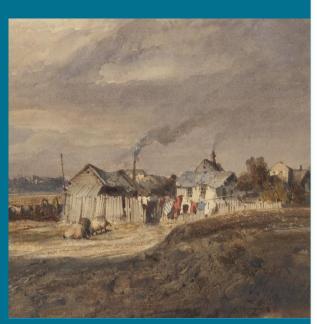# people place heritage

# CONTEXT

# Social History Resources:
# A guide

*Fishermans Bend, Melbourne*

**August 2017**

Prepared for
Fishermans Bend Taskforce
(DELWP)

<u>Cover</u>: Detail of Louis Buvelot, Painting of crude huts at South Melbourne or Fishermans Bend, 1866 (State Library of Victoria)

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### Report Register

This report register documents the development and issue of the report entitled *Project Report* undertaken by Context Pty Ltd in accordance with our internal quality management system.

| Project No. | Issue No. | Notes/description | Issue Date | Issued to |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2190 | 1 | Draft Social History Resources, Fishermans Bend | 1.08.2017 | Andrea Kleist |
| 2190 | 2 | Final Social History Resources, Fishermans Bend | 15.8.2017 | Andrea Kleist |

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# CONTENTS

# 1  WELCOME

## Introduction

This Guide is designed to help you explore the social history of Fishermans Bend. It contains a range of useful historical resources, including original documents, photographs and images, local and industrial histories.

The Guide is designed for those:

- Researching a person or family
- Researching a neighbourhood or community
- Researching a building
- Researching industrial history
- Heritage place research
- Environmental history.

This Guide can be read in conjunction with the document 'Life at the Bend: A social history of Fishermans Bend'. This document includes a detailed list of references that may also be of interest to the reader. The intent of this Guide is not to provide the same comprehensive list of sources but to guide research through particular subject areas of research and types of records.

There is a rich array of resources relevant to the history of Fishermans Bend, which are located in many different sources and repositories, including libraries, historical societies, and university archives. Much of this material is available online and web links are provided where available.

## Types of resources

The Resources Guide has been designed to be easy to use, and identifies four broad types of resources:

1. Documentary resources
2. Images
3. Maps and plans.
4. Digital resources.

**1 Documentary resources:** Documentary resources are text-based, and cover a wide range of document types and subject matter. Broadly, they can include archival material such as manuscripts and diaries, published records, unpublished reports, newspapers and digital records. Much documentary material is held in public libraries.

**2 Images:** Historical images of Fishermans Bend are held in a large number of public repositories, many of which are online.

**3 Maps and plans:** Historical maps and plans relating to the subject area record such things as the natural landscape and changes to landforms over time, the development of transport routes, building development, the allocation of Crown land and freehold land, changing municipal boundaries, land zoning, and proposed developments.

Section 3 lists the relevant repositories and their respective holdings for **Images** and **Maps and Plans.**

**4 Digital resources:** While there is a wealth of material now available on the web, a large amount of this is simply digitised forms of documentary records (books and reports), images and maps, which may also be available (albeit sometimes not easily accessible) in hard copy elsewhere. Some digitised records that are text searchable, however, have a significant new function. A good example is digitised newspapers, many of which are unavailable in hard copy due to conservation concerns. Runs of many Victorian newspapers are available on microfilm but this format is unwieldy and slow as a research tool. Digitised newspapers that are text

searchable under the NLA's Trove platform have emerged as a new source in themselves. The ability to search a topic in great detail across many newspapers at once makes Trove an invaluable tool.

There are other exclusively web-based resources that can also be used. These include blogs and interactive websites, Facebook pages, and other tools such as Pinterest and Flickr.

The web links for relevant resources are listed in Appendix 1 and can also be accessed via hypertext links in this document.

## Online research

When searching online, using search engines and online collections, it's important to remember that resources – especially images – may not always be find-able using the term 'Fishermans Bend' so always try other search terms: for example, use the alternate spelling of 'Fishermens Bend, as well as these terms: Hobsons Bay, Sandridge Bend, Sandridge Flats, lower Yarra, Port Melbourne, Emerald Hill and South Melbourne. As well as specific names and places and businesses, you might also use general associated terms, such as harbour works (harbor works), noxious industry, fishing, manufacturing

In many cases with online databases it is best to use fewer key words rather than to try to be too specific. As a general rule, try to think laterally when researching.

## Abbreviations used in this report

| | |
|---|---|
| ANU | Australian Catholic University |
| DELWP | Department of the Environment, Land, Water and Planning |
| NAA | National Archives of Australia |
| NLA | National Library of Australia |
| PPCC | Port Phillip City Collection |
| PMHPS | Port Melbourne Historical and Preservation Society |
| PMI | Prahran Mechanics Institute Library |
| PROV | Public Record Office Victoria |
| RHSV | Royal Historical Society of Victoria |
| SLNSW | State Library of New South Wales |
| SLV | State Library Victoria |
| UMA | University of Melbourne Archives |
| VPRS | Victorian Public Record Series |

## Key Libraries, Archives and Online locations

**State Library Victoria**                                    **SLV**

https://www.slv.vic.gov.au/
SLV is the primary public library in Victoria. It has vast holdings of published and unpublished works, as well as a large collection of maps and images, many of which are online.

