

## **baanytaageek: Great Swamp Fragments**

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LiDAR video projections and digital prints, geophonic soundscape, Boon Wurrung language recordings, digitally printed map

Two hundred years ago, on the estate of the mayune buluk of the Boon Wurrung language group, a vast baanytaageek, the Great Swamp, was covered with shallow waters and thick, impenetrable vegetation. With much difficulty, this dynamic low-lying region on the northern edge of Western Port Bay was comprehensively cleared and drained in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, and subdivided for farming, infrastructure and settlement. Today we are all custodians of this altered ecosystem, degraded after more than a century of extractive processes. Only a few remarkable fragments of the wetland complex remain— a raised mound of melaleuca, a tidal inlet edged with mangroves, and a dense thicket on a boggy creek bed. This exhibition reveals the intricacies of these particular, isolated and generally inaccessible fragments through moving and still imagery, a geophonic soundscape, Boon Wurrung spoken language, and a layered, archival map of the larger catchment.

Soundscape by Daniel Kotsimbos + Michael Kotsimbos