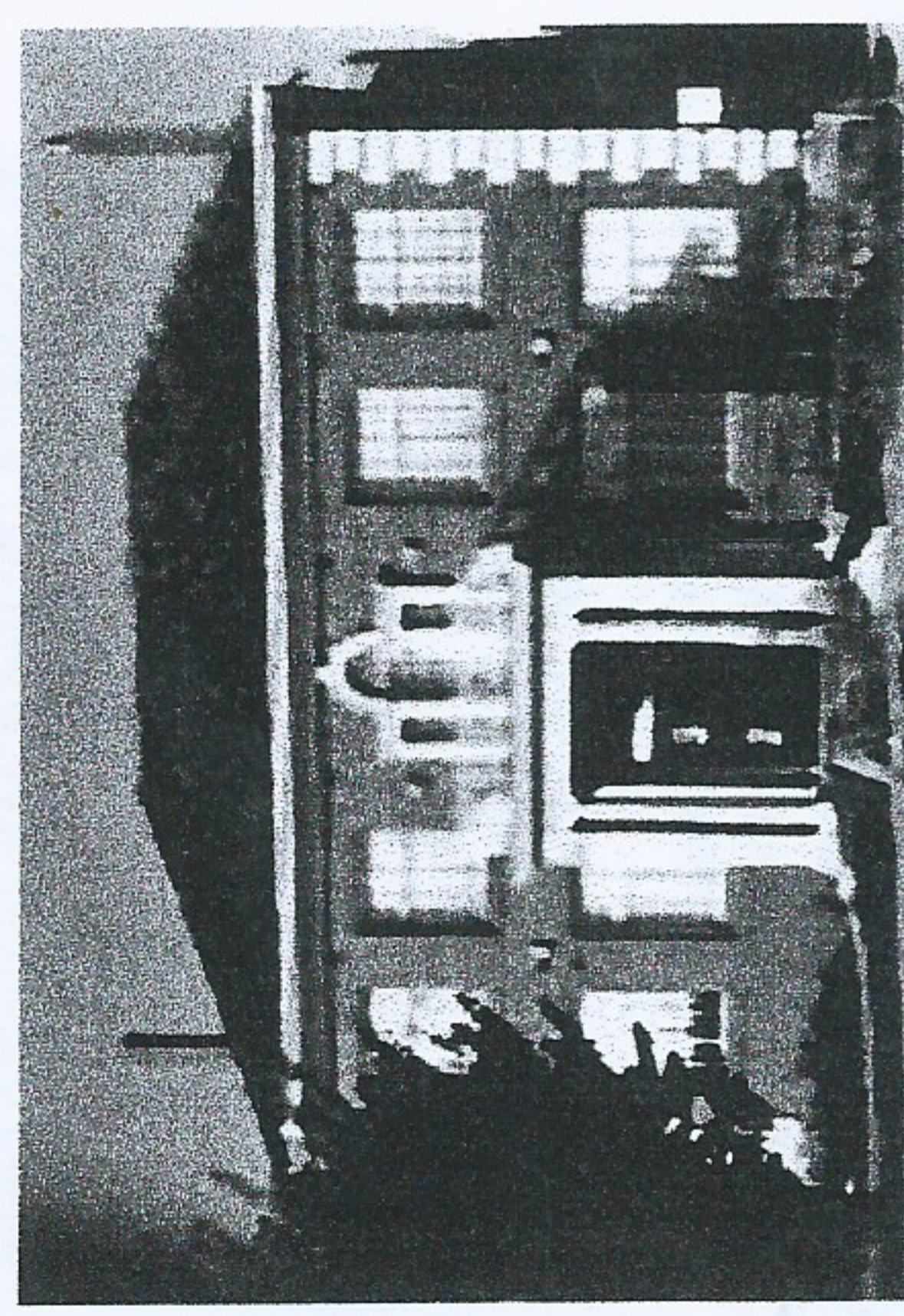




MAV 00852

City of Moorabbin 1934-1994

amalgamated 1994 into the cities of
Kingston, Bayside, Glen Eira



Moorabbin Municipal Offices
Architects: Jenkin & Goldsmith, Melbourne
Builder: C D Mason, 1931
Now Kingston Arts Centre

