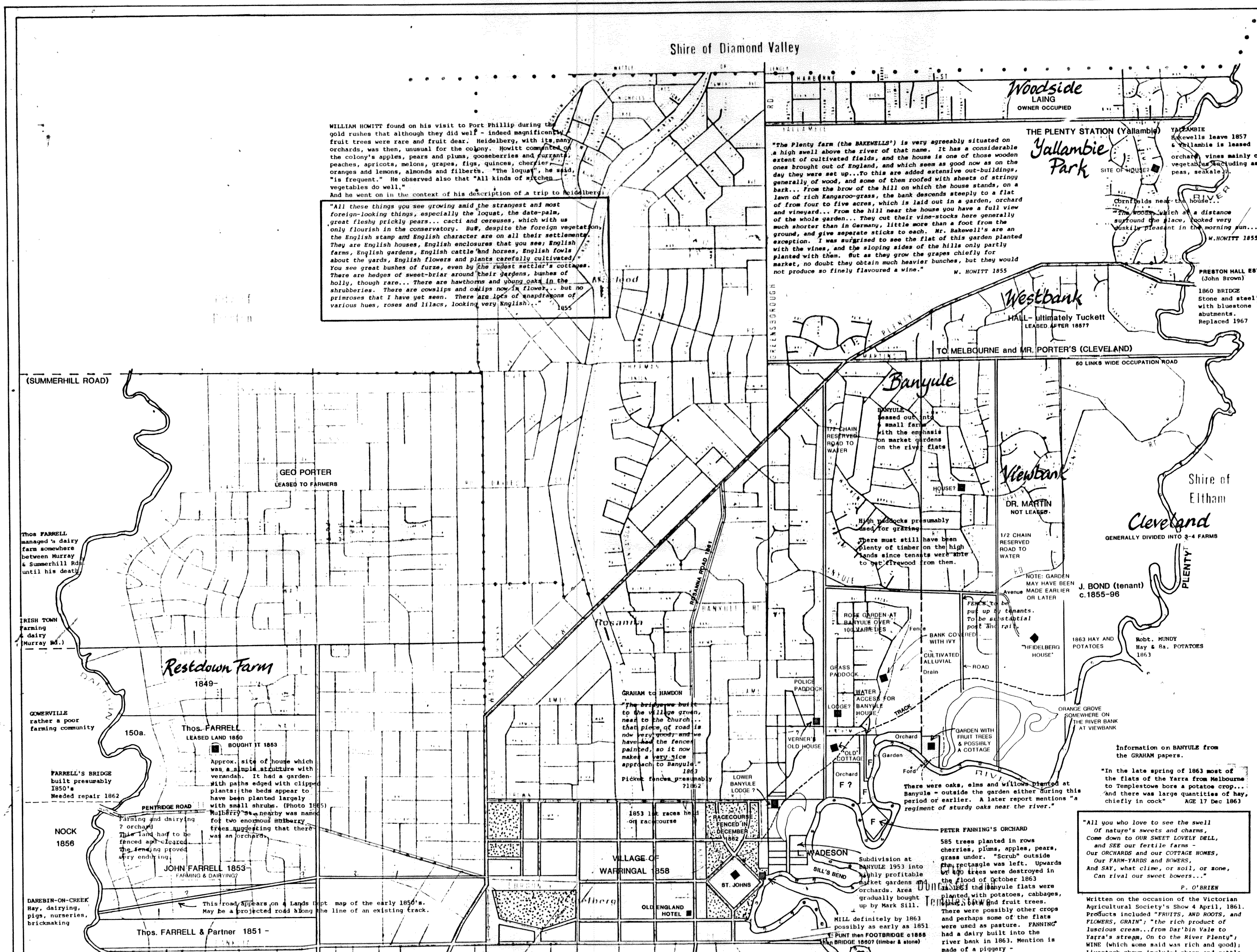
HISTORICAL MAPS: MAP C
"The Garden of the Colony"
1851–1863
Heidelberg
HISTORIC RIVER LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT
L&B
Reserved land
Roads, existing or proposed
Dwelling, but not necessarily that shape or alignment and not to scale
F Peter Fanning's holdings at Banyule under lease from c.1857
1 0 1 2 3 Kilometres
1.2.82
Shire of Diamond Valley
Shire of Eltham
City of Northcote
Woodside
LAING
OWNER OCCUPIED
THE PLENTY STATION (Yallambie)
Yallambie Park
YALLAMBIE
Bakewells leave 1857
& Yallambie is leased
orchard, vines mainly on flat, vegetables including asparagus, peas, seakale...
