

MITCHELL SHIRE STAGE TWO HERITAGE STUDY

January 2006.

VOLUME 2 of 5

THE ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY

Researched and written by Dr Aron Paul B.Arts (Hons.), Ph D *Melb.*



Seymour Commercial Heritage Precinct

Sign writer *reconstructing* the historic signs in 2005 above the *reconstructed* historic verandah.

Commissioned & Funded by
Mitchell Shire Council and Heritage Victoria

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

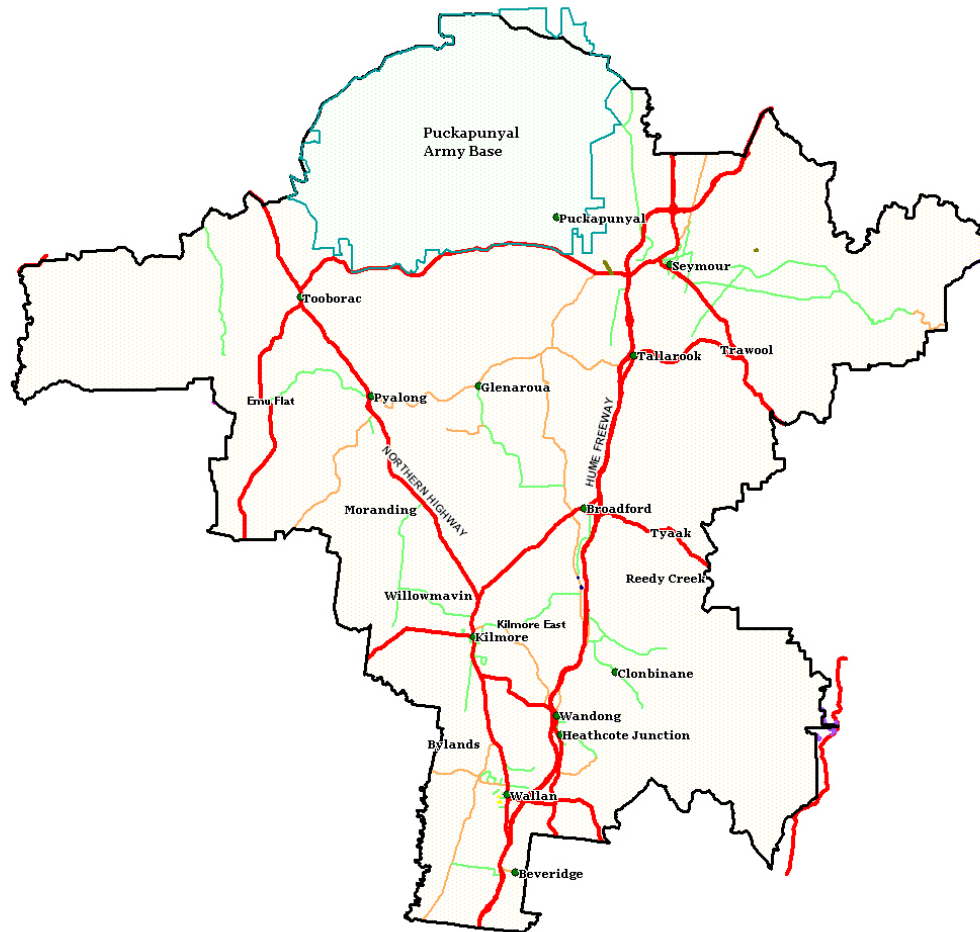


Fig. 1

**Map of the study area of Mitchell Shire
(Excluding Puckapunyal which is shown within the blue boundary line.)**

Source: Map supplied by GIS Officer, Mitchell Shire Council 2006.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Mitchell Shire Stage One and Stage Two Heritage Studies were carried out with the assistance of funds made available from the State Public Heritage Program and from Mitchell Shire Council. Several members of the Mitchell Shire Planning Department managed the project at different times, including Ian Scholes, Richard Strates, Pam Holland, Wendy Reilly, Linda Graham, Javiera Maturana, and Katie Rizutto, over the duration of the two studies. Steering committee meetings were chaired by the Mitchell Shire representatives. The committee comprised a delegate from the Department of Sustainable Environment (Heritage Victoria) Jenny Climas, Cr David McCullough JP, and later, Cr Ross Lee, Heather Knight, Kilmore Historical Society, John Jennings, Seymour and District Historical Society, Alison Tomkins, Broadford Historical Society, Gloria Cordingley, Broadford and District Family History Group and Lynne Dore, archaeologist from Wandong.

Mitchell Shire Council commissioned Lorraine Huddle, from Lorraine Huddle Pty Ltd, as the principal consultant and manager of the **Stage Two Study**, with Ian Wight of Ian Wight Planning and Heritage Strategies as a major contributor and Dr Aron Paul and Susie Zada as historians. Damien Williams, Claire McCallum and Stephanie Rose provided administration assistance. The study commenced in January 2003 with a fifteen month program. Due to unforeseen circumstances, however, outlined in the limitations of the study, it was completed in February 2006.

Mitchell Shire Council commissioned Lorraine Huddle, Lorraine Huddle Pty Ltd and Ian Wight, Ian Wight Planning and Heritage Strategies, as the principal consultants, with Aron Paul as the consultant historian for the stage one study. It commenced in September 2001 and was completed in June 2002. Lorraine Huddle managed the study and was the author of the **Stage One Report**.

The study area covers the whole of the Mitchell Shire, with the exception of the military area of Puckapunyal, which is managed by the Commonwealth Government. The area included three large towns, Kilmore, Broadford and Seymour and several smaller towns including Pyalong, Tallarook, Tooborac, Wallan, and Wandong. The Mitchell Shire also includes parts of areas that are, since amalgamation of local government, shared by adjacent shires. Thus all or part of the existing or former hamlets, and areas such as Avenel, Baynton East, Beveridge, Bylands, Clonbinane, Emu Flat, Flowerdale, Forbes, Glenaroua, Heathcote Junction, Heathcote South, High Camp, Highlands, Hildene, Kilmore East, Mangalore, Mia Mia, Moranding, Northwood, Nulla Vale, Reedy Creek, Trawool, Tyaak, Upper Plenty, Whiteheads Creek and Willowmavin are included in the study area.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the stage one study were to identify and record post-colonial places of potential cultural significance in the study area; identify and develop potential heritage precincts in the study area; prepare a draft thematic environmental history of post-colonial European occupation and development of the study area and estimate the resources required to more fully research, document and assess the post-colonial places of potential cultural significance in the study area.

The objectives of Stage 2 were to undertake detailed fieldwork for twenty-two potential heritage precincts, recording on brief datasheets the physical places of cultural significance; prepare maps of the boundaries and locations of each significant place within the boundaries of twenty-two heritage precincts (covering about six hundred individual places within them); research and write the historical basis of extant heritage fabric of each precinct, write a description of the extant heritage characteristics of the physical fabric of the place, and write a Statement of Cultural Significance for each precinct.

Research and write the history of forty individual places outside precincts with a brief physical description of the place and a Statement of Cultural Significance relating to the known extant physical fabric, especially as seen from the public realm.

Attend seven community information sessions and six steering committee meetings. Amend the Environmental History, enter data of readily available information on places in the precincts and those to be individually listed into the Mitchell Shire Heritage Data Base, which was set up in **Stage One** and further developed during the study. Present the results in a report, together with a heritage program, for recommended future work to protect the heritage places in Mitchell Shire.

The work has been prepared in hard copy and electronic format.

PROFESSIONAL CRITERIA AND BASIS FOR THE STUDY

The basis of the preparation, identification and analysis of the study was the *Australia ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance (The Burra Charter)* and its *Guidelines*. Assessment of all heritage places within the study area was in accordance with the Criteria of the Register of the National Estate, as prescribed in the *VPP: Applying the Heritage Overlay*. The *Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS)* and *Local Planning Policy Framework (LPPF)* also formed the basis of the study. Places of potential State significance were assessed against the criteria used by Heritage Victoria.

PHYSICAL AND HISTORICAL ASSESSMENT.

For the majority of places assessment of potential significance was based on the physical features of the place as seen from the public realm, or from any known history. A few had more detailed site inspections. The historic themes used in this project, particularly in the environmental history, were developed from the *Australian Historic Themes: a framework for use in heritage assessment and management, Australian Heritage Commission, 2001*. This is a research tool that helps identify, assess, interpret and manage heritage places.

Community consultation was an important part of the study and involved public workshops in cultural mapping in Seymour, Broadford, Kilmore and Wandong. Further meetings were held with various community groups, such as the Kilmore Historical Society, where an outline of the study was provided with illustrations. The consultations were open to all residents of these towns as well as residents from other parts of the Shire. Help pages were distributed throughout the Shire as a means of obtaining the community's interest and assistance in the study. Numerous individual conversations, telephone calls and letters were part of the consultative process.

Ongoing consultation with the steering committee was very valuable. Representatives from each of the historical and family history groups in the study area were on the steering committee. John Jennings, Alison Tomkins, Heather Knight, Lynne Dore, Gloria Cordingley and Leslie Rastie volunteered their time to be the main contact person for information and about their local area. In return, the group that each person represented was given a donation, totalling \$2000, from the consultants' **Stage One** study fund.

METHODOLOGY FOR PRIORITISATION OF PLACES FOR DETAILED ASSESSMENT IN STAGE 2

In **Stage One**, 1315 potential heritage places were identified through community consultation, fieldwork and some research using old maps. Over nine hundred photographs were taken covering over eight hundred and fifty individual places. The photographs were entered into a specially designed database (using Microsoft Access) and known information regarding references, and listing on other heritage registers, was cross-referenced into the database. These included four legislative registers: the Victorian Heritage Register, the Victorian Heritage Inventory (both of these are State Government registers), the heritage overlay for individual and precinct places (Local Government) and other heritage registers such as the Register of the National Estate, and the National Trust of Australia (Victoria) Register.

Because of insufficient funds for all potentially significant places to be individually researched in the **Stage Two Heritage Study**, the places and precincts identified in stage one were prioritised for work in the stage two study. The basis for this is shown in Table One. It is based on brief physical and documentary evidence and a comparative analysis of all the places in the database. As Stage Two progressed, therefore, and more research and fieldwork information became available, a few places were reassessed and their priority level was changed along the boundaries of each precinct. It was found after fieldwork and research that two potential heritage precincts did not meet the assessment criteria and they were not developed any further.

During the review of the status of existing heritage precincts it was noted that the documentation for seven of the existing heritage precincts was grossly inadequate for their ongoing management and for the community to understand their significance and the parameters for development within the precincts. After discussion with the Steering committee it was agreed to review the boundaries of these precincts and to provide research and documentation that is consistent for all precincts across the Shire. Due to budget constraints, however, two existing precincts were not reviewed in this study. Refer to Table Four for details.

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TABLE ONE.

The level of priority in this table does not necessarily reflect the priority level of the cultural significance of a place.

Level Of Priority For Stage 2.	Method of Assessment of priority for each place	Total No. Of Places	Comments	Type of research recommended
1	Place located within a potential Heritage Precinct	596	Refer to the maps of the 23 precincts in the Stage One Heritage Study Report.	Research the historical development of the precinct area and contribution of the places within it. No research of the history of individual places. Some of these individual places may be altered to level 2 or 3 if the detailed fieldwork and research for the precinct reveals evidence for this.
2	Individual Complex Place	92	These include homesteads, factories, and other places with several components, and have the potential to be individually significant.	More time required for field work as they will require appointments with the owners for site visits, may contain several buildings, or the interiors of places such as churches, Avenues of Honour, etc. Research is more complex, especially if there is evidence of important changes to the place or they have detailed historical, social or scientific values.
3	Individual Single Place	182	These include places that have potential individual significance.	These include places with some known historical significance, or architectural significance, technical significance and social significance that is worthy of detailed research and documentation.
4	Existing HO Documentation inadequate	40	Individually significant places already protected on the planning Scheme without description, history and Statement of Significance.	
5	Low Priority	349	Places are not located in a precinct and are unlikely to reach the criteria for individual protection on the Planning Scheme.	They are archaeological, of modest architectural merit, or have little or no known historical significance.
6	Existing HO Documentation is adequate.	56	Already protected on the planning scheme with research, description and/or a Statement of Significance.	
TOTAL		1315 individual places of potential significance		

Consideration was also given to ensuring that representative examples of heritage places were identified and documented in various geographic and historically defined areas across the Shire. It became apparent when researching the history of each place and when carrying out the fieldwork in the Mitchell Shire that the current shire boundaries (a recent political and administrative construct) do not reflect the historical development of the area. Rather, historical boundaries such as the pastoral runs, early road board districts, early towns and shires and subdivisions of land into suburban allotments are the physical expressions of the history of the extant historical places in the shire.

Approach to Drafting Local Heritage Policy

The brief calls for the consultants to draft local policies for each of the precincts recommended for a heritage overlay. It does not, however, specify the format that these policies should adopt or indicate how local area policies should be integrated into the planning scheme. Some planning schemes, for example, have a general overall heritage policy. Local policies ought not be direct copies of general heritage guidelines.

There is no particular structure recommended by the Department, but various planning panels have made recommendations as to how this should be approached. The Ballarat C58 Panel suggested that general heritage policies should be avoided and suggested that instead Heritage Victoria's draft '*Guidelines for Assessing Heritage Planning Applications*' (2000) should be incorporated in all planning schemes. Other panels have followed this lead but more recently the Surf Coast C15 panel suggested that these guidelines were inconsistent with the heritage overlay and could not be incorporated. The most recent panel on a heritage amendment at the time of writing, Kingston C46, recommended including of policies based on the guidelines and the inclusion of these as a reference document. We are also aware that the Guidelines are currently being reviewed, with a new draft likely to be completed in the next two or three months.

Given this dynamic situation we have adopted a format that is based on an approach that has in recent years been accepted both by planning panels and the Planning Minister and has resulted in successful amendments, despite the fluidity of the current situation regarding heritage policies. This format incorporates for each precinct:

Policy Basis:

A reference to the MSS directions on heritage conservation and the Statement of Significance from the Heritage Study forms the Policy Basis.

Objectives:

These are broad conservation objectives largely drawn from the Statement of Significance relating to places in the precinct to be conserved or enhanced.

Policies:

These flow directly from the objectives and attempt give more specific direction on how applications should be assessed.

The policies have also been designed discretely and are not dependant on any more general heritage policy in the scheme.

Some changes are likely to be necessary in formulating the actual amendment, but we believe that the primary role of this part in the study is to ensure that the content of what is required has been covered, and we have presented this in a structure that is as close to a workable amendment as possible.

We are aware that the Heritage Overlay may not be the most appropriate tool for conserving some of the items included in the policies. We have drawn attention to this by using italics. The hawthorn hedges in the Kilmore Hawthorn Hedges Precinct form a significant element, but the Heritage Overlay does not require a permit to remove, destroy prune or lop vegetation other than trees where the schedule to the overlay identifies the heritage place as one where tree controls apply. The Overlay does not overcome the exemption in Clause 62.02 to the removal of vegetation. Council should consider the use of a Vegetation Protection Overlay or other means to protect these hedges.

Policies encouraging archaeological investigation have also been shown in italics as consideration needs to be given to the principal that the duplication of requirements covered by other legislation should be avoided. We think it quite legitimate to control the removal of ruined structures under the heritage overlay but have concerns about applying the overlay to archaeological excavation that requires consent under the Heritage Act.

Attention should also be drawn to the innovative approach taken to conserving the pre 1912 group of buildings in Broadford. These buildings would not merit heritage protection in their own right and cannot be protected as part of a precinct because they are scattered across the town. Furthermore, they are often very modest timber structures and that have undergone some alterations. Their distribution, however, indicates the way that Broadford developed. There ought to be no doubt that if they were to disappear, an important link with the understanding of Broadford's development would be lost together with much of its limited stock of historic fabric. These buildings have therefore been treated as a group, in much the same way as a precinct. They should have the same HO number but the overlay should only cover individual sites.

LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

The budget consisted of \$75,000 from the State Government Public Heritage Program plus \$24,000 from Mitchell Shire Council, making a total budget of \$99,000, plus GST, available over a two year period. This is \$106,000 less than the budget for Stage Two, estimated in January 2002.

Places listed as levels 4, 5, and 6 (TABLE ONE) for the stage two study could not be done within the available budget. These include **individually significant places** (Level 4) already on the planning scheme, without adequate documentation such as a history, description or Statement of Significance. It also includes places (Level 5) that are not located in a precinct and are unlikely to reach the criteria for protection in the planning scheme as an **individually significance place**. These include archaeological sites except where there are significant ruins that would be appropriate to protect in the scheme and sites that are more effectively managed by a government land management agency. Finally places already protected on the planning scheme as **individually significant** (Level 6) have adequate documentation at present and the documentation

should be reviewed for completeness and consistency with the rest of the places on the planning scheme.

Suitable maps required for fieldwork mapping of the precinct boundaries and locations of the significant places within the precincts was not available from the shire offices until they had installed appropriate software and trained workers to use it. This delayed the study for eight months and extended the time it took to complete the study as it had to be fitted in between other consultancies which commenced within that waiting period.

Although the number of places listed in this study is very high compared to the number currently on the planning scheme, it should be understood that this is not a definitive list. For various reasons some places have been missed. This may be because they could not be seen or because they are in obscure locations in forest, or along roads that require four-wheel drive access. It is an ongoing task. As time progresses and places are researched they may qualify for consideration for protection on the Planning Scheme. This study has endeavoured to identify and photograph the vast majority of existing potential heritage places in the study area.

In addition, several potential heritage places have been identified by the community representatives and listed in the database as evidence of further heritage work, particularly individual places outside the towns.

Some small places such as remote cottages, are difficult to research within the budget available. Together with the lack of historical evidence and their modest architectural merit it is difficult to make a case for their protection. Most places like this are protected only if they are within a heritage precinct, where they collectively contribute to the character of the precinct. Some of these places, however, with little supportive documentation, have nevertheless been recommended for individual listing because they represent a rare example of the heritage places in a particular area as, for example, in Tyaak.

Archaeological places are generally not included in heritage studies, and only those within a heritage precinct are noted. Refer to the specific report about the place of archaeological sites in heritage studies, in the Appendices.

Interiors of most places have not been assessed and are therefore not recommended for protection. This does not, however, preclude the possibility that some of those interiors may be culturally significant. Further work is required to establish this. Nevertheless, the interiors of public places, including churches, have been recommended for interior protection as their internal forms are significant for aesthetic and social reasons, and this protection will provide a mechanism for the shire's heritage advisor to assess the interior in detail when necessary.

Most places were assessed from the public realm as funding did not provide for the time required to obtain permission to go on site and do a more detailed assessment. One site approved by the steering committee, was researched and documented more extensively and this was for a house in Wandong. Extra funding was provided by Mitchell Shire Council for this site.

Intricate detail of both architectural and historical background on each individual significant site within a precinct is not necessary for the purposes of this report. Much more detail is provided in the database, and the two tools are intended to be used in conjunction with one another to provide the highest level of documentation afforded by this project.

Photographs are not provided for each individual site within the precinct as these are available in the database. The photographs included in the report are meant to be representative of the precinct or to illustrate a particular theme or claim. However, there is a photo list of most of the culturally significant places in a precinct, at the end of the documentation for each precinct.

The historic maps provided are for illustrative purposes only – they are not intended to be entirely legible or used for extracting information. The alternative option is to remove them from the reports and refer the reader to them as a reference within a footnote. Readers are encouraged to consult the original map when attempting to extract further information or verify the evidence.

The precinct boundary maps are intended to represent the final precinct maps that will be produced by council for the planning scheme, after the approval of the boundaries during the planning amendment process. Whilst they are difficult to read in the report due to their size, quality and markings, they are intended to provide an overall view of the precinct boundaries only. Council will produce the final versions that will be used for planning and future documentation using their mapping software.

A range of heritage recommendations were developed for the heritage precincts and the amendment processes. Further work has been suggested to Section 22 of the Heritage Policies of the Local Planning Policy Framework (LPPF), and public awareness programs.

RESULTS OF THE STUDY

Refer to TABLES TWO, THREE, FOUR and FIVE for details.

- [Table 5] A total of 564 places (105 existing and 459 new) are recommended for Heritage Overlay protection within 20 heritage precincts in the Mitchell Shire Planning Scheme.
- [Table 4] A further 68 places have been recommended for individual Heritage Overlay protection in the Mitchell Shire Planning Scheme.
- [Table 2] The total number of new places recommended for Heritage Overlay protection is: $459 + 68 = 527$
- [Table 5] The number of places in each precinct and the status of the new precincts relative to the existing precincts is shown in TABLE FIVE. Fifteen of the twenty precincts are within the three major towns. Three precincts are within three smaller towns: Pyalong, Tallarook and Wandong. Two precincts are within the rural areas of Emu Flat and Moranding. Only two of the existing precincts have not been reassessed and updated during this study. They are Powlett St in Kilmore and HO154 in Seymour, although a small part of the

latter one has been included in the new Seymour Old Town precinct and so the boundaries of HO154 will need to be altered during the Amendment process.

- [Table 2] Some areas had no heritage places protected prior to this study. These are Baynton East, High Camp, Moranding, Tyaak and Willowmavin. The latter four now has at least one place recommended for protection and up to twelve places recorded in the database to be considered for future research.
- [Table 2] Kilmore had the most places protected (52) and this was nearly twice as many as Seymour (32). This was most likely a reflection of the fact that the former Shire of Kilmore had protected most of these places after their 1988 heritage study, whereas the former Shire of Seymour had never undertaken a heritage study. At the completion of this heritage study, Seymour has five-fold the number of new places (278) recommended for heritage protection, than Kilmore (58).
- [Table 2] Broadford, the third largest town in the Shire, had only eight places protected, however the number has now increased by 83, a ten fold increase. Broadford has not previously been the subject of a heritage study.
- [Table 2] Pyalong has a substantial increase from seven places to thirty places.
- [Table 2] Tallarook has a substantial increase from four places to thirty-eight places.
- [Table 2] Wandong has a substantial increase from one place to eighteen places.
- [Table 2] There were 1134 places (plus 172 archaeological and twelve miscellaneous) = a total of 1318 in the database at the end of Stage One and there are now 1351, an increase of thirty-three.
- [Table 2] 694 places are listed in the database as having potential cultural significance but did not meet the criteria for assessment in this study. Recommendations are made regarding future heritage assessment of these places in this report.
- The locations with the largest number of culturally significant places are within the three major towns of Broadford, Kilmore and Seymour.
- Stage One identified twenty-three potential heritage precincts and Stage Two identified twenty of these for heritage overlay protection in the Mitchell Shire Planning Scheme.



