

*Listening to the Land : Notions of Place and the Sacred*  
*(in the Landscape of Franklinford)*

# David Marshall



This exhibiton represented David Marshall's research towards attain-  
ing a Masters in Visual Arts from La Trobe University, Bendigo. David  
writes of this body of work,

“The inspiration for this work was provided by the place where I live. The fact that Franklinford was the site of an Aboriginal Protectorate in the 1840s profoundly affected my response to the landscape. Within close walking distance from where I live is the local cemetery, which was originally the Protectorate cemetery. At this site are an unknown number of unmarked Aboriginal graves, and a prominent memorial to the Protector of the Aborigines, Edward Stone Parker. Also within the Franklinford landscape are memorials dedicated to the Protectorate, which were erected in 1965 to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of Parker's death. On these memorials are contained the words, sacred, sanctuary and the Aboriginal place name Larnebarramul: home of the emu. These words provide conflicting meanings, enabling me to question preconceived Eurocentric notions that have been imprinted onto an Indigenous landscape. Central to this body of work was the creation of the Sacred Wardrobe. This occurred through the process of collecting secondhand materials for woodblock plates. I prefer working with



Images: *Sacred*, 2006, Unique state woodblock print, 45 x 60 cm

*Protectorate Trees*, 2006, Unique state woodblock print, 45 x 150 cm