City of Knox pending the proposal of the Healesville/ Scoresby Freeway and in March 1971, the City of Knox conducted an 'Australiana' Garden Party in the grounds. The property is now owned by the Road Traffic Authority.

The property has become something of a curiosity because of the long delay for use as the Scoresby Freeway extension and is used for agistment. The houses are leased and have become neglected, in anticipation of the use by the R.T.A.

**Significance**

The use of the land is historically significant.

## KITTY CHANDLER'S HOUSE

### Location

70 Mount View Road, Boronia

Date of construction 1915

### Type Of Place

Residence / Privately Owned



### Listing

National Trust Australia F.N. 5978

### Description

Weatherboard, rectangular with one remaining side verandah. The house is surrounded by an old garden including an African Oak, camelias, rhododendron, Canary Island palm and assorted fruit trees.

### History

The wooden house was built in 1915 at 70 Mount View Road for Kate Chandler, the widow of William Chandler Jun., a leading horticulturalist, on a 1 acre block, C.A. 70. William Chandler had owned C.A. 70, originally 50 acres known as Head's selection from 1889. The house does not have any architectural merit. The builder was thought to be Percival Chandler, Kate's fourth son, a carpenter who built other houses in The Basin, including Clevedon Guest House.

The house has some historical interest because Kate Chandler who resided in the house for 24 years was the wife, mother, and grandmother of important members of the Chandler family. Kate and her youngest daughter Kitty had moved to Point Lonsdale in 1913 and returned to Boronia at the outbreak of the First World War and lived opposite the Maquires in Mount View Road. Kate died in 1939 and Kitty is thought to have died in 1988 aged more than ninety.

The house now in the ownership of George Gray has been altered and renovated. Side verandahs have been removed because of dangerous deterioration. The two wells have been filled including one in the cellar below the kitchen floor.

### Significance

The house and garden are locally significant for the association with Kate and Kitty Chandler.

### Recommendation

The garden be recorded as significant for the age of the trees and for the association with Kate Chandler.

### References

*National Trust File No. 5978* 9/6/1988 Rate books 1915, Kate Chandler, a house on one acre, C.A.70Val. 15 pounds *Cert. of Title Vol. 3938 fol. 580 Vol. 8766 fol. 399*  
Helen Coulson. *The Family of William Chandler*. 1978

### Acknowledgement

Mr. George Gray (present owner).



## GROUP OF THREE HOUSES

---

### Location

8, 10, 12, Park Crescent, Boronia.

### Type of places

*Residences / Privately Owned*

---

### Description

Good example of California Bungalow style modified to the small blocks of land. Bay windows, plaster pillars and slatted wooden verandah rails are a feature of these houses.

### History

These houses were part of the Station Park sub-division of 1930.

### Significance

Of local importance as the only examples of the California Bungalow in the Boronia area built during the sub-divisions between the wars.

By Public Auction

SATURDAY, 2nd FEBRUARY, 1924

TOLMIE'S ...

At 3.30 p.m.

In a SEATED MARQUEE.

# TOWN ESTATE

In the MAIN STREET, RIGHT ON THE STATION,

## Lower Fern Tree Gully

FORTY  
MINUTES  
TO  
THE CITY.



RIGHT IN  
THE  
CENTRE of  
ACTIVITY.

LOWER GULLY STATION, OPPOSITE THE ESTATE.

**17 Business Sites**   
**11 Residential Sites**

**Easy Terms** £5 per Block Deposit. £1 per Block per Month.  
Interest 6 per cent. per annum, payable Quarterly

**Mahony's Agency**

(JOHN T. MAHONY, Auctioneer.)

352 COLLINS ST., Melbourne.

UPPER FERN TREE GULLY.

And BELGRAVE.

Central 10324

Fernree Gully 29

Phone, Belgrave 1.

In Conjunction with—

**Scott & Scott,**

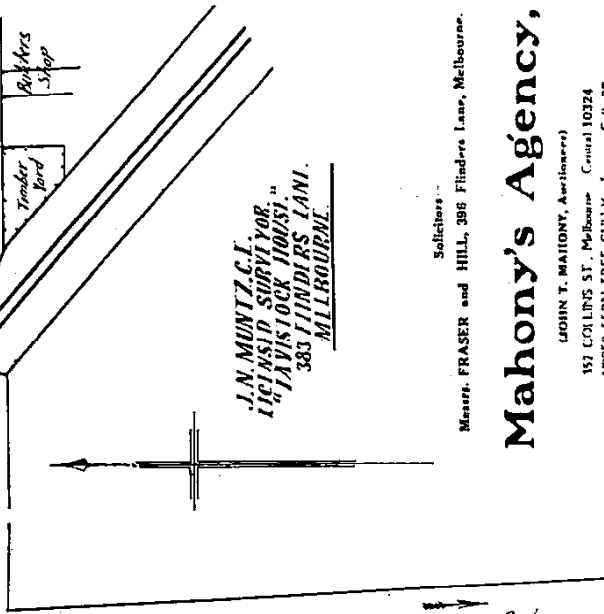
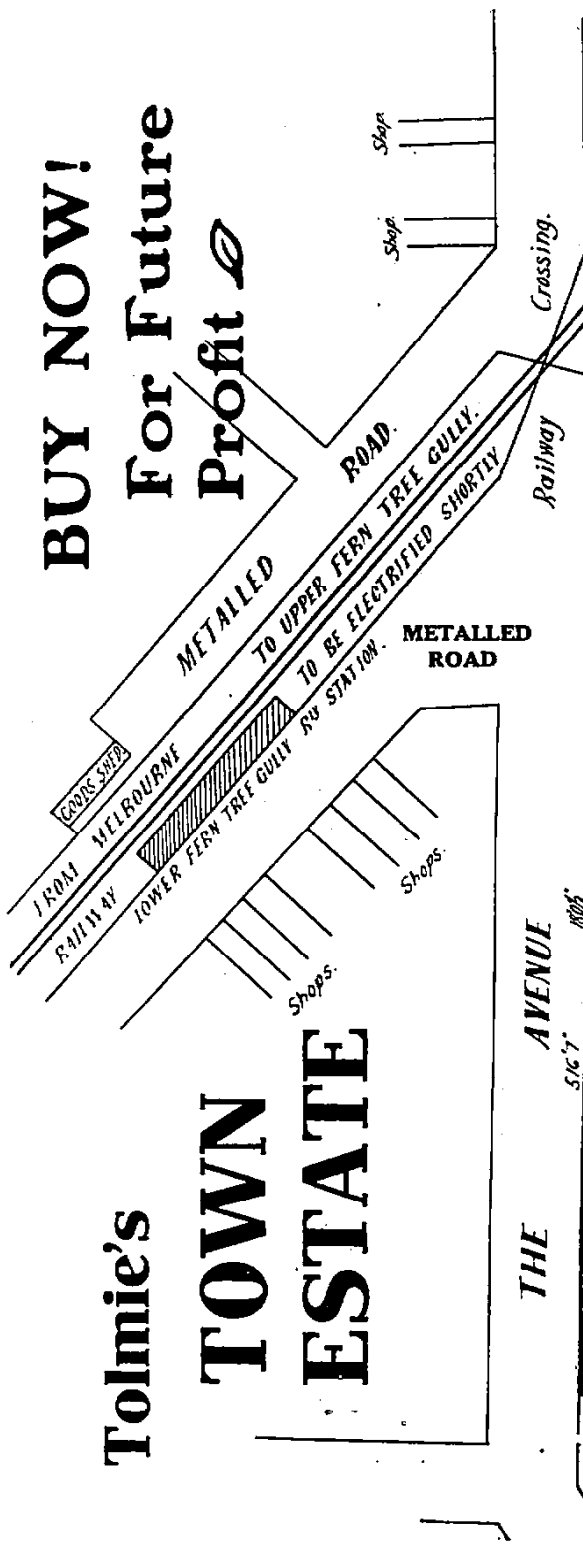
(J. E. SCOTT, Auctioneer.) Phone, Gully 32

LOWER FERN TREE GULLY.

**BUY NOW!**  
**For Future Profit**

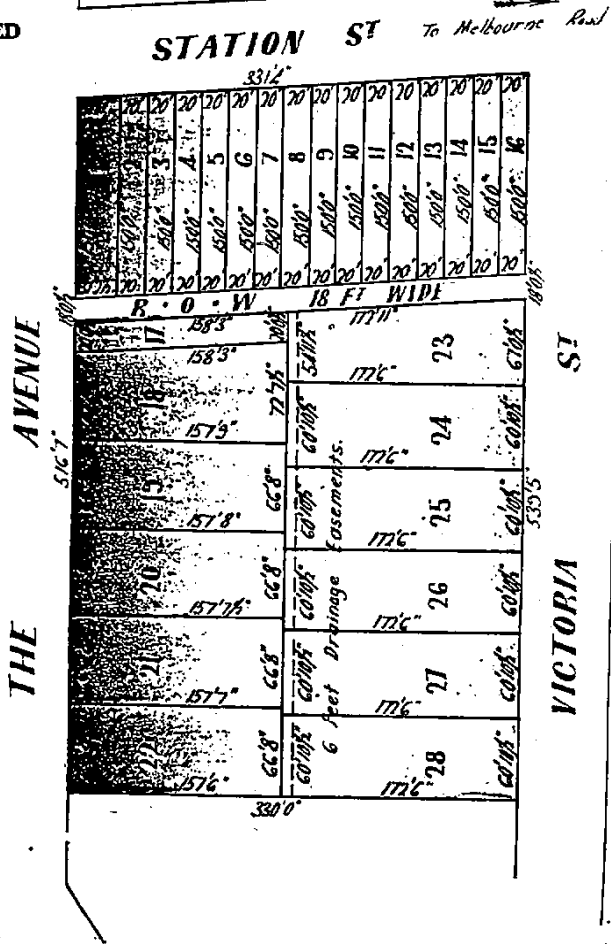
**Tolmie's**

**TOWN ESTATE**



J.N. MUNTZ & CO.  
 LICENS'D SURVEYORS  
 117 AVISSTOCK HOUSE,  
 383 FLINDERS LANE,  
 MELBOURNE.

Solicitors  
 Messrs. FRASER and HILL, 396 Flinders Lane, Melbourne.  
**Mahony's Agency,**  
 JOHN T. MAHONY, Auctioneer  
 151 COLLINS ST., Melbourne. Census 10324  
 UPPER FERN TREE GULLY. Ferntree Gully 28  
 And BELGRAVE Place, Belgrave 1.



Ferntree Gully Real Estate Brochure showing subdivisions. Dated February 1924  
 Courtesy Knox Historical Society



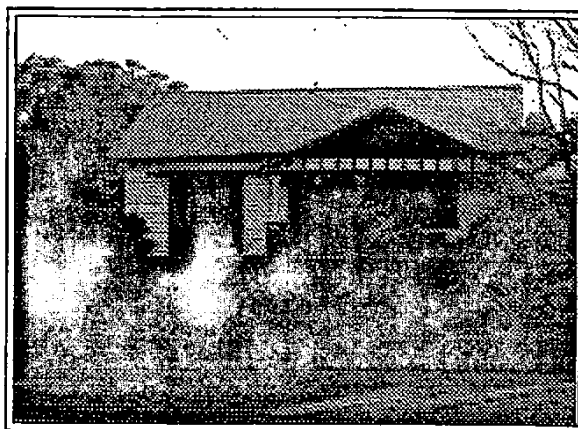
 HOUSE
**Location**

*47 Station Street, Ferntree Gully*

**Date of Construction** 1934

**Status**

*House / Private ownership*

**Description**

A timber bungalow with a gabled roof line and a red brick portico with curled pillars. The casement windows have wooden shingles. The house is on a double block with a vegetable and flower garden in the very heart of the Lower Ferntree Gully township. The house is essentially original with little alteration. A covered rear patio is sympathetic to the style of the house which has three bedrooms, lounge, dining room and kitchen. The house, one of only a few illustrating the architecture of this period in Ferntree Gully, contains the 1930s deco furniture.

**History**

The house was built for Fawcett and Gladys Dinsdale in 1934 by Garrett near the railway station during the period of rapid sub-division between World Wars One and Two. The house is still in the ownership of the Dinsdale family. Electrification of the railway in 1925 contributed to the development of Lower Ferntree Gully with residential streets and shops spanning out from the railway station.

The Dinsdale family is descended from one of the earliest pioneers of Ferntree Gully, James Pratt Dinsdale who selected Crown Allotment 40 on Blind Creek bounded by Scoresby Road, Boronia Road, Lewis Road and Burwood Highway. The Dinsdale family has figured largely in the development of the Ferntree Gully and Scoresby area.

**Significance**

This house is an excellent example of the architectural style between the wars and particularly the 1930s and illustrates the development of the residential sub-division near the Lower Ferntree Gully station. It is associated with descendants of the Dinsdale family, pioneers of the area.

