

Site

Kurth Kiln

The Kurth Kiln is located in Kurth Kiln Regional Park which is an area of 3,500 hectares of bushland in Gembrook, Victoria. The kiln was constructed in 1941-42 as petrol shortages during World War Two created a demand for charcoal as a substitute fuel source. The kiln produced charcoal suitable for gas producer units fitted to cars and trucks. Wood cut from the surrounding state forest was fed into the kiln which converted it into charcoal. The revolutionary design of the kiln was based on the work of Ernest Kurth, Professor of Chemistry at the University of Tasmania (Klink, 2012). It illustrates an important processing industry, once common in Victoria's forests, but now obsolete (Catrice, 1998).

Prior to construction of the kiln the area was used for timber cutting and gold mining and earlier still was utilised by the traditional indigenous owners. Following the Second World War Forests Commission Victoria turned from charcoal production to forest maintenance operations. During the 1960s operations were scaled down and the kiln site was used as a base camp for fire-fighting activities. In the 1980s the site was re-developed as a picnic and camping ground with facilities for horse-riders. In the late 1990s a conservation plan for the historic site was initiated and maintenance and restoration of the site began.

Location

Kurth Kiln Regional Park of 3,500 hectares borders the 17,000 hectares of Bunyip State Park, towards the south-east. The kiln site is situated in bushland along Soldiers Track close to the picnic ground in Kurth Kiln Regional Park (Fig. 1), Gembrook, Victoria. The kiln site is approximately 50m east of the intersection of Soldiers Road and Beenak Road (Fig. 2, Fig. 3).

Parks Victoria provides detailed maps in the Recreational Framework for Bunyip Public Land (Parks Victoria, 2006) and walking tracks are featured in the book, 'Walking for Pleasure in Kurth Kiln Regional Park' (Klink and Klink, 2016).



Figure 1. Map of the approximate location of the Kurth Kiln site, Gembrook (-37.899375, 145.576052). Source: Google Maps, 2018.

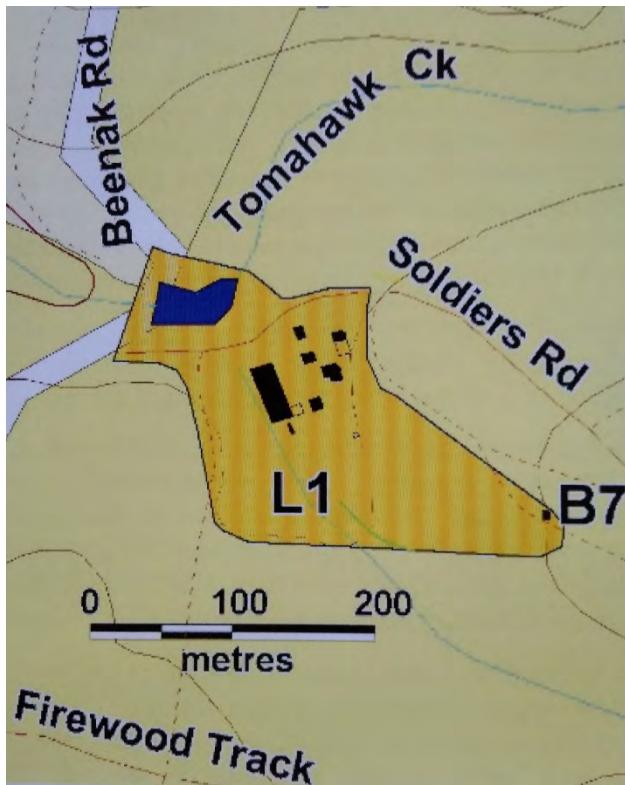


Figure 2. Map of the location of the kiln site on Soldiers Road, 50m from the intersection of Beenak Road, Gembrook. Source: Kurth Kiln 2018 Calendar.



Figure 3. Photo of the kiln shed on Soldiers Road taken from the bridge crossing Tomahawk Creek at Beenak Road, 2018. Photographer, Jane Morton Colbert.

Appearance

The kiln site and remaining forestry workers huts on the hillside above can be seen in close proximity to each other in an aerial view of the bushland location on Soldiers Road (Fig. 4).



