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# WINE HALL STORAGE CAVE AND LANDING



Wine Hall Storage Cave And  
Landing Maribyrnong May  
2003 001



Wine Hall Storage Cave And  
Landing Maribyrnong May  
2003 002



Wine Hall Storage Cave And  
Landing Maribyrnong May  
2003 003

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## Location

LILY STREET ESSENDON WEST AND 493-499 BUCKLEY STREET AVONDALE HEIGHTS, MOONEE VALLEY CITY

## Municipality

MOONEE VALLEY CITY

## Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

## Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7822-0513

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

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Interpretation  
of Site

Below the scenic lookout to the west of the junction of the Maribyrnong River and Rose Creek, a cave set in the hillside was used by Messrs Safarfe and Young (Robert) for wine storage. The Wine Hall itself has disappeared, but a timber door frame and supporting beam is visible at the entrance of the cave from the river. According to Somerville (pers comms), the cave extends into a large room inside. Further investigation of the site is warranted. Steele's Creek may have evidence of former landing structures, but was not investigated as part of this study.

The site is of social and potential archaeological significance as part of the Maribyrnong River recreational landscape, and is the only example located of a wine hall built inside a cave.

Other Names SAFARFE AND YOUNG WINE HALL,

Hermes  
Number 14255

Property  
Number

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## History

Below the scenic lookout to the west of the junction of the Maribyrnong River and Rose Creek, a cave set in the hillside was used by Messrs Safarfe and Young (Robert) for wine storage. The cave was known as the wine hall, and was used as its interior conditions offered the perfect environment for cellaring wine. Robert Young purchased the land straddling Steele's Creek, and established a popular refreshment spot in front of the cave in 1894. The Wine Hall was advertised as a "Resting Place" which was suitable for boating, fishing, and picnics, and offered colonial wines, aerated waters, tea and coffee and other light refreshments. Previously known as "The Horseshoe", the establishment later became known as The Wine Hall, and provided facilities for Spong's boats and The Maribyrnong Boat Company, which regularly stopped there. The opening of the Riverview Tea Gardens in 1909, led to a decline in trade, and the Wine Hall later developed a reputation for sly grog and a place unsuitable for family outings. A former landing pier is shown in front of the site in a photo in Maddigan and Frost (1995: 51).

*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/>*