**Public Record Office Victoria**                            **PROV**

https://www.prov.vic.gov.au/
PROV is the central archives of the Victorian Government which includes in its holdings the records of Crown lands correspondence files, records of Victorian government schools, municipal records and records of the Melbourne Harbor Trust. It also holds a large number of

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relevant early maps and plans which form part of its Historic Plans Collection, and many historical images, both digitised and not digitised.

### Royal Historical Society of Victoria          RHSV

http://www.historyvictoria.org.au/collections
RHSV is Victoria's premier historical society and holds in its collection a large number of early manuscripts and a comprehensive library of published works in Victorian local history. It also has a large image collection (but these are not available online). There is an online catalogue available to navigate the RHSV collection of publications and manuscripts, but this is best to be viewed in person at their Melbourne premises.

### Port Phillip City Collection          PPCC

http://catalogue.portphillip.vic.gov.au
The Port Phillip City Collection holds in its collection local government records associated with the former local government municipalities of South Melbourne and Port Melbourne. It also has a useful online image collection.

### Port Melbourne Historical & Preservation Society     PMHPS

http://www.pmhps.org.au/category/collection/

The PMHPS website includes a range of local history resources, including publications, unpublished works, reports, manuscripts, company records, and historic photos.

### Port Places

https://www.portplaces.com/
Port Places is a blog about the history and heritage of Port Melbourne written by Janet Bolitho. It offers reflective discussions on a range of heritage issues and many tantalising snippets of local history.

### Prahran Mechanics Institute Library          PMI

https://www.pmi.net.au/
The Prahran Mechanics Institute Library is a local lending library located in Prahran which holds an important collection of Victorian local history, mainly publications and reports. Resources can be borrowed by library members.

### Trove

http://trove.nla.gov.au/
Trove is an online resources platform, which is a useful tool for historical research. It includes a number of searchable digitised Melbourne newspapers and several local newspapers in its online collection. It can also search for images and maps across a number of repositories at once.

# 2 DOCUMENTARY RESOURCES BY SUBJECT AREA

The first section – **A starting point** – includes broad histories that include useful material on Fishermans Bend plus local histories. This section is a good starting point for research.

The following sections are by subject area, loosely following the identified themes in the Fishermans Bend Social History:

2.1 Aboriginal history

2.2 Industry

2.3 Community and social life

2.4 Social welfare

2.5 Urban development

2.6 Roads and transport

2.7 Working life

2.8 Schools and churches

2.9 Sport and recreation

2.10 Housing (and individual buildings)

2.11 Conservation

Under each subject heading a table provides selected key references. Each table presents the relevant resources arranged according to: record type; description (for published materials this is author, date, title and publisher); and location. A sample table for the **Industrial history** of the study area is given below:

| TYPE | DESCRIPTION | LOCATION |
|---|---|---|
| **Archival** | | |
| *Government records* | Crown land correspondence files, VPRS 5357 | PROV |
| *Company records* | Felton Grimwade & Co. records | UMA |
| **Published records** | | |
| *Company and business histories* | Geoffrey Blainey, *Jumping over the Wheel*, 1993 | SLV |
| *Government inquiries and reports* | Noxious Trades, 1872 | SLV |
| *Newspapers* | [various] | Trove |
| **Unpublished reports** | | |
| *Historical report* | David Moloney, 'A History of the Melbourne Glass Bottle Works Site' 2012', prepared for Museum Victoria. | Hobsons Bay Library |
| **Electronic resources** | | |
| *Historical reports* | Jepert, J.L. 1993. 'Fishermens Bend: A centre of aviation' | Online |

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## A starting point

The following resources provide useful background to the history and development of Melbourne and Victoria in general, and an historical content for the social history of Fishermans Bend.

These histories are widely available in local libraries, via inter-library loan, or through the State Library of Victoria.

### General histories (Victoria and Melbourne)

Broome, Richard 1984. *Arriving*. Fairfax, Syme & Weldon, McMahons Point.

Davison, Graeme 1978. *The Rise and Fall of Marvellous Melbourne*. Melbourne University Press, Carlton.

Dingle, Tony 1984. *Settling*. Fairfax, Syme & Weldon, McMahons Point.

Lewis, Miles et al. 1995. *Melbourne: The city's history and development*. City of Melbourne.

Otto, Kristin 2009. *Yarra: A diverting history*. Text Publishing, Melbourne.

Presland, Gary 2014. *First People: The Eastern Kulin of Melbourne, Port Phillip & Central Victoria*. Museum Victoria, Melbourne.

Priestly, Susan 1984. *Making their Mark*. Fairfax, Syme & Weldon, McMahons Point.

Shaw, A.G.L. 1996. *A History of the Port Phillip District: Victoria before Separation*. The Miegunyah Press, Carlton.

Sutherland, Alexander (ed.) 1888. *Victoria and Its Metropolis*. Vol. 2. McCarron Bird & Cameron, Melbourne.

### Local histories

A number of general local histories offer insights into many aspects of the social history of Fishermans Bend.

Borke, Sigrid 2000. *In and Out of Port: Voices from the Port of Melbourne: An oral history*. S. Borke.

