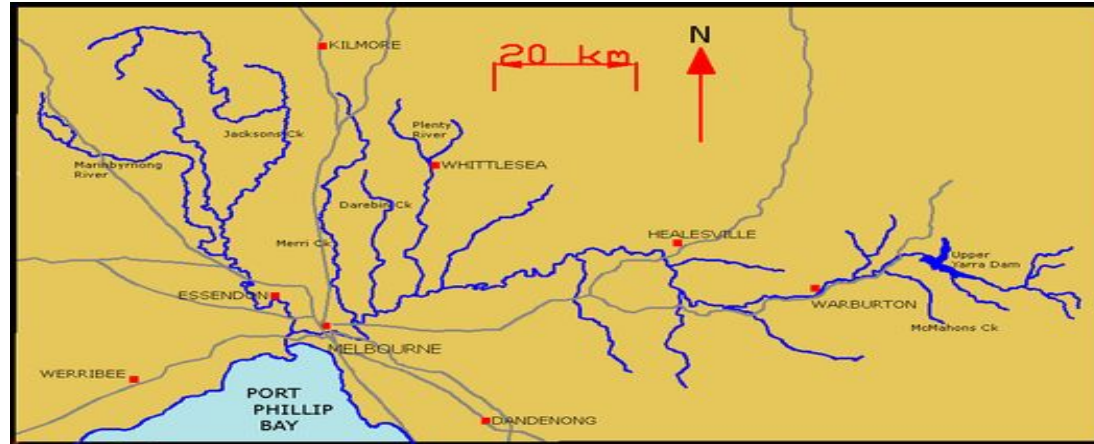
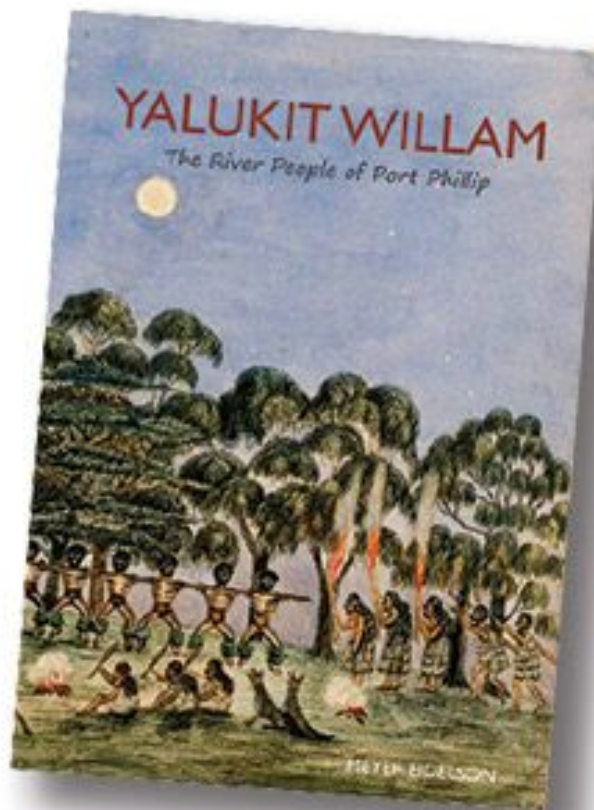
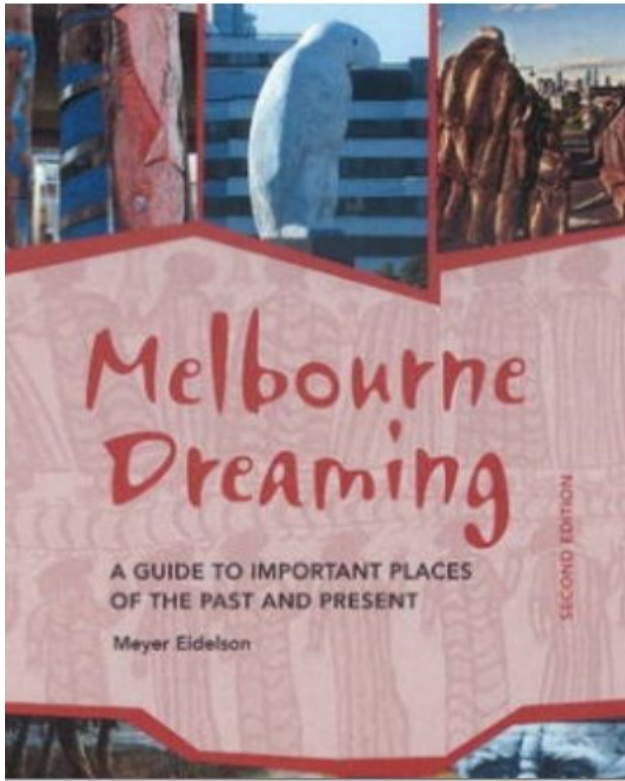


Indigenous Landscapes Online Tour of Melbourne

melbwalks@gmail.com

www.melbournwalks.com 0408 894724





My name is Meyer Eidelson. I am a writer and naturalist who has run many history tours across Melbourne and written several books

I love the Birrarung or Yarra River and have spent years exploring it. Today we can explore it together.

Murrumbeena has a wonderful Indigenous history as well.

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www.melbournnewalks.com
0408894724

Let us start with the City of Melbourne's Acknowledgement of Country.

We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land, the Boon Wurrung and Wurundjeri peoples of the Kulin Nation and pay respect to their Elders past and present and future.

Let us begin our virtual walking tour outside Flinders St Station where millions of Melbournians have by train since 1854. It is next to Princes Bridge which crosses the Birrarung or Yarra River.
Ever been there?





Every year crowds gather outside Flinders St Station on Australia Day 26 January.

What are they protesting?
The price of train tickets?
COVID 19?
Invasion Day?





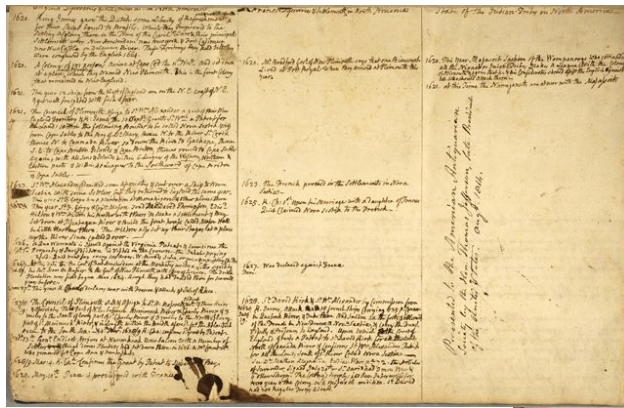
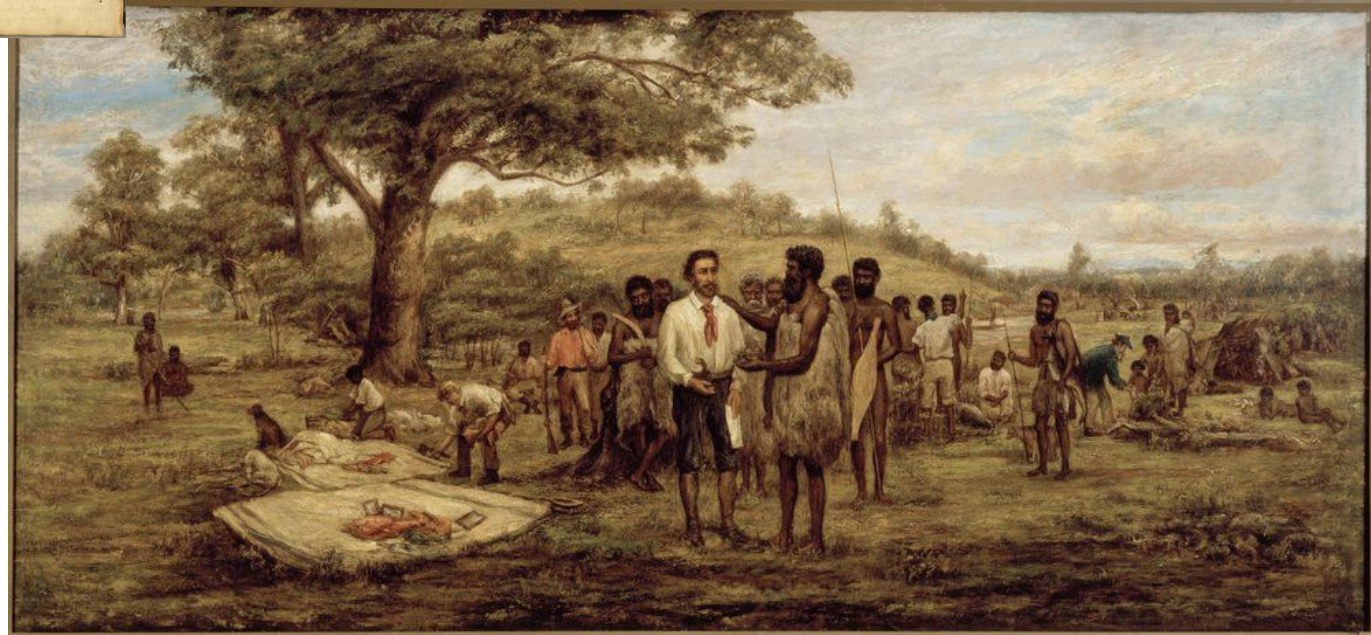
John and Eliza Batman's house was on the site of Young and Jackson hotel. He claimed to have signed the Melbourne Treaty in 1835 buying 500,000 acres of land for beads, blankets and axes. Within 6 years there were 6000 settlers and 1.4 million sheep.