Fig 2. Memorial Tree, Union Street, Kilmore.
Source: Lorraine Huddle Pty Ltd.

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TABLE TWO

Geographic Distribution of Culturally Significant places: alphabetically listed by town or area.¹

Note: The numbers of places may have changed from Stage One for various reasons such as: the location/address being changed from one area to another as more accurate information became available, deleting duplicate records, etc. The stage one numbers are in brackets.

Town or Rural area	A Existing HO Places (Individ and Precinct HO)	B1 New Precinct	B2 New Individ.	B3 New Total B3=B1+B2	C (A+B3=C) Cumulative total no. of places HO places. (Individual and Precinct HO)	Total of Places recorded in the DB for this area.	Stage One No's
Beveridge	7	0	1	1	8	13	(13)
Broadford	8	72	11	83	91	179	(176)
Bylands	3	0	1	1	4	25	(26)
Clonbinane	1	0	0	0	1	2	(4)
Emu Flat (s)	2	0	0	0	2	3	(4)
Glenaroua	2	0	0	0	2	9	0
High Camp	0	0	1	1	1		
Kilmore	52	44	14	58	110	255	(258)
Kilmore East	1	0	0	0	1	3	0
Mia Mia	2	0	0	0	2	4	0
Moranding	0	6	0	6	6	12	(9)
Pyalong	7	18	5	23	30	67	(64)
Reedy Creek	1	0	3	3	4	8	(9)
Seymour	32	271	7	278	310	365	(336)
Tallarook	4	33	1	34	38	55	(58)
Tooborac	1	0	11	11	12	40	(18)
Trawool	1	0	4	4	5	14	(7)
Tyaak	0	0	1	1	1	7	(7)
Wallan	3	0	4	4	7	21	(18)
Wallan East	1	0	0	0	1	10	0
Wandong	1	15	2	17	18	28	(25)
Whiteheads Creek	1	0	0	0	1	3	(3)
Willowmavin	0	0	2	2	2	10	(10)
SUB TOTAL	130	459	68	527	657	1134	
Other places recorded in the database but not assessed in this study.							
Archaeological						170	(172)
Miscellaneous						47	(12)
TOTAL						1351	(1318)

¹ A more accurate list could be determined after the Council matches their Property Numbers with the places in the database so that consistent addressing is applied, especially to places in rural areas. There is a Property Number field in the database to enable council to accurately cross reference the heritage place to other council data on this property.

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TABLE THREE

The location of the culturally significant places (Precinct and Individual places) in Mitchell Shire is shown in order of greatest to smallest number of places per geographic area, recommended for Heritage Overlay protection.

	Town and/or Rural area	No. of Heritage Precincts	A No of additional places recommended for HO protection: (Individual and Precinct HO)	B Existing HO Places (Individual and Precinct HO)	C (A+B=C) Total no of places for HO. (Individual and Precinct HO)
	Seymour	6	271	32	303
	Kilmore	7	44	52	96
	Broadford	2	72	8	80
	Tallarook	1	33	4	37
	Pyalong	1	18	7	25
	Wandong	1	15	2	17
	Tooborac	-	11	1	12
	Beveridge	-	1	7	8
	Wallan	-	4	3	7
	Moranding	1	6	0	6
	Trawool	-	4	1	5
	Reedy Creek	-	3	1	4
	Bylands	-	1	3	4
	Mia Mia	-	0	2	2
	Emu Flat(s)	1	0	2	2
	Willowmavin	-	2	0	2
	Glenaroua	-	0	2	2
	Wallan East	-	0	1	1
	High Camp		1	0	1
	Tyaak	-	1	0	1
	Kilmore East	-	0	1	1
	Whiteheads Crk	-	0	1	1
	Clonbinane	-	0	1	1
	SUB TOTAL	20	487	130	618

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TABLE FOUR

List of 68 individually significant places recommended for Individual Heritage Overlay (HO) protection.

Number	Town	DB no.	Name	Address
1	Beveridge	1195	Stewart House	75 Stewart Street
2	Broadford	438	Glendora	16 Derek Drive
3	Broadford	857	Prospect Hill	Broadford-Kilmore Road
4	Broadford	1703	Zwar House	Zwar Road
5	Broadford	1756	Tooronga Vale	110 Piper Street
6	Bylands	1103	Castle Glen	Union Lane
7	High Camp	709	Rockvale	Crawfords Lane
8	Kilmore	378	House	78 Powlett Street
9	Kilmore	379	House/shops	80 Powlett Street
10	Kilmore	384	International School	White Street
11	Kilmore	437	Carlsberg/Costello	15 Costello's Rd
12	Kilmore	459	House	16 George Street
13	Kilmore	482	General Cemetery	Kilmore-Lancefield
14	Kilmore	675	Wyldecourt	Lancefield Rd
15	Kilmore	699	Woodburn	McDougalls Rd
16	Kilmore	708	Medlicott Bridge	Northern Highway
17	Kilmore	990	RC Cemetery	Lancefield Road
18	Pyalong	853	Former hotel	High Street
19	Pyalong	1184	Cemetery	Cemetery Road
20	Pyalong	1716	The Stone House	West Road
21	Reedy Creek	1746	Cottage	Reedy Creek Rd
22	Reedy Creek	1747	Cottage	Reedy Creek Rd
23	Reedy Creek	1749	School	Reedy Creek Rd
24	Seymour	1445	Railway Bridge	Goulburn River
25	Seymour	443	Howard's Residence	5 Tierney Street
26	Seymour	405	Memorial cairn	Anzac Avenue
27	Tooborac	411	RSL Memorial	Northern Highway
28	Tooborac	849	Leicester House	Northern Hwy
29	Tooborac	851	Farmhouse	Northern Hwy
30	Tooborac	864	Taringa Farmhouse	Northern Hwy
31	Tooborac	1160	Residence & butcher shop	Northern Hwy
32	Tooborac	1161	Sugarloaf Hotel	Northern Hwy
33	Tooborac	1166	Mechanics' Institute	Northern Hwy
34	Tooborac	1169	Uniting Church	Flagstaff Lane
35	Trawool	950	School No. 2700	Goulburn Valley Hwy
36	Trawool	1789	Clyde Cottage	Goulburn Valley Hwy
37	Wallan	1119	Presbyterian Church	Watson and Wellington Sts
38	Wallan	1191	Macsfield House	Macsfield Lane
39	Wandong	1694	Catholic Church	Dry Creek Crescent
40	Wandong	1683	House	764-770 Kilmore Epping Rd
41	Willowmavin	711	Floradale	210 Campaspe Road

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The next 27 places have known cultural heritage but are outside the budget provided for the study and limited documentation only has been provided.

No.	Town	DB no.	Name	Address
42	Broadford	786	Bluestone Culvert	Broadford-Kilmore Rd
43	Broadford	339	Catholic Church	2 McKenzie Street
44	Broadford	471	Broadford Paper Mill	209 High Street
45	Broadford	505	Broadford Cemetery	Piper & Murchison Sts
46	Broadford	1303	Beuhne Monument cairn and trees	Kilmore-Broadford Rd
47	Broadford	1384	Brick spoon drain	High Street
48	Broadford	473	Former Bush Nursing Hospital	158-162 High Street
49	Kilmore	1839	Memorial Gum tree	Union Street
50	Kilmore	696	Bluestone gutter	Melbourne street
51	Kilmore	698	Cork tree and setting	Northern Hwy
52	Kilmore	1765	Bridge over Hume Hwy	Sydney Street
53	Pyalong	1832	Hanging Rock	Northern Hwy
54	Pyalong	1707	Timber bridge over Cameron's Creek	Glenaroura-Broadford Rd
55	Seymour	401	Horse troughs & plaque	Lighthorse Drive
56	Seymour	731	Masonic Lodge and trees	Anzac Ave and Watson St
57	Seymour	933	Hume and Hovell Monument	Goulburn Valley Hwy
58	Seymour	1263	Flood Level Marker	Station Street
59	Tallarook -Yea	1786	Railway Reserve	Tallarook -Yea
60	Tooborac	410	McIvor Shed and House	Major's Lane
61	Tooborac	738	Cairn on Flagstaff Hill	Flagstaff Hill
62	Tooborac	1668	Smiths Bridge	Baynton Road
63	Trawool	713	Diversion Weir and Reservoir	Reservoir Track
64	Trawool	1785	Trawool Railway Bridge	Goulburn Valley Road
65	Tyaak	429	Tyaak Cemetery	Broadford-Strath Ck Rd
66	Wallan	1123	Catholic Church	Wallan
67	Wallan	1831	Cemetery	Queen Street
68	Willowmavin	1726	Costello's Rd Bridge	Willowmavin



Fig 3
**Wallan War Memorial Obelisk, Lone Pine with Anzac Day wreaths, flanked by the Avenue of Honour,
 outside the former Mechanics Institute hall and library.**
Source: Lorraine Huddle Pty Ltd.

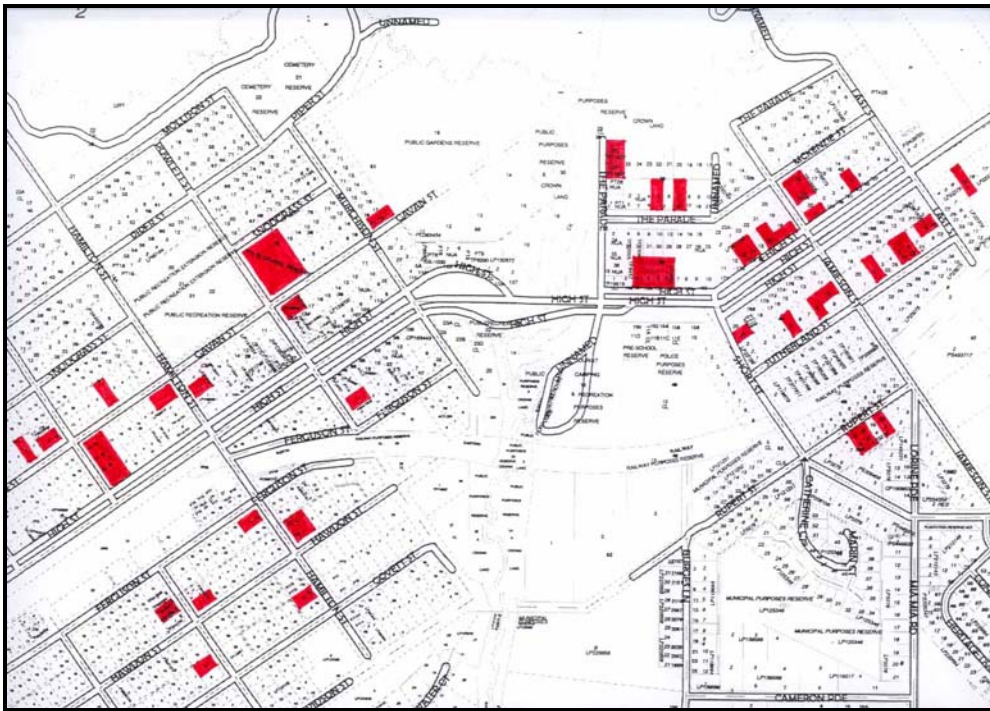
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TABLE FIVE

List of Precincts with the heritage places within each one and proposed planning overlays.

	Precinct Name	Precinct Existing HO places	Heritage New Places	Planning Overlay
1	Broadford Collective Citation (Not technically a precinct.)	1	49	HO and DDO
2	Broadford Commercial Town Centre	7	23	HO
3	Emu Flat Rural	2	0	HO and SLO
4	Kilmore Church	3	4	HO
5	Kilmore Creek	2	8	HO
6	Kilmore Hawthorn Hedge	3	3	HO and VPO
7	Kilmore Outdoor Recreation Includes Kilmore Monument Hill Kilmore Sport (cricket field only) and existing precinct Lake HO 104	1	3	HO
8	Kilmore Railway	0	3	HO
9	Kilmore Town Centre [formerly Sydney Street] HO 99 This precinct has been documented and extended.	39	14	HO
10	Kilmore Society Existing HO100 has been completely redone, and a section moved from HO100 to Kilmore Creek Precinct.	4	9	HO
11	Moranding Rural Settlement	0	6	HO & SLO
12	Pyalong Rural Town	7	18	HO
13	Seymour Commercial Existing precinct HO157 has been completely redone and boundaries changed.	5	12	HO
14	Seymour High Street	1	91	HO
15	Seymour King's Park	0	13	HO
16	Seymour Old Town This existing precinct HO156 has new boundaries and has been completely redone and now includes part of HO154.	24	6	HO
17	Seymour Progress	0	140	HO
18	Seymour Railway Part of this new precinct was in the existing precinct HO157.	2	9	HO
19	Tallarook Town The existing precinct HO181 has been completely redone, and the boundaries extended.	4	33	HO
20	Wandong	0	15	HO
	TOTAL	105	459	564
21	Seymour Goulburn River Precinct (Existing) (the Planning Dept are advised to change the boundaries of this precinct to accommodate the Seymour Old Town precinct (above))	HO154		

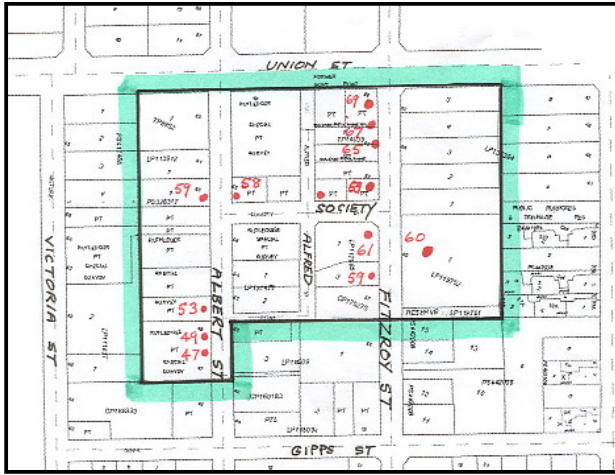
PRECINCT MAPS



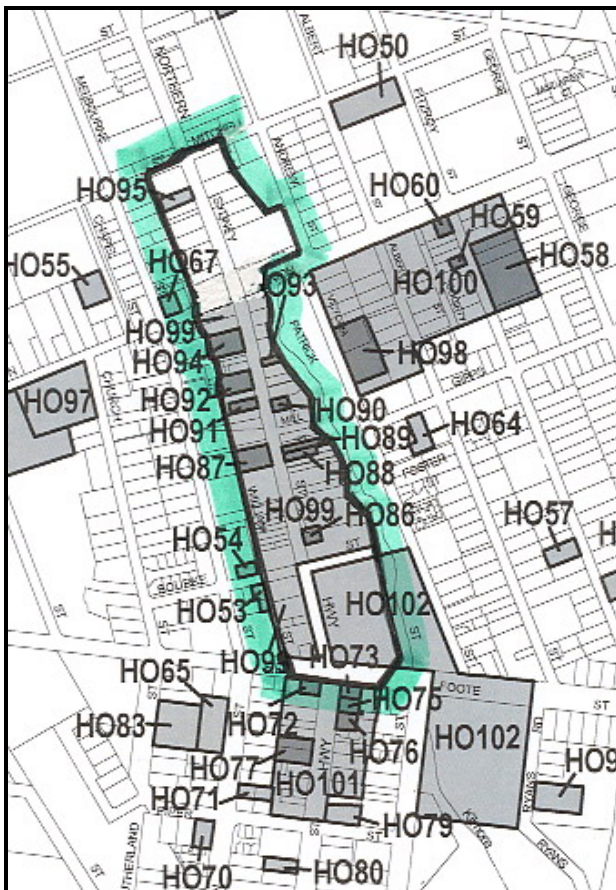
Map 1 . Bradford Collective Citation – showing location of significant places.



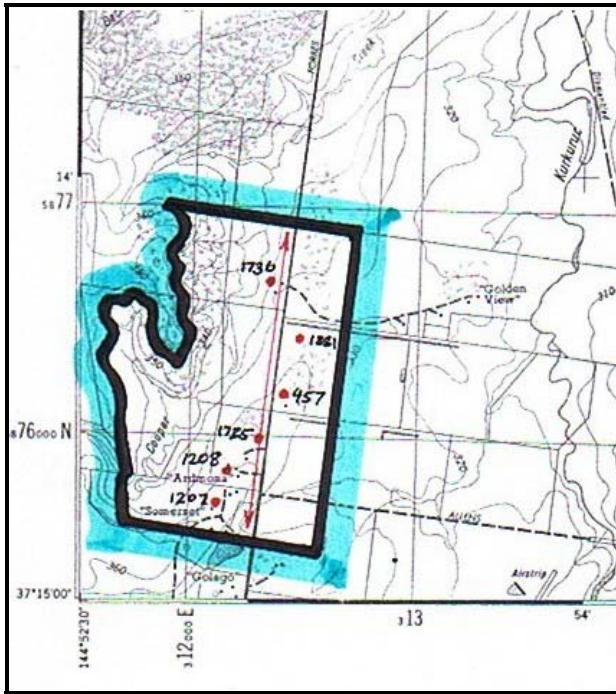
Map 2 .Bradford Commercial Town Centre Heritage Precinct – showing boundaries in green, and significant places in red.



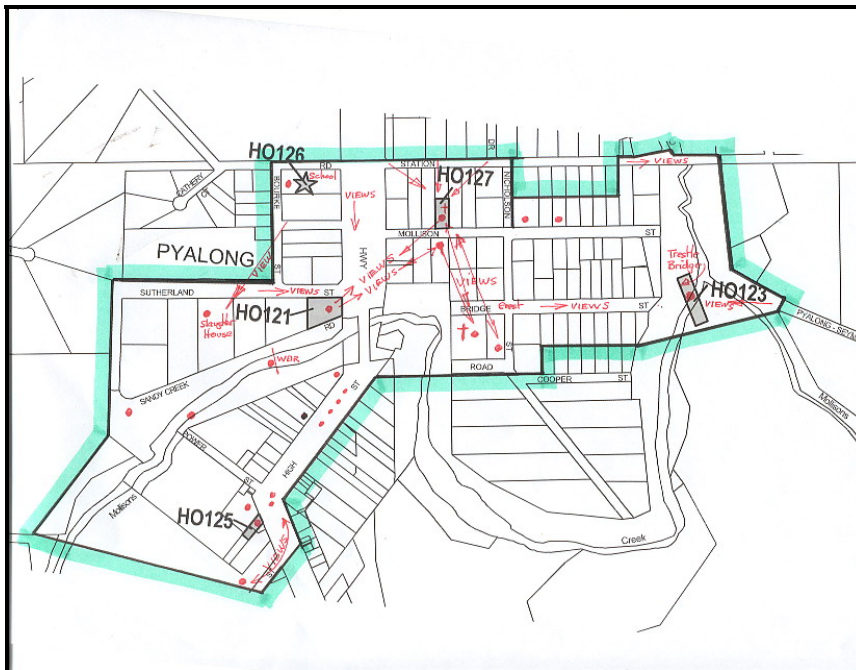
Map 9 Kilmore Society Heritage Precinct – showing boundaries in green, and significant places annotated.



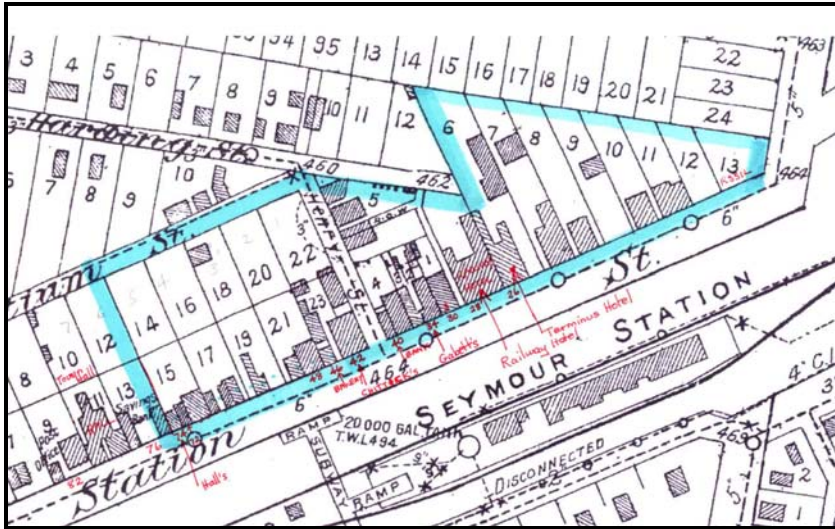
Map 10. Kilmore Town Centre Heritage Precinct – showing boundaries in green, and significant places annotated.



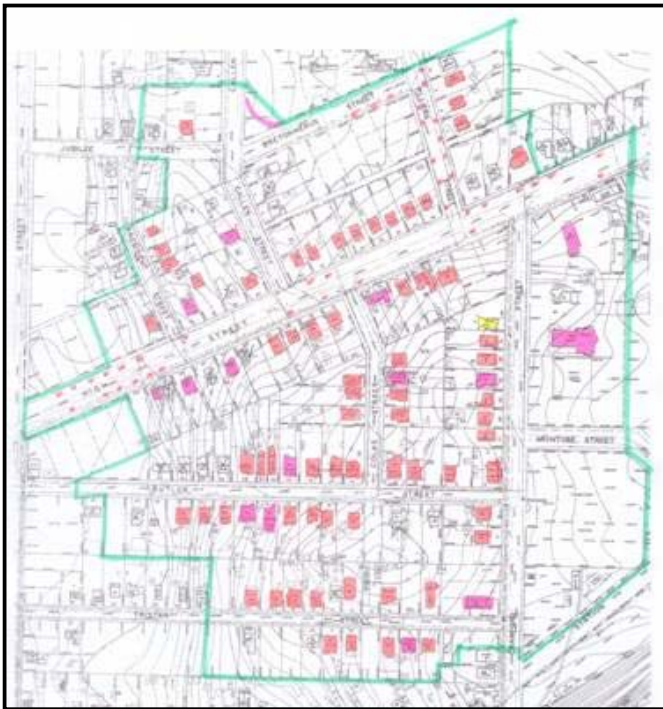
Map 11 Moranding Rural Settlement Heritage Precinct – showing boundaries in green, and significant places in red.



