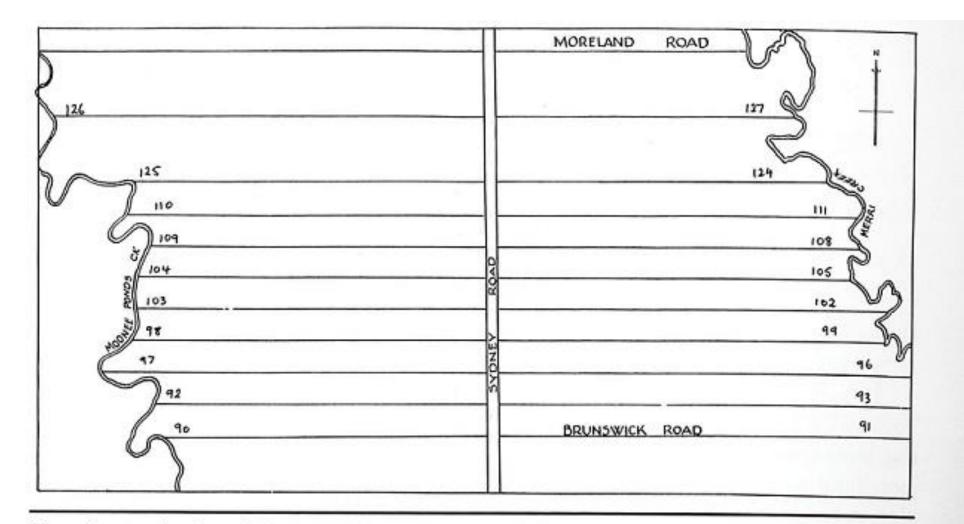
## Mansions of Moreland

A Read More presentation for the 2018 Australian Heritage Festival

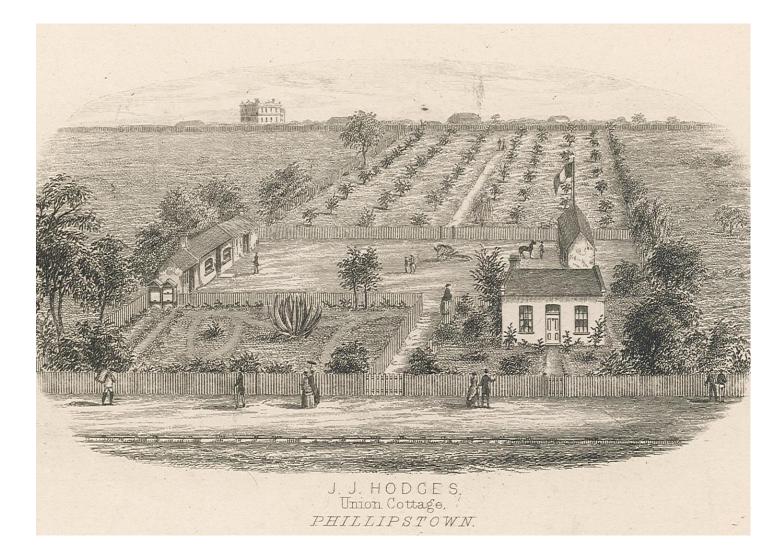
Tonya Lewis Adult/Information Services Librarian Moreland City Libraries



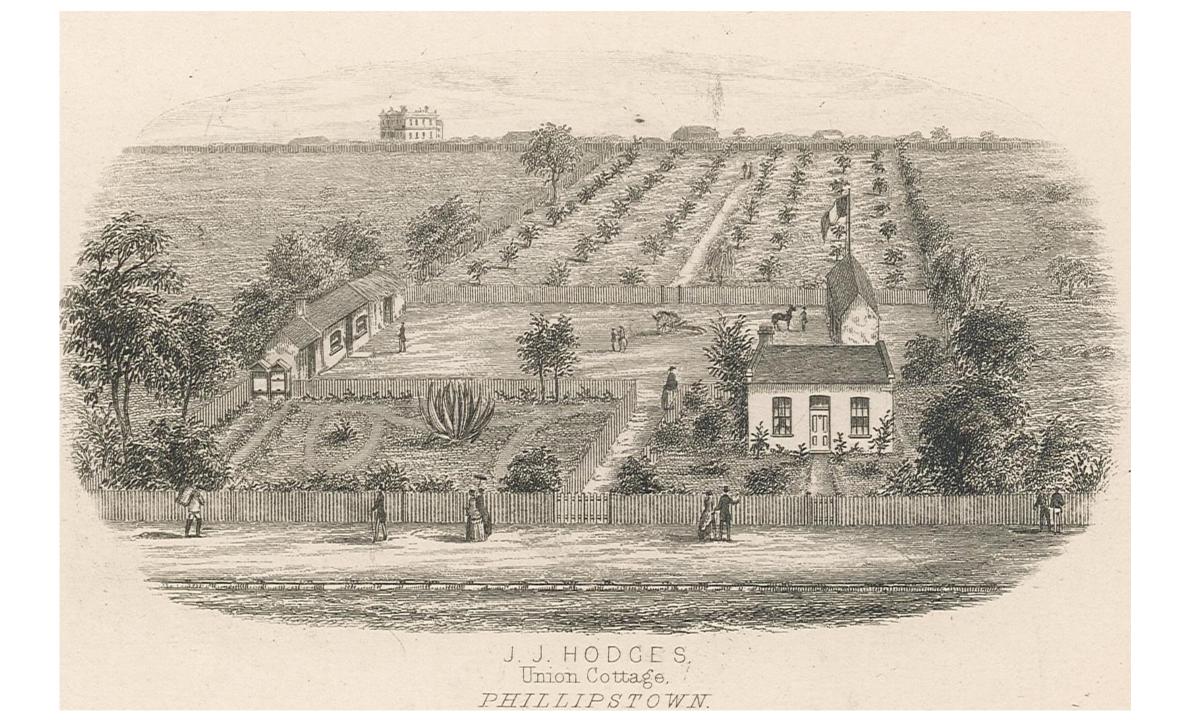
Map showing the first subdivisions of Brunswick in 1839. Portion numbers indicated the owners as follows: 126—F. McRae, 125—J. M. Chisholm, 110—J. Atkins, 109—S. J. Brown, 103 and 104—J. Simpson, 97 and 98—A. Walker, 92—E. Dumaresq, 90—H. W. Mason, 91—C. Falconer, 93—A. Sanderman, 96 and 99—A. Rucker, 102 and 105—D. S. Campbell, 108—A. D. Volon, 111 and 124—I. H. Patterson. 127—I. Highett. (Map: Brunswick Library)

#### Phoenix Park, Brunswick

- Estate spread from Sydney Rd to Moonee Ponds Creek, basically between Union Streets and Albert Street, about 211 acres.
- Irish 'Gentleman' Michael Dawson bought land from Thomas Walker in 1842, named estate 'Phoenix Park'. Supposedly named after Phoenix Park in Dublin.
- Unclear exact date of mansion construction. 1852, Dawson's postal address was village of 'Phillipstown'.
- Believe family moved in around 1858.
- Etching view from current Union Street. Hedge marked border of Phoenix Park, now Collier Street is 1858/59.
- House name either *Dawsonhurst* or *Normanhurst* 'in the centre of the estate, entered by a long drive from Grantham Street" with an avenue of blue gums'.



