

- Pre 1835 The Yarra River and its billabongs had clear water and plentiful aquatic life. The flats were treed with a fairly open grassy understory. A variety of shrubs were present. It was under the custodianship of our First Nations people
- 1835 -1837 Sheep Runs were established in the area (NB Melbourne was settled by white people in 1835)
- 1837 Chief Surveyor Hoddle divided up the Heidelberg area. Thomas Walker was "Crown Grantee" of 1040 acres abutting the Yarra south of Banksia St.
- 1838/39 David Charteris McArthur bought 84 acres which became the **Charterisville Estate**. [Covers the flats south of adjacent to ~ 429 The Boulevard]. **Built Charterisville in 1840/41**. It still stands at 77 Burke Rd North David Charteris McArthur established the first Melbourne branch of the Bank of Australasia which later became the ANZ bank. He was the first captain of the Melbourne Cricket Club. He was very wealthy and a great patron of the arts.
Numerous famous artists stayed at Charterisville in the 1880's-90's including Heidelberg School artists and Norman Lindsay.
- Sylvester John Brown bought 313 acres to the north of Charterisville. This became the **Hartlands Estate**.
- Joseph Hawdon bought 363 acres south of Banksia St, which became known as **Leighton Estate**.
- William Darke bought 83 acres to the east of Burke Rd which became **Waverley Estate**. This was soon sold to Hartlands then eventually to Charterisville in 1853
- 1840's The flats were cleared of trees. Crops were sown, orchards and vineyards established, vegetables grown and animals grazed.
- 1885 The Leighton Estate east of Lwr Heidelberg Rd down to the river was sold to Richard Greaves and became known as the **Glenard Farm**.
- 1887-1900 In 1887 McArthur died and Charterisville went into decline. Walter Withers rented part of it for 3 years. In 1900 it reverted to the DeCastella family who held the mortgage on it. It was slowly chopped up and sold off over the 20th century.
- 1900's The State Government gradually was given or purchased most of the Yarra Flats Park area. The last purchase was from the Fleming brothers in the 1970's.
- 1912 Chinese market gardeners arrive.
- 1934 The largest flood ever recorded since European settlement. Chinese market gardens were destroyed and not re-established.

- 1957 Upper Yarra Dam built which changed the nature of the lower Yarra River. Sandy beaches disappeared and billabongs were no longer regularly filled by flooding.
- 1950's-70's Various billabongs were filled in for grazing land and a golf course established south of Banksia St. Several dairy farms were operating.
- 1970's Riverland Conservation Society and others lead the efforts to return the farmland to a more natural setting.
- 1984 Yarra Flats Park established.
- 1980's-90's Various rehabilitation works carried out by MMBW. Early 80's - Annulus area was re-watered. Early 90's - the Promontory area was extensively rehabilitated.