

Eden Hills Chronology



'Glengordon' as it appeared c1954

1838

Captain William Detmar Cook of the ship 'Eden' took up a Land Grant for Section 35th for his three daughters and son Henry Gordon Cook. They built a house still standing in Kinedena Ave and named their property 'Glengordon'.

1840

Frederick Mitchell had established 'Glen Forbes' in the vicinity of today's archery range. He had planted 3/4 acre of wheat, 1/2 acre barley, 1/4 acre maize. The wheat was sown in June and was half destroyed by smut, but otherwise a good crop. Barley sown in July was considered a middling crop and the maize planted in

August looked well. A good wooden dwelling house had been erected and water came from a well 12 feet deep with 6 feet of water. An acre of land had been fenced with logs and bank ditch and half an acre with a brush fence.

1854

Shephards Hill Road opened; the new Mitcham Council's first achievement. The road later formed part of the southern boundary of Eden Hills. It was named after Ann Shephard who owned land at both ends of the road. She called her property 'Windsor'.



1862 - 1866

The Gold Company owned section 14, but although there is quartz in the area it is not known if any gold was ever actually found.

1881 - 1882

Brick works established by railway contractors, Walker and Swan for the lining of the tunnels on the new Hills railway.

Viaduct for the railway constructed.

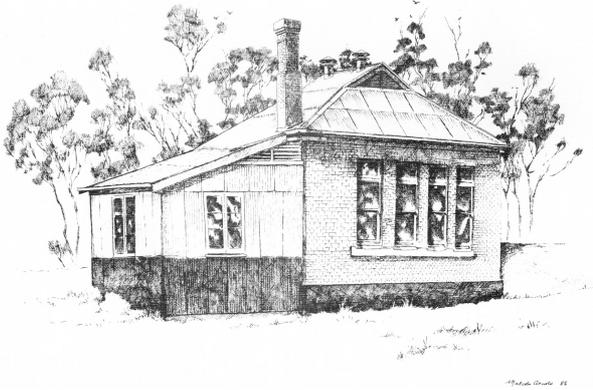
1883

Hills railway opened to Aldgate in March and to Nairne in November. The line reached Bordertown in 1886.

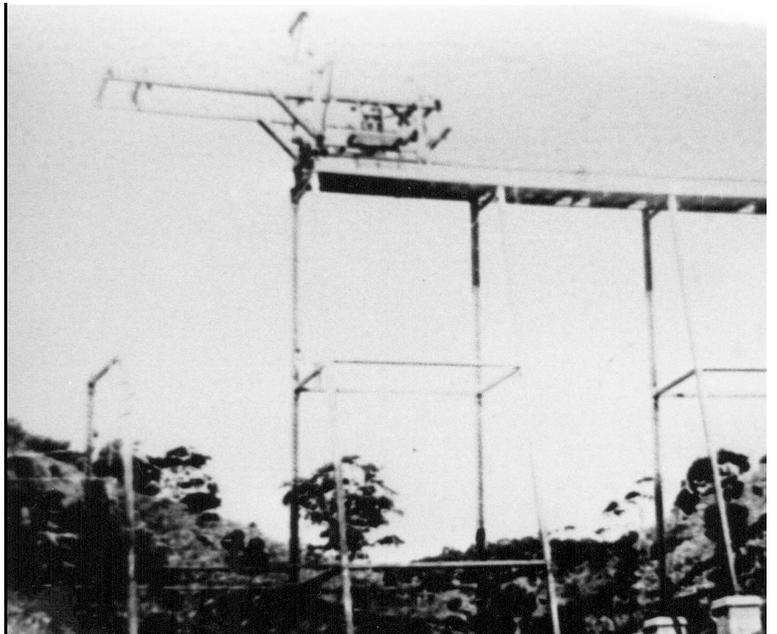
First subdivision mainly in Section 2202. Subdivision occurred with streets named after the syndicate's pastoral interests (Pekina, Wilpena etc.)

1885

More of Eden Hills subdivided.



