
CALoola DUMP

Location

115 WATSONS ROAD SUNBURY, HUME CITY

Municipality

HUME CITY

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7822-0093

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO38

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - April 6, 2010

Data has been updated as a result of the Outer Western Metro Project, Context, March 2010.

Interpretation of Site

The site lies on the south eastern side of the hill occupied by the buildings of the former Caloola industrial school and then asylum. It consists of a scatter of material, probably originating with these institutions, in a gully which leads down the south eastern side of the hill towards Jacksons Creek.

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Archaeological Significance | <p>The material contained within the scatter probably includes metal work, ceramic and glass fragments, brick fragments and wooden pads. The scatter had previously contained much larger material, including car chassis and bed frames, but this was removed approximately three years ago in preparation for the new path.</p> <p>It is probable that the dumped material extends beneath the surface, possibly to some depth given its location in a natural gully. The site therefore possesses reasonable potential to provide information regarding the day to day activities of the industrial school and asylum at the end of the 19th century.</p> |
| Historical Significance | <p>The site is of historical significance for its potential to demonstrate day to day activity at the former Industrial School (the first purpose-built example of this type) and the Lunatic Asylum, both of which are represented by substantial physical evidence at the nearby Caloola site (H0937).</p> |
| Other Names | <p>CALoola TRAINING CENTRE FOR THE INTELLECTUALLY DISABLED, CALoola 1, CALoola 1, DUMP, HOLDEN FLORA AND FAUNA RESERVE, SUNBURY INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL,</p> |
| Hermes Number | 8739 |
| Property Number | |

History

Following the implementation of the Neglected and Criminal Children's Act of 1864, a 1,000 acre site was put aside on Jackson's Hill in Sunbury on which was developed the Sunbury Industrial School. This institution was designed to provide destitute or orphaned children with the skills necessary to care for themselves in adulthood.

Provisions for the children were inadequate and illness was rife. It was estimated that around 10 percent of children died within the first year of operation, and this led to the school gaining the nickname of the Sunbury Slaughterhouse. After public outcry, and after numerous Royal Commissions into the Industrial School System the Sunbury Industrial School was closed.

The site was redeveloped in 1879 as an asylum for the mentally ill and, having been substantially enlarged in the period 1891 - 1914, it reached 1000 patients at its peak. The 1920s the Health Reformation Act improved conditions and the site was maintained in use as a psychiatric hospital before becoming the Caloola Training Centre for the Intellectually Disabled between 1968 and 1992. It is now occupied by a number of organisations including Sunbury and Macedon Ranged Specialist School and Victoria University, although the latter is due to be replaced at the site by the Hume Anglican Grammar School in 2010.

The dump could have originated with either of these stages in the site's development, but it would appear to have continued to be used into the 20th century.

This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place source.

For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>