



The Markers are based on  
 “*An Indigenous History of Stonnington*”  
 (2006) Dr ID Clark and L M Kostanski.



City of Stonnington Tel. 8290 1333  
[www.stonnington.vic.gov.au](http://www.stonnington.vic.gov.au)



# INDIGENOUS HISTORY MARKERS GUIDE

The Yalukit-willam developed positive relationships with the European settlers. In the 1830s at least forty Yalukit-willam people lived in the Stonnington area including clan leader, Derrimut, who lived in the neighbourhoods of Prahran and St Kilda for many years prior to his death in 1864.

The establishment of European settlements in the country of the Yalukit-willam people resulted in loss of access to their land and hunting grounds. In 1837, Governor of New South Wales, Richard Bourke, approved the use of an 895 acre site south of the Yarra River for an Aboriginal Mission. Towards the end of 1838 food shortages led to trouble between Aboriginal people and settlers and by the end of 1839 the mission was closed and sold.

In 1852 William Thomas, Protector of Aborigines, secured a reserve at Mordialloc for the Boonwurrung and a reserve at Warrandyte for the Woiwurrung. The Boonwurrung, however, continued to visit Melbourne, camping in Fawkner Park and sites in the western end of Stonnington.

**Photo Credits:**  
**Front cover image:**  
 “Emu Hunting”  
 Artist: Unknown  
 Koorie Heritage Trust Collection

**Back cover image:**  
 Stonnington Reconciliation Artwork, 2002  
 Artist: Gail Harradine  
 Wotjobaluk Nation Grouping

**Inside flap images (left to right):**  
 “Aboriginal Station, Upper Yarra, near Melbourne”  
 Artist: Unknown  
 Koorie Heritage Trust Collection  
 “Native Corrobbie”  
 Artist: Unknown  
 Koorie Heritage Trust Collection

**Inside spread images (left to right):**  
 Undated photograph of “Tivoli”  
 Mitchell Library, State Library of New South Wales  
 “Native Encampment on the banks of the Yarra” (c.1842)  
 Artist: John Cotton  
 Pictures Collection, State Library of Victoria  
 “Native Encampment”  
 Artist: Unknown  
 Koorie Heritage Trust Collection  
 Derrimut’s tombstone  
 Melbourne General Cemetery





Most of the City of Stonnington belonged to the Yalukit-willam, one of six Boonwurrung language clans. A small proportion of the municipality belonged to one of the Woiwurrung language clans, the Wurundjeri-balug.

The northern boundary of Stonnington, the Yarra River and Gardiners Creek, approximates the boundary between the Boonwurrung and the Woiwurrung people. Collectively these clans were known as the East Kulin nation.

The Boonwurrung and Woiwurrung people camped regularly along the banks of the Yarra River and Gardiners Creek, where they could access the rich resource of aquatic foods and a diverse range of fauna and flora.

Prior to white settlement Prahran's terrain was a combination of large trees, wattle scrub and many reed filled swamps. During the 1830s the Prahran area was a frequent camping place for Aboriginal people from the local clans and those visiting from the Gippsland area and a common corroboree site.

Gatherings for social, ceremonial and trading purposes occurred regularly between the Boonwurrung and Woiwurrung people, while marriages were arranged between these groups and the Daungwurrung, Wathawurrung and Djadjawurrung people.

### Marker Locations

- 1** HUNTING GROUNDS OF CHAPEL STREET  
Address: Chapel St, Windsor, near Green St. Melway: 58 D7.
- 2** MEETING PLACE FOR CORROBOREE  
Address: Chapel St, Prahran, near Prahran Town Hall. Melway: 58 D6.
- 3** HELEN BAILLIE  
Address: 462 Punt Road, South Yarra. Melway: 58 C2.
- 4** THE ABORIGINAL MISSION  
Address: Corner of Punt Rd and Alexandra Ave. Melway: 58 C1.
- 5** ABORIGINAL CAMPSITE  
Address: Corner of Chapel St and Toorak Rd. Melway: 58 E3.
- 6** GEORGE LANGHORNE  
Address: Corner Toorak Rd and Rockley Rd, South Yarra. Melway: 58 F3.
- 7** DERRIMUT  
Address: Yarra Trail, Alexandra Ave, South Yarra, west of Chapel St. Melway: 58 E2.
- 8** THE CHIEF PROTECTOR  
Address: Yarra Trail, Alexandra Ave, South Yarra, east of Chapel St. Melway: 58 F2.
- 9** LAKE COMO  
Address: Yarra Trail, Alexandra Ave, South Yarra, near Kanteen café. Melway: 58 G1.
- 10** TURRUK  
Address: Yarra Trail, Alexandra Ave South Yarra at the end of Williams Rd Melway: 58 G1.
- 11** ARTEFACTS IN KOOYONG PARK  
Address: Kooyong Park, Glenferrie Road, Kooyong Melway: 59 C3.



"Most of the land we now know as the City of Stonnington belonged to the Yalukit-willam clan." Turruk marker

For further information regarding Stonnington's Indigenous History please visit [www.stonnington.vic.gov.au](http://www.stonnington.vic.gov.au) or contact Council on 8290 1333.