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# ALEXANDRA GARDENS



St Kilda Rd looking south  
1890ish sm.jpg

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## Location

ALEXANDRA AVENUE MELBOURNE, MELBOURNE CITY

## Municipality

MELBOURNE CITY

## Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

## Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7822-0252

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - April 7, 2021

This place is included on the Victorian Heritage Inventory, for its potential to contain historical archaeological remains associated with the settlement and growth of early Melbourne. Under the terms of the Heritage Act 2017 there is protection for all historical archaeologysites and objects in the state.

Please visit the Heritage Victoria website to find out more about the Heritage Inventory.

Interpretation of Site	Heritage Inventory Interpretation: The archaeological investigation reveals that the site had comprised of orange gravel cambered paths edged with glazed tile spoon drains (Cornwell's). The paths had been maintained over the years being repaired with bitumen and resurfaced several times. The paths encircled the oval garden bed and a star shaped garden bed. These beds had compacted stone and clay foundations. The spoon drain that encircled the oval garden bed fed into a storm water access pit and drain at its western edge. The overlying fill and top soil was laid down sometime after the second world war when the garden s were simplified. Artefacts were found in association with the fill and the earlier features..
Historical Significance	The site has the potential to contain historical archaeological deposits related to the former occupation of the site by the Immigration House (also known as the Immigration Aid Society), established in the 1840s.
Other Names	Former Immigration House, Former Immigration Aid Society,
Hermes Number	8890
Property Number	

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## History

Heritage Inventory History of Site: The area where the Alexandra Gardens is located was originally a swampy area of lagoons, the flood plain of the Yarra. Whitehead described the area in 'Civilizing the City' as swampy, scarred by brickmakers' pits that became lagoons and subject to periodic flooding. During the period 1896-1900 a new channel for the Yarra was built to prevent flooding and improve the area. The spoil from the channel was used to fill the lagoons along the south bank and build up the level of the land. the Alexandra Ave, Park and Gardens were planned and laid out following the reclamation of the land and prior to the Royal visit in May 1901 by the Duke of York.

*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/>*