

# Living Stories of the Victorian Goldfields

BENDIGO CASTLEMAINE MALDON

## EUREKA REEF HERITAGE WALK

### CREDITS

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Interview	Jaara elder, Brien Nelson
Recording/ production	Mickey Levis/InstrAmental Music Centre, Castlemaine, additional recording by Daryl Evans

This Eureka Reef tour is one of a series of tours of the central Victorian goldfields – for driving, walking and on bicycle.

The other tours include Gold Rush to Mount Alexander, Bendigo City Tour, Castlemaine Town Tour and Eagle Eye View of Victoria's Golden Centre – which all link in together to create the goldfields story.

They can all be downloaded at [visitgoldfields.com](http://visitgoldfields.com) or collected from the Visitor Information Centres in Castlemaine, Maldon or Bendigo. The nearest to you here at Eureka is in Castlemaine at the old Market Building, in Mostyn Street.

'Living Stories of the Goldfields' is a collaboration between the Mount Alexander Shire Council, the City of Greater Bendigo, Parks Victoria, Heritage Victoria and Regional Development Victoria.

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### POD TOURS

## EUREKA REEF HERITAGE WALK

Retrace the steps of the diggers to experience life on an 1850's goldfield



This walk is just over a kilometre with 20 stops. The whole walk will take about an hour. For a shorter 15 minute walk, return after stop 9.

Eureka Reef is part of the Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park. A unique cultural landscape, it tells the story of the indigenous Jarra people and the gold rush. The Victorian gold rush changed the course of Australian history and in the Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park you can see the story of the gold rush etched into the landscape. For this reason, the Castlemaine Diggings is on the National Heritage list. As you walk, please respect the artefacts and our heritage for others to enjoy.

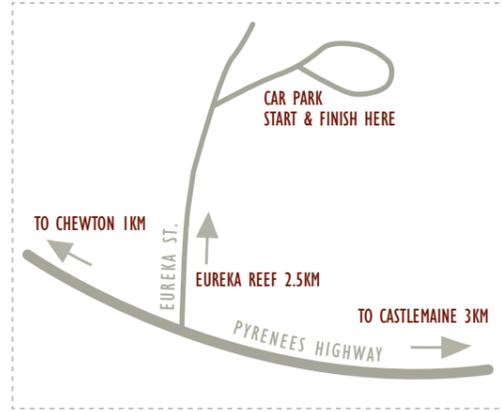
This podtour has a separate track for each of the 20 sites you visit. Music will signal you to move between stops. Some stories will continue as you're walking between sites, and others will ask you to pause and re-start again at the next site. Simply follow the directions of the narrator. You can also pause, or go forwards and backwards, anytime you like.

Please ensure you have adequate water with you and a hat and sunscreen to protect you from the sun.

We hope you enjoy your walk. For more information about the Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park, please stop in at the Castlemaine Visitor Information Centre or telephone 1800 171 888..



# EUREKA REEF HERITAGE WALK



## STOP 1 – EUREKA REEF (Duration 8:50)

From the car park, take the track across the creek bed and just along the track you'll come to the reef itself. On the left you will find a fence and a marker with the number '1' on it.

## STOP 2 – JAARA WATER WELLS (5:11)

50 metres along the track.

## STOP 3 – ALLUVIAL REMAINS (2:50)

50 metres along the track.

## STOP 4 – REMAINS OF PUDDLING MACHINE (2:28)

50 metres around the bend and up the hill.

## STOP 5 – COPPICED TREE (2:25)

Another 50 metres up the track to the fork and a few steps down the right hand track.

## STOP 6 – WATER RACE (1:41)

About 60 metres down the track, on the bridge.

## STOP 7 – MINE MANAGER'S HOUSE (2:37)

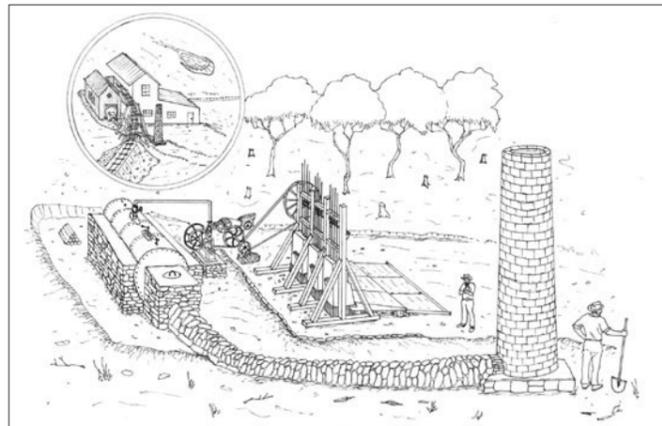
The house is visible from the bridge, 20 metres further along the track.