**Notes**

1. From family history of Mrs Pat Dinsdale Stewart.
2. Early Crown Allotments: map supplied by Shire of Sherbrooke.

## HOUSE

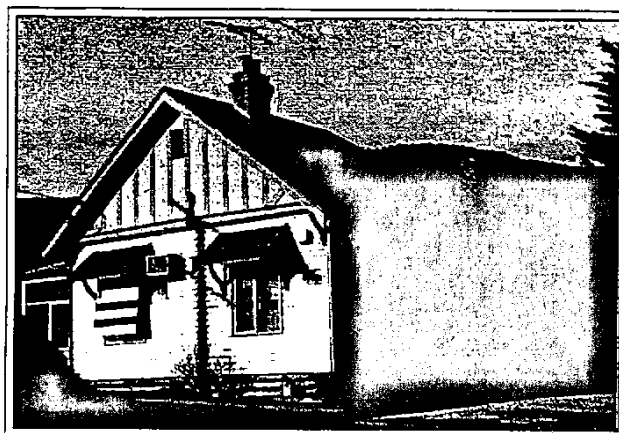
### Location

26 Station Street, Ferntree Gully

### Date of Construction 1930

### Status

Private ownership / Professional rooms



### Description

A timber house with gables and a side entrance verandah. The wall linings are lathe and plaster with 30cm skirting boards. On the 3.6m ceilings, only one plaster ceiling rose still exists. There were 4 fireplaces in the former bedrooms. Some alterations have taken place to enable the conversion to professional rooms.

### History

This is a remarkably intact former railway house built in 1930 and lived in by Mr Waters the Station Master. The builder is unknown.

There were more than 200 sub-divisions in the Shire of Ferntree Gully between 1920 and 1935. Station Street in Lower Ferntree Gully, began to develop after the electrification of the railway in 1925. Houses, shops, churches and service centres spanned out from the railway station to create an important service and communications centre.

### Significance

The house is a **locally significant** landmark of Lower Ferntree Gully.

### Acknowledgements

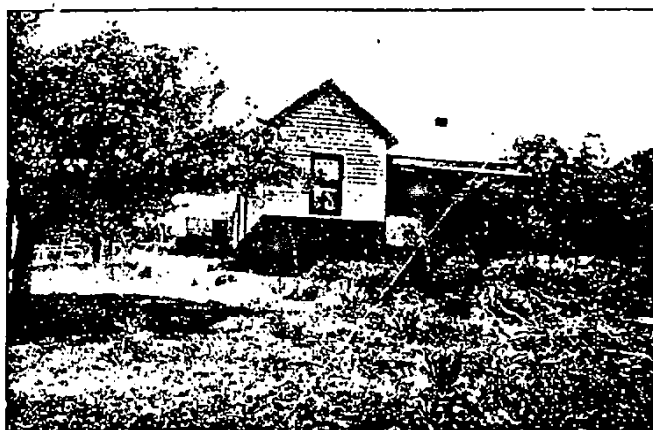
David Lucas, Grantly Bland

**..SATURDAY..**

On the Estate.  
At THREE o'clock.

The Estate  
is Ideally Situated.

Commands  
Magnificent Views.



Dwelling on Lot 8.

**5th JAN., 1924**

... In a ...  
Seated MARQUEE.

Within a  
Few Minutes' Walk  
of the Lower  
Ferntree Gully ..  
Railway Station.

## Maggs' VALETTA ESTATE, LOWER FERNTREE GULLY

# 45 Magnificent ALLOTMENTS 45

A Few Minutes' Walk from Lower Ferntree Gully Railway Station.

WITHOUT A DOUBT THE FINEST ESTATE AT LOWER FERNTREE GULLY.

On one Lot is a FIVE-ROOMED DWELLING and Outbuildings.

## MAHONY'S AGENCY,

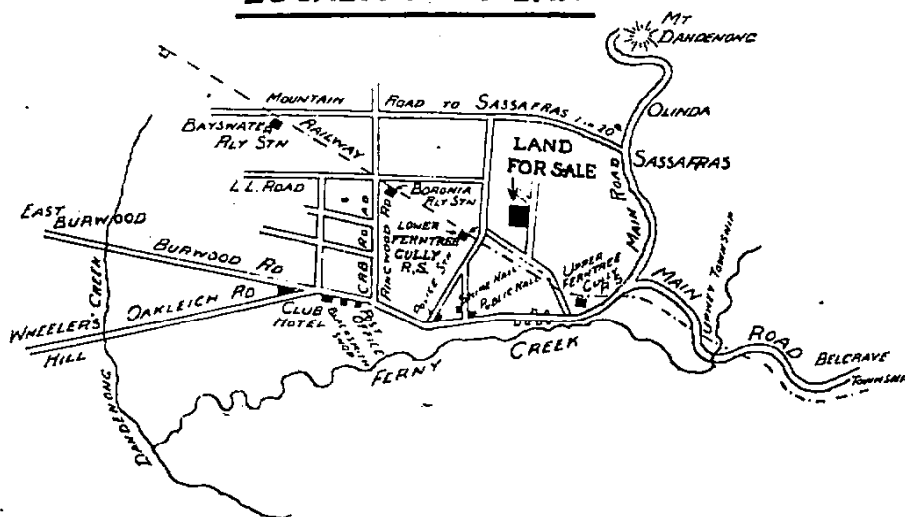
Phone, Central 10324. 352 COLLINS STREET, Melbourne.  
Phone, Belgrave 1. BELGRAVE.  
Phone, Ferntree Gully 28. UPPER FERNTREE GULLY.

### TERMS:

LAND—Only £1 per Block Deposit  
and £1 per Month. Interest at  
6 per cent., payable Quarterly.

HOUSE—£100 Deposit. Balance  
£13 Quarter, including Principal  
and Interest 6½ per cent. per ann.

### LOCALITY PLAN



Ferntree Gully Valetta Real Estate Brochure. Dated January 1924  
Courtesy Knox Historical Society

## WANTIRNA UNITING CHURCH

### Other names

*(formerly Methodist, now  
Harrison Youth services)*

### Location

*Mountain Highway, Wantirna*

**Date of establishment 1913**



### Description

A simple basic timber church with gable roof, porch and rear room used as a Sunday School and kindergarten.

### Listing

National trust F. N. 3228, but listed as unworthy of classification.

### History

In 1913 changes were taking place in Bayswater West including the establishment of the school and post office. The postal name of Wantirna was adopted at this time and the orchard industry was well established. In 1913 the Wantirna Methodist Church came into being as a part of the Box Hill Circuit. The builder was thought to be William Pretty. The architect is unknown.

The first trustees were all fruit growers who had cleared the land by hand. The Finger and Fankhauser families were prime movers behind the establishment of the Methodist Church and remained trustees until the 1960s. A Sunday School had been established in 1912 with Mr A.J. Finger remaining Superintendent until 1926. The Church building which cost 235 pounds was opened in December 1913. The kindergarten room was added in 1925 at a cost of 68 pounds 6 shillings and 5 pence.

During the ministry of the Rev. F. Flentje (1936-1940) Wantirna, The Basin, Bayswater and Bayswater North were separated from the Ringwood Circuit to become the Bayswater Home Mission Station. This continued until the ministry of the Rev. L. Hartshorn when Wantirna rejoined the Ringwood Circuit in 1951. During the 1980s the Methodist Church became Uniting and the building is now the headquarters for Youth Services.

### Significance

The former Wantirna Methodist Church Building is **locally significant** as one of only two intact public buildings surviving in the Wantirna area from the early 1900s when the orchard industry was at a peak. It is connected to the early pioneers particularly the German families Finger and Fankhauser who were active in community affairs.

### Notes

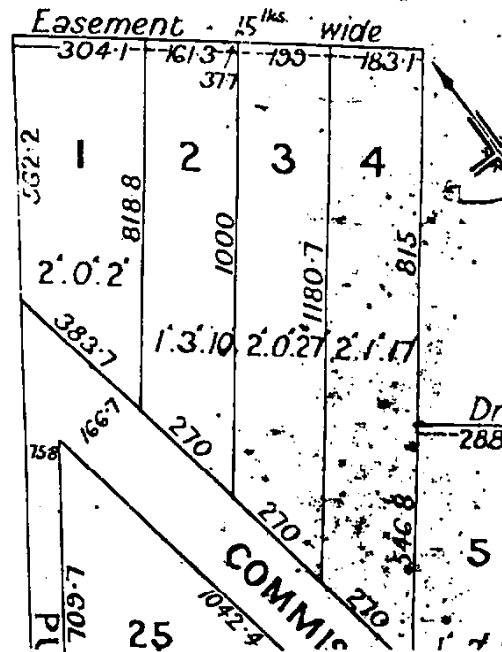
1. Wantirna Methodist Church Golden Jubilee 24 November, 1963.  
Pub. Methodist Church, Wantirna 1963

# Boil Your Billy

On the Creek, then DRIVE up to the Subdivision. The Views alone are worth the trip

## BUSHY PARK

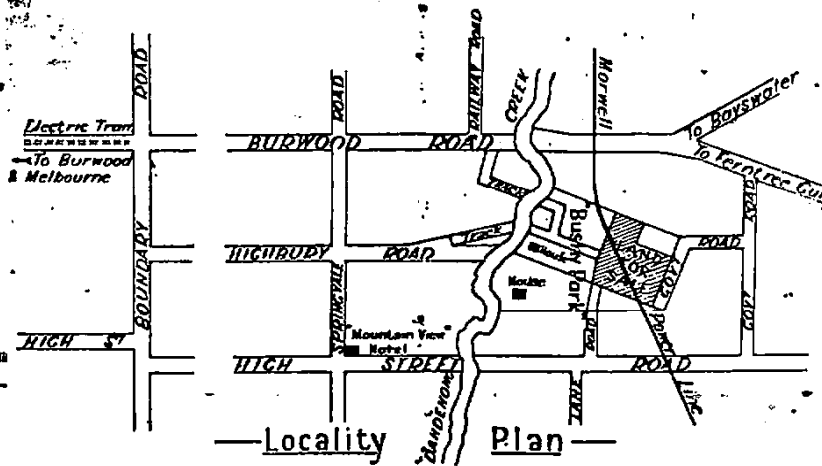
Was on the Map in the Forties. Only now are the public offered access to BUSHY PARK. The maiden hair fern and flowering scrub have been growing for you in the meantime



MORWELL ELECTRIC LINE runs through the Subdivision. The Railway for the District is now before the Railways Standing Committee

Buy by the Acre!  
Sell by the Foot!

### LOCALITY PLAN



Solicitors: AKEHURST & LAWRENCE, 405 Collins Street, MELBOURNE

Exact from "Bushy Park" Real Estate brochure  
Courtesy Knox Historical Society



## THEME 5

### SEPARATION OF THE WAYS

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#### - RURAL RESORT TO RESIDENTIAL

*Community development.*

*Development of industry.*

*Commuter suburbs.*

*Public institutions.*

The urbanisation of Ferntree Gully increased in the 1920s. Land north of the railway station first surveyed with 2 acre blocks following proclamation in 1876, was further excised from the Dandenong State Forest for private sale. A series of railway houses above the railway yards were until then the only visible sign of habitation from the main road.

Land sales became the favourite activity of Melbourne people in the 1920s with real estate agents lyrical about the Gully- 'the lungs of Melbourne', and the lure of electrification of the railways promising a faster and cleaner route to country living while being near to the city and work.

An advertisement for the 'Peter Pan' Estate in Ferntree Gully auctioned in 1924 promised that the estate had been so sub-divided that each block was of a generous size thus assuring it would never become congested and would always retain its charm and beauty, and had 'a splendid motor road from Melbourne along which a regular motor service is running'. In fact the blocks had no services of any description. Ferntree Gully was not sewered until the 1970s and many roads were still to be surfaced in the 1980s.

Between 1920 and 1924 there were 200 sub-divisions principally in Bayswater, Ferntree Gully, Boronia and Scoresby. Not all blocks were sold and those that did were often vacant for long periods of time, owners journeying for 10 years or more to the site from Melbourne to build their own house on difficult unserviced steep blocks. Development followed the north-south direction of the railway.

It was said that the influx of tourists and weekenders changed the face of the lower hills. The fibro shacks near the railway in the foothills between Forest Road and Heath Avenue, Olivebank Road, Perra Street, Moore Street, Mont Albert Road and Joan Avenue, can still be seen today. Guest houses and ancillary services, post offices, banks and shops around Upper and Lower Ferntree Gully Stations, and to a lesser extent Bayswater, provided a meagre income for women whose itinerant husbands sought work on orchards, in timber yards, and in the city.

In the 1920s, 81 boarding houses and 5 hotels were registered in the hills area. Interviews with older residents tell how every weekender and shack was filled to capacity during the economic depression of the 1930s and everyone 'had their own chooks and grew their own vegetables'. Many people worked on subsistence and gained work on big properties in the Dandenongs as gardeners, cooks, maids and waitresses in the guest houses. Some have told how they lived for years on rabbits, blackberries, apples and cherries pinched from the old orchards.

The Royal Hotel opposite the Upper Ferntree Gully Station became a mecca and served the Shire for social needs and services in times of disaster. The Progress Halls and Fire Brigades became the centre of social and emergency activities in the foothills, one of the most fire-prone areas in Victoria.

There are many photographs from this time showing families outside neat houses and gardens and children barefoot. The impression of family life and work is of poverty and hardship but also of community social cohesion. The Shire Hall, a modest building built after the 1880's boom, was the centre of social occasions, particularly in the evenings for celebrations, important events and balls.

Following World War Two the orchards of Wantirna and the daffodil farms of Boronia were fast disappearing to sub-division, and the Main Road, (Burwood Highway) from Nunawading to Ferntree Gully and Mountain Highway to Bayswater became the developers' target.