What was the first English name
of Melbourne?
Batmania?
Smellboom?
Terra Australis?.

Can someone enter your home tomorrow and take your house and your land and tell you to leave?
You are protected by the law and the constitution.
Aboriginal leaders in Australia want a treaty to protect their rights because their land was taken.
But does Australia have a treaty? Yes? No?

The British government refused to honor the Batman Treaty. Instead they claimed the land for themselves and sold it to settlers.
Only one state in Australia is now preparing a treaty.
Which state?

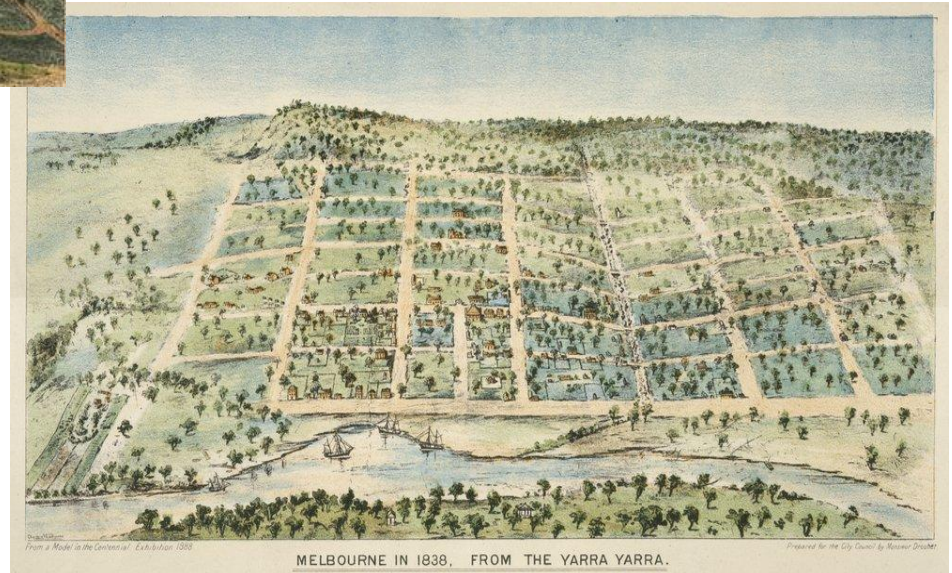




What is the Hoddle Grid?
A Toaster?
Map?
American football?

Today we are walking across the same map laid out by Robert Hoddle - the golden mile- 185 years ago! It is also the same land walked across by perhaps the oldest continuous civilisation on earth.

Australia is fortunate to have a history of people who survived 25,000 years of ice age, 10,000 years of drought and the flooding of half the continent? Amazing. Today we will be following an ancient dreaming trail along the Yarra River.





Have you ever had an argument with your friend and then made up? That is Reconciliation.

In nearby Hosier lane is a giant portrait by street artist Matt Adnate. Both this painting AND this tour today is a **Reconciliation** activity. Many Australians belong to the Australia-wide Reconciliation Movement. Everyone of us can do something for social justice in our own special way..



Let us cross Swanston St from the station to Federation Square which celebrates the creation of the Australian Nation in 1901.





On Federation Square and other nearby buildings such as St Paul's Church we can see the Aboriginal flag flying.

What do the colours mean?

Yellow = Gold or the sun?

Black = The people or the night?

Red = Blood or the land?



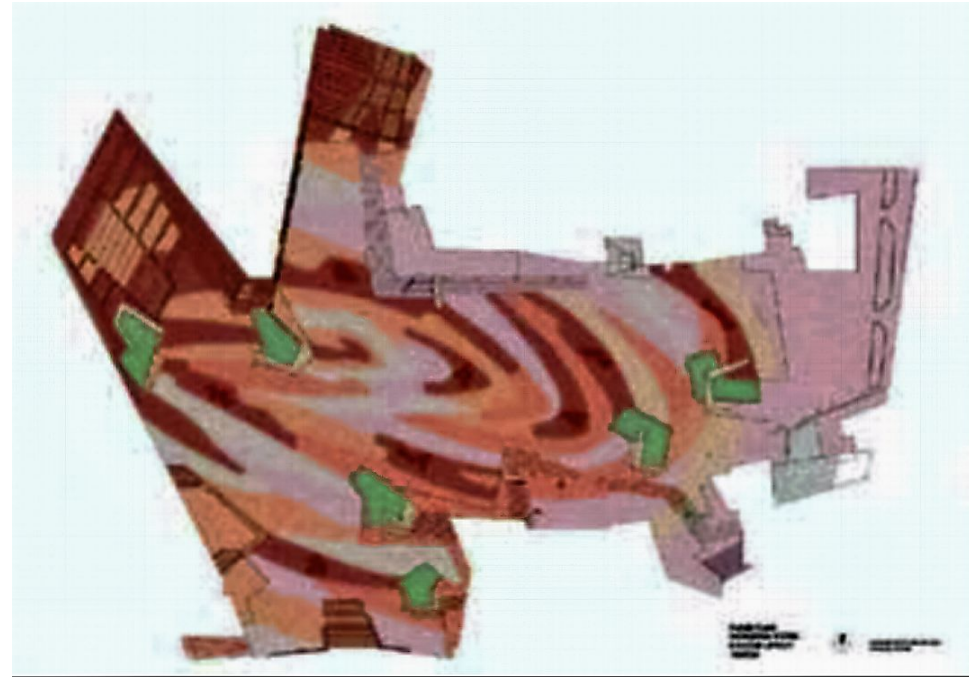
Fed Square also celebrates First Nation. If we were up in a helicopter we would see that Federation square plaza is an Aboriginal picture or map - an 1854 bark painting made from 470,000 coloured tiles from the desert. It depicts water as Melbourne was once surrounded by wetlands.

What is the indigenous name for Melbourne?

Great South Land?

Nerram?

KFC?