Figure 4. Photo of aerial view of the kiln site and forestry workers huts. Source: Kurth Kiln 2018 Calendar.

The site comprises various structures including the brick kiln, sheds including a blacksmith's forge, four timber forestry workers huts and a reconstructed waterwheel at the rear of the shed. The sheds house a charcoal grader, various other associated movable artefacts and interpretive displays. In the surrounding bushland are an explosives magazine, two weirs and a gold era water race (Heritage Council Victoria). An illustrative site map locates and numbers the built, heritage structures and also several structures that have been added by Parks Victoria and volunteers which includes the hillside stairway, picket fence, metal water tank and toilet (Fig. 5).

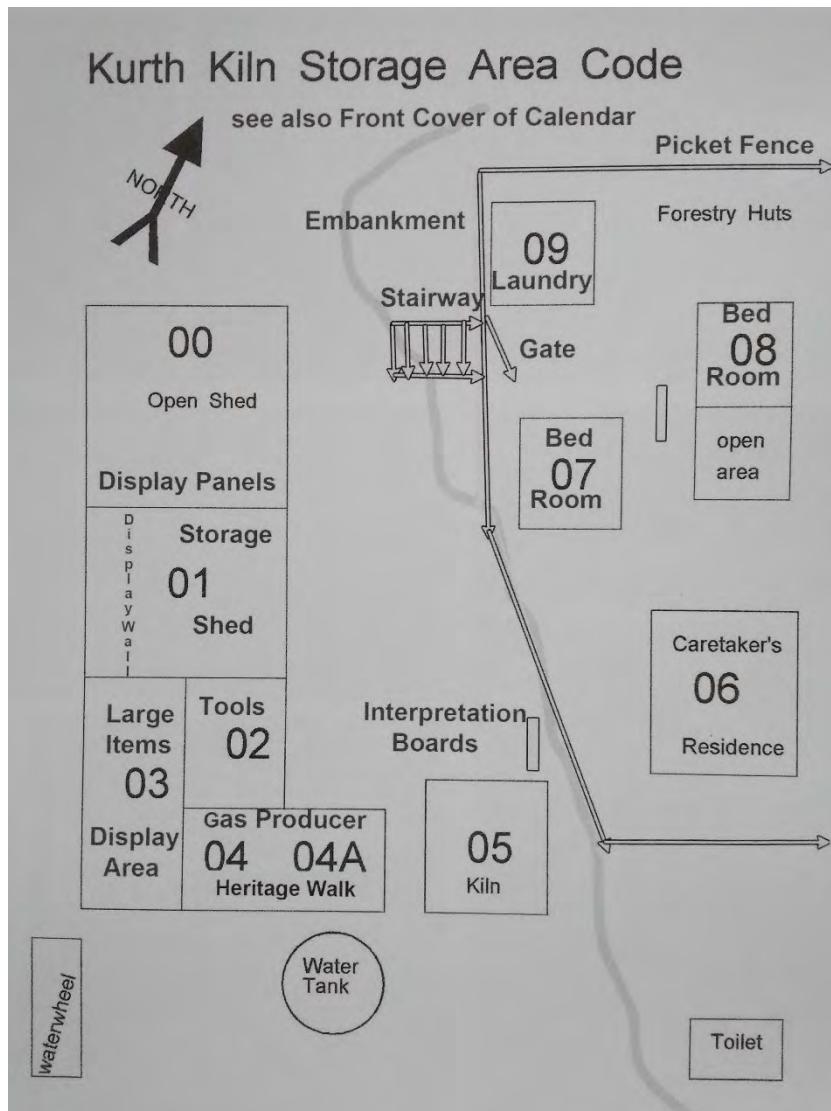


Figure 5. Illustrative plan of the kiln site and forestry workers huts. Source: Kurth Kiln 2018 Calendar.