The apple industry had become more stable in the 1920s with the establishment of a coolstore, co-operatives, improved agricultural methods, and government regulation of pricing and standards, but the smaller labour intensive farms, dairying and market gardens were slowly eroded under pressures for sub-division.

The uneven distribution of the Rate in the Shire, the very closed insular nature of each small town, increasing land prices and the urgent need for residential development for the growing population of Melbourne, combined to force a decision between development or decline.

In 1960 a prominent town planner had estimated that the Shire of Ferntree Gully had sufficient sub-division to cater for 150 years of current growth on the fringe of metropolitan Melbourne. It was said that Ferntree Gully Shire had defied all attempts to control sub-divisions which were approved on a wildly irresponsible scale.

### **Development after 1963**

The 1982/83 City of Knox prospectus described a bustling city transformed from a predominantly agricultural landscape broken by three dormitory tourist towns of Bayswater, Boronia and Ferntree Gully, to a vast area of residential, industrial and commercial development in a pleasant landscaped environment.

The modern City of Knox had its beginnings severance on 16 November, 1963. Today, town planning maps show streets in circular courts, or grids of small 'go-nowhere' streets with green spaces for recreation. The town planning ideal of a safe, cosy haven for the 'typical' suburban family living in intimate courts which are supposed to promote social cohesion while supported by services to fulfil every need of the family life cycle, is based on a premise of the 1960s and 1970s of home ownership and the nuclear family living on a quarter acre block. The suburban house of the land brochures of the 1930s boasted a view in the country near the railway. The brochure of the 1970s and 1980s shows a double garage, family room, parents' retreat, four bedrooms, a sauna, swimming pool, two toilets, en-suites, cathedral ceilings, patios and entertainment areas.

### **Shops**

Knox boasts one of the largest retail shopping centres and service centres in the southern hemisphere. The skyline is dominated in the geographical centre of the city by towers, shops and car parks. Street names like Boulevard City and City Road suggest sweeping vistas. These are paved narrow walkways with provision for cars, buses and walkers. All streets lead to the centre and bus services to and from the surrounding suburbs ensure the numbers visiting the centre are constant every day.

The towns in the old areas of Boronia, Bayswater, Ferntree Gully and Wantirna have remnants of the corner shop, the milk bar and the Post Office, but a face-lift of all centres with centre malls, car parks and brightly coloured decorative structures masks traces of the old corner store, a thing of the past. Housing developments have a small business strategically placed within walking distance but most people come by car.



### Community Action

The people of the foothills have always been known for their tenacious ways in achieving goals. The Progress Associations of which there were about 20 in the hills were instrumental in the formation of the first Kindergarten, and Infant Welfare Centre (later to be called the Maternal and Child Health Centre) in the modern day City of Knox. The associations lobbied for better roads, transport, general amenities, and electrification in the towns which was connected unevenly; in one area in Boronia was not connected until 1956.

The entrepreneurial activities of Sir George Knox, Sir William Angliss, Sir Gilbert Chandler, and their wives were responsible for many of the services Knox has today.

### Development in the 1970s

In 1975, the City of Knox had a population of 78,000 and was seen politically and socially as a microcosm of middle Australia. The municipality was the recipient of Commonwealth grants to provide an experimental program of specialist Early Childhood services to the numerous young families attracted to the area by the housing facilities and amenities. The grants were predicated on the assumption that families were similarly structured to the 1950's era but within the context of the alienation of modern urban living without extended family support. The specialised services were overlaid with West Coast American research findings into early childhood development. The contrast from the self-sufficient rural families of the 19th century to those of the late 20th century with heavy reliance on Government services could not have been greater.

By 1983, after several years lull in the responsibility of the State, Knox Council embarked on a serious capital works program of early childhood services including all day care, to compensate for the increasing employment of a large percentage of the population outside the municipality.

### Light Industry

One of the first factories in the area was the Kayser Company (1940s) near the Royal Hotel. In the 1970s more industry was attracted by the amenities and family services. Notable among these is Unifoods, the former Rosella Lipton, transferred from Richmond in 1983 and Mary Kaye cosmetics both featuring landscaped gardens and staff amenities.

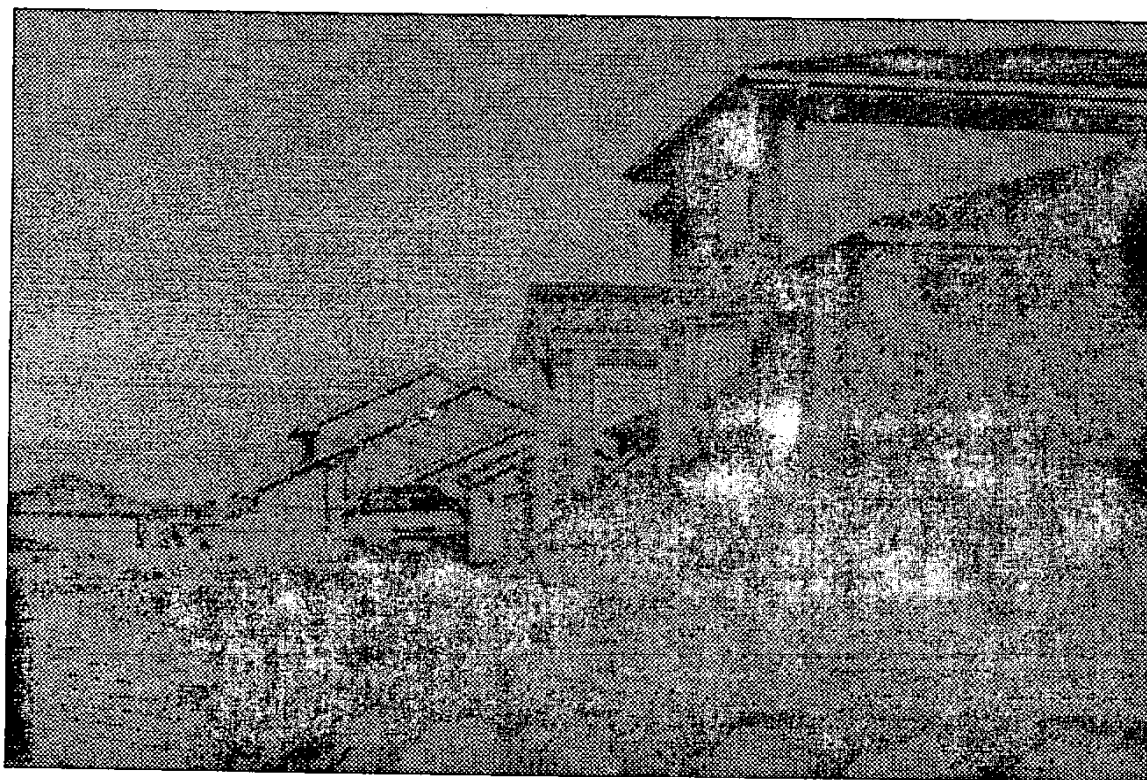
The council is a large employer of one thousand employees and until recently the majority of Knox people were employed outside the municipality. The City of Knox Development Reports for the last ten years have shown an increase in light manufacturing and factory development.

The development of light industry and factories in one of the most rapidly populated and urbanised areas of Australia has produced a pot pourri of class and ethnic mix. In 1983 Knox had 1,151 industrial properties and a population of 98,000 people. It is no longer possible to tell where a person lives or works in Knox because the chance to become upwardly mobile has masked class differences. Where once the workers of Richmond were conscious of differences if they worked at the 'Rosella' and lived in Mary Street, they can now enjoy the comforts of modern staff amenities at the 'Unifoods' and live in splendour at Wantirna. The new estates have provided anonymity.

In the back streets of the railway areas some housing of another era exists but this is largely invisible from the main roads.

Notes

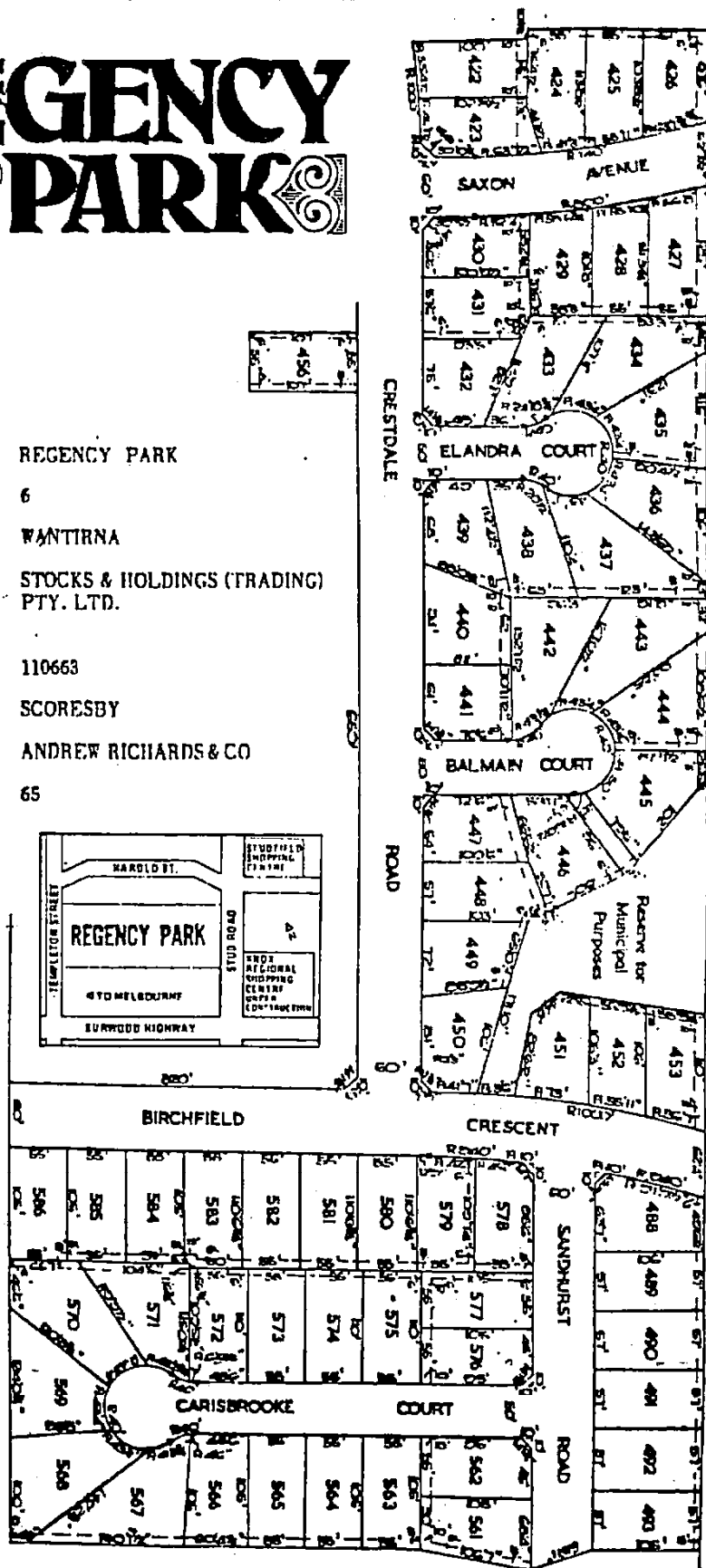
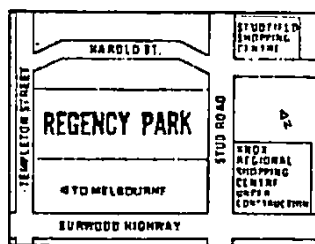
1. Knox. *A Living and Growing City*. The Prospectus 1982/83.
2. Interview with Mr Jack Clarke.
3. Interview with Mrs Dawn Shaw, wife of the Proprietor of the Royal Hotel. see *The Historian, Journal of the Knox Historical Society*. Vol 5. No 1. March 1993.
4. F. W. Ledger, *Town Planning in Victoria with particular reference to the Aim and Scope of the Melbourne and Metropolitan Planning Scheme*. Melb. University Law Review, Vol 2. May 1960.



*Recent residential development, Wantirna circa 1980s.*

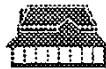
# REGENCY PARK

REGENCY PARK  
 STAGE: 6  
 SUBURB: WANTIRNA  
 VENDOR: STOCKS & HOLDINGS (TRADING) PTY. LTD.  
 PLAN OF SUBDIVISION: 110663  
 PARISH: SCORESBY  
 SOLICITORS: ANDREW RICHARDS & CO  
 NO. OF LOTS: 65



Regency Park Subdivision. Circa 1980's  
 Courtesy: Knox Historical Society





## SIGNIFICANT HISTORIC BUILDINGS

### *PUBLIC BUILDINGS*

- Boronia Progress Hall
- The Basin Kindergarten
- Maternal and Child Health Centre, Boronia
- Public Hall, The Basin
- Bena Angliss Kindergarten, Ferntree Gully
- Child Care Centre and House, Boronia

### *HOUSES*

- Greenlaw, Scoresby
- Sir Gilbert Chandler's House, Boronia



## SIGNIFICANT HISTORIC LANDSCAPES

- Scoresby Horticulture Research Station, Scoresby
- Ferntree Gully Cemetery

### *QUARRIES*

- Lysterfield Quarry
- Ferntree Gully Stone Quarry



## BORONIA PROGRESS HALL

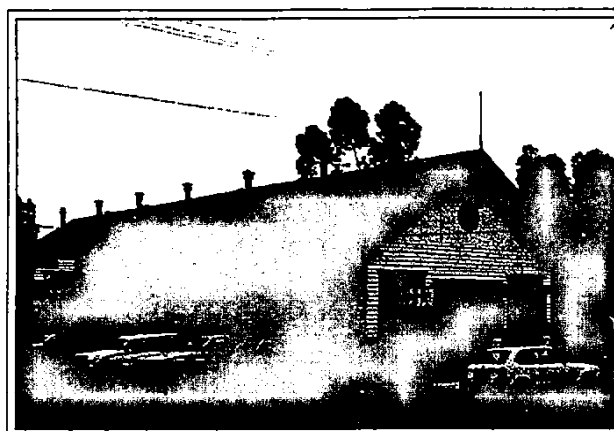
### Location

*Boronia Road, Boronia*

**Construction Date** 1926

### Type of Place

*Public Hall*



### Description

The hall is in the heart of the town of Boronia near the railway station. It is a timber building with a simple functional floor plan, with sash windows, porch annexes and a sturdy central front door. The Hall is of a post-Federation style but pre-Moderne without any of the exterior decorative features of the art-deco decade which followed. The hall is important as one of very few left in Victoria. A replica may be seen in West Geelong. After a fire in 1991, Knox Council undertook extensive restoration with the consultant architect, Mr Jack Braunstein.