City of Moorabbin Historical Society Inc
(CMHS) established 1960 are custodians of the
Box Family Cottage Museum
Joyce Park, Jasper Rd, Ormond 3204
Open to public last Sun in mth 2-4pm (not Dec)
Box Family Cottage Donations appreciated
<http://home.vicnet.net.gov.au/~cmhsbcm/>

Moorabbin

The name Moorabbin is thought to derive from the Aboriginal word *Moorroobin* interpreted as "a resting place" or "mother's milk". The Aborigines living in the area were part of the Bunurung (various spellings) tribe. When Charles LaTrobe held office as Lieutenant-Governor the area became known as the Parish of Moorabbin, County of Burke. It extended from the border of the Parish of Prahran at what is now North Rd to Mordialloc, and from the coastlines of Brighton and Sandringham to Warrigal Rd.

Dendy's Brighton Estate

In 1841 the Land & Emigration Commission in London sold Surrey born brewer, Henry Dendy a Land Order *aka* Special Survey of 5120 acres in the Port Phillip District for £1 per acre. These orders gave purchasers the right to choose uncultivated crownland located five miles from a Government Reserve as well as the right to a 'special survey' carried out by the official government surveyor plus other entitlements.

On arrival in Melbourne, Dendy (right) selected merchant JB Were as his land agent and they chose the area bordered by North and South Rds stretching from the coastline to East Boundary Road in what is now Bentleigh East.



Dendy called his new estate "Brighton" and commissioned JB Foote to subdivide it into urban and farming allotments. However, sales were slow due to the economic downturn of 1841-1845.

In addition, Dendy — who had agreed to act as guarantor for a loan issued by the Union Bank to JB Were (member of a consortium nicknamed the 'Twelve Apostles') — was unable to service the loan when Were overextended himself. The result: Dendy had to forego most of his estate and declare himself insolvent while JB Were would be bailed out by his brother in England.

Early Pastoralists in Moorabbin

In 1842, Ireland born John O Shanassy, a future premier of Victoria, obtained a squatter's licence for a cattle run of 40,000 acres which he called *Windert*. His boundaries stretched from Chesterville Rd and Nepean Hwy towards Dandenong and Mordialloc Creek. When he'd had enough, fellow countrymen, brothers Richard and John King took up part of *Windert* c1846, and named their run *Kingsland*. Around the same time, the Moysey family held a run at Beaumaris while Alexander V Macdonald held extensive grazing lands at Mordialloc.