Bride, Margaret and Graham Bride 2013. *The Borough and its People: Port Melbourne 1839–1939*. Port Melbourne Historical & Preservation Society, Port Melbourne.

Grainger, Pat 1991. *They Can Carry Me Out: Memories of Port Melbourne: as recorded by the Vintage Port*. Worth Preserving Project. The Project, Port Melbourne.

Porritt, Jack 1998. *Port Melbourne: Recollections*. Port Melbourne Historical and Preservation Society, Port Melbourne.

Priestley, Susan 1995. *South Melbourne: A History*. Melbourne University Press, Carlton.

Ruhen, Olaf 1976. *Port of Melbourne, 1835–1976*. Cassell Australia, Stanmore, NSW.

U'Ren, Nancy and Noel Turnbull 1983. *A History of Port Melbourne, 1946–1983*. Oxford University Press, Melbourne.

### Online resources

Bolitho, Janet. 'Port Places' blog: http://www.portplaces.com/

eMelbourne (The Encyclopedia of Melbourne online): http://www.emelbourne.net.au/

Melbourne 1945: http://1945.melbourne/

Victorian Places: http://www.victorianplaces.com.au

## 2.1 Aboriginal history

A detailed and thorough story of Aboriginal people at Fishermans Bend has not yet been written. Some details can be gleaned from the contemporary 'protectors' of Aborigines in the early settlement period, William Thomas and G.A. Robinson.

Aboriginal people can trace documentary family records through the Family History Unit of the Koorie Heritage Trust in Melbourne. Private family histories are also recorded on Ancestry.com

*Visual resources*: The best collection of online images of early Melbourne is held by the State Library of Victoria. Sketches and other artworks are also part of published and unpublished works on Aboriginal Melbourne.

| ABORIGINAL HISTORY RESOURCES | | |
|---|---|---|
| *TYPE* | *DESCRIPTION* | *LOCATION* |
| *Archival* | | |
| *Manuscripts* | William Thomas papers | SLV, SLNSW PROV |
| | G.A. Robinson papers | SLNSW |
| *Published records* | | |
| *Primary sources* | Clark, Ian D. (ed.), G.A. Robinson Journals | SLV |
| *Published early records* | Bunce, Daniel 1859. *Language of the Aborigines of the Colony of Victoria and other Australian Districts.* Thomas Brown, Geelong. | SLV |
| *Published histories* | Briggs, Carolyn 2008. *The Journey Cycles of the Boonwurrung: Stories with Boonwurrung language.* The Boonwurrung Foundation Ltd, East Melbourne. | SLV |
| | Eidelson, Meyer 2014. *Yalukit Willam: The River People of Port Phillip.* City of Port Phillip. | SLV |
| *Newspapers* | Stephens, Marguerita (ed.) 2015. *The Journals of William Thomas*, 4 volumes. VACL, Fitzroy. | SLV |
| *Newspapers* | Various newspaper articles | Trove |
| *Unpublished resources* | | |
| *Historical reports* | Presland, Gary 1983. *An Archaeology Survey of the Melbourne Metropolitan Area. Victorian Archaeological Survey Occasional Reports Series No. 15*. Ministry for Planning and Environment, Melbourne | SLV |
| *Electronic resources* | | |
| *Digitised report* | Clark, Ian D. and Laura Konstanski 2006. 'Stonnington Indigenous History'. Prepared for the City of Stonnington | Online |
| *Digitised publication* | Eidelson, Meyer. *Yalukit Willam: The River People of Port Phillip.* City of Port Phillip | Online |

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## 2.2 Industry

The records of several industrial and manufacturing operations at Fishermans Bend are held in various archival collections. The records of John Kitchen & Sons are held at the Noel Butlin Archives at ANU, with some significant additional material held by the PMHPS. Melbourne University Archives also holds records that relate to a number of local companies, including the Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation and Felton Grimwade & Co.

Noxious industries at Sandridge Bend in the 1870s are discussed in the *Royal Commission on Low-Lying Land*, Melbourne 1870-71.

Former companies that operated in the area are registered in the records of Defunct Companies held by PROV.

***Visual resources***: Useful visual resources for this topic include photos, historical sketches, and maps and plans. A large number of relevant early images of industrial sites are included in the Biosis 2013, 'Heritage Study of Fishermans Bend'. Key repositories for relevant historical photos include SLV, PROV and NAA. Early maps and plans show the locations of industrial sites.

