

APPENDIX F

MARIBYRNONG RIVER VALLEY SETTLEMENT CHRONOLOGY

From 40,000

years B.C. Aboriginal inhabitation by Woiworung and Wurundjeri tribes

1803 First European explorer – Charles Grimes,
Surveyor General of New South Wales

1824 Hume and Hovell crossed the Saltwater River
(the previous name for the Maribyrnong River) in the
Keilor Plains area

1835 John Batman travelled along the river to the vicinity
of Gumm's Corner in Keilor

1839–1840s Early pastoral leases by Hunter and Watson, Joseph Solomon,
Joseph Raleigh, James McIntyre, James Aitken and others

1844 Raleigh sets up meat salting works at Yarraville and boiling
down works at the present site of Pipemakers Park

1850 Site chosen for village of Keilor on the Saltwater River

1854 Robertson, Martin and Smith iron works set up
on Raleigh's boiling down works site

1859 First railway bridge crossing at South Kensington

1863 First road bridge near present Lynch's Bridge

1868 Old Iron Bridge constructed at Keilor
(north of Old Calder Highway)

1868 Melbourne Meat Preserving Company established at
site currently known as Pipemakers Park

1888 Colonial Ammunition Factory established in Footscray

Late 1880s Coode Canal constructed

1880s–1890s Boating and swimming became popular

1906 First electric tram to Maribyrnong Bridge

1906 Major flood – 5.18m at Maribyrnong

1906 Maribyrnong Park proclaimed – first official park in the valley

1907 Arundel Road Bridge opened

1908 Commonwealth Explosives factory established
at Maribyrnong

1908–09 Footscray Park acquired and developed

1909 Riverview Tea Gardens opened at Avondale Heights

1911 Walter Hume established pipe factory at present
Pipemakers Park

1912	First Henley-on-Maribyrnong annual carnival and regatta
1920s	Commonwealth Ordnance factory established at Maribyrnong
1920–1930s	Extensive riverside works including tree planting
1921	Syd Dunn swam 13.3km from Clancy's Ford to river mouth in just over 3 hours
1929	Metropolitan Town Planning Commission releases proposed plan which includes an extensive open space network based on waterways and large park upstream of the current Organ Pipes National Park
1930s	Installation of sewerage systems reduces pollution
1940s	Major wartime effort at the Explosives Factory Maribyrnong – over 8,000 people employed
1941	Stockbridge built to link Newmarket saleyards (now Kensington Banks) to Angliss meatworks
1954	MMBW releases first comprehensive planning scheme for the metropolitan area which introduced the concept of business centres located on the public transport network. Report included a detailed survey of open space distribution and participation rates and a set of open space standards
1960–1970s	Period of extensive housing development and pollution becomes a major concern
1971	MMBW releases 'corridor-wedge' plan for metropolitan area. The plan included the reservation of large areas of land for Metropolitan Parks
1972	Organ Pipes National Park created
1973	First step towards coordinated planning and management through establishment of Maribyrnong Working Committee (MWC) to advise the MMBW
1974	Major flood – 4.52m at Maribyrnong
1975	Completion of first environmental study for MWC
1976	Brimbank Park opened by MMBW as one of the first of its Metropolitan Parks
1978	MMBW approves Lower Maribyrnong River Action Statement
1980	'Give the Yarra a Go!' campaign by The Age focuses on coordinated development and management of both the Yarra and Maribyrnong Rivers
1980	First section of bicycle path opened in Keilor

1981	<i>MMBW (Yarra Development) Act 1981</i> introduced – MMBW becomes responsible for preparing concept plans for the Yarra and Maribyrnong Rivers including land within 30 m of their banks
1984	<i>Lower Maribyrnong River Concept Plan 1986</i> produced by MMBW and placed on exhibition; complementary <i>Maribyrnong River Plan, 1984</i> (non-statutory) also produced to include areas beyond the 30 metre boundary
1986	<i>Lower Maribyrnong River Concept Plan</i> formally approved under provisions of the <i>Yarra Development Act 1981</i>
1980s	Angliss Meatworks site redeveloped for housing
1980–1990s	Kensington Banks site redeveloped for housing
1987	<i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i> introduced which includes a general provision for planning documents to be incorporated in planning schemes, removing the restriction on land within 30 metres of the river and revoking the <i>Yarra Development Act 1981</i>
1993	Major flood – 3.83m at Maribyrnong
1990s	Waterford Green housing estate commences on the Ordnance Factory site
2001	Edgewater Housing Estate commences construction on the site of Colonial Ammunition Factory
2002	<i>Melbourne 2030</i> makes a commitment to strengthen policies and planning controls along the Yarra and Maribyrnong rivers, in response to developments such as the River Valley estate in Brimbank
2003	Current Maribyrnong River Valley project commences, funded by the <i>Melbourne 2030</i> targeted grants program and councils
2010	Maribyrnong River Valley Design Guidelines released