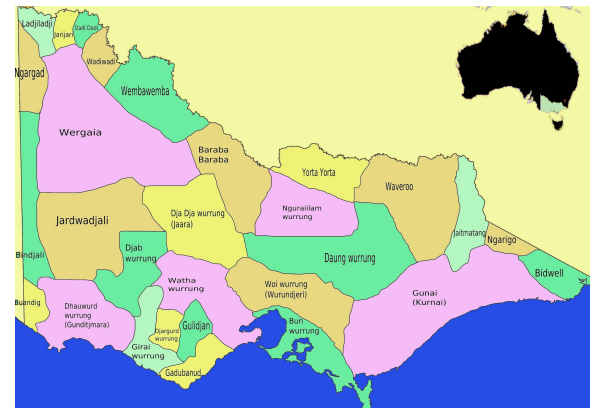
KULIN NATION - 5 Tribes



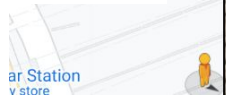
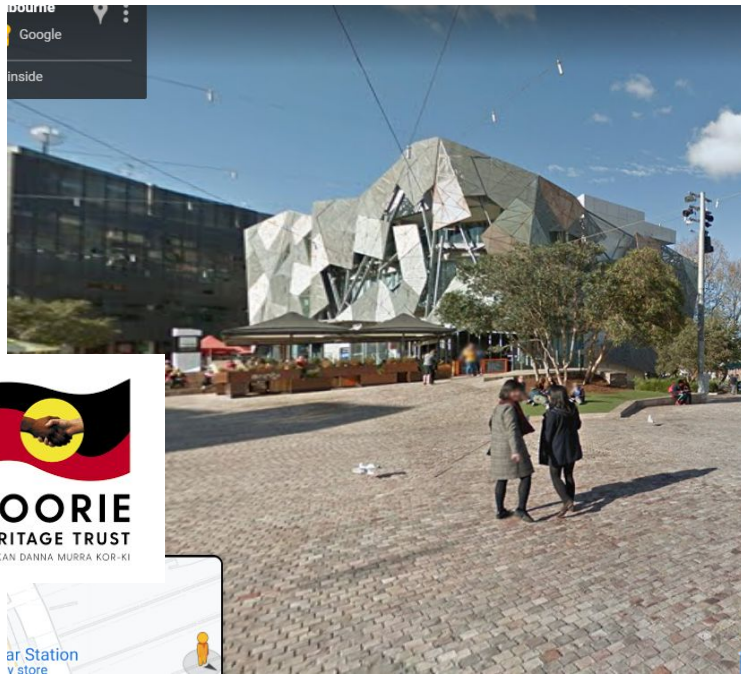
Nerram is part of the five tribes of the Kulin Nation, part of almost 40 tribes in Victoria. The two in Melbourne are the Wurundjeri and Boon Wurrung.

The word 'welcome!' is Wominjeka.

'Wominjeka!!'



Let us walk across the Square past the stage to the **Koorie Heritage Trust** in the Yarra Building. It was formed in 1985 to protect precious Indigenous objects and fight for social justice. It is a museum and art gallery - free!



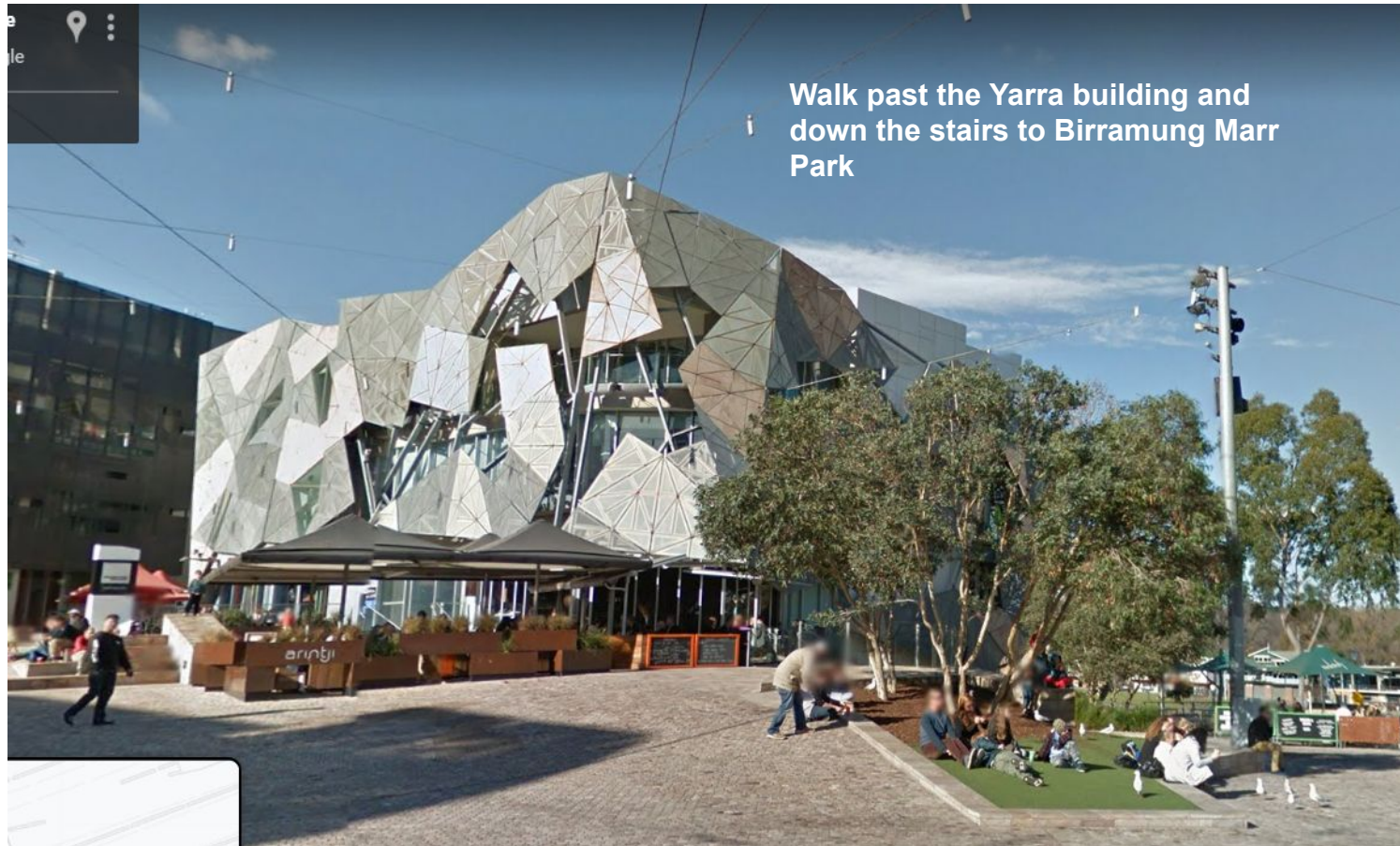


Imagine you were standing on the the roof of the Yarra building. In the distance at the north end of Swanston Street you might see the William Barak apartment building 31 stories high. The balconies and windows are designed to make a portrait of William Barak. Who was he?