| INDUSTRIAL HISTORY RESOURCES | | |
|---|---|---|
| *TYPE* | *DESCRIPTION* | *LOCATION* |
| ***Archival*** | | |
| *Government records* | Crown land correspondence files, VPRS 5357 | PROV |
| *Company records* | Felton Grimwade & Co. (in Russell Grimwade papers) | UMA |
| | Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation (in Essington Lewis papers) | UMA |
| | John Kitchen & Son records | Noel Butlin Archives, ANU |
| | John Kitchen & Sons records | PMHPS |
| ***Published records*** | | |
| *Company and business histories* | Geoffrey Blainey, *Jumping over the Wheel*, 1993. | SLV |
| | Geoffrey Blainey, *Johns and Waygood*, 1956 | SLV |
| *Government inquiries and reports* | Noxious Trades, 1872 | SLV |
| *Published history* | Loffler, Don 2008. *Me and My Holden: A nostalgic trip with the early Holdens*. Wakefield Press, SA | SLV |
| | Loffler, Don 1998. *She's a Beauty! The story of the first Holdens*. Wakefield Press, SA | SLV |
| *Newspapers* | Melbourne newspapers and a number of local papers are available in digitised form through the NLA's online resources tool, Trove. | Trove |
| *Published history* | Davison, Graeme, David Dunstan and Chris McConville et al. (eds) 1985. *The Outcasts of* | SLV |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | *Melbourne: Essays in social history*. Allen & Unwin, Sydney. | |
| **Unpublished resources** | | |
| *Historical reports* | David Moloney, 'A History of the Melbourne Glass Bottle Works Site' 2012', prepared for Museum Victoria. | Hobsons Bay Library |
| *History* | Stuart, Glen [n.d.]. 'My Time at Engine Works'. | PMI |
| *Government report* | Lewis, Miles 1983. *An Industrial Seed-bed: Architectural and historical survey of South Bank*, vol. 2, Department of Planning, Melbourne. | SLV |
| *Heritage and conservation reports* | Timothy Hubbard Pty Ltd, 'A Photographic Survey of the Buchanan and Brock Buildings', Prepared for Major Projects Unit, Melbourne, 1991. | PMI |
| **Electronic resources** | | |
| *Digitised report* | *Low Land Commission: Final Report*. 1873 | Online |
| *Digitised report* | Jepert, J.L. 1993. 'Fishermens Bend: A centre of Australian aviation'. Aeronautical Research Laboratory, Department of Defence | Online |
| *Digitised heritage and conservation reports* | Biosis Pty Ltd 2013. 'Fishermans Bend Heritage Study'. Revised report, prepared for Fishermans Bend Taskforce, 4 November 2016 | Online |
| *Digitised heritage and conservation reports* | Built Heritage Pty Ltd 2015. 'Rootes Limited factory (former), Salmon Street: Heritage Assessment'. 23 July 2015. | Online |

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## 2.3 Community and social life

The best account of the fishing settlement along the shoreline of Hobsons Bay is the detailed study by Alan Meiers, *The Fisherfolk of Fishermans Bend* (2006). For additional material on this settlement, the Crown Land settlement files held by PROV can be accessed.

A rich repository of information about specific aspects of community and social life can be found through digitised local newspapers (accessed through Trove); as well as in published local histories and through local historical societies. Local histories of Port Melbourne are useful as broad studies of community and social life.

Records about residents and occupations are given in the rate books for the former Cities of Port Melbourne and South Melbourne, but note that details about tenants are sometimes less reliable, and that boarders will be absent altogether. The PMHPS may hold information on individuals or specific families. Family history sources, for example accessed through Ancestry.com, are also useful.

Information about occupants and their occupations can be gleaned in the local rate books and Commonwealth Electoral Rolls (the latter only available from 1901). The sanitary condition of local neighbourhoods is discussed in the reports of the Central Board for Health in the 1870s and 1880s.

**Visual resources**: Useful visual resources for this topic include historic photos held by local historical societies. Other images can be sourced through online newspapers via Trove.

| COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL LIFE RESOURCES | | |
|---|---|---|
| *TYPE* | *DESCRIPTION* | *LOCATION* |
| **Archival** | | |
| *Government records* | Montague State School files | PROV |
| *Private records – Presbyterian Church Archives* | Records of Montague Mission | PROV |
| **Published records** | | |
| *Published history* | Daley, Charles 1940. *The History of South Melbourne from the Foundation of Settlement at Port Phillip to the year 1938*. Robertson & Mullens, Melbourne. | SLV |
| | City of Port Phillip 1998. *Lurking in Lanes: A back fence history of the lanes and little streets of Port Phillip*. City of Port Phillip | SLV |
| | Greig, A.W. 1916. 'The Liardets of "The Beach"', *Victorian Historical Magazine*, vol. 5, no. 1, March 1916, pp. 1–14. | SLV |
| | Beer, Jane et al. (eds) 1989. *Colonial Frontiers and Family Fortunes: Two studies in rural and urban* Victoria. History Department, University of Melbourne, Parkville. | SLV |
| *Published early record* | District of Sandridge Municipal Electoral Roll, 1861 | SLV |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| *Published history* | Meiers, Allan 2006. *The Fisherfolk of Fishermen's Bend: A history of Fisherman's Bend, through personal accounts and detailed family trees*. PMHPS, Port Melbourne. | SLV |
| *Newspapers* | [various] | Trove |
| ***Electronic resources*** | | |
| *Digitised records* | Commonwealth Electoral Rolls, from 1901 | Via Ancestry.com |
| *Online image collection* | Port Phillip City Collection | Online |
| *Website* | Streets of South Melbourne | Online |
| *Online heritage project* | PastPort Project | Online |
| *Blog* | Janet Bolitho, 'Port Places' | Online |

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## 2.4 Social welfare

Records of social welfare, including public and private charitable work, in the Fishermans Bend study area can be found in church records and government records and newspaper articles.