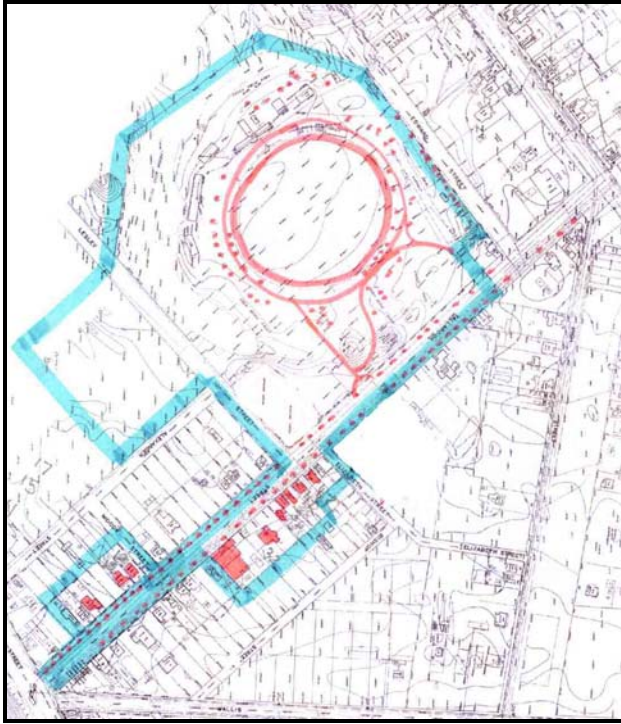
Map 12 Pyalong Rural Town Heritage Precinct – showing boundaries in green, and significant places in red.



Map 13 Seymour Commercial Heritage Precinct – showing boundaries in green, and significant places in red.



Map 14 Seymour High Street Heritage Precinct – showing boundaries in green, and significant places in red.



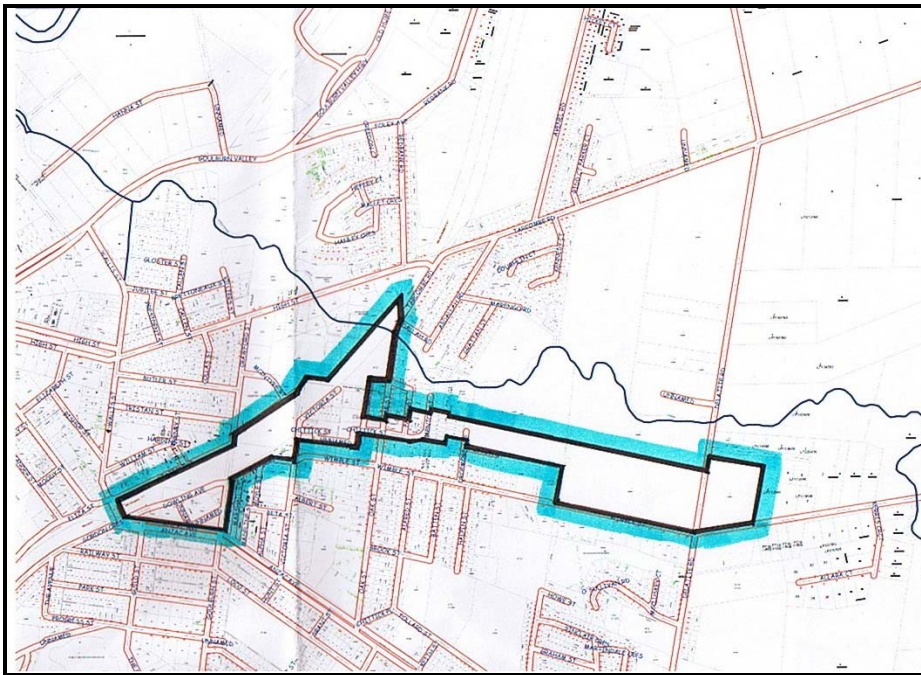
Map 15 Seymour King's Park Heritage Precinct – showing boundaries in green, and significant places in red.



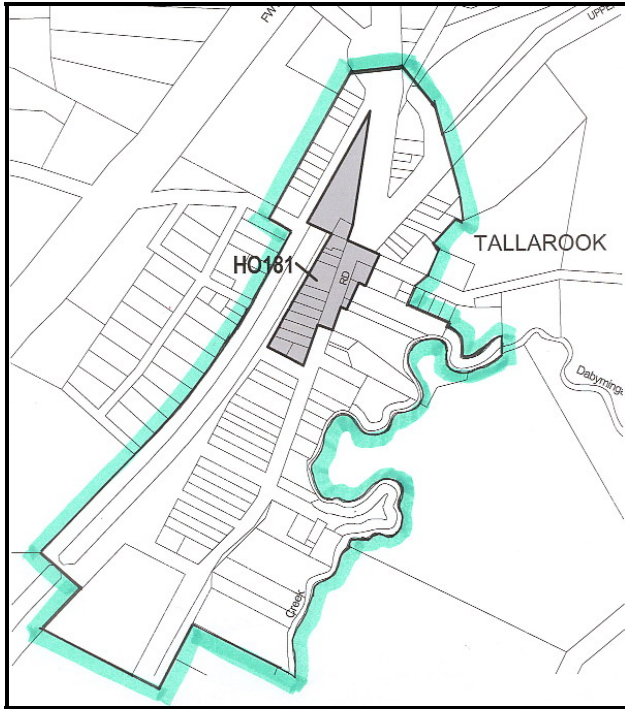
Map 16 Seymour Old Town Heritage Precinct – showing boundaries in green, and significant places in red.



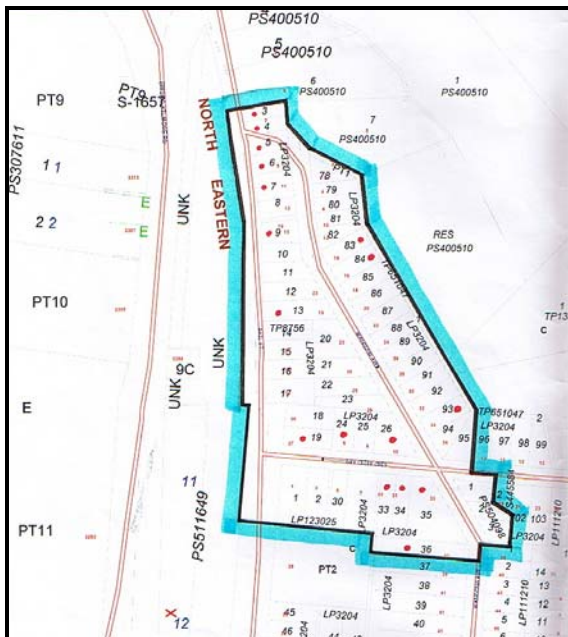
Map 17 Seymour Progress Heritage Precinct – showing boundaries in green, and significant places in red.



Map 18 Seymour Railway Heritage Precinct – showing boundaries relative to Whitehead Creek



Map 19 Tallarook Town Heritage Precinct – showing boundaries in green, and significant places in red.



Map 20 Wandong Heritage Precinct – showing boundaries in green, and significant places in red.

Best Practice Management of Change

The authentic heritage places and precincts recommended for protection are part of the setting for living and evolving communities in Mitchell Shire. The planning scheme amendments recommended in this study provide the means for council and the community to manage the change so that the ‘baby is not thrown out with the bath water’ during those changes.



Source: Lorraine Huddle Pty Ltd.

Some changes that have occurred to these authentic heritage places and precincts have not been welcomed by the community and some places have been completely destroyed. The latter assets cannot be returned and are lost to future generations. However, it is possible to reverse some of the inappropriate alterations and carry out future changes that are sympathetic to the heritage character, thus enhancing these heritage assets and providing a win-win outcome. The Kilmore Town Hall is a very good example of the successful reversal of inappropriate changes that were made from about the 1960s. Appropriate adaptive re-use was made for the building to be leased as the Town Hall Café and Restaurant business.



Fig 4 Kilmore Town Hall: Café and Restaurant proprietors, Susan and Peter Seibel, next to staircase with restored cast iron balusters, carved timber banister and lead treads with copped nail decoration. Source: Lorraine Huddle Pty Ltd.

To facilitate this approach it is very important for council to provide positive pro-active brochures for each precinct, concurrently with the amendment. The brochures should explain, with illustrations, what is



important and how to make sympathetic changes. A history and description, and statement of significance are all provided in this report in volumes 4 and 5.

The precinct documentation, in an abbreviated form, with matching illustrated design guidelines are the basis of these useful brochures. Provision of these brochures is economically worthwhile as they reduce many of hours of work by council’s planning officers and heritage advisor explaining these matters to each individual. Good examples can be seen in the City of Ballarat DDO Urban Character Design Guidelines and the City of Greater Bendigo Residential Character Study Design Guidelines. These can be viewed and printed from the respective web sites. One of the brochures should be a copy of the Burra Charter.

It is also recommended that the Mitchell Shire Council’s website be used provide the entire contents of the heritage study, in PDF format; copies of the design guideline brochures, and an abbreviated form of the heritage database.

THE STUDY AREA Location and Natural Environment

Mitchell Shire (hereinafter referred to as the Study Area, excluding those areas not under the jurisdiction of this study) is located north of Melbourne, straddling the Great Divide and the upper **Goulburn River** (hereinafter referred to as the **Goulburn** - see map). Its location astride the main roads between Melbourne and the cities of Sydney and Bendigo, as much as its topographical features, has profoundly affected its history. It incorporates all or most of the historic shires of **Kilmore, Seymour, Broadford, Pyalong** and **McIvor** as well as the riding of **Wallan**, which was annexed by the **Shire of Kilmore** from Broadmeadows in 1955.¹ The Study Area's land types and climate are diverse.² It includes two main alluvial plains around **Wallan** in the south and Whiteheads Creek in the north and the **Goulburn River** floodplain, as well as those of the **Sunday, McIvor, Sugarloaf** and **Dabyminga Creeks**. Quaternary volcanic areas provide fertile soil around **Kilmore-Willowmavin, Beveridge** and **Glenhope**, while sloping granodiorite areas include **Pyalong** and **Emu Flat**, yielding significant granite and gravel deposits in eastern regions. The southern region, around **Kilmore** receives higher rainfall than the north, while steep granitic and sedimentary areas have proven susceptible to land degradation, and sheet and gully erosion which has been an increasing environmental problem in the history of the Study Area since European settlement.

1. EARLY SETTLEMENT

1.1 The global context of early European exploration and settlement

The Study Area's history since the early nineteenth century has been connected with and influenced by distant environments. Its exploration and development must first be seen within the context of broader global events and perceptions. While Australia's initial penal colony at Sydney had been driven primarily by pressure in the criminal system in the British Isles, Mitchell Shire owes its European settlement to a different set of impulses. These included exploration, the growing demands of the emergent world markets and Great Britain's hunger for raw materials. Added to this was the flow of migration both to relieve the British Isles' population pressures and also to meet the personal ambitions of migrants themselves and the demands of expanding colonial markets.

1.2 Perceptions of the Environment Promoting Exploration and Settlement

In the first decades of the nineteenth century the views of Thomas Malthus (1766-1834) were widely publicised, with their pessimistic view of human overpopulation and interaction with the environment. While this negative perception was associated with Europe, it contrasted starkly

¹ M.Tucker, *Kilmore on the Sydney Road*, Shire of Kilmore (1988) p. 229.

² See for example the *Land Capability Study of Mitchell Shire* (1996), Centre for Land Protection Research, Technical Report no. 35. E. Jones et. al., Department of Natural Resources.

with the growing perception of the ‘new worlds’ as lands of latent and inexhaustible wealth. In 1834 an anonymous pamphleteer in England described the overseas empire as:

a mine as yet partially explored, inexhaustible in its treasures, requiring only population, with a moderate amount of capital to become of immense importance and wealth to the mother country.³

This was a view in accord with many early reports of ‘Australia Felix’, of which the Study Area formed a natural part. These concurrent and contrasting perceptions of the ‘old’ and ‘new’ worlds, combined with the potential for new markets and sources of raw materials to feed the fledgling industrial revolution were the preconditions for the radical transformation of the environment as human settlement attempted to mould its new surroundings to meet expectations and aspirations.

The resulting invasion of foreign plants, animals and peoples into Australia was thus driven both by ‘push factors’ in the old world, and ‘pull factors’ such as the alluring propaganda of colonial boosters. European colonists in the nineteenth and into the twentieth century came to view the Australian landscape as a limitless resource rather than as purely the alien wilderness that confronted the first convicts in 1788. The triumph of this optimistic view of the environment first touched the Study Area with the journey of Hamilton Hume and William Hilton Hovell in 1824. (See also Sections 1.3 and 1.4) Their achievement in fostering an optimistic view of the environment was signalled by their return to Sydney, where they were greeted with enthusiasm for rescuing ‘a large part of Australia from the stigma of Oxley, who had branded the inland as uninhabitable and useless for all the purposes of civilised man’.⁴

The more optimistic reports of these explorers, and of Major Mitchell whose route passed just to the north of the Study Area, were clearly the inspiration for glowing accounts like those of the pamphleteer of 1834 which helped promote settlement to the region Mitchell had called ‘Australia Felix’. Without these, the subsequent first tide of free migration to the Study Area could not have been conceived.

1.3 Hume & Hovell: Looking for overland stock routes and inland waterways.

The journey of exploration by Australian-born H. Hume and Englishman W. H. Hovell in 1824 not only provided the vanguard for European colonisation, but has also provided a record of the environment at the time of its first encounter with the Europeans. Theirs was the first significant incursion into the territory by explorers since Lt. J. Grant had confirmed the existence of Bass Strait aboard the *Lady Nelson* in 1800, thereby opening up a more direct route to Sydney from the Indian Ocean and providing further incentive to colonise the Port Phillip District. The eventual founding of major ports and the city of Melbourne would profoundly affect the settlement patterns of the Study Area.

³ Asa Briggs, *The Age of Improvement*, p.388.

⁴ Clarke, ed. Cathcart, *Manning Clarke's History of Australia*, p.105.

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Hume and Hovell were initially commissioned by Governor Bourke of New South Wales (of which the future state of Victoria then formed a part) to explore the interior for navigable Rivers and agricultural land. At the time there were fears that if left unclaimed, regions of Australia would be occupied by the French who were significant imperial rivals.



Fig 2. Seymour Hume and Hovell Monument within ring of stones.
Source: Lorraine Huddle 2002.

Hume and Hovell's journey of exploration from the Murrumbidgee to Corio was long and difficult, and their route covered significant tracts of the Study Area (see Map) as they searched for a passable route over the Great Dividing Range. The Hume Highway is not the only landmark name associated with the journey – **Mount Disappointment** was so named because from its summit the explorers could see no way south through the then dense, often impassable bush land, and had thence to double back in a loop along **King Parrot Creek**, across to **Broadford** and back south along **Sunday Creek** to the pass where **Wandong** and **Kilmore** would later develop as key locations on the Sydney Road.⁵ **Mount Bland**, **Sunday Creek**, **Mount Piper** and **King Parrot Creek** are among other names in the Study Area associated with the journey of exploration.

The area around what the explorers called 'the Falawn Hope or Doubtful Range' was for Hovell 'the worst country' covered in 'Cutting Grass' four to five feet high and 'Sharp as a Butcher's Knife'.⁶ Even then the potential of so harsh an environment in resource terms did not escape the Europeans' eyes, the timber of the Plenty Ranges being praised as 'superior to any...something of the specia [sic] of the Blackbuted Gum'. The presence of indigenous inhabitants was confirmed through evidence of burning off, a practice which made explorers compare parts of Australia's forests to 'an English park'. When Hume and Hovell doubled back north, they found the whole landscape ahead of them aflame. They eventually crossed the Divide at the pass near **Kilmore** where the Sydney Road would eventually pass, and returned back the same way on their return from Corio Bay (what would one day become Geelong).

⁵ Tucker, *Kilmore on the Sydney Road*, p.22-4.

⁶ *Ibid.*, p.23.

1.4 Marking History on the Landscape: Commemorating Hume and Hovell 1924

Hume and Hovell's journey marked the natural environment not only in presaging future European colonisation. In more literal terms their route was marked out as having special historic and cultural significance to those who followed as European settlers strove to identify themselves with the new land and stake a cultural as well as economic claim to the environment. The expedition had camped at numerous locations, including **King Parrot Creek**, **Broadford**, Tempe Valley (**Wallan East**) and the **Goulburn** south of **Seymour**. Their journey was re-enacted one hundred years later, in 1924, with centenary celebrations. Local shires commemorated the journey with memorials at such key sites along the route, and a number of the approximately forty memorials so erected are within the bounds of Mitchell Shire, in particular taking the form of monuments at **Broadford** and **Seymour**.⁷ They were also commemorated with a bluestone memorial at the base of **Mount Fraser**, which the explorers had named Bland's Mount, from whence they looked down upon Port Phillip, 'as fine a country as we have ever seen in any part of the colony'.



Fig 3. Hume & Hovell Monument at Broadford
Source: Lorraine Huddle 2002.

Such monuments mark the history of British exploration and settlement (as it was then understood) upon the landscape and were as such important markers both of settlement-society and culture. Their style often harked back to that of ancient monuments in the old world. These sites were also important in consolidating the mythology of exploration and pioneering that had become a celebrated part of Australia's history at the time. In 1963 the **Seymour** Shire commissioned a painting of 'Camp Hill' at **Tallarook** where Hume and Hovell crossed the **Goulburn**, demonstrating the importance of the 'legend' to the area's identity on the centenary of local government there.

⁷ Mitchell Shire Heritage Assets 1996, p.138.

1.5 Major Mitchell

Hume and Hovell's journey was followed by several miscarried attempts at colonisation, most famously by John Batman who attempted unsuccessfully and illegally to acquire vast tracts of the Port Phillip region for himself and his association through a treaty with the indigenous 'chieftains' there.⁸

In 1836 Major Mitchell was the next overland explorer to traverse the Port Phillip region in search specifically for good pastoral land on which to run cattle and sheep. So great was his convoy of carts and whalebone carriages, in contrast to the smaller party of Hume and Hovell, that he left a deep track of ruts that became known as the Major's Line. It passed in a line just two and a half miles beyond the northwest corner of the Study Area, north of **Seymour**, crossing the **Goulburn** at Mitchellstown. This site was initially selected by the surveyor as the site for an early settlement, but the site for the town that would subsequently be named **Seymour** was preferred by Mitchell. Major Mitchell's trail became the standard route for the early settlers that followed, and was marked with a burst of commemorative activity in 1936 similar to the 1924 celebrations of Hume and Hovell – the influence of which may be seen in the selection of his name for the amalgamated shires that make up the present day Mitchell Shire, in spite of the Mitchell trail not passing through the Study Area.

⁸ Historic Places of S.W. Victoria 27-30. As radical title to the entire continent had been claimed by the British Crown only the commissioned agents of the Crown could legally acquire land. Evidence has also come to light (State Library, Victoria) that Batman forged the 'signatures' of the Elders used to justify his claim, and it is also extremely unlikely, given traditional relations with the land, that the said Elders understood correctly that John Batman intended by the exchange of goods to acquire for himself sole and exclusive ownership over the land upon which they themselves lived. While Batman's treaty miscarried from its original aims to secure a dominant position in the district for himself and the Port Phillip Association, it did prompt Governor Bourke to recommend the early settlement of Port Phillip to the Home Government (London), resulting in the formal establishment of Melbourne and Williamstown.

1.6 Altering the Natural Environment

The descriptions of the area left by explorers and early overlanders provide an insight into the scope and scale of environmental changes affected by humans since settlement began.



Fig 4. Plantation of Exotic Trees on Tallarook Street, Seymour
Source: Lorraine Huddle 2002.

Hume and Hovell's first ascent on the ranges east of **Kilmore** had encountered 'brushwood so thick it was impossible to see in any direction ten yards' while in the hills they were attacked by land leeches, an animal that 'bites with an avidity equal to that of the water leech', as well as 'extremely troublesome' mosquitoes, flies and 'in addition, the tic.'⁹ The more habitable nature of the areas to the north, around **King Parrot Creek** may be attributable to the aboriginal practice of burning off, and on 11 December the party was turned back from the north, 'the whole of the country in this direction being on fire'. In the area of **Mount Piper** were open forest hills of 'more promising appearance'. Having traversed the Divide, from **Mount Bland (Mount Fraser)** they were greeted with the sight of 'several extensive plains' reaching from the west to southeast, interspersed with patches of forest land.¹⁰

In 1836 George Russell described **Kilmore** as 'a wooded country, well grassed' and 'at that time quite unoccupied' while Mercer's Vale (later **Beveridge**) provided 'an open tract of country'.¹¹

Alexander Mollison, (immortalized by the Mollison Memorial) of the third expedition of overlanders to arrive in the Port Phillip District, left extensive letters and a travel diary of the

⁹ J.W. Payne, *Pretty Sally's Hill: A history of Wallan, Wandong and Bylands*.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, pp.1-5.

¹¹ Payne, *Pretty Sally's Hill*, p.40.

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expedition in 1838 to Colliban and **Pyalong**.¹² He had seen 'sufficient of the prosperous farmers and stockowners in the older settled parts of New South Wales to kindle a desire for similar wealth through the ownership of livestock', and so set off for the promised land of Australia Felix. His journey was testimony to the importance not so much of the invasion of European people at this stage, but of the plants and animals that came with them. Besides a mere 30 men, he wrote on 24 April 1837,

We have with us 5000 sheep, 600 horned cattle, 20 horses, two little pigs and 40 working bullocks besides an infinite number and variety of dogs. So you see there are enough of us to enliven the solitude of the forests and to astonish the poor natives and the kangaroos.

He also noted that two cats accompanying the expedition went wild¹³ Mollison occupied 60,000 acres at **Pyalong** in 1838, which he described as 'a very pretty country consisting of a succession of granite hills lightly timbered and clothed with grass to the very tops.' By 1839 his assets included 20,000 sheep, and his party were 'now eating bread from our own wheat and ground on the farm. We had also very good potatoes'¹⁴ while a downturn in the wool market led him to boiling sheep for tallow to be sold on English markets.

In his memoir, *Early Pioneering Days in Victoria*, J.C. Hamilton also provided a recollection of the area around **Mollison's Creek**, which was

at one time, a fine stream...it was a long line of deep pools of water, some over 20 feet deep, well stocked with fish. Red gums and white gums overhung the water.

It was a contrast, he wrote, with 'the sad legacy our pioneers left [of] destroyed trees on hillsides that were the natural storages of water that supplies the streams with a permanent flow.'¹⁵ At this time too the area that was to become **Beveridge** was also swampland, which was later reclaimed for settlement.

The stream valleys and lower areas around **Broadford** made luscious grazing lands and also provided an abundant supply of native blackfish. The area's original plants however were rapidly destroyed and replaced by introduced pasture species due to the close grazing of European herbivores and their cloven hooves. European methods of land clearing also left fewer hollows for other native species of animals, and in the waterways the native fish were increasingly driven out by trout and more latterly by carp.