Union Cottage. 1858/59. Moreland City Libraries. H2.11



Moreland City Libraries H2.1.1 (undated). [State Library of Victoria copy estimates 1866].

Note the small child near the column.

House faced what is today's Dawson Street, long drive from Grantham Street.

Near junction of Daly & Smith Streets (1939 photo caption).



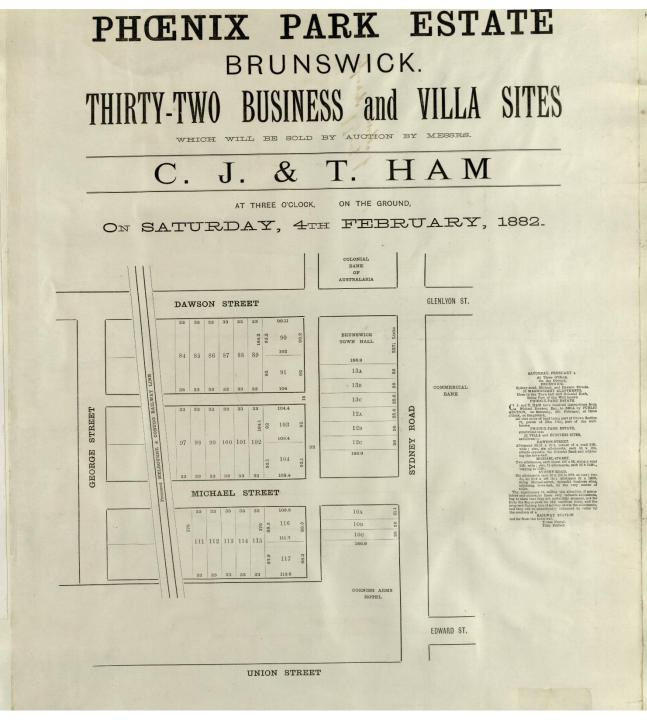
#### Michael Dawson

- Dawson born in 1811 Ireland, arrived Port Phillip 1840.
- Started as miller, grocer, bookseller, became an early property investor. Known as the "Man of Property".
- Marries Emma and has six children. (Is the child in the photo one of the children)?
- 1864/1871? Michael Dawson donates acre of land facing Sydney Rd to Catholic Church for church & school (St Ambroses). Land is adjacent to Cornwell's land.
- About 11 acres of Phoenix Park sold in his lifetime.
- Michael Dawson died 1875 at the property. Left a property estate worth £220,000 covered about 50 properties including 19 hotels, but no will, legal battles ensued.

# Phoenix park estate subdivision

- Mid 1870s, Council acquired the site on corner Dawson Street and Sydney Road at a 'reduced rate' from Mrs Emma Dawson for Town Hall, contingent on new premises being completed within two years.
- 1882 Image courtesy of State Library of Victoria. Phoenix Park Estate **1882.**
- First time documentation of Dawson St
- Heirs sold a lot of the land to Hoffman Brickworks, probably for No 2 Brickworks opened in 1884.
- Last block sold 1906 to Millers Rope works.

The auctioneers in calling the attention of speculators and others, to these very valuable allotments, beg to state that they are splendidly situated, not far from the Royal-park on the omnibus route, and the proposed Coburg line of tailway skirts the allotments, and they will be considerably enhanced in value by the erection of a RAILWAY STATION not far from the town-hall. T+rms liberal. Title Perfect.



#### Title:

Central Brunswick, part of the famous Phoenix Park Estate [cartographic material].

**Date:** [18--].

[After mid 1880s]

Courtesy State Library of Victoria.

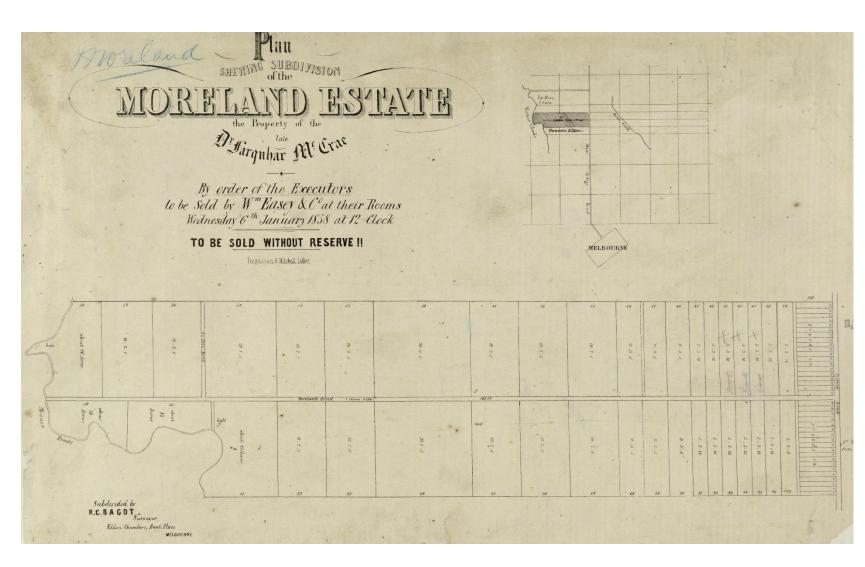




Moreland City Libraries. Undated. H2.1.2 [Dawsonhurst being demolished] Possibly 1883.

### Moreland Estate

- Two allotments land purchased by Dr Farquhar McCrae, wealthy Melbourne doctor in 1839.
- Dr McCrae Scottish surgeon (b. 1807), came to Australia with wife and child to improve his health.
- Two adjoining properties basically ran from Sydney Road to Moonee Ponds Creek, north and south of road now known as Moreland Road about 640 acres.
- Named his estate 'Moreland', after his grandfather's sugar plantation in Jamaica.
- [In 1841 Dr McCrae add La Rosa estate to holdings].
- Director Port Phillip Bank, Vice President Mechanics Institute, lobbied for hospital for Melbourne.
- Ran into financial difficulties, left for Sydney. Died 1850 aged 43.
- Land subdivided 1858 into 10 20 acre farms. (see poster)
- Land bought by Andrew Ferguson, "miner".