"cornfields near the house...
"The woods, which at a distance surround the place, looked very duskily pleasant in the morning sun..."
W.HOWITT 1855
"The Plenty farm (the BAKEWELLS') is very agreeably situated on a high swell above the river of that name. It has a considerable extent of cultivated fields, and the house is one of those wooden ones brought out of England, and which seem as good now as on the day they were set up...To this are added extensive out-buildings, generally of wood, and some of them roofed with sheets of stringy bark... From the brow of the hill on which the house stands, on a lawn of rich kangaroo-grass, the bank descends steeply to a flat of from four to five acres, which is laid out in a garden, orchard and vineyard... From the hill near the house you have a full view of the whole garden... They cut their vine-stocks here generally much shorter than in Germany, little more than a foot from the ground, and give separate sticks to each. Mr. Bakewell's are an exception. I was surprised to see the flat of this garden planted with the vines, and the sloping sides of the hills only partly planted with them. But as they grow the grapes chiefly for market, no doubt they obtain much heavier bunches, but they would not produce so finely flavoured a wine."
W. HOWITT 1855
PRESTON HALL ESTATE
(John Brown)
1860 BRIDGE
Stone and steel with bluestone abutments.
Replaced 1967
Westbank
HALL - ultimately Tuckett
LEASED AFTER 1867?
TO MELBOURNE and MR. PORTER'S (CLEVELAND)
60 LINKS WIDE OCCUPATION ROAD
WILLIAM HOWITT found on his visit to Port Phillip during the gold rushes that although they did well - indeed magnificently, fruit trees were rare and fruit dear. Heidelberg, with its many orchards, was then, unusual for the colony. Howitt commented on the colony's apples, pears and plums, gooseberries and currants, peaches, apricots, melons, grapes, figs, quinces, cherries, oranges and lemons, almonds and filberts. "The loquat", he said, "is frequent." He observed also that "All kinds of kitchen vegetables do well."
And he went on in the context of his description of a trip to Heidelberg:
"All these things you see growing amid the strangest and most foreign-looking things, especially the loquat, the date-palm, great fleshy prickly pears... cacti and cereuses, which with us only flourish in the conservatory. But, despite the foreign vegetation, the English stamp and English character are on all their settlements. They are English houses, English enclosures that you see; English farms, English gardens, English cattle and horses, English fowls about the yards, English flowers and plants carefully cultivated. You see great bushes of furze, even by the rudest settler's cottages. There are hedges of sweet-briar around their gardens, bushes of holly, though rare... There are hawthorns and young oaks in the shrubberies. There are cowslips and oxlips now in flower... but no primroses that I have yet seen. There are lots of snapdragons of various hues, roses and lilacs, looking very English..." 1855
(SUMMERHILL ROAD)
GEO PORTER
LEASED TO FARMERS
Banyule
BANYULE
leased out into small farms with the emphasis on market gardens on the river flats
1/2 CHAIN RESERVED ROAD TO WATER
Viewbank
HOUSE?
DR. MARTIN
NOT LEASED
Cleveland
GENERALLY DIVIDED INTO 3-4 FARMS
PLENTY
High paddocks presumably used for grazing
There must still have been plenty of timber on the high lands since tenants were able to get firewood from them.
