

people place heritage

# CONTEXT

## HERITAGE LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park

Final Report  
June 2017

Prepared for  
Parks Victoria



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**Report Register**

This report register documents the development and issue of the report entitled *Heritage Landscape Management Framework Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park* undertaken by Context Pty Ltd in accordance with our internal quality management system.

Project No.	Issue No.	Notes/description	Issue Date	Issued to
2068	1	Interim project report	12.4.2016	Patrick Pigott
2068	2	Heritage Landscape Management Framework (Draft)	21.4.2017	Jade Harris
2068	3	Heritage Landscape Management Framework	19.6.2017	Jade Harris

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# 1 SETTING THE SCENE

## 1.1 Introduction

The Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park (CDNHP) was declared as a new category of National Park in 2002 principally for its outstanding cultural landscapes and sites which predominantly relate to the nineteenth century gold rushes and subsequent mining activities.

The Park has been managed under a Heritage Action Plan (Pearson, Lennon and Marshall, 2002) and a Management Plan (Parks Victoria 2007) as a National Heritage listed place. A number of specific sites within and adjacent to the Park including Wattle Gully mine and Garfield water wheel also have individual Heritage Action Plans.

Since that time a number of changes have happened in management or use of the Park.

In 2013 settlement of a native title claim acknowledged the legal recognition of the Traditional Owners. In 2012 -14 development of the Dja Dja Wurrung's first Country Plan was undertaken. This plan acknowledges the importance of preservation and revival of cultural heritage as one of its key goals (DDWCAC 2014)

More recently the mining landscapes comprising groups of sites in the Park have been mapped and their condition and significance recorded (Kaufman 2013:4). This work was primarily done as a fire management tool, to protect defined areas rather than discrete sites, but has resulted in an understanding of the Park as a range of different cultural landscapes created as a result of different phases of mining and post-mining activities throughout the CDNHP.

In 1992 the Great Dividing Trail was planned by the Great Dividing Trail Association and over subsequent years, implemented. In 2008 the name was changed to the Goldfields Track. The Great Dividing Trail Association still continues as an organisation and a Goldfields Track Committee mainly deals with tourism promotion as well as assisting with track maintenance. The Goldfields Track extends over 200 kilometres linking Mount Buninyong (Ballarat) with Bendigo. In 2010-11 the track was upgraded so that it can now be shared with mountain bike riders. Detailed park notes were prepared in the form of the *Goldfields Track Walking Guide* (2012).

In 1999 the Mount Alexander Diggings Committee (comprising Mount Alexander Shire Council, Parks Victoria and Friends of the Mount Alexander Diggings FOMAD) wrote and published *Discovering the Mount Alexander Diggings*, one of the first comprehensive guides to the many mining sites around Castlemaine, Chewton, Maldon, Fryerstown etc. This guide was in the form of a drive and walk booklet and provided interpretation for a number of key sites in the wider area around Castlemaine.

Existing interpretation within the CDNHP is limited to signage within a few areas of the Park. More recently Park Notes and other media such as short films and podcast tours, DVD and MP3 Files have introduced other forms of interpretation for visitors.

### Creating a Heritage Landscape Management Framework

Creating a Heritage Landscape Management Framework (the 'Framework') will provide a new way to interpret, manage and facilitate visitor access to key cultural landscapes within the Park. Initially envisaged as an update to the 2002 Heritage Action Plan, the process of creating this Framework has provided an opportunity to reflect on and refresh some of the activities of management that relate to the conservation and interpretation of the CDNHP as a whole, the various landscapes within it, and the particular sites within these landscapes.

The Heritage Landscape Management Framework will provide a framework and implementation plan for the conservation and communication of heritage values at a landscape scale. This report presents the rationale for and the content of the Heritage Landscape Management Framework.

The CDNHP is within the traditional lands of the Dja Dja Wurrung people and their contribution to its management is established through a Recognition and Settlement Agreement. The responsibilities under the Agreement extend to influencing public policies and plans and participating in programs and strategic partnerships (DDWCAC 2014:5).

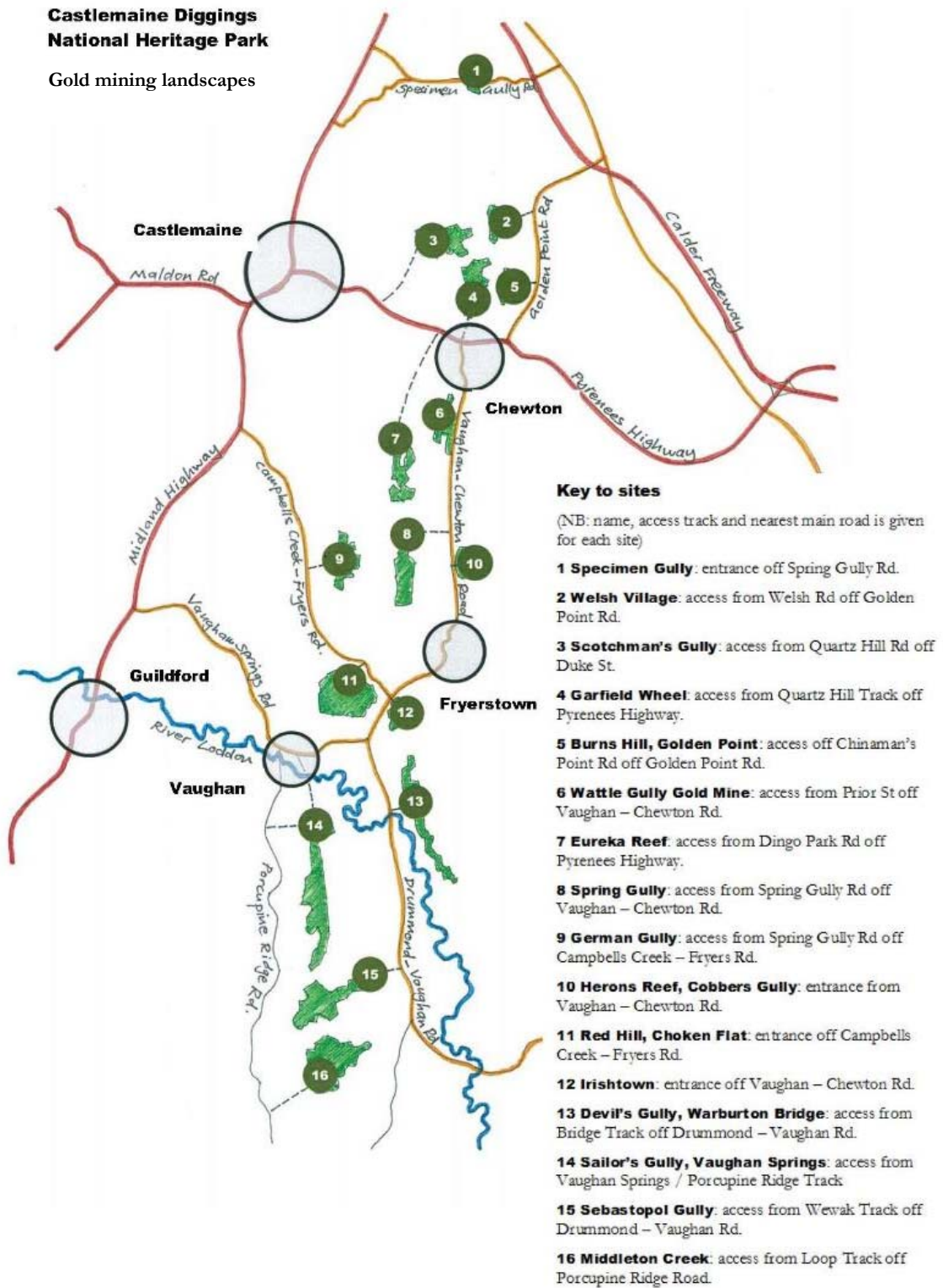


Figure 1: Location of the gold mining landscapes identified in the Kaufman study

Understanding the CDNHP requires a range of perspectives, historically and geographically. The Framework is based on a thematic and spatial analysis across the park, building on the specific mining landscapes defined by Kaufman (2013) and adding other events and processes in Victoria's history (HCV 2010). Whilst some of these aspects of history might not be important on a national or world stage as gold mining, they may be important to local communities. Gathering information through the idea of historic themes gives a broader and richer understanding of the evolved history of the Park.

Understanding of where key sites are located, their access, significance, integrity, condition and potential for interpretation was built through extensive field work and spatial analysis. The information presented is based on the different mining landscapes and their potential for visitor access and interpretation.

Seeking the views of the communities associated with the park is important in understanding other heritage values that need to be considered in future management. For this project, we combined a well-publicised online survey with 'walk-overs' with representatives from community groups local to or associated with the park and a Dja Dja Wurrung Elder and DDWCAC cultural heritage officer. The information gained from a range of engagement activities has brought a more diverse knowledge base to the understanding of the CDNHP and its values. Whilst the CDNHP has 'official values' at the national level, other communities may value the Park for the same or for different reasons. Finding out about what local communities value has been an important part of this project and feeds into sections 2 and 4.

Through site work and community engagement, we took stock of the current interpretative resources, identified both challenges and opportunities to define what might be required in the future both in terms of key stories and interpretive methods and media.

The last element was to develop objectives, policies and priorities for the identified landscape clusters and some specific sites; these sit within the overarching policy framework provided by the CDNHP Plan of Management (2007) and Heritage Action Plan (2002). Priorities for implementation are outlined in the final section of this document.

## 1.2 Significance of CDNHP

Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park was added to the National Heritage List in 2005 for its cultural values, meaning it is of outstanding significance to the nation. The NHL Statement of significance is included below. It is also on the Victorian Heritage Register; Appendix 1 includes the VHR Statement of Significance.

Castlemaine was one of the major gold rushes of Victoria and of Australia. In 1852 the goldfield had acquired a population of 30,000 and was by then regarded as the richest goldfield in the world. Significant mining continued for many decades, and some mining has been evident right up to the present. The goldfield, which played a major role in drawing overseas immigrants to the colony, and in raising from the ground so much of the golden wealth which flowed into Australian and overseas markets, played a substantial part in all those changes which gold wrought on Victoria and Australia: increased population, increased wealth, the growth in manufacturing, the improvement in transport, the development of regional centres and townships, the further development of a middle class, democratization of political institutions, reform of land laws, the genesis of an Australian Chinese community, and so forth. Its impact was felt beyond Australia as well.

The Castlemaine Goldfield has an association with defining events and processes in Australian history which have fundamentally shaped the modern nation, as described above.

Castlemaine Goldfield has one of the richest collections of mining sites and landscapes in Australia. These range from large areas of high integrity remaining from the early alluvial phase of the 1850s, through the more technologically complex alluvial workings involving races, puddling, ground and hydraulic sluicing and dredging, deep lead mining, and then reef mining sites which contain a large variety of individual types of sites. The Castlemaine

Goldfield's collection of mining sites is, in terms of diversity, integrity and time-depth, possibly the most outstanding in Australia. In addition, there are large numbers of habitation sites and groups of sites which form a rich tapestry depicting the pattern of settlement on the goldfield. [Criterion A Events and Processes]

*The attributes include the early and later alluvial workings (pits, shafts and other earthworks), stream diversions, water races, puddling machines, dams, ground sluicing sites, hydraulic sluicing sites, dredging sites, deep lead mining sites, the extensive range of sites associated with reef mining (e.g. stamper batteries and remains, building remains, buildings, roasting kilns, all other elements of reef sites), Chilean mills, Cornish technology, landscapes of multiple mining sites, habitation sites ranging from intact structures to ruins, tracks, cemeteries and other sites.*

Castlemaine Goldfield possesses sites and landscapes which reflect the whole period of gold mining in Australia, and has particularly important large areas relating to the early phase of the great Australian gold rushes. In this regard, the goldfield is a very rare entity. Some of the types of sites represented are very rare, such as the expanses of early alluvial workings, roasting kilns, Cornish technology, the Vaughan Chinese Cemetery, large numbers of puddling machine sites, the unusually well preserved hydraulic sluicing sites, the early reefing sites which are among the earliest surviving in Australia, and an early Chilean mill site.

The goldfield is associated with a large range of earlier forms of gold mining which are no longer practised, and earlier forms of habitation which are now foreign to most Australians. Mining in Australia has for some time been almost wholly the preserve of mining companies, and the era of independent gold miners is long passed. The work and life of these miners is well represented on the Castlemaine diggings. [Criterion B Rarity]

*The attributes are as listed above and previously at Criterion A.*

The goldfield's numerous mining and habitation sites have potential to yield new information about the conduct of Australian gold mining over a lengthy period, and particularly during the nineteenth century. These sites include the early alluvial landscapes, the cemeteries, the later alluvial sites reflecting various technologies, the many reef mining sites, and the habitation sites which are likely to yield further evidence of living practices during the goldfield's lifetime. [Criterion C Research]

*The attributes are as listed above and previously at Criterion A.*

The goldfield's many mining sites provide key examples of early and later alluvial workings (ranging from shallow pits and shafts to puddling machines, races, ground sluicing, hydraulic sluicing and dredging, and deep lead mining), and many reef mining processes over a lengthy period of time with sites reflecting a large number of the elements of the reefing process. In addition to individual sites, the area contains excellent examples of cultural landscapes consisting of multiple elements.

The many habitation sites scattered through the goldfield are exemplary of ruined miners' huts and houses. Consisting in general of mud mortared stone chimneys and hearths, they reflect the major characteristics of remnant dwellings in a goldfields environment.

Similarly, the mining sites illustrate the main characteristics of the goldminers' working way of life, with its emphasis on manual labour, hardship, the utilization of natural resources, the dependence on water and a lifestyle intimately connected with the earth.

The goldfield as a whole reflects very well the land use of gold mining. The mining sites and the habitation sites combine to characterize this form of land use. [Criterion D Principal characteristics of a class of places]

*The attributes are as listed above and previously at Criterion A.*

The Castlemaine Goldfield is redolent of a sense of the past. Situated within regenerating box-ironbark forest, the mining remains and habitation sites immediately convey to the visitor a feeling of passed ways of working and living. The great number and extent of



remains reinforces to the visitor the historical significance of the goldfield. The degree of alteration of, and intervention in, the natural landscape makes a strong impression on visitors. The Castlemaine diggings are a place of strong aesthetic significance.

*The attributes include the wide expanses of regenerating box-ironbark forest, the landforms of hills, ridges, gullies, creeks and rivers, together with the multitude of mining and habitation remains listed previously at Criterion A.*

CDNHP has been assessed as not being of outstanding significance to the nation against the other criteria, namely (E) Creative and technical, (G) Social, (H) Associated people and groups or (I) Indigenous culture and practices.

### 1.3 Understanding cultural landscapes

The CDNHP is described as a cultural landscape in the 2002 Heritage Action Plan and the 2007 Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park Management Plan. The CDNHP comprises many thousands of individual mining sites, associated historic sites such as settlements. The sites are archaeological in nature and have been mapped and described into various types, relating to the form of mining represented. (Kaufman 2013). CDNHP is recognised as being highly significant for its extensive and diverse remains of gold mining processes and as a place where migrants from many corners of the globe converged. There are different ways of seeing this landscape and its history.

Equally CDNHP is an Aboriginal landscape of cultural sites and areas, natural resources and totemic species, creation stories and personal memories. The mined landscapes are referred to as ‘upside down country’ by Dja Dja Wurrung people. As custodians of the land that has been severely impacted by mining they feel a responsibility to heal the wounds that it has sustained (DDWCAC 2014:22).

For local people and those who visit often, it is likely to be a place of personal connection and meaning, and an experienced place.

Today, the box-ironbark forest is mostly a regrowth forest with many trees of a coppiced, multi-stemmed form, the result of past logging to supply fuel and timber for mines and other local industry, with two areas within the Park covering that contain large trees which may have been seedlings at the time of European settlement.