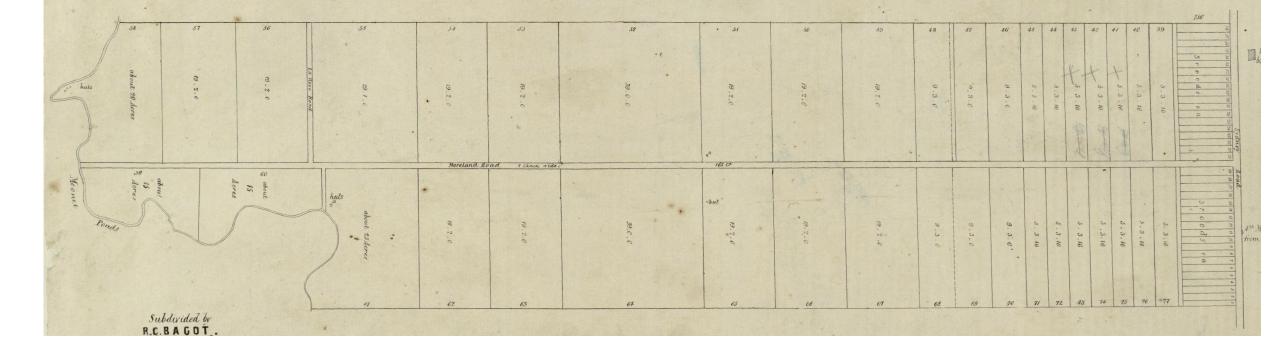
Plan shewing subdivision of the Moreland Estate, the property of the late Dr. Farquhar McCrae [cartographic material]./ R. C. Bagot, Surveyor, Melbourne. [Melbourne] : Fergusson & Mitchell Lithrs. 1858. Courtesy State Library of Victoria.



By order of the Executors to be Sold by W<sup>m</sup>Easey & C<sup>o</sup>at their Rooms Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 1858 at 12 Clock

TO BE SOLD WITHOUT RESERVE !!

Fergusson & Mitchell Lithrs.



La Rose Estate

Dungan & Thomas

MELBOURNE

#### Moreland Hall

- 26 Jessie Street, Coburg. Present building has replaced original structure.
- Research provided by Dr Cheryl Griffin.
- Moreland Hall, bluestone mansion built 1859 in for Andrew Ferguson ('miner'). Architect Thomas Watts. 1859 – 1863/4. Property retained by Andrew Ferguson.
- Auctioned 1863, bought by Alexander Cameron, one largest landowners in Victoria. Lived second wife, Ellen. (First wife had been Margaret McKillop, aunt of Mary).
- 1863 description. "Substantially built and beautifully situated family residence built of bluestone, consisting of 10 apartments, pantry, outhouses, coach-house and stabling, set on four acres".
- Moreland Hall owned Pigdons (1881 1914) John Pigdon, City Melbourne Alderman (Pigdon Street Carlton). Jessie Street is named after Jessie Pigdon). Fencing dispute in 1890s about neighbouring cattle breaking into property.
- This 1884 Estate poster shows location "Moreland Hall, Residence of Councillor Pigdon".
- 1903 Pigdon dies at property. Fire in 1905 outbuildings destroyed.
- Short period owned by Hickey and Burgess families. Further subdivision in 1914 into 30 allotments.
- Moreland Hall owned Cr. Albert Davis (1914 1922), Mayor Coburg 1915. Held Mayoral receptions and WWI fundraising for the Glenroy Military Hospital at 'his charming residence' via bazaars, fetes and garden parties.



#### Moreland Hall Post 1922

- Owned Methodist Central Mission.
  "Bichloride of Gold Institute" (1922 – 1932)
- Mrs Cowled's Nursing home (1932-1935)
- Wesley Central Mission's Girls Home (1936 – 1946). Home remodelled, new brick wing added.
- Present building replaced old mansion in 1941.
- Women's Hostel (1947 1969)
- Drug/alcohol rehabilitation 1970 present.
- Moreland Hall owned Methodist (Now Uniting Church).

#### DEDEEDED THE BICHLORIDE OF GOLD INSTITUTE DEDEEDED

A Professional Man in Melbourne has just reminded us that it is eighteen months since he was at Moreland Hall, and he is perfectly well. His was a very bad case, having been a heavy drinker for many years. He looks back with pleasure upon the time he spent at the Hall, the restful home life, and the treatment, which is not uncongenial.

