1892
MUNRO & BAILLIEU
1000a

A TIME OF DISASTERS

Recession in the late 50's was followed by a time of droughts, floods and plagues of caterpillars and rust and pleuro-pneumonia.... The flood of December 1863 was one of several but it was exceptionally severe in its effects. Banyule's tenants were "*obliged to become recipients of charity*", FANNING was the only one who salvaged anything "*but he had not a farthing in the world in cash, and only his livestock and farming implements left - Even his clothes were nearly all destroyed, but he has good friends to support him, and he will yet get on*" (Others were not so fortunately placed). "*Agriculture is paying no one now by itself, and farmers are turning their attention to grazing, rearing of poultry, pigs (etc.?) and dairying - good grasslands are therefore more valuable, more than agricultural lands - you cannot expect to get high rents now for these flats as independant of the alarm there is now about floods, there is also the fact that these lands are very much worked out ...*"

GRAHAM 15 March 1864

George BENNETT of Lucerne, Collector for East Bourke, thought the drought of 1864 even worse in its effects on the occupiers of the river banks than the floods. "*The land in many cases,.. was not workable until softened by the recent rains, and the deposit left by the floods, instead of being, as formerly, decayed vegetable matter... acting as an enriching... top-dressing to the soil, was an adhesive clayish substance (probably from the cuttings that had been made by miners at Anderson's Creek and other diggings for the purpose of altering the course of the river), and which seemed to have a deleterious... effect on the land.. Potatoes planted in November never grew, and mangel-wurzel and other crops, sown in December and January did not come up until the month of May.*" The occupiers turned to pasture but most land, unfortunately, was not "*properly prepared and laid down in permanent artificial grasses*".

BENNETT 7 July 1865 V.P.P.Session 1865-6

THE AFTERMATH

Heidelberg was seen as being "*in the centre of a rich agricultural, market gardening, and vine and fruit growing district*" RAILWAYS TOURISTS' GUIDE 1885

But most of the "gardening" was now done presumably on lands above flood level, not on the flats as had earlier been the case. And there were only too "*visible signs of decay.*"

"*Well do we remember at the early period, seeing the place in summer with rich waving fields of growing corn, its smiling homesteads, its contented cattle, its prosperous farmers, and evident signs of agricultural wealth. The grain growing gave place to grass and dairy farming, then fields were left in fallow, the hedges began to be somewhat neglected, and some of the homesteads became sadly ruinous.... Would (Heidelberg) never again awake,.. and what was once the garden of Melbourne, to be over-run with thorns, weeds and briars?*"

COLLINGWOOD MERCURY 8 May 1890 quoted GARDEN p 128

Woodside

Oaklined track to flat

Still "*a solid mass of bush*" looking east from Yallambie

Beautiful trees including conifers on slope

HOUSE BUILT BY WRAGGE BETWEEN 1872 & 1875-6

ORCHARD & MARKET GARDEN

Water wheel at "Yallambie"

Yallambie

BOUGHT BY T. WRAGGE
1872

LEASED 1857-72

WRAGGE built Yallambie up into a fine property

1866 BRIDGE being planned and built stone and steel with bluestone abutments

Westbank

HELD IN TRUST BY
W.H. TUCKETT
1862

"Around "Banyule" and "Viewbank" were long stretches of hawthorn hedges and amongst the hawthorn briar roses and furze had also been planted, as they do in England" T.A. RANK

Banyule

With the change to dairying Banyule was divided into 3 farms, instead of the former 6.

Dr. Martin of Viewbank bought the estate in 1867. He put in new fencing, gated to the lodges and repaired the houses of the tenants.

Viewbank

"*has become a good dairy farm, the garden being a grazing ground for cattle*"

LEADER 1900

DR. MARTIN had died in 1874. Viewbank was often closed up

Cleveland

PORTER FAMILY

WITHERS' "TRANQUIL WINTER" 1895 was painted from this viewpoint Withers lived in the old farmhouse.

Council requested that Plenty be flushed 13 February 1884 and 11 February 1885

VIEWBANK HOUSE

NUTTALL, one tenant, turned to dairying and poultry.
15 March 1864

But Fanning attempted to keep on with the old system, only to be hit with furt. r failure.

GRAHAM

NUTTALL & BLANCHARD both used night soil on Banyule in the 1890's Also 1880's

House in garden still there in 1864 but "*damp*" GRAHAM

"*A regiment of sturdy oaks down near the river*" City of Heidelberg News 16 Nov 1934

On 21 Dec 1864 Tenant R. HOBSON was sternly rebuked for chopping down oaks and elms GRAHAM

400 of FANNING'S young trees destroyed by flood of December 1863

December 1863 crop on fruit trees destroyed by flood.