***Visual resources***: Useful visual resources for this topic include historic photos held by local historical societies and PROV. Other images can be sourced through online newspapers via Trove.

| SOCIAL WELFARE RESOURCES | | |
|---|---|---|
| *TYPE* | *DESCRIPTION* | *LOCATION* |
| ***Archival*** | | |
| *Local government records* | Rate books, former cities of South Melbourne and Port Melbourne | PROV |
| | Demolition of sub-standard housing, South Melbourne | PROV |
| ***Published records*** | | |
| *Published history* | Harris, David 1988. 'Housing Reform and Fishermens Bend 1900–1913', *Urban Policy and Research*, Vol. 6, Issue 3, pp. 119–123. | SLV |
| | Dickey, Brian 1980. *No Charity There*. Nelson, West Melbourne. | SLV |
| *Newspapers* | [various] | Trove |

## 2.5 Urban development

The layout of the residential areas in a suburb can be examined through early plans, particularly the MMBW series of detail plans for suburban Melbourne (c.1890s). Detailed understanding of the extent of urban development is recorded in the municipal rate books and through subdivision plans.

The social dimension of suburban life can be understood through local histories, reminiscences and early photographs, and newspaper articles.

***Visual resources***: Useful visual resources for this topic include historic photos held by local historical societies, SLV and PROV. Urban development can be traced through early maps and plans, for example the MMBW Detail Plans (c.1890s-1900s).

| URBAN DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES | | |
|---|---|---|
| *TYPE* | *DESCRIPTION* | *LOCATION* |
| ***Archival*** | | |
| *Local government records* | Rate books, City of South Melbourne | PROV |
| | Rate books, City of Port Melbourne | PROV |
| ***Published records*** | | |
| *Primary sources* | MMBW Detail plans (c.1890-1900s) | SLV |
| | Melways and Gregory's Melbourne street directories | SLV |
| *Government inquiries and reports* | Low Lands Commission, 1872. | SLV |
| *History* | City of Port Phillip 1998. *Lurking in Lanes: A back fence history of the lanes and little streets of Port Phillip*. City of Port Phillip, [St Kilda]. | SLV |
| | Lewis, Miles et al. 1995. *Melbourne: The city's history and development*. City of Melbourne | SLV |
| *Newspapers* | [various] | Trove |
| ***Unpublished resources*** | | |
| *Heritage and conservation reports* | South Melbourne Conservation Study | SLV |
| ***Electronic resources*** | | |
| *Digitised heritage and conservation reports* | Biosis Pty Ltd 2013. 'Fishermans Bend Heritage Study'. Revised report, prepared for Fishermans Bend Taskforce. | Online |
| *Digital archive* | *Victorian Government Gazette* (online archive) | Online |

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## 2.6 Roads, railways and transport

Early maps and plans provide information about the development of roads and railways, as does the *Victorian Government Gazette* (which is a searchable online resource). Post office directories and gazetteers also provide information relevant to the development of roads in the area.

The creation of roads and their maintenance is also reported in the council records (see the records of Cities of South Melbourne and Port Melbourne). The records of the Melbourne Harbor Trust are held at PROV.

***Visual resources***: Useful visual resources for this topic include historic photos held by local historical societies, SLV and PROV. Early road maps and street directories (such as *Melways*) also trace the physical development of roads, railways and ferry routes in the area.

| ROADS, RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT RESOURCES | | |
|---|---|---|
| **TYPE** | **DESCRIPTION** | **LOCATION** |
| ***Archival*** | | |
| *Local government records* | South Melbourne City Council municipal records; Port Melbourne City Council municipal records | PROV |
| *Government records* | Records of the Melbourne Harbor Trust (1876+), Agency VA 2799 (various VPRS) | PROV |
| ***Published records*** | | |
| *Primary sources* | Melways and Gregory's Melbourne street directories | SLV |
| *Early records* | Hoare, Benjamin 1927. *Jubilee History of the Melbourne Harbor Trust: compiled from the original records of the Trust and from the Victorian Hansard.* Peacock Brothers, Melbourne. | SLV |
| *Early records* | Coode, John Sir and Melbourne Harbor Trust: *Dock and River Improvements proposed by Sir John Coode.* Melbourne, 1879. | SLV |
| *History* | Barnard, Jill with Sonia Jennings 2004. *Welcome and Farewell: The story of Station Pier.* Arcadia, Melbourne. | SLV |
| *History* | Buckrich, Judith Raphael 2002. *The Long and Perilous Journey: A history of the Port of Melbourne.* Melbourne Books, Melbourne | SLV |
| *Newspapers* | [various] | Trove |
| ***Unpublished resources*** | | |
| *Historical reports* | Dunstan, D., Moloney. D., Austin, G. and the National Trust of Australia (Victoria) 1987. 'Port Melbourne and St. Kilda Railway Lines'. National Trust of Australia (Victoria), Melbourne. | SLV |
| ***Electronic resources*** | | |
| *Website* | 'Sandridge Railway Trail' | [Online](Online) |
| *Digitised report* | Barnard, Jill 2008. *Jetties and Piers: A background history of maritime architecture in Victoria.* Heritage Council of Victoria, Melbourne | [Online](Online) |

## 2.7 Working life

Working life varied enormously across different time periods. As mentioned above, occupations are usually recorded in the council rate books. Details of nineteenth-century working life at Fishermans Bend can be gleaned from the relevant Land Selection files at PROV; from newspaper accounts (searchable through the online digitised newspapers available via Trove); and from records and reminiscences and oral histories held by local historical societies. Workplace deaths can be researched through inquest reports held at PROV.