Such alteration of the natural landscape can be vividly seen in surviving plantations of exotic trees, such as those that were planted at the K. McKenzie homestead north of the bridge over **Dry Creek**¹⁶ and lines of old hedges at **Kilmore**. These patterns were reinforced by the grid-like scheme of subdivision that took no account of the contours of the land, resulting in buildings and sale yards being located on rocky outcrops and other oddities. The visual impact of the grid was

¹²Tucker, *Kilmore on the Sydney Road*, p.42.

¹³Ibid., p.43.

¹⁴Ibid., p.44.

¹⁵*A Brief history of Pyalong*, p.8-9.

¹⁶Johnston and Moody, *Residential map of Broadford* 1912.

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enhanced through the use of fences and roads following them, as well as gutters and exotic trees, some examples of which still survive. These include sites such as the avenue of plane trees at Tallarook Street at **Seymour** and the largest known planting of Valonia Oak trees in Victoria at “**Glenaroua**” homestead at **Broadford**.



Fig 5. Avenue of plane trees in Tallarook Street, Seymour
Source: Mitchell Shire Heritage Database prepared for this study.

The high ground called **Trawool** Massif had slopes ideal for grazing by sheep. The densely forested plateau there was increasingly replaced in later years by scrub and fern following intensive clearing.

As well as expansions in public services, the last decades of the nineteenth century also saw increased conflict with the natural environment as townships and their environmental impact expanded, particularly in terms of deforestation of the region. In the 1880s **Seymour** was plagued with a series of snake infestations, while large numbers of koalas 'plentiful in the **River** timber' were frequently to be seen wandering homeless through the town's streets.¹⁷

1.7 Adapting to Diverse Environments

As well as transforming their environment, early settlers also sought to adapt to their new surroundings, and were sometimes forced so to do in order to survive and prosper. While many European farming methods were imported for use, with the introduction of hooved animals among the most destructive import for native soils and plants. Where agriculture was concerned, new migrants also had to adapt to a different climate and more radical seasonal patterns. **Kilmore** was among the first areas where this was evident, with the tenants of William Rutledge's Special

¹⁷ Martindale, *Seymour: New Crossing Place*

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Survey diversifying the region's primary produce into crops and having to deal first hand with the new environment.

The township of **Seymour** also had to adapt not just to climatic differences, but also to the cycles of the **Goulburn River**. Subsequently the town began a sustained spread towards higher ground. The flood marker at **Seymour**, established by the **Seymour** Historical Society is testament to the long history of interaction between town and River. The Great Flood of 1847, following on from that of 1844, saw the water above the windowsills¹⁸ - the earliest descriptions of **Seymour** are thus connected with a significant flooding event, highlighting the long history of coexistence of town and River. The alteration of the River course was completed in the great floods of 1870 and 1916. Floods were in fact responsible for the railway being built to the east of the town, to which the 'new town' of **Seymour** along Station Street owes its existence.



Fig 6. Flood Marker
Source: Lorraine Huddle 2002.

Another aspect of the natural environment that was new to the European settlers was the bushfire, of which 'Black Thursday', 6 February 1851, is a prominent example, having set the hills of **Tallarook**, and other areas across the Study Area aflame.¹⁹ The development of institutions such as fire brigades and their strong voluntary element were thus in large part a response to fire-prone environmental conditions. Important examples of these methods of adaptation include the **Kilmore** fire bell, as well as numerous water standpipes that were used to collect water in both fires and droughts. For the latter such points were particularly important before irrigation and piped water supply (See Section 5.2), and residents would collect water from the standpipes using water carts.

¹⁸ Ibid., 33.

¹⁹ Ibid., p. 40.



Fig 7. Detail of Postcard showing Flooding in Emily Street
Source: Mitchell Shire Heritage Database prepared for this study.

1.8.1 Migrating

While overlanders with their sheep and cattle runs were the first Europeans to transform the region, of more lasting importance was the migration of people to the area – in the first instance from the British Isles – and the subsequent development of a local settled economy and society. There could be many reasons for migrating to Australia, and these varied individually and across time periods. As mentioned in 1.2 perceptions of the environment were an important factor in determining the kind of people who willingly left their original homes for what was in the mid nineteenth century still a daunting and even perilous journey.²⁰ In the wake of the explorers and overlanders many single men came as shepherds and drovers, building rudimentary huts and living for long periods in isolation, described by one contemporary as ‘semi-barbarous regions, far from civilisation’ in ‘miserable huts of bark’ contending not only with an unfamiliar climate but with what were widely termed ‘savage tribes of Indigenous peoples’.²¹

Such men were not necessarily free migrants, as many among them may have been born in the colony or be themselves ex-convicts who had either served their term or who had ‘tickets of leave’ to work and live in the colony. According to the 1851 census, in **Kilmore** there were 1921 inhabitants ‘born or arrived free’ and 2 ticket-of-leave holders, while 131 were ‘other free persons’ who were neither colonial born nor ‘free arrivals’, which would suggest they were ex-convicts, 13 of them women. Even those who arrived free however did not always migrate without considerable duress. Around the early part of the nineteenth century the ‘Condition of England’, and more so of Ireland were intolerable enough for many to uproot themselves from their communities,²² though it is also important to remember that those community links remained strong even over vast distances and many years - families who succeeded in Australia might send money back to their relatives ‘at home’.

²⁰ Many accounts exist of the varying conditions on the ‘voyage out’ and some were also recounted in the Australian Illustrated News.

²¹ Tucker, op.cit. p.44.

²² Some idea of these conditions can be garnered from Raymond Gillespie (ed.) *Cavan: Essays on the history of an Irish County*, Irish Academic Press, 1995.

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The system of 'chain migration' through which arrivals brought friends, families and contacts out after them was also responsible in part for **Kilmore** becoming known as an 'Irish village' by the late 1840s, with most Irish inhabitants hailing from Rutledge's own County Cavan, or the counties of Tipperary, Clare and Limerick, followed by Galway, Monaghan, Waterford and Derry (Map).²³ The Irish tenants successfully adapted their farming techniques, particularly in the area that in 1849 became the parish of **Willowmavin** where wheat rather than husbandry became predominant.²⁴ Squatter Joseph Hawdon also brought in related families from Northern Ireland to the **Tallarook** area.



Fig 8. Mollison Memorial Cairn at Pyalong.
Source: Lorraine Huddle 2000.

At **Pyalong** station Alexander Mollison in 1838 had 'plenty of employment', and migration from the British Isles allowed the '[discharge of] my worst men, having engaged some of the Highland emigrants brought out by the government, and imported sixteen men ourselves from England.'²⁵ According to Mollison the best emigrants in 1848 were those 'highland families warned off by their landlords...[The Highlanders] make the best shepherds here. They are generally trusty, good bush men, and they do not pine under their solitary life.'²⁶ In **Seymour**, the first 'wave' of migrants were the overlanders of 1838, including Hamilton on **Sugarloaf Creek** and the **Glenaroua Run**, and J. Hawdon at **Tallarook**. Subsequently, many settlers to the area hailed from Scotland and included a number of ex-army men.²⁷

The Scottish Highland Clearances of the 1840s and 1850s and the subsequent migration of thousands from that region to Australia had a profound effect on the population patterns of the region and proved again how much it was linked to developments overseas, particularly reliant on

²³ Tucker, op. cit. 51.

²⁴ *ibid*, 52.

²⁵ Tucker, Mollison letter to Jane Mollison August 1838, p.43.

²⁶ Tucker p. 47.

²⁷ Martindale, pp.5-26.

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emigration as a source of labour and capital. By 1841 over 20,000 free settlers had made their way to Australia, and particular attention began to be paid towards encouraging women and whole families to migrate. Following the discovery of gold in Victoria in the 1850s, push factors in the Old World paled before the glitter of gold, and it was after 1851 that the area was to have its greatest influx yet of free immigrants and prospectors.

According to the census of 1851 **Kilmore**'s population was 2064, comprising 1387 males and 677 females; Of these, only 524 were Australian born, with 565 born in England, 600 in Ireland and 264 in Scotland. Fifty-eight were from 'Other British Dominions' and 41 from 'foreign countries'. Commerce, trade and manufacture employed 55 persons, 240 were involved in agriculture, there were 446 shepherds, 44 stockmen, only one in horticulture, 61 labourers, 68 mechanics and artificers, 105 domestic servants, without alms people or pensioners.



Fig 9. Timothy Howard's former residence at 5 Tierney Street, Seymour is among the buildings associated with prominent Irish settlers in the Study Area.

Source: Seymour and District Historical Society.

Literacy rates were 76% for males and 63% for females. Wooden residences were the dominant form of building, numbering 210 compared with 32 of brick and bluestone, though this would change as local bluestone was mined from a quarry established at **Bylands** after 1853. While there was heavy Irish migration, many of these were also Protestants, ensuring a roughly even division between Catholics and Protestants.

Despite this, to the Englishman William Kelly, **Kilmore** appeared dominated by the Irish, as if it were 'rafted over holus-bolus from the Emerald Isle...and in the peculiarly Milesian style of huckstering arrangement in which the shops were set out.'²⁸ **Seymour** was less populous than **Kilmore** throughout the 1850s - in the 1854 census the township registered 138 inhabitants, 93 of which were male, while the total population of the Anglesey County of which **Seymour** formed a part, was 593 persons.

²⁸ Tucker, p. 67.

1.8.2 Main Themes of Migration

There were thus three main phases of migration in the area. Many migrated to seek opportunity, not only for oneself but for family 'at home', but others were also compelled to migrate by significant 'push factors', in particular those related to the Irish famine and the Highland Clearances in Scotland in which the British government forced large numbers of Britons there to move – leaving many with little option but migration either to the cities or to the colonies. In the century preceding the enactment of the Land Enclosure Act in England (1845) nearly four thousand private land enclosure acts had been passed, adding to the population pressures in the United Kingdom's urban centres as well as aggravating rural poverty there. Lastly, the most significant theme to emerge from successive waves of migration was the changing face of rural Australia that resulted from migration – culturally and in terms of the natural and built environment, the animals, agricultural and architectural practices imported and in some cases adapted to local conditions.

The impact of migration was reflected in the continuation of old cultural practices and in some cases division, such as the Protestant/ Catholic divide. Such divisions based on divisions in their respective homelands was testimony to the assertion made in the *Australia Felix* monthly magazine in 1848 when it enunciated the 'Spirit of our Future Policy', that 'although the land we live in is a *new* country, its inhabitants are essentially an *old* people.'²⁹ (See Section 6) This paradox, with the majority of its people new to what was in fact among the most ancient of the continents, was possible only through continuing migration which thus affected the region throughout most of its history.

1.9 Contact with Indigenous peoples

The other aspect of migration to the region, as with all of the 'new land', was the dispossession of the indigenous owners of the land. Areas of the Study Area played a significant role in the people's cultural life. In his *Pioneering Days*, J.C. Hamilton testified that his

first recollection of the natives of this country was in the **Kilmore** district, where in 1845 I witnessed their great national event - the Coayang ... 150 to 200 of the **Goulburn** Valley, **Kilmore** and other tribes present; their place of meeting was in the ranges to the east of **Kilmore**.³⁰

²⁹ *Australia Felix*, June 1848, 42-4.

³⁰ Tucker.

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While it would become fashionable among Europeans to see the Indigenous peoples as a 'dying race', early European settlers were particularly fearful of attack. Petitions to the government by settlers precipitated the establishment of police barracks, particularly that at **Seymour** which at that juncture felt itself all too near to where the 'Faithful Party' had been ambushed in 1838 near Benalla,³¹ which also led to a police garrison being stationed at **Seymour** and other key river crossings.



Fig 10. Aboriginal people on steps of Seymour Church of England.
Source: H G Martindale, *New Crossing Place*, plate 8.

In the Study Area itself, the **Tallarook** station was reportedly attacked in 1838 by an army of 400 Indigenous peoples.³² Concerns for the welfare of the original inhabitants, particularly from former Abolitionist (anti-slavery) and religious groups in Britain also prompted the governor to appoint a 'Protector of Aborigines'. In the 1830s one of the assistant protectors J.W. Dredge toured the Study Area extensively.

Indigenous peoples near **Kilmore** (the Wurunjerri), 'on the west side of Tantaraboo', were also notable for their occupation and use of the quarry there. In 1848, an explosion at Mr. Allen's Mill on Sydney Street was credited with 'frightening' the remaining Indigenous peoples from where they were encamped at the back of it, in O'Dea's Paddock.³³

At **Seymour** the Aboriginal people there used to camp on the river behind the Royal Hotel (then the Royal George DB 304) and a Corroboree ground at King's Park.³⁴ A number of poignant

³¹ While it is important to emphasise that this incident occurred outside of the Study Area and was most likely by a different people than those who resided in the Study Area, Europeans of the time were not as discriminating, and numerous correspondence and petitions to the government indicate that it maintained a perhaps exaggerated psychological influence over the residents of the Study Area. See also *Broadford: A Regional History*, p.27. Europeans were uneasy living in close proximity with indigenous peoples.

³² Tucker, p.35.

³³ Tucker, p. 21-22.

³⁴ Martindale, p.1

photographs exist of **Seymour's** Aboriginal people at that time, including Indigenous peoples sitting on the steps of the Church of England, where they reputedly used to hold corroborees before the land was reserved for the church.³⁵ On Heywood's Road, Seymour, a large eucalypt used as a canoe tree is also evidence of Aboriginal occupation. There is also said to have been a camp between the Primary School and cemetery at **Broadford**. While it is difficult to piece together the precise story of Aboriginal and European contact, conflict and coexistence was undeniably a significant theme in the history of the region warranting further and more comprehensive study than can be provided in this thematic heritage study.

2. DEVELOPING THE LOCAL ECONOMY

2.1.a An Introduction to the land & legal system in Australia.

The system and history of land tenure in Australia is complex and the following is provided as a basic introduction to its main principles as they would have affected the history of the Study Area.

When the eastern Australian seaboard was claimed for King George III by Captain Cook in 1770, the British Crown acquired **radical title** to the land in the same manner as William the Conqueror acquired Sovereignty in England following the battle of Hastings. At the time however, radical title was held to have been acquired through settlement, according to the doctrine of *terra nullius* by which indigenous peoples were said not to possess ownership of the land. It is now implicitly recognised following the *Mabo* decision that Australia was similarly acquired through Conquest rather than through Settlement. In this situation, native land ownership continues until the land is expressly redistributed by the Crown, the holder of radical title. Notwithstanding this modern day decision, it was recognised at the time of Australia's occupation by the British that radical title can only be held by the Sovereign, to whom all subjects thereby owe their **tenure**.³⁶ The enforcement of this theory, based in the feudal origins of English land law, was a key concern of the British government in seeking to control the flow of 'settlers' into the 'new continent'. Before, and to a large extent following the *Australian Constitutions Act* (1842) the Imperial Government enjoyed the control and revenue over the '**waste lands**' (i.e. lands not yet set aside for a particular use) of the Australian colonies and the distribution of land was 'by executive fiat'. Land could be obtained directly from the Crown (originally by grant, but later by purchase or lease), or from another individual to whom land had been so granted.

Similar to the operation of land law, so too did the English **Common Law** apply to Australia. Until local courts were established, justice was dispensed by wandering magistrates appointed by the Crown, who by necessity were accompanied by mounted troopers. With the development of representative and '**responsible government**' (ie. colonial parliaments) control of Crown lands

³⁵ Martindale, facing p.81.

³⁶ For a thorough explanation of the history of land tenure in Australia see, for example, Gummow, J. et al., in *The Wik Peoples v The State of Queensland & Ors* - Matter No B8 of 1996, judgement made by the High Court of Australia.

was gradually devolved upon authorities in each colony rather than the Imperial government. The granting of tenure of land is referred to in legal terms as the **alienation of land**.

Stock drovers or 'Overlanders' were granted **Stock Routes** for a fee – they did not own the land but had permission from the Crown to use particular stock routes, watering holes and pastures. Of these, Pastoral leases are the modern day descendent. Similarly, '**squatters**' occupied Crown land for an often nominal fee, reaping the benefits of possession without having freehold ownership. Squatters grazed large herds of cattle or sheep as they were generally prohibited from large-scale agriculture on Crown land. Different again was the **Special Survey**, as carried out at **Kilmore** (1841) under Rutledge. A survey is a plan prepared by a Licensed Surveyor from field survey data and previous survey plan data according to standards and directions of the Surveyor-General. Special Surveys however were part of an experiment by the Colonial Office's Commissioners of Land and Emigration (est.1840) to encourage more permanent settlements. Selections by individuals under this scheme overrode the 'rights' of squatters. Depending on the degree of financing provided by the individual, the **selector** might be eligible for the free conveyancing of 'assisted migrants' to come and rent land off the Survey. In one respect it could be seen as the attempt to create a lesser mesne system under the demesne of the Crown as existed in England. The Special Survey system however was discontinued in the same year as it was instituted in Victoria (1841).

The conflict between the original squatters (the 'Squattocracy' or pastoralists) and newer migrants, many of whom, being lured to Australia with the promise of riches, found the best lands closed to them. As squatters did not own the land however, this provided a legal avenue for their dispossession, as the Crown reserved the right to alienate the land. This was increasingly enforced following the **1865 Land Act** (Grant's Act) assented to in Victoria after a similar act in New South Wales.

2.1b Laying Claim to the Land

John Batman's attempt to purchase swathes of the Port Phillip District from the Indigenous peoples has become famous, though it was disallowed by the Governor of New South Wales according to the doctrine of *terra nullius* by which it was held that the indigenous population did not own the land, as they did not farm the land in the same way as Europeans.³⁷ Occupation, and moreover the 'improvement' of the land along European lines thereafter became the chief method of laying claim to the land from the indigenous population, allowing a powerful 'squattocracy' to develop.

This early class of settlers sought to own their leases, attempting to create a local aristocracy based on landholdings as had existed in agrarian Britain – a project that was not as successful in

³⁷ For an excellent and authoritative discussion of this, see both the majority and dissenting judgments from the High Court of Australia in *Mabo vs. the State of Queensland* (No. 2) (1992) 175 CLR1. It overturned the principle of *terra nullius* and recognised that in Australia (like other British colonies) the following two tenure systems exist: the introduced colonial system from which freehold and leasehold title flow and a pre existing indigenous system from which indigenous property rights derive.

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the Study Area as it was in the Western District. It was a project mitigated in the Study Area through the early establishment of towns, and the arrival of a new class of migrants in the 1850s. The battle between the 'pastoral ascendancy' and newcomers during and after the 1850s was fierce in Victoria, with calls to 'unlock the pastoral lands' galvanizing political debate and conflict between the two classes and houses of parliament.

Land policy developments in the Study Area exemplified those throughout the colony. The mass migration of free migrants who were prospectors, small farmers and other skilled migrants who wanted a stake in the land (rather than agricultural labourers) effectively challenged the dominance of the pastoralists. In 1836 Governor Bourke had allowed graziers to occupy all the land they could stock for £10 an acre, and from 1847 pastoralists were granted the 'pre-emptive right' to purchase some of their land and lease others for up to 14 years.

Lots were sold off by the Crown from under the pastoralists' feet in **Kilmore** and **Bylands** in the early 1850s to assuage the agitation of new migrants and selectors. Established landholders could nonetheless use 'dummy' bids to maintain their pre-eminence. Land along the **Goulburn River** preceded further large-scale sales in the **Kilmore** area, encouraging settlers and small farmers in particular to head to the northern areas of the Study Area until more land in the south was 'unlocked' in the 1870s. A stake in the land was integral to many settlers' quests for wealth and the spirit of the new generation is exemplified in the threat made by Robert O'Reilly who wished to select part of William Hamilton's 70,000 acre **Glenaroua** Run at Broadford in 1870:

I am a native of this colony and if debarred from obtaining a part of my natal soil whereon to place my foot it is time that I should adopt some other land where the whole territory shall not be in the hands of a few.³⁸

William Hamilton was prominent among the squatters, establishing his claim to the land through the acquisition of a sheep run in 1838. Glenaroua is thus typical of the process of land use and alteration forming the basis for land claims and ownership in Australia.



Fig 11. "Glenaroua" Homestead Complex is one of the oldest pastoral stations in Victoria.

Source: National Estate on-line database.

³⁸ Martindale, p.67.

2.2 Laying out Boundaries

The first European boundaries marked out were those associated with sheep and cattle runs, the names of many of these being passed down to subsequent townships or street names in the region. Surveyors and draftsmen were employed by both squatters and government to mark out territory for disposal. The physical marking of territory and making of maps was an integral part of laying claim to the land. These boundaries often appeared to be fairly arbitrarily drawn in straight lines from point to point, attempting to include the most promising land and water sources. The territories marked for pastoral leases and for townships explain many of the boundaries and names of townships and streets throughout the Study Area today.

The process followed by draughtsman T.H. Nutt, who carried out the initial survey for William Rutledge in the **Kilmore** area was typical.³⁹ Here the southwest reference point was a 'gum stump lettered R', the southeast marked by a 'box tree lettered R'. The Willowmavin-**Moranding** Rd. thus naturally arose in its line marking the northern boundary, the north-west corner marked by 'a honeysuckle marked four sides and lettered R' and another box tree on northeast. In 1851 the government surveyor named many of the **Broadford** area's locations after the pioneers, and with land sales in 1854 tenants were able to purchase their own land.

The processes carried out by these early surveyors and draftsmen are clearly visible today, not only in the grid, but in the alignment of houses and other buildings, their front elevations parallel to the roads.

2.3 Developing Primary Production

While agriculture and husbandry formed the basis of primary production in the Study Area, quarries to the south of **Trawool** also provided facing for building in Melbourne – the quarry remembered by the rail siding of **Granite**. The **Trawool** area also yielded timber, gravel and two main species of trees - the grey box used for wheel naves and the ironbark for spokes. Small amounts of gold were found at **Reedy Creek**, and at **King Parrot Creek** in 1859 and later at **Strath Creek** in 1860. **Reedy Creek** also had another gold rush in the 1880s, bringing more people into the area. Sand was also extracted in large quantities from **Mollison's Creek** at **Pyalong** and sent by rail to Melbourne.⁴⁰

Forestry as well as agricultural clearing also left a tremendous mark upon the area, particularly in the ranges. Primary production began when land was the indicator of wealth in the agrarian colonies, and lay at the heart of the ambitions of many a migrant farmer. The debate over ownership and distribution of the land was thus inextricable from the development of primary production (2.1) and influenced what kind of agriculture developed – for example farming around

³⁹ Tucker, p. 36.