The concept of a cultural landscape is intended to reflect the ‘interaction of people with the environment over a long time resulting in a distinctive landscape of features and patterns derived from that interaction’ (HAP 2002: Appendix B, p.1).

The World Heritage Convention Operational Guidelines (1999) define cultural landscapes as:

*Cultural landscapes are illustrative of the evolution of human society and settlement over time, under the influence of the physical constraints and/or opportunities presented by their natural environment and of successive social, economic and cultural forces, both external and internal. They should be selected on the basis both of their outstanding universal value and of their representativity in terms of a clearly defined geo-cultural region and also for their capacity to illustrate the essential and distinct cultural elements of such regions (paragraph 36).*

*The term "cultural landscape" embraces a diversity of manifestations of the interaction between humankind and its natural environment (paragraph 37).*

Further, three types of cultural landscapes are defined: designed landscapes, organically evolved landscapes and associative landscapes. CDNHP falls into the second category, an organically evolved landscape that results ‘from an initial social, economic, administrative, and/or religious imperative and has developed its present form by association with and in response to its natural environment. Such landscapes reflect that process of evolution in their form and component features.’ In part CDNHP is a relict landscape, as many of the formative processes have come to an end, but with some related gold mining activities continuing.

As a concept, 'cultural landscape' encourages an appreciation of the inter-connectedness of material evidence found across a broad area, along with cultural practices and knowledge for example. It encourages a whole of landscape appreciation that encompasses public and private land and multiple sites.

## 2 KEY GOLDFIELDS HERITAGE LANDSCAPES

### 2.1 Historic landscapes and key sites

The Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park takes in the localities of Campbells Creek, Castlemaine, Chewton, Fryerstown, Guildford and Vaughan. Boundaries between the townships and the Park are often not clear. There are important historical and visual connections between the mining landscapes of the Park, those adjacent but on private land, the townships and travel routes.

The Park reads as part of a larger cultural landscape with a series of nodes around settlements. Mining landscapes are sometimes highly visible from the road like Red Hill, and sometimes hidden away in the surrounding bushland, accessible only to walkers or bike riders. The landscape invites exploration and discovery, and inspires a sense of mystery.

There have been numerous studies into the gold mining landscapes of the CDNHP, each analysing the technology, period and mining types. Two of the key documents – the CDNHP Management Plan (Parks Victoria 2002) and the Cultural Landscapes: Description and Mapping Project (Kaufman 2013) both proposed such frameworks. These are described below as background to the approach taken in the LMF.

#### *CDNHP Management Plan*

The CDNHP Management Plan (Parks Victoria 2007:14-15) identifies four main periods of gold mining:

#### ***Period 1 (1850s–60s) – gold rush shallow alluvial and pioneering quartz mining***

Prime examples of:

- Gold rush landscapes are found south of Vaughan, e.g. Sailors Gully, Sebastopol Gully, and along Middletons Creek.
- Puddling machine sites (circular machinery sites associated with dams and pebble dumps) are found at Cobblers, Scotchmans, Sailors and Sebastopol gullies.
- Diverting streams through cuttings to sluice creek and gully beds are found at Middletons Creek, Butchers Gully and Sailors Gully.
- Pioneering quartz mining (Cornish flues, engine houses, battery foundations, dams, tramways, buildings, mine workings, roasting kilns, and possible Chilean Mills) are found at Specimen Gully, Specimen Hill, Eureka Reef, Cobblers Gully, Crocodile Gully, Tubal Cain and Sebastopol Gully.

#### ***Period 2 (1870s–80s) – reworking shallow alluvial deposits and continuing quartz mining***

Prime examples of:

- Ground sluicing (water races, head races, ground sluices, tail races, pebble dumps and slum ponds) and include the Loddon River Supply scheme and the sluicing of Old Red Hill, Turks Hill and Grogshop Gully; Hunts water race and the sluicing of Nuggetty Gully; and Manchester Hill.
- Continuing quartz mining (including new features such as Cornish engine houses and water wheels) is found at Eureka Reef, Herons Reef and Garfield Reef.

#### ***Period 3 (1890s–WWI) – pump sluicing and continuing quartz mining (including chlorination and use of cyanide)***

Prime examples of:

- Pump sluicing (deeply cut gullies, water races, tailing ponds) is found at Golden Gully, near Fryerstown.

- Continuing quartz mining (new features include chlorination and cyaniding) is found at Spring Gully group of mines, Quartz Hill and Eureka Reef.

***Period 4 (1930s mining revival to present day) – Susso shallow alluvial mining, continuing pump sluicing and quartz mining***

Prime examples of:

- Susso mining in the form of ground sluices and hut sites are found at Manchester Hill, Sailors Gully, Cobblers Gully and Ajax Gully.
- Continuing hydraulic sluicing is Cox’s sluicing plant at Red Hill that retains its machinery including a 200 hp engine powered by producer gas; also found at Cobblers, Tom O’Shanter and Fifers gullies.
- Continuing quartz mining at Wattle Gully gold mine that still possesses the bulk of its 1950s mining plant and also at Garfield Reef, Phillips Reef and Spring Gully.

The Management Plan notes that ‘since 1998, ten destinations within the park — Forest Creek Gold Diggings, Wattle Gully Mine, Garfield Waterwheel, Eureka Reef Walk, Escott Grave, Spring Gully Historic Mines, Pennyweight Flat Cemetery, Red Knob, Herons Reef and Vaughan Mineral Springs — have been established as part of the Mount Alexander Diggings Trail. This trail is promoted for cultural heritage tourism and education and leads to various heritage sites within the park and surrounding region, with short interpretive walking trails also developed at some sites’.

*Cultural Landscapes: Description and Mapping Project*

In 2013, Rob Kaufman presented an analysis of the mining landscapes across the Park based on the type and period of mining, and the value of the extant physical evidence to demonstrate that history, using the following types of gold mining:

Table 1: Categorisation of gold mining landscapes (Kaufman 2014)

Gold-rush landscapes	Post-gold rush period
Ten outstanding early gold rush mining landscapes within the park were identified (Kaufman 2013:6) that demonstrate the gold rush period with shallow mining, pioneer quartz mining, and water movement and ground sluicing. The identified landscapes are	In addition to the early gold rush mining areas a further 6 landscapes were identified (Kaufman 2013:7) that exemplified gold mining enterprises that continued beyond the early gold rush, post 1870, including deep shaft quartz mining, major hydraulic ground sluicing and bucket dredging. The identified landscapes are
Sailors Gully	Red Hill
Sebastopol Gully	German Gully
Middletons Creek	Spring Gully
Devils Gully	Garfield
Irishtown	Nimrod/Welsh Village
Eureka Reef	Wattle Gully
Cobblers Gully/Herons Reef	
Burns Hill	
Scotchmans Gully	
Specimen Gully	

Kaufman mapped significant features for each gold mining landscape and described the geographic setting, views, history, character, communication links. He lists the principal mining sites within each landscape, briefly considers interpretation and provides a statement of significance in relation to the World Heritage criteria and the threshold of 'Outstanding Universal Value' (OUV).

In the HLMF we have added five further categories to the two broader phases of gold rush and post-gold rush landscapes as follows.

1. Early gold rush
2. Early gold rush and pioneer quartz/shallow mining
3. Early gold rush and ground sluicing
4. Post gold rush deep shaft quartz mining
5. Post gold rush hydraulic sluicing and bucket dredging.

Table 2: Phases of mining compared to Kaufman (2013) categories

Landscape Management Framework	Phases/categories of mining activity				
	1	2	3	4	5
<b>Gold rush landscapes</b>					
1 – Sailors Gully		✓			
2 – Sebastopol Gully		✓			
3 – Middletons Creek	✓				
4 – Devils Creek			✓		
5 – Irishtown			✓		
6 – Eureka Reef		✓			
7 – Cobblers Gully/Herons Reef <sup>1</sup>		✓			
8 – Burns Hill		✓			
9 – Scotchmans Gully	✓				
10 – Specimen Gully		✓			
<b>Post-gold rush landscapes</b>					
A. Red Hill					✓
B. German Gully					✓
C. Spring Gully				✓	
D. Garfield				✓	
E. Nimrod/Welsh Village				✓	
F. Wattle Gully				✓	

<sup>1</sup> The 16 gold mining landscapes identified by Kaufman refers to Herons Reef as Cobblers Gully. For consistency Cobblers Gully has been retained and Herons Reef attached wherever it is mentioned in the report. Similar for Nimrod/Welsh Village.

## 2.2 Community values

### Engaging with the community

The Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park is a place that is valued by many people. The National Heritage List recognises its 'outstanding heritage value to the nation' for its historic and aesthetic value. Different communities may value aspects of the park, from its natural values as a regenerating box-ironbark forest and associated ecology, its mining history or other special qualities.

The Traditional Owners, represented by the Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation (DDWCAC) have connections to the Park that are expressed through Caring for Country, the living essence that is shared between people and place.

Other local communities of the central goldfields region interact with and care for the Park in different ways, either individually or as part of specific interest groups. Visitors are also encouraged to visit the region and to walk or ride through the Park and to learn something of its history.

As part of the development of this HLMF, community perspectives on CDNHP were sought through an online survey and site walkovers with key community organisations. A summary is provided in Appendix 2.

### Who uses the park?

Data on use of the Park is not readily available; Parks Victoria does not count park visitors nor vehicles and the dispersed nature of the park and its many access points would make this very difficult.

CDNHP is recognised as one of the key destinations for the Central Goldfields region, and is widely promoted in tourism guides and websites. Mount Alexander Shire recognises it as a key destination within the Shire and promotes it via the Castlemaine Visitor Information Centre and in other ways.

The CDNHP Management Plan (2007:5) identifies that most visitors are residents from nearby townships and their friends and relatives, with the peak season to visit being autumn, and the lowest number of people visiting in winter. The key visitor sites include:

- Forest Creek Gold Diggings
- Vaughan Springs
- Expedition Pass Reservoir.

Vaughan Mineral Springs is reportedly the most visited heritage destination of the park, attracting day visitors. Forest Creek is said to attract families and school groups to enjoy the interpretive walks, opportunities to pan for gold and guided tours. Expedition Pass is a popular swimming, fishing and canoeing location for locals, especially in summer (Parks Victoria 2007:5-6).

The Great Dividing Trail – now the Goldfields Track - between Bendigo and Ballarat includes three walk segments through the CDNHP - the Golden Mountain Walk, 'Cry Joe' Walk, and Leanganook tracks. The Goldfields Track connects 19 heritage sites in and around the park and runs from Porcupine Ridge in the south to Specimen Gully in the north. The whole trail and the day walk sections are popular with walkers and mountain bikers (Parks Victoria 2007:6). There are a variety of guides to the track, including the website of Goldfields Tourism Inc (Goldfields Tourism Inc. <http://www.goldfieldstrack.com.au/>) and the Great Dividing Trail Association (<http://gdt.org.au/>).

Parks Victoria recognises the CDNHP as having 'statewide importance for its provision of a unique visitor experience' (Parks Victoria 2007:5-6).

The CDNHP provides for a wide range of visitor activities, most linked to its natural and cultural values. The Management Plan establishes the framework for those uses and activities and most of the permitted activities are available across most of the park. These include bushwalking, camping, heritage and nature study, mountain bike riding and cycling, orienteering and rogaining, picnicking and prospecting. Trail bikes, vehicles and horses are permitted to use all the public roads and trails.

As well as visitors, there are several local organisations with a strong connection to the CDNHP; some of these organisations run activities within the park for their members or the general public. Some examples include:

- Great Dividing Trail Association: creators of the GDT concept, they have prepared maps and guides to the trail, run regular monthly walks and monitor conditions (<http://gdt.org.au/>)
- Friends of the Box Ironbark Forests Castlemaine (FOBIF): often run walks within the CDNHP as part of their monthly walks program and take a keen interest in park planning and management.
- The Friends of the Mount Alexander Diggings (FOMAD), a Parks Victoria friends group which works closely with Mount Alexander Shire. It has provided trained guides, and has developed educational/visitor products.
- Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation (DDWCAC) represents the Traditional Owners of a large area across Central Victoria which includes CDNHP.

Other community groups with varying degrees of engagement with CDNHP include Castlemaine Pioneers and Old Residents Association, Chewton Domain Society, Friends of Vaughan Springs, Friends of Kalimna Park, Golden Point Landcare Group, Expedition Pass Reservoir Committee of Management, Specimen Gully Landcare Group, Castlemaine Field Naturalists, Castlemaine Land Care Group.

## 2.3 Themes and stories

Themes or storylines help us to understand the common threads in the history of an area, across time, people and activities. *Victoria's Framework of Historic Themes* (2010) was developed by the Victorian Heritage Council and the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Council and is designed to encompass the whole story of human use and occupancy of Victoria. It is linked to a national set of themes – the *Australian Historic Themes Framework*.

Table 3: Australian Historic Themes Framework

Australian Historic Theme	Victoria's Theme	
1. Tracing the evolution of the Australian Environment	1. Shaping Victoria's environment	Regional or Local themes
2. Peopling Australia	2. Peopling Victoria's places and landscapes	
3. Developing local, regional & national economies	3. Connecting Victorians by transport and communication 4. Transforming the land 5. Building Victoria's industries and workforce	
4. Building settlements, towns & cities	6. Building towns, cities and the garden state	
5. Working	Covered in 3,4,5	

6. Educating	8. Building community life	
7. Governing	7. Governing Victorians	
8. Developing Australia’s cultural life	9. Shaping cultural and creative life	
9. Marking the phases of life	Included in 8. Building community life	

Every locality has its own stories and one of the tasks has been to understand the Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park as a place that presents visitors with an opportunity to see and appreciate a broad range of activities and values. Much is now understood about the processes and activities of gold mining in the area over a long period, but there are also the periods ‘before’ and an ‘after’ gold mining that encompass further human activity.

The framework of historic themes for Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park (Appendix 3) was developed in the early stages of the project and provided a way into the multiplicity of stories, helping link themes with place types, specific examples and then to the mining landscapes Kaufman identified. The framework of historic themes includes sub-themes or storylines that sit beneath and help illuminate the main themes. Generic types of places are defined further as specific examples of places within the Park. The last column references whether the place is included in one of the 16 mapped landscapes (Kaufman 2013), and if so which.

Some themes are important nationally - the wealth of different types of mining sites are evidence a worldwide mass movement of people, knowledge and technology from many different countries to the Victorian goldfields. For Dja Dja Wurrung people the connecting to Country and ancestors is vital, and at the local level communities may value the evidence of past settlements or the ecology supported by the regenerating forest or the area as a place to enjoy with friends and family.

The framework of themes, storylines and places was reviewed with the Project Working Group, considering the community values from the online survey and walkovers. As a result, 6 themes were selected as being the most important ones to convey through site interpretation and other media.

Table 4: Summary of the ten themes, with most important ones marked.

