

The following extract is taken from the "Yarra Bend Conservation Plan", provided by Parks Victoria on 5 March 1999.

Occupation / Area : **BLUESTONE QUARRY**
Plan Reference Q

Historical Summary

(Primary Reference:- R. Hall, Merri Creek Parklands - Aboriginal and Historical Heritage Survey)

- A bluestone quarry was opened by Fitzroy Council in the current Westfield Reserve area, to supply material for roads and public buildings in the 1840's. A second quarry was later opened nearby by Heidelberg Council, though the poor quality of the stone soon saw it abandoned. Both these quarries have long since been filled in.
- A third relatively small quarry, cut into the steep escarpment of the Merri Creek, was still operating in the 1920's. The remains of this quarry are those which are still visible today.
- This quarry was taken over by Heidelberg Council from the Dennis family who ran a road contracting business.
- The basalt in it was of very poor quality.

Summary of Significance

The quarry is of local interest as an example of an early and important industry along the Merri Creek.

Extant Significant Physical Features

Sheer cliffs of the quarry walls only. The quarry scar faces the creek and measures approximately 15m deep at its face and 80m across.

Conservation Policy

Preserve the remnant quarry face. Carry out weed control measures as part of the park's riverine vegetation management program. Provide appropriate interpretive signage with any future visitor access infrastructure.