ABORIGINAL HISTORY OF THE BAROSSA

The Peramangk are the traditional owners of the Barossa region and have an ongoing connection to the land. The Peramang lived mainly in the peppermint box country found to the north, the Kaurna people inhabited the nearby Gawler and Adelaide Plains region.6

Along with sharing important Dreamtime stories, the groups traded goods with each other and also with groups from further afield. документов, scrolls, artifacts, and dances (for starting fires), ochre including much prized ochre from Parallella in the Flinders Ranges and even pearl shell from northern Australia, were known to have been traded. Local traditional food sources included small mammals such as possums and bandicoots, emu, kangaroos along with seeds, roots, tubers, bulbs and grass trees. The summer months would have seen a wide variety of fruits such as quandongs, honeydew and berries harvested. Nuts were used for housing along with freckle farming through the Barossa region.6

It is still possible to see evidence of the Barossa’s original inhabitants. The Peramang travelled widely through the Jutand area of the Barossa Ranges and sites including the Herbig Family Tree are open to the public. The Herbig Family Tree has standing where canoes and shelters were once used.7 A walk through the South Para or Kaino Wirra Conservation Parks will allow you to imagine a landscape that was common across the Barossa for thousands of years.

EARLY SETTLEMENT OF THE BAROSSA

The colonisation of South Australia was based on Wakefield’s theory of free settlement and land ownership for all.

Once the site of Adelaide was fixed by Colonel Light in 1836, colonists and claimants were free to move into the area. There were two initial ways of claiming land. One way was via pastoral leases, the other way was via ‘special surveys’. On the growing recommendation of geologist Johannes Menge, Charles Flaxman, an agent of George Fife Angas, was able to purchase several special surveys or 28,000 acres of land in the Barossa region.

Menge had described the area as “the cream, the real cream, and nothing but the cream of South Australia.” Flaxman retained some of the land acquired for Angas. Other prominent gentlemen made their purchase of the land of the Kaurna people instead of the light and Adelaide Plains region. Flaxman’s land purchases placed George Fife Angas in a difficult position.

Once the site of Adelaide was fixed by Colonel Light in 1836, colonists and claimants were free to move into the area. There were two initial ways of claiming land. One way was via pastoral leases, the other way was via ‘special surveys’. On the growing recommendation of geologist Johannes Menge, Charles Flaxman, an agent of George Fife Angas, was able to purchase several special surveys or 28,000 acres of land in the Barossa region.

Menge had described the area as “the cream, the real cream, and nothing but the cream of South Australia.” Flaxman retained some of the land acquired for Angas. Other prominent gentlemen made their purchase of the land of the Kaurna people instead of the light and Adelaide Plains region. Flaxman’s land purchases placed George Fife Angas in a difficult position.6

With the Flaxman’s land purchases placed George Fife Angas in a difficult position.