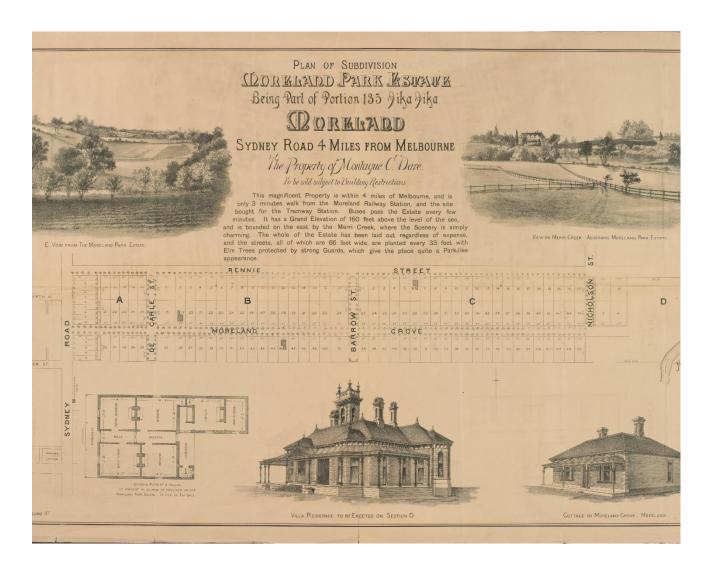


Moreland Hall—A Comfortable Old Mansion

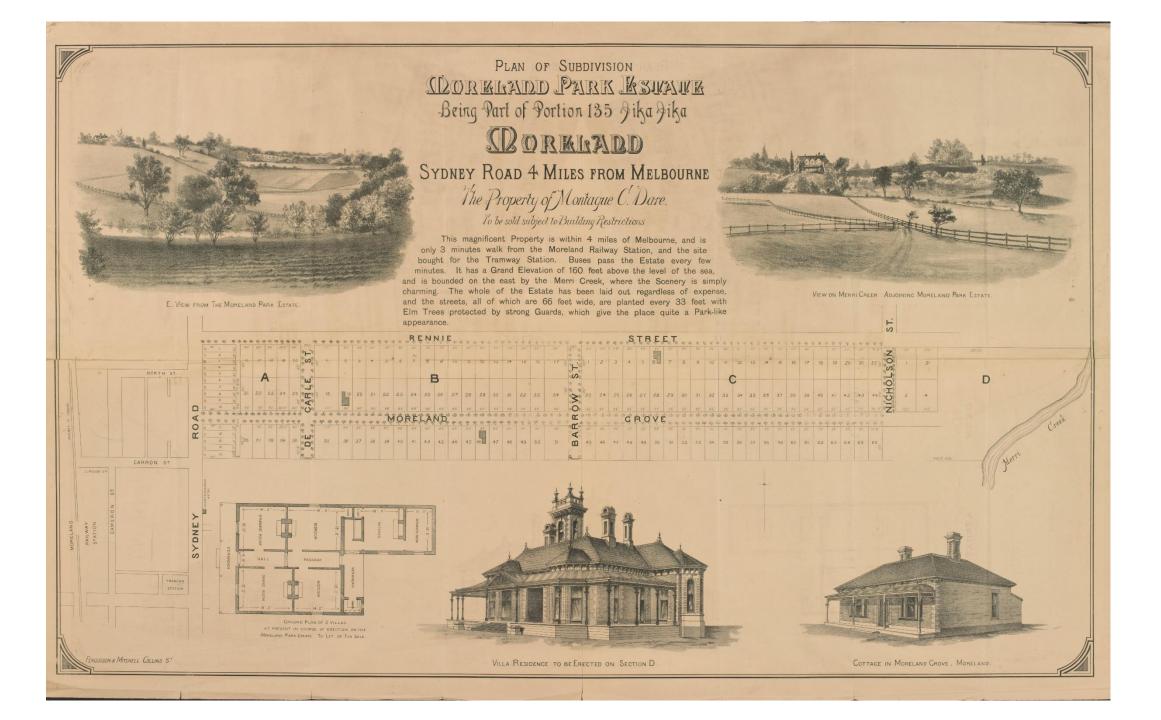


### Moreland Park Estate The Grove Estate

- 1882 St Kilda businessman Montague Dare (land and estate agent) and Edward de Carle purchased Rennie's 40 acre farm bounded by today's Rennie St.
- Moreland Rd, Sydney Rd, Nicholson Street. Named Moreland Park Estate. Subdivided 16 hectares into 147 allotments. The Grove most prestigious area Coburg in 1880s.
- Planted elms on Moreland Grove, covenant placed on land, preventing construction of hotels or shops, or houses under value of £400.
- Dare builds himself a house on 10 acres, now at 130 Rennie Street, named 'Moreland Park'.
- Plan was for six speculative houses of which four were constructed. Two mirror-image paired mansions. Built 1887. Designed by TJ Crouch.
- Polychrome Italianate. Polychrome brickwork, slate roofs, French pavillion roofs, cast iron verandahs. Four metre ceilings, marble fireplaces, striking central blackwood staircases, tessellated tile verandahs.
- Estate had stables and outhouses. Estate had a recreation pavillion, bowling club and a caretaker, James Dark, who also attended the trees



• Moreland Park Estate (Sydney Road, Rennie and Nicholson Streets, Moreland Grove [The Grove ?]) [cartographic material]. [1880 – 1889] State Library of Victoria.



### Koorali and Kalimna

23 [Koorali] and 25 [Kalimna]

The Grove Coburg

1987

Picture reproduced with permission of Coburg Historical Society



#### Oak Hill and Waratah

1987

45 [Oak Hill]

47 [Waratah]

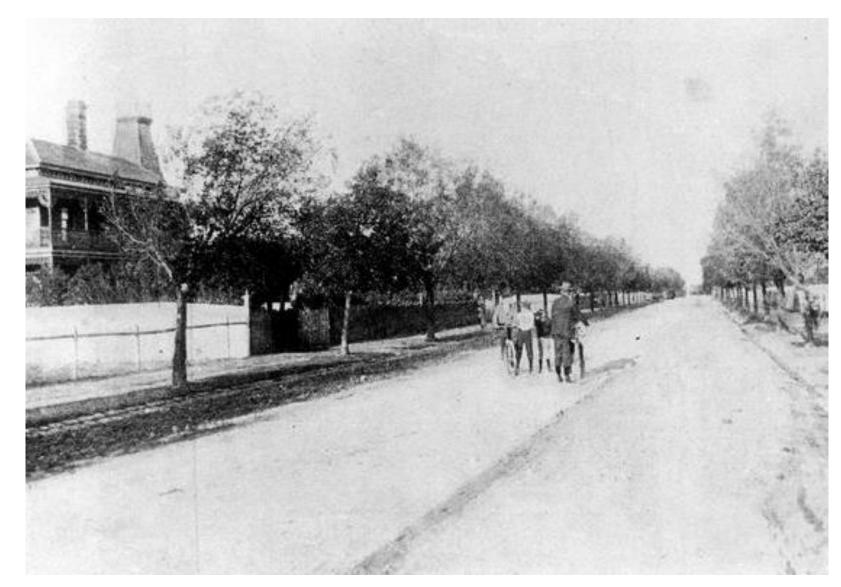
The Grove Coburg

Picture reproduced with permission of Coburg Historical Society



#### The Grove Post 1890s

- By 1890 24 houses on the estate, 21 owned by Dare, all designed by architect T J Crouch. Occupants were bankers, merchants, civil servants.
- 1891. 'Montague Dare claims his dinner guests cannot reach his house because of the mud and he cannot sell or rent his houses in the Grove because of the state of the roads'. (Coburg Chronicles, page 18)
- Sold off by Dare in the 1890s depression, keeps his own property.
- Wife killed in riding accident on his estate in 1904.
- Dare's son Charles Moreland Montague Dare (b.1888) served in WWI with Grove's gardener's son.



c1900 The Grove Coburg - looking at least about 1900. Reproduced with permission of Coburg Historical Society.

#### Wiseman Brothers

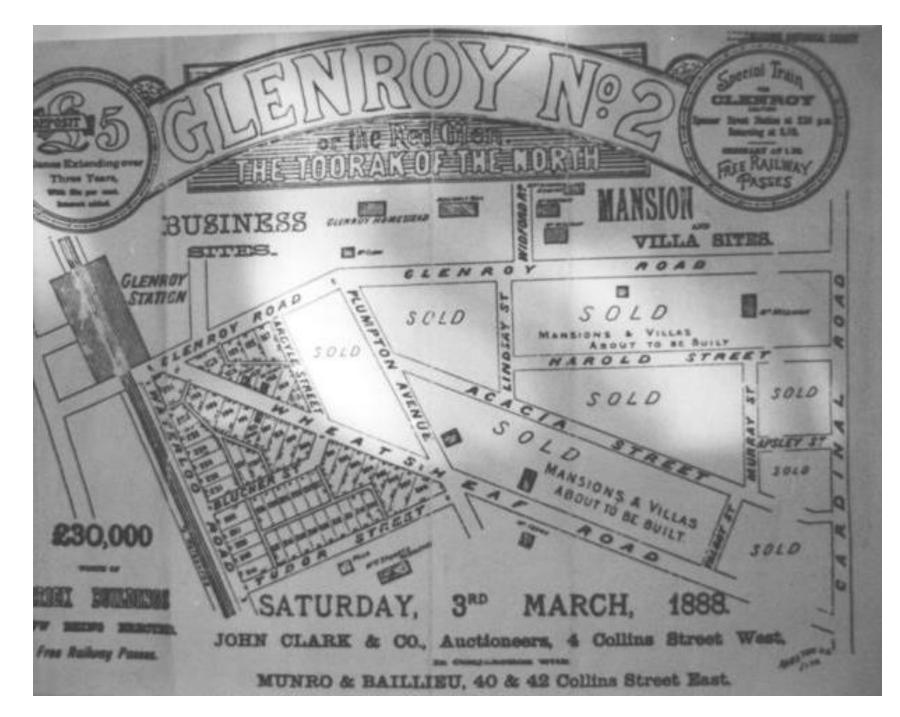
- Illustration from Weekly Times, Saturday 1 October 1892, The late Mr Arthur Wiseman. (1835 – 1892).
- Three brothers, Arthur (eldest), Albert and Walter. Merchants and land speculators. "Unobtrustive and generous philanthropists". Benefactors of neglected children, ran agricultural school farm in Lilydale. Made money from land speculation in the eastern suburbs.
- 1886. Kennedy dies, land bought by "Glenroy Land Company" syndicate bought land on east side of Pascoe Vale Road. Frank Stuart, John McCutcheon, Arthur and Albert Wiseman.
- Syndicate built first roads, paid government to provide railway station
- Built twin mansions c. 1887 in Widford Road named Ashleigh and Sawbridgeworth.
- Mirror-image mansions, one reversed the layout of the other.
- Set on adjoining 15 acre blocks, identical drives, stables.