Kurth Kiln is Victoria's largest and most elaborate charcoal kiln and the only extant example of Kurth's patented design (Fig. 6). The kiln was revolutionary as, unlike other kiln designs of the time, as it was able to operate continuously 24 hours a day, seven days of the week. The kiln is approximately 9 metres high by 3.1 metres by 4 metres. It is constructed of red brick, on a concrete foundation. The brickwork is reinforced with steel strapping. It has iron doors over the four openings (two front and two at the rear) and an iron smoke stack. Located on the side walls of the kiln can be seen iron pipes (Fig. 7) through which ran reticulated water to cool the charcoal before grading and bagging.



Figure 6. Photo of Kurth Kiln with the blacksmith's forge structure to the right, 2018.
Photographer, Jane Morton Colbert.



Figure 7. Photo of kiln water pipes on the right (west) side of the kiln, 2018. Photographer, Jane Morton Colbert.

To the right (west) of the kiln are sheds including a large, timber storage shed (Fig. 8) which is approximately 25 metres high and 7.7 metres wide. It has a corrugated galvanised iron roof supported by tree trunk columns strapped on top of concrete block foundations (Fig. 9). At the southern end of the large shed is an attached skillion which is divided by internal walls. Between the kiln and the skillion is a small gable-roofed structure on round posts with low concrete walls (Fig. 10). This was the site of the blacksmith's forge (pers. comm. Alfred Klink, August 17th, 2018). This area now displays various donated models of gas producer units used to power vehicles during the Second World War.



Figure 8. Photo of the large storage shed and kiln taken from Soldiers Road, 2018. Photographer Jane Morton Colbert.



Figure 9. Photo of one of the shed posts strapped to a concrete block, 2018. Photographer Jane Morton Colbert.



Figure 10. Photo of the blacksmith's forge with cement walls situated between the kiln to the left and the storage sheds to the right, 2018. Photographer, Jane Morton Colbert.

The forestry worker's huts site uphill of the kiln site include a caretaker's residence, laundry and two sleeping huts (Fig. 11).



Figure 11. Photo of Kurth Kiln huts sited uphill from the kiln site. Source: Heritage Council Victoria.

The large number of small to large portable artefacts, many of which are stored in the shed, comprise a critical part of the significance of Kurth Kiln. Determining the original source of the individual items and when they may have first arrived on the site is problematic for the bulk of the objects. Items have been acquired by the Friends Group and Parks Victoria staff, both from donations and random finds in the local area and specifically sought objects considered useful in helping interpret the history of the site. In this category are the several gas producer units. Artefacts largely relate to the period of use in the 1950s to 70s when the function of the Forest Commission camp was to maintain tracks, clear vegetation and construct facilities (Kurth Kiln Collection, 2008).

The only artefact related to the use of the site for charcoal production appears to be the charcoal grader (Fig. 12). It is a commercially manufactured piece of equipment which may have been made by a mining or agricultural implement maker. The construction and decoration suggest a manufacture date prior to WWII. The grader takes the form of a large mesh screen supported on a timber framework with four timber legs which have rotted at the bases. The screen is in two sizes with 5mm and 30 mm meshes. This allows three grades of charcoal to be collected,

smaller than 5mm and dust at the top end of the screen would come out of the first chute, 5mm to 30mm pieces from the middle of the screens from the second chute, and the larger pieces which would fall through a chute at the end of the grader. The paint scheme is original and an overall green colour. Fleur-de-lis is used in the painted decoration along with the other yellow lining (Kurth Kiln Collection, 2008). To the rear of the shed a waterwheel once provided the power to agitate the grader. A reconstructed waterwheel and flue have been installed in to demonstrate the process (Fig. 13).



Figure 12. Photo of the charcoal grader sited in the rear of the shed, 2018. Photographer Jane Morton Colbert.



Figure 13. Photo of the reconstructed water wheel and flue sited in the waterway just to the rear of the shed, 2018. Photographer Jane Morton Colbert.