## STOP 8 – TRAMCAR LINE (0:59)

The tramcar line is the length of a cricket pitch down the track.

## STOP 9 – THE EUREKA CONSOLIDATED BATTERY (4:30)

The short tour ends here. For those who are returning, retrace your steps back to the car park and if you go to Track 21 there's some music to walk with and something also to visit at the end.



Eureka Consolidated Battery, 1870s - 1880s

## STOP 10 – THE TAILINGS (1:21)

If you're in for the full tour then next is Stop 10, The Tailings, about 50 metres down and around the bend.

## STOP 11 – THE DAM (1:11)

An old dam about 50 metres up on your left.

## STOP 12 – THE RIDGE (9:10)

Walk to the top of the ridge, about 100 metres up the track.

## STOP 13 – THE SOUTH ARM OF POVERTY GULLY (1:30)

Carry on down the other side for 150 metres to the south arm of Poverty Gully – it's the creek at the bottom of the hill.

## STOP 14 – THE CYANIDE TANKS (2:38)

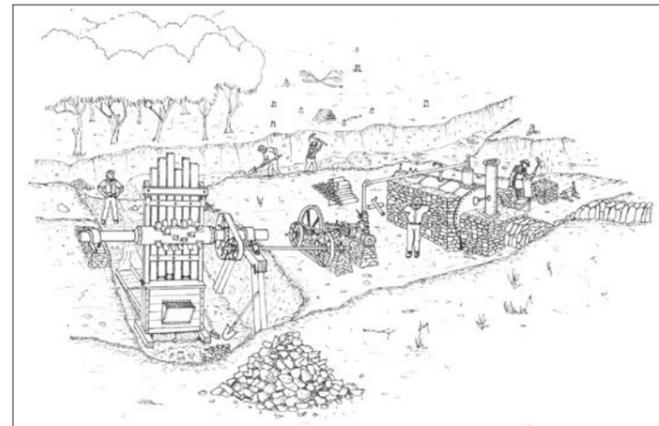
Cross the bridge and go around to the topside of the tanks.

## STOP 15 – THE CORNISH CHIMNEY (2:15)

The brilliant Cornish chimney is 70 metres up the track.

## STOP 16 – BLIGHT'S BATTERY (0:33)

This battery is less than 50 metres along the track.

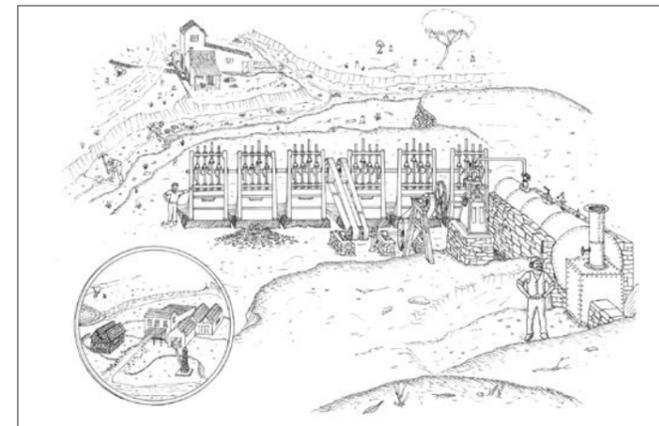


Blight and Party, 1857



## STOP 17 – HARRIS BATTERY (1:35)

This battery adjoins stop 16, and the viewing platform is less than 50 metres on.



Harris and Party, 1857

## STOP 18 – THE LOCATION OF STAMPING BATTERY (0:57)

Another 50 metres up the track

## STOP 19 – THE TUNNEL AND SHAFT (3:03)

Both are about 80 metres on, around the bend.

## STOP 20 – AN OLD MINER'S COTTAGE (0:58)

Follow the track about 200 metres. You'll find the ruins on the left, just before the coppiced Red Ironbark seen earlier on the walk.

## STOP 21 – RETURN TO CARPARK (5:29)

Take the track that goes right at the coppiced tree seen earlier; then follow the track back to the car park.

When back at the car park, you'll see a large steel platform. That covers an old mine shaft, dug by Eureka Consolidated to get to a lower level of the Eureka Reef. There's a hole in that platform, big enough to drop a small stone inside. So grab a pebble and drop it in – then listen... for it's a long way to the bottom.