1/2 CHAIN RESERVED ROAD TO WATER
NOTE: GARDEN MAY HAVE BEEN MADE EARLIER OR LATER
J. BOND (tenant)
c.1855-96
FENCE to be put up by tenants. To be substantial post and rail.
ROSE GARDEN AT BANYULE OVER 100 VARIETIES
BANK COVERED WITH IVY
CULTIVATED ALLUVIAL
Drain
ROAD
"HEIDELBERG HOUSE"
1863 HAY AND POTATOES
Robt. MUNDY
Hay & 8a. POTATOES
1863
Thos FARRELL managed a dairy farm somewhere between Murray & Summerhill Rds until his death
IRISH TOWN
Farming & dairy
(Murray Rd.)
Restdown Farm
1849-
GOWERVILLE
rather a poor farming community
150a.
Thos. FARRELL
LEASED LAND 1850
BOUGHT IT 1853
Approx. site of house which was a simple structure with verandah. It had a garden with paths edged with clipped plants; the beds appear to have been planted largely with small shrubs. (Photo 1865)
Mulberry St nearby was named for two enormous mulberry trees suggesting that there was an orchard.
FARRELL'S BRIDGE
built presumably 1850's
Needed repair 1862
PENTRIDGE ROAD
Farming and dairying
? orchard
This land had to be fenced and cleared.
The fencing proved very enduring.
NOCK
1856
JOHN FARRELL 1853-
FARMING & DAIRYING?
DAREBIN-ON-CREEK
Hay, dairying, pigs, nurseries, brickmaking
This road appears on a Lands Dept. map of the early 1850's. May be a projected road along the line of an existing track.
Thos. FARRELL & Partner 1851 -
Rosanna
ROSANNA ROAD 1861
GRAHAM to HAMDON
"The bridge we built to the village green, near to the church... that piece of road is now very good; and we have had the fences painted, so it now makes a very nice approach to Banyule."
1863
Picket fences presumably ?1862
POLICE PADDOCK
GRASS PADDOCK
WATER ACCESS FOR BANYULE HOUSE
LODGE? BANYULE HOUSE
TRACK
VERNER'S OLD HOUSE
"OLD" COTTAGE
LOWER BANYULE LODGE ?
Orchard
F ?
Garden
Ford
GARDEN WITH FRUIT TREES & POSSIBLY A COTTAGE
ORANGE GROVE SOMEWHERE ON THE RIVER BANK AT VIEWBANK
RIVER
Information on BANYULE from the GRAHAM papers.
"In the late spring of 1863 most of the flats of the Yarra from Melbourne to Templestowe bore a potatoe crop... and there was large quantities of hay, chiefly in cock" AGE 17 Dec 1863
There were oaks, elms and willows planted at Banyule - outside the garden either during this period or earlier. A later report mentions "a regiment of sturdy oaks near the river."
PETER FANNING'S ORCHARD
585 trees planted in rows cherries, plums, apples, pears, grass under. "Scrub" outside the rectangle was left. Upwards of 400 trees were destroyed in the flood of October 1863
Subdivision at BANYULE 1953 into highly profitable market gardens and orchards. Area gradually bought up by Mark Sill.
In 1863 the Banyule flats were planted with potatoes, cabbages, turnips and fruit trees. There were possibly other crops and perhaps some of the flats were used as pasture. FANNING had a dairy built into the river bank in 1863. Mention is made of a piggery - perhaps near FANNING'S?
Graham papers
MILL definitely by 1863
possibly as early as 1851
PUNT then FOOTBRIDGE c1856
then BRIDGE 1860? (timber & stone)
Templestowe
L. WADESON
SILL'S BEND
ST. JOHNS
VILLAGE OF WARRINGAL 1858
OLD ENGLAND HOTEL
Heidelberg
RACECOURSE FENCED IN DECEMBER 1862
1853 1st races held on racecourse
"All you who love to see the swell
Of nature's sweets and charms,
Come down to OUR SWEET LOVELY DELL,
and SEE our fertile farms -
Our ORCHARDS and our COTTAGE HOMES,
Our FARM-YARDS and BOWERS,
And SAY, what clime, or soil, or zone,
Can rival our sweet bowers..."