Eden Hills School



Railway viaducts under construction - c1882

The viaducts were in fact prefabricated in Delaware, USA at a cost of over £13,000 and assembled on site. The structures were dismantled in 1919 when, due to increased traffic, it was decided to double and reroute the line.

1902

Edwin Ashby built 'Wittunga'.

1911

Eden Hills Railway Station opened.

1912

Friends' Meeting House built at the instigation of the Ashby family on the corner of Wilpena and Wonoka Streets. It was used for Methodist services until the late 1940s. It was damaged by earthquake in 1954 and demolished in the late 1950's

1914

Bridge over the railway from Willunga Street constructed. Tennis Courts built in Wonoka Street (Gibbs Park).

'Sisters of the Church built a commodious residence as a house for boarders connected with St Peter's Collegiate High School for Girls, and since then Canon Wise has built a pretty residence near.' - *Blackwood Magazine* 1914

1916

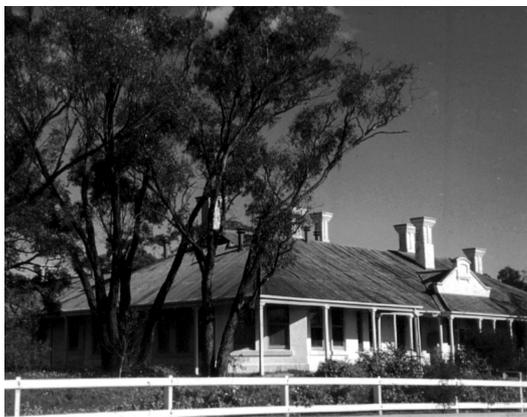
Eden Hills School opened.



Almond trees at 'Ballantrae' near South Road, Eden Hills 1940s.



Above: Part of an advertisement placed in 'The Mail' of March 7, 1914 by land brokers and 'money finders', Saunders and Ashby promoting land for sale in the 'mountain suburb' of Eden Hills as well as other locations. The advertisement proclaims that genuine enquirers would be 'cheerfully motored to inspect any of these estates'.



Left: Colebrook Home in 1972. The building was originally erected in 1911 as an inebriates retreat and named 'Karinya'. After 1930 it was used to house returned soldiers, Chinese immigrants and unemployed women. It was also used as a holiday house for children from the United Aborigines Mission

(UAM) home, 'Colebrook', at Quorn. In 1944 the UAM leased the house for use as a home for 'half caste' Aboriginal children. Between 1944 and 1952 the Eden Hills Colebrook was run by Sisters Hyde and Rutter from Quorn. Former resident Doris Kartinyeri states '*The atmosphere these sisters created is a pleasurable memory.*'* Both sisters were later awarded MBEs. After 1953, both the standard of care and the physical condition of the home appear to have deteriorated, in part because of inadequate resources and the frequent staff changes which unsettled the children. By 1956 articles appeared in the newspapers describing conditions there as 'appalling', and 'disgraceful' under headlines such as 'Squalor at Colebrook'. The following year, management of the home was taken over by Mr and Mrs Fink and the building renovated with help from Government, businesses and community groups. The home closed in 1973 and Karinya was demolished the following year. The four remaining children moved to a cottage at Gulfview Rd, Blackwood, which was itself demolished in 2005. Between 1943 and 1972 some 350 children lived at Colebrook. A permanent memorial to the Aboriginal children and families has been erected on the site of the demolished buildings.

* '*Kick the Tin*', Doris Kartinyeri, 2000



1925

Removal of a petrol air gas plant from Karinya. (SAGG 12 March 1925)

1927

Railway Viaduct dismantled.

1928

Parish Hall opened 41 Willunga Street. Operated until 1976 - now private residence.

1929

Blackwood Primary School opened in Gladstone Road. Moved to Seymour Street on 1962.

1944

Colebrook Home established.

1949

Postal delivery commenced along roadways suitable for bicycle traffic.

1951

Eden Hills CFS established.

1957

'Watiparinga' Reserve donated by Alison Ashby to the South Australian National Trust - the first bequest to the newly formed trust. also Eden Hills Methodist Church (now Uniting Church) opened in Willora Street.

