Submission to Yoorrook Justice Commission

From: Charles Jackson

Dated: 10 August 2024

Submission:

I would like to submit my submission, hoping it will bring to light that I believe there are past Gulidjan peoples buried at the present day Warncoort Cemetery Warncoort, where my ancestors were buried in March 1852, Jan 1857 and 1866.

The official Cemetery wasn't started until 1858, then name Irrewarra.

The Kerangeballort Station was located beside it, the original Dennis Homestead was built on illegally taken Bunting Dale Mission lands.

Highlighted by a land Survey by Mt Alexander Skene to Mr Hoodle in 1848, the Dennis Brothers were well aware of the Bunting Dale Mission,s boundaries when they purchased Kerangeballort Station from the Matson Brothers in 1840-41.

My Great Great Gandfather was working there in 1846 and at other times. That remaining Gulidjan peoples helped in the construction of the Wesleyan Church built beside the Cemetery grounds with my and other families, which I'm sad to say lay in ruins on private property.

This is a scared site as is the burial grounds beside it, should be acknowledged in the Indigenous history of the Colac Gulidgan tribe and in the history of the State of Victoria.

Historical records will show that the Bunting Dale Mission was constantly harassed by the Large Elite Squatters that surrounded it, creeping onto its lands, happy to see its demise and closure, a readymade work force after some of their own stockmen, workers left for the gold fields.

Indigenous worker would only be paid half, proclaiming that after the Mission was closed that they, the Squatters were their saviors. History written by the Victors.

END