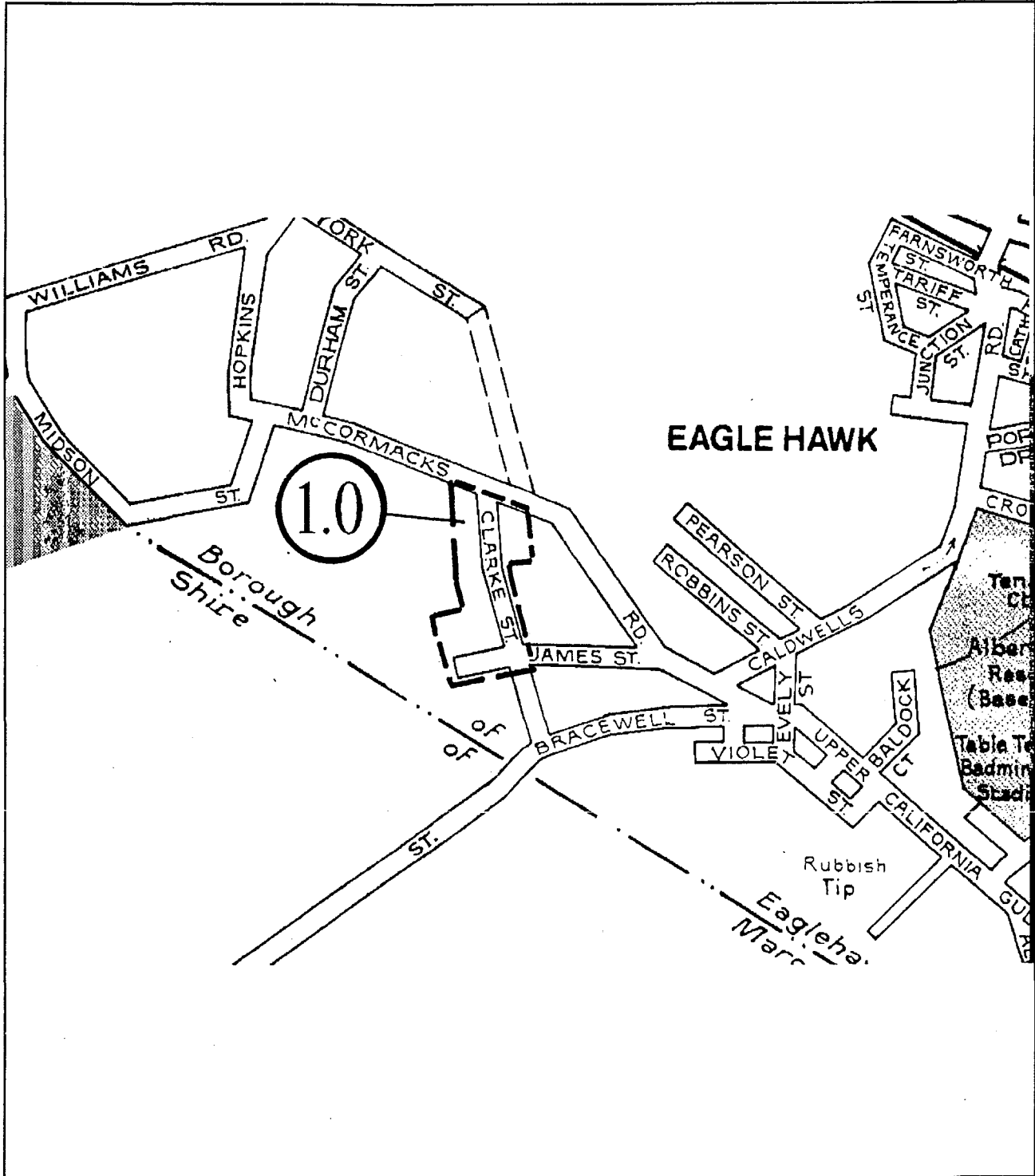


**PRECINCT: 1.0  
HARVEY TOWN**



**PRECINCT: 1.00  
HARVEY TOWN**



**3-1**

*Clark Street, showing the typical simple form of these early cottages, with their rubble stone walling and hipped roofs.*

**LGA: EAGLEHAWK BOROUGH MAP: 5.10**

**Contributory Streets:**

(Streets, dominant period and wall material)

Clark Street, mid- Victorian era, stone

Bull Street, mid-Victorian era, stone

**History**

Just south of the rich Prince of Wales claim and the old alluvial Pennyweight Gully, Parish Plans show only three grantees for the strip of about twelve suburban lots which faced Clarke and Bull Streets: T Harvey (1894, CA308A/A); A Batten (1875, CA305/A) and, off Bull Street, E Harvey (1876, CA314/A).<sup>1</sup> Nearby was a school reserve, set aside in 1874, facing Harper Street. This was probably the Nerring (later Sydney Flat) school, which opened in 1875 and closed in 1962.<sup>2</sup>

Edward Harvey married Prudence Whitta in 1869 and their children began arriving in 1872: Elizabeth, continuing with Mary, Thomas (deceased ?), Rosena, William, Lilly and Thomas, the last child born, in 1881.<sup>3</sup> Their arrival, in the years c1872-1881, may have inspired acquisition of the land and house construction.

