

# The Australian Women's Register

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**Entry type:** Place  
**Entry ID:** AWE1091

## Coranderrk Station

(1860 - 1950)

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<b>Born</b>	18600101, Healesville Victoria Australia
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<b>Died</b>	19501231
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<b>Occupation</b>	Aboriginal Mission or Reserve
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### Summary

Coranderrk Station was established in 1860 when the government set aside 4,850 acres of land for use as a reserve for Aboriginal people. The site was selected by the local Aboriginal groups, the Wurundjeri, Taungurong and Bunorong people, who built the reserve within a few months, constructing their own huts, a school and dormitories for the Aboriginal children from all over the colony. They sustained themselves by growing their own vegetables and cash crops, including arrowroot and hops. Through the hard work of the Aboriginal people, Coranderrk Station was renowned for its farming produce and became the model for all future stations.

During the 1870s the Board for the Protection of Aborigines placed Aboriginal people from all over Victoria at Coranderrk Station. In 1924 it was closed as a staffed station. Nine Aboriginal people remained, with the Police Constable at Healesville as their local guardian. The rest were sent to Lake Tyers Reserve.

The area was gradually given away over the years until its status as a reserve was revoked. In 1948 the Coranderrk Land Bill released the station for private purchase. In 1998 land at Coranderrk was purchased by the Indigenous Land Corporation and returned to Aboriginal people.

Coranderrk was the home to many Aboriginal women, some of whom became prominent Aboriginal spokespersons.

### Published resources

#### Journal Article

Land rights in south-east Australia: the long struggle, Goodall, Heather, 1987

An 'unfashionable concern with the past': the historical anthropology of Diane Barwick, Kijas, Johanna, 1997

#### Report

Genealogies of Aboriginal families from Cummeragunja and Moonculla now living in Goulburn Valley and Murray River towns including Shepparton, Echuca, Swan Hill and Deniliquin and descendants now living in Melbourne and some ex Coranderrk families, Jackamos, Alick, 1987

#### Resource

Moravian Mission Papers in Australia 1832-1916, Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, [http://aiatsis.gov.au/sites/default/files/catalogue\\_resources/MF163-88.htm](http://aiatsis.gov.au/sites/default/files/catalogue_resources/MF163-88.htm)

#### Book

Rebellion at Coranderrk, Barwick, Diane, 1998

## Archival resources

### **AIATSIS Manuscript and Rare Books Collection**

[A History of Aboriginal lands and reserves in Victoria, 1835-1971 / by Philip Felton](#)

[Moravian Mission Papers](#)

### **Author Details**

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