Theme	Brief explanation
1.0 Mass migration to the goldfields of Central Victoria	This theme addresses the mass migration of people to gold-rush Victoria in the 1850s, from all over the world, including Britain, Ireland, Germany, China, America, Denmark, etc. and the ways in which this migration is evident in settlement patterns.
2.0 Winning of gold and stone	This theme addresses the various stages and processes of gold mining on the Castlemaine Diggings, from manual techniques to the use of more complex industrial machines and processes. It also includes other kinds of extraction, for example slate mining and granite quarrying.
3.0 Routes, tracks and travelling	This theme addresses the development of routes and tracks within the goldfields area, and the development of wheeled transport routes for coaches to and within the goldfields.
4.0 Living on the goldfields	This theme addresses the emergence of permanent settlements on the goldfields (in contrast to early camps), the establishment of the necessities of domestic life, including habitations (often



	rudimentary), gardens, and water supply, and the likelihood of cross-cultural interactions.
5.0 Securing water	This theme addresses the means by which people on the goldfields sourced and secured a water supply for personal, domestic and industrial uses, reshaping the landscape to move water from place to place.
6.0 Working	This theme addresses the wide range of work — paid and unpaid, permanent and transient — that occupied men and women on the goldfields of Castlemaine.
7.0 Ritual and ceremony in community life	This theme recognises the importance of ritual and ceremony in people’s lives, including religious and spiritual activities, celebrations around birth and marriage, and commemorations.
8.0 Taking political action and shaping political identity	This theme addresses the emergence of political concerns and political action in the early 1850s that were pivotal in the establishment of democratic reforms in the Colony (and later State) of Victoria.
9.0 Changing Country, changing forest	This theme refers to dramatic transformation of Dja Dja Wurrung Country and the forest landscape through gold-mining and associated activities from 1851-52, followed by the development of forestry and forest industries, and later a focus on regeneration and protection of natural values.
10.0 Imposing law and order	This theme refers to the imposition of government authority on the dispersed landscapes of the goldfields from the early 1850s, through the powers of the Gold Commissioners and the Victorian police (including Native Police).
11.0 Finding time and space for leisure	This theme refers to the ways in which people organised opportunities for sport and recreation on the goldfields, and for other informal leisure activities.
12.0 Remembering the past	This theme refers to the ways in which the goldfields have been celebrated and remembered as an iconic and formative element in the shaping of Australian history and an Australian historical conscience.

## 2.4 Interpretive and visitor opportunities

Beginning with the Cultural Landscape Mapping Report (Kaufman 2013) as a base document and following on from desk analysis of the Heritage Action Plan (2002) and the CDNHP Management Plan (2007) and other documents referenced in Appendix 1, a representative range of sites were visited to understand the nature of the goldmining landscape, access issues and existing interpretive provision. From this several considerations became apparent which helped assess where visitor access could be improved and developed. These included:

- The importance of physical access requirements and the ability to utilise existing facilities.
- The desire to get a broad understanding of all the main themes including; type of mining activity, human occupation, the use of water plus Indigenous and natural values.
- The ability to provide for a range of audiences and visitor experiences.
- The need to work within Parks Victoria guidelines and their wish to expand on visitor use and opportunities.
- A consideration of the need to prioritise available resources.

This analysis provided an approach to developing and managing the heritage landscape as described below. The interpretation and visitor opportunities are developed further in Section 3 of this report.

## 2.5 Key landscape constellations

### Understanding the landscape character

For this project, understanding the character of the landscape drew on the gold-mining landscapes identified by Kaufman, an appreciation of the broader landscape context within and beyond the Park boundary, the themes and storylines, and visitor requirements such as access from main vehicular and walking routes, existing facilities (e.g. car parking, trails, picnic sites), and existing or potential interpretative opportunities.

Our preliminary analysis led to the idea of using key entry points into the CDNHP landscape as physical and interpretative gateways. Then through extensive site visits, the concept of presenting specific mining sites as a **constellation** of elements, each with a **main entrance or gateway** with surrounding sites as **satellites** was developed. This approach offers an effective way to explain the landscapes and the stories embedded within them.

Each constellation portrays differing landscape characteristics and visitor opportunities but all include fully accessible sites and features, as well as more low-key and off-the-beaten track sites, plus the ability to pick up on the main interpretive themes and stories within the CDNHP.

Each landscape constellation is accessed through an '**entrance**' to the Park, generally from a settlement such as Vaughan, Chewton or Spring Gully. At each entry point, the stories that can be explored through the constellation and the satellites can be outlined, access routes defined and visitor facilities described. The steps in the analysis that led to the constellations is illustrated through the following series of maps.

The first map (Figure 2) brings together information on the main roads and the Goldfields Track, recreation sites, car parks and areas where there is no parking. Overlaid on this are the landscapes relating to the gold rush period and those that are post gold rush, based on the mapping undertaken by Kaufman.

The second map (Figure 3) shows existing published circular walks through the Park with the landscapes identified by Kaufman, and key sites as identified in the Heritage Action Plan (2002); noting how many of these are already accessed.

The third map (Figure 4) identifies the places by mining type that is already recognised as significant in the current HAP. It also shows landscapes grouped by type including habitation sites, cemeteries etc. and the landscapes that demonstrate these.

And the final map (Figure 5) groups landscapes together into three 'constellations' or hierarchies consisting of main sites and satellites, noting which place types (and therefore stories) may be applicable. For this analysis, a hierarchy starts to emerge, based on access, walking loops, priority places and outlying sites and access points.

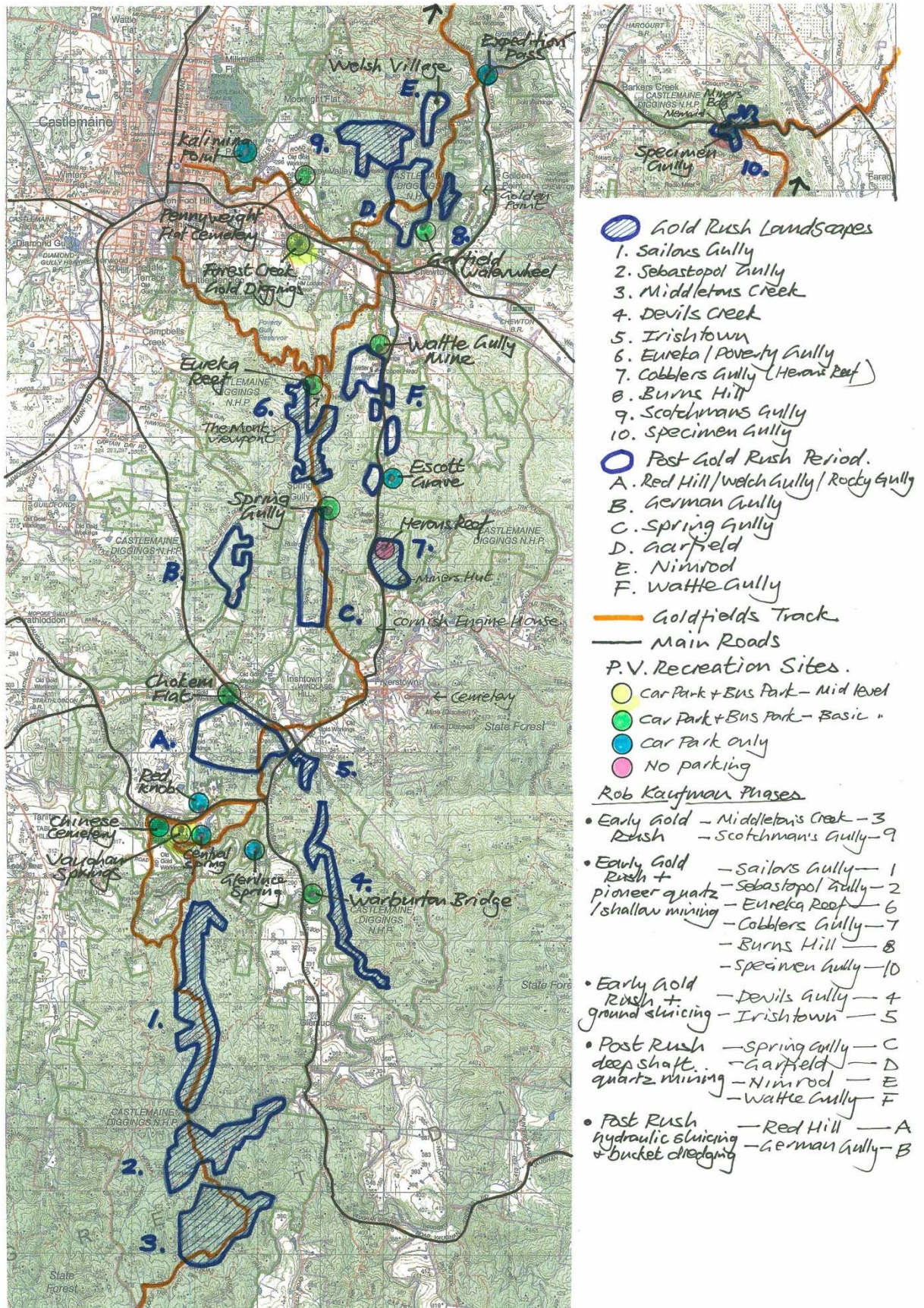
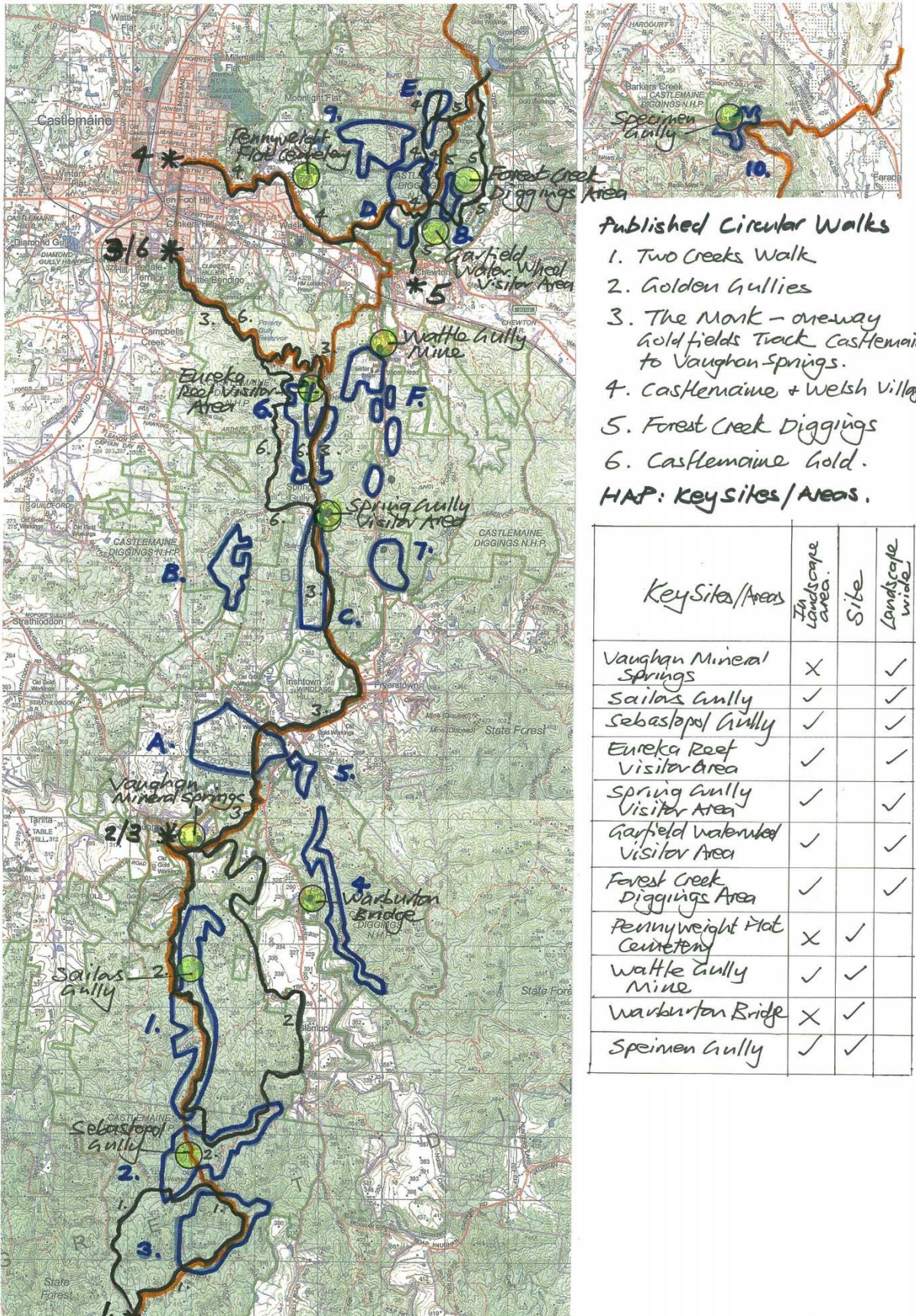


Figure 2. Gold mining landscapes and phases in relation to the main roads, car parking facilities and the Goldfields Track.



**Published Circular Walks**

1. Two Creeks Walk
  2. Golden Gullies
  3. The Monk – one-way Goldfields Track, Castlemaine to Vaughan Springs.
  4. Castlemaine + Welsh Village
  5. Forest Creek Diggings
  6. Castlemaine Gold.
- HAP: Key Sites / Areas.**

Key Sites / Areas	In Landscape area.	Site	Landscape wide
Vaughan Mineral Springs	X		✓
Sailas Gully	✓		✓
Sebastopol Gully	✓		✓
Eureka Reef Visitor Area	✓		✓
Spring Gully Visitor Area	✓		✓
Garfield Waterwheel Visitor Area	✓		✓
Forest Creek Diggings Area	✓		✓
Pennyweight Flat Cemetery	X	✓	
Wattle Gully Mine	✓	✓	
Warkburton Bridge	X	✓	
Speimen Gully	✓	✓	

Figure 3. Existing published walks and key sites as previously identified in relation to the gold mining landscapes.



Figure 4. Categories of landscape features and significant places by mining type.

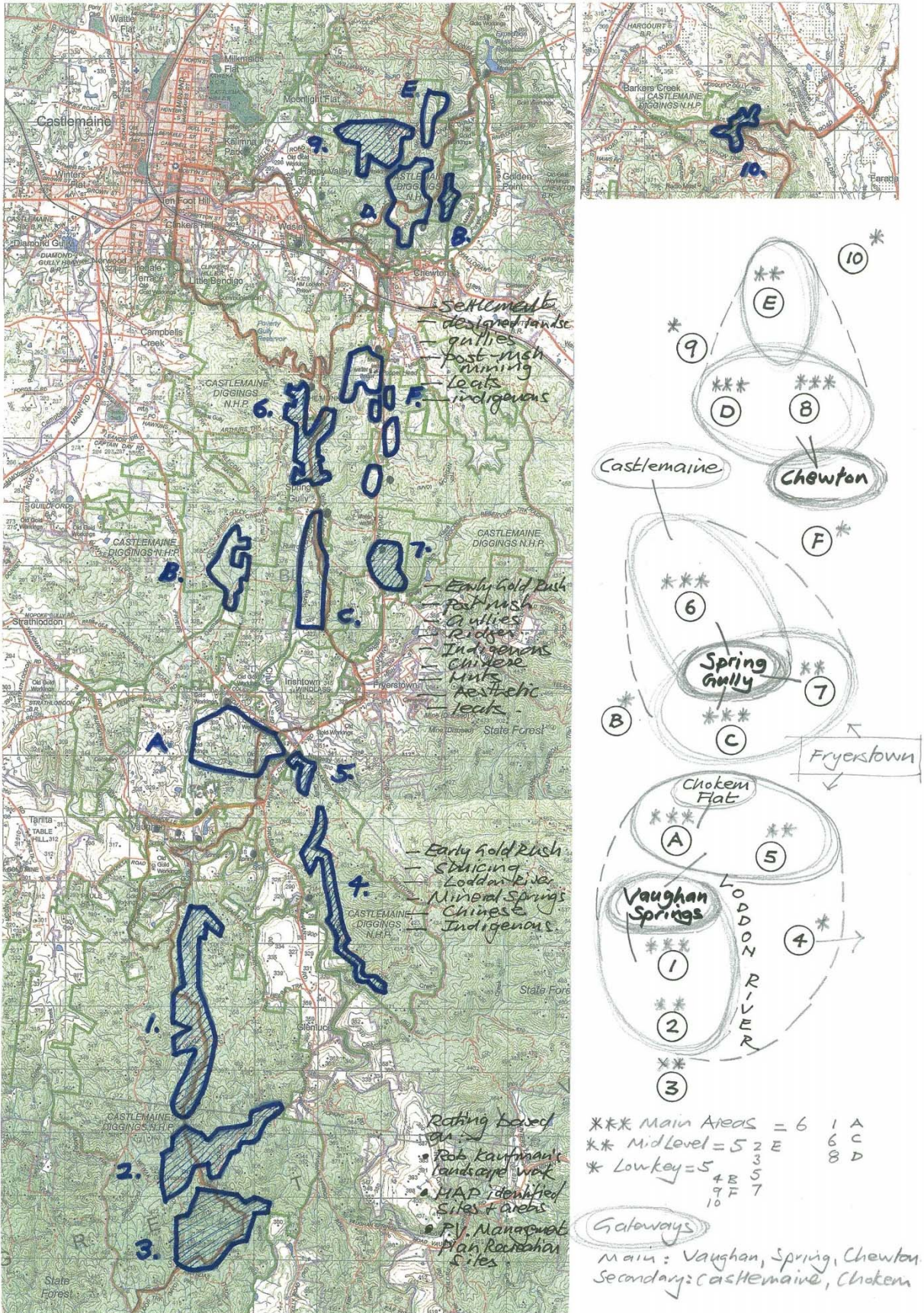


Figure 5. Grouping of gold mining landscapes into 'constellations' based on hierarchy of access and place types.