### History

The first meeting of the Boronia Public hall Committee was held at the Boronia railway crossing on 26 March, 1921. Mr George Ward was elected President, Mr J. Maher Secretary and Mr Harmer, Treasurer.

In 1921 A.E. Chandler donated a block of land in Dorset Road to be used for a local hall. Mr George Green, a local builder, estimated a hall would cost 600 to 1200 pounds to build. (It eventually cost 902 pounds, 17 shillings.) The Ferntree Gully Shire was approached to provide 600 pounds. The trustees, appointed in 1922, were Messrs. A.E. Chandler, G. Ward, Mr Harmer, G. Green, Sutton, A. Zeising and R.L. Bettles.

On the 2 September, 1922, it was decided to name the hall the Boronia Progress Hall and the Trustees be appointed from the Boronia Progress Association. A committee of twelve was appointed to control the affairs of the hall, five members to be trustees.

In June 1924, A.E. Chandler donated another block of land near the corner of Dorset and Boronia Roads where the hall now stands. The building was finally opened in 1926 by the Minister for Public Works, Mr Goudie, M.L.A. Electricity was connected in 1927, the residents having to pay 252 pounds to supply electricity to the township. Many important events occurred at the hall including the formation of the Boronia Bush Fire Brigade following the disastrous fires of 1939. It was a central town focus.

### Significance

The Progress Hall restoration was completed in April 1992 and officially re-opened in August 1992. It is **culturally significant to the local community** for the association with the development of Boronia. The building is a fine example of a community hall of the 1920s, most of which were destroyed with the reshaping of Victorian townscapes in the post World War 2 era.

## HALL

**Location**  
*The Basin*

**Establishment Date** 1929



### **Description**

A large timber hall at 'The Triangle', the centre of the village of The Basin. The foyer, toilet block, kitchen, stage, floor and ceilings were all modernised or repaired in the 1960s by volunteer labour and public subscription. The basic shell of the building is recognisable from early photographs.

### **History**

The Boronia Progress Association which was formed in 1926 decided to build a hall for meetings and social occasions. The Basin Hall was built almost entirely from voluntary labour in 1929, and was officially opened by Lt. Col. George Knox (later Sir George Knox) in 1931. An honorarium was awarded to Mr Bill Ankers who drew up the plans and directed operations. The stage and kitchen were added around 1940.

In the 1940s and 1950s the hall was leased and fell into disrepair. A takeover of the hall by the Shire of Ferntree Gully from the Progress Association in the 1950s was rejected by local residents and following a change of management with local support, the Hall was restored. 3000 pounds were spent on improvements in the 1960s including modernisation of the stage, a new kitchen and the addition of a toilet block.

The Progress Hall is the centre of local activity for parties, family celebrations and theatrical productions. It has been the focus of rescue operations and use by fire fighters and welfare operations in time of distress for more than 60 years.

The Progress Association which is united by shared goals for improving local amenities, has played an important community role in one of the most fire prone districts in Victoria. The activities have been responsible not only for improved civic amenities and networking, but also for any contingency whilst becoming the focus of the service area of The Basin Triangle.

### **Significance**

The Basin Progress Hall is of **local importance** for practical purposes and is symbolic of resident action and social organisations of the town.

### **Recommendation**

The Basin Progress Hall be classified of local significance.



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 **THE BASIN KINDERGARTEN**

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**Location**

*Forest Road, The basin*

**Establishment Date 1958**

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**Description**

An early design of kindergarten but seen to be progressive in its day. The basic large open area for play and activities has not been altered but has required some modification to comply to state regulations. The adventure garden playground, one of the first of this concept is unique for originality and safety on a sloping site and has been tended by the local community.

**History**

One of the first kindergartens to be built in the City of Knox, The Basin Kindergarten was the subject of intense community lobbying in the 1950s when the Progress Association called a public meeting. Mrs Fergus Chandler was President and Mrs R. Gair Secretary. Committee members included Mesdames Turner, Petrie, Shanks and Spry, and Messrs. Wallace, Petrie and Chandler.

The land was donated by Mr W.J. Wallis to the Council and plans drawn up by Messrs. Wallace, Chandler and Petrie. The committee raised 2,275 pounds and the Shire of Ferntree Gully added 100 pounds. The tender was won by Mr Brian Foster and the kindergarten was completed in 1958 for a cost of 3,700 pounds including 500 pounds for equipment.

Described as a charming and modern building, the kindergarten was opened by Sir George Knox on 13 September, 1958. Within three years the kindergarten was freed of debt due partly to an increased subsidy with the appointment of a kindergarten teacher Mrs LeRoy. The Treasurer was Councillor Guy Turner.

Re-construction of the adventure playground was carried out in 1987 through the efforts of Mr and Mrs Robert Henry and their supporters. Additional improvements and amenities were largely financed from Knox Council through the work of Councillor Peter Maley.

**Significance**

The Basin Kindergarten is of local importance as an example of a 1950s building and amenity supported by community action. It was a focus for family and community development in a rural community in an area with few benefits of modern urban life.

**Recommendation**

That the historical nature and practical application of The Basin Kindergarten and playground be carefully considered in future overall town planning.

**Reference**

*Fire On The Hill, Flowers In The Valley. The Basin 1869-1992 125 years.* Ed . Rick Coxhill. 1993 P.48.

City of Knox records and reports, Children's Services 1950's, Minutes of The Basin Kindergarten Committee of Management, 1950' - 1980's.

## BENA ANGLISS KINDERGARTEN

### Location

*Forest Road, Ferntree Gully*

**Establishment date 1949**



### Description

Of timber construction on a steep block, the centre is a 1940s design more resembling a suburban house or creche for long day care. It is in the same complex as the Maternal and Child Health Centre. A car park was added at a later date. The building and playground remain relatively untouched except for council modifications to comply with state regulations.

### History

The first kindergarten to open in the Shire of Ferntree Gully, (present day City of Knox), it was known as the Bena Angliss Free Kindergarten as a compliment to Lady Jacobena Angliss, the wife of Sir William Angliss, a generous benefactor. The Angliss Foundation still operates today from which the kindergarten benefits.

The Free Kindergarten movement which began in the early part of this century was based on volunteer organisation and was not registered as pre-school education until the late 1950s. For purposes of government subsidy, supervision of child health and standards of care, the centres came under the State Health Department.

Community action for a kindergarten began in 1942 led by Mrs Annie Smith, a local resident. Land donated in Spring Street, Ferntree Gully by Victor John Mason was sold for fund raising and the site in Forest Road for the kindergarten was purchased in 1947 for 75 pounds. The title was in the name of A. Smith, O. McIntyre, and D. Worley. The centre was registered in accordance with the provisions of the Hospitals and Charities Act. A local builder, Mr Matthews was commissioned to build the centre and it cost 1,251 pounds.

The centre was called the Bena Angliss Free Kindergarten to comply with the wishes of Lady Angliss and to qualify for government funding. Lady Angliss officially opened the building in October 1949, and the centre had 50 children enrolled. The first Committee of Management meeting was presided over by Sir George Knox.

### Significance

The Bena Angliss Free Kindergarten is of **local and state significance** as the first in the City of Knox and for the connection with the Angliss Foundation and the free kindergarten movement in Victoria.

### References

Archival records held by the Maternal and Child Health Department, City of Knox.  
J.V. Angliss. *Sir William Angliss An Intimate Biography*. Premier Printing. N. D.

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 **MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH CENTRE**

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**Other Name**

*Chandler Memorial Infant Welfare Centre,  
also known as the Marie Chandler Maternal and Child Health Centre.*

**Location**

*Boronia Road, Boronia*

**Date of construction** 1951/52

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**Description**

A utilitarian brick veneer health centre with a front vestibule-pram park, Sister's office, store room and waiting room. The front room has unusual rounded windows.

**History**

The building was erected on land donated by the Chandler family and named in memory of the Hon. A.E. Chandler, M.L.C., (1874-1935) and his wife Marie Chandler, the first President of the centre.

It was opened on 23 May 1952 following many years of lobbying and fund raising by the Boronia Progress Association.

The Infant Welfare Movement first began in the Shire of Ferntree Gully in 1922 when the pioneers of the movement Dr. Younger Ross and Sister Muriel Peck sought a grant of 50 pounds per annum from the Shire Council to establish centres at Ferntree Gully and Belgrave.

The first services began in 1924 when a Sister visited from Box Hill at the Shire Hall and the Memorial Hall, Belgrave. In 1926 Sister Beatrice Chalmers was appointed to attend the Shires of Lilydale and Ferntree Gully. She worked full time in the two Shires and travelled on horseback.

The first centre was built in 1934 at Monbulk and was known as the Muriel Peck Cottage. Health centres were opened at Bayswater Hall and the Boronia Progress Hall in 1937. The Ferntree Gully Shire soon required a full time Sister and in succession I. Lipscomb, E.M. Resch, J. G. Kelton, M. Cattling and E. Beggs were appointed in the 1930s, 40s and 50s. Assisting the committee President, Mrs Marie Chandler, was the Secretary, Mrs Madge Dobson.

The building illustrates the philosophy of the early Infant Welfare Movement and the social aspects of the time. The original building made little concession to the later parenting and play programs and was geared to a Sister's activities in weighing, measuring and feeding advice. The two test feeding rooms converted to a store room were a 1950s symbol of stricter feeding and weighing regimes with direct supervision by a trained nurse. There was no car parking and the vestibule was a necessity for the shelter and parking of prams.

The fundamental shift in philosophy from a medical and welfare based service to a laissez-faire, socially constructed supportive role to parents, has required local government to provide more appropriate facilities. The service was moved to a new building as part of the Park Crescent Child Care Complex in June 1993 and the historic Marie Chandler Centre is subject to a council assets sale.

**Significance**

The Marie Chandler Maternal and Child Health Centre illustrates the development of the Infant Welfare Movement in the City of Knox in the design of the building from the early fifties.

**Recommendation**

A careful photographic record of the Marie Chandler Maternal and Child Health Centre to be compiled as a social history in the City of Knox. The memorial plaque to be placed on the new building and all records to be placed in the council archives with other archival material of the Maternal and Child Health Service.


**CHILD CARE CENTRE AND HOUSE**
**Other Name**

*Former surgery of Doctor Lorna Jones*

**Location**

*15 and 17 Boronia Road, Boronia.*

**Date Constructed** *Early 1930s*

**Description**

1. Timber cottage, clad and converted to a child care centre. The original structure has been little altered.
2. Large timber house with verandah. The pine trees are a feature of the picturesque large garden and a local landmark. Grounds restored with planting of agapanthus and landscaped with bluestone.

**History**

This was the surgery and residence of the first doctor in Boronia, Doctor Lorna Jones, a local identity. This is connected to the development of community services in the area. The house was socially significant as a venue for garden parties and other functions. It is almost directly opposite the Gilbert Chandler property in Boronia Road.

**Significance**

The former surgery and house are of **local social and historical interest** and were the site of the first community services and the home and surgery of the first doctor in Boronia.

**Notes**

1. Mr William Ireland.

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### **Location**

*South-west corner of Scoresby and Ferntree Gully Roads Scoresby*

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### **Description**

Weatherboard residence in a distinctive setting of Monterey pines.

### **History**

The first owner of the land bounded by Ferntree Gully Road, Burwood Highway and Scoresby Road was William Kennedy Ross, the area being about 294 acres. In 1875 Samuel Renwick of Elizabeth Street Melbourne, purchased the western portion comprising some 251 acres with frontages to Ferntree gully Road, Burwood Highway, and Scoresby Road. Harry Pocock Hayward became the owner in November 1888.

In August 1892 Charles Cairns Murray and William Sanderson became the owners of some 180 acres having frontages to Fern Tree Gully Road, Scoresby Road and Burwood Highway. Subsequent owners of the 180 acres were Henry Rowland Demaresque, William George Town, John Thomas Aitken, G.H. Knox and Alex Creswick. William George Town is reputed to have named the property 'Kent Park'.

In the time George Knox lived at Kent Park, the property became socially important and was the venue of the Kent Park Polo Club with a distinctive landscape fronting Ferntree Gully Road.