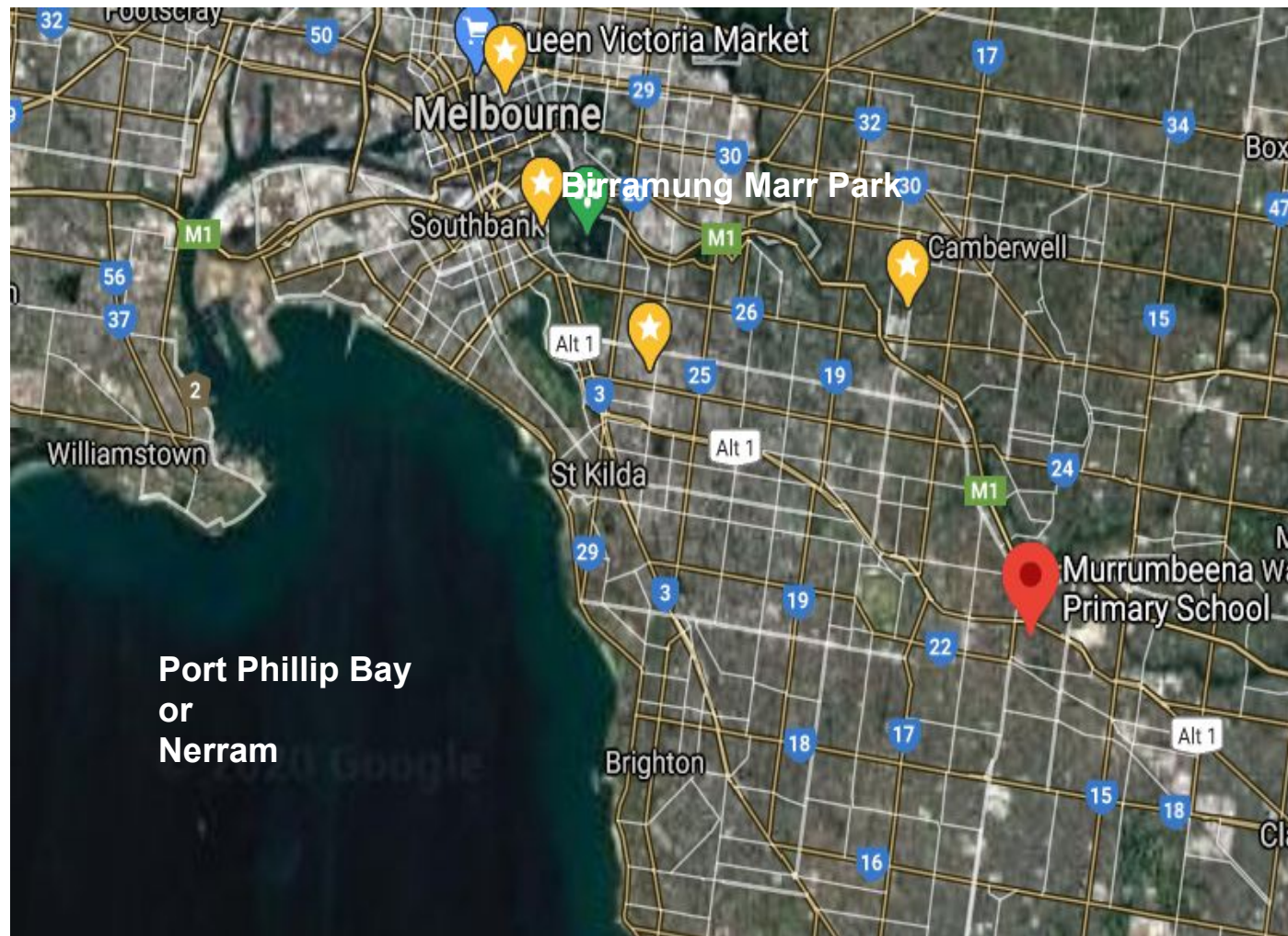
- The first Santa Claus?
- Our first prime minister?
- A famous Aboriginal leader?



William Barak from Coranderrk Mission was a famous Aboriginal leader, an artist and a fighter for the rights of his people.

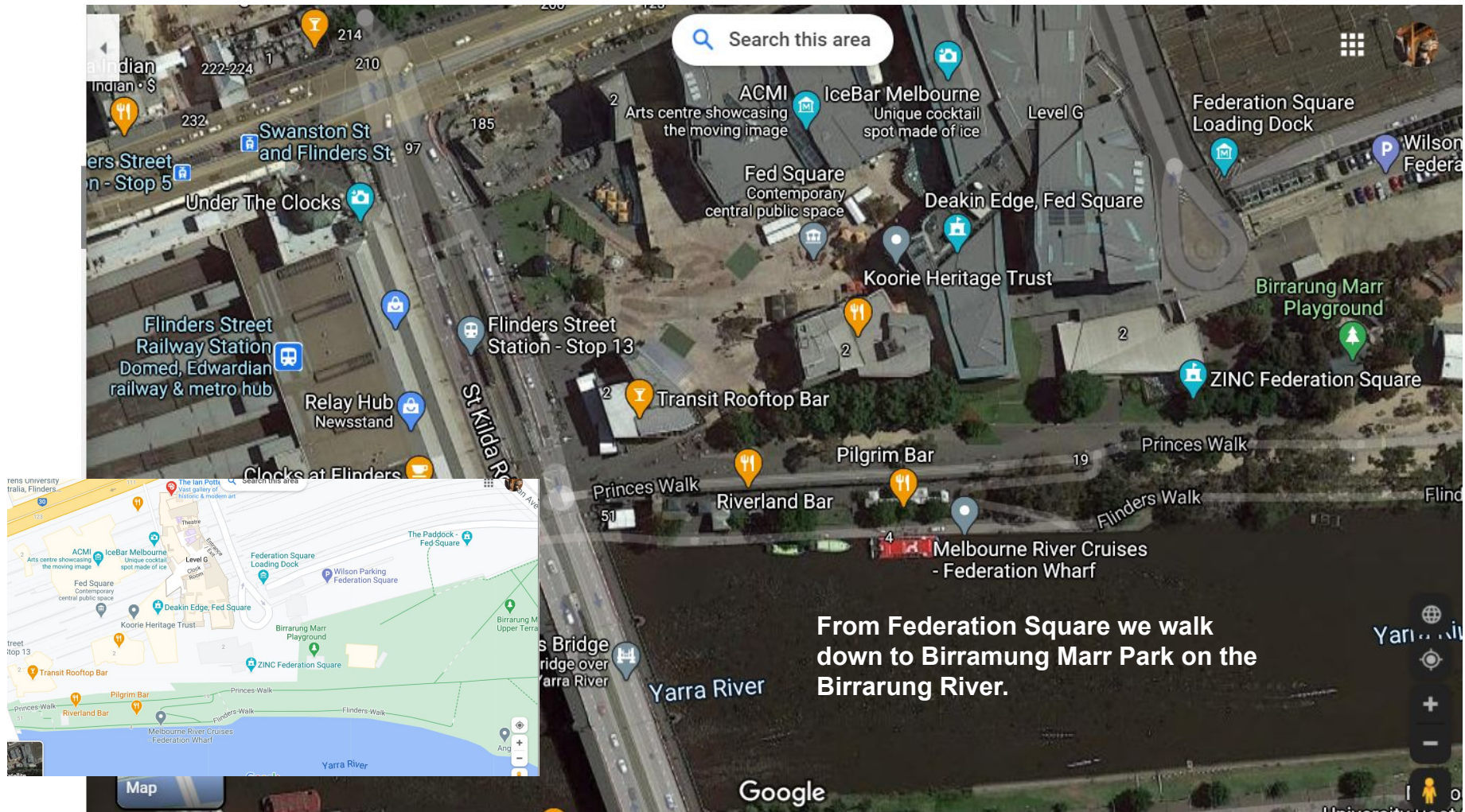


Walk past the Yarra building and
down the stairs to Birramung Marr
Park



What direction is Murrumbeena
Primary School from Birramung
Marr Park?
N West?
S East?
West?

What does Murrumbeena
mean?
Welcome?
Land of frogs?
An Aboriginal elder's name?
All of the above?





Birramung Marr Park
contains many Aboriginal
artworks.





The five shields represent the five tribes of the Kulin Nation. Kulin means 'the people'.

Which tribe are the traditional owners of Murrumbeena?

Dja Dja wurrung?

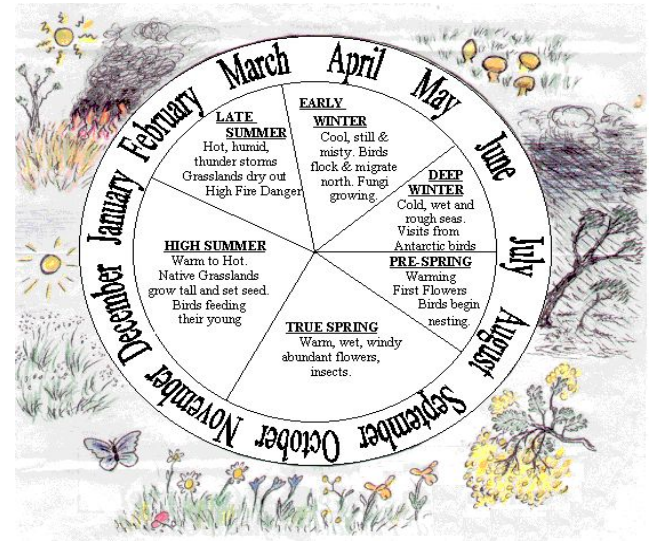
Woi wurrung?