 "Nothing, they [ the Wisemans] felt, would encourage success of their enterprise more than the construction of their mansions and villas".

Broadmeadows: a forgotten history, Andrew Lemon, 1982, page 81.

- See Wiseman mansions marked on this 1888 auction poster for another subdivision.
- Multiple syndicates trying to sell land in the boom of the 1880s in this area.





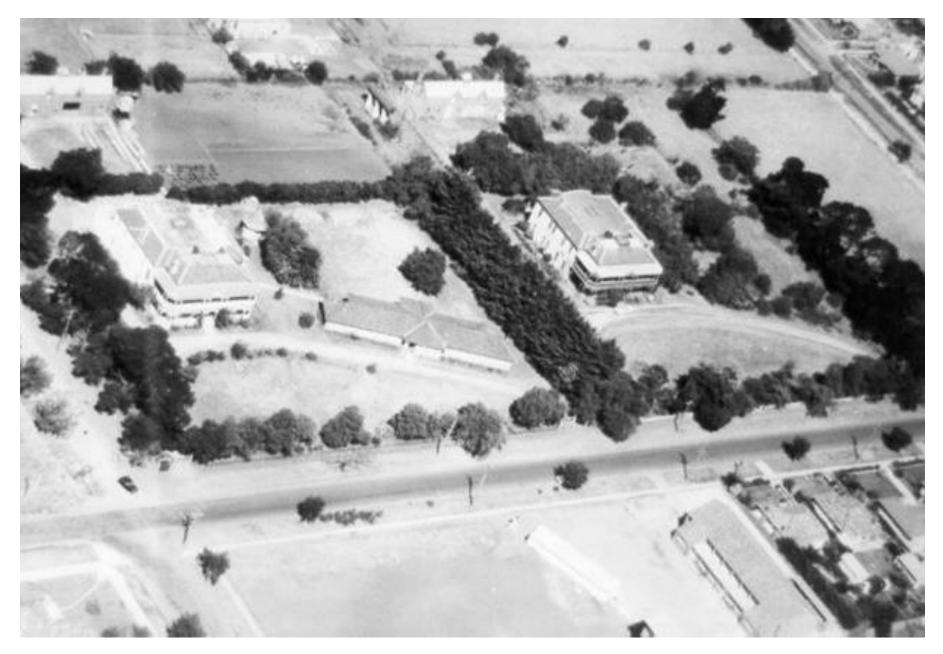
Horse Drawn Carriage. Widford Street, 1890s. Broadmeadows Historical Society.

#### Ashleigh

- Owned by Albert Wiseman. Died in 1906. At 16 Widford Street.
- 1902 1915 Salvation Army Girls' Home
- Military used houses from 1915 1917. One house for officers, other enlisted men.
- The 5<sup>th</sup> Infectious Diseases Hospital, commonly known as "Glenroy Military Hospital or "Glenroy Measles Hospital". Chosen because Glenroy was semi-rural 'isolated' location.
- Later used as to treat patients in influenza epidemic of 1919. (?)
- Later bought and occupied by stock and station agent, T. Shaw Logan. Renamed Sunnilands.
- Demolished in 1960 (1971?) on death of owner T. Shaw Logan.



1918 Ashleigh. Widford St.. Glenroy. Broadmeadows Historical Society No. 96.1.25



1950 Aerial View. Widford St. Glenroy . Broadmeadows Historical Society

#### Sawbridgeworth

- 30 32 Widford St, Glenroy
- Owned by Arthur Wiseman. Mrs Emma Wiseman survived him in the mansion for many years after his death in 1892. She left in 1910.
- Military use during WWI.
- Issues in the papers local residents were complaints about 'defective drainage' of the hospital and the burying of 'night soil', threatened water supply and to infect local cows.
- Remained in private hands until 1923.
- 1923 St Agnes' Girls' Church of England Home (Mission of St James and St John).
- Sold in 1963 when children's home closed, to Anglican congregation, renamed Wiseman House.



Sawbridgeworth, Widford Street Glenroy

#### Alfred Cornwell

- Born 1833, England, son of mechanic
- Arrived Australia 1852. Worked various potteries, brickyards.
- Settled Brunswick 1859, started his first pottery works on land acquired from Michael Dawson's Phoenix Estate in 1861.
- Cornwell's Brunswick Pottery and Brickworks was located in 'Pottery Street (re-named Phoenix Street in 1872), ran from Sydney Road frontage to Railway reserve.
- Clay pits were run north of Phoenix Street, south side was for his mansion.
- Specialised in drain pipes.
- Served as Brunswick Councillor in 1860s and 1870s, Mayor of Brunswick 1877.
- In 1870, married Eleanor (19), had 10 children.
- In 1884, railway line went through, enabling pottery to be transported all over Victoria.