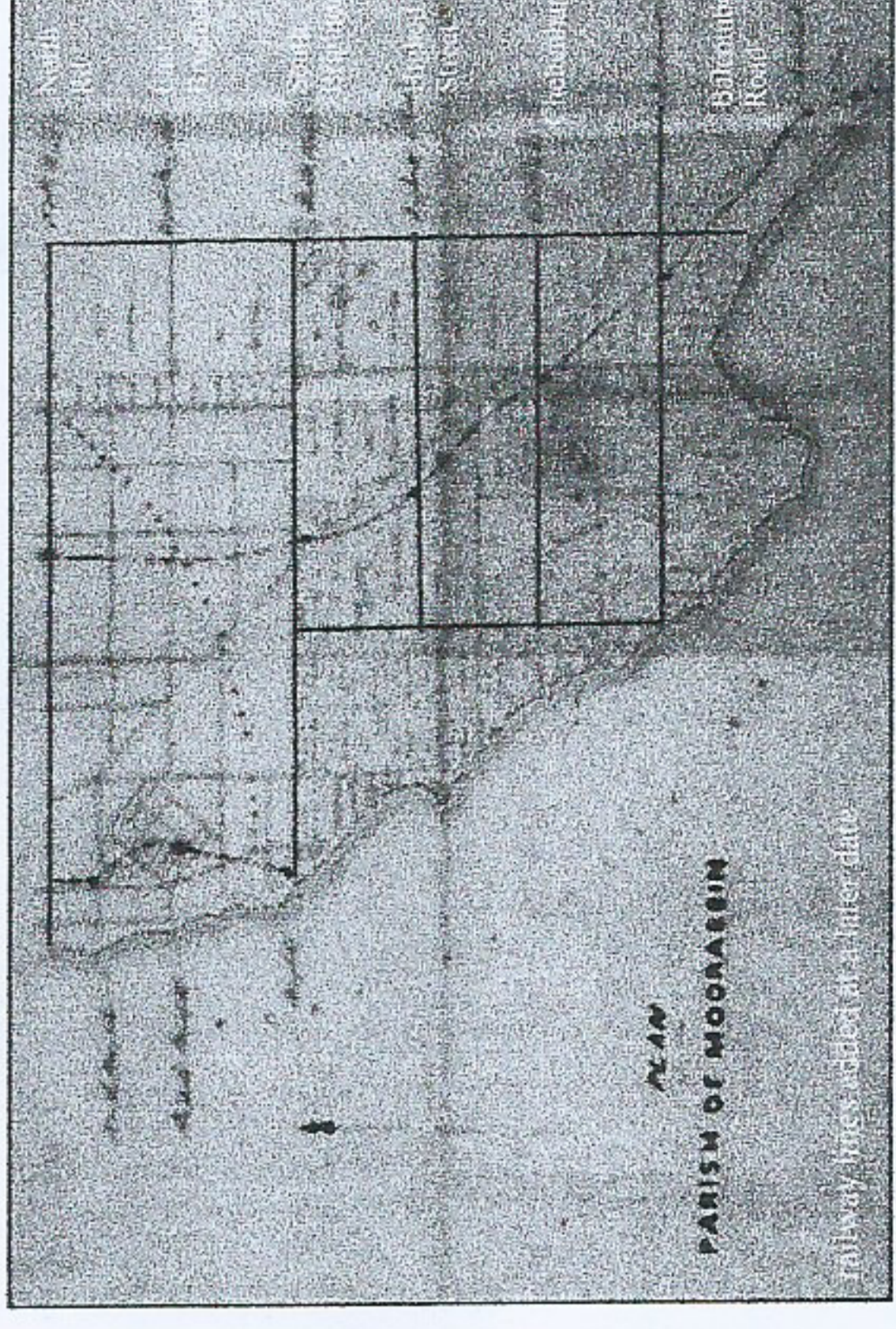
Victoria

The population of Victoria began multiplying after the discovery of gold in 1851. The new executive government of Victoria would progressively reduce the size of large stockruns from 1852 onwards while allowing existing pastoralists pre-emptive rights to purchase smaller leaseholds. The freed up land was then offered for sale to the highest bidder.

Land Development Parish of Moorabbin

From the 1850s large parcels of land were purchased in the Parish of Moorabbin and subdivided into farms and urban blocks. Some early developers were J Holloway, A Balcombe, D Wickham, S Charman, and the Keys family. To encourage sales of his urban blocks J Holloway developed village settlements, e.g.

Two Acre Village now Cheltenham (formerly Spring Grove)
Gypsy Village now Sandringham