⁴⁰ A Brief History of Pyalong, p.15.

large areas of **Kilmore** were delayed as small farmers would head for the **Goulburn River** area where more land was being opened up for selection.

2.3.1 Sheep and Cattle

Charles Bonney's shepherd was amongst the earliest agricultural labourers to grace the agrarian landscape, occupying the 'very gentle hills moderately timbered with gum' about 20 chains west of **Kilmore Creek** of the Out Sheep Station in mid 1837. Large flocks of sheep and herds of cattle provided the mainstay of the pastoral economy under the squatters, overlanders and large landholders. **Morandng** Station (DB 1738) alone, with a run comprising 28,000 acres, fed over 500 cattle and 9000 sheep. When wool prices were depressed they resorted to tanning and selling the sheep hides in Melbourne. Mary Dempsey's Marengo Run 15,360 acres near **Seymour** fed 500 cattle and 3,000 sheep in 1846, while at Worrhough Andrew Brown had 6000 sheep on 26,880 acres. Gideon Stewart acquired "Habbies Howe" pastoral run established from George Taylor in 1843 after bringing 500 sheep across from Van Diemens Land.



Fig 12. "Habbies Howe" Homestead - formerly Kobyboyn
Source: National Estate on-line database.

Throughout the Study Area's history the predominance of wool has been a constant. The **Kilmore** area alone had 73,000 sheep in 1975, as well as large numbers of pigs and 20,000 cattle. In the southern areas these numbers declined as residential development encroached upon the agricultural land.⁴¹

2.3.2 Timber

The plentiful supply and high quality of the timber were among the first things noted by the early explorers about the region. The timber industry was prevalent in the areas around **Wandong** and

⁴¹ *Land Capability Study of Mitchell Shire* (1996), Centre for Land Protection Research, Technical Report no. 35. E. Jones et. al., Dept Natural Resources.

the Plenty Ranges.⁴² One of the main sites was the **Mount Disappointment** State Forest which housed a number of timber mills. This included the Comet Mill site (DB 324), which included an elaborate system of timber railways, a boarding house, cottages, stores and a state school for the workers and their families. Fire and a depression in timber prices forced the closure of Comet Mill in 1902, leaving mainly archaeological remains of the timber legacy in the **Wandong** area. Timber was also a prominent industry at **Trawool**, with Garner's Mill building a wooden tramline to join the rail at Lowry's Siding south of **Tallarook**.

2.3.3 Farming

While sheep and cattle runs were the primary focus of early European incursions into the area, farming followed immediately, albeit on a small scale, in order to supply the overlanders and squatters with foodstuffs. (Section 1.6) Besides the farms on Rutledge's Special Survey in 1841, the Parish of Merriang was sold in 1840 for farming purposes. Some of the earliest farms were also those around **Seymour** at **Tallarook Flats**. There, small farms were auctioned in lots in the 1850s under the selection acts.⁴³ Acres under tillage suffered a large decrease in the years immediately following the first gold rush in 1851, which upset settled patterns of life across the colony and precipitated a labour supply crisis as able bodied men left in droves to seek their fortune on the goldfields.

Relatively undisturbed, with a combination of Aboriginal burning practices and soft footed native animals, the soils of 'Australia Felix' offered great promise to the first waves of settlers. At the time of the first **Kilmore** Survey, it was remarked of the allotments, that 'some are remarkable for the absence of all impediments to immediate tillage ... [and all] exhibiting the dark rich soil so much prized by judges.' Nonetheless, due to delays in land distribution relative to the north of the Study Area, the renowned Rev. J.D. Lang, when visiting **Kilmore** in 1845, remarked upon the relatively low area of cultivation, estimated by him to be the second lowest in Victoria after Brighton.⁴⁴ Local government was keen to encourage agriculture, with the Roads Boards managing Farmers' Commons at **Moranding**, **Glenaroua** and **Willowmavin**.⁴⁵

In 1861 the **Broadford** area was mainly agricultural, with over 350 acres under tillage, of mainly wheat, oats and fodder crops. Among the area's early farmers was Michael Zwar who migrated from Saxony with his family during 1854-55. "Zwar's Hill" at Broadford operated was a mixed farm with dairy, pigs, fowls and sheep.⁴⁶

In **Tallarook** a diverse number of activities predominated, with cropping of wheat, oats and barley as well as dairying and cattle. The cream from the dairies was sent by railway to Melbourne. The Subterranean clover discovered in 1930s and known as '**Tallarook** clover' was subsequently developed for export in the twentieth century.

⁴² Tucker, p. 138.

⁴³ Martindale, p.66.

⁴⁴ Tucker, 50.

⁴⁵ A Brief History of Pyalong, p.13.

⁴⁶ Fletcher, B J (Ed.), Broadford : A Regional History, Lowden Publishing Co, Kilmore, 1975, pp. 182-4; see also Family History of Michael Zwar, written by Kevin Zwar, website http://www.zwar-zwahr.com/ancestors_fr.htm .

Ultimately, soil types in the area often proved unsuited to intense forms of European agriculture, with land degradation a continuing challenge to agriculture. The rapid exhaustion of the land also explained the large size required for leases and the continued predominance of grazing over cropping.

2.4 Developing Secondary Production

The development of primary production naturally fed the growth of secondary industries based on processing primary produce, particularly in regional centres, with mills, a bacon factory and a butter factory at **Kilmore** (both of which introduced new kinds of pollution into the **Kilmore Creek**) and the Australian Paper Mill at **Broadford** on the **Sunday Creek**. In **Seymour** the advent of the railways spurred a rail based production and service industry, introducing an industrial element into the history of the Study Area. Large quantities of railways paraphernalia are testimony to the importance of the railways in the history of the Study Area.



Fig 13. Straw Boiler from Paper Mill relocated to Broadford Historical Reserve
Source: Lorraine Huddle 2002.

Clay and related deposits also encouraged the brickyards at **Wandong** in 1885, where a factory produced terra cotta lumber bricks⁴⁷ and tiles. The Roman Catholic Church and several houses at **Wandong** are examples of extant buildings constructed with this innovative technology. The

⁴⁷ "The product was described as a combination of two parts clay and three parts sawdust, and when fired, produced a porous brick known as "Terra Cotta Lumber" or "Brickwood" (Building & Engineering Journal 27/7/1889 and Lewis 1995). It was said to be "fireproof, vermin proof and sound proof" (B & EJ 27/7/1889:90). As an extruded product it was capable of being made to any dimension, and as a porous material, it could be cut, sawn or nailed. Its light weight qualities made it ideal for use in construction walls or ceilings to great heights, as well as maintaining its weight bearing capacity. It could be used in a number of applications where the primary purpose was to prevent or retard fires, insulate from heat, or reduce noise (B&EJ 27/7/1889:127). (Dore 1996, Terra Cotta Lumber: An Archaeological Study of Rural Trade, Department of Archaeology, La Trobe University, Bundoora)." Correspondence from Lynne Dore, 17 June 2002 to Lorraine Huddle

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Albion Mill at **Kilmore**, built in 1856, operated as a flour mill until 1894 and was one of three mills which processed grain in the region and thereby linking the agricultural sector with agricultural industry in the region.



Fig 14. Terra cotta lumber bricks, Wandong
Source: Lorraine Huddle 2001.

At **Broadford** firewood went in large quantities to the tannery, paper mill and butter factory there, with a sawmill also located near the railway station. The ready supply of water at **Sunday Creek**, combined with the advent of a rail service provided the impetus for the development of secondary industry there, the **Broadford Dairy Company** in particular. Timber milling was a continuing industry, with 3 timber mills in the local state forest in 1974, though the sector, now using motor vehicles, also contributed to damage on roads which were not built to accommodate heavy haulage.

Seymour also became home to thriving secondary industries based upon its primary production in the second half of the 1800s and the early 1900s. Among its processing ventures were flour mills, a butter factory, brewery, cordial makers and brick yards. A more industrial sector was created in the 1940s and post-war period, with the opening of Ansett's Knitting Mills and Woolcord (later the Dye Works).

2.4.1 Butter Factory at **Kilmore**

The **Kilmore Butter Factory** was in fact constructed as the **Kilmore Gaol** in 1857 (see Section 7.6). It was changed to house the Butter Factory in 1892. Dairy farmers in the area made use of the new cream separator (1888) and banded together into Butter co-operatives like that which established the **Kilmore Butter Factory**, which adopted as its emblem the familiar shamrock, thistle and rose (Symbolising their origins from Ireland, Scotland and England). Pollution of waterways, and decreasing numbers of dairy herds as residential land use expanded in the 1970s and 1980s were continuing problems for the industry.



Fig 15. Former Butter Factory and Gaol at Kilmore
Source: Lorraine Huddle 2002

2.4.2 Paper Mill at Broadford

James McDougall selected **Broadford** as the site for his mill, with its proximity to the wheatfields, the railway and an existing weir built for the **Broadford** Flour Mill in 1862. It was opened on 27 October, 1890 and was the only strawboard mill in the British Empire, providing employment, and also cooperating in community development throughout its long history. (see Section 5.2) While pollution of the **Sunday Creek** was an issue, today the mill operates as a manufacturer of recycled board and re-cycles much of its own water, linking the Mill not only to the theme of secondary industry but also with changing attitudes towards the environment and its finite resources.

Broadford was also home to a tannery that operated until it burnt down in 1914. The wool scouring industry in the post war period also left a legacy of pollution for the town.

3. LINKING COMMUNITIES

The Study Area's development has been inseparable from that of the wider colonies, and particularly inextricable from the development of Melbourne, which truly opened up the Port Phillip District by eventually providing an accessible port and market to vie with Sydney. Melbourne was established in 1835 after years of ad hoc and sometimes abortive attempts at colonisation in other regions of Victoria. Already by 1836 the area of Mercer's Vale (**Beveridge**) was 'a favourite stopping place in the early days of the colony, for travellers passing along [Sydney] road'.⁴⁸ Roads, and later railways and highways, profoundly affected not only the way the Study Area was connected with the outside but within its own communities. The centrality of the transport network as a theme in the Study Area's history is illustrated by the political disputes

⁴⁸ Tucker, p.26.

and controversy it could create, whether it be in the form of incessant petitioning for the upkeep of the roads, to the long running dispute between **Broadford** and Yea over the location of the railway there.

3.1 Moving goods and people, and distributing information.

3.1.1 The Roads and Post Offices

The Sydney Road, despite its central importance, was famous for its appalling condition, and in winter for its mud, 'the depth and blackness of which were truly remarkable'.⁴⁹ The Roads Boards of the area predated the shires that would later take up their responsibility for the roads. Tolls were frequently implemented to help pay for their maintenance and people went to great lengths to avoid them. The roads provided the impetus for the service economy (section 4) and linked the Study Area with the outside world. Daily coaches passed through towns like **Broadford** with mail and passengers, spurring the construction of hotels and post offices. In **Pyalong** the mail coach passed three times a week on its way to Bendigo and changed horses at the White Hart Hotel.⁵⁰ In **Broadford**, as in **Kilmore**, the roads had often been in a very poor state, and the town's attempts to establish itself as a District Roads Board were stalled on this account in 1863, until the Colonial Bank at **Kilmore** helped finance it in 1869.

In an age almost completely reliant on the postal system (and the telegraph which followed), the status and location of the post office was a significant issue. This was particularly the case in **Seymour**, where the location of a new post office in 1911 shifted the focus of the town itself. The old post office there was built in 1874 by Lyster, though it was predated by that in **Kilmore**, where the first post office opened in 1843. Before 1853 the **Seymour** post office had in fact alternated between the two inns.⁵¹ The Sydney Road operated as the chief mail run between Melbourne and Sydney at that time, so the route was of special interest to the government.



Fig 16. Former Seymour Post Office
Source: Lorraine Huddle 2002.

3.1.2 The Railways and Post Offices

The railways took off in the 1870s. Railway cuttings provide physical

⁴⁹ Tucker, p.47.

⁵⁰ Brief History of Pyalong.

⁵¹ Martindale, p.50.

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evidence of this period in the form of embankments, cuttings and bridge abutments throughout the Study Area. In 1872 the line was built through **Broadford** to Beechworth and the Ovens, while **Heathcote Junction** and **Tallarook** also has significant rail junctions. Yet it was **Seymour** which would develop as a key railway town, due to its location close to the junction of two of Victoria's main rail routes, and the Mansfield-Alexandra line which branched off at **Tallarook** where the station still survives.⁵²

The old buildings of the **Seymour** Railway Station represent the dominance of the steam-driven 'iron horse', which arrived in **Seymour** in 1872, the last one running as late as 1968. In many ways the railway gave **Seymour** the same transport edge that **Kilmore** had held in its location on the Sydney road a day's journey out of Melbourne. The **Seymour** Loco Steam Preservation Group have a collection of heritage railway assets representing the era. Rail was not just a transport, but also a social and economic phenomenon. The Railways Institute Hall of **Seymour** testifies to this, opening in 1917 with a range of recreational and educational facilities for departmental workers.



Fig 17. Seymour Train Station built in 1874
Source: Martindale, *New Crossing Place*.

Before the railways, **Seymour** had looked set to become a significant port, but rail and the subsequent construction of the **Goulburn** Weir in 1887 closed off the town's port to large **River** traffic. The Railway on the east of **Seymour** led to the development of the 'New Town' at **Seymour** based on Station Street, as opposed to the older Emily Street though lack of planning led to it being too close to the line itself, leaving room only for one side of the street to develop. The Terminus Hotel was established there in 1878 and was joined four years later by the Railway Club Hotel. Station Street served the growing number of workshops, administration and railway workers who were a new and industrial and tertiary addition to the region's economy. The shift from the old to new **Seymour**, from Emily to Station St. embodied by the importance of railway traffic was exemplified in the dispute over the location of the new Post Office in 1904-8 – a four year battle in which Station Street was finally victorious, the Post Office opening there in 1911.

⁵² Martindale p. 85.



Fig 18. Seymour Post Office c.1911
Source: Martindale, *New Crossing Place*.

It was no little understatement employed by *Garran's Atlas* that **Seymour's** 'liveliness and prosperity was increased by the magnitude of the traffic transacted at the railway station and the number of hands employed in consequence'.⁵³ The Railway was also an important element in the timber industry around the Study Area. In 1876 **Wandong's** connection at Morphett's Siding was concern enough for **Kilmore** residents; for fear that they would lose 'all the traffic that from the Mount [Disappointment] which had been for years a great source of revenue'.⁵⁴



Fig 19. Tallarook Railway Station
Source: Lorraine Huddle 2002.

Various railway buildings and rail employee houses at Tallarook, Seymour and Heathcote Junction are further testament to the importance of the 'iron horse' in regional development. Both Kilmore and Seymour also include important railway heritage precincts (See Township

⁵³ Martindale, *New Crossing Place*.

⁵⁴ Payne, *Pretty Sally's Hill*, p.54.

Summaries). In Seymour particularly the railways were also connected to the area's military history as a key mobilisation point during the world wars (see Section 8).

3.1.3 River Crossings

River crossings often determined the location of settlements, and were also a focus for government to install barracks to police the region. Before bridges there were punts, which began as privately owned enterprises. Punts at **Seymour** across the **Goulburn River** suffered from worsening congestion and exorbitant charges in the 1850s, especially during the gold rush, until the government felt impelled to intervene in an early example of state intervention in the market, buying Clark's punt in 1853 and fixing the toll at 1d compared to the market driven price of 6d for foot passengers. It also instituted a free passage for those 'on Her Majesty's Service', people going to church or funerals, and ministers of religion and shifted upstream to the site of the present bridge. The locations of the old punts and later, the wharf, are important historical places in the heart of Seymour's Old Town precinct.



Many punts were

Fig 20. Location of the old wharf and swimming pool, Goulburn River, Seymour
Source: Lorraine Huddle 2002.

replaced with bridges during the 1860s as traffic increased and government (both local and metropolitan) took increased responsibility for roads and crossing places, though tolls were still charged at bridges like the Old **Goulburn River** Bridge up to 1873. The first **Trawool** bridge was built in the 1880s, replacing the punt that had operated since 1874, and the crossing there subsequently became a location for a mock battle (section 8) in recognition of the strategic importance of river crossings. The expansion of railways also prompted a spate of more advanced bridge building, such as that at **Mollison's Creek, Pyalong**, which was erected in 1889 using local timber, and in use until 1968.



Fig 21. Sunday Creek Railway Bridge at Broadford
Source: Alison Tomkins 2003

3.1.4 Newspapers

The local press continues to be a vital and living part of community life in the Study Area and has a long history. The *Express* and *Telegraph* were among the region's most prominent papers at **Seymour**⁵⁵ while in **Kilmore** the earliest papers were the *Kilmore Standard of Freedom* and *Kilmore Advertiser*⁵⁶. The *Kilmore Free Press* began in 1865 and continues today, while the *Kilmore Examiner and McIvor Weekly Times* began in 1856 and at one time occupied the corner of Bourke and Sydney streets in **Kilmore**. An early building used by the *Broadford Courier* has been moved to that town's historic precinct.

The *Seymour Express* was begun by Thomas Hunt, the same Member of Parliament who started the *Kilmore Free Press*, epitomizing the way in which newspapers and politics were intertwined, with often fierce competition between papers and their proprietors.⁵⁷ The **Goulburn** Courier may have predated the other two **Seymour** papers, and was printed first in the old flourmill close to the Royal Hotel (DB 304) at **Seymour**. The *Telegraph* was started by Hickey of **Kilmore** in 1889 and merged with the *Express* in 1924.

⁵⁵ Martindale, pp.153-6.

⁵⁶ Tucker, pp.74-75

⁵⁷ See for example Tucker, pp.144-5.



Fig 22. Royal Hotel, Seymour showing stages of development.
Source: Lorraine Huddle 2002.

4. DEVELOPING A SERVICE ECONOMY

Early settler communities were separated by vast distances, particularly in contrast to the closer knit villages of Europe. The need for services, in particular from professional and skilled workers from carpenters to seamstresses, encouraged numerous regional centres like **Kilmore** and **Seymour** to flourish. In the Study Area this was more the case as the roads saw large numbers of travellers passing through who, given the long journeys, needed lodging, supplies, repairs and society. Much of this was transformed over time by the advent of faster travel with the railways and motorcar. The population balance also began to drift back to the cities after the gold rushes, with Australia, even more than its other New World counterparts, leading the world in terms of urbanization and concentration around its capital cities, prompting much debate and concern, but also galvanizing rural communities into associations seeking to keep pace with the metropolis.⁵⁸ The heady and promising days of early settlement had a long lasting effect upon the expectations of the people.

Another important aspect of the developing service economy were the founding of banks which both secured and attracted capital in the area. Significant extant examples include the former Colonial Bank at Kilmore built in 1883 and Bank of Victoria built in 1882. As with the struggle over post office locations at Seymour, Station Street also gained a National Bank in the 1950s.

Regional centres like **Kilmore** and **Seymour** were thus caught establishing themselves as such just as new technologies were tending towards greater centralisation along metropolitan rather than rural lines – one of the continuing great paradoxes of the settlement of the Australian continent.

⁵⁸ Hamer, *Cities of the New World*.

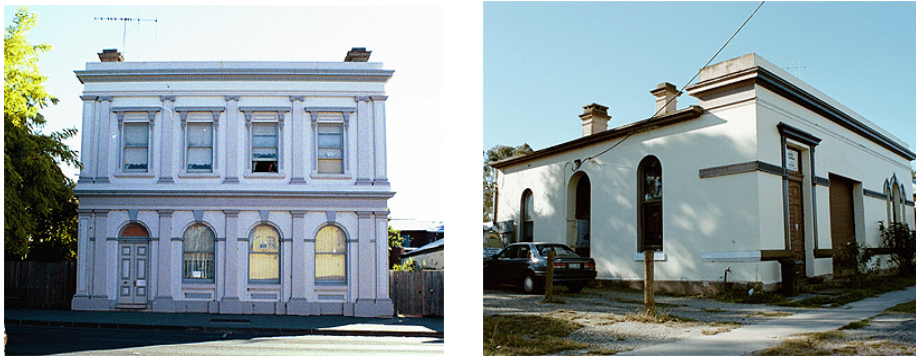


Fig 23. Colonial Bank at Kilmore and Bank of Victoria at Seymour
Source: Lorraine Huddle 2002.

Lodging People

The location of the Study Area straddling major highways, in particular the Sydney Road, ensured that a thriving service economy would develop not only to service the local community, but also large numbers of travellers. Hotels benefited in lodging both people and horses, as well as providing a social focus for the community at large. Early stables still survive at the Prince of Wales Hotel in **Seymour**. The competition between hotels could be fierce, but the business was equally profitable as traffic on the Sydney Road increased, particularly in the 1840s when the service economy took off. The gold rushes, while depressing agricultural production due to labour shortages, also benefited hotels in the servicing of waves of prospectors and the prospect of new money.

The original occupier of the Prince of Wales, **Seymour**, had previously run the older **Seymour** Hotel on the west bank of the **Goulburn**. The Royal George Inn, the other of the two original hotels that were a focus of social life, was built of local limestone. Hotels lodged not only locals and travellers on business, but also itinerant preachers, a testament to the shifting nature of early colonial society as much as its male dominated composition and culture in the early to mid nineteenth century. Railways also were associated with hotels such as Seymour's Terminus Hotel (DB 308) built in 1879, with the present building dating to 1881.



Fig 24. Terminus Hotel at Seymour
Source: Lorraine Huddle 2002.

The slower pace of the horse driven coaches meant a business in lodgings was genuinely viable, justifying the establishment of a number of inns and hotels that was high given the size of the local population. At **Broadford** the memorial erected at the north end of the green is roughly opposite the site of the old **Sunday Creek** Inn (DB 757), again one of two main hotels in the village. The **Broadford** Hotel (DB 756), High Street, was put up for sale in 1865, comprising 5 rooms, passage and pantry on the ground floor, with 4 upstairs rooms and a detached kitchen. Other hotels at **Broadford** included the Junction Hotel of 1861 and the more recent Commercial Hotel (DB 1305).⁵⁹

Among the earliest hotels were those in **Kilmore**, the 1841 **Kilmore** Inn; The Currency Lad in 1846 (originally a boarding house from about 1841) and The Royal Oak (DB 282) in 1848 comprising six bedrooms, four sitting rooms, two large stockyards and a large stable for settlers bringing down stock to market. The back yards of **Kilmore's** old hotels were also notable for their elderberry trees from which elderberry cordial was made.



At

Fig 25. Royal Oak Hotel at Kilmore
Source: Lorraine Huddle 2002.