The Port Melbourne Historical and Preservation Society holds a good collection of oral history records. The subject of work is also covered in many local histories of Port Melbourne and South Melbourne.

Melbourne University Archives holds many records relating to working life and trade unions, as does the Noel Butlin Archives in Canberra and Museum Victoria. There are a number of good published histories on the trade unions as related to the local area, including Douglas Lockwood's *Ship to Shore* (1990).

***Visual resources***: The Italian Australian institute Co-As-It hosts an online image collection, which includes images of Italian migrants working in factories at Fishermans Bend. The online image collection of the Australian War Memorial has a large number of images related to Fishermans Bend, including photos of women working for the Australian Women's Army Services.

| **WORKING LIFE RESOURCES** | | |
|---|---|---|
| *TYPE* | *DESCRIPTION* | *LOCATION* |
| *Archival* | | |
| *Local government records* | Rate books, City of Port Melbourne | PROV |
| | Rate books, City of South Melbourne | PROV |
| *Trade union records* | Federated Waterside Workers Union | Noel Butlin Archives, ANU |
| *Published records* | | |
| *History* | Borke, Sigrid 2000. *In and Out of Port: Voices from the Port of Melbourne: An oral history*. S. Borke | SLV |
| | Beer, Jane, Charles Fahey, Patricia Grimshaw and Melanie Raymond (eds) 1989. *Colonial Frontiers and Family Fortunes: Two studies in rural and urban Victoria*. History Department, University of Melbourne, Parkville | SLV |
| | Lockwood, Rupert 1990. *Ship to Shore: A history of Melbourne's waterfront and its union struggles*. Hale Iremonger, Sydney. | SLV |
| | Lowenstein, Wendy and Tom Hills 1982. *Under the Hook: Melbourne waterside workers remember working lives and class war, 1900-1980*. Melbourne Bookworkers in association with the Australian Society for the Study of Labour History, 1 Dec. 1982 | SLV |
| *Newspapers* | [various] | Trove |

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| *Unpublished resources* | | |
|---|---|---|
| *Historical records* | Oral History collection | PMHPS |
| *Electronic resources* | | |
| *Online image collection* | Australian War Memorial | Online |
| | Italian Historical Society (Co-As-It) | Online |

## 2.8 Schools and churches

Victorian Government school (State school) records are held at PROV; these records vary but may include plans and photos of school buildings, correspondence and other information.

Some records of local churches in the area may be researched through the central church archives, usually managed by the individual denomination.

Other resources to check include digitised newspapers (through Trove); local histories; local historical societies.

***Visual resources***: Useful visual resources for this topic include historic photos held by local historical societies, SLV and PROV. Plans and early photographs of many Victorian government schools and teachers' residences are held by PROV.

| SCHOOLS AND CHURCHES RESOURCES | | |
|---|---|---|
| *TYPE* | *DESCRIPTION* | *LOCATION* |
| *Archival* | | |
| *Church records* | Presbyterian Church Archives (and Uniting Church Archives) | |
| *Department of Education records* | Montague State School (VPRS 3686/P6, units 2670, 2673, 2675, 2677, etc.) | PROV |
| *Published records* | | |
| *History* | Blake, Les 1973. *Vision and Realisation: A centenary history of state education in Victoria.* Government Printer, Melbourne. | SLV |
| *Newspapers* | [various] | Trove |
| *Electronic resources* | | |
| *Digitised heritage reports* | Biosis Pty Ltd 2013. 'Fishermans Bend Heritage Study'. Revised report, prepared for Fishermans Bend Taskforce | Online |
| *Website* | Montague State School | Online |

## 2.9 Sport and recreation

A range of uses and activities at Fishermans Bend falls into the category of sport and recreation. For private clubs such as the Port Melbourne Football Club and the former Victoria Golf Club (now based at Cheltenham), records may be available and accessible to the researcher on request. Good published histories of these clubs are also available.

For other recreational uses, good sources are once again the Trove for digitised newspapers and the local historical societies. Where a sporting club occupied a Crown reserve there would also be a related land file at PROV and a current government 'Reserve (Rs) file' available to view through inquiring to DELWP.

*Visual resources*: Useful visual resources for this topic include historic photos held by local historical societies and sporting clubs.

| SPORT AND RECREATION RESOURCES | | |
|---|---|---|
| *TYPE* | *DESCRIPTION* | *LOCATION* |
| ***Archival*** | | |
| *Government records* | Port Melbourne Recreation Reserve (Crown land file) | PROV |
| ***Published records*** | | |
| *Published history* | Keenan, Terry 2006. *Unduly Rough Play: A history of the Port Melbourne Football Club, vol. 2, 1918–1944*. Eucalyptus Press, Albert Park. | SLV |
| *Published history* | Keenan, Terry c.2008. *A Different Breed: A history of the Port Melbourne Football Club, vol. 3 1945–1995*. Eucalyptus Press, Albert Park. | SLV |
| *Published history* | Keenan, Terry 2001. 'Keeping out the Riff Raff: Port Melbourne's exclusion from the Victorian Football League in 1896', *Sporting Traditions*, vol. 17, no. 2, pp. 1–16. | SLV |
| *History* | Moloney, Brendan 2003. *Victoria Golf Club: 1988–2003*. Playright Publishing, Caringbah (NSW). | SLV |
| *History* | Marshall-Stoneking, Billy 1988. 'R. Graham Carey' in Suzy Baldwin (ed.). *Unsung Heroes and Heroines of Australia*, Greenhouse, Elwood, pp. 164-65. | SLV |
| *Newspapers* | [various] | Trove |
| ***Electronic resources*** | | |
| | Port Melbourne Football Club player stats | [Online](#) |