### Defining the key landscape constellations

As previously described under landscape character above, the preliminary analysis led to the notion of developing key entry points into the landscape from where a network or constellation of sites and landscapes could be accessed. This was based on existing access and visitor facilities as well as opportunities for future use and the potential for site and other forms of interpretation.

Also, it was considered important to see the individual Kaufman landscapes and other significant sites as part of a broader (continuous) heritage landscape and not in isolation. As the concept for these broad landscapes developed, it became apparent that 3 main constellation areas geographically spread through the park could be established, each accessed from key settlements or from one of the main landscapes identified by Kaufman. These could act as 'gateway landscapes'.

The 3 constellation landscapes are mapped and described below (see Figure 6, 13 & 20). Each constellation is given an overarching title and includes the Kaufman identified landscapes within that area as well as the other significant sites or features identified in the 2002 HAP. The Kaufman landscapes are categorised under 3 headings – main landscapes; associated landscapes; and outer landscapes – based on the anticipated level of access and interpretation that may be developed and promoted in each constellation.

The gateway landscape represents a significant site, with good access and existing visitor facilities, with the potential to act as a main gateway into that constellation area and where the main themes of the park can be interpreted.

Key landscapes are those areas where a reasonable level of access is possible, usually near the main gateway landscape, with further opportunities for interpreting the main themes of the goldfields.

The remote landscapes, whilst significant, include areas that are more difficult to access and are seen as complementary to the main and associated landscapes.

In addition, links to associated places including key settlements and other significant sites or features previously identified are mapped and described for each constellation area.

Table 5: Summary table of the three key landscape constellations

Constellation	Component landscapes (Kaufman 2013)
Northern constellation – Garfield/Forest Creek	Gateway Landscape <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Garfield</li> </ul> Key Landscape <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nimrod/Welsh Village</li> </ul> Remote Landscape <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Burns Hill</li> <li>• Scotchmans Gully</li> <li>• Specimen Gully</li> </ul> Associated Places <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chewton</li> <li>• Monster Meeting site</li> <li>• Forest Creek Trail</li> </ul>
Central constellation – Spring Gully/Eureka	Gateway Landscape <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spring Gully</li> </ul>

Constellation	Component landscapes (Kaufman 2013)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eureka</li> </ul> <p>Key Landscape</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cobblers Gully/Herons Reef</li> <li>• Wattle Gully</li> </ul> <p>Remote Landscape</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• German Gully</li> </ul> <p>Associated Places</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fryerstown</li> <li>• Cornish Engine House</li> <li>• The Monk</li> </ul>
<p>Southern constellation – Vaughan Springs/ Irishtown</p>	<p>Gateway Landscape</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vaughan Mineral Springs Reserve</li> <li>• Irishtown</li> </ul> <p>Key Landscape</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sailors Gully</li> <li>• Red Hill</li> </ul> <p>Remote Landscape</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Devils Gully</li> <li>• Sebastopol Gully</li> <li>• Middletons Creek</li> </ul> <p>Associated Places</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Red Knob</li> <li>• Warburton camping ground</li> </ul>



## Northern constellation – Garfield /Forest Creek

*Description*

There are five gold mining landscapes in the northern constellation area as shown on the figure below including early gold mining landscapes at Burns Hill, Scotchmans Gully and Specimen Gully and post-gold rush areas documenting gold mining operations beyond 1870 at Garfield and Nimrod. In addition, there are several important sites within the constellation that contribute to the significance of the area including Forest Creek Mine site, Pennyweight Flat Cemetery, Expedition Pass reservoir and the Monster Meeting site at Chewton.

The main approach into this constellation area is through Chewton and along Quartz Hill Track/North Road to the car park at the Garfield waterwheel foundation. From here the gold mining landscapes of Garfield, Burns Hill, Nimrod and Scotchmans Gully can be accessed. Specimen Gully forms a separate outer landscape on Specimen Gully Road north of Castlemaine.

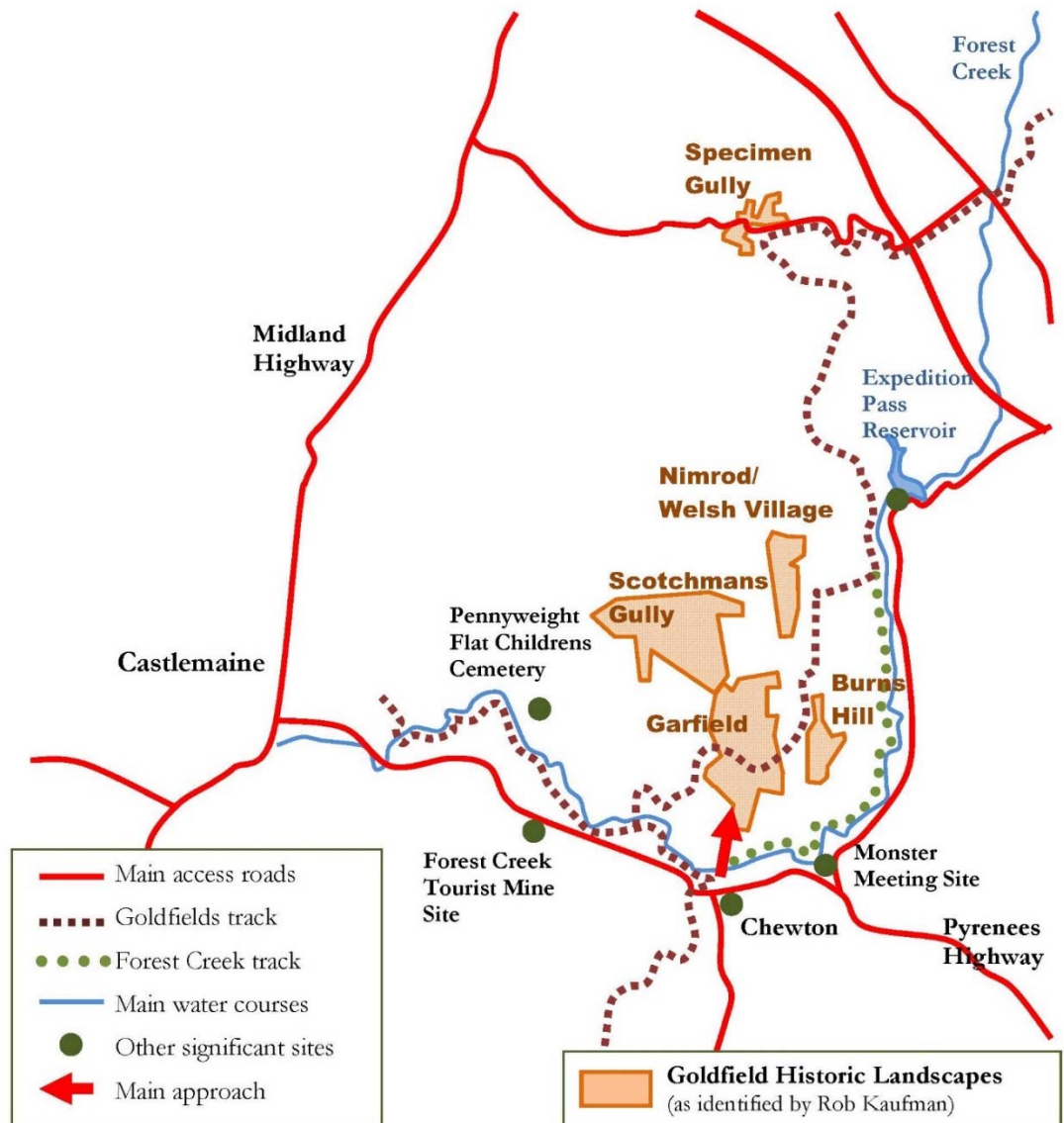


Figure 6: Northern constellation – Garfield /Forest Creek.

The area is dominated by hilly bushland with prominent peaks, such as Quartz Hill and above the Welsh Village site at Nimrod and a network of ridges and small and large gullies. The rolling landscape is well forested with the higher areas giving rise to more open areas of forest with occasional filtered views from the ridges and spurs. The main road network provides an accessible boundary to the constellation area. Forest Creek running from Expedition Pass Reservoir also forms the eastern and southern boundary of the constellation and was instrumental in the former exploitation of the area. A footpath trail now follows this significant creek from Expedition Pass to Castlemaine, utilising sections of the Goldfield Track.

#### *Community values*

The five landscapes that make up the Northern constellation are well known and liked, with Garfield Wheel the most popular of the five as a favourite place to visit, and as popular as each of the other most popular places in the other constellations (e.g. Eureka Reef and Spring Gully in the Central constellation, and Sailors Gully, Vaughan Springs in the Southern constellation). Welsh Village/Nimrod is also a very popular place to visit, strongly evoking the past and the experience of living and working on the goldfields. A summary of specific values for each landscape is included in Appendix 2.

#### *Significance*

The area is significant as part of Dja Dja Wurung Country and for its recovering Box-Ironbark forest. Throughout the constellation there are many areas of coppiced trees with examples of large coppice stools indicating former mature trees. The heritage significance of the five gold mining landscapes within the northern constellation is summarised below.

#### ***Garfield***

The easily accessible Garfield gold mining landscape is significant for its variety and range of gold mining phases from early gold rush alluvial mining to pioneer reef workings and later quartz mining and large-scale hydraulic sluicing undertaken by company interests. There remain in this landscape many well-preserved features to demonstrate these intensive mining activities.

#### ***Nimrod/Welsh Village***

At Nimrod the landscape is also significant for its well-preserved evidence of pioneer and later reef workings with its associated mullock heaps. Of particular significance are the remains of the mining settlement (often referred to as the Welsh Village) as evidenced by several upstanding stone structures and remnants of former cottage garden planting.

#### ***Burns Hill***

The gold mining activity at Burns Hill consisted of intensive pioneer reef workings on some of the earliest discovered reefs on the Castlemaine goldfield. The landscape is readily understood and the various features are easily seen from the track leading up from Chinaman's Point Road.

#### ***Scotchmans Gully***

Scotchman's Gully includes Quartz Hill which reveals clear (and major intrusive) evidence of pioneer reef workings and the relationship to the landscape's geology, whereas lower down the northern slopes the gully system shows evidence of early gold rush diggings and later sluicing.

#### ***Specimen Gully***

The abandoned house and associated stone cairn memorial at Specimen Gully convey historic and social values whilst the surrounding evidence of mining activity represents early gold rush diggings and pioneer reef workings. Whilst a significant landscape it is difficult to interpret and difficult to access physically, apart from the house site.

#### *Issues, risks and opportunities*

Many of the landscapes share the same issues and risks of erosion, deteriorating materials (built structures and archaeological features), dangerous mine shafts and quarries, non-native weed invasion and potential threats to public safety. The terrain is one of rolling hills, the creeks and

gullies separated by ridges and spurs, and many of the tracks and footpaths have steep sections. There are areas of bare ground within the recovering forest, especially where ground sluicing has been carried out, and these areas are unlikely to recover. Weed species are a continuing management issue and found throughout the area particularly spreading through the gullies, and self-seeded pines from neighbouring plantations are affecting some of the significant sites, such as the archaeological remains at Nimrod.

All landscapes within the constellation present opportunities for future visitor management and interpretation and a summary of these and specific issues for each landscape are given below.

### ***Garfield***

Garfield is already a popular site for users of the park. The site of Garfield Waterwheel was subject to a separate Heritage Action Plan in 2001, with several heritage actions carried out on the archaeological remains and recommendations made for interpretation and visitor access. This led to the introduction of an information shelter, a way-marked trail circuit and associated site furniture such as car parking bollards and picnic bench.

As a popular site, it has developed a number of erosion issues including damage caused by 4WD vehicles and motorcycles driving off track, particularly around the Manchester Mine cyanide tank area to the west of Garfield Wheel.

Garfield has the potential to be a major gateway landscape site into the northern area of the CDNHP and offers many features and range of interpretive themes in close proximity to the main car parking area.

### ***Nimrod/Welsh Village***

The Nimrod site is difficult to navigate and actual access into the site is confusing. The physical terrain is dominated by huge mullock heaps, large slate quarries and deep ravines making access difficult and presents potential risks to personal safety.

One of the major problems at Nimrod are the deterioration of the upstanding ruined features at the Welsh Village site, both through lack of maintenance but also from the damaging effects of colonizing vegetation, particularly the spread of pine saplings.

The visitor opportunities at Nimrod are exceptional especially in revealing living conditions and daily life in a remote mining area.

### ***Burns Hill***

The issue of fallen timber, regeneration and weed infestation affecting gold mining features is particularly acute at the main Battery site.

Burns Hill is a significant landscape and relatively accessible (one-way from a small car park/picnic area off Chinaman's Point Road) but duplicates aspects of the mining story that can be interpreted elsewhere, such as at Garfield and Nimrod. The features associated with Burns Hill could be explored/interpreted as part of a longer walk circuit/link between the Goldfield Track and Forest Creek Track.

### ***Scotchmans Gully***

Scotchmans Gully is the most remote area in terms of access from the surrounding road network and its features from the early gold rush are replicated closer to the main access point in the smaller gullies around Garfield Wheel. Like Burns Hill it has potential to be experienced on a longer walk between Garfield and the Welsh Village site at Nimrod. Also, Quartz Hill forms a significant linking element between Garfield and Scotchmans Gully.

### ***Specimen Gully***

The Specimen Gully landscape is divided by the road and there is no clear access to the various sites identified by Kaufman. However, the abandoned house site and associated monument are easy to view although there is limited parking along the roadside.

Specimen Gully, whilst a very significant site/landscape has limited potential for interpretation.



Figure 7: Opportunity to update existing information at Garfield Wheel and to relocate to a better location to interpret the remains.



Figure 8: View of Garfield Wheel foundation and back of information shelter.



Figure 9: Engine foundation for winding gear on the Garfield trail.



Figure 10: The start of Dirty Dicks trail, a recent introduction to the Garfield goldmining landscape.



Figure 11: View from Quartz Hill, a major highpoint overlooking Scotchmans Gully



Figure 12: Monster Meeting site at Chewton

## Central constellation – Spring Gully Eureka

### Description

The central constellation area includes five landscapes identified by Kaufman including early gold mining landscapes at Eureka Reef/Poverty Gully and Cobblers Gully/Herons Reef and post-gold rush landscapes found at Spring Gully, German Gully and at a number of sites representing Wattle Gully. These are shown on the figure below along with associated places of significance including Escott Grave (Specimen Hill burial ground) and the Cornish Engine House at Fryerstown.