Pyalong the White Hart was also among the prominent hotels of the area. The third Trawool Hotel (DB 464) continues to operate, with parts of the second Trawool Hotel, on the same site as the original one at **Trawool**.⁶⁰ The Union Hotel at **Bylands** before 1857 had 24 bedrooms and a ballroom,⁶¹ while **Pyalong** had two other hotels in the 1860s, *Glenaroua* and *Coach and Horses*.⁶²

4.2 Servicing Travellers

Clearly connected with Section 4.1, was the broader servicing of travellers, which was not always purely in terms of providing lodgings, but also of providing respite, relaxation and stables or

⁵⁹ Coles Hotels Index

⁶⁰ The first hotel was demolished and a second one constructed on the same site. The third structure was built over parts of the second structure, which remain as a feature in the foyer. Source: Verbal discussion, in the foyer, between the hotel manager and Lorraine Huddle in March 2002.

⁶¹ Pretty Sally's Hill, p.36.

⁶² A Brief History of Pyalong, p.12.

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blacksmiths. Hotels also often had stores attached, such as those at the Criterion, Morningstar (DB 510) and Black Bull Hotel (DB 525). The Sugarloaf Hotel (of which only the stone fence remains) was a typical example of a hotel servicing travellers and locals alike, with its strategic location a stage-coach leg from **Kilmore**. Other hotels boasted baths and showers ‘at exceedingly moderate charges’, among the ‘luxuries that cannot fail to be appreciated during the hot season of the year...’⁶³



Fig 26. Typical horse trough at Wallan
Source: Lorraine Huddle 2002.

Kilmore itself boasted a coach factory, livery stables, grooms and blacksmiths, many of whom were made redundant with the introduction of the railways in 1872. In many respects, while the means of servicing travellers changed the theme itself remained a constant. For example, the lines of hotels along the Sydney Road in both **Seymour** and **Kilmore** came to be replaced by lines of service stations which, while fulfilling similar roles to the old hotels in servicing travellers in a different era of travel, were nonetheless aesthetically intrusive and impacted negatively upon the integrity of surrounding nineteenth century heritage.

4.3 Catering for Tourists

While new, faster forms of travel challenged the pre-eminence of rural centres on the one hand, they also introduced a new kind of traveller – the tourist. This has also been the case given the centrality of rural Australia to national mythology, the heightened intensity of metropolitan life, and the spread of technology like the motorcar to the average suburban family. ‘The country drive’ became something of a cultural institution in the post-war period, and the Study Area’s location was ideally suited to the day trip. Tourism has thus been a major theme of development in the post-war period, and has more recently had some contributing affect on increasing interest in preserving rural landscapes and heritage, in contrast to the ‘modernising’ zeal of Progress Associations immediately following the wars. Examples of historic buildings converted to service tourism include bed and breakfasts such as Melrose Hall and Bindley House in **Kilmore**, highlighting the importance of heritage locations as tourist drawcards in the area. Significant numbers of tourists also travel to the Study Area pursuing genealogical interests, as many urban dwellers become aware of their family’s rural ancestors, reopening old connections between the city and the country.

⁶³ Kilmore Advertiser 24 Dec 1874.



Fig 27. Kilmore's Bindley House was built in 1862
Source: National Estate on-line database.

BUILDING TOWNS

5.1 Selecting Township Sites

Kilmore was selected not only for its position on the pass over the Divide, but for its creeks which ensured permanent water as they were fed by underground springs. It's town allotments were held to 'possess the advantage of close proximity to Sydney Rd. and to the well known water holes where Mr. Bonney and others were accustomed to encamp before Melbourne arose.'⁶⁴ **Kilmore** was thus 'a village ideally suited for two days' good weather travel from Melbourne and could also, given its central location grow in the 1840s to service increasing numbers of small landholders and farmers as well as being a stopping place for horsemen and bullocks. Other township sites were often selected for their location on fords and river crossings. **Seymour** in particular was conceived of as the 'new crossing place' to replace the location further north at Mitchellstown where Major Mitchell had crossed the **Goulburn River**.

⁶⁴ Tucker, p.38.

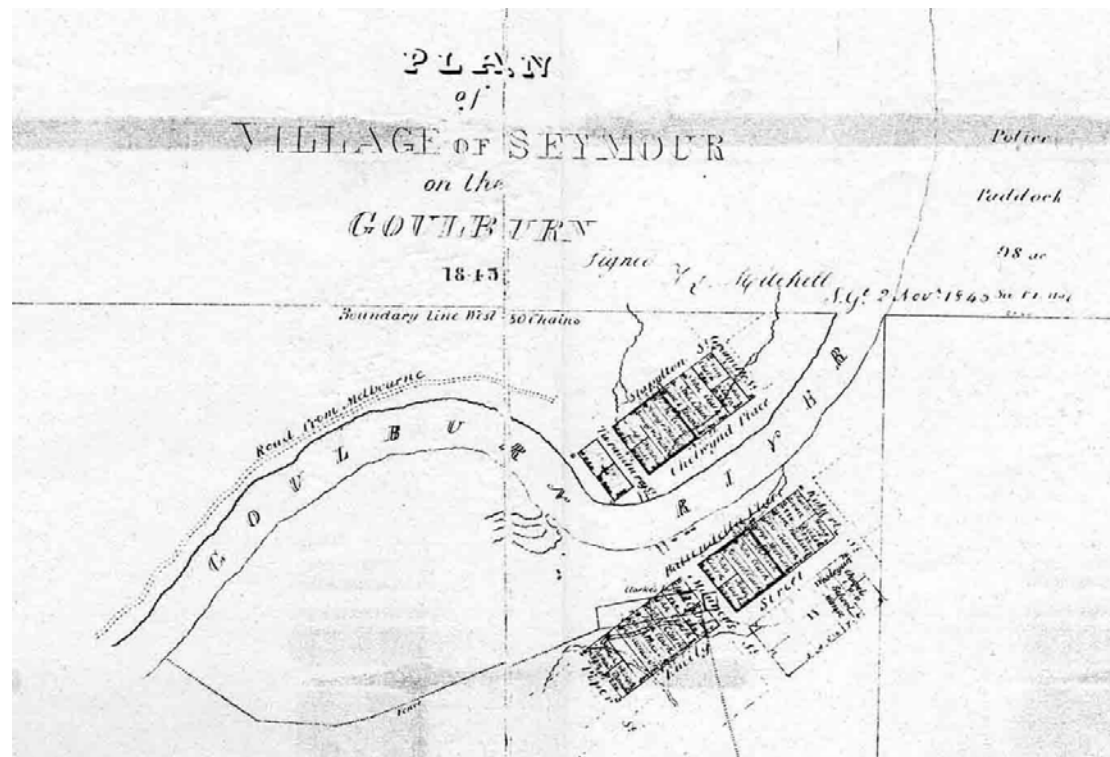


Fig 28. Plan of Seymour in 1843
Source: Heritage Database

5.2 Supplying Urban Services

Urban services developed in the late nineteenth century in a fairly ad hoc manner, with a combination of citizens' initiatives, private enterprise and government intervention. These services, such as gas and water supplies would transform the lifestyle of the Study Area's residents.

1887 saw the first gas for lighting used at the **Seymour** railway station and in 1889 the **Seymour** Gas Company was established, placing mains for houses that served the town until the introduction of electricity in 1921. In 1905 gas brought significant changes in living environments with the introduction of gas heating appliances. The issue of water supply however saw the residents take matters into their own hands in 1886, calling a public meeting and setting up their own committee which was subsequently taken over by the town councillors in 1888, leading to the construction in 1890 of the town water supply and a reservoir at Falls Creek, **Trawool**. In 1915 this was expanded with the addition of a pumping station from the **Goulburn** Reservoir to meet the growing demands of the civilian population and the military camp.

Growing demand led both to government grants and to the implementation of a water rate, while also transforming the lawns of the town, including that of the bowling green (where a standpipe is located) and fire brigade at **Seymour** which incidentally date from the time of improved water supply.



Fig 29. Stand pipe at Goulburn Street in Seymour
Source: Lorraine Huddle 2002.

In 1892 **Broadford** instituted its sanitary service and water supply, which was subsequently placed under the Water Commissioners following the act of 1905, and from 1910 the Water Trust. Throughout this period the State Government involved itself more readily in developing rural infrastructure than had been the case in the early to mid nineteenth century, when local communities had been able and willing to let development fall into private and community hands. There remained strong instances of co-operation between the community and enterprise however, in particular the **Broadford** Council and Paper Mill cooperated to bring an electricity supply to the town. In 1939 the powerhouse was built on Crown land, and absorbed into the state power system in 1948.

In 1917 the **Kilmore** Council purchased the **Kilmore** Electric Company (1907), while the Waterworks Trust had itself been conceived at a public meeting in 1888. Confusion over responsibilities may in part explain the slow progress of urban infrastructure development there until the 1950s.⁶⁵



Fig 30. Trawool Diversion Weir and Large Reservoir Trawool Creek
Source: Lorraine Huddle 2002.

⁶⁵ Tucker, p.180.

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Kilmore was also home to a significant hospital, the Benevolent Asylum. In 1856 **Kilmore** already hosted three physicians and two chemists shops.⁶⁶ The foundation stone of a permanent hospital was laid in 1859 and its provision was an ongoing concern through the 1860s. People came from as far afield as Kalkallo and Avenel and many subsequently died and were buried in **Kilmore**. At Seymour “Green Gables” was the home of a significant list of doctors and surgeons from 1892 and throughout the early twentieth century while “Tantallon” dated back to the 1880s.



Fig 31. "Tantallon" House and former Private Hospital at Seymour
Source: Lorraine Huddle 2002.

5.3 Housing

The earliest housing were the bark and timber huts of the pioneers and selectors, an example of which has been relocated to **Broadford**'s historic precinct. One of the huts there dates from the 1850s while the other is a reconstruction. Greater security of tenure following the land acts and the wealth of the goldrushes in the 1850s were key factors in more permanent housing such as Habbies Howe at **Seymour**. Habbies Howe is one of the **Seymour** area's earliest brick homesteads, built with bricks made on the property that was held by the Stewart family for several generations until 1920.⁶⁷

The historical development of social mores is reflected in house design. Changes in location, context, style, materials and skills, are manifested in the physical fabric in extant housing stock. As mentioned in sections 1.6 and 1.7, the actions of surveyors and draftsmen, and the implementation of a grid pattern in both mapping and the laying out of roads, boundaries and allotments left an indelible mark on the Study Area's housing patterns.

Prior to formal subdivision and sale of lots however, the location and alignment of early roads was partly formed by bullock tracks along accessible routes. Therefore, the orientation of houses that were built near these access tracks and 'roads' and fresh water, may be at odds to the existing road alignment.

⁶⁶ Tucker, p. 108.

⁶⁷ Martindale, p.23-4.

This spaced and disordered layout most evident at **Kilmore** soon gave way to a quest for order which would give the environment a more controlled and reassuring feel. In many ways settler towns and housing reflected both a desire for order symptomatic of the rationalist spirit of the times and a hankering after the homeland in which so many of the area's early inhabitants were born. Thus while houses built after government subdivision reinforced the grid alignment by being set in a rectangular plan parallel to the road, some of the earliest Victorian houses were also built exceedingly close to the front boundary with tiny front yards in imitation of those built in more crowded British towns. By about 1860 however the front setback was increased to allow a substantial and formal front garden and this has continued well into the twentieth century.

5.3.1 Style of Housing

Many houses were vernacular in design, being constructed in cheap readily available materials in a design based on that with which the builder was familiar. Victorian houses were based on a formal layout symmetrically placed either side of a front door and passage, with the use of decorative embellishments increasing over the nineteenth century. Late Victorian design tended to be asymmetrical with many elaborate Italianate decorative features.

From about 1890, the Study Area's housing was affected by the Australia-wide interest in creating a national style and identity that was intertwined with the movement for Federation of the Australian colonies. This desire to design an Australian style more suited to the continent's environmental conditions was manifest in the houses of this period. They had broad sweeping roofs with deep shady verandahs and considerably larger windows provided more light inside. Some continued to prefer old world styles and identity, as evidenced in the Edwardian style houses of the area, more closely based on the architecture of Britain in that period.

In the period between the two world wars, funds were scarce and much damage had been done to romantic imperial ideals with the Great War. Both the old embellishments and many British traditions were thus challenged and this was evident in housing design. The new bungalow, based on the Californian Bungalow style and the ideas of allowing fresh air and nature into the houses was born. Other designs in this period were adapted from the Spanish Mission style, the Old English and Georgian Revival styles and the Modern style.



Fig 32. Clyde Cottage, Trawool is a rare and intact example of the early Twentieth century Federation Bungalow style in this area.

Source: Lorraine Huddle 2002.

5.3.2 Size

Typically early houses were small in height, overall floor area and room sizes, although a few mansions defied the norm. These sizes gradually increased over the nineteenth century and remained larger until the interwar period when a shortage of materials saw the reduction in ceiling and roof heights as a means of reducing costs without reducing the amount of liveable floor area. Kitchens were built as separate buildings to the rear, to avoid the spread of fire. The kitchen was absorbed into the house as soon as the iron wood-fired stove replaced the open kitchen fire, from about the 1860s onwards.

5.3.3 Materials

The earliest materials used in a particular area were those nearby. Usually walls were built of timber slabs, either vertically or horizontally aligned, or hand split timber weatherboards. Some were made of wattle and daub or random rubble stone held together with lime mortar and render. Roofs were sheets of bark held down with saplings lashed together. More elaborate roofs were constructed of hand split timber shingles.

The industrial revolution brought the new and cheap, corrugated galvanised iron material to Australia in the 1850s. Its use for roofs and water tanks, soon spread all over the country as it not only kept the house water tight, it was an excellent means of collecting the rare commodity, rain water for drinking. This material was often applied over the existing timber shingles, making the roof beautifully insulated against the hot sun.

More wealthy citizens imported slate for roofs and purchased bricks or stone for walls. Stone was rarely carted far and rarely used after the 1850s, whereas bricks become increasingly popular for those who lived near brickworks or could afford to have them made on or near their property. Seasoned timber and terracotta lumber that was produced in the area have great importance in the history of housing design technology.

Decorative materials were predominantly cast iron lace in the Victorian era and timber fretwork in the Edwardian/Federation period. A more restrained form of decorative timber was used on the Interwar bungalows.

5.3.4 Colour

Stone and brick buildings were never painted as the materials themselves were highly valued and expensive. Bluestone was readily available, particularly near **Kilmore**, but some sandstone buildings were constructed throughout the study area.

Rendered buildings constructed in the Victorian era were usually left unpainted but when they were painted it was in a colour that resembled the valuable stones found in Britain. Bricks were made locally and were generally 'warm mixed reds'. Some homesteads constructed their own brickworks for the buildings on their property.

Weatherboard buildings were nearly always painted as this helped to preserve the timber from water damage. Many common pigments were earthy in tone, others were expensive, particularly blue, and they were rarely used.

5.3.5 Context and density

Most houses had considerable land around them whether it was to the side or rear and formal front gardens, whatever their size, were an essential part of their setting. Rural towns such as **Kilmore**, **Broadford** and **Seymour** had houses scattered along the roads and it was mainly after the First World War that the land between them started to be built upon. The increased density has been increasingly common since the Second World War. Smaller towns such as **Tallarook** have maintained this historic scattered urban design.

5.4 Cemeteries

The process of town building was often left to private enterprise and settlement after official surveys, yet residents would call upon authorities to augment their settlements with reserves for churches, schools and cemeteries. In 1850 Petition to Superintendent LaTrobe for grounds to be reserved for a cemetery and church, which led three months later to the establishment of the Pioneers' Cemetery in Seymour. The **Broadford** cemetery and **Tyaak** graveyard are among those that provide an insight into the past's patterns of living and dying and commemoration. The **Broadford** cemetery in particular contains many of the pioneers after whom its streets are named, while that at **Tyaak**, though proclaimed in 1904, was a burial ground much earlier and is near the now unmarked cemetery used by the Chinese of the **Reedy Creek** area – unmarked evidence of the multiracial society that grew up around the gold fields. At Broadford Chinese graves were also to be found at Piper Street.

The **Kilmore** cemetery dates from the late 1840s. In 1872, Catholics opened their own cemetery, as the overgrown condition of the main cemetery was a frequent cause for complaint. The Catholic cemetery was consecrated in 1880 and like its counterparts it provides an insight into contemporary living conditions in the area. **Kilmore** cemetery contains burials from **Beveridge**, **Wallan**, **Broadford** and **Tallarook**, as well as members of the Hamilton family of **Glenaroua**. **Wallan**'s cemetery opened in 1858 with trees planted on recommendation of Baron von Mueller.⁶⁸

⁶⁸ Pretty Sally's Hill



Fig 33. Tallarook Cemetery dates to early settlement.
Source: Lorraine Huddle 2002.

6. DEVELOPING CULTURAL LIFE

Hotels and markets were the early focus of cultural life, after the encampments of the overlanders and shepherds, many of whom had lived solitary existences. To an extent this focus continued, but simultaneously spread as other buildings and institutions were created. The mid nineteenth century, around 1850 stands out as the point when such changes began, though the gold rushes affected culture in many contradictory ways, unsettling society but generating great wealth for its projects. Of particular importance was the influence of growing numbers of women – it may be no coincidence that at the same time as the gender imbalance began to change a range of settled cultural institutions came into being. Churches, temperance societies and schools gave new emphases to family life as opposed to the independent life of the drover or digger. Masonic lodges, Mechanics' Institutes and political institutions were designed to focus on the moral, intellectual and political aspirations of men. Victorian society was also riven during the colonial period with political and cultural controversy, encouraging the development of a vigorous and competitive free press.

Despite living in a new land however, many cultural patterns were carried across from the British Isles. Sectarianism between Protestants and Catholics created a divide in the community that was exacerbated by the trial of the Kelly gang, state aid in schools and the struggle over conscription that went on during the First World War. (See Section 6.7)

6.1 Forming Associations

Associations grew markedly in the area during the period from 1850, which stands out as a watershed in the development of settled patterns of life in the Study Area. These associations included the Total Abstinence Society, which began in **Kilmore** on 7 June 1850. Many such associations also had religious or cultural links. The Total Abstinence Society for example was primarily Protestant. Its New Year's Day 'grand tea meeting' in 1851 including well wishers from Melbourne and the 'High Priestess of Teetotalism Mrs. Dalgarno', testifying to the

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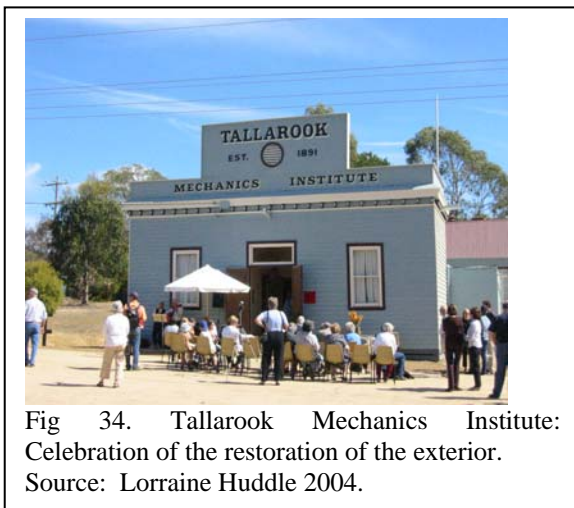
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developing community links with the metropolis. The Society did not however prove as successful as its Melbourne friends may have hoped, with both chairman and band, among many others, breaking their pledges of abstinence.

The Society seemed more successful in **Wallan** where it met in the wooden Methodist church in 1865 – fifty-six people took the pledge there. After the church was razed by fire a new stone structure was built in 1867. The abstinence society was in effect concurrent with a stable and settled society, and the social upheavals of the gold rushes pared back its gains in favour of the hotels.

Hotels also played a key role in forming associations as popular meeting places. The Masonic Lodge was established at the **Kilmore** Hotel in 1859, and Roads Boards, early forms of local government would also be formed at hotels in **Bylands** (Union Hotel) and **Willowmavin** (at the Farmer's Arms).

A Library and reading rooms were sought for **Kilmore** in 1851, but again their construction was delayed by the gold rushes, which stalled many developing patterns of settled life for their duration. As a promoter of such settled patterns of self-improvement and recreation, the Mechanics' Institutes, such as that extant at **Tallarook**, became a focus of support in the 1850s from both Protestant and Catholic hierarchies as well as the wider community, who hoped that they would provide 'a school of morality and safety valve for the profitable employment of spare time'⁶⁹ The gold rushes also had the paradoxical effect of galvanising many members of the community interested in preserving those patterns of life based on home, family and religion which they felt were threatened by gold.



The Masonic Lodge was another cultural association carried over from the British Isles, being particularly associated with monotheism and loyalty to the Crown. It was no surprise therefore for the Masons to take over the Primitive Methodist Church in **Kilmore**, which had been built in 1860.

⁶⁹ Tucker, p. 88.



Fig 35. Masonic Lodge at former Primitive Methodist Church, Kilmore.
Source: Lorraine Huddle 2002.

Various progress associations included the 1887 Vigilance Society, and the 1949 **Seymour** Development League. Progress Associations also memorialised the local history with markers such as that erected by the Reedy Creek Progress Association on the former school grounds (DB 1750). Other important nineteenth century associations in colonial Victoria included the Order of Foresters, the Druids and various independent orders of 'Oddfellows' as evidenced by the former Manchester Unity Oddfellows Hall in Sydney Street, Kilmore (DB 533). Sporting associations were also extremely important to the community life of the Study Area, and many continue to this day. (see Recreation)

6.2 Worshipping

Before the construction of churches, hotels, which were the centre of social life, also hosted the itinerant preachers who toured the colonies, particularly during the gold rushes. As population and expectations rose, in particular mid century with the gold rushes, churches of stone replaced wooden structures. The prominence and cost of churches were testimony to their centrality in both spiritual, social and cultural terms. They were associated with other social and political groups, community service and the provision of education - associations that in many cases continue to the present day. This importance was recognised by government, which granted reserves of land specifically for the construction of churches, church schoolhouses and clergymen's residences in the early 1850s. At this time it was widely held that the mission of the British Empire was not merely one of commerce and 'civilisation', but of Christianisation. In this way the area's early churches link Mitchell Shire to the broader impulses driving the imperial pioneering age. Religion, in its various forms, was central to the cultural identification of the people.