History

Historical Context

Kurth Kiln Park has had indigenous cultural heritage assessments (in 2001 and 2003 respectively). A number of indigenous archaeological sites exist and are registered with Aboriginal Affairs Victoria. The area is situated within the current legislated boundary of the Wurundjeri Tribe Land Compensation and Cultural Heritage Council Incorporated (west of Bunyip River). West Gippsland Aboriginal Co-operative Limited (east of Bunyip River) also has an interest. Indigenous history is scarce however, however it is understood that the Balluk-Willam clan of the Woiworung (Yarra Yarra) tribe were the first people to visit the area. The area provided sources of food (plant and animal) as well as stone and wood for making items which influenced how Indigenous people utilised the region. In addition the potential presence of significant social and ceremonial areas also played a major role in interclan relationships and occupation of the area. Indigenous communities have been and will continue to be involved in the development of the Bunyip Public Land Recreation Strategy Framework as well as any future management plans. A letter was sent to all relevant organisations and families extending an invitation to become involved in the consultation process. Meetings have been held with the Elders of the Wurundjeri, Gunai and Kurnai (Parks Victoria, 2006).

Following European settlement in the 1800s gold and timber were sourced from the Kurth Kiln area. This was followed by charcoal production. At the time of the World War Two Australia was dependent on imported petroleum from the Middle East and the USA and the nation's storage capacity was limited. With Australia's entry into the war the Commonwealth Government introduced petrol rationing to reduce civilian consumption and the use of substitute fuels was encouraged. Town gas, shale oil and alcohol were tried but producer gas was found to be the best and gas units of varying designs were fitted to motor cars and trucks throughout Australia. Producer gas is a combustible, carbon monoxide rich gas (Engineering Heritage Victoria, 2008). It is generated by passing a current of air through a glowing bed of coals. In Victoria the Forests Commission was charged with ensuring supplies of high-quality charcoal. By 1942, 221 charcoal kilns and 12 charcoal pits were operating throughout Victoria producing about 1000 tons of charcoal per month. Before the war the charcoal-burning industry had been small and was based on the slow, controlled burning of durable timbers in earthen, brick or metal kilns. These old techniques of charcoal production which were relatively unchanged since the turn of the century and found to be inadequate as demand for charcoal increased during the Second World War. The Forests Commission of

Victoria was directed to experiment with charcoal production in order to improve quality and quantity and in 1941 it was Professor Ernest Kurth's design of a prototype kiln in Tasmania that was adopted (Catrice, 1998).



Early View of Kiln and Ramp Construction ~ 1941

Figure 14. Photo of the process of construction of the kiln in 1941 showing the access ramp to the left and the forest behind which was burnt during the 1939 bush fires. Source: Kurth Kiln 2018 Calendar.

The kiln was constructed by Stanley and Nance (Fig. 14) and tents were erected for the workers. The first firing of the kiln took place on 18 March 1942. By February 1943 the production and economic viability of Kurth Kiln was proven by the Forests Commission with the kiln producing 35.5 tonnes of charcoal over a three week period and at a profit. However, by 1943 charcoal was no longer seen as the most effective substitute for petrol. Many of the installed gas producer units proved to be unsafe resulting in cars catching fire, drivers becoming asphyxiated by the fumes and sparks from the units also blamed for starting bushfires. By 1944 a mere 6.5 per cent of vehicles had installed gas producer units and just 28 tonnes were produced in 1944-45, the final year of the kiln's operation (Catrice, 1998).

After the Second World War the Forests Commission turned from charcoal production to forest maintenance operations. A programme of works including new access roads, fire protection plans and plantation extensions were initiated to compensate for the war-time neglect of the forest estate. Camps were established throughout Victoria and Kurth Kiln was selected as the site for the main base camp

for the Kallista Forest District. Eighteen 15 feet x 12 feet huts were purchased from the Army and erected on a site east of the kiln. These housed a permanent workforce of 80-100 men which included 'displaced persons' who migrated to Australia in the 1940s and 1950s. During the 1960s operations around Gembrook were scaled down and by 1963 Kurth Kiln was being used as a base camp for fire-fighting activities. Ten of the original huts had been removed leaving eight workers' huts and one open-sided hut used for storing materials of minor value. Three of these huts were destroyed by fire on 8 January 1963. The ablutions hut was rebuilt with a 'set of double compartment cement wash-troughs, fuel copper, chip bath heater and galvanised iron bath' and the huts were lined with masonite. New brick fireplaces with galvanised-iron chimneys were also built (Catrice, 1998).

