

"The house was owned for many years by the Box family, who had a printing business in Jasper Road near North Road, Ormond."

In the Moorabbin Standard 6th July 1977 we read that:

Initial research difficulties resulted from the fact that two Box families came to the Parish of Moorabbin in the 1850s. However one Box family then moved to the Frankston area.

"Initially John Box, (from Sussex), settled with his father as a market gardener on the estate of Henry Dendy, (also of Sussex), as employees, but after a few years made enough money to rent land in the Jasper, North and Tucker Road area.

To begin with East Bentleigh, (as far as Boundary Road), was once the boundary of Dendy's Brighton Estate which had it's beginnings in 1841; hence the name East Boundary Road. Evidence of 1840s dwellers shows the Jasper to Tucker Road areas as being the first settlements in the present City of Moorabbin.

A dray and bullock yoke for teams of four and six reveal the mode of transport and haulage that was in use in those early days, while a plough and chains tell something of the story of hard work, and limited agricultural implements. It is estimated that this pioneer Moorabbin farmer shifted up from Brighton proper in about 1845.

Information on the area then is patchy until the Moorabbin Roads Board District is formed in 1862, when the name Box is seen in various parts of the present McKinnon, East Bentleigh, (known as East Brighton until 1907), and Ormond area.

In the vicinity of Jasper Street, (now Lewis Street), on Jasper Road, **a house owned by N. McLean is registered**, with the **Occupier** being shown as **Henry Box** living in a weatherboard house. This property now appears to be the timber house with the shake roof that Mr Lewis recently offered to the Moorabbin Council to be re-installed in an adjacent park. But, whether it is that house or not, this building is well worth preserving as a typical working man's cottage of the 1840s era. "

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