Churches were the mainstay of social life, particularly for women and children. Churches were not only bound up in the theme of worship and spirituality but moreover of the marking of the phases of life, from baptism to marriage and burial. Denominations and races would have their own burial grounds, such as the Catholic cemetery at **Kilmore** established in 1872 (DB 990). Divisions among the Presbyterians from 1855 led in **Kilmore** to two churches of that

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denomination - the second being St. Andrew's for Highlanders (DB 263).⁷⁰ The sermon there was delivered in Gaelic, illustrating the church's connection not only with spirituality but also with the maintenance of cultures in what was already, even in its pan-Britannic face, a strongly multi-cultural society.

The Methodists too were divided into Primitives and Wesleyans divided by slight differences in doctrine and greater differences in style, the latter being more traditionalist and the former being revivalist and stricter in their rejection of alcohol. **Kilmore** was in fact part of the First Circuit of the Primitive Methodist Church in Victoria (DB 253). The charismatic preacher Michael Clarke visited from England in 1855, with a penchant for using not only churches but the outdoors, preaching 'on the hillside overlooking the town and in the afternoon by the creekside'.⁷¹ The Methodists provided **Tooborac**'s first church, the first brick version opening in 1875 and a new one in 1936.

The Church of England, from whence the Wesleyans had emerged historically, was the largest Protestant denomination in the colony and in the Study Area's towns. The Reverend preached in the Teetotaller's society rooms until the Christ Church of Kilmore (DB 292) was completed in 1864. The church, with its commodious proportions, medieval style and 'evergreen' surrounds was intended to recreate something of England's 'green and pleasant land'. Like the Catholics, the Anglicans too set up their own church school.⁷²



Fig 36. Former Wesleyan Methodist Church at Kilmore
Source: Lorraine Huddle 2002.

Kilmore was among the early areas to be created a separate mission from Melbourne by the Catholic bishop, in 1848, and the first Catholic priest was from Tipperary, Rev. Charles Clarke, who also involved himself in establishing the church school listed in 1851.⁷³ The St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church (DB 279) at **Kilmore** was built in 1855. William Wardell, the architect of St Patrick's Cathedral in Melbourne, designed the present building. The **Kilmore** Catholic Church was followed closely by St. John's (DB 232) at **Beveridge** in 1858. Most Catholic churches in the Study Area were closely associated from their conception with education, an association that continues with the Marist Brothers' school (DB 280) at **Kilmore**.

⁷⁰ Tucker p. 14-15.

⁷¹ Tucker, p. 80.

⁷² Tucker, p. 79.

⁷³ Tucker p.81.

Before the construction of churches the Catholics too used halls and other buildings for services. At **Tooborac** the local hall was so utilized right up to 1926 when **Tooborac's** Catholic Church was opened. At **Wallan** 'Our Lady of the Way', a weatherboard church (DB 1123) so named for its proximity to the Hume Highway, was transported there from Heathcote in 1969.



Fig 37. Former St John's Catholic Church at Beveridge
Source: Ian Wight 2002.

Churches often took long periods to build from the raising of funds, from both public subscriptions and government land grants. The Roman Catholic church at **Tallarook**⁷⁴ (DB 487) was begun in 1864 and blessed in 1887. At **Seymour** the initial church of St. Mary's went up faster, begun in 1871 and completed in April 1873, but as was frequently the case additions and upgrades were an ongoing concern. Additions to St. Mary's were begun by John Buggy in 1887 and a second 'blessing' held in 1888. In 1945 a new church was built and consecrated by Archbishop Mannix, while the old building went on to be used as a parish hall and for convent school classes.⁷⁵

At **Seymour**, as across the Study Area, the Salvation Army was also an active religious association, establishing a hall in **Seymour** on **Tallarook** Street in 1890, but often proved more mobile, moving to Crawford Street in 1917.⁷⁶ The original Salvation Army hall at Broadford dates to c. 1912. (DB 767)

Seymour and **Wallan** were both part of the **Kilmore** Anglican parish and serviced by priests there, until **Seymour** separated in 1864. In **Seymour** Church of England services were held at the Royal Hotel (DB 304) in the 1840s and 1850s, and at Redford's house until a church was

⁷⁴ See photo in Martindale, p.113.

⁷⁵ Martindale, pp.126-8.

⁷⁶ Martindale, p.128.

subscribed to in 1863. The existing Anglican Christ Church was built in 1945, while the hall dates to 1927. (DB 931). **Seymour** remained in the Roman Catholic parish of **Kilmore** until 1890, though Catholics there were able to raise money in 1848 for the education of priests. Until the Catholic church in Seymour (with the present dating to 1890; DB 396) was consecrated in 1873 services were held in private homes or a room in the Prince of Wales Hotel (DB 449).

The census of 1861 showed the population of the Parish of **Seymour** to be 76, although this did not include the 181 in the Borough of **Seymour**, Anglesey. At the same time in **Pyalong** 150 residents were members of the Church of England, with 119 Roman Catholics. In the gold diggings at **Reedy Creek**, Dalhousie the numbers were reversed, with 152 Roman Catholics and 114 Anglicans, and a comparatively higher number of 12 persons who 'objected to state their religion for conscientious scruples'.

6.3 Remembering the Fallen

The Study Area has a history of involvement with war. The Boer War was the first war to see suggestions of individual memorials to the fallen. In this case **Kilmore's** Pte Rupert Thornton,⁷⁷ who was killed in South Africa was the subject of a 'Thornton memorial committee', but plans for a tablet in front of the town hall came to nothing. It would be the Great War (1914-18) and World War II (1939-1945) that would leave the most lasting mark on the area in terms of memorials. At the height of the imperial age martial valour was among the most prized attributes for a man and romanticised views about warfare were prevalent until the reality of the trenches and modern warfare were realised. (see Section 8) In **Seymour** the Anzac Avenue trees were planted in 1917 but subsequently removed to make way for a widening of the road.



Fig 38. War Memorial at Wallan
Source: Lorraine Huddle 2002.

The process of public subscription to erect such memorials was the usual practice, such as at **Kilmore** where the cost was estimated in 1920 at £300. The **Tooborac** soldiers' memorial was subscribed to the sum of £600 in the same year, and was made of granite topped with a soldier 'of the finest Italian marble' to commemorate the 17 residents who died in the conflict. These

⁷⁷ Tucker, p 155, the Australian War Memorial Database and the Colin Croe Database cited by Heather Knight, Broadford.

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memorials have also been the site for additions following other conflicts in which residents have been involved, most notably the Second World War and Vietnam War. At **Tooborac** for example a public meeting saw to it that an honour roll for 1939-45 was added to the Mechanics' Hall, which already boasted a German machine gun as a trophy of the Great War.⁷⁸ Memorials were erected in every significant locality, testimony to the enduring impact of war on the life of the Study Area.

Memorials not only took the form of monuments, but also of institutions and buildings and other 'public works' such as the **Seymour** Memorial Hospital, which opened in 1920 and was dedicated to the memory of those who fought in the Great War. While the new hospital was opened in 1959, the Memorial Gates of 1927 are still in use. In 1959 a plaque was also added to the new hospital to commemorate the Second World War. It was also standard practice for schools or halls to inscribe honour rolls of those who fought, often with a special place for those who 'paid the ultimate sacrifice'. It is important to remember that in the Great War in particular, the bodies of loved ones were never returned, but buried (if identified) in war graves nearer the battlefields themselves, giving memorials at home an added significance.



Fig 39. War Memorial at Broadford
Source: Lorraine Huddle 2002.

Another prevalent form of memorial was the beautification of the landscape in the form of special parks or tree lined 'avenues of honour'. A notable example of this would have been the Anzac Avenue in **Seymour** which was replaced with a war memorial in the centre median strip where contemporary services are held. At **Wallan** there is both a war memorial and an Avenue of Honour, as the two were often combined in some form.

⁷⁸ Tooborac, p.64-5.

6.4 Celebrating Significant Events

Many significant events have left their marks on place names, as naming could form a part of celebrations. Key events that were celebrated by the whole Study Area included Separation from New South Wales, the Queen's birthdays, the birth and later the marriage of the Prince of Wales in 1863, visits by the Governor and royalty, the Queen's Jubilees, British victories in the Soudan and South Africa, Federation and the visit of Lord Kitchener in 1910. Nearly all these events were connected with the Imperial loyalties of the people at this time, particularly affection for the Royal Family, yet even these were not without contention, particularly given the divide between Catholics and Protestants that of all places was most marked in **Kilmore**.

In 1847 the Birthday of Queen Victoria was celebrated at **Seymour** Hotel with a 'feast of reason and flow of soul accompanied by a flow of champagne, claret and other exhilarating liquors of the choicest qualities'. The Prince of Wales Hotel was so named because the year of its establishment (1863) coincided with the long awaited marriage of the Prince of Wales, the future King Edward VII. As in the rest of the colonies, their 'new' nature allowed naming to become a common practice in acts of celebration and commemoration. St. Patrick's Day and the Queen's Birthday were among recurring celebrations at 'opposite' ends of the political spectrum, with St. Patrick's Day providing an opportunity for races and entertainment among the Catholic Irish population. St. Patrick's Day Races sports were held on greens or paddocks, such as Murray's Paddock at **Bylands** in 1870. In 1867 the same paddock across the road from the *Victoria* Hotel was also the site of a 'Grand Pic-nic [sic]' given in honour of the visit of the Duke of Edinburgh to which the children on **Bylands** school were marched in procession.⁷⁹

Such celebrations could be organised by any number of organisations, from local government to self-proclaimed citizens' committees, churches and neighbourhoods, testifying to the community's zest for celebrating and taking control of civic rituals. Traditionally, celebrations could include a wide range of activities, from the erection of decorative arches and commemorative trees, to traditional torchlight processions (a tradition more usually associated with the German colonists' *liedertafel*) and the lighting of great bonfires upon the surrounding hilltops.

6.5 Recreation

Part of the enthusiasm for celebration was of course their recreational as well as their ritual aspects. Regular recreation was provided by a range of community groups and associations (such as those in section 6.1). Other recreational associations included the YMCA (Young Men's Christian Association) who held their annual Field Service Department camp at the **Kilmore** Military Camp in the years 1911-12, the Easter 1911 camp being recorded in their special issue of *Men of Melbourne*.⁸⁰ Another pervasive pastime, that of dancing, was an important avenue for the mixing of men and women in a social atmosphere, often in school and church halls.

⁷⁹ Pretty Sally's Hill, p.35.

⁸⁰ City of Melbourne YMCA, *Men of Melbourne*, Special Issue Easter 1911 Kilmore Military Camp.

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Hunting also became a popular recreation in the Study Area, with the introduction of large numbers of hares specifically for that purpose, though rabbits would also become a pest (as well as gracing many dinner plates when times were rough).⁸¹ In 1868 the Hunt Club held meetings at **Kilmore Inn**, while billiard matches also became a common recreational contest at that and other hotels.

The fine countryside also inspired art and outings. Louis Buvelot, among the earliest of Victoria's important painters was inspired by the landscape to paint his famous paintings, 'Between **Tallarook** and Yea' and Sir John Longstaff also painted 'A Grey Day near **Tallarook**'. The scenery complemented the popular pastime of picnic-going, 'a favourite form of outing', especially before the development of motor transport sent people further a field, a favourite spot being the area around Pulpit Rock.

The settlement of **Broadford**, with its 'village green' serving as a market, racing and cricket ground between the two inns thus followed a more traditional rural British pattern – an idyll that had been destroyed in many English villages through the 'clearances' by their large landholders. Such open spaces were institutionalized throughout the Study Area in the form of sporting reserves, many of which still operate today, and have been associated with the many sporting clubs throughout its history. Virtually all townships boasted their own football and cricket teams, many of which came to have their own rooms and associated ovals. Significant reserves include the Green Hill Reserve at **Wallan** and King's Park at **Seymour**, while racing tracks throughout the Study Area testify to the ongoing popularity of that sport.



Fig 40. King's Park at Broadford

Source: Mitchell Shire Heritage Database created for this study.

New technologies had a profound affect on the patterns not only of settlement but of entertainment and recreation, to which **Seymour** was exposed – in 1901 the residents were treated to the earliest form of 'moving pictures' at Perron's Hall (DB 447), with a 'bioscope' display of the Royal Tour of 1901 (the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York landing at St. Kilda) and a retelling of the story of Joan of Arc.

⁸¹ Heather B. Ronald, *Hounds are Running; A History of the Melbourne Hunt*, Kilmore 1970.



Fig 41. Former Perron's Hall at Seymour
Source: Lorraine Huddle 2002.

In 1904 a similar 'biograph' show was advertised at the Federal Hall. The Oddfellows' Hall (DB 533) at **Kilmore** (1877) was converted into the Astor Theatre for the pictures.

6.6 Education

The first school in **Seymour** opened in 1846 and like other early schools there it was a private school.⁸² The same pattern was evident in **Kilmore** where a number of schools were established under private patronage. In 1849 there were only 20 children being taught in **Seymour's** one-room schoolhouse, which in 1846 had been moved following the flood of that year. **Seymour's** **Tallarook** Street School (DB 540) began as a National School in 1857. In the same year **Pyalong** gained its first school (Church of England), though it was closed by 1862 with under 20 pupils. Pre-eminence was thus taken by the Catholic school which had opened in 1859 in the church grounds, but which closed in 1880, three years after the opening of a State School at **Pyalong** (DB 301).

In 1863 the Common Schools Act united the administration of denominational and National Schools under one board. Further rationalisation would lead to some schools closing as government support became more focused. The state accepted responsibility for universal education in 1872, proclaiming 'free, secular and compulsory' education for children less than 12 years of age.

Education was at the centre of many a debate over the separation of Church and State in the nineteenth century. The Protestants of **Kilmore** were especially incensed to find a Catholic heading the new state school in 1875, going as far as to suggest an outsider be appointed rather than the head of the local Catholic school, St. Patrick's.⁸³ A similar story played out in **Bylands**, where the Protestants demanded an alternative to the Catholic school that had run there since 1858. There, Dudley of the Union Hotel donated land adjacent to his inn for the purpose of satisfying 'the good many people here who are dissatisfied with the Roman Catholic school',

⁸² John G. and Virginia Jennings, *The Schools of Seymour and District*

⁸³ Tucker, 136.

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explaining the subsequent location of the state school beside a hotel. It also sparked a protracted legal battle as the Catholic school struggled unsuccessfully to stay open, closing in 1872 due to a withdrawal of government support in favour of the new school.



Fig 42. Former School 1232 at Emu Flat opened in 1872
Source: Lorraine Huddle 2002.

The high number of schools per capita (thirteen in the 1870's **Kilmore** area alone) can be attributed to the large area, sparse and shifting population, and the need for children to be able to walk to school. The children at **Glenaroua** were supposed to walk to the school at **Pyalong** until their own school was opened in 1873. **Broadford** Primary School opened in the same year, while interest in religious education continued nonetheless, particularly from the Catholic community, with the **Kilmore** Convent of Mercy established by the Sisters of Mercy in 1876 and the Marist Brothers College for Boys following in 1889.

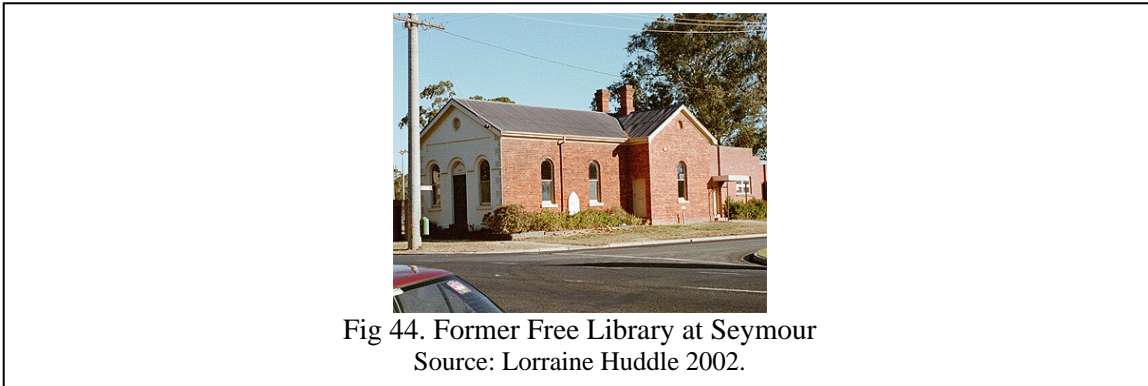


Fig 43. Assumption College - Former Convent of Mercy at Kilmore
Source: Lorraine Huddle 2002.

Assumption College (DB 280) would be the testament to **Kilmore's** strong tradition of Catholic education, also playing a leading role in the sporting life of the area. In this way the pattern of education in the Study Area was a microcosm of patterns around Victoria, with a mixture of religious and secular education. **Seymour** also waited until 1880 for the establishment of the Roman Catholic School there, while the **Seymour** Higher Elementary School (later **Seymour** Technical School) was opened in 1919.

Education was not limited to schools and children, but also took the early form of mechanics' institutes (see Forming Associations) which were established to educate adults both young and

old who had not the means to pay for an expensive education in an age where 'self-improvement' was the motto of both the radicals, religious and middle-class establishments. The social significance of these institutions is demonstrated by one example: the **Tooborac** Mechanics' Institute was opened in 1889 with 'a grand concert and ball', and as these institutes were often expanded to include free libraries such as that built in Seymour in 1875. A library followed in **Tooborac** in 1890. Mechanics' Institutes were joined later by the railway institutes, which focused on the education of the workers. (see Railways)



GOVERNING

7.1 Self Government

The Port Phillip District was under the aegis of the New South Wales Governor until 1851. Lieutenant-Governor Latrobe became the colony's first governor following separation. In the 1854 census **Kilmore** was located within the county of Dalhousie, and **Seymour** within the county of Anglesey.

Early forms of local government were often associated with the administration of the all-important roads (section 3.1.1), leading to the establishment of Roads Boards as well as Boroughs. Over time amalgamations became necessary as more was demanded of local government, and resources had to be pooled. A favourite type of lobbying was petitioning, especially about the state of the roads as well as public safety from bushrangers and Indigenous peoples.⁸⁴ Citizens were also willing to take matters into their own hands on the provision of services by establishing their own committees at local hotels. (Section 5.2) The Borough of **Kilmore** was amalgamated with the Road Boards of **Glenburnie/Bylands** and **Willowmavin/Moranding** in 1874, nearly doubling the population and buildings contained within the Study Area boundaries recorded the following year.

⁸⁴ Tucker 85.

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Local Government – the **Seymour** area, like the surrounding old municipalities, began its history of self-governance as a Road Board, in 1863 and became a Shire in 1871.⁸⁵ The population in 1871 was 2,551. While this was almost identical to the figures after the Great War fifty years later, in 1901 the population had peaked at 4,165. Changes in the distribution of the town were also made due to an expansion eastward ‘to higher ground’, again as a result of the flooding of the river. The Shire Office was thus transferred to Federal Hall in 1926, making Station Street the centre of local government. While amalgamations of the old boroughs and shires would continue up to the creation of Mitchell Shire, many buildings, especially the shire and town halls remain a testament to the vitality of the smaller local governments. Among these are the original shire offices at **Seymour** which still stand on Emily Street.



Fig 45. First shire hall at Seymour
Source: Lorraine Huddle 2002.

7.2 Crime and Law Enforcement

Indigenous peoples and Bushrangers were of particular concern to the early settlers. The first pastoralists were taxed on a per head of sheep and cattle basis to the mounted police force. Bushrangers have provided a staple diet of legend in the area, particularly the various associations with the infamous Kelly family who were rocketed to national legend after their last stand at Glenrowan. The ‘Kelly House’ at **Beveridge** (DB 231) is the Study Area’s claim to a part of the national legend. The land around **Seymour** on the Sydney Road was especially well suited to highway crime, being well timbered and a perfect escape for highwaymen, some of whom were particularly antagonistic towards the land monopolies of the pastoralists. In 1870 what was reputedly Victoria's largest bank robbery was made by 'Sailor Jack', who made off with £650, while another story is told of 'Melville' the bushranger at **High Camp** who, according to legend, hid a can of gold on top the local granite formation, 'Hanging Rock' near **Pyalong**.⁸⁶

⁸⁵ Roads Boards were an entirely separate entity from boroughs or shires, and the one did not necessarily lead to the other. Historically however, they could act as stepping stones in the development of local autonomy and organisation.

⁸⁶ Pyalong, p.10.



Fig 46. The 1850s log lockup at Seymour and former police station at Kilmore
Source: Lorraine Huddle 2002.

At **Kilmore** the first barracks and lock-up was next to **Kilmore** Creek, later serving as the Mechanics' Institute. County Court hearings started at the old courthouse in 1853. At that time the town hosted a Deputy Sheriff, Inspector of Police and Police Magistrate responsible for ticket of leave men, while the major crimes were public drunkenness and theft of livestock and horses. The original courthouse burnt down in 1862. In its place was built St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in 1864. The New Court House is the present one, built in 1863.⁸⁷ **Kilmore** Gaol was built in 1857 and extended in 1861-62. Inmates included Kellys and Quinns, who were related to the infamous Ned Kelly. The crime in the area seemed to settle down after the goldrushes and the gaol was no longer needed (the courthouse having its own lockup) by 1892 when it was put to use as the **Kilmore** Butter Factory (Section 2.4.1).

8. DEFENDING AUSTRALIA

In 1870 the ordinary defence of the colonies was devolved upon colonial authorities, which thereafter bore responsibility for the raising of local militia. In 1887 the **Seymour** Mounted Rifles were raised. A Light Horse brigade was also formally begun in 1904, with 'Goldies Paddock', near the tannery on the former Marengo Run providing a training ground. Exercises there included tent pegging, with the terrain ideal for field exercises, and high land for camp sites. Victoria sent 3,500 men and 3,825 horses to the Boer War at the turn of the century, and the regiments from **Seymour** received King's Colours in 1904.

In 1910 the region, including **Seymour** and **Kilmore**, proudly hosted the Empire's military commander and hero of South Africa, Lord Kitchener, with the **Seymour** Racecourse showing 4000 troops, 2000 horses and field guns hauled by bullocks. Lord Kitchener had a special meaning for British subjects in the dominions, as an Empire builder commanding victorious armies in the Sudan, and more latterly in South Africa and, four years after his visit to **Seymour**

⁸⁷ Tucker 86.