There are two main approaches into the central area; the first along Spring Gully Road off the Vaughan Chewton Road, which leads to the Spring Gully Mine car park on the Goldfields Track; and the second along Dingo Park Road from Chewton leading to the car park at Eureka Reef. These two gateway landscapes are linked by the Goldfields track. Cobblers Gully and the various sites that make up Wattle Gully are key landscapes that can be accessed with some difficulty off the main Vaughan Chewton Road. German Gully forms a remote landscape approached from the Campbell Creek Fryers Road along the western end of Spring Gully Road.

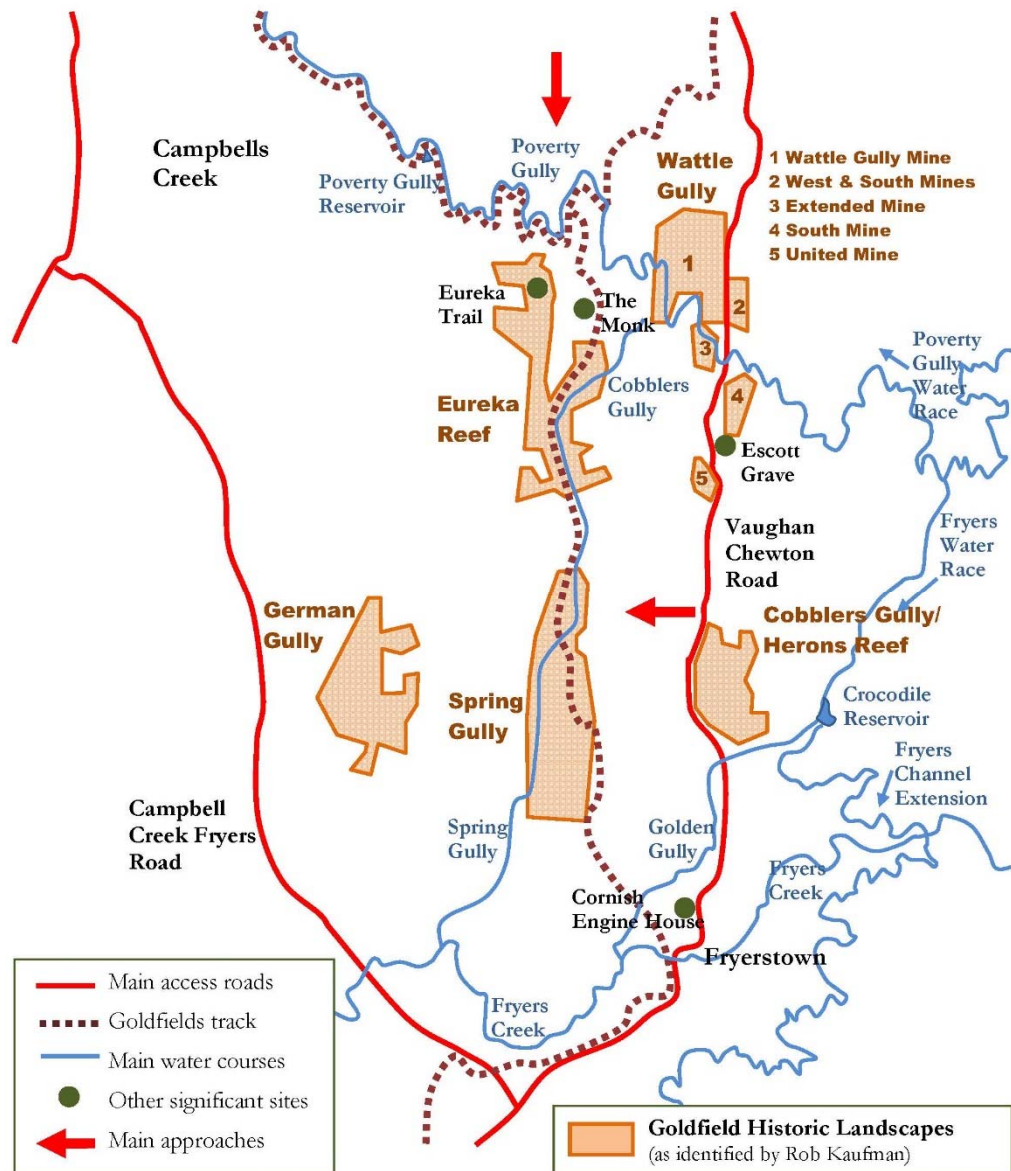


Figure 13: Central constellation – Spring Gully Eureka

The area is dominated by a hilly forested landscape between the settlement of Chewton to the north and Fryerstown and Fryers Creek to the south. A series of ridges running more or less north-south divided a number of major gullies fed by smaller tributaries from the slopes above. At the northern end of the constellation 'The Monk' forms a prominent landmark with commanding all-round views to Mt Alexander Regional Park, Mt Tarrengower at Maldon and the conifer plantation slopes that define Mt Franklin. Other high spots offering views over the surrounding landscape include the ridge above Golden Gully and the former mine workings on Herons Reef.

The network of creeks and associated gullies form a strong feature of the constellation area. Cobblers Gully which becomes Spring Gully forms a strong linking element. Sections of this main gully exhibit extensive erosion from major sluicing works and the deep channels can be viewed along sections of the Goldfields Track. Views of the deep gully from Spring Gully Mine No. 1 are particularly impressive. Elsewhere Fryers Water Race feeds Golden Gully and the workings at Cobblers Gully/Herons Reef which forms the eastern boundary of the constellation area. Poverty Gully dissects the northern slopes of the constellation and Fryers Creek forms the southern boundary

The Vaughan Chewton Road forms a north-south route through the area from which most of the goldfield landscapes (apart from the more remote German Gully) can be approached. The Goldfields Track also provides an important spine linking many areas of interest.

#### *Community values*

The five landscapes that make up the central constellation are well known and well liked, with the most popular being Eureka Reef and Spring Gully. The least visited places are Herons Reef/Cobblers Gully and German Gully. A summary of specific values for each landscape is included in Appendix 2.

#### *Significance*

The area is significant as part of Dja Dja Wurung Country and for its recovering Box-Ironbark forest. The five gold mining landscapes all have heritage values and their significance is summarised below.

#### ***Spring Gully***

The easily accessible Spring Gully gold mining landscape is significant for its well-preserved remains of large-scale reef mining operations of the late 1890s to the 1930s and for the large-scale sluicing workings along the gully.

#### ***Eureka Reef/Poverty Gully***

At Eureka Reef the landscape is also significant for its well preserved remains but from the earlier pioneer reef mining period including rare early battery sites and other structural ruins. Cobblers Gully over the ridge from Eureka Reef which eventually becomes Spring Gully also displays dramatic evidence of large-scale sluicing as well as evidence of early gold rush shallow diggings along its course.

#### ***Cobblers Gully/Herons Reef***

The significant landscape elements at Cobblers Gully are contained within a relatively small area and are easily accessible and provide a range of rare elements including the engine house ruins at pioneer reef workings on Heron's Reef, the Chinese camp and well-preserved miner's cottage.

#### ***German Gully***

German Gully is a relatively open and accessible landscape and is significant for the variety of mining activities and periods represented, from early gold rush workings to pioneer reef mining and eventually to major quartz mining and large-scale hydraulic sluicing.

***Wattle Gully***

The various sites that make up the Wattle Gully gold mining landscape is significant for displaying evidence of the last period of gold mining in the CDNHP from the mid 20<sup>th</sup> century to the present day.

***Issues, risks and opportunities***

The gold mining landscapes in this area share many issues, risks and opportunities that affect the other constellation areas. These include problems of erosion, deteriorating archaeological features, non-native weed invasion and potential threats to public safety. A summary of issues, risks and opportunities for each landscape are given below.

***Spring Gully***

Many of the features in the Spring Gully landscape area can be experienced from the Goldfield walking track and accessed relatively easily from the main car park area off the Old Coach Road. The Spring Gully Junction No. 1 Mine closest to the car park has already been sign posted and the mine shaft fenced off for public safety. The terrace overlooking the steep sided gully below is also fenced to delineate areas of safe viewing. Here the scale of the mining activity between 1898 and 1911 is clearly represented with excellent views over the heavily sluiced Spring Gully.

A short walk from No. 1 mine are the extensive remains of the Spring Gully Company Mine and Battery which operated between 1894 and 1939. Features include shafts, large mullock heaps, machinery footings, battery site and extensive sand flats resulting from the ore-crushing operations. At present this impressive site is under interpreted relying on an old site panel to explain the workings of a stamp battery crusher but in isolation to the rest of the complex of ruins. There is evidence of vandalism and vegetation colonizing and affecting the remaining stone and brick structures. There is however an opportunity to form a self-guided trail circuit linking the many features using existing paths or desire line tracks. This would provide a more rounded appreciation of the operation which ran for over forty years. Safety is an issue when exploring this area with precipitous slopes and other potential hazards to be aware of.

Spring Gully with its established car park has the potential to form a main gateway into the central constellation area offering clear interpretation of post-gold rush mining activity as well as earlier phases and associated life on the goldfields through links to Eureka Reef along the Goldfields Track and to nearby Cobblers Gully/Herons Reef.

***Eureka Reef/Poverty Gully***

The northern part of the landscape has a concentration of features around Eureka Reef and these have been linked with a self-guided trail and accompanying interpretation via a podcast and written guide. However, orientation from the main car park is confusing and the area lacks a clear introduction to what can be readily explored in the area. The southern half follows Cobblers Gully and the Goldfields Track to Spring Gully and offers a range of features associated with the early gold rush and much later large-scale sluicing operations.

Some of the upstanding ruined features, especially those off the beaten track such as the round stone chimney and related structures found on the upper tributary of Cobblers Gully are susceptible to further deterioration. Heavy weed invasion has also affected most of the gullies.

This landscape offers a rich experience including the full range of gold mining activity plus an appreciation of the forest environment and Dja Dja Wurrung Country (the wells cut into the bedrock being a particular feature) and excellent walking opportunities with nearby landmark 'The Monk' offering major views over the surrounding area. There is potential to link Eureka with Spring Gully along the Goldfields Track and other tracks and to offer walking circuits along the way to explore the many features remaining in the landscape.

***Cobblers Gully/Herons Reef***

This landscape offers many significant features within a relatively compact area although access to it from the main Vaughan Chewton Road is not ideal and navigating the area is hampered by deep gullies criss-crossing the site. Since being acquired by Parks Victoria in recent years a

range of visitor facilities were developed including a small car park and a display of found objects, siphon pipes etc. The site has since been neglected with the main entrance gate now closed to vehicles.

Currently there is limited parking outside the locked gate leading to the main mining site. A well-defined track approaches the mine site over a ridge with glimpsed views of the forested landscape forming the centre of the constellation area. The Anglo-Australian mine offers diverse remnants including a Cornish engine house, battery site, blacksmith's shop and several large mullock heaps. The main shaft has been fenced off with warning signs. A separate track leads to a single room miner's cottage within a large dry stone walled enclosure. The remains of a lean-to toilet occupy one of the corners and a mulberry tree and remnant brick edging indicate former garden areas. The cottage itself has an intact roof although major cracks have developed in the walls. The white washed interior has been fitted out with a single bed against one of the walls opposite the chimney hearth. It remains an evocative feature that needs careful preservation including its setting.

Other ruins include those of the former Chinese settlement close to the main road. Access to this site is difficult as is the general circulation around the site as the sluiced gullies and extensive workings, whilst significant historic features, often create barriers.

The visitor opportunities at Cobblers Gully are exceptional especially in revealing living conditions and daily life on the goldfields as well as the workings of a pioneer reef mining operation. As a complex site with many fragile structures and a network of minor paths and deep gullies it requires careful navigation which could be best served by a local expert guide, rather than on-site interpretation. Some footpath clearance work in key areas would help improve access.

### ***German Gully***

German Gully is a significant landscape portraying a range of gold mining phases and has a good network of tracks and a more open forest canopy helping to reveal features such as dams and mullock heaps. However, from a general visitor perspective it duplicates mining activities that can be interpreted elsewhere on sites less remote than German Gully. It remains a gold mining landscape to be explored by special interest groups and similar.

### ***Wattle Gully***

The Wattle Gully gold mining landscape is formed from a number of isolated sites along the Vaughan Chewton Road. As an operation, it commenced in 1937 and closed initially in 1969 but has been worked intermittently since then until its recent closure. The main Wattle Gully mine forms a major complex of working buildings including a highly evident headframe visible from the road and is currently fenced off from the public. There is a small car park and a viewing area with some faded information panels. Other sites are located along the main road and include an area of major sluicing, various concrete foundations, old boilers and siphons and sections of the Poverty Gully water race.

A separate Heritage Action Plan has been prepared for this gold mining landscape (Kaufman 2009) that analyses the various sites and their cultural heritage significance in detail. The plan provides conservation objectives and recommended actions with the potential to be developed as a separate project in the future.





Figure 14: Spring Gully car park area: entrance to the Goldfields Track and mine sites.



Figure 15: Old interpretive panel overlooking the quartz battery at Spring Gully mine site.



Figure 16: Eureka Reef mine adit and shaft.



Figure 17: Aboriginal carved well on the Eureka Reef way-marked trail.

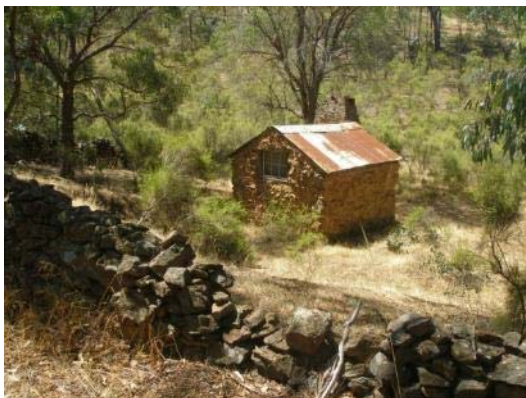


Figure 18: Miner's cottage at Cobblers Gully.



Figure 19: Remains of boiler, siphon and concrete foundations at Wattle Gully Extension Mine.

Southern constellation - Vaughan Springs - Irishtown

*Description*

There are six goldmining landscapes identified by Kaufman in this southern constellation including the early gold rush landscapes at Sailors Gully, Sebastopol Gully, Middletons Creek, Devils Gully and Irishtown and one post-gold rush landscape at Red Hill. These are shown on the figure below along with associated places of significance including Vaughan Springs, the Chinese Cemetery at Vaughan, Central Springs, and Red Knob.

Vaughan Springs is a major visitor site and forms the main approach into this constellation. There are good connections between Vaughan Springs and Irishtown/Red Hill and to Sailors Gully to the south via the Goldfields Track. Sebastopol Gully and Middletons Creek are more remote, although both are linked to the Goldfields Track.