Watha wurrung?

Boon Wurrung?

Daung Wurrung?

From Federation Square we walk down to Birramung Marr Park on the Birrarung River. It contains many Aboriginal artworks. This giant ground sculpture celebrates the Eel season. **How many Indigenous seasons are there? Up to 2? 4? 6? 8?**

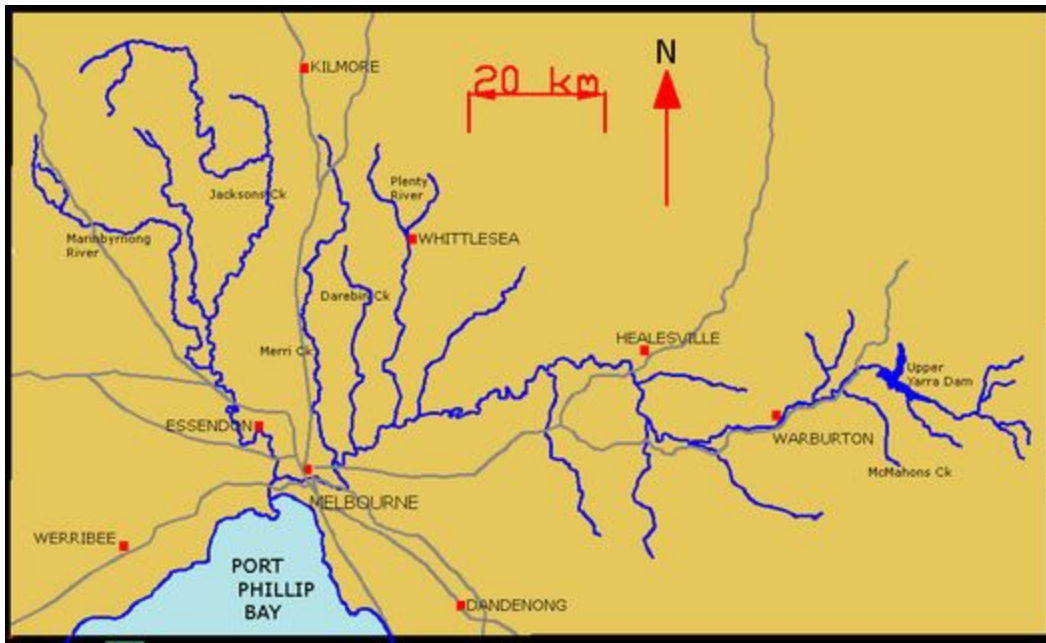


We take the steps from the park down to the river and head downstream towards Southbank and the sea.



Towards Princes Street Bridge





Birrarung means 'River of Mists'. How long is the Birrarung River?

10km

242 km?

137 km?

The Birrarung or Yarra River is Melbourne's greatest landmark. It is the reason Melbourne exists as it is the source of all our water. On its journey from the Yarra ranges to the sea, it is joined by 6 other rivers and 42 creeks! For the Kulin, the river was a holy living creature and the source of life not just for humans but the wildlife who were part of their family and history. They walked this ancient dreaming trail for thousands of years just like we are doing today.

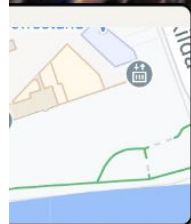
2 Flinders Walk

Melbourne, Victoria



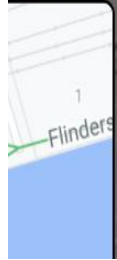
Google

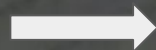
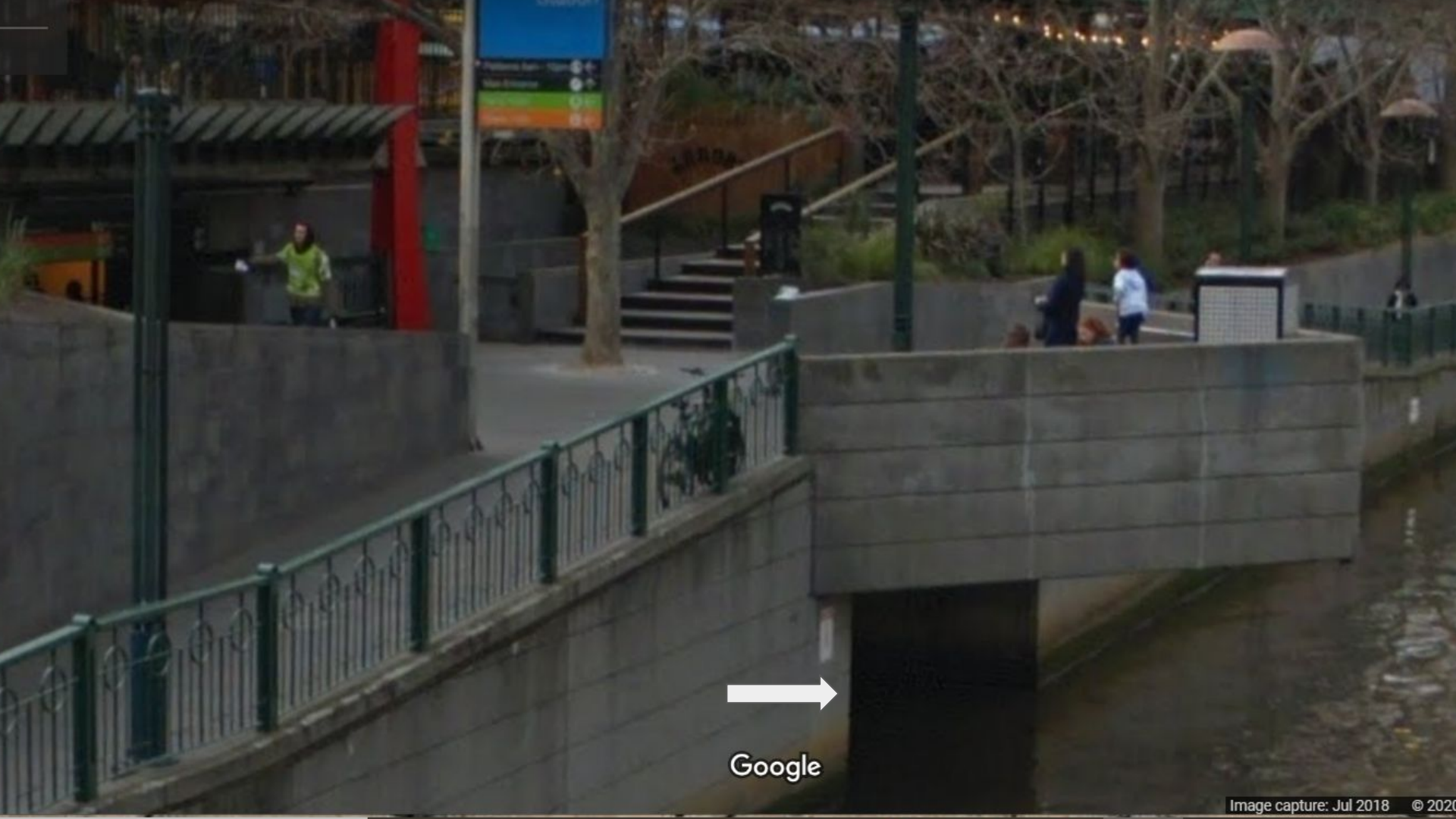
Street View