Orchards invaded by visitors with opening of railway 1888

ARGUS 20 December 1884 reported that there were still cottages on the flat which had been covered in the flood of 1863

1890 Fence on Bulleen side of bridge. Post and two rails with pointed tops to posts. ILL. AUST. NEWS 1 February 1890

Mangels painted by WITHERS "*typical of the cultivation patches lying on the river flats, near the Heidelberg bridge.*" (LIFE & ART)

ABBOTSFORD FISH PROTECTION SOCIETY placed "*at considerable expense to the society*" a number of English salmon and trout fry in the Yarra.

November 1893

A 3 rail fence of split posts and rails of the best sort with good broad rails and stout backed off posts "was tendered" for to go between Hartlands and Glenard.

GRAHAM PAPERS 1899-1900

POST AND RAIL (2 or 3 rail) was widely used in the district.

After the floods came reeds, docks and sorrel - and worse- "*the red shank*" *has overspread all the flats growing in the bend near Dr. Martin's, by actual measurement seven feet high, and nearly an inch in circumference at the stem - all that has to be cut down by hand...*"
GRAHAM 4 May 1864
* A polygonatum species

USE OF THE RIVER FLATS

Dairying became the predominant use on the river flats but there were still orchards and still some cultivation of vegetables as well as maize, mangels and other fodder were grown for the stock. David CAREW at CHELSWORTH lost 13a. of potatoes in the flood of April 1901

SOME IMPRESSIONS OF HEIDELBERG

"*The country all round is a very pretty farming district, but rather hilly.... The Yarra-Yarra ... dark and sluggish stream*"
(it was a drought year) There was no reason to call the area after Heidelberg.
"*Certainly there was the river Yarra, looking picturesque; it had a ruin, too, on its banks (an old mill built of wood) ... but there was nothing that could recall the Neckar*"

VICTORIA, The BRITISH "ELDORADO" 1870

"*Let us cross the Yarra by the wooden bridge which leads to Heidelberg, and see that pretty suburb, lying in picturesque seclusion in its little hollow; its old-fashioned church, its quaint old inn, its orchards daintily white with blossoming fruit trees*"

SUTHERLAND 1888

"*A favourite place of resort for picnic, and other pleasant parties*" SUTHERLAND 1888

"*typical English settlement*"

VICTORIAN TOURIST'S RAILWAY GUIDE 1892

"*Heidelberg, the she-oak and sienna dust over all; the straw-brown hills; pale Dandenongs; the Old England, college, tennis; pines and coppery light; hazels, japonica; Impressionist exhibition; gorse up the drive; girls; the picnics in the twilight, and all the loveliness - all a dream*"

ARTHUR STREETON

"*Nature's scheme of colour in Australia is gold and blue*" ARTHUR STREETON

THE YARRA'S WATERS

The ARGUS (20 December 1884) reported that the waters of the river were not as clear as they had been in the early days. Increasing pollution from various sources had led the Council in the late 70's to press for connection with Yan Yean, but this was not achieved until the late 80's.

"THE REGION BETWEEN HEIDELBERG AND IVANHOE, THE BARBIZON AND FONTAINEBLEAU OF AUSTRALIA, WILL BE ALWAYS SACRED TO THE MUSE OF LANDSCAPE... THE VERY AIR IS HALLOWED BY THE MEMORY OF THE ARTISTS WHO WORKED HERE, AND JUST AS THE SPIRIT OF CONSTABLE HAUNTS THE STOUR, SO WILL THE MANES OF ARTHUR STREETON FOREVER POSSESS THESE GENTLE SLOPES THAT FOLD UPON THE WINDING YARRA"

SIR LIONEL LINDSAY

TYLER STREET BY 1892

WOOD STREET BY 1892

GEO PORTER
(Porter family)
1892
LEASED TO FARMERS
790a

LANE USING NIGHT SOIL 1894

BRIDGE ROAD (CHIFLEY DV.) BY 1892

HELD BY
J. CREWS
1892
80a

T. FARRELL
d.1883
FARMING & DAIRYING
FARRELL HOUSE
Prior Park
PRIOR PARK HOMESTEAD

George Mayger developed this property from land bought from the Farrells during the 1860's. Large house and gardens. Attempted subdivision 1888, Sold 1894.

FARRELLS' OR PENTRIDGE BRIDGE BY 1862

RECONSTRUCTED 1863

SWIMMING POOL

DAIRYING?

