CORANDERRK CEMETERY



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Coranderrk Cemetery. Site Visit - M.Miller 4/10/13



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Location

BARAK LANE HEALESVILLE, YARRA RANGES SHIRE

Municipality

YARRA RANGES SHIRE

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO80

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

The site was used as an Aboriginal cemetery from the 19th century onwards. Interpretation of Site

Historical The site has historical significance as the resting place of Wurundjeri elder Barak, and

Significance the other members of the community.

Archaeological The Coranderrk site has the potential to yield archaeological deposits (structures and Significance

artefacts) relating to its use as an Aboriginal cemetery.

Other Names BARAK'S TOMBSTONE,

Hermes Number 162569

Property Number

History

In the 1870s, when officials threatened to close Coranderrk and sell off its rich grazing land, Wurundjeri elder William Barak led the first Coranderrk Rebellion, marching with residents into Melbourne to claim ownership of land he called "my father's country". For Barak, Coranderrk was both a home and a last link to his vanishing culture and heritage.

This early Aboriginal land rights movement was a success. Barak - now widely revered as 'The Last King of the Yarra Tribes' - and the Coranderrk people had not only gained a permanent homeland, but the respect and patronage of Melbourne identities like future Prime Minister Alfred Deakin and opera singer Nellie Melba (this information comes from the ABC web page).

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/