

Location of Protected Koorie Sites

Protection of Sites

Every archaeological site tells us something about the Koorie way of life. For that reason sites are protected by law. If you know of a site that you think may not be recorded, it is advisable to:

- Leave the site as you find it
- Note where it is so that it can be relocated
- Report details of the site to:
Site Registrar
Aboriginal Affairs Victoria
7/589 Collins Street,
Melbourne 3000
Telephone 9616 2923.



▲ Artefact scatter
or isolated artefact

● Scarred tree



Council Statement

The City of Whitehorse has a number of archaeological sites that provide evidence of Aboriginal settlement in the area. Archaeological surveys and information from local residents have identified a total of eight significant sites.

This publication provides background, historical information, a description of these sites, and an indication of their whereabouts. It is of note that these sites still exist in our municipality and are a reflection of the previous occupation of the area by indigenous people. Council is eager to support the development of greater knowledge and understanding of the historical background of our City.

Council has made a commitment to indigenous people in conjunction with the cities of Banyule, Manningham and Nillimbuk, which recognises prior habitation, supports the principle of equity and access for all and commits to advocacy on behalf of indigenous members of the community. Council is working towards this commitment through involvement with the Whitehorse Friends for Reconciliation, the involvement of the indigenous community in local events and celebrations, the inclusion of works by indigenous artists in the City of Whitehorse art collection and by initiatives such as the development of this publication.

City of Whitehorse Art Collection

The City of Whitehorse Art Collection includes a group of works by indigenous Australian artists. This aspect of the collection is quite varied and demonstrates the diversity of current practice by Aboriginal artists. The works include paintings, a range of prints with techniques including linocut, etching and lithography as well as computer generated images.

Blackburn Lake Visitor Education Centre

The Blackburn Lake Visitor Education Centre at Blackburn Lake Sanctuary has displays of indigenous artefacts such as baskets, grinding stones, eel traps and others. The Centre provides information on the Wurundjeri clan. The Bush Tucker Walkabout looks at how plants and trees were used for a variety of daily requirements, such as food, medicine, baskets and bags, canoes, shelters and a variety of implements.

For more information contact the Blackburn Lake Sanctuary Visitor Centre on 9877 9235.

Further Reading

- Brown, A. *Aborigines in the Environment*. Department of Conservation & Environment, Melbourne, 1990
- Campbell, A.H. *John Batman and the Aborigines*. Kibble Books, Australia, 1987.
- Eidelson, M. *Melbourne Dreaming*. Aboriginal Studies Press, Canberra, 1997
- Howitt, A.W. *Aboriginal Tribes of Southeast Australia*. Macmillan, London, 1908 [Reprinted in paperback edition by A.I.A.S. in 1990]
- Presland, G. *Aboriginal Melbourne. The lost land of the Kulin people*. Penguin, Melbourne, 1998.
- Wiencke, S.W. *When the Wattles Bloom Again*. Shirley Wiencke, 1984.



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Koorie Sites in the City of Whitehorse



Coiled Basket by an unknown woman from the Yarra Yarra Tribe. c.1950s. Reproduced courtesy of the Blackburn Lake Sanctuary Visitor Centre.