

22 Woods Point Road

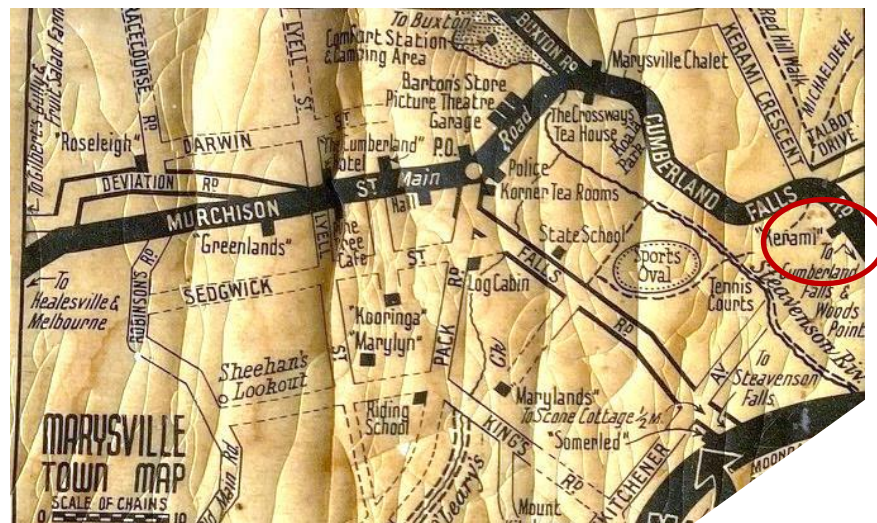
On this site over the years

**Mary Lodge, Kerami again,
Silver Birch Motel, Kufstein Inn, The Birches &
Kerami Gardens Resort**

Heading out of Marysville towards Lake Mountain on what was The Yarra Track, sometimes referred to as the Cumberland Falls Road or the Cumberland Road, but officially known today as the Marysville-Woods Point Road, you drive past 22 Woods Point Road. This property on the south side of the road, east of Lady Talbot Drive, has been home to a number of accommodation establishments for nearly 80 years. The 2009 Black Saturday Fires put a stop to this and today it is natural bushland.

In 1933 Eric Dowdle purchased the original Kerami lots. He built a guesthouse further down the road than the original Kerami which he named Mary Lodge. After Eric, the property was named Kerami to honour the original guest house and continued on as one of Marysville's well-loved known establishments until a fire in 1969 completely destroyed it.

Details of the history of Kerami to 1969 and of Mary Lodge are in a separate documents.



1958 Broadbent Map enlarged section

Silver Birch Motel & Restaurant

Yvonne and Dieter Fromm bought the burnt-out property in 1972 and Dieter built the Silver Birch Motel and Restaurant, an alpine chalet, on the site. Their daughters, Sarah and Natalie grew up in Marysville.

The famous heart chairs in the restaurant were built by Dieter along with other pieces of furniture.



Kufstein Inn



In 1982 Silver Birches Motel was sold to Ron Hanon and his Austrian girlfriend and was renamed Kufstein Inn. Ray Vanzuyden and later Rosemary Fiske were managers for a couple of the owners. For the next 10 years it was a favourite with its Alpine Chalet theme. In winter people gathered after skiing for Gluhwein, a meal and the German Band. In summer there was the Beer Garden and the Terrace Garden. Locals, young and old, have many memories of dinners and dances at the Kufstein Inn. The building's origin was remembered with the Silver Birches Restaurant.

Michael Jaeger was chef at Kufstein Inn before taking over the management there. He put in a pizza oven and did home deliveries. This was back in the early 90s. Michael left Marysville but it call brought him back to be as chef at the Cumberland.

Subsequent owners put their marks on the original property renovating the units and adding additional larger ones.

The Birches Resort

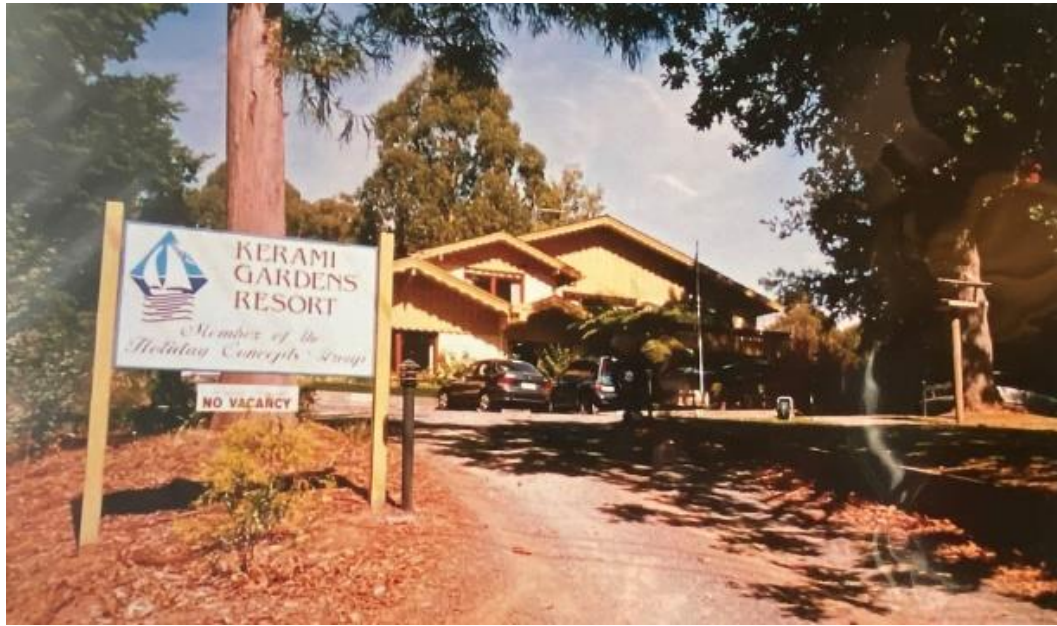
By 1994 Rae & Paul Clarke took over the property, did some renovations and reinvented the property as The Birches Resort.

Facilities included a Licensed Restaurant, Cocktail Bar and dance floor, Conference/Wedding facilities.

For guests staying in the units there was a swimming pool and hot spa tub, sauna, BBQ area and children's play area.

If you were planning a day out, picnic hampers were available.

Kerami Gardens Resort



Time-share facilities were a popular concept in the Gold Coast and Surfers Paradise by the end of the 20th century.

Kerami Gardens Resort was Marysville's time-share property. Additional larger units with kitchen facilities were built in early 2000.

In 2009, when the Black Saturday Fires struck, Richard and Jill Hodge were the owner/managers. They kept their guests on the property and fully informed of the day's conditions and as the wind change brought the fire to Marysville they sent their guests safely up the road to Alexandra. The property was destroyed.



After the fires this large sign stood proudly on the property until it was donated to the Marysville & District Historical Society in 2019.

Today the sign is displayed in Lou's Shed along with other accommodation signs which survived the fires.