
FORMER MOUNT COTTRELL MARKET GARDEN SITE

Location

1670-1880 MOUNT COTTRELL ROAD MOUNT COTTRELL, MELTON SHIRE

Municipality

MELTON CITY

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7822-0102

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Historical Significance

The site represents the activities of early pastoral and agricultural peoples in Victoria. It reflects aspects of subsistence practices and domestic and commercial activities during a period of sustained economic hardship for a minority ethnic group (the Italians - if it can be proved the Italians worked the site). For this reason, as an early example of Italian activity, the site holds medium historical significance.

Interpretation of Site

This rich alluvial flood plain has probably supported a variety of crops since the mid 1800s. It is likely that Pinkerton ploughed and sowed crops here. However, the only visible remains relate to the 1920s and later and appear to be associated with medium to large scale market gardening and irrigation infrastructure.

Archaeological Significance

The site is of medium significance as a 1920s market garden and subsistence farming venture conducted by European people (in this case Italians). The site also holds some significance as it represents a fairly large scale venture that was initiated and operated during the 1920-1930 depression. In addition, the area holds potential to reveal information concerning Pinkerton's earlier occupation of land, c. 1850 - 1860s.

Other Names SURBITON PARK 12,

Hermes Number 8748

Property Number

History

The first European to own this parcel of land was George Sherwin. In 1848 or 1849 James Pinkerton purchased the land and used it predominantly for sheep farming. Pinkerton sold to William Clark (Big Clark), who was also a sheep farmer, in c.1862. Local oral history suggests that during the 1830s Italian market gardeners used the site. The area is also part of the home paddock from the Pinkerton owned property. It is now on land owned by Western Water.

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/>