1961

Blackwood High School opened off Seymour Street.

1966

Shephards Hill Road widened and trees removed.

1972

Overpass over Shephards Hill Road to Sturt Road built.

1975

'Wittunga' botanic garden opened to the public.

1977

'Colebrook Home' demolished.

1986

General Store and Post Office in Willowie Street closed, having opened in 1912.

1987

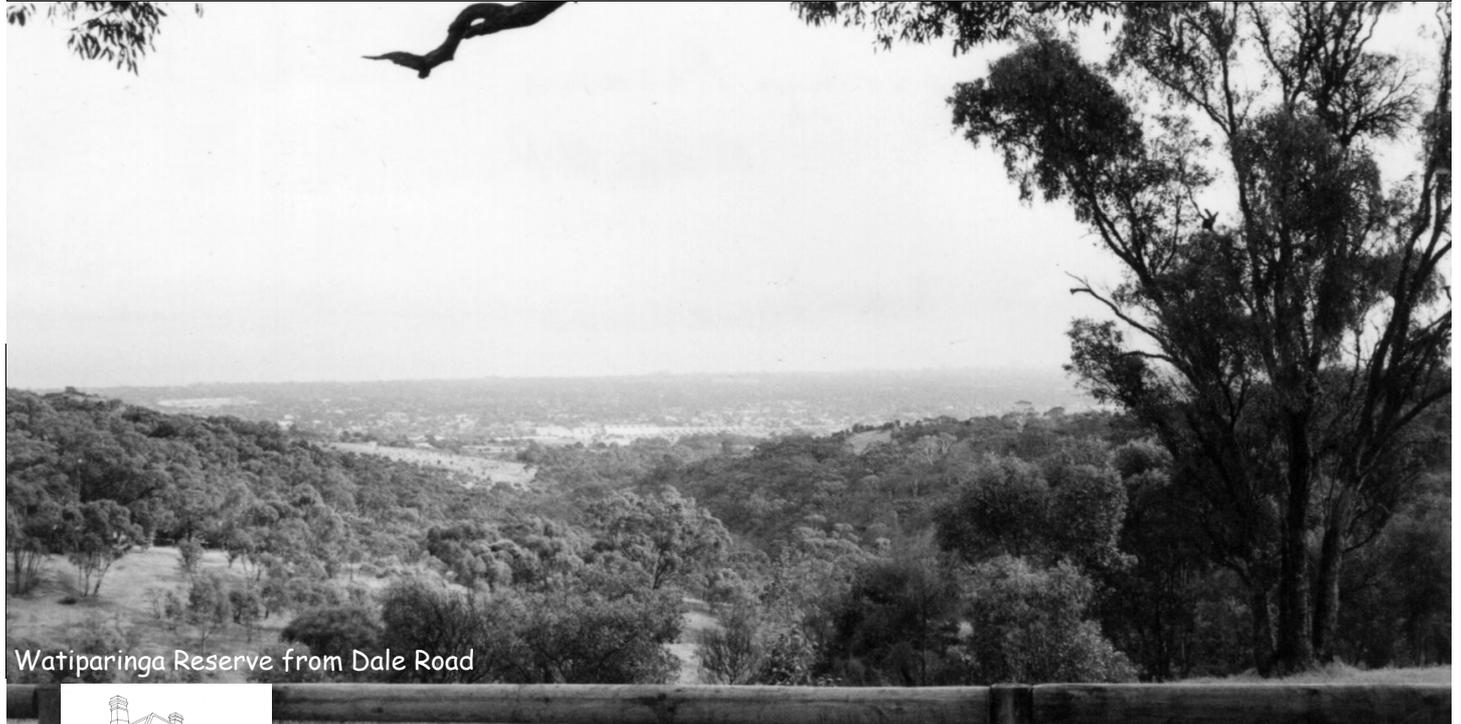
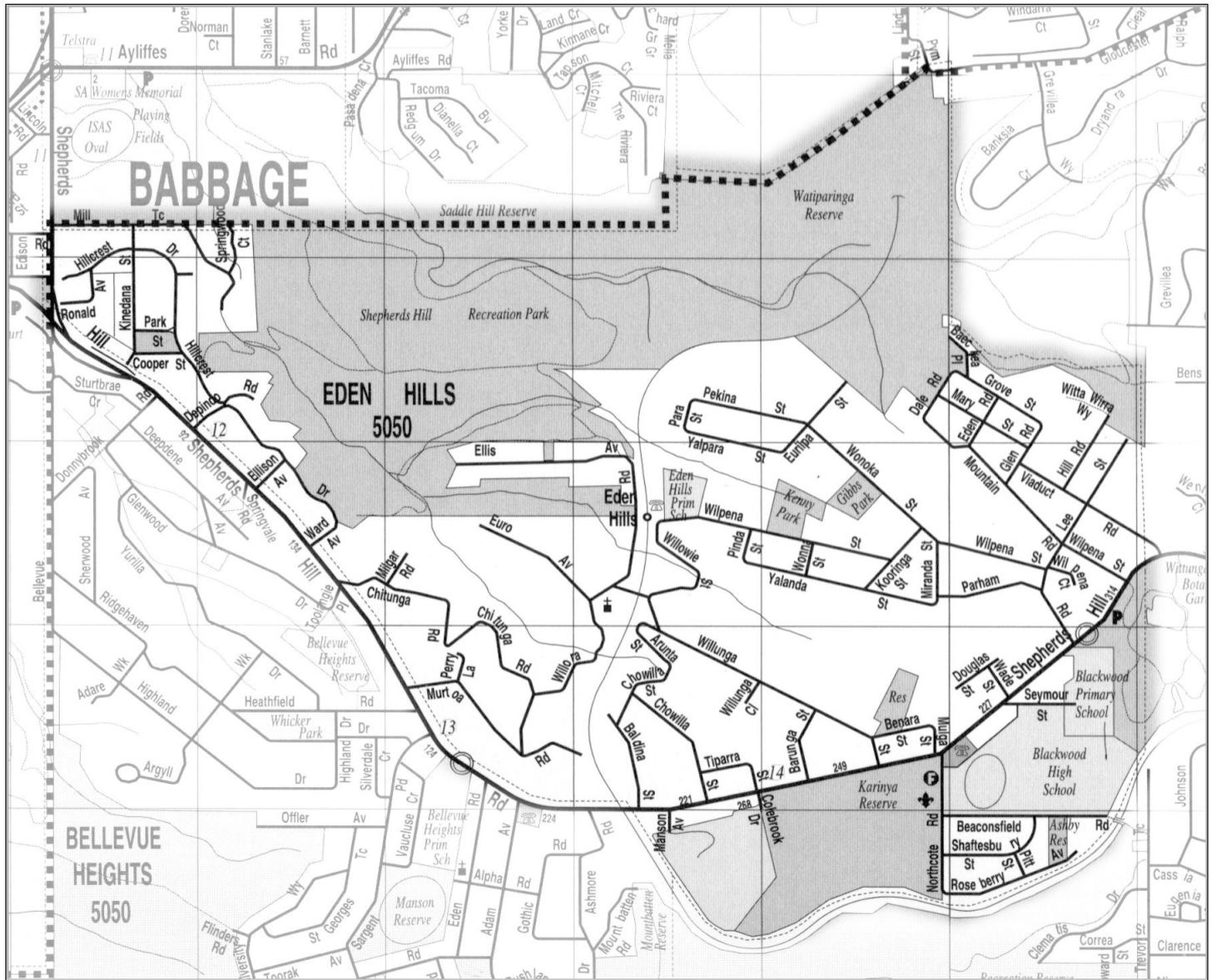
Springwood Close off Mill Terrace developed, ex 'Wandsworth'.

1997 - 1998

Recognition of the Aboriginal Stolen Generations by a series of memorials and ceremonies at the Eden Hills Colebrook Home site (now known as Colebrook Reconciliation Park).

Left: Mitcham Mayor Yvonne Caddy presents 'sorry books' to George Tongerie, 1998.

Eden Hills Map



Watiparinga Reserve from Dale Road



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