George Knox sold 170 acres to Alex Creswick retaining 10 acres in the south-western corner with frontages to Scoresby Road and Ferntree Gully Road and built a house naming it 'Greenlaw'.

### **Sir George Knox**

Brigadier the Hon. Sir George Knox, M.L.A., born in Melbourne in December 1885, saw active service in the 1914-18 war, was A.D.C. to the Governor of Victoria during 1918-19 and was awarded the C.M.G. He was a Councillor of the Shire of Ferntree Gully from 1923 to 1928. In 1927 he was elected M.L.A. for Upper Yarra and Scoresby and continued as a member of the Victorian Parliament until his death. He was speaker on the Legislative Assembly from 1942 to 1947 and created a Knight Bachelor in 1945. The City of Knox is named after him.

### **Significance**

'Greenlaw,' on portion of the property Kent Park, was the residence of Sir George Knox and is of local significance to the City of Knox.



## SIR GILBERT CHANDLER'S HOUSE

### Location

*34 Boronia Road, Boronia*

**Date Constructed**     *Circa 1930*

### Description

Double fronted, spacious, timber Californian Bungalow with fluted verandah pillars. A feature of this house is the impressive cypress hedge which is part of the original landscaping of the early Chandler property. The cypress is continuous with the next house belonging to Mr Gilbert Chandler with a break for the two driveways.

### History

Most of the land was selected on application to the Lands Department but two adjoining properties in present Dorset Road were offered by public auction at two sales of crown land during 1876. Purchasers were W. Draper and J. Pear. Both properties had previously been occupied. Thomas Grimwood of Ferntree Gully bought 200 acres at the Boronia -Dorset Road corner in 1877 and this was later purchased by A.E. Chandler. This was sub-divided, and a three storeyed home built, later demolished. The present Chandler home stands on the site.

Sir Gilbert Chandler was a son of A.E. Chandler, and grandson of William Chandler, pioneer of The Basin. He owned the daffodil and boronia farms (the Chandler Estate, Boronia). Gilbert Chandler was a long serving member of both local and state governments.

### Significance

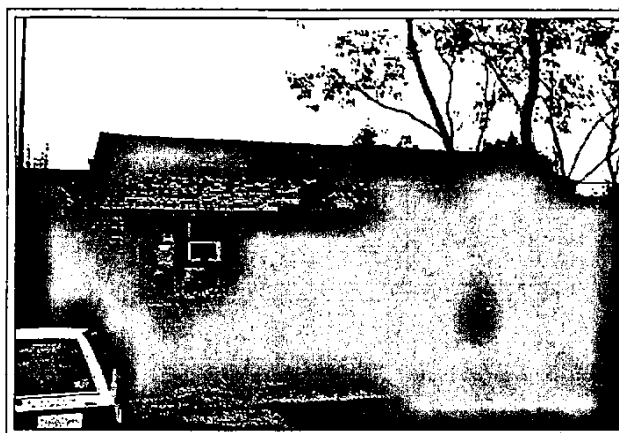
Of great local interest, for continuous land ownership of the Chandler family since late last century.

## SCORESBY HORTICULTURE RESEARCH STATION

### Location

*Burwood Highway, Scoresby*

Establishment Date 1956



### History

The land on the north side of the Burwood Highway was selected in 1867 by Fawcett Dinsdale. In November 1945 the government purchased 58 acres from Lindley George Murray of Lower Ferntree Gully and a Horticultural Station for fruit stocks was later established there.

The land on the southern side of the Burwood Highway was selected by William Thompson. In November 1945 the government purchased some 52 acres from Mrs Ethel May Leggo, a further 26 acres in 1955 and in June 1958 an additional 80 acres. The total area acquired by the government on each side of the Burwood Highway amounted to 217 acres (88 ha).

The experimental cool stores and research laboratory, costing 50,000 pounds was administered by the Department of Agriculture. The Research Laboratory is named for Sir George Knox MLA who served the district for 30 years and played a leading part in securing the station.

The Research Station was officially opened on March 16 1956 and in 1993 is being extended.

### Significance

The Scoresby Horticulture Research Station is located in the orchard pioneering district of Scoresby and is of **state significance**. It was founded by Sir George Knox.

### Notes

1. Information from the Knox Historical Society.



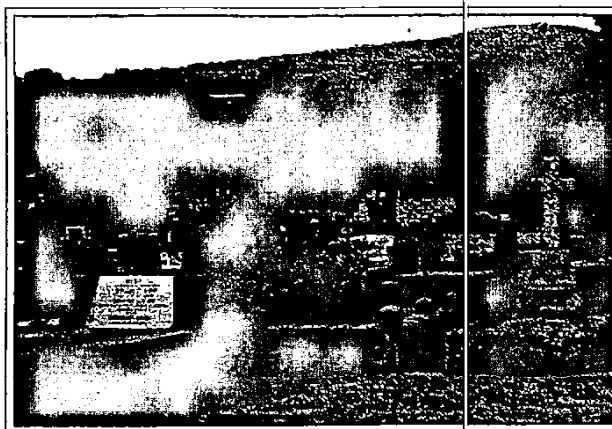
## FERNTREE GULLY CEMETERY

### Location

*Bounded by Forest Road,  
Clematis Avenue, The Glen and  
The Glade, Ferntree Gully*

### Date of establishment

*Land Gazetted 1873*



### Background

The Ferntree Gully Cemetery has served a predominantly small rural community of the foothills of the Dandenongs and was the only cemetery for the Parish of Scoresby from 1873, the nearest being Oakleigh and Ballyshannassy. The cemetery is plain with little ornamentation but illustrates distinct eras of settlement patterns. The main occupational groups represented are timber workers, farmers, market gardeners and small business people. Originally in thick bush, a distance from the first settlement, the cemetery is in the heart of the Lower Ferntree Gully shopping centre and residential area, the village having grown around it. The backdrop of the National Park is picturesque. The cemetery is a few minutes from the railway station and the local community is very mindful and respectful of the significance as it relates to the history of the area.

### History of the Cemetery

On the 15 September 1873, 5 acres of Crown Land were temporarily reserved as a site for a cemetery and gazetted as the Scoresby Cemetery, the former Parish name. It was Scoresby until 1896, when it then became known as the Ferntree Gully Cemetery.

The first trustees were appointed on 8 May 1882, namely: Thomas Samuel Grimwood, Robert Traill, J.T. Dobson, T. Jones, John Buckley and John Rosney. Before the Scoresby Cemetery was created, most burials were carried out at Oakleigh or Ballyshannassy (now Burwood) which were the closest.

The first burial to take place was that of an infant child of Mr and Mrs Lemmonds. Mrs Lemmonds (nee Faulkner) was the first teacher and taught in the community building in 1871 on the Burwood Highway opposite Dorset Road. Mr Albert Selman of Willow Vale, near Glenfern and Lysterfield Roads, was the first adult.

The earliest tombstones were made locally by a carpenter named Jones, and coffins were made at a sawmill by Heales, Ashley and Carter behind the site of the present day Ferntree Gully School.

Plots ceased to be available in 1985 and the cemetery was closed for a year although more than 400 plots were reserved by residents with long time connections to the area. Facilities were made available for a niche wall of remembrance and a rose garden.

A contemporary report by "Othello" in 1888 described the undergrowth as "nearly four feet high and almost impossible to force your way through the masses of thick scrub which interlace each other forming a grand maze. Nobody can, without difficulty, walk around the enclosure without tearing a pathway through the masses of scrub and undergrowth which is growing on all sides."

It is thought that, due to the difficult terrain the cemetery was not laid out and landscaped, but only cleared as necessary. Until the 1960s the cemetery was neglected and after various attempts to bring it under control, the City of Knox was appointed trustee on the 29 July, 1982.

### Description and Layout

Set out in east-west, north-south denominational grids on 5 acres, the cemetery has a pioneer section containing some of the first settlers: Dixon, Lum (a pioneer of the Mt. Waverley area), Hansen, Head, Dr. Donald Simpson, (the first Medical Officer), the Dobsons, De Coite, Selman of Willow Vale, Pickett, Baird and Friberg.

There are several lawn areas and the main gate from Forest Road leads to a circular lawn area and memorial wall. A Porte Cochere in this area was apparently dismantled some time ago. There is no chapel or gazebo, but a caretaker's shed is on the eastern boundary housing a full time council caretaker. There are no large trees in the cemetery and recent plantings on the periphery are the responsibility of Knox Council Parks and Gardens Department. The whole area is very well kept and new gravel paths by the pioneer section have been upgraded. There is a rather incongruous arrangement of terra cotta plant containers decorated with an urban art theme on the western boundary fence installed by council Placemakers Team. There has been some attempt to landscape the southern boundary with roses. The whole cemetery is enclosed with cyclone fencing with brick entry pillars supporting high iron gates.

### Monuments

The graves of Thomas Dobson, his two wives and son John Thomas are in the pioneer section facing west only a few metres from the village shops. Dobson was the first timber cutter and lived in the National Park. A settler from Gifford in Scotland, he arrived in 1854 with his wife and three children. His wife Susan (nee Cree) only survived four years in the harsh conditions and was buried in the foothills (National Park) in 1858. A marker of three pieces of timber forming a triangle could be seen by visitors to the park from the 1860s. There are records of people seeing wild roses growing over the grave in great profusion. Her body was exhumed in 1899 and buried with her husband and his second wife Christina in the Ferntree Gully cemetery. The Dobson family story has become a legend in Ferntree Gully.

Most of the gravestones are very plain with little ornamentation. One of the plainest and most sought after, having many hundreds of visitors annually being somewhat of a pilgrimage, is that of *Sir Arthur Streeton* (1867-1943). The memorial is an unpretentious rectangular concrete block simply marked with the name and date. It is almost exactly in the centre of the cemetery. <sup>2</sup> An example of an Irish Catholic headstone is that of John Buckley, having a Celtic Cross bearing the letters IHS apparently meaning Jesus Saviour. The cross is supported by a three tiered base representing the Trinity. John Buckley was a native of Castledermott, County Kildare, Ireland. He died on 20 June, 1911 at the age of 78.

A more highly decorated monument is that of the Hamilton family, a decorated headstone on a two tiered base dating from 1914. It is also a memorial to the son Alexander Colquhoun Hamilton who was killed in France during the first World War.

The grave of Albert Selman, a pioneer of 1855, has a plain granite monument on a two tiered base but is notable for the decorative iron picket fence. It is not known where the work was executed or by whom.

The dates of the Italian graves on the northern section are illustrative of the times of settlement of the area, particularly, post World Wars 1 and 2. They have marble and ceramic decorative aspects with photographic displays of the deceased. Represented are the Pipicelli, Lizza, Pancione, Zarro and Ajani families.

The cemetery is remarkable for the lack of sentimental verse often seen during the Edwardian era marking the graves of children. A lone poet Mr Drangsholt had his own poem placed on his headstone.

### Cultural Significance

The Ferntree Gully Cemetery is a very well maintained example of a small 19th century cemetery and contains the graves of many significant pioneers and residents. The area has been cleared of tall trees and the grassed areas are complimentary to the overall scale. The tree planting of native acacias on the periphery is congruent to the backdrop of the Dandenong Ranges and does not interfere with the visual path. The cemetery is closely allied to the overall continuity of the streetscape of village, shops and railway station, forming the character of the town of Lower Ferntree Gully.

### Notes

1. Available at the Knox Historical Society - Extracts from "Othello" - Reminiscences. Dandenong Advertiser, Early History of the Ferntree Gully. July 1889.
2. Artists of the "Heidelberg School" had longingly viewed the blue Dandenongs, and in 1919, with his son Oliver and Dame Nellie Melba, Streeton visited Professor Walter Murdoch at Olinda. They arrived by train at Ferntree Gully Station and then by coach to the destination. He was then 52 years old. In 1921-22 he returned to buy land at Olinda, naming it 'Longacres', and set up home with his wife Nora Clench, a Canadian violinist. In 1929 Streeton became the art critic to the Melbourne newspaper, the Argus. In 1937 he was knighted. Streeton also had a flat at Toorak but his heart was in the Dandenongs. He died in 1943 and was buried at the Ferntree Gully cemetery.



## QUARRIES

### History

Quarries were the first industry in the Shire of Ferntree Gully and a source of employment during successive stages of municipal roads development and implementation of the railways.

In 1872 Edmund Ashley applied for reservation for quarry purposes land situated at the south-western angle of the Dandenong State Forest which became the site of a gravel quarry in the main Road Ferntree Gully. The stone was found to be too soft for road making and land situated in Quarry Road, Upper Ferntree Gully, was reserved for quarry purposes in 1879.

A quarry was opened about 1888 to supply metal for the formation of the railway from Ringwood to Ferntree Gully but in the 1890s the quarry managed by the Laudehr brothers had to close. The economic crisis of 1890 forced the quarry into receivership and assets were taken over by the Commercial Bank. This quarry was taken over in the early 1900s by H. Hermon of Menzies Creek and his partner named Gillies.

The Shire required stone for the road making program in the 1900s and it turned to an alternative site near the Police Paddocks in Rowville. This was eventually abandoned and the network of tram-ways fell into disrepair.

