
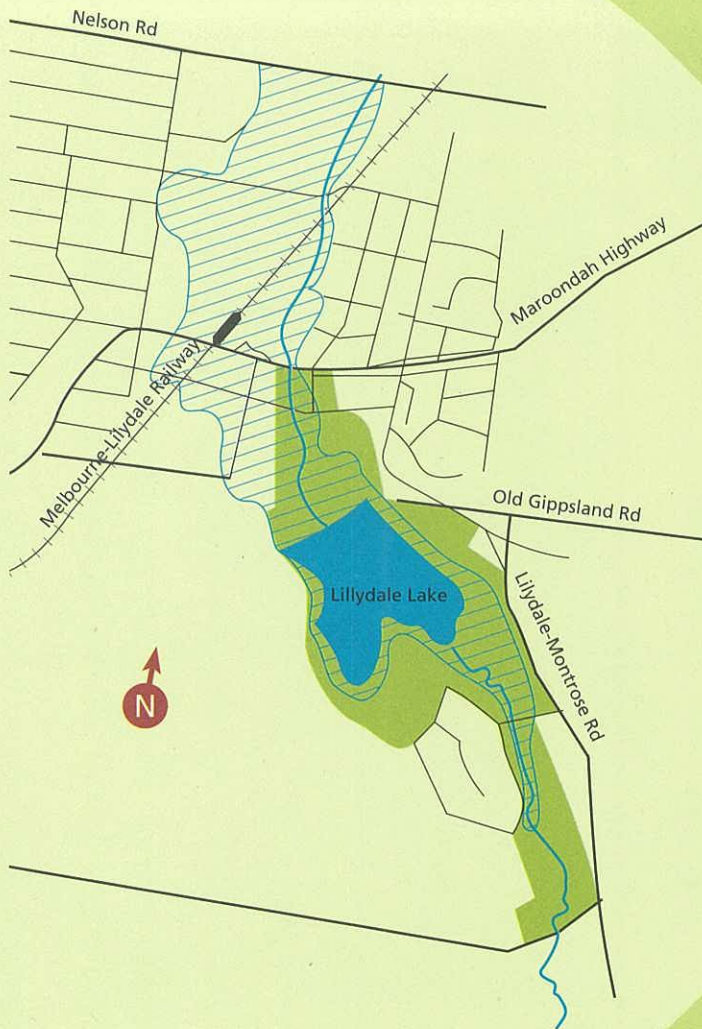


History & Development









Contact

Lillydale Lake
Shire of Yarra Ranges
PO Box 105 Lillydale 3140
Telephone 9294 6790
Facsimile 9294 6792



LILLYDALE LAKE

KEY

 Lillydale Lake constructed 1990	 Creek
 Flood area before lake construction	 Railway
 Park Area	 Road



Shire of Yarra Ranges
Mail: PO Box 105 Lillydale 3140
After Hours Phone: 1300 368 333
Email: mail@yarraranges.vic.gov.au
Website: www.yarraranges.vic.gov.au



History & Development

Proposals to build a water catchment on this site go back many years. Records show that in 1853 the site was considered by the land surveyor James Blackburn as a water supply for Melbourne. This proposal was abandoned and the Yan Yean scheme was chosen instead.

A 160 acre (65 ha) park was proposed by Council in 1969 taking up much of the current lake site. This initial proposal seemed to be the start of what was a succession of concepts by various private developers and Council.

In 1976, Council announced plans for a 28 ha lake and 80 ha park for the purpose of flood control and recreation. However, with an estimated cost of \$1.5 million, financial assistance was needed.

A report was presented to the Premier of Victoria in 1979 in an attempt to gain financial assistance, without success.

The turning point for the lake proposal came in January 1984 when responsibility for drainage and water supply was transferred from the Council to Melbourne & Metropolitan Board of Works.

After significant flooding in September 1984, the Minister for Water Resources met with the Shire and the M.M.B.W. to consider the lake proposal.

The final outcome was the result of a number of proposed options. Construction of a dual purpose retarding basin achieved the objectives of both parties – flood control and a recreational facility. Initial costs were estimated at \$2m. The lake would occupy 28 ha with a depth up to 3 metres. The dam wall would be 440 metres long. A draft report released in February 1988 set the scene for what we currently enjoy with an emphasis on non-structured public open space. Construction of the dam and lake commenced in May 1988 and was completed by June 1990.

The lake and park were officially opened to the public on 7th July 1990.

The park now extends from Main Street to Hull Road Lilydale and covers an area of over 100 ha. It is visited by more than 700,000 people each year.



Development has continued with

- community room and meeting facilities
- car parking for 250 vehicles
- toilets, barbecue and picnic facilities
- monster playground
- 10km of shared trail
- heritage trail
- footbridges and viewing platforms
- boat launching and trailer parking
- park lighting
- dog off lead areas
- fishing facilities and stocking
- extension of the park from Main Street to Hull Road in 2004