FARMING & DAIRYING

R. WALKER
1892
90a

ONE OF THE FARRELLS USED NIGHT SOIL IN 1880s

DUNDAS ST 1892

PENDER'S GROVE ESTATE 25.11.1887

A. GROOME
1892
49a

PROPOSED RACECOURSE
143a

DAREBIN GLEN ESTATE c1886-88

Bridge over gully near Donaldson; being injured by heavy stone traffic 1888

GRAZING

D.DANIEL 1892
20a DAIRY

T DANIELS of IVANHOE won a prize for a thoroughbred stallion VAS show 1880

A. FORD
1892
11a

The Toorak of the North offered "noble frontages" with views of "unsurpassable inland scenery"

LOWE
1892
12a

The reserve between Wynstay Grove and the creek was planted with trees.

1898 or 1900 TIMBER BRIDGE

Alfred FORD (Solicitor, 1st Shire President) built Ivanhoe Manor in 1888 - a 2 storeyed stuccoed brick house in a large garden.

W.H. ROCKE
Commercial interests added Rockbeare to his estate on the north in late 70's or early 80's property to wife Salisbury Anne ROCKE by 1884

DAREBIN CREEK ROAD

DAIRY? 1892
PURVIS & LOVE

W.H. ROCKE
1870 or 1874

88 HOUSE LOTS
Few houses were built at the time

1888 "TOORAK OF THE NORTH" SUBDIVISION "WYNSTAY"

1888 several subdivisions around Ivanhoe but not affecting the riverlands

OLIVE GROVES ORCHARDS VINEYARDS 1880s

MULBERRIES ALONG SPUR

ORCHARDS VINEYARDS

Rockbeare

"*We here perceive on the crest of the hill the residence of General Latham (Ivanhoe House) with its neatly laid out grounds and walks; indeed many of our professional and mercantile men have most picturesque homes in this romantic little village*"
GUIDE 1869

MARKET GARDENS 1880s

ORANGE GROVE 1880s

SWAMP

ROCKLEIGH
J.S. ADAMS
BLUESTONE STABLES
FEED HOUSE
COACH HOUSE
DAIRY
PIGGERY 1900

TRAINING TRACK for horses 1892 - land later bought by J.S.ADAMS

QUARRY 1890
WITH STONECRUSHERS T.ADAMS

HORDERN 1892

J.S. ADAMS
Various interests Bought Alphington side of Darebin Creek opposite Rockbeare 1858-60 Developed farm

1890 PHYLLOXERA killed vines. ORCHARD invaded by visitors with opening of railway.

HOTEL

PROBABLE SITE OF CLARK HOUSE

25a

Redgum culvert made near Rayner's waterhole 1875

1864 Waterhole filled in at bridge at Alphington 11.4.18:4
Bed of the Darebin at the bridge filled with stones and pitchers reset.

Old bridge sold 1868 The bridge was asphalted but the road up the hill was low in 1894

ALPHINGTON was noted for its vineyards and market gardens but by 1888 it was beginning to turn suburban...

SUBDIVISION BY 1892

LUCERNE ESTATE
"*Lovely Hills, Slopes, Ridges, Grand Old Trees*" 23 October 1885

SUBDIVISIONS IN HEIDELBERG

IN THE 1880's (apart from that at ROCKBEARE) did not affect the riverlands

HEIDELBERG PARK
1886-9 First stage of laying out by Peter FANNING
1886 declared a picnic ground
1889 Shire office in the Park
1899 Old Court House moved to Park
1899 Open drain was constructed to take the Saltwater Creek into the Yarra (lined bluestone)
The park was grazed in its early years.

"*The Race Course... undoubtedly is the prettiest in the colony, being partly surrounded by a high hill from which a vast panoramic view is obtained. The Course, however, is but little used for racing!.. being only half a mile in circumference, accidents are very liable to take place.*"
THOMAS GUIDE 1869

GRAVEL PITS

RACECOURSE QUARRY

RACE COURSE & CRICKET GROUND

HEIDELBERG was still a small and scattered village at the end of the 19th century.

1884 TREE PLANTING AT ST JOHNS

HOUSE OF W RANK MILL ORCHARD

ST JOHNS

MILL USED AS STEAM CHAFT WORKS FROM 70s SOLD 1890

WATER ACCESS PUMP 1880

CHEESE FACTORY IN JIKA ST 1871-81

OLD ENGLAND HOTEL

Heidelberg

Eaglemont Estate 1886-

1885 LEIGHTON was offered for sale in 2 lots divided by Lower Heidelberg Road. Extremely low offers were made for the eastern portion, which was therefore retained by BOLDEN.

Western section bought by J. CHRISTOPHER - EAGLEMONT ESTATE CO. acquired MT. EAGLE

Prestige estate planned. Streets planned with English trees but little land sold or built on.