## 2.10 Housing (and individual buildings)

For the slum reclamation movement, which was active in South Melbourne in the 1930s, records are held at PROV. There are a number of files in this collection concerning ongoing demolition of residential buildings in the Montague area after the 1930s (and up to the 1970s).

Researching for the history of a particular building draws on a range of sources that usually need to be used together. These include post office directories, rate books, and early plans and photographs. The local historical society may have building files on particular buildings as may the National Trust of Australia (Vic.).

A select group of historic buildings are documented in local heritage and conservation studies.

**Visual resources**: Useful visual resources for this topic include historic photos held by local historical societies and PROV.

| HOUSING RESOURCES | | |
|---|---|---|
| **TYPE** | **DESCRIPTION** | **LOCATION** |
| *Archival* | | |
| *Local government records* | Rate books, City of Port Melbourne | PROV |
| | Rate books, City of South Melbourne | PROV |
| | Files concerning the demolition of sub-standard housing, South Melbourne | PROV |
| *Published records* | | |
| *Directories* | Sands & McDougall. Melbourne Directories. | SLV |
| *Government reports* | *Royal Commission on Low-Lying Land*. Melbourne 1870-71 | SLV |
| *Newspapers* | [various] | Trove |
| *Unpublished resources* | | |
| *Heritage and conservation reports* | South Melbourne Conservation Study | SLV |
| *Electronic resources* | | |
| *Digitised heritage and conservation reports* | Biosis Pty Ltd 2013. 'Fishermans Bend Heritage Study'. Revised report, prepared for Fishermans Bend Taskforce. | Online |
| *Website* | Melbourne 1945 | Online |

## 2.11 Conservation

Resources relating to the conservation of the area include reports from the nineteenth century on land degradation, descriptions of bird life, and efforts to restore elements of the natural landscape.

Crown land correspondence files (VPRS 5357, PROV), government reports and inquiries, and contemporary newspaper reports contain information about land degradation and efforts made to prevent this from continuing. Articles in *Victorian Naturalist* report on birdlife in the area.

**Visual resources**: There is a rich collection of artworks pertaining to Fishermans Bend, held by SLV, NGV and NLA, that document the changing landscape of the area. Historic photographs held by SLV and local historical societies also detail the changing nature of the landscape.

| TYPE | DESCRIPTION | LOCATION |
|---|---|---|
| **LANDSCAPE AND CONSERVATION RESOURCES** | | |
| *Archival* | | |
| *Government records* | Crown land correspondence files (VPRS 5357, various file numbers) | PROV |
| *Published records* | | |
| *Published history* | Winter, Joan 1995. *Dredging, Draining, Dipping and Shipping: A history of the foreshore and low - lying lands of the City of Port Phillip* | SLV |
| | Lahey, John 1994. 'When Coode Island was a paradise for birds', *Age*, 15 March 1994 | SLV |
| | Gary Presland 2009, *The Place for a Village: How nature has shaped the City of Melbourne* | SLV |
| | Eidelson, Meyer 2013. *Walks in Port Phillip: A guide to the cultural landscapes of a City*. City of Port Phillip, St Kilda. | SLV |
| *Newspapers* | [various] | Trove |
| *Unpublished resources* | | |
| *Government report* | Golder Associates 2016. 'Preliminary Land Contamination Study: Employment Precinct, Fishermans Bend'. Prepared by DELWP | DELWP |
| *Electronic resources* | | |
| *Digital collection* | Museum Victoria, 'Caught and Coloured: Zoological illustrations from colonial Victoria' | Online |
| *Website* | Friends of Westgate Park | Online |

# 3 IMAGES, MAPS AND PLANS

## Images

Useful **online** image collections are set out and described below:

| Repository | Description |
| --- | --- |
| State Library of Victoria<br>https://www.slv.vic.gov.au/ | Holds a wide range of historical images relating to the study area. Includes historical images from illustrated newspapers; view of Hobsons Bay and Sandridge; art works; photos of industrial complexes; some aerial photos |
| National Gallery of Victoria<br>https://www.ngv.vic.gov.au/ | Includes artworks that relate to the study area. |
| Public Record Office Victoria<br>https://www.prov.vic.gov.au/ | Holds a wide range of historical images relating to the study area, specifically relating to the subjects of education, shipping and harbour works, and transport. |
| Museum Victoria<br>https://museumvictoria.com.au/ | Hold images relate to collections and the museum's areas of interest. They include for example, glassworks, manufacturing, and natural history collections. |
| National Archives of Australia<br>http://naa.gov.au/ | Includes photo of migrant workers at General Motors Holden in 1955. |
| National Library of Australia<br>http://nla.gov.au/ | Holds a large number of historical images relating to the study area. |
| Australian War Memorial<br>http://awm.gov.au/ | Includes images of aircraft manufacture at Fishermans Bend for the RAAF, the Salvage Depot and Australian Women's Army Services. |
| Port Phillip City Collection<br>https://heritage.portphillip.vic.gov.au/Collections/ | A wide range of historical images relating to the study area. |
| Port Melbourne Historical and Preservation Society<br>http://pmhps.org.au/ | A wide range of historical images relating to the study area. |
| Italian Historical Society (Co As It)<br>http://www.coasit.com.au/IHS/index.html | Includes photographs of Italian immigrant workers at General Motors Holden in the 1950s |
| Trove<br>http://trove.nla.gov.au/ | This allows a wide search across multiple repositories, including a number of the above. |
| Flickr<br>https://www.flickr.com/ | This contains a large number of photographic collections, including those of heritage architect Graeme |

| | |
|---|---|
| | Butler and Public Record Office Victoria |
| Facebook pages:<br><br>https://www.facebook.com/ | Various Facebook pages, including that of the Port Melbourne Historical and Preservation Society, feature historical images of the study area or photos of items from historical collections that relate to the study area |

### Maps and Plans

Maps and plans are available online at the following repositories:

- Map Collection, State Library of Victoria
- Map Collection, Baillieu Library, University of Melbourne
- National Library of Australia
- Public Record Office of Victoria
- Port Phillip City Collection
- State Library of New South Wales

# 4    CONCLUSION

It is intended that this guide provides a starting point and some direction to those interested in researching and understanding the history of Fishermans Bend. It is important to note however that available resources for the study of Fishermans Bend's history are certainly not fixed but are always in flux. More records are constantly being digitised, new reports are being uploaded for public access, and private records continue to be donated to historical societies.

Future researchers will no doubt benefit from other local history, community history and family history projects that are yet unwritten. This growing wealth of information points to a richer understanding of the history of the place we now know as Fishermans Bend. This guide will be the basis of an ever-growing online resources guide for the history of Fishermans Bend.

# APPENDIX 1: ONLINE LINKS

Current web addresses for electronic sources noted in this Guide are as follows:

Ancestry: http://ancestry.com/

Australian War Memorial: http://awm.gov.au/

Barnard, Jill 2008. *Jetties and Piers: A background history of maritime architecture in Victoria*. Heritage Council of Victoria, Melbourne: http://www.dpcd.vic.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0019/139033/Jetties-ONL-intro_Part-1.pdf

Biosis Pty Ltd 2013. 'Fishermans Bend Heritage Study'. Revised report, prepared for Fishermans Bend Taskforce: http://www.fishermansbend.vic.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0032/29786/06_Volume_3_Heritage_Study.pdf

Built Heritage Pty Ltd 2015. 'Rootes Limited factory (former), Salmon Street: Heritage Assessment'. 23 July 2015: http://www.trustadvocate.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/Simon-Reeves-Rootes-Ltd-Factory-Final-23-July-2015.pdf

Clark, Ian D. and Laura Konstanski 2006. 'Stonnington Indigenous History'. Prepared for the City of Stonnington: http://www.stonnington.vic.gov.au/files/assets/public/history/indigenous-history-full-report.pdf

Eidelson, Meyer. *Yalukit Willam: The River People of Port Phillip*. City of Port Phillip: https://heritage.portphillip.vic.gov.au/Aboriginal_heritage/Yalukit_WillamThe_River_People_of_Port_Phillip

eMelbourne (The Encyclopedia of Melbourne online): http://www.emelbourne.net.au/

Friends of Westgate Park: http://www.westgatepark.org/

Italian Historical Society (Co-As-It): http://www.coasit.com.au/IHS/index.html

Jepert, J.L. 1993. 'Fishermens Bend: A centre of Australian aviation': http://www.dtic.mil/dtic/tr/fulltext/u2/a274981.pdf

*Low Land Commission: Final Report*. 1873: http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/papers/govpub/VPARL1873No88.pdf

Melbourne 1945: http://1945.melbourne/

Montague State School: http://www.montague.vic.edu.au/page/55/School-History

Museum Victoria, 'Caught and Coloured: Zoological illustrations from colonial Victoria': https://museumvictoria.com.au/caughtandcoloured/EarlyMelbourne.aspx

PastPort Project (Citizens Heritage): https://www.citizenheritage.com/pastport-app/

Port Melbourne Football Club - Player stats: http://websites.sportstg.com/club_info.cgi?client=0-118-10462-204557-0&sID=55907&&news_task=DETAIL&articleID=10330476

Port Phillip City Collection: https://heritage.portphillip.vic.gov.au/Collections/

Port Places (blog by Janet Bolitho): https://www.portplaces.com/

'Sandridge Railway Trail': https://museumvictoria.com.au/railways/pdf/sandridge_railway_trail.pdf

Streets of South Melbourne: https://streetsofsouthmelbourne.wordpress.com/

Trove: http://trove.nla.gov.au/

Victorian Government Gazette – online archive: http://gazette.slv.vic.gov.au/