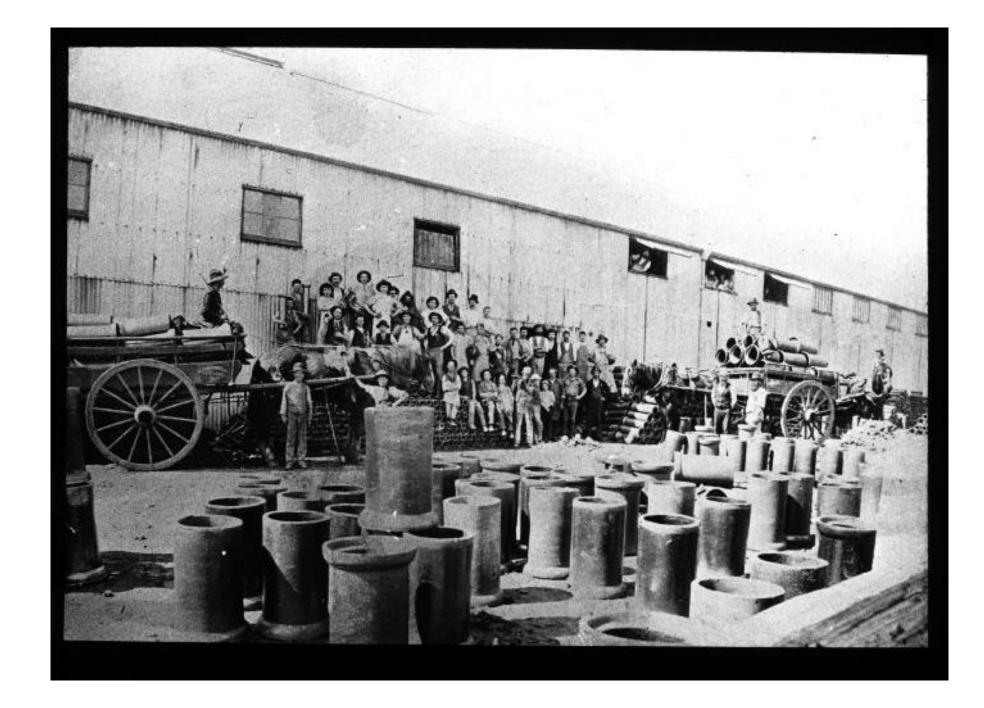
Eleanor Cornwell. Image courtesy Gregory Hill.

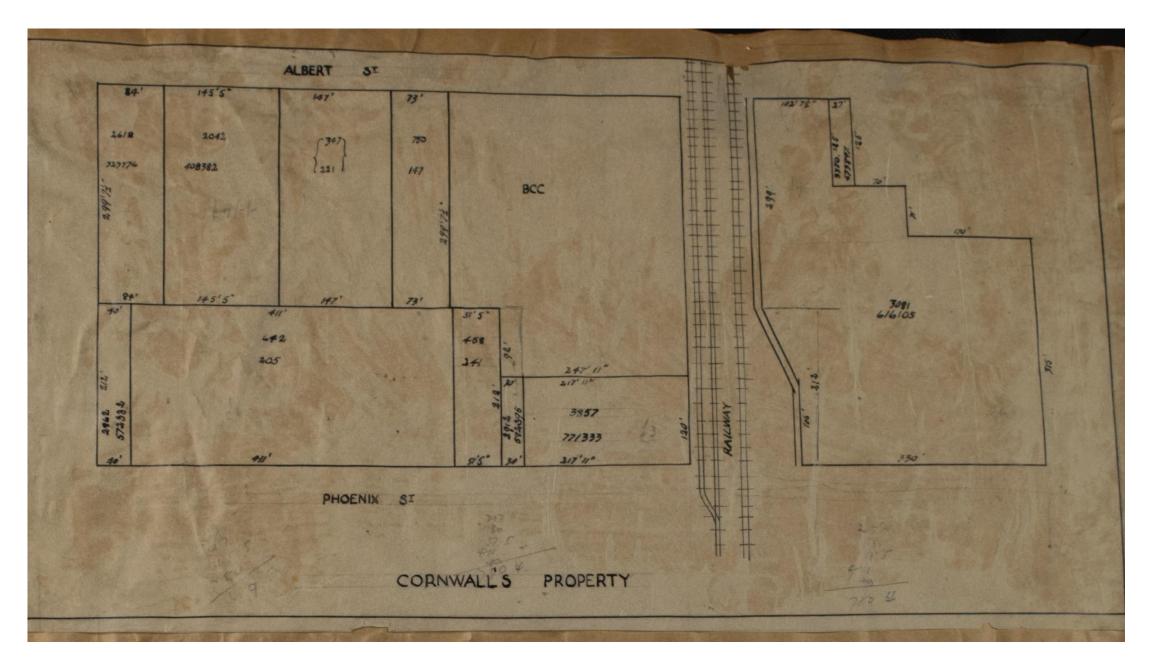
Alfred Cornwell and child. Image courtesy Gregory Hill.

• Cornwell's Pottery

C 1860 – 1870

Moreland City Libraries





Cornwall's Property. C 1900. Moreland City Libraries.

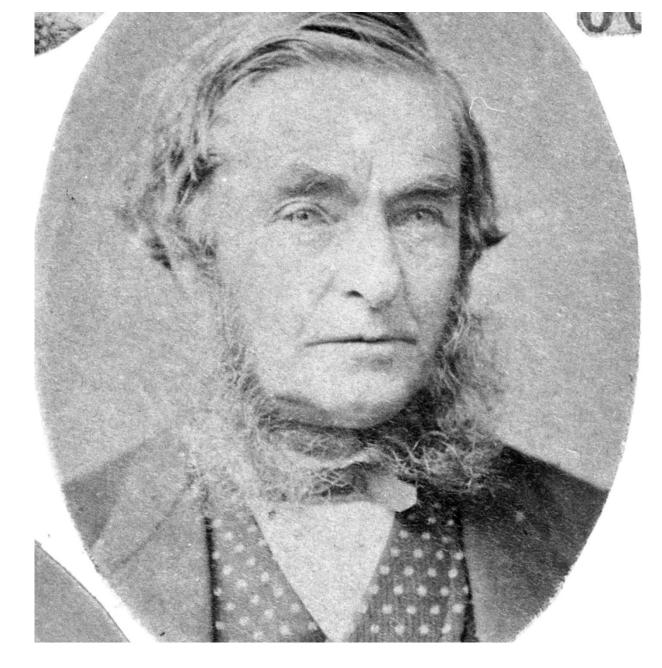
#### Sherwood, Brunswick

- 33 Saxon Street, Brunswick. Built 1888. Architect unknown.
- Described in probate records as 14 rooms: drawing room, dining room, several bedrooms, nursery, breakfast room, office, hall, kitchen, sitting room, servants room. Set in acre of landscaped grounds. Faced east towards grounds St Ambrose church, north towards pottery works.
- Alfred dies in 1890, aged 57. House/grounds valued at £3,400.
- Eleanor dies at Sherwood in 1895, aged 44.
- House sold in 1895 to Fr. Luby, first Parish priest of St Ambrose for £2,300. Family left for Sydney.
- Factors: 1890s depression, possibly looming court case about smoke pollution from the brickworks; eldest daughter about to be married; possible role of trustee/manager of brickworks put in after Cornwell's death.
- Images courtesy Gregory Hill.
- Thanks for extensive research by Gregory Hill and Linda Edwards.



