



Coranderrik

Children's Memorial Project



Aboriginal people are advised that herewith are images of those gone to the Dreaming



Coranderrk

Children's Memorial Project

Worawa Aboriginal College is located on land that formed part of the Coranderrk Aboriginal Station, a government reserve for Aboriginal people.





The site of the Coranderrk Children's Memorial

Founded in 1863 it was a last refuge for the people from the tribes of the Kulin Nation of Central Victoria, Woiwurrung, Boonwurrung, Taungwurrung, Djadjawurrung and the Wathawurrung.

The Coranderrk Children's Dormitory housed up to 34 Aboriginal and "mixed race" children who were orphaned or deemed to be neglected. It consisted of a schoolroom and six dormitories. School was held for one hour per day and formal education stopped at grade three level.

The boys were taught to be farm labourers and the girls to be domestic servants. Once the young people reached the age of 15 they were compelled to leave and find a job away from family and community.

Many children were disconnected from their families and never re-united. The harsh conditions of Coranderrk Station saw the deaths of many children through illness. The Dormitory closed in 1924.



The Project

This project gives voice to the Children of Coranderrk through installation of a memorial on the Worawa Dreaming Trail, a place of great natural beauty within the College grounds.

The Dreaming Trail incorporates a commemorative grouping of memorial poles representing the 38 Victorian tribes affected by dispossession, dislocation and displacement from their traditional lands.

The Coranderrk Children's Memorial will illuminate the practice of the removal of Aboriginal children from families, the breakdown of family connection and our determination to provide a holistic education for our children through education, wellbeing and culture.

BOYS OF THE STATION SCHOOL



Project Funding

The project is to be carried out on land owned by Worawa Aboriginal College Ltd. The College will make a substantial in-kind contribution to the project through the services of the Property Management Team and Dr Lois Peeler AM, Aboriginal Elder and Principal of Worawa Aboriginal College as well as in kind contributions by a number of individuals and organisations supporting the proposal. A public launch the Coranderrk Children's Memorial project will take place.

CORANDERRK CHILDREN'S MEMORIAL PROJECT BUDGET ESTIMATES:

ELEMENT	COSTS
Project Management: coordination and supervision of works	4,000.00
Quarry stone & toppings	5,000.00
Master Stonemason	2,000.00
Earthworks, excavation, machinery & equipment hire	7,000.00
Landscape lighting and sound	2,000.00
Healing circle and Amphitheatre	6,000.00
Interpretive signage, soundpost & information brochures	4,000.00
TOTAL	30,000.00

Project Partners

- Dave Rowland & Dale Russell, Master Stonemasons
- Rotary Club of Richmond
- Dr Bram Mason, Eucalypt Australia
- John Zwart, Skulduggery Records
- Ranges Tec
- Victor Bodi, Optique Technologies
- Bunjilaka at Melbourne Museum

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CONTRIBUTING PARTNER:

Please contact Principal and Project Coordinator: Dr Lois Peeler AM
E-mail: executivedirector@worawa.vic.edu.au Telephone: 03 5962 4344
Website: www.worawa.vic.edu.au

Donations to Worawa Aboriginal College are tax deductible

Worawa Aboriginal College Limited is recognised by the ATO as a Public Benevolent Institution and endorsed as a Deductible Gift Recipient. Donations are tax deductible.



The People are Coming

Clouds are racing by
Over the Acheron valley
The trees bend and sway,
Stay awake! Stay awake!
The wind seems to say
as he roars down the valley
and away!

Once the Yarra were here
Once Wonga was here
Then their "protector" came
"Come and live with us"
"Be civilized" he said
"No more wearing those cloaks of kangaroo skin
Take these beads, mirrors,
Red cloth and things"
And so they went, the Old Ones,
Their minds, our great books of knowledge
And there in the secret places
The dust gathered on the sacred stones.
At Coranderrk the little ones
Learned to count to ten
and sing "Hallalooler".

The Old Ones sleep in the shade of the gum trees
Sometimes half awake
Listening.
Not yet, not yet!
Soon they will come!

The clouds race by
over the Acheron River
And the wind
Shouts!
To the moon
See!
The little ones have come!
The people live!
The Yarra live once more!

*Hyllus Maris,
Founder Worawa College*







Worawa Aboriginal College

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We Believe in Education, Culture + Wellbeing