In 1982 funding was obtained under a Commonwealth Employment Project scheme and from 1982 to 1985 three more huts were dismantled and another was refurbished for use as a caretaker's hut. During the 1990s the park and the site was re-developed by Parks Victoria as a picnic and camping ground with marked trails and facilities for horse-riders. The Department of Natural Resources and Environment produced a Conservation Plan in 1996 (Catrice, 1998). Since then Parks Victoria together with the community group, Friends of Kurth Kiln have worked together to maintain and restore the historical site. In 2005 a Kurth Kiln Heritage Action Plan was written and this was followed in 2008 with a report on the movable artefacts of the site.

Kurth Kiln

The Gembrook kiln built by the Victorian Forestry Commission was based on E. E. Kurth's design and was the only one of its kind ever built in the State. Professor Kurth had been investigating the pyrolysis of timber and kiln design since 1940 (Table 1). Conventional kilns worked on a fixed cycle and could not produce charcoal continuously. The kiln's design facilitated continuous loading of timber at the top and recovery of charcoal at the bottom (Heritage Council Victoria). Kurth's prototype kiln produced about 1.4 tonnes of charcoal per day, compared to a single tonne produced every three days from the standard steel kiln. It also yielded 10 to 15 per cent more charcoal from the same amount of timber. The kiln was designed to operate continuously and with an optimum load maintained, via top loading, graded charcoal could be retrieved through the discharge chutes at the bottom of the kiln. Corrugated iron pipes on each side of the kiln carried water to cool the charcoal. These pipes separated the production and discharge chambers and enhanced the quality of the charcoal (Catrice, 1998).

Successful operation of the kiln depended on the essential requirements of water, timber and sloping land and site on Tomahawk Creek near Gembrook was selected. Mining operations had previously created a network of water races and dams which were used to supply water to the kiln. There was a supply of dry but otherwise useless timber, the result of ringbarking during the 1930s and the site also had sufficient slope to facilitate top loading of the kiln (Catrice, 1998).

Table 1: Summary of historical development of Kurth Kiln site.

| DATE | EVENT |
|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1860s | Small gold mining area north west of Gembrook |
| 1870s | Agricultural settlement in Gembrook area |
| 1885 | Logging, timber tramways and forest sawmills in Gembrook forest |
| 18/12/1900 | Ferntree Gully-Gembrook narrow gauge railway opens and advances timber industry |
| 1940 | E. E. Kurth experimenting with pyrolysis |
| 1941 | E. E Kurth's prototype kiln constructed in Tasmania |
| 1942 | Construction of Kurth Kiln, Gembrook |
| 18/3/1942 | First firing of the kiln |
| 1945 | Kurth Kiln ceases operation |
| 1946 | Establishment of Forests Commission Victoria forest camp, 18 huts in use |

| | |
|----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8/1/1963 | 3 huts burnt down |
| 1963 | Scaling down of Forests Commission Victoria operations, 8 huts remain |
| 1980s | Forests Commission Victoria redeveloped the site as a picnic area Huts modified for caretaker's use, 3 huts demolished Ron Thornton is live-in caretaker |
| 1993 | Naming of "Kurth Kiln Regional Park" comprising the kiln site and surrounding 3,500 hectares of bushland |
| 1996 | Kurth Kiln Gembrook Conservation Plan, Department of Natural Resources and Environment (Catrice, 1996) |
| 1999 | Maintenance and restoration of Kurth Kiln site began Formation of Friends of Kurth Kiln |
| 2002 | Parks Victoria initiated a Kurth Kiln Heritage Action Plan |
| 2006 | Bunyip Public Land Recreation Strategy |
| 2008 | Kurth Kiln Collection – assessment of significance Kiln and its historic buildings were added to the Victoria Heritage Register under number H2012 |