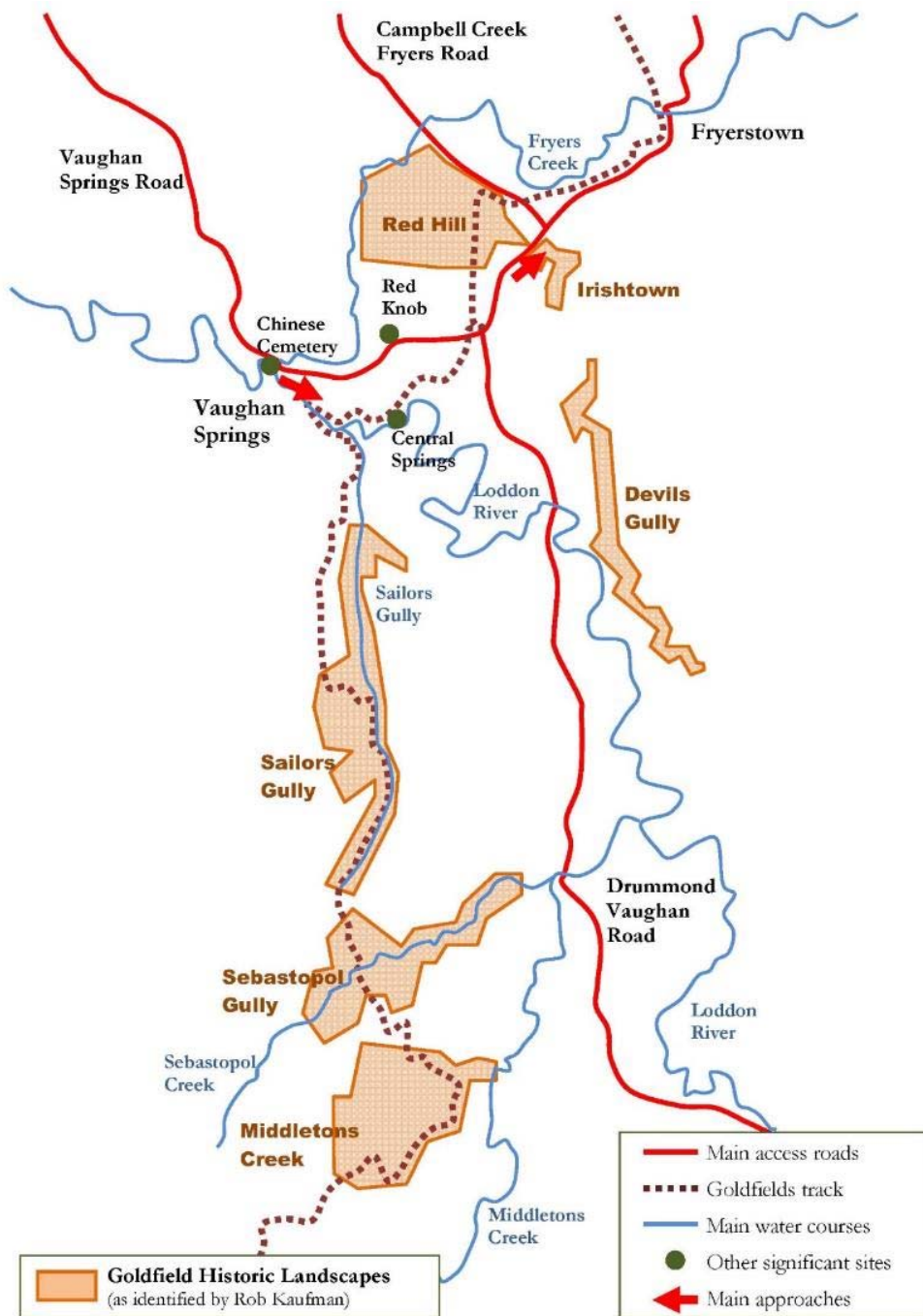


Figure 20: Southern constellation – Vaughan Springs – Irishtown

The hilly landscape is mostly forested with the Loddon River valley forming a major feature as it winds through the centre of the constellation. The area to the south of Vaughan Springs forms an extensive and remote area of forest with several north-south ridgelines dictated by the underlying rock layers. The main watercourses in this area give their name to the gold mining landscapes of Sailors Gully, Sebastopol Gully and Middletons Creek. The area between Vaughan and Irishtown is more open, especially along Fryers Creek, exposing the dramatic topography. There are all round panoramic views along the Vaughan Fryerstown Road, particularly near Red Knob. The character of the landscape here is in complete contrast to the rest of the CDNHP.

#### *Community values*

The six landscapes that make up the southern constellation are slightly less well known than the landscapes in the other two constellations, with the most popular being Sailors Gully/Vaughan Springs which offer a diverse range of recreation opportunities. Irishtown is another popular location, while some parts of the constellation are less well known and less often visited, possibly because of their remoteness compared to highly visited places like Vaughan Springs. These less visited places include: Middletons Creek, Sebastopol Gully, Devils Gully, Warburton Bridge and Red Hill/Choken Flat Campground.

#### *Significance*

The area is significant as part of Dja Dja Wurung Country and for its recovering Box-Ironbark forest. Throughout the constellation there are many areas of coppiced trees with examples of large coppice stools indicating former mature trees. The five gold mining landscapes identified by Kaufman all have heritage values (acknowledged in his assessment of OUV, Kaufman 2013) and their significance is summarised below.

#### ***Sailors Gully***

Sailors Gully is significant for its well-preserved early gold rush workings for most of the length of the gully, but also for the extensive remains of a major mine and battery site at Tubal Cain. The recovering forest, with areas of good regeneration and native flora understorey, add to the significance of the area.

#### ***Irishtown***

At Irishtown, the landscape is significant for its extensive remains of early gold rush diggings and settlement features and for its early ground sluicing and associated water races. The remains at Irishtown also connect with the major hydraulic sluicing works at nearby Red Hill and with the water race and flumes (siphons) through Devil's Gully which provided water for the ground sluicing at Irishtown.

#### ***Red Hill***

The gold mining activity at Red Hill, including Welch and Rocky Gully is significant for the major effect on the landscape of large-scale sluicing resulting in whole areas of bare ground, deep channels and large pits.

#### ***Devils Gully***

The well-preserved water race (Loddon Race) and associated siphon pipes, timber trestles and tunnels that runs along this linear landscape represent an outstanding feature of Devils Gully and underline the significance of a water source for the gold diggings.

#### ***Sebastopol Gully***

Sebastopol Gully is significant for its extensive areas of early gold rush diggings and evidence of early pioneer reef workings.

#### ***Middletons Creek***

Like at Sebastopol Gully and Sailors Gully the gold mining landscape at Middletons Creek is significant for its abundant remains of the early gold rush. It also displays extensive areas of early ground sluicing and later hydraulic sluicing.

*Issues, risks and opportunities*

Vaughan Springs, although not one of the identified landscapes, provides a major gateway into the southern constellation area and provides a direct link with Sailors Gully. Vaughan Springs has good existing facilities including a large car park, toilets, picnic areas and camping ground and offers a different experience to other sites across the park. It is also on the Goldfields Track and is readily accessible off the Vaughan Springs Fryerstown Road.

At present, existing interpretation concentrates solely on the mineral springs and the creation of the public reserve; although there is a link to gold mining through the need to protect the springs from the ravages of the surrounding gold rush. A Goldfields Trail information panel has recently been erected by the side of the trail at the river crossing point.

There are good links to nearby features such as Central Springs, the site of the Chinese market garden and to the Vaughan Chinese Cemetery near the entrance to the reserve. A major constraint is the steepness of the walking tracks out of the reserve both to Central Springs and up onto the ridgeline leading to Sailors Gully. An alternative visitor experience would be to drive to the Irishtown gold mining landscape which offers shorter, less steep walking opportunities.

Vaughan Springs is an ideal location to introduce the southern constellation area of the CDNHP.

***Gold mining landscapes***

The gold mining landscapes in this area share many of the issues, risks and opportunities that affect the other constellation areas. These include problems of erosion, deteriorating archaeological features, non-native weed invasion and potential threats to public safety. A summary of issues, risks and opportunities for each landscape is given below.

***Sailors Gully***

The Sailors Gully gold mining landscape is accessible from the Goldfields Track but there is a steep ascent to reach it from the main car park at Vaughan Springs. Once on the elevated ridge above the Loddon River there are excellent panoramic views of the surrounding open countryside where the impacts of the mining activity can clearly be interpreted together with the effects on the forest cover. There is a long walk from here, through areas of forest regeneration to the Tubal Cain mine where there are good opportunities for interpreting a complex industrial site. Other sites along the Goldfield Track are readily accessible and Vaughan Springs itself provides opportunities to experience a number of features closer to the main access point.

***Irishtown***

The gold mining landscape is immediately adjacent to the main Vaughan Chewton Road and is easily accessible. However, the area where there is potential for 2WD car parking is rutted and in need of levelling. The immediate area illustrates the effects of early ground sluicing and a short walk gives access to the ruined house site and an adjacent area of early gold rush shallow workings. Conservation works to the ruined house site and other nearby walled structures needs to be addressed and some vegetation clearance work is required.

Irishtown is a relatively compact site, easy to navigate and to visualize with good opportunities to tell the story of the early gold rush and early ground sluicing. There is also potential for a longer walking circuit following the water race to the remnant water siphons and timber trestles at Devil's Gully and also the potential to visit the hydraulic sluicing works over the Vaughan Chewton Road, part of the Red Hill gold mining landscape.

***Red Hill***

This is a very dramatic and disturbed landscape but one that is not easy to access or navigate around. The Goldfields Track provides the best opportunity to view this landscape, although there is potential to explore the area immediately across the Vaughan Chewton Road from the Irishtown site as mentioned above. There are few tracks or footpaths from which to access most of this landscape area and to create new access opportunities would be difficult due to

the disturbed ground and vegetation cover. Some of the remote inaccessible landscapes could be photographed and used to illustrate the dramatic effects of large-scale hydraulic sluicing at more accessible locations such as at the main gateway landscapes

### ***Devils Gully***

The Devils Gully gold mining landscape is a relatively remote area and forms a linear landscape following the impressive remains of the Loddon water race. It can be accessed from a steep section of the Bridge Track near Warburton Bridge camping area or from a longer route via the Irishtown Track both off the main Drummond Vaughan Road. Smuttas Track then follows the alignment of the water race.

There is potential to visit one of the sites closest to both the Bridge and Irishtown Tracks, where the stone channel water race crosses a steep gully with the aid of timber trestle supports and iron water pipes (siphons) helping to convey the water at a level height. These impressive remains are difficult to maintain as the timber trestles having mostly collapsed and fallen trees have impacted on the pipes. Vegetation has also colonized stretches of the water race.

There are potential links to nearby Warburton Bridge car park and camp site as well as to the Irishtown gold mining landscape. As with the 'lunar landscapes' of Red Hill, photographs could be used to illustrate the impressive engineering feats at more accessible locations such as Irishtown and Vaughan Springs.

### ***Sebastopol Gully***

This is a remote landscape with vehicle access from the south along Porcupine Ridge Road off the Daylesford Malmsbury Road and from the Wewack Track off the Drummond Vaughan Road. It has no car parking facilities and potentially difficult driving conditions. The Goldfields Track passes through the area and there is some opportunity to form a short loop walk off the track to explore some of the landscape features.

### ***Middletons Creek***

Another remote landscape with access along the lengthy Porcupine Ridge Road from the main Daylesford Glenlyon Road to the south. There is some potential for off road car parking but otherwise access is difficult. The main features of this gold mining landscape can be seen along the Goldfields Track including dense areas of shallow diggings and heavily sluiced gullies. It is a disturbed landscape, with many fallen trees adding to a feeling of neglect. The opportunity for short circuit walks here are limited with interpretation best delivered by the Goldfields Track Walking Guide or other, off-site media.



*Figure 21: Central Spring at Vaughan Mineral Springs Reserve; site of the former Chinese Market Garden.*



*Figure 22: View over the Loddon Valley landscape above Central Springs.*



*Figure 23: House remains at the Irishtown early gold rush site.*



*Figure 24: Evidence of ground sluicing at Irishtown.*



*Figure 25: Remains of the stone flue at the Tubal Cain mine site in Sailors Gully.*



*Figure 26: Collapsed siphon and support structure at Devils Gully.*

## 3 INTERPRETING THE KEY GOLDFIELDS HERITAGE LANDSCAPES

### 3.1 Interpreting the landscape

#### Introduction

The complexity of the Castlemaine Diggings landscape presents a real challenge for interpretation and a number of key questions need to be addressed. Given the wealth of information, multiple sites and areas, **what** stories can be selected and interpreted and **where** may these be told? In addition, consideration needs to be given to **whom** these stories are being addressed to and **how** these stories can be conveyed to those audiences? Other challenges will include how to get the most out of limited resources and realising the implications for site management, presentation and conservation requirements.

This section briefly refers to recent research into interpreting historic mining landscapes, both in Australia and internationally, before considering existing interpretation at Castlemaine Diggings and outlining the challenges of providing interpretation in the CDHNP. A consideration of the components for an interpretation strategy for the park is then outlined with the intention of developing the strategy further following consultation and further site assessment.

#### Recent research and heritage tourism

There have been a number of journal articles in recent years which have debated the challenges involved in presenting and interpreting historic mining landscapes, some have addressed Australian examples and particularly the central Victorian Goldfields.

For example, Warwick Frost (2011) considers the environmental impacts of gold mining in the CDHNP, noting the dramatic changes to the forest and subsequent coppice re-growth and weed infestation and the importance of interpreting this aspect of the mining story. The interpretation of such a theme is largely incidental at present and the article mentions that on the Eureka Reef walk only one of the 20 stops mentions the environment in terms of tree cutting and coppicing and at Garfield Wheel there is no mention at all. Warwick discusses options for incidental interpretation and themes by mining type or time period but concludes that interpretive themes by type of impact may be a way forward. He argues:

*“In shifting the emphasis to the broad range of activities undertaken by miners, there is a greater scope for making more personal and relevant connections. The great advantage of this option is that it focuses on people, exploring how they behaved, what they affected and how they thought. The spotlight is on people rather than technology.”*

This is illustrated in the table below included in Frost, Warwick, 2011. ‘Visitor interpretation of the environmental impacts of the gold rushes at the Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park, Australia’ in Michael V Conlin & Lee Jolliffe (eds), *Mining Heritage and Tourism: A Global Synthesis*, Routledge.

Table6: Miners’ activities and their impacts on the environment

Activity	Impact	Visible Evidence
Travelling	Travelling to and from Melbourne created roads and in the 1860s a railway.	Roads and tracks. Towns that were established as stopping places.
Digging	Extracting ore from the ground. Either surface or underground.	Holes, open-cuts, shafts etc.

Processing*	Puddling, sluicing and crushing. Huge demand for water.	Machinery and buildings. Processed ore in mullock heaps, silt dams and water races.
Timber cutting**	Diggers burnt trees for warmth and cooking. Lit fires to aid prospecting. Later more industrial mining created enormous demand for firewood.	Extensive vegetation modification. Nearly all trees coppiced. Large trees all gone, vegetation denser. Conversely, forests protected to provide firewood.
Eating	Need for food stimulated farming. Wildlife shooting.	Farm – mining nexus. Good example is Chinese market gardening.
Waste	Human waste, including sewage and rubbish.	Bottle dumps, cemeteries (high mortality rates).
Building	Huts, houses, mine buildings, towns.	Much abandoned and in ruins. Existing towns.
Contemplating	Did miners think about their impacts?	Archival material: newspapers, paintings, letters, books etc.

\* In terms of processing, the digging and sluicing of waterways is the most obvious and destructive activity evidenced in the landscape today.

\*\*Under timber cutting, the most obvious visible evidence of rampant timber getting is soil loss and erosion. The dense regrowth and coppicing is less evident today as the contemporary forest is gradually returning to a more open woodland. Also, another prominent reason for protecting the forest in the Castlemaine region was to protect the catchment of the Loddon River.

In a second article Frost (2005) discusses interpretation at Mount Alexander Diggings with reference to a number of cases where an ‘edgier’ interpretation is apparent. Examples include the children buried at Pennyweight Cemetery; the widow buried at Escott Grave, the child who fell from Garfield Wheel, the Dja Dja Wurrung at Eureka Reef; the Chinese community at Vaughan; and the role of the Box-Ironbark forests which characterise the region and that are increasingly recognised as a product of the Gold Rushes.

