

6 March, 1998

AAV/0866 3

Ms Yvonne Lynch
24 Beach Grove
SEAFORD VIC 3198

Dear Yvonne,

KANANOOK CREEK - ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUES

I refer to your facsimile of 4 March 1998, in which you request information about registered Aboriginal archaeological sites within the above area.

I advise that Aboriginal Affairs Victoria does hold records for Aboriginal archaeological sites in the above area. There are 3 shell middens and 2 scarred trees within the vicinity of Kananook Creek. As far as can be established, however, the area has not previously been surveyed for archaeological sites. It must be emphasised that the absence of recorded sites does not necessarily indicate that the area is devoid of heritage values.

The Aboriginal Historic Sites/Places database was also consulted for places which indicate a relationship between Aboriginal people and the landscape. While these records primarily refer to associations during the historic period, some places document associations from the pre-contact period. The important difference between a site and a place is that a place doesn't necessarily have an archaeological fabric (physical remains) associated with it. A place can encompass more than the boundary of an associated archaeological site eg spiritual and mythological places (Megan Goulding *pers. com.*). No places or historic sites are registered in this study area. I would like to reiterate that the absence of such records does not necessarily indicate that the area is devoid of Aboriginal cultural heritage values.

Considering that this part of the coastline has not been systematically surveyed in detail for site/places, it is possible that the processes of coastal erosion have exposed Aboriginal archaeological remains. Therefore, AAV would consider the Kananook Creek area to be archaeologically sensitive to the discovery of Aboriginal cultural remains which need to be assessed if any developments are to occur. The relevant legislation which protects Aboriginal archaeological sites, places, objects and remains in Victoria are Part IIA of the Commonwealth *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984* and the *Archaeological and Aboriginal Relics*

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Preservation Act 1972 (VIC). The Commonwealth legislation identifies the relevant local Aboriginal Community for this area as being the:

Wurundjeri Tribe Land Compensation and Cultural Heritage Council Incorporated
PO Box 26
BOOLARRA VIC 3870
Spokesperson - Mr Bill Nicholson Sr
Cultural Officer - Mr Bill Nicholson Jr
Ph: (03) 9318 3544 or 0411 720 785

Both the local Aboriginal community and AAV should be informed of any proposed developments for this region. Ms Jane Kierce is AAV's Planning and Development Archaeologist who deals with such issues, she can be contacted on (03) 9412 7399.

AAV maintains a list of qualified archaeologists who regularly undertake projects of this type on a consultancy basis, and can provide a copy of an outline brief which includes the standard requirements for archaeological consultancy work in Victoria. These documents are available on request.

Please contact me on (03) 9412 6827 if you wish to discuss any of the above.

Yours sincerely,



for

JAMIN MOON
Site Registrar

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