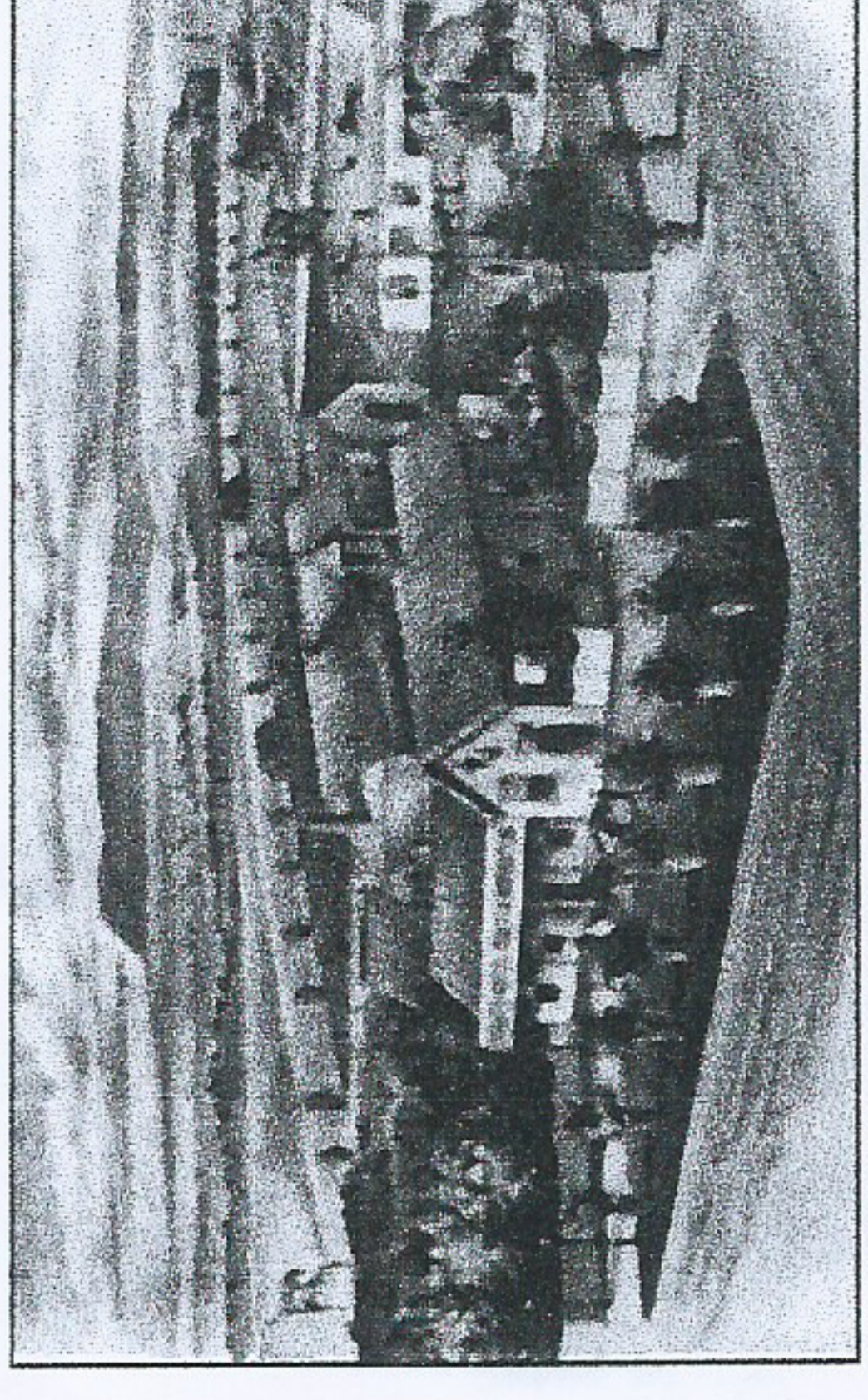


Parish of Moorabbin Map ca1853 [main rds highlighted, 2014]

Road District of Moorabbin 1862-1870

In 1853 the Government of Victoria passed an Act giving locally elected residents authority to develop their areas and build roads. Moorabbin was constituted a Road Board District in June 1862, and Colonel Mair named chairman of the Board until he retired in 1867. Thomas Bent was chairman from 1867-1869 and James MacCarthy from 1869-1870.

Members and officers of the District Road Board met at the *Plough & Harrow* hotel on the corner of Nepean Hwy and South Rd (below) until a District Hall was constructed in 1867 (image over page).



Former "Plough & Harrow" later Gregg's Hotel, South Brighton