Other articles on the Mount Alexander Diggings and the central Victorian Goldfields include:

- Frost, Warwick et al 2012. ‘A golden connection: exploring the challenges of developing interpretation strategies for a Chinese heritage precinct on the central Victorian Goldfields’ in *Historic Environment* Vol. 24, Issue 1, pp 35-40.
- Frost, Warwick et al. 2007. ‘Interpreting the Chinese precinct’ in Keir Reeves and David Nichols (eds), *Deeper Leads: New approaches to Victorian goldfields history* (Ballarat Heritage Services).
- Frost, Warwick 2003. ‘A Pile of Rocks and a Hole in the Ground: Heritage tourism and the interpretation of the gold rushes at the Mount Alexander Diggings’, in R. Black and B. Weiler (eds), *Interpreting the Land Down Under: Australia Heritage Interpretation and Tour Guiding*, pp.204-18, Golden USA: Fulcrum.
- Frost, Warwick 1992. ‘Migrants and technological transfer: Chinese farming in Australia 1850-1920, in *Australian Economic History Review* 42:2, pp113-31.

In terms of social history, the academic historian Charles Fahey has done a lot of work on miner’s leases, plots and cottages as referenced below.



- Mayne, A. and Fahey, C. (eds) 2009. *Gold Tailings: Forgotten Histories of Family and Community on the Central Victorian Goldfields*, Australian Scholarly Publishing, Melbourne.
- Mayne, A. with Fahey, C., Holst, H. and Martin, S., 2006. 'A Miner's Right: Making Homes and Communities on the Victorian Goldfields', in Alan Mayne (ed) *Eureka: Reappraising an Australian Legend*, Network Books, Perth.

Articles discussing interpretation in the former gold mining communities of California and New Zealand include:

- Oakley, Peter 2015. 'A permanent state of decay: contrived dereliction at heritage mining sites', in Hilary Orange (ed), *Reanimating Industrial Spaces: conducting memory work in post-industrial societies*, Left Coast Press, California, 2015.
- Nightingale, Tony 2006. '*A National Interpretation Scheme for Conservation Management of Historic Goldfields Sites*', New Zealand Dept of Conservation, 2006.

In the latter article a thematic framework is put forward to consider how to apply historic themes to individual Department of Conservation areas, in this case the Waikato Conservancy where the first alluvial gold rushes took place in 1852. Historic themes and sub-themes and stories that demonstrate these themes are tabulated and their significance (local, regional, national) to the Waikato sites categorized.

### Summary

What can we learn from these discussions and from experience gained elsewhere? Widening of the stories from specific gold mining technology to account for impacts on people, society and the environment is one clear message that emerges. The importance of explaining the impacts of the mining activity and associated activities on the landscape and in particular the forest environment and the challenge this presents for interpreting the physical evidence of gold mining is another common theme raised. The recognition of people stories, migration, families, local communities, the Chinese experience and indigenous history and values in future interpretation are all common concerns. This is not to say that any interpretation should not shirk the challenge of interpreting the mining technology story too. These views will be reviewed more fully in the final action plan.

## 3.2 Challenges in interpretation

The Castlemaine Diggings landscape presents many challenges in terms of site presentation and interpretation. It is a complex landscape displaying major changes from its pre-European settlement and gold rush days to its subsequent recovery. In terms of the gold mining activity there are so many phases and technologies and disturbed areas and barely recognizable ruins, often in one area, that it is difficult to fully comprehend and therefore interpret. There are however pockets where it becomes clearer and the challenge is how best to point the visitor in these directions and how to tell the most compelling stories. Simple, well presented and understandable graphic material, whether on a panel or leaflet, or used on website or other devices, will be an essential element of any future interpretation.

A key management issue will be to provide and maintain good access and clear interpretation but will need to be balanced with conservation and safety requirements.

Clear identification and 'mapping' will help the visitor to understand the landscape and the importance of topography, roads and tracks, as well as clearly mapped phases of activity and the use of historic materials, will all be important considerations in any successful presentation. The broader significance of the landscape together with the incompleteness of structures make effective interpretation even more important, although care will be needed not to impact on the heritage values of the ruins or appreciation of the landscape through excessive on-site interpretation.

## Existing interpretation at Castlemaine Diggings

An initial assessment has identified several publications that reference the identified mining landscapes at Castlemaine Diggings. There is also a limited amount of on-site interpretation and these are briefly described below.

### *On-site interpretation*

The Kaufman report (2013) gives a brief summation of access and interpretation, both existing and potential, for each of the 16 gold mining landscapes.

In summary, the on-site interpretation – basic signs and interpretive panels – within the Kaufman landscape areas are limited, with the interpretive panels being rather old and isolated (see photos below). However, there are some sites either within the park or on its edges where information panels are provided and in one case – the Forest Creek Gold Mine on the Pyrenees Highway at Castlemaine – the site has a number of panels linked to a circuit explaining mineral reefs, sluicing and processing. The other main site is at Vaughan Springs, although the information panels and other signs focus on the mineral springs connection rather than gold mining activities, notwithstanding the signposting of the Chinese Cemetery and the roadside viewpoint over ‘Red Knob’.

### *On-site interpretation at Spring Gully, Wattle Gully and Specimen Gully*



*Figure 27: Viewing platform at Spring Gully Junction – numbered post relates to information in “Discovering the Mount Alexander Diggings” publication 1999*



*Figure 28: Spring Gully Junction date sign referring to the Mine and Battery operation between 1898 and 1911*



*Figure 29: Interpretation panel at Spring Gully Company mine and battery 1894 – 1939*



*Figure 30: Text refers to Dry Diggings Track and explains the quartz battery operation*



Figure 31: Fenced interpretation panel at Wattle Gully mine site



Figure 32: Further information posted at the viewing area



Figure 33: Specimen Gully; warning sign, memorial cairn and house site



Figure 34: Plaque commemorates the first gold to be discovered on the Mt Alexander Goldfields 1851



Figure 35: Ruined house



Figure 36: Internal panel within the house on the 'Discovery of Gold'

#### *Publications and other media*

There are a number of written publications concerning the Central Victorian Goldfields including the Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park. The current **Park Notes** for the CDNHP (Parks Victoria June 2013) include snippets of information on the gold rush, plants and animals, and the Goldfields Track. The downloadable leaflet refers to 'Interesting Places' including five places within the Kaufman landscape areas – Garfield Wheel, Spring Gully, Eureka Reef, Specimen Gully and Forest Creek Gold Diggings – as well as a reference to self-guided and guided tours available via the Castlemaine Visitor Centre.

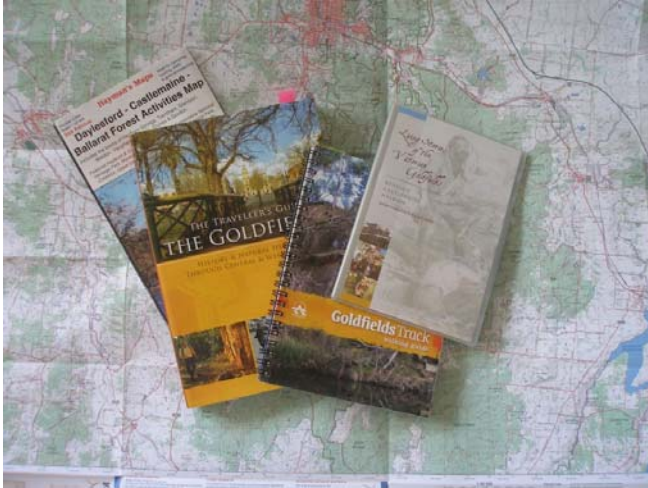


Figure 37: Victorian Goldfields maps and literature

Other existing media includes ‘*Living stories of the Victorian Goldfields: short films and podcast tours*’, produced by Daz Media and supported by a number of organisations including Parks Victoria. The DVD and MP3 Files can be viewed or downloaded at [www.visitgoldfields.com](http://www.visitgoldfields.com) or purchased from the Visitor Information Centres in Maldon, Castlemaine and Bendigo, where MP3 players can also be hired. The short films, around 6 minutes each, introduces the gold rush to the Mount Alexander area but expands into wider cultural stories and includes stories on Maldon and Bendigo. The podcast tours include three themes germane to the Castlemaine Diggings:

**Part 1: The Rush** including stops at the Castlemaine Market Building, Pennyweight Flat Cemetery, Forest Creek Diggings site, Garfield water wheel site, and the Monster meeting site in Chewton.

**Part 2: The Characters** including stops at Wattle Gully Mine, Escott Grave, the Duke of Cornwall engine house, Fryerstown, the Red Knob landscape and Vaughan.

**Eureka Reef Heritage Walk:** A walking trail which picks up on the written text for 21 stops given in the publication ‘*Discovering the Mount Alexander Diggings*’ published by the Mount Alexander Diggings Committee in 1999. As well as the Eureka Reef circuit and other sites referenced above this publication gives good interpretive information on getting a license, name clues to the past and Spring Gully.

Other general publications include:

- Tempest, Glenn. 2013. *Victoria’s Goldfield Walks: A Walker’s Guide to the Central Victorian Goldfields*, Open Spaces Press
- *The Traveller’s Guide to the Goldfields: history and natural heritage trails through central and western Victoria*, Best Shot! Publications, 2006
- Wettenhall, Gib. 2012. *Goldfields Track Walking Guide*, em PRESS

In addition, guided walks and tours are offered on an occasional basis and organised via the Visitor Information Centre in Castlemaine.

### 3.3 Interpretive potential

Potential landscapes for interpretation included in the Kaufman report have been summarised in the table above. These are indicative only and provide a basis for further consideration within this plan. Sites and areas with a ‘limited potential’ for interpretation include; Irishtown, Burns Hill, Scotchmans Gully; Specimen Gully; German Gully; Wattle Gully; and Nimrod. Of these sites a number may have significant features that could be interpreted. For example, at Irishtown there are very ‘readable’ areas of early gold rush mining, including remains of

associated settlement, as well as accessible areas of low-level sluicing. Nimrod with the remains of the Welsh Village is one of the most evocative landscapes in the park and has great potential for interpretation, but it's also a place with a special atmosphere that can easily be destroyed by excessive interpretation, particularly on-site interpretation.

Suggested landscapes that have particularly strong attributes in terms of remaining evidence of long term gold mining activity and which have been identified as having good potential for interpretation include; Garfield, Eureka Reef, Spring Gully and Cobblers Gully. These may be termed 'all-rounders' where a more developed site presentation could be considered.

The Goldfields Track, provides a key arterial route / spine along which access to various aspects of the landscape can be presented – breaking down some of the more complex activities into a series of bite size 'nuggets' which together provide the building blocks for a fuller understanding of the goldfields landscape. The Goldfields Track and various access points encounter 10 of the 16 landscapes identified by Kaufman.

### Considerations for developing an interpretation strategy

An initial consideration of the components for an interpretation strategy for the Castlemaine Diggings is noted below. It will be reviewed, refined and developed during the course of the study.

#### *Themes and stories*

A number of themes and sub-themes have been identified all relating to the Victorian Framework of Historic Themes. They are outlined in Section 2.2, and detailed in Appendix 2, together with examples of place types and specific examples within the mining landscapes identified by Kaufman.

Table 7 below indicates the relevance and relative importance of each theme: Highlighted themes are those considered by the Project Working Group and through community consultation to be the most important to interpret.

- **1** = Main themes relevant to **all** landscape constellations
- **2** = Themes relevant to specific sites within **some** of the landscape constellations
- **3** = Requires further consideration – to be taken up by future projects.

Table 7: Relevance of the themes to the landscapes

Themes	1	2	3
1.0 Mass migration to the goldfields of Central Victoria	■		
2.0 Winning of gold and stone	■		
3.0 Routes, tracks and travelling		■	
4.0 Living on the goldfields	■		
5.0 Securing water	■		
6.0 Working	■		
7.0 Ritual and ceremony in community life		■	
8.0 Taking political action and shaping political identity		■	
9.0 Changing Country, changing forest	■		
10.0 Imposing law and order			■
11.0 Finding time and space for leisure		■	
12.0 Remembering the past			■

Some of these themes will be more appropriate or best interpreted at specific sites or landscapes (particularly gold mining phases or settlement), whilst others may be best suited for a type of interpretation that concerns the whole Park and the wider landscape (political action, imposing law and order for example).

One of the common considerations to come out of recent research was the idea of exploring the impacts of mining and associated activities as told from a peoples' point of view. So for every story there are individual people or collectives engaged in an activity which has a particular impact on the landscape / environment. Different perspectives could be elicited from the various miner types, engineers, surveyors, farmers, gardeners, foresters etc., engaged in direct activities as well as from the experience of the indigenous population, police, traders, families etc.

#### *Audience*

There is a range of audiences for interpretation and each may require different approaches or engagement with the park. Audiences to consider include:

- Casual visitors and walkers
- Local community and regular visitors
- Special interest groups and enthusiasts including fossickers
- Tourists – Victorians, interstate, overseas
- School and educational groups

#### *Sources*

There is a wealth of resources from which to draw material for interpretation including documents and photo collections from a variety of library and archive collections, both local and State wide. One source worth investigating is the Gold Museum at Sovereign Hill, Ballarat.

#### *An approach to delivering interpretation*

Based on the gateway / 'constellation' of landscapes approach, which combines accessibility with potential interpretation as outlined in the previous section, a hierarchy for the provision of interpretation could be developed. For example:

- At each main gateway the provision of an on-site information shelter with orientation panel and specific themed panel introducing the landscapes within that 'constellation' that can be accessed from that area.
- Needs to be sited sensitively in the car park area or by the main access tracks.
- Complementary interpretation provided by downloadable podcast or site maps tied to waymark posts either linked to viewpoints or potential path circuits where possible.
- Utilisation of the Goldfields Walking Track and access points along the track to introduce specific features. The success of these will depend on the provision of simple yet informative 'interpretive maps' with identifiable site features and a clearly defined access network.
- Publications providing broader coverage of the park area.

#### *Interpretive media*

A range of complementary interpretive techniques may be provided, based on available resources and priorities. Examples of what we think may be worth exploring for the Castlemaine Diggings are briefly discussed below.

#### ***General Signage***

There will be a need for general signage for site identification and way-marking. This could either be based on the standard Parks Victoria style of signs, or given the Park's 'heritage'

status, a bespoke suite of signs encompassing the whole Park and utilising materials that reflect the mining landscape – stone, quartz, rusted steel.

### ***On-site interpretation***

The approach taken at Eureka Reef where a self-guided trail is serviced by waymarks and supplied by a publication or podcast may be appropriate at other main sites. Certain sites may also lend themselves to an on-site interpretive panel, for example the commemorative cairn and house site at Specimen Gully, but in general, interpretive panels should be used sparingly and sited sensitively.

### ***Publications and other media***

These could include:

- A foldout park map, more in the form of an artwork that interprets and celebrates the multi-faceted nature of the landscape from place names to tracks to forgotten boundaries and hidden stories.
- An A to Z of the Castlemaine Diggings gold mining landscape, in the form of a ‘spotters guide’ or ‘how to’ identify the many features encountered in the landscape – mining related remains, old water races, forest flora and fauna etc. This should be presented in ‘layman’s’ language and be well illustrated.
- Castlemaine Diggings Nuggets – a series of self-guided routes or viewpoints close to the main access points that illuminate particular features – using illustrations, historic materials and plans. These could be supported by downloadable Park Note style leaflet or podcast.
- In the longer term a more considered publication could be produced picking up on a wide range of themes and perspectives from historic to contemporary. There are several examples of where a special place of landscape has developed such a publication, such as the South West Victoria volcanic landscapes.
- Webpage downloads and podcasts further developing living stories of the Castlemaine Diggings.

The publication of these will need to be prioritised and developed over time. But in the short term a series of bespoke Park Note style leaflets could be produced and built upon to eventually form a collection.

### ***Guided walks and tours***

These already occur, to a certain extent, for the wider Mount Alexander Diggings area including sites within or close to the Park. There may be opportunities for Parks Victoria to link with other groups to organise or expand such a programme. Wider marketing opportunities may include links to events such as the Castlemaine International Festival or other events that may occur at the various gateways into the Park such as at Chewton or Vaughan.

### ***Education resources***

Although not central to the interpretive strategy educational material could be developed in partnership with others.