In 1916 the Lower Ferntree Gully quarry was revived. By then road transport was established and took over the handling of the crushed rock. In 1917 the Dandenong Quarries began operating in the locality and the business was bought by L.J. Baker trading under the name of Glenfern Quarries. H.J. Baker purchased the quarry from Baker and in 1934 J. A. Jones became the proprietor of Glenfern Quarries. In 1951, J.A. Jones purchased the nearby Malvern Quarries established by the City of Malvern in 1920, also obtaining the lease of the former Council quarry. This made three quarries operating at the same time. Kerrs took over in Quarry Road and today this is owned by Boral which has a transport outlet into Underwood Road.

### Lysterfield

The first mention of Barry's quarry situated on part of Edward Barry's selection, occurred in Council minutes in 1903. Stone was crushed by hand until Council purchased a crusher some nine years later. In 1920, Page and Batcheldor opened a quarry on another portion of Barry's selection and this passed through many hands until acquired by R. Stewart in 1943. The Wellington Quarries were re-opened in the 1950s by V. Mahony and V. Shatford.

Today the Lysterfield quarries are operated by Boral Industries.

### Upper Ferntree Gully Stone Quarry

Location: adjacent to the Railway Station Burwood Road, Upper Ferntree Gully. Privately owned by Boral and established in 1889. The quarry face is largely hidden by trees from the Burwood road. The main transport outlet is in Underwood Road Ferntree Gully.

### History

This was one of the earliest industries of Upper Ferntree Gully operated by the Laudehr brothers after the formation of the Ferntree gully Shire in 1889.

At its peak some 50 men were employed. A broad gauge railway siding was laid from the Upper Ferntree Gully railway station to crushing and storage bins at the edge of the quarry. This remained for several years and can be traced as it marks the hillside above the present broad gauge suburban line to the west of the station.

Within the quarry itself an extensive network of 2 feet gauge tramways connected the various rockfaces with the crushing plant. Four wheeled skips were pushed or dragged around the quarry floor by horses or men. A tram-line of the same gauge had also been constructed to connect with the Upper Ferntree Gully railway station. This became redundant when the broad gauge railway siding was built.

The economic crisis of 1890 forced the quarry into receivership and assets were taken over by the Commercial Bank. The Shire required stone for the road making program in the 1900s and it turned to an alternative site near the Police Paddocks in Rowville. This was eventually abandoned and the network of tramways fell into disrepair. In 1916 the Ferntree gully quarry was revived. By then road transport was established and took over the handling of the crushed rock.

The quarry has been controversial over the years, because of the proximity to the town. In 1889 the bluestone quarry was said to be a gold mine of apparently unlimited quantity and that a number of men were employed. This was seen as creating a good circulation of money in the Gully and creating an asset for the Shire Council.

### Significance

The Upper Ferntree Gully quarry was the first heavy industry and significant employer. It provided a significant percentage of the road metal in the first large scale road building campaign in the foothills for the Shire of Ferntree Gully. It is also connected to the elaborate tramway transport system, some ruins of which remain in the Rowville, Lysterfield area.

### Notes

1. Helen Coulson. Story of the Dandenongs. 1959 P. 96.
2. Arthur Winzenreid. Hills of Home. P 71.
3. Helen Coulson. P. 190 P.317



## THEME 6

### THE ARTISTIC COMMUNITY

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The Dandenong Ranges and foothills have always been known for cultural and artistic activities. The Shire Hall was the central meeting place for cultural events from 1893. Before this Dobson's Hall on the Main Road (Burwood Highway), the schools (1873), and churches were the chief places to gather.

The Ferntree Gully Arts Society began in 1944 at the instigation of a small band of artists, potters, and actors. It was to become a leader in the encouragement of the arts in the eastern suburbs attracting artists from around Melbourne to the rural bush setting. The necessity to have a place to meet was the catalyst to the physical focus and identity in Underwood Road, Ferntree Gully. Due to the efforts of Lt.Col. (later Sir George) Knox the 1940s Nissen Hut was acquired and remains today in a slightly modified form as the symbol of the tenacity of the Arts Society to retain their identity in spite of bureaucratic intervention to comply with health and building regulations. 1 The group of actors, writers and artists once dubbed the 'Bloomsbury Set' has remained an important aspect in the community. The Basin Theatre Group also contributed significantly to the arts in Knox and from a beginning in the home of Edna Chandler performed successfully in the Boronia-Progress Hall and finally moved to The Basin Theatre. 2

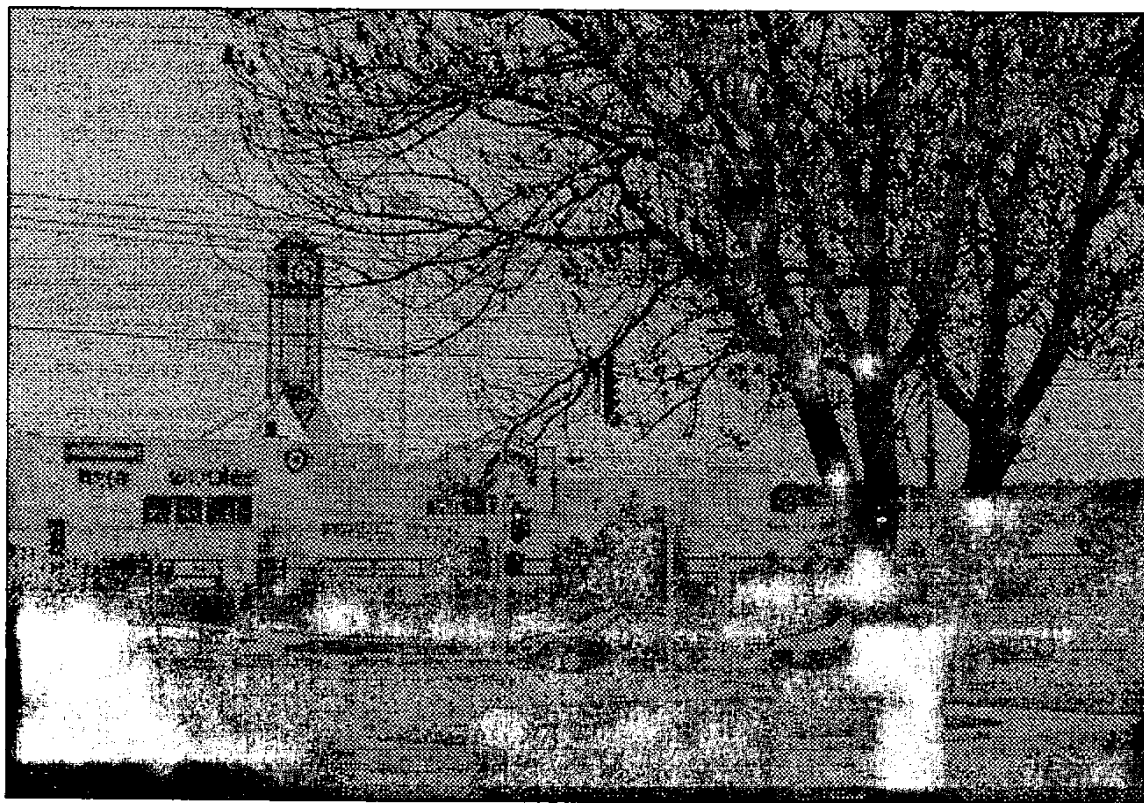
Since the formation of the City of Knox in 1969, civic arts and cultural activities have developed intermittently. Public perception of urban art or the American version of streetscape art sits uneasily with the older population with long memories of indigenous landscapes and pretty villages surrounded with orchards. The nearest concession to this is in the ceramics of the street fountain in Boronia, a reminder of the Chandler flower farms and gardens, pioneers in the area.

The City of Knox has still to find a cultural identity: lacking a sense of place, there are no church spires to remind one of the early villages; the modern icon is the shopping centre tower and the neon signs. Where once people gathered in the school or church grounds, there is the shopping centre, the sports oval and the community centre. There is no concert hall, no major public art gallery, no boulevard, no village square. The nearest to intimate communal living is the central park system of the new Wantirna residential streets with names such as Georgian Gardens, Amesbury, Sandhurst, Croxteth, Coachmans, Birkenhead, Carnaby, Cavendish, Carisbrooke, Chequers and Alderford, a reflection of the migration from the United Kingdom, the largest percentage per population of overseas born people in Knox. 3

The recently created Arboretum in Dorset Road has a traditional war memorial seen in every country town. A secret garden, fishpond and gazebo, less than ten years old, have still to find an identity. The position of the Arboretum on a busy highway (Dorset Road), does not include garden rooms or allow places for quiet contemplation. The beauty and serenity of trickling water, ferneries and cool arbors known by the pioneers, may come in the future but be at odds with this large crowd venue on a major highway.

#### Notes

1. From an interview with Mr Frank Lowe.
2. *Flowers On The Hill Flowers In The Valley*. The Basin 125 years. 1868-1992
3. 1991 Census.



*Knox City Shopping Centre and Tower, 1993.*





## SIGNIFICANT HISTORIC BUILDINGS

### *HOUSES*

- Stamford Park Gates, Stamford Park Estate, Rowville

### *COMMERCIAL PREMISES*

- The Hut Gallery, Ferntree Gully
- The Basin Theatre, The Basin

### *OTHER*

- Church Organ, Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, Knoxfield





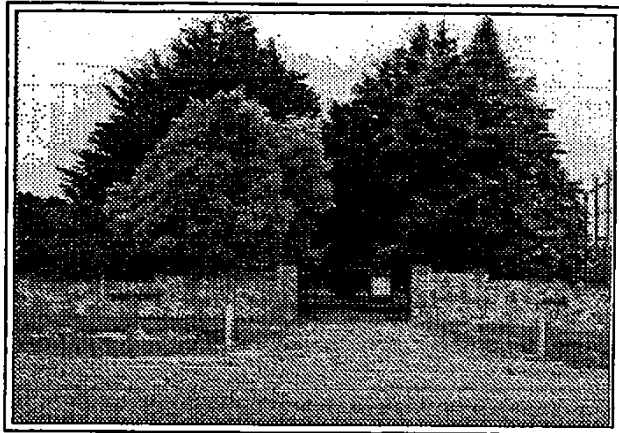
## STAMFORD PARK GATES

### Location

*Stud Road, Rowville*

### Date of Construction

*Circa 1950s*



### Description

Cast iron entrance gates with supporting stone side fences.

### History

The gates were designed and cast by Allan Lowe, blacksmith, and his son Frank Lowe in the 1950s for Alfred Stevens of Stamford House, Rowville.

Allan Lowe was educated in the art of iron work at the Working Man's College, Melbourne (R.M.I.T.)  
Frank Lowe is a former member of the Ferntree Gully Arts Society.

### Significance

The gates are locally significant as the only visible remaining public works of the local artisan Allan Lowe and his son Frank Lowe.

### Recommendation

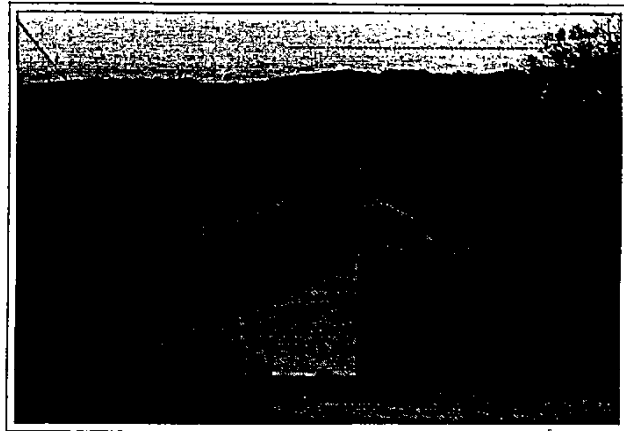
That the gates be listed as the work of the well known Lowe family.

## THE HUT GALLERY

### Location

*Underwood Road, Ferntree Gully*

**Established 1947**



### Description

A converted Nissen Army hut of galvanised iron and timber supports, landscaped and adapted as an Art Gallery and Ferntree Gully Arts Society headquarters. The interior has timber flooring, a stage and gallery.

### History

The organisation known as the Ferntree Gully Arts Society was founded in 1944 at the instigation of Mr and Mrs Allan Lowe noted potters, who made their home in Ferntree Gully at that time. This followed a meeting of interested people wishing to further cultural development in the Shire of Ferntree Gully and the formation of a Citizens' Arts Committee formed under the chairmanship of Cr. B. S. Stillwell, Shire President of the day.

The first art exhibition was held in the Shire Hall in 1944 and opened by Sir Frederick Mann. In June 1945 the Shire of Ferntree Gully Arts Society was formed from members of the Citizens' Art Committee. In October that year the first competitive Art Exhibition was held and prominent city business men were to sponsor local exhibitions for many years.

A drama group known as the Latimer Players was affiliated with the Society but were succeeded by another group known as the Arts Society Repertory Players in 1945. During its lifetime the Society has sponsored many of the arts.

A milestone in the history of the Society was reached in March 1947 with the erection of a converted Army Nissen hut on land east of Underwood Road donated by the Arts and Crafts Society of Victoria of which Mr Allan Lowe was president. It was largely through the influence of Sir George Knox that this was accomplished. Over the years many improvements were made to the accommodation and the building has become a landmark and symbol of the arts in Ferntree Gully.

### Significance

The Hut studio is of **regional importance** for the innovative use of an army disposal building and subsequent development and contribution to the arts in the eastern area of Melbourne.