Heritage Values

Cultural heritage value and significance of a site requires a set of criteria against which assessments can be measured. The values and significance of Kurth Kiln are assessed and discussed based on the guidelines of The Burra Charter. The four Charter concepts are aesthetic, historic, scientific and social and these encompass a

wider range of values. These values are not mutually exclusive and Kirth Kiln encompasses all four of the concepts in this assessment (The Burra Charter, 2013). The industrial and habitation structures and movable artefacts of Kurth Kiln, still surrounded by the forest which once supported the production of charcoal from timber and housed forestry workers, present an aesthetic experience much as it was in the last century. Today's visitors arrive along bush tracks to the historical site and can camp nearby as the early gold, timber and charcoal production workers once did. They can experience the sights, smells and sounds of the forest and creek, resources which were essential to those industries of the past. This setting contrasts with the aesthetic features of the imposing scale, colour, texture and material of the tall, brick and metal kiln, the timber and metal charcoal grader, timber and tin-roofed storage sheds and basic World War Two military timber and masonite huts. The paint scheme of the charcoal grader is original and is an overall green colour with Fleur-de-lis used in the painted decoration along with the other yellow lining.

Scientific or research value depends upon the importance of the data involved, its rarity, representativeness and degree to which the heritage may contribute further substantial information. The kiln has scientific value as it is representative of E. E. Kurth's successful innovative, patented design and is also rare as the only one of its kind in the state of Victoria and possibly Australia.

Social value refers to the qualities for which heritage reflects for example spiritual, political, national or other sentiment to a group. Kurth Kiln represents a time when citizens employed the use of alternative technology and fuels to aid national war effort of WW11. The construction of the kiln was one of the initiatives which contributed to the war effort in the national interest of the country when petrol supplies were compromised. Those running vehicles rationed petrol and various methods were adopted to fuel vehicles with alternative charcoal to gas technology. The huts that housed 80 – 100 forestry workers which included persons displaced as a result of the second-world war, illustrates a further stage in the development of Australia as a multi-cultural nation. That the kiln and charcoal grader remain in good condition today is in large part due to community efforts to restore and maintain them. Kurth Kiln continues to have social significance today for those keen to support cultural heritage including those who visit to experience this historical site.

The historic value of Kurth Kiln encompasses all of the Charter value concepts. It includes heritage of aesthetic, scientific and social value associated with historic phases and activities. This quiet and peaceful place is significant for its long-term, diverse and active human history which includes indigenous utilisation, gold

mining, timber cutting, innovative charcoal production, forestry operations and now continues as a campsite for recreation activities including hiking and horse-riding and as a destination of historical interest.

Statement of significance

Based on the guidelines of The Burra Charter -

Kurth Kiln is aesthetically significant:

- The industrial and habitation structures remain and retain their original place within the contrast of the surrounding native forest environment which once provided the fuel for the kiln. The relatively intact brick and metal kiln is an imposing structure and the paint scheme of the charcoal grader is original. Indigenous sites remain within this forest setting and are known to those with a relationship to the culture.

Kurth Kiln is historically significant:

- The kiln was an innovative response to a petrol shortage precipitated by World War II. The kiln produced a cheap, commercial and continuous supply of charcoal. The construction and decoration of the charcoal grader suggest a manufacture date prior to WWII. The site including the movable objects also demonstrates the diverse and changing utilisation of the area both pre and post European settlement.

Kurth Kiln is scientifically significant:

- It has the only kiln of its type erected in Victoria and possibly, in Australia. The process of charcoal production utilised by the kiln was a technical success. The kiln has survived almost intact and demonstrates innovation in industrial design. The site also has evidence of indigenous habitation known to those with a relationship to the culture.

Kurth Kiln is socially significant:

- The a site which as a site which includes movable artefacts, showing evidence of long-term transitioning of human presence and activities revealing social shifts and adaptation to the needs of the times. This includes use by indigenous inhabitants through to goldminers, timber and forestry workers to the current visitors using the site as a recreation area.

Management Regime

The Park is reserved and managed by Parks Victoria under the provisions of the National Parks Act. This Act requires management of the Park to protect its natural, historic and other values and subject to this, to provide for the use of the Park by the public for enjoyment, recreation and education.