#### Stony Park, Brunswick

- Land originally owned by William Frederick Augustus (WFA) Rucker. 'Of all the purchasers in these early days, none occupied so conspicuous a position as Mr F.A Rucker' Jubilee History of Brunswick (1907) – available online).
- Rucker was German, originally came via Tasmania. Wine merchant, later established Melbourne's first bank, later merged Union Bank.
- Rucker's land ran from Sydney Road to Merri Creek, between Glenlyon and Albert Street.
- Later some of Wilkinson's land from Brunswick farm added, crossed Merri Creek into Northcote.
- Built a residence on the 'brow' of Ruckers Hill, Northcote in 1841.
- In 1840s/1850s goes bankrupt owes Union Bank £10,000.
- Sold 120 acres to Theodotus John Sumner in 1852. (Gold rush is making land more commercially valuable, particularly for shops, pubs etc)



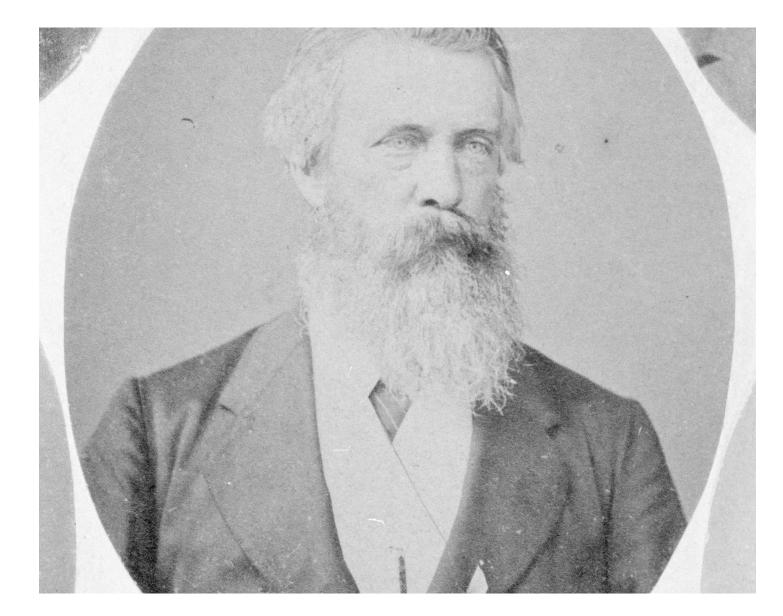
WFA Rucker. Courtesy State Library of Victoria.



Stony Park. Moreland City Libraries. H2.2 [1866]. [Possibly first residence]

### Theodotus John Sumner

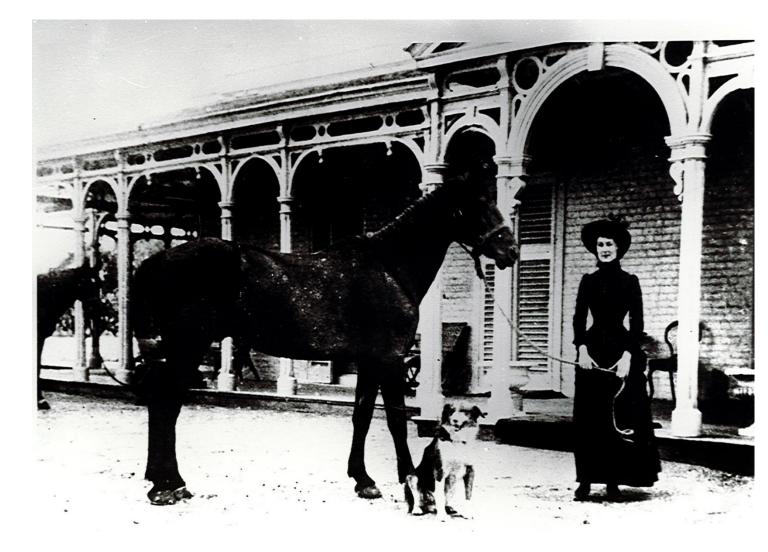
- Born Cornwell 1820. Arrived Tasmania aged twenties, then Victoria in 1841.
   Wife Sarah Peers (She had been shipwrecked on the way from Tasmania).
   Had one son, six daughters.
- Stony Park: at the east end of the Rucker purchase. From Nicholson Street, across Merri Creek to St Georges Road. Uses Stony Park for grazing. "Imported the best examples of any breed he might fancy".
- Died at Stony Park 1884 (aged 63).
  Confined to bed for two years. One daughters married to James Grice.
- "The deceased gentleman was generally liked, being unswervingly upright and straight-forward and of a genial and kindhearted temperament" (The Age obituary). Buried in Melbourne General Cemetery.
- Refer Maie Casey An Australian Story: 1837 to 1907. (1962)



T.J. Sumner (1872). Courtesy State Library of Victoria. Creator Thomas Foster Chuck

#### Rebuilding of Stony Park

- Photo Stony Park, inscription reads Ethel Sumner Undated . Moreland City Libraries. H 2.5
- TJ Sumner died 1884.
- Original residence (built by Rucker) burnt down in 1885.
- Rebuilt by James Grice (son-in-law?)
  'British Italianate' style "Rose from the ground with extravagant gusto."
- Mansion was on eastern side of King Street, East Brunswick, near Merri Creek.
- Described as having as 22 rooms, balcony, tiled entrance hall, vestabuille with parquetry floor, polished cedar staircase and all conveniences.





Stony Park", Brunswick [home of] Mrs. S. Sumner [Vic.] 1895. Image courtesy State Library of Victoria.



Stony Park", **Brunswick [home of] Mrs. S. Sumner** [Vic.] 1895. Image courtesy State Library of Victoria.



North East View of Werribee Park Mansion. (The Property of T. and A. Chirnside, Esqs.) [picture] [1880]. State Library of Victoria

#### Subdividing Stony Park

- Remained as large holding until 1924, when subdivision created Sumner Estate
- Image: Willow Bank subdivision: T.J. Sumner Estate [photograph].ca 1926. Moreland City Libraries. Frontages to King St, Willow Bank Rd and Alister St. Terms: 10 pound deposit per Lot. Auctioneers: Stott, Son & Watson.
- Wife Sarah lived to 99 years, died at Stony Park in 1929.
- Many surrounding streets named after Sumner family members or staff, including Sumner, Rupert, Lowan, Winifred, May, Ryan, Osborne, Nash Peers.



