

5.5 RESIDENCES

The 'Halfcaste Act' of 1886 forced Aboriginal people of mixed descent off the Missions. Aboriginal people have lived in the City of Yarra since this time. There is documentary evidence of a woman named Sally Cooper later Sally Russell who lived in Nicholson St in 1918.

1. 230 Gertrude St. Fitzroy

2. 234 Gertrude St. Fitzroy

Alice Connelly (nee Thorpe) and John Connelly lived here for 30 years. They fed and housed many Aboriginal people who arrived in Fitzroy for the first time and had nowhere to go. Doug Nicholls often sent people to them who were looking for somewhere to stay. It was a two story, six roomed house, which they paid 30 shillings a week for. The first gathering of the Aboriginal Church began here and Doug Nichols was their Pastor. Eventually there were too many people and the Church moved to Gore St. The Connelly's played a prominent part in Aboriginal Affairs of that time.
25. source Alice Thomas
This house has been rebuilt.

3. 236 Gertrude St. Fitzroy

Dora and Les Green lived here.
They played a prominent part in Aboriginal Affairs of that time
This house has been rebuilt.

4. 240 Gertrude St. Fitzroy

Gwen Hudson and Hudson Family lived here
These three houses all had Aboriginal people living in them and in those days people always sat out the front of the houses on chairs so there was always someone on the street to talk to when you walked up Gertrude St.

5. 76 Kerr St. Fitzroy

Mary and Norman Clarke lived here in the 1930's with their son Henry 'Banjo' Clarke

6. 38 Kerr St. Fitzroy

Harry Johns House, site of Harry Johns Boxing Troupe.
Henry 'Banjo' Clarke was recruited into Harry Johns Boxing Troupe when he was living with his family for a time in 76 Kerr St Fitzroy in the 1930's

Members of the Boxing Troupe lived in a shed behind the house.

7. 80 Gore St. Fitzroy

Joyce and Henry Johnson lived here with their family in the 1960's

- source Ronnie Johnson

8. 85 Young St.

Ted Lovett and family lived here. No longer standing. (no photograph available)

9. Cnr of Young St. and Gertrude St

Cora Charles lived here with her daughter Maisy whilst her husband Lenny Charles stayed in Echuca.

Also in Young St lived about three or four Aboriginal families. Norman Clarke from Framlingham and his wife Aunty Mary, originally from Cummeragunga, they lived there with the Lovetts, Eberneza Lovett, his children Bobby and Gerty Lovett and the grandchildren. These families were very prominent in the Aboriginal movement in the 40's 50's and 60's. When the war started more families moved in. Every house had two or three families.

10. 7 Kent St Fitzroy

Home of Edna Brown, daughter of George Clarke and Marianne Clarke nee Lovett. She came to Fitzroy in 1934 and first lived behind St Vincents Hospital and was said to lived at this address in the late 30's and early 40's.

- source Edna Brown and Alick Jackamos

Uncle Banjo lived there as a kid in the 1920's

- source Gavin Brown

11. 36 Charlotte St, Collingwood (no photograph)

An early hostel for boys run by Bindy and Gladys Jack in an old converted shed out the back.

- source Alf Bamblett

12. 143 Gore St Fitzroy

Aunty Rita lived here in the early 1960's and Bunta Patten and Joel Wright at the age of 3 or 4 yrs boarded out the back.

- source Bunta Patten and Joel Wright

13. No 3 Egremont St Fitzroy

Bunta Patten and Joel Wright lived here, behind the supermarket in 1965.

- source Bunta Patten and Joel Wright

14. Staffa House, Nicholson St, Fitzroy

Lots of Aboriginal families lived in this Rooming House in the 50's and 60's

- source Cheryl Vickery

15. Osmond House, 42 Nicholson St, Fitzroy

Lots of Aboriginal families lived in this Rooming House in the 50's and 60's

- source Cheryl Vickery

16. Nicholson St. Terraces

Aunty Isabelle and Uncle Johnny King lived in one of these terrace houses.

- source Ronnie Johnson

17. Gipps St Collingwood (exact address unknown) (no photograph available)

Joyce and Henry Johnson and their family lived here in early 1960's after living in Gore St.

- source Ronnie Johnson

19. 217 Gore St, Fitzroy

Cobden Terrace

Eleanor Harding lived with her family from 1956 to the mid 1960's.

20. 202 Gore Street, Fitzroy

Lots of Aboriginal families lived in this Rooming House in the 50's and 60's

- source Cheryl Vickery

21. 17 Kent St, Fitzroy

Ted Lovett and family (could not be located) (no photograph available)

22. Grant St, Fitzroy

Ebenezer Lovett and family lived here.

23. Cnr Gertrude and Gore Sts, Fitzroy

In the 40's and 50's a lot of Aboriginal people had rooms here. Alick Jackamos remembered Margret Tucker (later MBE) staying here.

24. 34 Nicholson St, Fitzroy

Archie Roach remembers that many Aboriginal people rented rooms here because the landlady liked Aboriginal people.

25. Housing Commission Flats

Cnr of Gertrude St and Brunswick St, Fitzroy

Built in the 1960's, replacing many houses lived in by Aboriginal people. They have also been residences for many Aboriginal people since.

26. 122 Gertrude St, Fitzroy

Residence