Parks Victoria manages the largest portfolio of heritage places in Victoria solely for the purpose of protecting and conserving heritage sites. The primary focus of heritage conservation work is the identification and addressing of the basic maintenance and repair requirements across all the substantial heritage structures and other higher significance places, to prevent deterioration and improve condition wherever possible (Park Web 2018).



Figure 15. Photo of researcher and author, Alfred Klink of the Friends of Kurth Kiln group, accessing Hut 07, 2018. Photographer, Jane Morton Colbert.

Parks Victoria recognizes that indigenous cultural places and historic places and objects are vulnerable to a range of threatening processes including natural decay, fire and human and animal disturbance. Lack of use of places and objects can lead to less frequent monitoring, maintenance and deterioration reducing perceived value which can lead to a lack of respect and vandalism. An unused place can also fail to inform the public of the history and significance of cultural and historic places and objects. In some cases (e.g. mining ruins) management goals may include natural decay in the landscape or may be considered acceptable by relevant indigenous communities (Park Web, 2018).

Under the auspices of Parks Victoria, volunteers (Klink and Klink, 2014; Friends of Kurth Kiln) actively participate in the restoration and maintenance of the site (Fig. 15). Together with the regular public use of the recreational park the outlook is positive for the future of Kurth Kiln.

LEGISLATION -

Kurth Kiln:

Historic cultural heritage is looked after by all levels of government in Australia.

In the state of Victoria this includes the:

- Local, Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Version No. 130)
- State, Heritage Act 2017
- State, Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 (Version No. 021)
- Federal, Environment Protection Biodiversity and Conservation Act 1999 (Version No. 51).

The Victorian State Government's principal cultural (non-Aboriginal) heritage agency is Heritage Victoria. It supports and works with the Heritage Council of Victoria which is an independent statutory authority and Victoria's main decision-making body on (non-indigenous) cultural heritage issues.

Kurth Kiln has at a:

- State level, 14 sites listed on the Victorian Heritage Register and 1,326 associated objects in The Movable Cultural Heritage collection (Park Web, Victoria).

The kiln and its historic buildings are listed in the Victoria Heritage Register under number H2012 and in the Heritage Inventory of archaeological sites under numbers H8022-0013 (Heritage Victoria).

- **Local level, council planning lists Heritage Overlay** Numbers HO21 and HO400 (Heritage Council Victoria). Parks are managed within the context of state and Commonwealth legislation, international treaties, government policies, best-practice principles, strategies and guidelines.

Kurth Kiln Regional Park:

Parks are managed within the context of state and Commonwealth legislation, international treaties, government policies, best-practice principles, strategies and guidelines. Commonwealth federal legislation which has an impact on cultural heritage management and direct or major implications for the management of Victorian parks and reserves includes but is not limited to the:

- Environment Protections and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999
- Native Title Act 1993
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984.

State legislation which applies includes but is not limited to the:

- Parks Victoria Act 1998

Under this legislation it is the responsibility of the state department, Parks Victoria, to provide services to the State and its agencies for the management of parks, reserves and other public land (Park Web, 2018).

Parks Victoria's responsibilities include the management of:

- all areas reserved under the National Parks Act 1975
- metropolitan waterways and adjacent land under the Water Industry Act 1994
- **nominated Crown land reserved under the Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978**
- **conservation reserves reserved under the Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978 and managed in accordance with approved land use recommendations under the Land Conservation Act 1970**
- areas reserved under the Heritage Rivers Act 1992
- planning for all Ramsar sites and management of some sites

- piers and jetties in Port Phillip Bay and Western Port and recreational boating on these Bays pursuant to powers conferred by the Marine Safety Act 2010 and the Port of Melbourne Authority Act 1958
- other areas as specified under the Parks Victoria Act 1998

Parks Victoria (2006) observes the following legislation contained in the **Recreation Framework for Bunyip Public Land** which includes Kurth Kiln Regional Park. Note however that some of the Acts listed in the Framework have been amended since 2006 (Parkweb, 2018):

- Archaeological and Aboriginal Relics Preservation Act 1972
- Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994
- Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987
- Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978
- **Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988**
- Fisheries Act 1995
- **Forests Act 1958**
- Heritage Act 1995
- Heritage Rivers Act 1992
- Land Act 1958
- **Land Conservation (Vehicle Control) Act 1972**
- Mineral Resources Development Act 1990
- National Parks Act 1975
- Reference Areas Act 1978
- Water Act 1989
- Wildlife Act 1975

In addition there are a number of Regulations prepared pursuant to the above Acts such as the Archaeological and Aboriginal Relics Preservation Regulations 2003.

