



Local History Factsheet:

A brief history of the suburb Findon

The suburb Findon is named after Findon, in Sussex, England. Ten acre sized blocks were offered for sale in 1848. Past industries were gravel mining, market gardening and farming including cropping, dairy, pig and poultry farms. In 1866 the population of Findon was reported as being 200.

The subdivision and sale by auction of a portion of Balcombe Estate, on the corner of Findon and Crittenden Roads, was instructed to go ahead in April 1926. 'The Advertiser' described the land as having always been noted for 'magnificent crops of lucerne and other products of intense culture'. The nearby Findon Post Office and general store, the closeness of the tramway and Grangeville train station, the 'picturesque countrified surroundings' and the 'perfect asphalted' roads were identified as attractive selling points.

The South Australian Housing Trust began erecting houses in Findon in the late 1930s.

Following world war two increased demand for housing led to the subdivision and urban development of Findon. Post war migration brought cultural change to the Findon community with new residents from Italy, Greece and Bulgaria.

Findon Primary School was built in 1952 and started with 220 students.

Findon high school began with two wooden buildings on an old market garden in 1955. By the time the school was officially opened with a new building in 1959 its student population had grown from 132 to 1080.

The Findon Skid Kids were started by Mick Harley, now a City of Charles Sturt Councillor, in 1958.

Until 1958 Findon was serviced by a tram which terminated at the intersection of Grange and Crittenden Roads.

The Findon Hotel opened in 1965.

The Findon Community Centre opened in 1997.

Sources

Newspaper articles sourced from the digitised newspapers database at Trove: www.trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper 'A History of Woodville' by Susan Marsden, Corporation of the City of Woodville, 1977 & 'A History of Woodville – update' by Susan Marsden 1987 (not published).