### Notes:

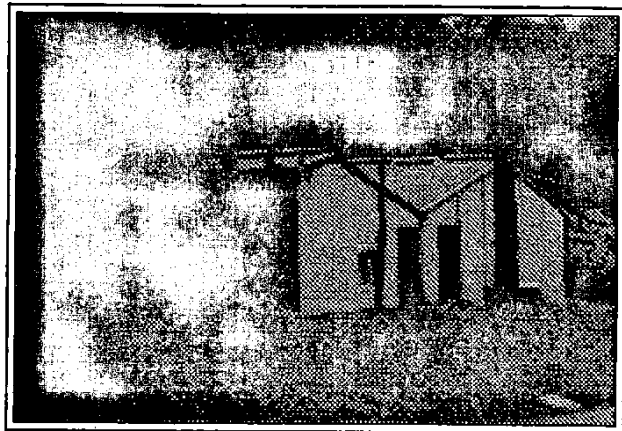
1. Helen Coulson, *Story of the Dandenongs*
2. From an interview with Mr Frank Lowe by Margaret McInnes.

 **THE BASIN THEATRE**

**Location**

*Doongalla Road, The Basin*

**Date of Construction** *circa 1973*



**Description**

The building was described by group members as 'simple, with gable shaped portal frames, concrete floors throughout, rough sawn oregon fascias, hand-adzed timbers in hand-made doors to entrances, beamed sloping ceiling to foyer and native landscaping in amongst logs and rocks around the carparks and the building'. The theatre has been built to withstand fire in one of the most fire prone areas of Australia and externally has the look of a factory workshop. It is situated in picturesque forest on the border of the Dandenong Ranges State Forest at the Doongalla entrance.

**History**

The Basin Theatre Group first met at 'Noweenth', the home of Edna Chandler in Doongalla Road in 1954. In 1962 a building called 'The Hut' was erected on the land nearby by volunteers. This was an A frame barn with two tree trunks supporting the roof. The building provided storage and rehearsal room. The group became very successful, won many awards and attracted a large membership.

The present theatre was built on land donated by Edna and Fergus Chandler in Doongalla Road on the border of the Dandenong Ranges State Forest. The building which was entirely built through public subscription and volunteer assistance was officially opened in April 1973. It seated 126, had under-floor heating, a foyer, a dressing room, work space and a lighting control room. Extensions were carried out in 1989 to increase the foyer size and another wing was added to increase the workshop and storage area. The membership is more than 500 with well organised management.

**Significance**

The Basin Theatre is of regional cultural significance to the hills community. The considerable achievement by volunteers was assisted by the donation of land by members of the Chandler family, noted leaders in horticulture and civic life.

**Note**

1. *The Basin 125 Years Fire On The Hill Flowers In The Valley The Basin 1868-1992* P. 5. P. 70.



## CHURCH ORGAN

### Location

*Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, Corner of Scoresby Road and Burwood Highway, Knoxfield*

*Circa Early 1800's*

### Listing Status

Classified by the National Trust Australia (Vic.) <sup>1</sup>.

### Statement of significance

A two-manual organ of 11 stops by an unknown English builder initially placed in St. Patrick's Cathedral Melbourne, until 1880. The instrument was later in St. Brigid's Roman Catholic Church, North Fitzroy, and the Congregational Church, Castlemaine before being installed at its present location in 1983. It has sustained only minor alterations since the enlargement to two manuals in the 1880's by Alfred Fuller of Kew. The organ is of particular interest for its classical three-tower case, incorporating dummy wooden pipes, and the presence of many pipes of late 18th or early 19th century origin. <sup>2</sup>

### Summary in Context

The organ at the Lutheran Church, Knoxfield contains some of the oldest pipes in Australia. These could be as early as before 1800, the exact date and builder being unknown. The organ was held by Dr. Oliver Burger of Geelong from 1966 when the Castlemaine Church closed, but dismantled and transported to be moved to its present site in 1983.

There were 10,000 separate parts and moving levers that had to be labelled and packaged, all of these having been made entirely by hand. The organ was re-assembled from diagrams and photographs.

Restoration is being continued on the swell box and four more ranks of pipes. Some pipes in the back are 16 feet long and in total there are 541 pipes.

The bellows which required 2 men to operate has now been replaced by an electric blower and the organ is apparently in use today. <sup>3</sup>

### Notes

1. National Trust Australia File No. 6097
2. E.N. Matthews *Colonial Organs and Organ Builders* Carlton University Press 1969 P.113.
3. John Schiller, *Detailed documentation of pipe organ formerly in the Congregational Church, Castlemaine, Victoria*, Organ Historical Trust of Australia. Investigated 2/9/1978, 22/1/1979, 18/1/1979. Copy held at the National Trust (Vic.).

### Acknowledgement

Mr. Edwin Schoell, Knox organ group, Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, Knoxfield from an interview with Knox News (February or March 1991).

## APPENDIX 1

### CREATION OF A HERITAGE PLAN

#### 1.1 ROLE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The Planning and Environment Act\*, specifies the State Government's objectives of planning in Victoria. The conservation of the state's cultural heritage is explicitly stated as one of these objectives. Section 4(1)(d) of the Act outlines the objectives of planning in Victoria as they relate to heritage conservation, namely, 'to conserve and enhance those buildings areas or other places which are of scientific, aesthetic, architectural or historic interest, or otherwise of special cultural value'.

All municipalities are required by Section 12(1)(a) of the Act to implement the objectives of planning in Victoria. In addition, Section 12(1)(c) specifically requires that planning schemes be regularly reviewed. A reform plan to be implemented by the Government will prepare a state policy with uniform guidelines for heritage conservation.

The way to fulfil the requirements of the planning scheme is to include heritage controls in the municipality's planning scheme. This is accomplished via a heritage study which contains a documented inventory to identify places of significance. The completion of the heritage study is not the end of the municipal obligation as the status of buildings and places may change, new information may come to light and the community's perception may altered over time regarding the definition of historic importance.

\* Note: The Act is subject to amendment pending standardisation of guidelines for local government heritage controls.

#### 1.2 HERITAGE CONTROLS

Guidelines are attributed to the Department of Planning and Housing until further information is available from the department about the proposed reform plan. It is expected guidelines for heritage definitions and general guidelines for incorporation into a planning scheme will not change. Heritage controls are suitable for use to:

- \* protect places identified in heritage studies;
- \* protect places already included on other Registers e.g. the National Trust, Historic Buildings or National Estate.

The controls cover three main areas namely, individual buildings, heritage places and notable trees.

##### (a) Buildings

Model controls for the conservation of buildings and places regulate:

- \* demolition or removal of buildings;
- \* external alterations and decorations of existing buildings;
- \* construction of buildings including additions and other structures on the land; and
- \* subdivisions

These regulations do not prohibit demolition and removal but require planning permits.

**(b) Heritage areas**

A heritage area might contain a small suburban or urban area, a landscape or town of heritage significance. The primary objective is to ensure the conservation of the area's significance. Where development does occur this should be appropriate to the significance of the character and significance of the heritage area.

**(c) Notable trees**

These controls seek to conserve trees that are notable for their scientific, aesthetic, historic or other cultural value and to protect them from direct impact which may impair their health, beauty or cultural value.

### **1.3 MODEL CONTROLS**

Model Controls for heritage buildings, areas, places and notable trees should contain in the City of Knox Planning Scheme full description, reference on the planning scheme, accompanying purpose, notable organisations to be consulted and clear guidelines for a permit.

### **1.4 NOMINATION TO REGISTERS**

In addition to council's own planning controls, the significant buildings, places and trees not already registered on the Historic Buildings Register and the National Trust, should be submitted to the appropriate body. (The new Heritage Council of Victoria is still to be determined at the time of writing of this report).

In particular, attention should be given to trees more than one hundred years old, the Dobson working orchard, and significant buildings known to be examples of last century. Further research and consideration should be given to the pinus radiata landscapes, so significant in the evolution of the development of the orchard era in the City of Knox.

### **1.5 COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND INFORMATION**

Consideration should be given to the wide publicity of the heritage of the City of Knox. Extensive subdivision has left the remaining items of heritage very vulnerable. Community education and information can alert the public to conservation.

#### **Information and education**

(a) Publication of information about City of Knox significant places. Information pamphlets to be available at the planning counter, libraries and the Historical Society. Information to contain hints for conservation and restoration, and appropriate publications available, for example the National Trust technical series.

(b) Run schools programs, essay competitions, rewards for conservation of the heritage of the municipality and notable trees.



## APPENDIX 2

### RECOMMENDATIONS

The City of Knox Heritage Study identifies areas of cultural significance,

namely: Buildings  
Landscapes, gardens and notable trees  
Linear Parks, remnants of vegetation  
Creeks and valleys

and examines the role, responsibility and demarcation lines for the responsibility of the keeping of heritage records and the management of heritage assets in the City of Knox.

#### **IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT CLEAR POLICY GUIDELINES BE DEVELOPED BY THE CITY OF KNOX REGARDING:**

- The inclusion of places identified as significant in the Heritage Study in the local planning controls.
- Consultation with the public particularly owners of property of cultural significance with a view to conservation.
- Further analysis and comprehensive evaluation of physical structures recorded and deemed significant, and where recommended, by a specialist Heritage Conservation Architect.
- The sensitive protection and regeneration of the historically significant landscapes, indigenous and European trees and plants where these contribute to the overall aspect, understanding and aesthetic appeal of the heritage of the area.
- Training of Council parks and gardens staff towards a greater understanding of the historical aspects of landscape and vegetation.
- Strategies for long term public education, participation in, and contribution to, heritage conservation activities.
- Encouragement of the public to record their properties if they consider these to have significant historical associations or architectural value. Encouragement and assistance to be available from appropriate Council officers.
- The availability of printed material to assist the public to identify structures and landscapes using guidelines from the publications of the National Trust, the Historic Buildings Council, the Department of Conservation and Planning and the Knox Town Planning Department.
- The storage and preservation of council records concerning physical, cultural and social infrastructure of the City of Knox. The index in the Heritage Study to be kept on council data base for town planning local protection heritage purposes and the information to be upgraded as necessary.
- The Strategy Plan should emphasise greater liaison between Council, Eastern Regional Libraries and Ambleside Museum.

## MANAGEMENT

A comprehensive heritage management plan to be developed within the conservation strategy. This will include:

- A person appointed within the council with an appropriate professional background and strong public relations skills to be:
  - \* responsible for the management of all council heritage assets (including Ambleside, Miller's Homestead and Stamford Park) and their effective utilisation,
  - \* to liaise closely with schools, the public, Eastern Regional Libraries and conservation groups,
  - \* to work closely with, and oversee the activities of the Knox Historical Society.
  - \* work with volunteers to devise a method to ensure the maintenance and security of the archives,

## THE ROLE OF THE KNOX HISTORICAL SOCIETY

- Define clear demarcation lines regarding:
  - \* the role, activities, accountability, responsibility and viability of the Knox Historical Society,
  - \* the administration and maintenance of Ambleside House,
  - \* the management of the museum,
  - \* responsibility for the information data base, storage and retrieval of local historical records,
  - \* the role, responsibility and training of volunteers.

## THE AMBLESIDE MUSEUM

- The museum facilities at Ambleside to be upgraded, publicity to be developed and volunteers to be recruited to manage public open days.

## VOLUNTEERS

- A job specification to be developed for volunteers working in archival and museum activities, and in general heritage activities.
- The volunteers to have appropriate specifications, training and rosters and to be under the direction of Manager of Heritage assets.

## APPENDIX 2(a)

MODEL CONTROLS FOR HERITAGE BUILDINGS, PLACES, AREAS, LANDSCAPES AND TREES (Guidelines courtesy of 'Local Government Heritage Guidelines' 1991 Department of Planning and Housing)

### BUILDINGS AND PLACES

Planning scheme map Number:

#### Purpose

- \* To conserve and enhance buildings and places of aesthetic, architectural, historic, cultural and scientific importance.
- \* To ensure that development is compatible with the significance and character of the building, place, area, landscape or trees.

#### List of Buildings and Places

Description and address	Map Ref. No.	Organisation to be consulted
<i>Example</i>	<i>Example</i>	<i>Example</i>
House 29 Westley Street, Ferntree Gully	73:K3	National Trust

#### Buildings works and subdivisions

(as designated in the planning scheme map of heritage buildings and works)

A permit is required to:

- \* Construct a building including a fence
- \* Alter externally any building or place by structural work, painting rendering, sandblasting or
- \* Demolish or remove any buildings
- \* Construct or carry out works including the excavation of archaeological sites identified
- \* Subdivide land
- \* Construct or display a sign.

This does not apply to repairs and routine maintenance to buildings and places that do not change the external appearance.

**Guidelines for Permit**

The responsible authority must consider:

- \* The purpose of the controls.
- \* The importance, character and appearance of the building or place to be demolished, removed or externally altered.
- \* Whether the location, bulk and appearance of the proposed building will adversely affect the importance, character and appearance of the building or place.
- \* Whether the proposed works will adversely affect the importance, character and appearance of the building or place.
- \* Whether the subdivision will result in development in keeping with the character and appearance of the building or place.
- \* Views of the organisations to be consulted.
- \* Whether the sign will adversely affect the importance, character and appearance of the building or place.
- \* The report about the building in the Heritage Study.

## HERITAGE AREAS

Planning Scheme Map Number:

### Purpose

- \* To conserve and enhance areas of scientific, aesthetic, architectural and historic importance, or of special cultural value.
- \* To ensure that development is compatible with the importance, character and appearance of the area.  
  