References

- Catrice, D. (1996). Kurth Kiln Gembrook Conservation Plan, Report to Historic Places Section, National Parks Service, Department of Natural Resources and Environment.
- Catrice, D. (1998). A processing industry in the forest: Kurth Kiln. *Historic Environment*, 14(1), pp.4-9.
- Engineering Heritage Victoria (2008). Producer Gas & the Australian Motorist ... an alternative fuel during the “crisis” of 1939-45. Available at: <http://consuleng.com.au/Producer%20Gas%20&%20the%20Aussie%20Motorist%201939-45.pdf>
- Friends of Kurth Kiln. Available at: <http://nla.gov.au/nla.arc-4598>
- Heritage Council of Victoria. Available at: <http://vhd.heritagouncil.vic.gov.au/places/48622>
- Klink, A. (2012). *E. E. Kurth: Reflections on the life of an eminent person.* Available at: <http://library.pmi.net.au/fullRecord.jsp?recno=4132>
- Klink, A. and Klink, U. (2014) *E. E. Kurth and his work.* Victorian Collections, Museums Victoria. Available at: <https://victoriancollections.net.au/items/59532f2ad0cdd82aec9dff>
- Klink, A. and Klink, U. (2016). *Walking for Pleasure in Kurth Kiln Regional Park.* National Library of Australia, Canberra. Available at: <https://catalogue.nla.gov.au/Record/7329078>
- Kurth Kiln Collection (2008). Available at: <http://auklanddrive.org/Kurth%20Kiln/Storage/7083%20Kurth%20Kiln%20report.pdf>
- Parks Victoria (2006). Recreation Framework for Bunyip Public Land. Available at: http://parkweb.vic.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0020/313247/Bunyip-Public-Land-Recreation-Strategy.pdf
- Park Web (2018). Available at: <http://parkweb.vic.gov.au/about-us/who-we-are/legislation>
- The Burra Charter (2013). Available at: <https://australia.icomos.org/wp-content/uploads/The-Burra-Charter-2013-Adopted-31.10.2013.pdf>

Appendix (added post assignment submission and assessment).

Anthony Hester: Acting Area Chief Ranger, Parks Victoria Gembrook
Advice received by email 17.10.2018

The Recreation Framework document you have found looks at land use across a large area and over many different land tenures which means many of the pieces of legislation will not be relevant to Kurth Kiln. The framework is however the current strategic document that determines permissible use on the many tracks and trails in the Kurth Kiln Regional Park as well as other activities such as picnicking and camping.

The main piece of legislation relevant to Kurth Kiln Regional Park is the **Crown Land Reserves Act** under which the land is reserved as protected public land. There are also sections of the **Forest Act** which are relevant to Kurth Kiln.

Of the other legislation you have listed some of the more relevant to Kurth Kiln Regional Park in general are the **Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act** which relates to the protection of listed threatened flora and fauna across all land tenures, the **Land Conservation (Vehicle Control) Act** relates to the requirements for driving and parking of vehicles only on designated roads and tracks, and the Heritage Act which relates to the protection of registered Heritage Sites. **Local Government planning schemes** also provide for heritage overlays which also apply to the Kurth Kiln historic precinct.

There are currently no regulations developed for most parks managed under the Crown Land Reserves Act but there have been draft regulations prepared for several years now awaiting introduction to parliament to be passed into law. I don't know if they have been or likely to be scheduled any time soon.

There is no management plan for Kurth Kiln Regional Park as management plans are only a legislative requirement for areas managed under the National Parks Act. As mentioned above the **Recreation Framework provides our strategic direction for public use of the site.** There have been many reports compiled on the Kiln and associated buildings and Forestry Camp site over the years including the development of a **Heritage Action Plan in 2002 that was later revised in 2008.**