P. O'BRIEN
Written on the occasion of the Victorian Agricultural Society's Show 4 April, 1861. Products included "FRUITS, AND ROOTS, and FLOWERS, GRAIN"; "the rich product of luscious cream...from Dar'bin Vale to Yarra's stream, On to the River Plenty"; WINE (which some said was rich and good); Livestock shown included sheep and cattle, draught and saddle horses, and "feather'd bipeds of all climes."
FANNING at Banyule and Mr. Wadeson's garden (possibly that marked at Sill's Bend were singled out for special praise.
WESTGARTH in 1857 noted "an indolent and unfarmer-like practice of keeping the trees still growing in the midst of ploughed fields. This is less the practice here now than it was several years ago, when the stumps of the felled timber raised their stiff heads among the waving crops." See TEXT.
Leighton
Divided and leased out as 3 farms from end of 1850's
Trees remain on uplands
1863 crops on the flats included potatoes cabbages clover hay
cattle
80a.
70a.
houses on flats or low on slopes
WATTLES & SCRUB
Tenants at BANYULE were bound to eradicate "all wattles and scrub growing or which may from time to time grow..." 1857
Thistles were also a problem
Jas. DONALDSON 1860-
GRAZING ORCHARD?
1853 SUBDIVISION INTO 112 BLOCKS
AROUND 10 a. EACH
VARIOUS PURCHASERS
DAREBIN
D & G McLAREN
FARM - TO MID 60's
SUBDIVISION MID 60's
Eaglemont
Mt. Eagle 1853-4
DEVELOPED 1866-
MT. EAGLE was planted with many trees "mainly cedars, hoop pines, bunya pines, cypress and European pines" NUNAN
A wooden house supposed to be temporary.
Avenue of Cupressus Lambertiana approached it from Maltravers Road
FARM
Hartlands
Crops similar to those at LEIGHTON ?
YARRA
BULLEEN (Special Survey)
ARGUS 21st November, 1855 commented on "the primitive style of most of the tenements, and the somewhat wild luxuriance of the gardens and orchards"
In this area... locals believed there had been a four fold increase in cultivation since 1854... Wheat took up "not a twentieth part", oaten hay was a major crop, potatoes also. Improved farming was coming in e.g. the use of guano for fertilizer.
"AT HEIDELBERG, ABOUT SEVEN MILES ABOVE MELBOURNE, AND AT INTERVALS ALONG THE RIVER SIDE BETWEEN, SMALL FARMERS, MARKET GARDENERS AND VINE GROWERS HAVE TAKEN POSSESSION OF THE SLOPES AND VALLEY BOTTOMS, AND BROUGHT THEM UNDER CULTIVATION IN TIMES OF DROUGHT... THESE SETTLERS MAY CONGRATULATE THEMSELVES ON THEIR SITUATION. THEY ARE EXPOSED HOWEVER TO DANGER OF ANOTHER KIND." ARMOUR 1864
BUT MUCH LAND ON THE FLATS BOTH SIDES OF THE RIVER HAD BEEN EXHAUSTED WELL BEFORE THE FLOODS OF 1863 & 1864
IVANHOE VILLAGE developing (also known as Little Heidelberg for some years)
"Tenants farmed what remained of HARTLANDS although the BROWNES lived in the house 1853-c1864"
There were willows at the landing place on the river
PHILIP BRAGG 1860
LANDING PLACE?
The ARGUS of 21st. Nov. 1855 reported that around Ivanhoe and the adjacent Yarra banks there was 10 times a greater area under cultivation than the previous year, although much land still lay idle. There was comparatively little wheat... Most of the farms were leased.