Buildings, works and subdivisions (applies to land in the heritage areas as designated on the planning scheme map)
- \* Construct a building or place by structural work, painting, rendering, sandblasting or in any other way.
- \* Demolish or remove any buildings.
- \* Construct or carry out works including municipal works in heritage areas.
- \* Subdivide land.
- \* Remove, prune, or destroy any tree exceeding 10m in height or having a canopy width greater than 10m.
- \* Construct or display a sign.

This does not apply to repairs and routine maintenance to buildings and places that do not change the external appearance.

This does not apply to pruning a tree to improve its health or appearance provided its normal growth habit is not retarded.

### Guidelines for Permit

The responsible authority must consider:

- \* The purpose of the controls.
- \* The importance, character and appearance of the building or place to be demolished, removed or externally altered.
- \* Whether the location, bulk, and appearance of the proposed building will adversely affect importance, character and appearance of adjacent buildings and the area.
- \* Whether the proposed works will adversely affect the importance, character and appearance of the area.
- \* Whether the subdivision will result in development in keeping with the character and appearance of the adjacent buildings and the area.
- \* Whether the sign will adversely affect the character and appearance of the building or the area.
- \* Whether the pruning or removal of the tree will adversely affect the importance, character or appearance of the tree and the area.
- \* The contents of the Heritage Study.

## NOTABLE TREES

Planning scheme map number:

### Purpose

- \* To conserve trees of aesthetic, scientific or historic importance or of special cultural value.
- \* To protect notable trees against any activity which will impair their health, appearance or cultural value.

List of notable trees Map Ref. No. Organisation and location to be consulted

Description and address	Map Ref. No.	Organisation to be consulted
<i>Example</i>	<i>Example</i>	<i>Example</i>
Oak tree Sheffield Road The Basin	30	National Heritage Register National Trust

### Buildings and works

The requirements apply to any tree referred to in the table and land covered by the tree canopy and land beyond the canopy edge of the tree for a distance of five metres.

A permit is required to:

- \* Remove, prune or alter a notable tree.
- \* Construct a building.
- \* Carry out works.

### Guidelines for Permit

The responsible authority must consider:

- \* The purpose of the controls
- \* The aesthetic, scientific, or historic importance or special cultural value of the tree.
- \* Whether the pruning, lopping or alteration will impair the health, appearance or special cultural value of the tree.
- \* Whether the proposed building will impair the health, appearance or special cultural value of the tree.
- \* Whether the proposed works will impair the health, appearance or special cultural value of the tree.
- \* Views of the organisations listed on the list.

## APPENDIX 2(b)

### MODEL HERITAGE POLICY PLAN

Planning Scheme No.

Description

**Buildings**

Significance and status

National  
State  
Regional  
Local

Objective

To protect buildings from destruction, undue alteration, inappropriate additions or subdivision.

Policy

Planning permit required \*

Action Plan

Ensure appropriate buildings are listed in the planning scheme, information is available to the public and owners and clear conservation guidelines are available.

\*see guidelines for model controls and recommendations for community education.

Planning Scheme No.

Description

**Notable trees**

Significance and status

National  
State  
Regional  
Local

Objective

To protect trees identified according to significance

Policy

Planning permit required \*

Action Plan

Ensure appropriate trees are listed in the planning scheme, information is available to the public and owners and clear conservation guidelines are available.

\* see model control guidelines and recommendations for community education.

Planning Scheme No:

Description

**Landscapes**

Significance and status

National  
State  
Regional  
Local

Objective

To prevent destruction of landscapes and  
vegetation from inappropriate subdivision.  
To maintain the appropriate zoning.

Provide information to the public and  
owners on conservation methods.

Policy

Planning permit required for lopping,  
maintenance planting and clearing.

Action Plan

Provide information for the public in libraries,  
at the Planning Department and in the media  
regarding conservation of landscape trees and  
vegetation.

Educate parks and reserves staff in the heritage  
and conservation value of trees and vegetation.



## APPENDIX 3

## NATIONAL TRUST LISTING FOR THE CITY OF KNOX

## SIGNIFICANT REGIONAL LANDSCAPE

- |       |  |  |
|-------|--|--|
| L 359 | <b>Dandenong Ranges</b>  | Large area which includes many of the classified recorded landscapes of the Dandenong Ranges.            |
| L 353 | <b>Classified<br/>Western Face<br/>Dandenong Ranges (part)</b> | Western and N/W slopes extending from Montrose to Southern boundary of Ferntree Gully National Park.     |
| L 356 | <b>Recorded<br/>Lysterfield Forest<br/>area (part)</b>         | Area extending from south Belgrave across Wellington Road. Includes Lysterfield Reservoir and catchment. |
| L 355 | <b>Lysterfield Valley<br/>(part)</b>                           | Area bounded by Napoleon Road, Ferny Creek Glenfern Road and Kelletts Road.                              |



## APPENDIX 4

### FUTURE DIRECTIONS OF THE LINEAR PARK SYSTEM

The linear park system formed around the Dandenong Creek, has become well established as a result of the wider town planning concept of formalised green wedges seen throughout the metropolitan area of Melbourne. Along the Dandenong Creek, a series of retarding basins and drainage systems has eliminated a serious flooding problem encountered by early settlers.





The Melbourne Parks and Waterways, an enterprise of Melbourne Water Corporation has prepared a Future Directions Plan, an update of the Dandenong Valley Plan of 1977, for the future use and development of the parks, taking particular note of community recreation needs and ensuring that heritage and environment values are preserved.

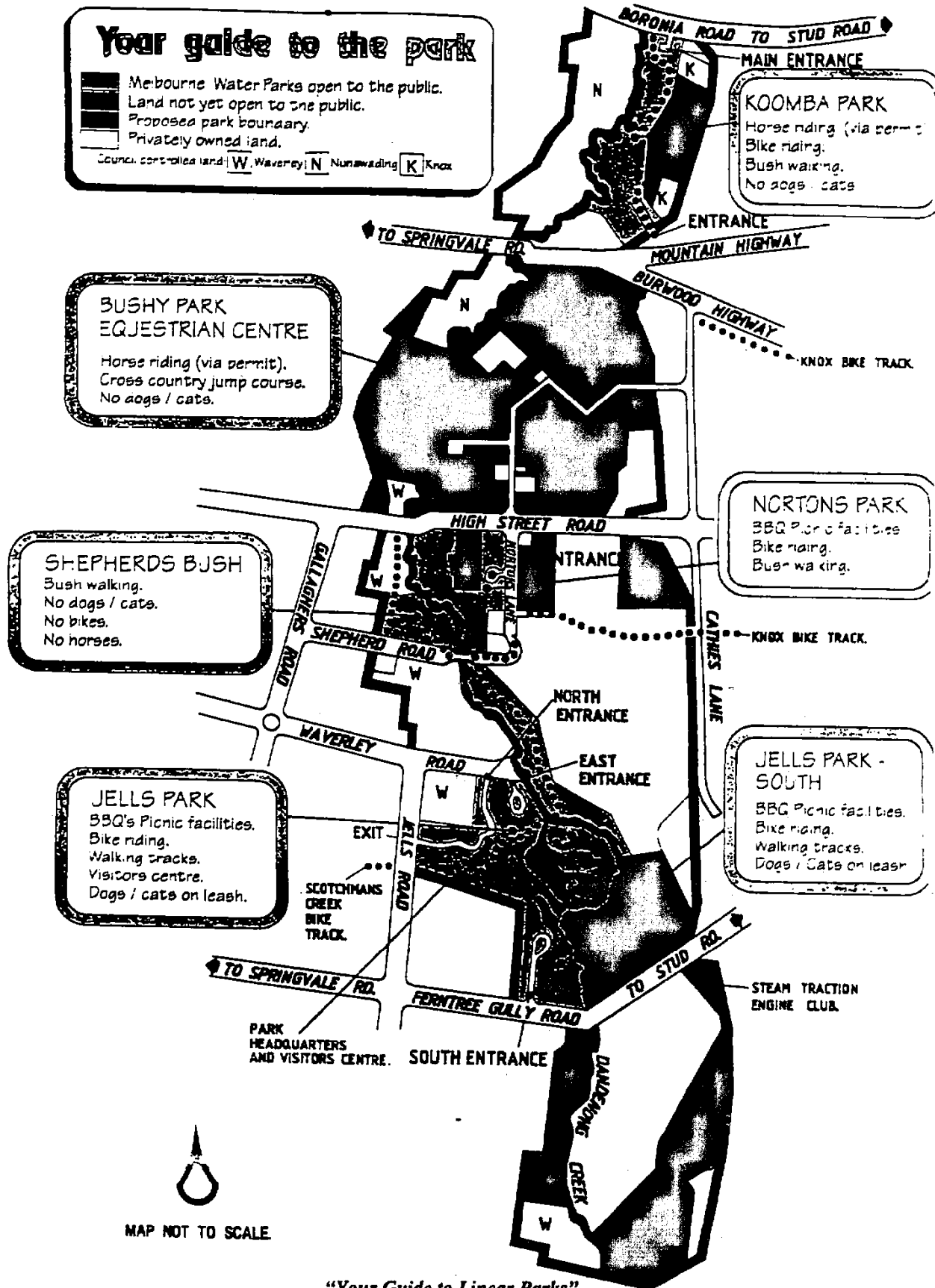
The park consists of 1,350 hectares, located between Wellington Road and Boronia Road to the east of Melbourne along the Dandenong Creek. The park attracts 1.3 million visitors annually.

The park includes areas open to the public such as Jells Park, Koomba Park, Nortons Park, and Shepherds Bush. Areas zoned for future public use are Bushy Park and Devon Meadows.

The Police Paddocks Reserve, an area of 499 hectares, is an important integral part of the chain of parkland that stretches from Wantirna to Dandenong and will ultimately be linked to Upwey. It is administered by the Department of Conservation and Environment. Melbourne Water is responsible for drainage, flood mitigation, clearing and cultivation within 40 metres of the banks of the creek.

# Your guide to the park

-  Melbourne Water Parks open to the public.
  -  Land not yet open to the public.
  -  Proposed park boundary.
  -  Privately owned land.
- Council controlled land | **W** Waverley | **N** Nunawading | **K** Knox



  
MAP NOT TO SCALE

"Your Guide to Linear Parks"  
Acknowledgement Melbourne Water circa 1990

## APPENDIX 5

## NATIONAL TRUST UPDATE - CITY OF KNOX

1 JULY 1991

## BUILDINGS/OBJECTS STILL EXISTING

Bayswater

3101 Recorded Wine Saloon (1899) Mountain Highway and Scoresby Road,  
Bayswater.

Boronia

2713 Classified 'Melrose' (1888) Dorrigo Drive and Melrose Court, Boronia  
Miller's Homestead

Ferntree Gully

3128 Ambleside Park (1899) Olivebank Road, Boronia.  
3284 Recorded Primary School 1307 (1883) Dorset Road and Burwood Highway,  
(School room & residence) Ferntree Gully.  
4873 Unclassifiable (Private ownership) (1887) 24 Westley Street,  
"Kelso" House Ferntree Gully  
(brick construction)

Knoxfield

6097 Classified Organ Our Saviour's Lutheran Church  
Burwood Highway, Knoxfield

Rowville

3700 Recorded Stamford Park (1882) Stud Road, Rowville.  
Homestead

Scoresby

2215 Recorded Wesleyan Church (1874) Ferntree Gully Road, Scoresby.  
(primitive Gothic restored  
second oldest historic building in Knox)  
(removed from register 23/7/87  
by National Trust, Victoria to be  
revised by the National Trust)

Lysterfield

5763 Recorded Cloverdale (1870) 324 Hallam Road-North via  
(Private Ownership) Hallam Lysterfield Road

Wantirna

3229 Forest Lodge Boronia Road CA.22  
(Private Ownership)



## LIST OF MAPS AND PLANS

1. Special lands, Parish of Scoresby, county of Mornington. 14 May 1861.  
State Library of Victoria. ....p.38
2. First Survey Bushy Park by H. B. Foot - District Surveyor. 21 February 1855.  
State Library of Victoria. ....p.26
3. Aerial map of the Basin showing Dobson Orchard, Liverpool Road.  
City of Knox Design Department. ....p.76
4. Army Survey Contour Map. Circa 1920's.  
Mr William Ireland. ....p.104
5. Scoresby County of Mornington Map depicting the subdivisions around the railway.  
Circa 1925  
Shire of Sherbrooke. ....p.108
6. Floor Plan Wantirna Primary School. Circa 1912.  
Public Works Department. Knox Historical Society .....p.158
7. 'Your Guide to Linear Parks' Melbourne Water. ....p.196

### RESIDENTIAL SUBDIVISION BROCHURES

#### Courtesy Knox Historical Society

1. Sunny Hill Estate - Lower Ferntree Gully. Dated 21 November 1925 .....p.142
2. Mount View Estate - Bayswater. Circa 1920's .....p.144
3. Town Estate - Lower Ferntree Gully. Dated 2 February 1924 ..... p.152 - 153
4. Valetta Estate - Lower Ferntree Gully. Dated 6 January 1924 .....p.156
5. Bushy Park - Wantirna South. Circa 19? .....p.160
6. Regency Park - Wantirna. Circa 1980's .....p.165





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*Acknowledgements: The late H.S. McComb M.B.E. and Mr R. Curlewis*

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Courtesy Knox Historical Society

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