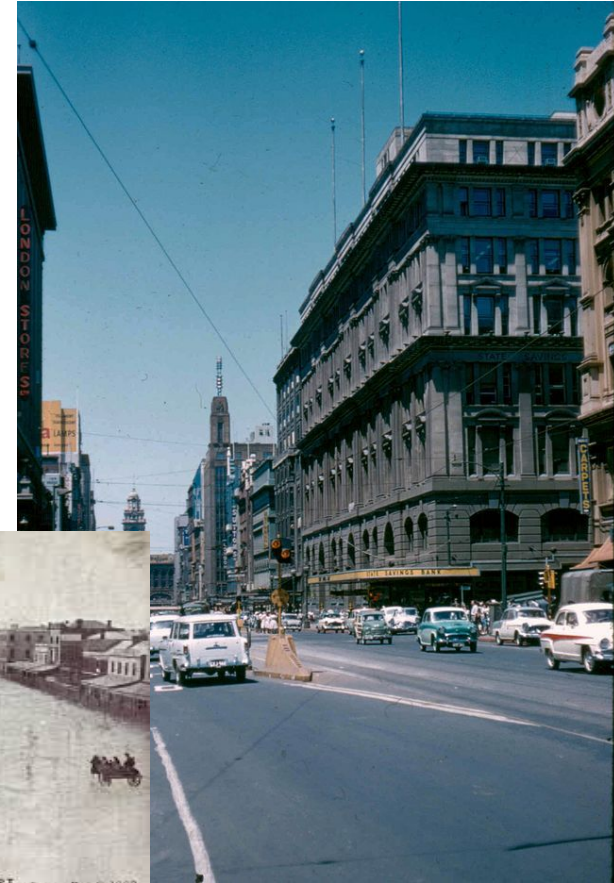
Walk
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reet View

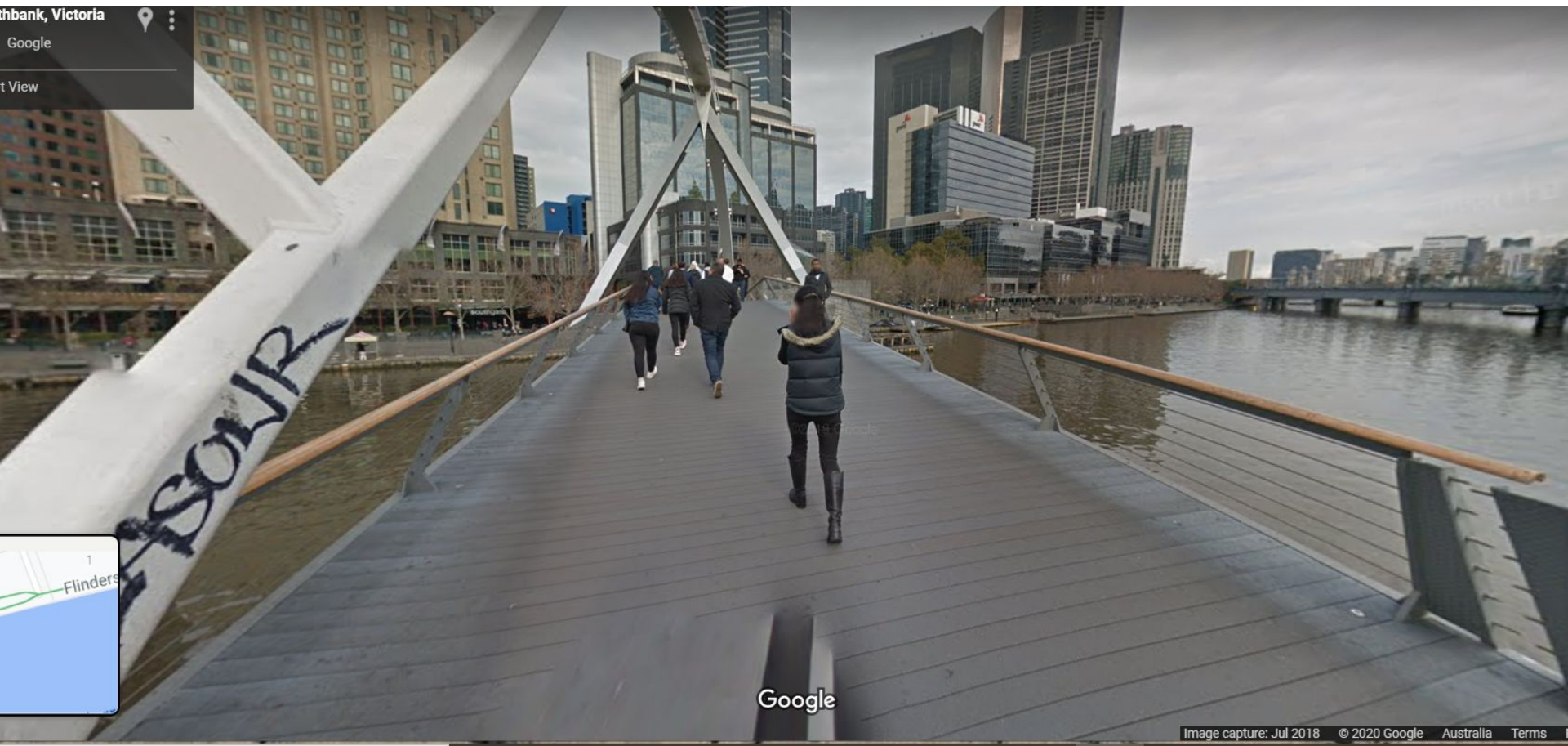




Google

Did you know Melbourne is on a flood plain. Occasionally the old Elizabeth Street creek floods like in 1862, 1883, 1972, 2010. Where is the car?



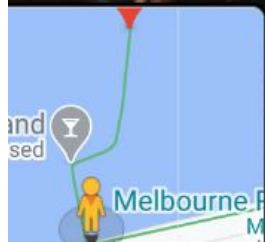


Google

Google

Street View

Crossing over the Evan Walker or
'Rainbow' bridge to Southbank



Southbank Promenade

Southbank, Victoria

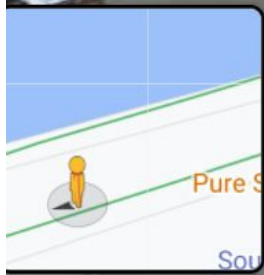


Google



Street View

And we follow the Southbank promenade
downstream.



Google





Eureka Tower tells the story of the Eureka uprising. As a result we live in a democracy where we believe in equal rights.

But as citizens we also have responsibilities.. This includes calling out injustice when we see it and, like the miners, defending democratic rights when needed.



'We swear under the banner of the southern cross to stand truly by each other and fight to defend our rights and liberties.'



Queensbridge Square, former Ngargee or corroboree place. Ngargees were held once a month on the full moon near here.