"*The view from this part of the country is very pretty; the mixture of colours displayed by the numerous trees with which the distant hills are clothed, together with the cornfields and orchards in the foreground, make a picture that one cannot help being delighted with.*"
THOMAS' GUIDE 1869

DIRECT 1901

RAILWAY 1888

Leighton
DIVIDED 1888

ORCHARD SOMEWHERE ON NE

GASOMETER 1897

1860s-1870s G BOLDEN & C CLAYTON
GLENARD FARM
1886-
150a
LEASED TO R. GREAVES

DRAIN THROUGH BOLDEN'S PADDOCK 1864

Springbank

1877-1888 MRS R.G. DURHAM OPERATED THE MT EAGLE TEAGARDENS

Mt. Eagle

Subdivision 1888 Many English trees planted in streets

IVANHOE VILLAGE

INDIRECT RAILWAY 1888

Ivanhoe

1887 - 1890 STREETON, CONDER, ROBERTS and other painters at EAGLEMONT - the most famous of the artists' camps. Ivanhoe had long been popular with artists.

Chas PAYNE to c1886
C.H. JAMES SPECULATOR TO 1887
LIQUIDATOR

Chelsworth
EXECUTORS OF STEVENSON 1878-
300a
BOUGHT 1901 BY H. LAIDNER & D. CAREW
DAIRYING AND SOME CULTIVATION

STREETON's "The Yarra - Ivanhoe" c. 1888 shows the banks with clumps of trees at the water's edge, but also bare stretches.

IVANHOE
IVANHOE bought by John YOUNG (builder) 1863
Ivanhoe house built by 1867 in Italianate style, including a square tower. In 1892 the property was bought by Horace WILCOX, the house was extended and a round tower constructed. The house was surrounded by a garden rich in shrubs and trees. The paddocks with their clumps of trees (silver wattles) had stout fences of post & 3 rail. Young leased his land in small farms and this practice seems to have been continued.

WATER ACCESS

BATHING
Bathing is only permitted at such places and within such limits as determined by Council. Shall wear proper bathing dress or bathing drawers. Bylaw 1890

BANYARRA FARMHOUSE?
DAIRY

LODGE

DALVEY

LAWN TENNIS IN PARK FROM 1896

BANYULE RD

ROAD EXISTED BY 1890 (Road shown based on aerial photo of 1931

LODGE

1862 drain to be made near Mark Bill's garden. 1872 barrel drain near Heidelberg Bridge to be cleared out.

Hartlands
BROWN
1892
134a

Entirely leased out after 1865
F.W. GREAVES one of tenants

Group of buildings (tenants) shown on 1886 subdivision plan?

HARTLANDS BURNT DOWN c1864

ROAD on subdivision plan of 1886

DRIVE

GARDENER'S COTTAGE

WILLOWS ON BANK
BATHING PLACE
LANDING PLACE

Cedar pines on south side of drive

ORCHARD

COTTAGE VINES

Charterisville
D.C. McARTHUR d.1887
Estate leased to a succession of dairy farmers.
1890-93 Walter Withers rented half the house beginning the long association of the house with painters and others...
1900 Ownership to the De Castella family

McARTHUR was said to have rowed from Heidelberg to Melbourne.

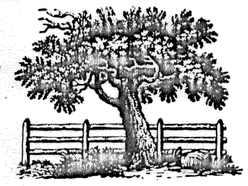
Ernest MOFFIT'S picture "A Summer's Day" (Heidelberg) 1897 shows willows by the river.

MIXED FARMING UNTIL C1887 THEREAFTER DAIRYING WITH POULTRY

1892 HELD BY QUEEN INSURANCE

SWIMMING HOLE

LIONEL LINDSAY on CHARTERISVILLE in 1897
"*... a winding path led past the house to our cottage. The house itself faced the valley, with a rose garden in front that descended to a hill to a circular fountain that had long since ceased playing... Half-way downhill the gardeners' two brick cottages marked on each side the lateral boundaries, and from the bordering loquats we crossed the abandoned vineyard to our cottage on the right. A little way from our door lay a ruined summer-house buried in banksia roses, and eleven acres of orchard stretched on the flats to the river. It was that most poetical of all man's lost achievements - a great garden gone to waste... The beauty of the place in spring haunts me still. The ravishing pink of the peaches breaking the masses of white plum and pear blossom, the tangle of intertwining branches, the sound of bees, the paean of the rising sap in all nature, called for conder's tender brush.*"



Heidelberg
HISTORIC RIVER LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT

HISTORICAL MAPS: MAP D

1864-1901
"Sleepy Hollow" and "Sleeping Beauty"

L&B

N LOUDER AND BAYLY

1 0 1 2 3 Kilometres 1967

1 2 82