

The Disappearing Lake

Prior to European settlement Danjanberup covered a large area stretching between what is now Loftus and Charles Streets. The lake provided a valuable food source particularly during late spring and summer.

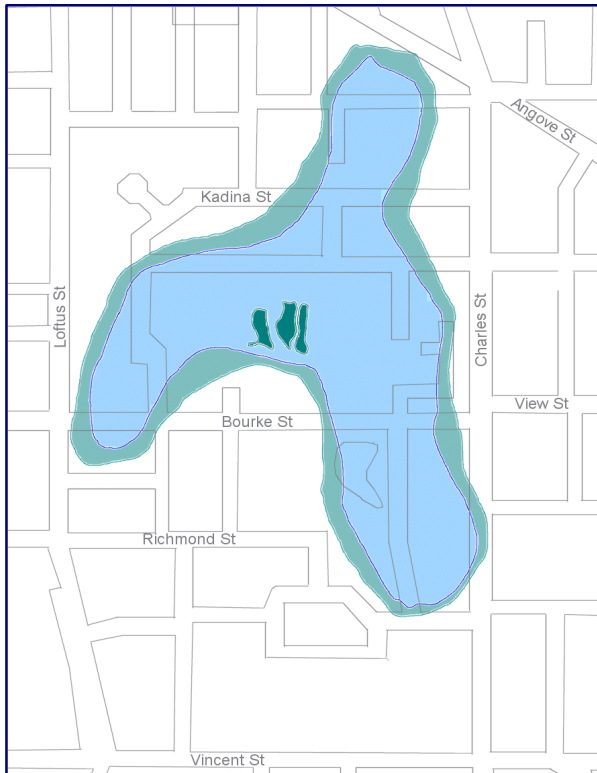
The lake contained three islands which led to its first European name of Three Island Lake.

Gradually the 'lake' area diminished as the area was drained and developed for farming. The 1897 Sewerage Map shows Smith's Lake as being made up of two segments with a number of farm buildings in the area.

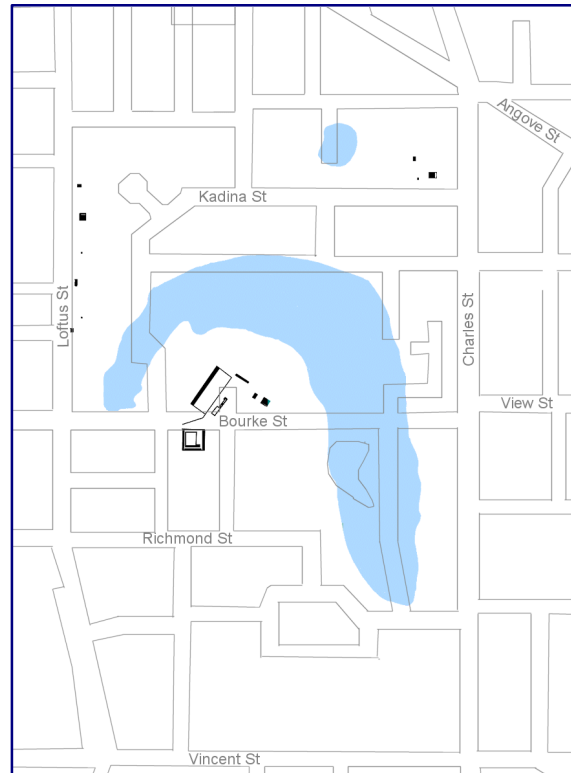
The lake was named after Bernard Smith who farmed the area in the late 1870s.

In the 1950s the area was considered an unsightly swamp. The Perth City Council acquired and developed the surrounding land, using the site as an uncontrolled tip for some time.

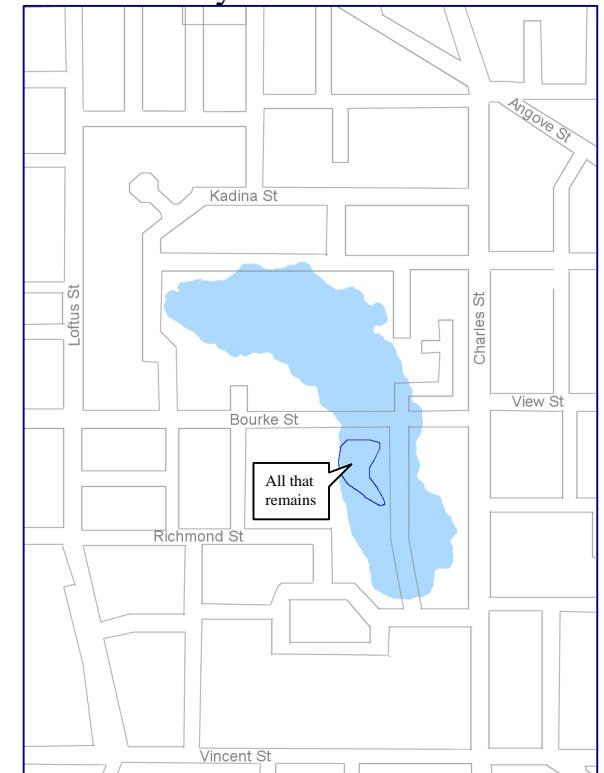
The small portion of the swamp land that was developed to form a compensating basin for the Claisebrook Main Drain is all that remains today.



1841



1897



1954