<sup>1</sup> Nerring Parish, sheet 4  
<sup>2</sup> V & R, vol.2, p.482  
<sup>3</sup> BDM

Married in 1872, Thomas and Mary Ann (Leggo) Harvey also commenced their family in the early 1870s: Sarah (1873), Annie (1874), Thomas Edward (1877), William (1879), Albert (1881), Sarah (1883, the second), and Alfred (1884) being among them. Victorian directories listed Richard J Harvey at Eaglehawk and Edward at Californian Gully, both as miners. Early this century a Richard Harvey was an Eaglehawk carter.<sup>1</sup> Reputedly, Richard was once a stonemason from St. Just, Cornwall.<sup>2</sup> The 'Bendigo Advertiser' reminisced in 1958 about Harvey Town's past, describing a village of stone buildings including a church, hotel, general store, and a blacksmith.<sup>3</sup>

Little remained then of the town, but a resident recalled many more houses, each site then marked by a pepper tree. Voters rolls (c1893) suggested there was a grocer's shop, a 'superior' public house, and about eight cottages.<sup>4</sup> Throughout the period c1875-1895, the area was known as Dead Horse Reef, Dead Horse Gully, and by c1895, Harvey Town.<sup>5</sup>

Reputedly 3 Clark Street was built c1875 for Thomas Harvey as a kitchen and one bedroom. Four rooms had been added by the time of Mrs. M Bray's occupation. Mr. David Bray was Thomas Harvey's grandson, Harvey's descendants having occupied the house until at least the 1970s.<sup>6</sup>

Number 5 Clark Street was apparently built for Thomas Tonkin by Thomas Harvey in the mid-1890s, but owned more recently by Leonard Wilson. The Bull family, Simon & Martha, owned 7 Clark Street while across the street a pile of stone rubble marks the site of the baker's house.<sup>7</sup>

Another cottage at 11-13 Bull Street was owned by another of Harvey's relatives, E E Oates, (Thomas and Richard were uncles to Oates' father) and, before that, Thomas Oats. It was reputedly built by Richard Harvey.

### Description

Still possessing a village-like character, the rubblestone buildings and dry stone fences of Harvey Town concentrate along one side of Clark Street and Bull Street. Roofs are simply pitched (hipped generally), windows small and double-hung, and chimneys of red brick with simply corbelled tops. One house has a hipped verandah across the front, erected recently in a related form. Others have detached kitchens. Extensive dry stone walling links 3 Clark Street with McCormacks Road as an enclosure for an orchard (in part). Much of the mature vegetation is native, except for a semi-mature Norfolk Island Pine, north of 3 Clarke Street and a species fuchsia growing in the garden, among other period plantings.

In Bull Street, set on a slight rise, there are more buildings and stone walls enclosing yards. The main house is set on a wide stone plinth and has timber outbuildings, a central stone approach stair and the typical Colonial Georgian, two windows and a central door main elevation.

Many buildings appear to have been demolished and one surviving house (7 ?) reclad in simulated brick.

### Significance

Cornish miners dominated the Bendigo District goldfield, but nowhere else in the area is there such a visible reminder of their presence. The houses demonstrate their favoured building material and techniques and, by their visible age, mark the early date of the area's settlement.

Although now reduced in number, the surviving building form and construction type (rubble stone) evoke Cornish building methods and the nearby mining activity which helped inspire the creation of Harvey Town. Its surmised construction date (1870s) parallels with the establishment of community infrastructure on the goldfields, such as schools, societies and public parks. It also coincides with the Harveys' (Edward & Thomas) decision to marry and start families.

Harvey Town is an important remnant from a small mining cluster. The grouping of freestone buildings and the indications of a once more complete small settlement make this a valuable relic of the mining era in Eaglehawk.<sup>8</sup>

1 VD1915  
2 NTA FN3526  
3 BA 11/6/58  
4 Biggs in NTA FN9026  
5 Voters Rolls cited by H Biggs in NTA FN3526  
6 NTA FN3600, nomination from Mrs. Bray  
7 ibid., FN3601  
8 R Wallace  
9 NTA FN3526