ORCHARDS ?VINEYARDS
DRIVE
FORD
Rockbeare
35a.
J.S.ADAMS 1858-60
Developing farm and garden
Hordern Estate
HOUSE BY 1853
DAREBIN BRIDGE HOTEL c.1862-4
55a.
Fairy Hills
1862-4 NEW STONE BRIDGE (altered 1936-7)
WOODEN BRIDGE 1856
FRANCIS CLARK 1856-1896
SITE OF FAIRY HILLS HOUSE ?
DIVERSE INTERESTS
BOUGHT STEVENSON & CHELSWORTH 1850
Chas. PAYNE 1853-1880's
Ivanhoe
CHELSWORTH
"A narrow, winding road leads from the 'low road' (Lower Heidelberg Road) to the garden entrance, whence an avenue of conifers, with a double hedge of rose bushes, extends to the front of the house. The facade shows two wings built in stone, stuccoed and whitewashed, each projecting into a large bow window, from which stone steps lead down to the lawn. Between these wings the centre portion of weatherboards is protected by a verandah. All the front and side windows are closed by exterior venetian shutters. The orchard descends steeply to the river's bank. A broad walk, bordered by unkempt rose bushes can still be traced stalking down the hill, and branching from it, the remains of a trellised arbor." Stables of brick with slate roof, Barn and cow shed of wood with shingled roofs.
The LEADER 12/5/1900 19/5/1900
Chelsworth
LEASED
Cottage without verandah by 1849 - site of north of Ivanhoe (Sherwood) House
MORETON BAY FIGS TO PROTECT HOUSE ON THE SOUTH & WEST
Charterisville
DR.McARTHUR
NOT LEASED
GARDEN
VINES
ORCHARD
The estate was producing, or had for sale rooted fruits and vines, butter, fowls, fruits, vegetables, including potatoes, wheat, oats, hay, horses and bullocks, and pigs, wine - and firewood - there must have still been plenty of trees on the estate.
CROPS ON FLATS
? GARDEN
? ORCHARD
WAVERLEY became part of Charterisville 1853
25 Nov. 1861 Charterisville "is looking beautiful just now - a tremendous show of cherries and great promise of grapes - of other fruits a fair promise with the exception of loquats."
GRAHAM
There were oranges and lemons... vines were low enough to be flooded in 1863 and 1864
July 1861 "The German has made some wine... I am afraid I will not get much for it, but the flavour of the grape is so much liked that I think we shall be able to make a good sale of the grapes next season for wine making"
GRAHAM
CHARTERISVILLE
"a large stone house was... erected, and the grounds sloping steeply to the river... were laid out and planted as shrubbery, flower garden and orchard. Numerous exotic trees made shady homes for the British song birds, which Mr.McArthur bred in large aviaries... and set free from time to time. One notable luxury for those early days was a fine water service for house and garden, supplied by force pump from the river" There was "a large artificial pond of masonry in the middle of the garden..."
The LEADER 1900
CHELSWORTH
probable location of house, garden and orchard.
House constructed c.1859
There was an overseer's cottage near the house.
Other houses with land were leased to four farmers.
The flood of December 1863 destroyed at Kew:
10½ a. gardens (vegs. & fruit?)
27½ a. potatoes
47 a. oats
25 a. wheat
10 a. mangel-wurzels
KEW
After the Darebin the road to Heidelberg "was not macadamised, but it was cut at the sides, raised in the middle, and with occasionally a slight attempt at levelling" WESTGARTH 1857
R.W. SMITH 1850'S
dairying and fruit growing at LUCERNE
"a handsome building (of stone - 2 storeyed) with pillared front and ample balconies, and terraces sweeping down through a delightful garden" SUTHERLAND 1888
PERRY'S FULHAM GRANGE had at least 181 varieties of fruit trees.