**Title:** Sumner's Stony Park Estate Brunswick [cartographic material].

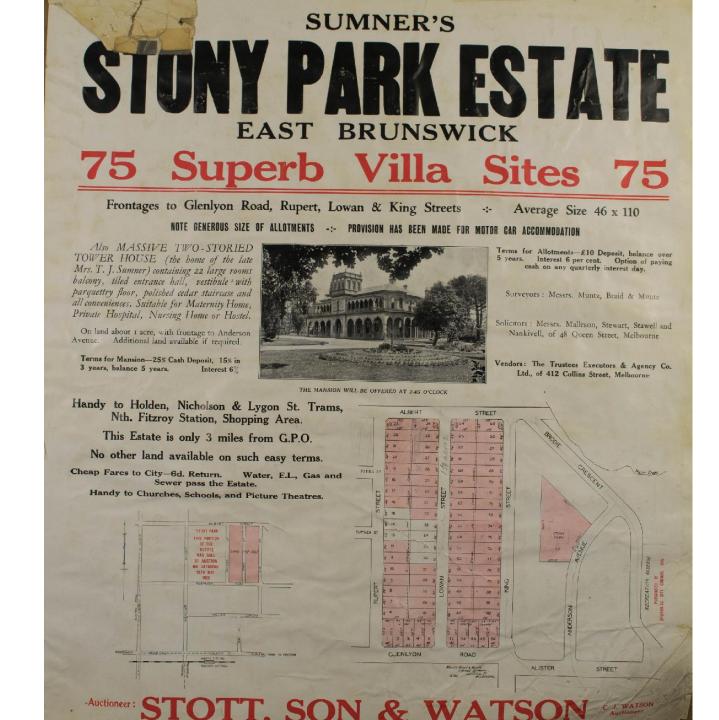
Publisher: Melbourne : Phoenix Press, printers Date: [192-?] Courtesy State Library of Victoria

#### SUMNER'S BRUNSWICK to be sold by Public Auction at 3 o'clock in a Marquee on the Estate SATURDAY, 26th MAY Allotments close to Lygon St. Electric Tram, North Fitzroy Rly. Station and Nicholson St. Tram Terminus of Nicholson St. Tram within 5 minutes, and Lygon St. Tram only 4 FRONTAGES TO ALBERT ST minutes away, Nicholson St. Electric 100' Nicholson Street, Glenlyon Road, Rly. Station only 5 minutes 17 18 19 20 21 22 Albert Street, Rupert Street, **TERMS:** Sumner Street, and Noel Street 30 29 28 £10 Deposit per lot, Balance over 5 years 6 per cent. Interest Nicholson Street is a Option of paying Cash or completing on any Quarterly Interest Day 44 Main Thoroughfare 45 **VENDORS:** to Melbourne The Trustees Executors & 46. ALBERT Agency Co. Ltd. of 412 SUMNER ST Collins St., Melbourne & This land is only 3 miles from Lady Ryan tees in the Estate of G.P.O. Melbourne, 45 46 46 45 4 GLENI the late T. J. Sumner and in the centre of this rising SURVEYORS: City of Brunswick Muntz, Braid & Muntz 412 Collins Street SOLICITORS: This is the last large area of Malleson, Stewart, land to be subdivided so near Stawell and Nankivell ROAD GLENLYON to Melbourne of 48 Queen Street LOCALITY PLAN Late & Watson Stott & Bastings Stott, Son Auctioneers : Phone 584 Northcote 203 High Street, Northcote. :: Crisp, Woods & Co. Phone B'wick 41 Sydney Road Brunswick, Cr. Blyth St.

PHOENIX PRESS, Printers, 17 Wright's Lane, Melbourne

#### End of Stony Park

- Image Sumner's Stony Park Estate, East Brunswick, **1935**. Moreland City Libraries. Includes sale of mansion.
- Used by Marist Brothers College until about 1937/38.
- Used as migrant reception centre after World War II.
- Taken over by the State Electricity Commission, later falls into ruins. Final subdivision???/ demolished 1950s/1970s?
- Land currently Brunswick Terminal Station.
- Final image from Maud Sumner's Photograph Album 1887 – 1889, State Library of Victoria.





#### Other historical houses of note – in order of construction (A possible road –trip?)

- Oak Park, 7 Oak Park Court, Oak Park. Formerly Pascoe Vale Farm purchased by John Pascoe Fawkner in 1839. Original timber house replaced by single storey brick structure. 1880s Italianate addition. Went on sale Feb 2018 for \$2.95 m.
- Former La Rosa. 22 Le Cateau Street, Pascoe Vale South. 1841 1842. Former residence of Dr Farquhar McCrae, built on his additional estate La Rosa. Bluestone. One of Victoria's earliest homes.
- Whitbyfield/Whitby House. 28 Whitby Street Brunswick West. Land bought Edward Whitby 1849, Flinders Lane merchant, built early 1850s. Eight room, two-storey rendered brick house in Gothic Revival style.
- Lyndhurst Hall. 46 Walhalla Street, Pascoe Vale. Early 1850s. Owned by Edward De Carle. Prefabricated building from Switzerland. House moved from original location at corner of Albion and Nicholson Streets after De Carle died in 1862.
- **Gowrie.** 63 65 Gowrie Street, Glenroy. Erected 1855 for James Robertson. Scottish farmhouse style.
- **Glencairn.** 6 Craigrossie Avenue, Coburg. Built 1859 1861. Built for Robert Mailer, merchant. Still owned by Mailer family in 1929. Mailer led charge to change name of suburb from Pentridge.
- Taringa, 6 Salisbury Street, Glenroy 1888. Built by Glenroy Land Company in first subdivision 1887/88. Residence of one of Wiseman's son's-in-law.
- Moreland Park. 130 Rennie Street. 1880s. Former home of Montague Dare. Sat on 10 acre estate. Wife Annie was killed in riding accident on estate in 1904.
- Milano. 20 Cohuna Street, Brunswick. Built for John Buncle, manufacturer/engineer in 1888. (See Buncle engineering works in North Melbourne). Buncle died soon after it was built. Became a Salvation Army maternity home for unmarried mothers in 1897.
- Prestonia. 357 Brunswick Road. Built for brickmaker James Stroud, Italianate mansion. Built around 1890 with bricks from own yard. Wif
- Hazeldeane. 359 Brunswick Road. Built for Caleb Burchett around 1890.
- Melville House. 104 Melville Road West Brunswick. Built around 1896, possibly for William Mentiplay, herbalist. Land part of Donald Melville's estate.

## Sources of further information

- Moreland heritage reviews and conservation studies Available at libraries or www.moreland.vic.gov.au/planning-building/planning-permits/when-you-need-a-planning-permit/heritage/
- Thematic History of Moreland (2010) Available at libraries or www.moreland.vic.gov.au/about-us/our-city/local-history/thematic-history/
- Victorian Heritage Database <u>http://vhd.heritagecouncil.vic.gov.au/</u>
- Penrose, H (ed). Brunswick: one history, many voices, 1994.
- Jubilee History of Brunswick (1907)
- Broome, R. Coburg: between two creeks. 2001
- Hill, Gregory. The Potteries of Brunswick. 2000.
- Lemon, A. Broadmeadows: a forgotten history. 1982
- Casey, Maie An Australian Story: 1837 to 1907. (1962) (Sumner family)
- Historical newspapers on TROVE <u>https://trove.nla.gov.au/</u>
- Researching the History of your House library website http://www.moreland.vic.gov.au/libraries/library-services/local-and-family-history/researching-the-historyof-your-house/