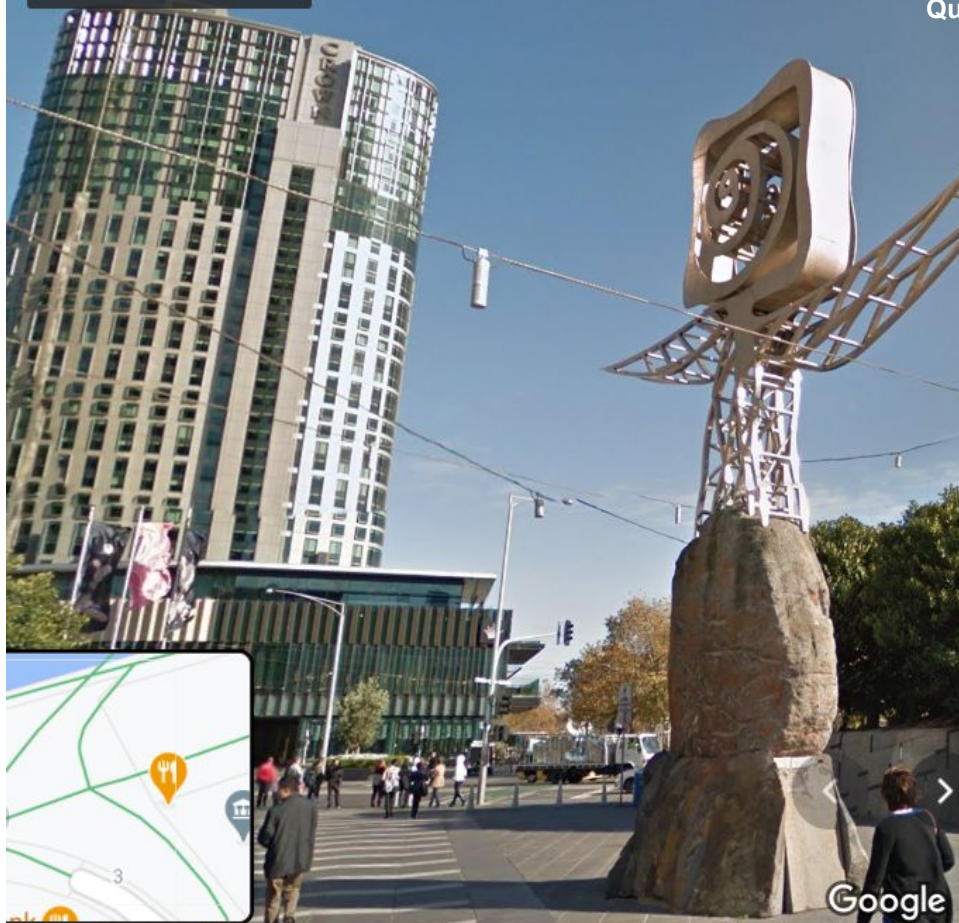


Melbourne



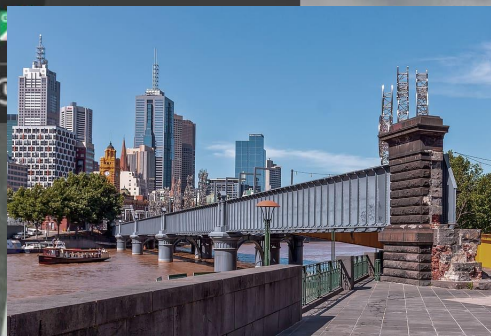
See inside

Gaia celebrates Aboriginal heritage at
Queensbridge Square

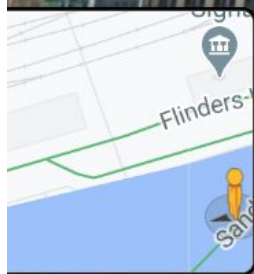


Collapse side panel

Melbourne, Victoria



Multicultural Bridge or Sandridge
bridge has sculptures of 180 cultures



Google

Time to cross Queens Bridge.

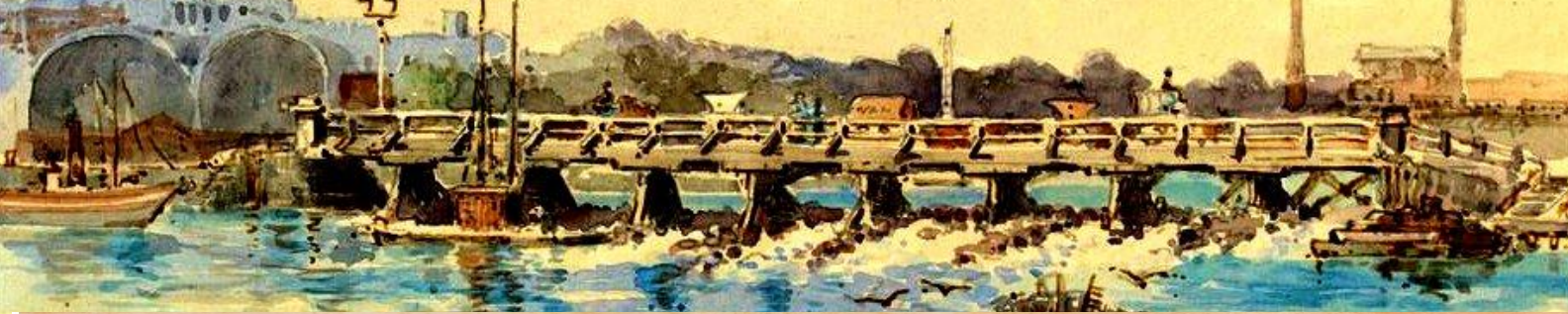
What was here before?

A waterfall?

A swimming pool?

An Aquarium?

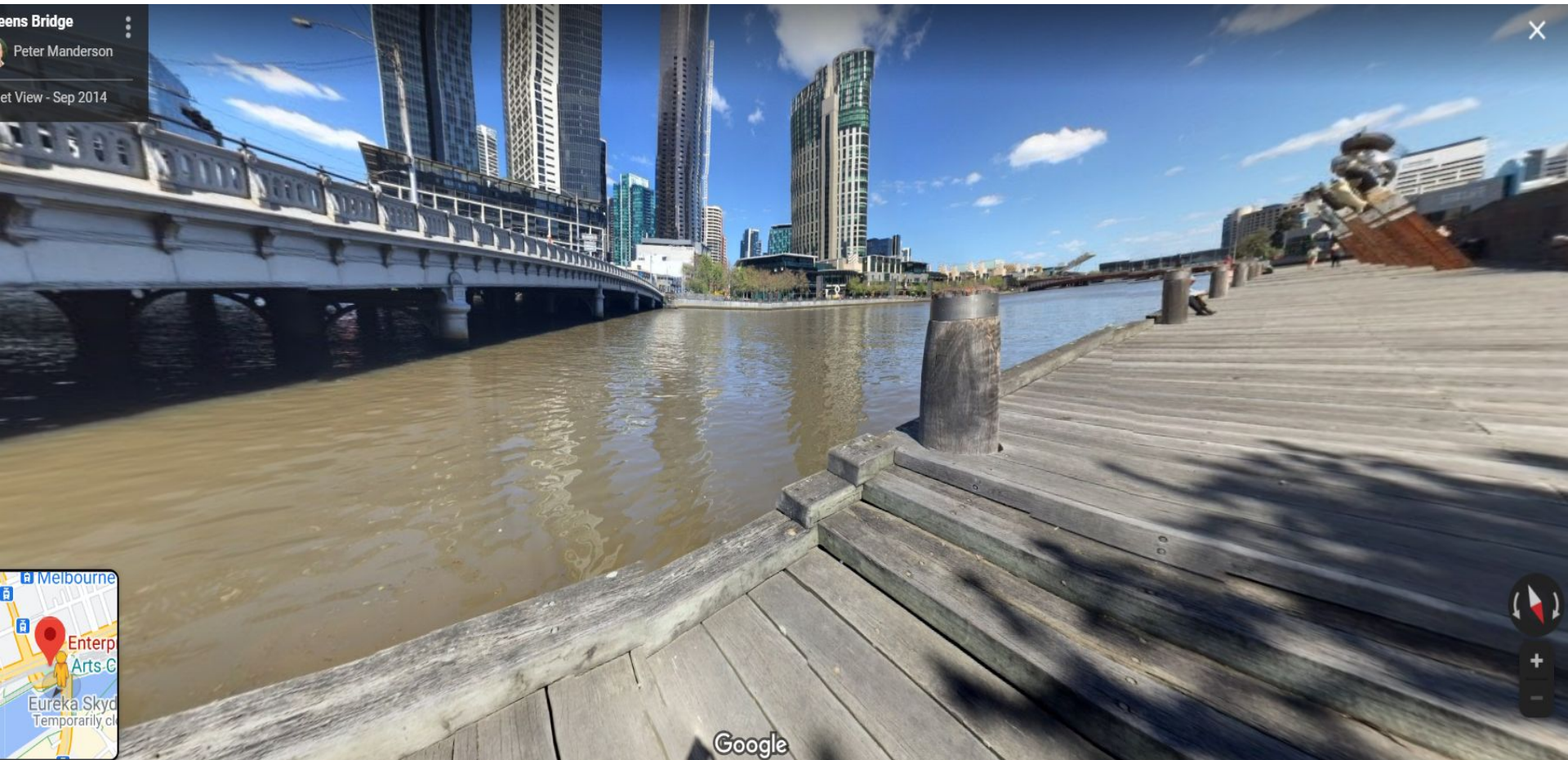




When you cross this bridge you cross over the old waterfall.