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assuming the supreme command of the British Empire's war against the German Empire in Europe. His visit in 1910 was an opportunity not just to show off the martial manhood and loyalty of the area, but also the towns themselves, with decorations and the erection of temporary arches of welcome much like those erected for the Federation celebrations and subsequent Royal visits.⁸⁸

Between the 1903 Defence Act and the outbreak of war there were attempts to further militarise able-bodied men through cadet forces and Swiss-style military service. Lord Kitchener selected **Seymour** as the chief mobilisation zone for Victoria and Australia's military, an important decision as in the first decade of the twentieth century the whole Empire, and all the 'Great Powers', were preparing for the coming war. A Lighthouse camp was also set up at **Wallan East** in 1913 while in 1908 live firing was carried out on the Marengo Estate at Seymour. In **Seymour** a Drill Hall was erected on Emily Street, next to the Prince of Wales Hotel in 1927.

The area continued to fulfil its military purpose in the second as well as the first world war and many buildings remain (not to mention the camp at **Puckapunyal** itself), including Mob(ilisation) Siding which was the station to which new recruits and other army arrivals were brought. Mob siding was also called Tel-el-Kabir barracks after 1965. During the Second World War **Kilmore** also played its part, hosting not only military camps, but a Volunteer Air Observer Corps post (VAOC) on the site of the **Kilmore** State Primary School. It was formed at a public meeting in 1941 and was among many around Australia that was on the lookout for enemy aircraft. Fear of bombing and invasion even led some to build their own bombshelters.⁸⁹ At Mt Disappointment, there are extant remains of an internment camp that was built to house Italian prisoners of war.



Fig 47. Military Mob Siding at Seymour
Source: Lorraine Huddle 2002.

⁸⁸ Martindale, facing p.145.

⁸⁹ *Fifty years on-a district remembers: a Free Press tribute to the men and women of the Kilmore, Wallan, Broadford, Pyalong and Wandong-Heathcote Junction Districts who played a role in World War II*, compiled by Bronwyn Wheatley.

Site 17

Site 17 is the 'Old **Seymour** Camp', which was eclipsed by the present **Puckapunyal** camp after 1939. It was part of the Marengo Run and is testimony to **Seymour**'s significance as the foremost military camp in Victoria during the Great War (1914-18). In World War II it was also used as a military hospital, school of mechanization and at one time also served as home to the Australian Staff College. In the 1950s men trained there as part of their National Service at the School of Infantry until the site was disposed of into public use in the 1970s. A comparatively large number of remnants remain, including horse troughs, the water tank and the sewerage treatment plant.

SUMMARY OF THE MAIN TOWNSHIPS OF THE STUDY AREA

Many of the Shire's townships, in particular those around **Kilmore**, began as sheep and cattle stations occupied by squatters. **Kilmore** was especially influenced by William Rutledge's survey, and many of the districts there were interconnected from an early stage not only in the movement of goods and services, but also in terms of land ownership. The Sydney Road was pivotal to the development of the towns along its route, while the settlements to the north around **Seymour** were also influenced not only by these transport routes and the need for serviced river crossings, but also by government initiatives to protect and police pioneers through the founding of police barracks, and increasing government determination to regain control of land distribution. The summaries below merely give some overview of each settlement's early history and the main themes affecting its development. More information may be garnered on each theme and township from the thematic history that follows.

Beveridge

The **Beveridge** area was initially known as Mercer's Vale. George Mercer was an original member of the Port Phillip Association and associate of John Batman who had attempted to purchase large tracts of Port Phillip from the Indigenous peoples, an act consequently declared void by Governor Bourke. The area was a 'favourite stopping place' on the journey north. It was renamed **Beveridge** in 1853, the Mercer's having discontinued their interest in Port Phillip and returned to Scotland. The area had a number of tenants in the early days, including George and Richard Brodie, and James Hunter Patterson who purchased 1540 acres on the Merri Creek to sell to William Kirby who in turn purchased 210 of Rutledge's cattle to run on the land. The Mercer's Vale station itself was on less arable land, owned by James Malcolm from 1840-5. The district's more prominent families were the McNab family at Mt Duart between Donnybrook and **Beveridge**, and the Hearn and **Beveridge** families.

Broadford

Broadford has a Commercial Town Centre heritage precinct and a collective group of pre 1912 residential and community places.

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The **Broadford** area was first held as the Mount Piper pastoral by Col. Henry John White in 1840. Its location on the Sunday Creek made it an ideal crossing place, evident in the many bridges in the area such as the Sunday Creek Bridge and earlier wooden bridges. (DB 182, 1198, 795) This association goes back to earliest European exploration as the crossing place of Hume and Hovell. (See Section 1.3 and DB 238)

The **Sunday Creek** Inn was the centre of **Broadford**, beside the blacksmith, built in 1842 and in 1848 owned by a Scotsman named George Morrison. He had opened the second hotel, the Stockyard Inn in 1842. While the Sunday Creek Inn thus formed the historic centre of the precinct, all that remains today are (altered) stables and ruins.

Broadford was formally surveyed by the government in 1851 and was most notable for its two hotels and village green reminiscent of an English village before the clearances of the early nineteenth century. In the 1850s **Broadford** also benefited from the concourse of travellers heading for the gold rushes.

The easy access to nearby forests made timber the choice material for buildings in the town, making those few buildings made from brick and stone all the more unusual while timber construction was the overriding pattern in the town.

The ready water supply at **Sunday Creek** and the rail service from the 1860s encouraged secondary industry, in particular timber milling, dairy industry and the **Broadford** Paper Mill. Houses, commercial and community places extant from this period were documented in the 1912 map of Broadford, and many of these remain as testimony of Broadford's early residential history. In the post World War II era, Broadford was also transformed by the Commonwealth Government sponsored immigration program.⁹⁰ Sites such as the Straw Boiler from the paper mill (DB 350) and the World War II memorial guns, seat and fountain (DB 345, 761) are monuments to the role of industry and of war respectively in the history of **Broadford**. The Broadford Hotel (DB 756) and nearby Glenaroua Homestead meanwhile recall the area's earlier association with servicing travellers and the pastoral industry respectively.

Bylands

Bylands was taken up by pastoral runs from 1835, until it was surveyed into lots and offered at public auction in 1852. The original pastoralists R H Broadhurst and A D Tootal claimed their 'pre-emptive right' in purchasing 'Belle Vue' on the east side of the Sydney Road. There remains there a station on the railway line to Bendigo.

Clonbinane

Clonbinane has maintained the name of the old **Clonbinane** Park property, the most notable feature of which is its redbrick house with a tower, and was a part of the pre-emptive right of the original pastoral owner. The area was settled by the McKenzie family, cousins of the McKenzie's at **Reedy Creek**, and their extant homestead, known as **Clonbinane** Park was built circa 1891.

⁹⁰ Barbara Savill, *Broadford: A History of the shire*

Glenaroua

The **Glenaroua** Station was one of several runs near and connected with the history of **Kilmore** and **Seymour**, having been an especially large pastoral holding. It was first squatted on by William Hamilton in 1838, the license continuing until 1882. In 1875 the station included 'a very commodious house with outhouses attached', apparently made before 1842 of bluestone.⁹¹ In the 1890s **Glenaroua**'s Boran family were one of those supplying bacon to **Kilmore**'s two bacon curing factories.⁹²

Granite

Granite, near Trawool, was so named for the granite rock nearby that was used "Rough or Dressed for all kinds of Architectural Work...Monuments, Crosses, Headstones and Memorial Tablets," and it "yielded quantities of gravel, transported to Melbourne from Granite Siding".⁹³

Heathcote Junction

Prior to 1922 **Heathcote Junction** was known as **Kilmore** South, and more popularly referred to as the Junction. The timber and passenger line to Bendigo also ensured that **Heathcote Junction** played a significant part in the railway age.

Kilmore

Kilmore has several heritage precincts: Church, Hawthorn Hedge, Outdoor Recreation, Parklands, Powlett, Railway, Town Centre, and Victoria precincts.

Kilmore has at times claimed to be Victoria's oldest inland town.⁹⁴ The area was purchased by 'Special Survey' by William Rutledge, an Irish Protestant immigrant, in 1841, though the area was occupied earlier by squatters, and was a key stopping place on the 'mail run' between Melbourne and Sydney. (See also Section 5.1) **Kilmore**'s name is Gaelic for 'great church', and mirrors similar names around Ireland itself, testifying to the influence exerted over the area's culture by migration patterns.

Transport and the provision of services, both to the rural community and to travellers, were thus major themes in its development. This is particularly evident in the Railway Precinct. Opened in 1872, the railway left significant sites such as railway employee houses (DB 1045) and platforms (DB 1046).

Kilmore was also foremost in the region in terms of developing towns and settled life, seen in two key areas – the early shift in the gender balance of the population and the nature of its

⁹¹ Tucker 129

⁹² Tucker 134-5.

⁹³ *The Broadford Courier* newspaper clipping, no date, provided by Alison Tomkins, Broadford Historical Society.

⁹⁴ Tucker

buildings. The Town Centre Precinct based on the original Rutledge Special Survey of 1841 includes several houses and shops associated with the early history of the township going back to the 1850s (eg. DB 284, 534) and early 1860s (eg. DB 528, 536, 553, 363). Among some the most prominent and oldest buildings in the precinct are the hotels that testify to the importance of Kilmore township as a stopping place on the Sydney Road both lodging and servicing travellers. The oldest is the Royal Oak Hotel built in 1848 (DB 282, see also Sections 4.1 and 4.2). Other early houses can also be found in the adjacent precincts of Hawthorn Hedge (DB 250) and Park Precinct, where 'The Towers' built c. 1850 as a hotel is of particular significance as 'the oldest known building in Kilmore'⁹⁵ (DB 293).

In the 1871 census **Kilmore** defied the trend throughout most of the colony in claiming a slightly higher proportion of females, and no tents or dwellings with canvas roofs, in stark contrast to the male dominated, temporary settlement patterns of surrounding areas. **Kilmore** thus developed as the main rural centre servicing the southern areas of the Study Area, with a roving doctor, early courthouse, and the town's first post office in 1843 which was only the fourth post office to be built in Victoria (Section 5.2). Other significant themes in the history of the town have thus included the development of these and cultural institutions (Section 6). Early religious buildings are also evident in the Church Precinct (DB 291, 292).

The face of **Kilmore** was particularly affected by migration patterns (early on from Ireland and Scotland), and more recently by the growth of Melbourne, with which **Kilmore** has been increasingly connected, located as it is near the northern growth corridor of the metropolis. When it was first surveyed, the *Port Phillip Gazette* had speculated, 'Who knows but **Kilmore** may one day outstrip its other rival [Melbourne]?!'. It may have been an overoptimistic assessment of **Kilmore's** prospects, but nonetheless embodies the spirit that saw the town established.

Moranding

The Moranding Rural Settlement Precinct is located on the Moranding Run that was originally taken up in 1838 by Frederick Armand Powlett and William Pomeroy Greene, with their homestead being near and north-east of the present-day Willowmavin School (DB 1738). The Parish of Moranding was closely settled in the 1850s and there were Moranding schools, the Moranding Roads Board and later a railway station.⁹⁶

Puckapunyal

The **Puckapunyal** military installation falls within Commonwealth jurisdiction. See section 8 for the importance of military involvement as a theme in the region's history.

Pyalong

The **Pyalong** Rural Township heritage precinct began as a sheep and cattle station, its sizeable extent including Emu Flat and stretching as south as the boundaries of the **Kilmore** stations, run

⁹⁵National Estate citation

⁹⁶ Correspondence from Jim Lowden to Lorraine Huddle, 16 June 2002.

by brothers Alexander Fullerton Mollison and Edward Mollison (who had seven stations in the region) covering 60,000 acres and originally occupied in January 1838. The Mollison memorial cairn commemorates this period in its history (DB 299). At this time **Pyalong** was the most remote run from Melbourne, but by the year's end already consisted of 'ten huts for the men, a shearing shed 40 feet long and ... a cottage of four rooms'.⁹⁷ The shed at **Pyalong** held 600 sheep in 1846 when Mollison moved his 30,000 sheep there permanently, carting the wool bales for sale in Melbourne. The station was sold to Mollison's brother William in 1850, and in 1866 it was purchased by William Hamilton of the Glenaroua Station for £20,000. By this stage the **Pyalong** village had begun, with Robert Hoddle surveying an ambitious 86 blocks.

Among the significant markers of the township are the Pyalong cemetery of 1859 (DB 1184) which contains notable families from its history as well as testifying to the denominational diversity of the settlement. During the 1850s Pyalong also benefited from through traffic to the McIvor goldfields, with the former hotel (DB 853) a marker of provision of services to travellers. The civic pride of Pyalong and its role in the development of local government is also marked by the old shire hall of 1873 and association memorials (DB 300).

Reedy Creek

While most of the Shire's townships were initially involved in husbandry and agriculture, or connected with the service economy, **Reedy Creek's** claim to fame was the area's involvement in the gold rushes, particularly the later rushes. An *Outline Plan of the Reedy Creek Goldfield* 1881 Lithograph shows 47 mining leases, including the Prince of Wales Run east of the Duke of Edinburgh Hill, and the renowned Ballarat company, Band of Hope, while the largest gold runs were Shepherd's Reef and the Empress of India. The settlement included at that time two hotels and a church on the west bank.⁹⁸ At this time **Reedy Creek** was a veritable hub of the Study Area's population, having lured nearly half of **Kilmore** shire's residents alone to the goldfields there.⁹⁹ The McKenzie's, a prominent family in the area¹⁰⁰ also built the **Reedy Creek** Homestead, which was a part of the early pastoral run.

Prior to the gold rush the **Reedy Creek** Station was gazetted in 1841. The first discovery of gold in 1856 led to a population boom, peaking at an estimated 3,300. Among these there were also significant numbers of Chinese and Europeans miners. The Chinese burial area was outside but adjoining the **Tyaak** cemetery. By the 1861 census the area had slumped, but was still home to 510 people before the second gold rush.¹⁰¹ It is important to note that **Reedy Creek** has often been linked, through its close proximity to **Tyaak** on the same creek.

Seymour

⁹⁷ Tucker, p.41, 43.

⁹⁸ Outline Plan of the Reedy Creek Goldfield, Lithograph, 1881. Department of Mines, Victoria. Copy held by the State Library.

⁹⁹ Tucker, p.130.

¹⁰⁰ The spelling of this name may have varied at times to include Mackenzie, however substantial evidence has been provided by Alison Tomkins, Broadford Historical Society, that the spelling was McKenzie. For example, "M.K McKenzie signed the Rate Books in 1874" and "it was listed that way in the Rate Books for 20 years".

¹⁰¹ Census 1861 combined figures for areas of Reedy Creek Diggings in Anglesey and Dalhousie districts.

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Seymour is divided into six heritage precincts, each one associated with important aspects and periods of the town's development: Old Town, Commercial, King's Park, Railway, Progress and High Street precincts. This is particularly relevant given the historical shift of the township to different locations depending on changing dominant economic and environmental influences.

Seymour had its origins in 1839 when John Clark established the Robert Burns Inn at the site originally conceived of as the New Crossing Place, south of the original crossing place on the Major Mitchell Trail, Mitchellstown on the **Goulburn River**. Hoddle commissioned William Pickering to mark out the village reserve, including space for a police barracks and police paddock to replace those on the present Chateau Tabilk property (north of the Study Area) to assuage the security fears of the local settlers. He named the town after Lord **Seymour**, son of the eleventh Duke of Somerset (who was indeed descended from the family of the famous Jane **Seymour**, one time Queen of England and wife of Henry VIII). In this regard the name is of course a compliment, but more importantly it is complementary testimony to the strong influence of continuing aristocratic patterns of patronage in the government of the colonies in the nineteenth century. In 1847 **Seymour** was described as possessing 'a plurality of hotels and stores, flour mill and shops of different trades.'

The transport and service economy have been major themes in the town's development, with the addition of the river crossings adding to its significance, as well as to the town's strategic importance. The Old Town precinct was based around the river punts and economically tied to the transport and servicing of travellers. The wharf of 1879 (DB1257) and hotels such as the Old Canadian of c. 1865 (DB448) and Prince of Wales Hotel of 1862 (DB449) are extant examples linked to these themes (see also Sections 3.1.3 and 4.1) The railways further enhanced the importance of Seymour as a transport hub, leading also to a shift in the town's focus towards the Commercial and Railway precincts. These shifts which have also occurred to accommodate the cycles of the **Goulburn River**, particularly after the flood of 1870 (see Section 1.7). The Commercial Precinct along Station Street owes its development to this shift (see also Section 3.1.2).

Since the creation of the first barracks at **Seymour**, provision of defence has also been a major theme in the town's history, often linked with the importance of transport and the railways. The military associations of the Railway Precinct and surrounds are marked by sites such as MOB siding and Anzac Avenue. In High Street Precinct the streets Villers and Bretonneux, and memorial gates at the hospital, commemorate the sacrifices of war. Cultural, recreational and suburban developments meanwhile form the focus of the Progress and King's Park precincts (see also Sections 6.2 and 6.5, in particular King's Park DB 1790 and Goulburn Park DB 467).

Tallarook

Tallarook heritage precinct was not only made famous by the popular ballad, 'Things is Crook at **Tallarook**' by Jack O'Hagan in 1942. The area was immortalised earlier in art as well as in song, in the painting held at the National Gallery of Victoria *Between Tallarook and Yea*, an early landscape by one of Australia's first successful painters, Louis Buvelot (1814-1888). Pastoralism, the local service economy and the opening of the railway in 1872 were the main

influences on the township. Extant buildings associated with these themes include the former Railway Hotel (DB 486) and railway station.

The **Tallarook** flats were auctioned in country lots in 1855. The original sheep station was run by Joseph Hawdon who brought in related families from Northern Ireland, including those who built the original stone cottages of Callans and Porter. These families owned land in 1856 on the south side of School House Lane and down to the river at Riverlea and Mundara, and their cottages were still standing in 1958. Agriculture played a major role in its development, in particular cropping of wheat, oats and barley, as well as dairying and cattle. The cream from the latter was sent by railway to Melbourne. The subterranean clover discovered in 1930s known as ‘**Tallarook** clover’ was subsequently grown for export, with the area shifted progressively to sheep grazing in the twentieth century.

Main themes were thus the development of agriculture, immigration and also recreation, with **Tallarook** a favourite spot for picnickers as well as the occasional artist. **Tallarook** also benefited from a service economy geared towards travellers on the road and railway as well as logging mills. (Sections 2.3.2, 4.6) Tallarook's social life was also marked by the establishment of the Mechanics Institute, the Catholic and Anglican churches (DB 487, 490, see also Section 6.2) and the state school of 1875 (DB 1488).

Tooborac

Originally a Squatter’s pastoral run, John Patterson sold his interest to John Holmes in 1852, and his original homestead became the Pick and Shovel Inn. While the free selectors were eager to farm the land, and were required to by law, the area also yielded high quality hardwood. Sawmills were erected at **Tooborac**, and extended to the **Tooborac** railway station.¹⁰²

Extant sites associated with the agricultural development of Tooborac include the Targina Farmhouse built in the 1870s (DB 864) and Merrivale (DB 851) which also served as an inn in the 1840s. The main structure of the former Sugarloaf Hotel (DB 1161) also remains.

Trawool

Trawool was also a part of Hawdon’s 1837 **Tallarook** Station stretching from Ghin Ghin to **Broadford** and including the **Sunday Creek Run**. The drought of 1838 however saw an increased demand for pastures on the **Goulburn River** and increasing numbers moved to the area.

Transport again was a major theme of **Trawool**’s development, with the punt operated by Charlie Prince in 1874 establishing the **River** crossing which today takes the form of a bridge built in 1977. The first bridge was built in the 1880s and the strategic nature of such crossing places made **Trawool** a natural choice for the staging of a mock battle on the occasion of Lord Kitchener’s visit in 1910 (see Section 8.1; also 3.6.5 and 6.6). **Trawool** was also important for its timber and for the granite works in the **Tallarook** ranges.

¹⁰² See Back to Tooborac Committee, *Tooborac: A history of the township and district*, 1969.

Tyaak (see also Reedy Creek)

Tyaak, as with **Reedy Creek** itself, was made famous and indeed founded as a direct result of the gold rushes, though not those of 1881 but the first rush in 1851. **Tyaak** was one location where miners crossed the **Reedy Creek** on their way to the diggings at Mansfield and several liked the area so much they decided to settle there. Several businesses followed to serve them and the flow of prospectors - namely several wine shops and three hotels. In 1957 the **Tyaak** wildlife sanctuary was established in recognition of the area's rare native plants.

Wallan

Wallan, like **Beveridge** to the south, was reclaimed from swampland - in this case the Whallen Whallen swamp. It was surveyed on an ambitious scale by surveyor Harrison in 1856, who seemed to envisage a township as great as that envisaged for **Kilmore**, though by 1868 there were only a little over 100 households, 78 of which were involved in agriculture. The town's early history was dominated by the 'father of **Wallan**', William Hartley Budd, who had on his property the only fresh water spring, from which water had to be diverted to feed the town.

Wandong

The Wandong Precinct comprises land from Andrew Beveridge's pastoral run The Dean of 1842, while Patrick Morphet was the town's first owner in 1871 and after whom Morphet's Siding was named in 1876. This railway line was built to service the area's timber industry, which has been an ongoing theme in the town's development.

Wandong was developed on the Lightwood Flat in the later nineteenth century. Previously it was on a favoured route of the bullock drivers along Merriang Road. In 1884 there were only five businesses including the stationmaster. The area's main activity was timber and saw milling located in the Plenty Ranges, which dated back to the 1860s and included The Comet, The Bump, and the Planet 1 and 2 mills. In the last decades of the nineteenth century the town's growth was sponsored largely by a variety of timber mills and the innovative terra cotta lumber brickworks. These included the Comet Mill, which ceased in 1902. "At the height of the Australian Seasoned Timber Company activities, some 420 men were employed. These included storekeepers, butchers, bakers, board house staff, stable hands, blacksmiths, veterinarians and saddlers, as well as those involved in felling, milling and transporting of timber. The ASTC played a major role in supplying timber for Melbourne's construction and furniture trade, and were leaders in the early attempts at seasoning Australian hardwoods, and in exporting large volumes of timber overseas (Perrin 1893, Building, Engineering and Mining Journal 9/2/1895, 6/6/1896)."¹⁰³

Willowmavin

¹⁰³ Correspondence from Lynne Dore to Lorraine Huddle, 17 June 2002.

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The district of **Willowmavin** lies to the west and north-west of the township of **Kilmore** and comprises most of the Parish of Willowmavin, with lesser parts of the Parishes of Goldie, to the west, and Moranding, to the north and north-west.

This area was all settled prior to 1850 and was a very productive agricultural area, which has become less agriculturally oriented because of subdivision in recent times.¹⁰⁴

¹⁰⁴ Correspondence from Jim Lowden to Lorraine Huddle, 16 June 2002.

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