Queens Bridge was once **Falls Bridge**. The Yarra falls was the meeting ground of the Kulin people and the only reason Melbourne is in this location. It is the only large freshwater supply near the bay. It is where Melbourne was first settled by Europeans.

Enterprize wharf beside the old port near Queens bridge





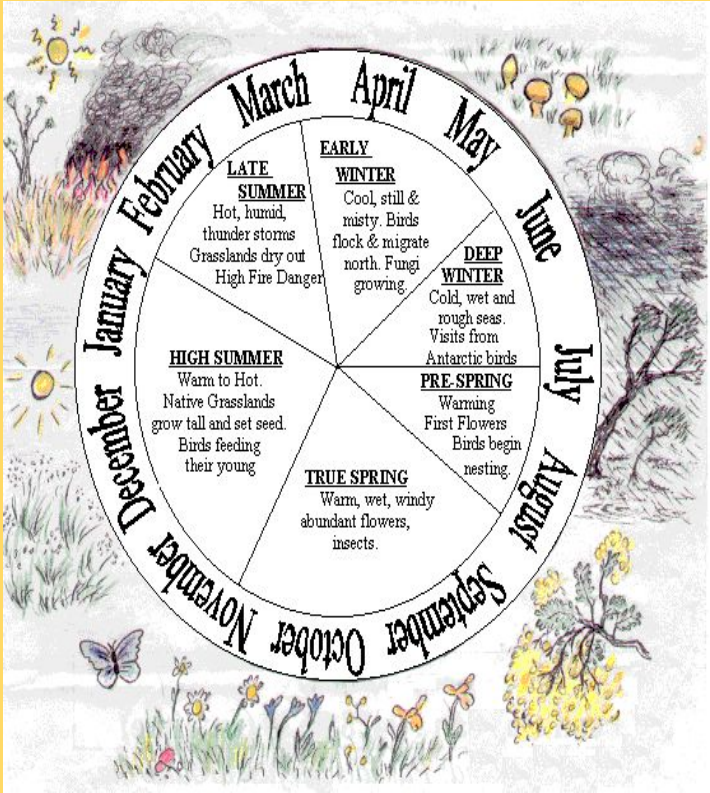
Melbourne Foundation
Day 30 August the date
the Enterprize landed
here in 1835



**The 30 Scar Poles by 7
Aboriginal artists in
Enterprize Park. The gun, the
bible and the 'keep out'
sign. What is the artist saying?**



Aboriginal people teach us that we don't need supermarkets around us for everything. Nearly everything needed - tools, food, medicine and shelter could be harvested from the Yarra Valley according to the seasons.



To make their houses they used 'willam' or bark. Bark can be used for houses, paper, bandages, mattresses, clothes, even nappies! Its fantastic stuff. **Could you make something from bark?**



They used the saltmarsh bush as a vegetable. **Could you fry the leaves today and make chips?**
Delicious!



Can you find warrigal leaves (left) for salads? What about pigface (right) which has a delicious berry? Its juice is also painkiller for stings such as mosquitos or ants or wasps.



Do you ever go fishing? She-oak pine cones are used for floats or sinkers for fishing.
Purple Lilly pilly berries are good to eat and make wonderful jam



Lemon gum has a wonderful smell. You can use it for colds and coughs and in tea. Aboriginal people use it for smoking ceremonies.



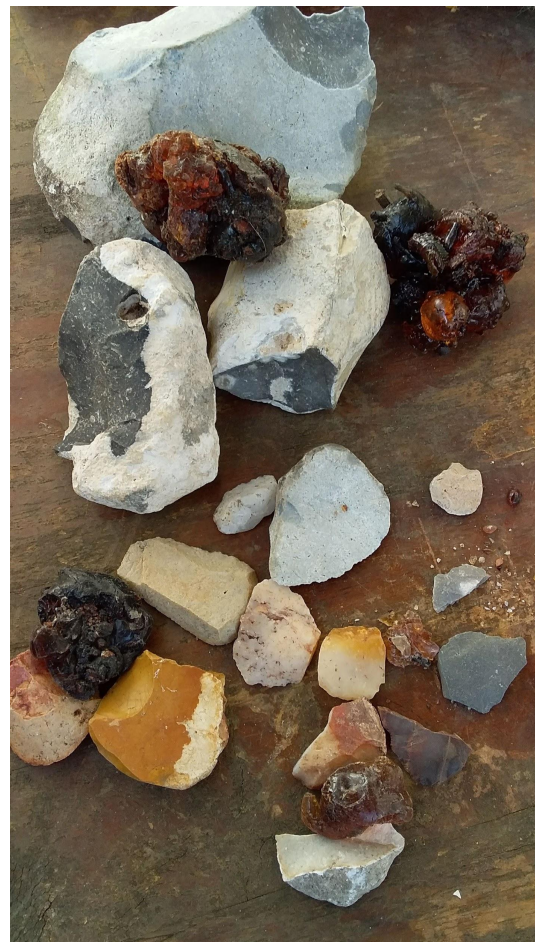
Can you use common matrush to make rope, decorations, fish traps and baskets? Take three strands and plait them.





**Can you
collect
chewing gum
from wattle
trees?**





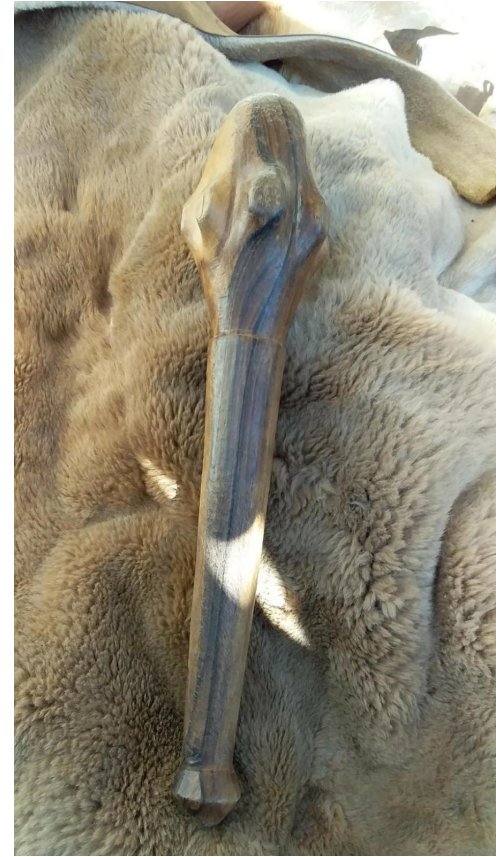
Can you chip stone like sharp flint or silcrete to make knives? Careful! There are 30 Aboriginal quarries near the river.



26. Could you make clothes from the skins of kangaroos and possums? And eat the possum?



Could you use wood from trees can make boomerangs and clubs?



Make musical claps sticks from wood to use in corroboree dances?



Could you use flowers from banksia trees to collect sugar? And the cones to make candles?



Harvest shellfish from the beach to cook on fires?



Could you eat delicious lizards and snakes? Yum!



Melbourne birds

Identification booklet
for the Port Phillip and
Western Port Catchment



birds are in our nature

Port Phillip &
Westernport CMA
birdlife

And there are plenty of birds to catch except for chicken? But are you fast enough?





How the Yarra River was formed in the Dreamtime







Aboriginal people teach us that our home is also our land, rivers and beaches, our trees and flowers, our animals, insects and birds. These are our home and family as much as the house we live in.

If we look after our home carefully, it will look after us for thousands of years to come.

Will you help us look after our home?