### ***Implications for site management***

For sites selected for any interpretive provision consideration needs to be given to the ongoing maintenance of access tracks and paths, any signage that may be required, vegetation management where appropriate, and the conservation of the heritage values of the features being interpreted.

## 4 MANAGING THE KEY GOLDFIELDS HERITAGE LANDSCAPES

### 4.1 Overarching policy framework

The Heritage Landscape Management Framework forms part of a suite of strategies and policies and guidelines established for the Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park by Parks Victoria. In turn these deliver key legislative requirements such as those in the *Victorian National Parks Act 1995*, *Heritage Act 1995* and *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* and the *Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (amongst other legislation).

The overarching document for the CDNHP is the Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park Management Plan approved by the Minister for Environment in 2007. It sets out the Vision for the Park, broadly defines its natural and cultural values, and identifies a series of management zones and overlays which define the management directions and types and levels of use in specific geographic areas. The plan also establishes management strategies for cultural and natural values conservation, for visitor activities and facilities and for community awareness and involvement.

The Management Plan (4.1 and 4.2) provides a framework for the recognition and protection of Indigenous cultural heritage and historic cultural heritage respectively. These policies build on and incorporate the policies and actions developed in the Castlemaine Diggings Heritage Action Plan (2002).

The Heritage Action Plan provides a broad framework of policies, some at the highest level of generality (and reflected in the Management Plan), and others quite specific. The HAP treats the culturally significant landscapes and sites in two broad categories, depending on whether the management is ‘promotional’ – for places where the priority is for interpretation and associated visitor facilities development - or ‘routine’ for more remote locations where visitation is low-impact and discovery-based (Pearson et al 2002:53).

In summary, the whole Park is zoned Conservation and Recreation, meaning that cultural and natural values are to be protected, with sustainable dispersed recreation activities and small-scale visitor facilities that don’t impact on natural processes. A wide variety of recreation activities are permitted in most parts of the Park including bushwalking, camping, 4WD touring and trail bike riding on public roads, horse riding, mountain-bike riding and cycling, orienteering, picnicking, nature study and heritage appreciation. The whole Park is also designated as an Archaeological Place and a Heritage Place under the Victorian *Heritage Act* as a means of protecting archaeological and heritage values, and establishing permit requirements for many works and activities (PV 2007:9,11).

Some specific areas within the Park (109ha, 1.4% of the Park) have been designated as Special Protection Areas to protect sensitive natural and cultural values; in some instances, visitor access to and/or activities in these areas are restricted (including camping, car rallying, dog walking, orienteering/rogaining and prospecting). These areas include: Herons Reef, Arthurs, The Monk, Little Specimen Gully, Kalimna, Quartz Hill, Welsh Village and Expedition Pass. There are also defined heritage areas where prospecting is not permitted within 50 metres of the walking tracks located in the following sites and areas: Butchers Gully, Central Spring, Vaughan Mineral Springs, Red Knob, Glenluce Spring, Spring Gully Historic Mine, Escott Grave, Eureka Reef, Wattle Gully Mine, Forest Creek Gold Diggings, Garfield Waterwheel, Pennyweight Flat Cemetery and Specimen Gully (PV 2007:11).

Each of the sections below briefly outlines the existing aims and management strategies contained in the Management Plan and HAP that underpin this Heritage Landscape Management Framework.



It is structured around 5 key policy topics:

- Conserving heritage values
- Recognising Aboriginal connections
- Experiencing the landscape
- The recovering forest
- Involving communities.

It is important to note that this Framework does not replace neither the Management Plan nor the Heritage Action Plan but needs to be read alongside both.

The next section briefly summarises the policies and management strategies in the HAP, using a set of headings that match those used in section 4.2 for ease of comparison. The numbering system used in the HAP is cross-referenced below where P1 refers to Policy 1 and MS 1 refers to Management Strategy 1. Sections 4.2 and 4.3 then presents the management framework for the three landscape constellations in the form of: overarching goals, objectives, and key actions.

### Conserving heritage values

Policy 6 commits Parks Victoria to actively conserving the cultural values places and landscapes of cultural significance by avoiding or minimising damage and deterioration through natural processes and human disturbance as well as (in Policy 4) actively minimising risks associated with its own activities and works.

#### *Aboriginal cultural heritage*

All Aboriginal cultural heritage is protected under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act*. A recent amendment to that Act enables Traditional Owner organisations to apply to have ‘intangible cultural heritage’ – such as language, knowledge, stories, cultural practice – recognised and its use restricted unless an agreement for use has been made between the registering party and a potential user.

The State of Victoria has entered into a ‘Recognition and Settlement Agreement’ (RSA) which formally recognises the Dja Dja Wurrung people as the Traditional Owners for this part of Central Victoria and establishes the rights of Dja Dja Wurrung people to hunt and fish for example, and to have a say about or consent to certain activities on Crown Land.

The Management Plan, which predates the RSA proposes a series of strategies designed to protect Aboriginal heritage places, respect Dja Dja Wurrung cultural obligations and reflect their interests, knowledge, rights and aspirations for Country, undertake research, surveys and other activities to enhance knowledge of Dja Dja Wurrung heritage, and (with agreement) include Dja Dja Wurrung knowledge and perspectives in visitor interpretation (Parks Victoria 2007:12-13).

This Heritage Landscape Management Framework seeks to recognise Dja Dja Wurrung connections to Country, to acknowledge that Aboriginal people were both participants and onlookers during the gold-rush history and have retained a continuing connection to the area through to today. Dja Dja Wurrung feel a strong concern for the health of their Country, describing the gold mining areas as ‘upside-down Country’ and have established a goal in their Country Plan designed to understand the extent of the damage caused and participate in the design and implementation of remediation and restorative actions through a process of practical healing (DDWCAC 2014:22-23). There are also historic features in the Park that are important to Dja Dja Wurrung people.

#### *Historic cultural heritage*

The Management Plan draws heavily on the Heritage Action Plan (2002) as the principal guiding document for historic landscapes and sites. There are also heritage action plans for

specific reserves such as Vaughan Springs, Garfield Water Wheel, Forest Creek gold diggings and the Burial Grounds.

The overarching aims expressed in the Plan are:

- Conserve and protect places and landscapes of historic, cultural and natural significance while allowing natural processes to continue
- Encourage learning and understanding about the historic heritage of the Park (Parks Victoria 2007:16).

The development of the Heritage Landscape Management Framework, and the Kaufman study which preceded it, relates to two management strategies in the Plan:

- Further identify and define the significant cultural landscapes of the Park, and determine management guidelines to minimise impacts on cultural landscape values, and
- Consider community perspectives and opinion in determining appropriate interpretation of the Park's heritage values (Parks Victoria 2007:17).

Key directions expressed in the Plan demonstrate the complexity of managing a cultural landscape of dispersed and ruinous cultural features within a significantly altered but recovering forested setting. For example, conservation of historic features such as sluicing gullies is in some instances counter to the protection of the landscape from further erosion. Similarly, allowing the forest to recover through natural processes of regeneration, will inevitably result in the loss of some cultural features. Identifying the critically important cultural landscapes and features and establishing priorities for conservation and interpretive actions is a key purpose for the Landscape Management Framework.

#### *Specific landscapes*

The HAP recommends the development of an individual HAP for each of the following landscapes/sites, that is for most of the ten landscapes/sites identified as a priority for interpretation in MS 5, with the highest priority given to places being developed for visitor use, interpretation and active conservation works:

- Eureka Reef
- Forest Creek Gold Diggings
- Middletons Creek
- Red Hill
- Sailors Gully
- Sebastopol Gully
- Specimen Gully
- Spring Gully
- Vaughan Mineral Springs
- Wattle Gully Mine.

The Heritage Landscape Management Framework defines management and interpretation actions at these sites. 'Gateway' and 'Key' landscapes from the above list identified in this framework where actions are being proposed include: Eureka Reef, Sailors Gully, Spring Gully, Red Hill and Vaughan Mineral Springs. Other sites from the list including Middletons Creek and Sebastopol Gully are more remote and less easy to access and have less potential for visitor management works. Forest Creek Gold Diggings site and Wattle Gully Mine already have Heritage Action Plans in place and are special cases in terms of future management or development and are outside the scope of this plan.

The HAP also recommends that an annual program of site protection, stabilisation and conservation works should be undertaken for the ten priority areas for interpretation (MS 8).

It also recognises the need for routine maintenance for more remote and less visited places on an as needs basis via an annual program (MS 6), and offers a framework (MS 9) to assist Parks Victoria in identifying the broad categories of conservation action relevant to each site category. The focus for these places is to slow natural decay and stabilise significant fabric, rather than more active restoration or reconstruction work.

Table 8: The site categorisation proposed in the HAP

Category of site	Appropriate conservation action
Sites with little or no standing above ground evidence	remediation or prevention of catastrophic damage (such as by deep gully erosion), and the general protection from human actions (such as relic hunting).
Sites with standing remains	conservation actions might include stabilisation, preservation and protection from environmental and human threats (erosion, vegetation damage, observed visitor damage)
Sites, groups of sites, and landscapes of high individual significance	might require stabilisation, preservation and restoration.
Sites, groups of sites, and landscapes of high individual significance and with high interpretative potential	might include stabilisation, preservation, restoration and reconstruction as an appropriate conservation action.

Further the HAP makes recommendations on:

- periodic inspection of sites, especially habitation sites with standing remains, with more frequent inspections accompanied by remediation, stabilisation and protection works at sites accessed by management tracks and roads, and targeted inspections and works immediately following a potentially damaging event (fire, flood, storms, tress falls etc.)
- dealing with encroaching or damaging vegetation
- remediation of threatening or damaging erosion features.

### Recognising Aboriginal connections

The HAP (P5) recognises the importance of Aboriginal connections to the Park in terms of traditional interests and uses as well as the contemporary relationships of Aboriginal people with the land. The relevant Management Strategy (MS 7) advocates consideration of these interests in park planning and management.

The development of a Recognition and Settlement Agreement between the State of Victoria and the Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation supersedes these recommendations and provides a significantly stronger foundation for action.

### Experiencing the landscape

Enabling people to experience the landscape of CDNHP and to learn about its natural and cultural heritage is addressed in the Vision for the Management Plan:

*Creative interpretation of the gold mining stories brings the landscape to life, enabling visitors to draw connections between the setting and its history (Parks Victoria 2007:8).*

This is further expressed in a key management direction:

*Visitor understanding and appreciation of the park's natural and cultural values will be enhanced by the implementation of an appropriate information, interpretation and education program* (Parks Victoria 2007:10)

The Management Plan (section 4.2) identifies the need to 'continue to manage the visitor sites established by the Mount Alexander Diggings Project, as the Park's key visitor nodes, through the provision of appropriate interpretation and safe and controlled visitor access' (as further defined in sections 6.1 and 6.3).

The importance of engaging with 'community perspectives and opinion in determining appropriate interpretation of the Park's heritage values' has been a focus within the present project. (Parks Victoria 2007:17).

#### *Uses and activities*

The Management Plan provides the adopted framework of permitted uses and activities, and the HAP does not propose any significant restrictions on recreation uses and activities. The overall zoning of the Park for Conservation and Recreation in the Management Plan means that a wide range of recreation activities are permitted except in a small number of Special Protection Management Plan (see above).

Because of the gold mining history of the Park, prospecting is a popular activity in the Park. The Management Plan allows prospecting across most of the Park, but restricts it in certain sensitive locations (Parks Victoria 2007:11). The Plan recommends that information signs about prospecting be installed at several locations including at Eureka Reef, Expedition Pass, Forest Creek Gold Diggings, Garfield Water Wheel, Herons Reef, Specimen Gully, Spring Gully Historical Mine and Vaughan Mineral Springs Picnic Area (Parks Victoria 2007:36). A map of the areas where prospecting is permitted is provided on the Parks Victoria website.

To reduce the risk of damage or disturbance to cultural or natural values through prospecting, the HAP recommended that a voluntary Code of Practice be established to ensure prospecting in the Park does not damage cultural features, and that once established, its effectiveness in reducing impacts should be monitored (MS 17). A *Prospectors and Miners Code* has been developed by the Prospectors & Miners Association of Victoria in cooperation with public land managers, including Parks Victoria. It comprises 5 principles, but these do not address cultural heritage ("The PMAV Code of Conduct" accessed on 22.03.2017 at <http://www.pmav.org.au/about/code-of-conduct>). A more detailed Prospecting Guide leaflet does point out that the holder of a Miners Right (a legal requirement for prospectors):

- must not disturb, destroy, interfere with or endanger an archaeological site or Aboriginal place or object
- must not disturb or remove any heritage features or objects (such as stone tools, middens, earthen mounds, bricks, building stone and old mining machinery)
- must repair any damage to the land arising out of the search
- must report any treasure troves (hidden valuables) that may be discovered to the Police as these belong to the Crown.

Monitoring of the impacts of prospecting on cultural and natural values of the Park is recommended in the Management Plan, however Parks Victoria and the community interest groups remain concerned about the impacts of prospecting; equally prospectors are fearful of being excluded from the Park (Parks Victoria 2007:42; online survey). To help implement these HAP policies, it is recommended that clear guidance on prospecting law and an appropriate code of behaviour is included on information panels at the gateway landscapes including Garfield Wheel, Eureka Reef, Spring Gully and Vaughan Springs Public Reserve and on other interpretive materials where appropriate.

Fossicking or treasure hunting for archaeological relics is not permitted anywhere in the Park and is an offence under the *Heritage Act* if undertaken without a permit.

*Access*

The HAP and Management Plan focus on damaging actions and how these can be prevented, whereas this LMF focuses on increasing visitor appreciation through a planned approach to the development of visitor access points and interpretation.

The Management Plan, for example, defines the forms of vehicle and non-vehicular access that are permitted, and where (Parks Victoria 2007:11,29-35).

*Interpretation*

Policy 9 in the HAP seeks to focus interpretation at specific locations through the provision of interpretive and visitor facilities to stimulate public interest in and understanding of the significance of the Park. Management Strategy 5 identifies ten priority areas for interpretation and recommends that Parks Victoria develops a distinctive style for site facilities and a distinctive lettering and colour scheme (MS 12):

- Eureka Reef Visitor Area
- Forest Creek Diggings Area
- Garfield Waterwheel Visitor Area
- Pennyweight Flat Cemetery
- Sebastopol Gully Visitor Area
- Specimen Gully Visitor Area
- Spring Gully Visitor Area
- Vaughan Mineral Springs
- Warburtons Bridge —fossickers' camp (proposed)
- Wattle Gully Mine.

Proposed interpretive actions include an annual program of interpretation works (MS 19) guided by an Interpretation Plan.

This Heritage Landscape Management Framework provides a new agenda and guidance for the overall approach to interpretation, based on the concept of landscape constellations in which component landscapes perform defined roles: a gateway into the constellation, a key interpretive area, a remote landscape for discovery experiences (etc.) linked physically through a variety of types of trails and through interpretive themes and storylines.

Table 9: Priority 'promotional' locations and themes (HAP MS 19)

Key interpretation sites	Interpretive emphasis
Eureka Reef Visitor Area	The varied approaches to mining on the field, lifestyles and human experiences, continuity of mining, the diversity of technologies represented, and Aboriginal occupation of the land.
Forest Creek Diggings Area	Hydraulic sluicing technology and practice, and general introduction to the mining heritage of the Park, including origins of gold and how it was won, and people's experiences of mining.
Garfield Waterwheel Visitor Area	Use of water as a power source, and the history of the water schemes and the people who built them and worked with the water.
Pennyweight Flat Cemetery	Mining communities, disease and death.

Key interpretation sites	Interpretative emphasis
Sebastopol Gully Visitor Area	The 1850s alluvial mining landscape and sites, and the diggers' experiences of working and living on the field.
Specimen Gully Visitor Area	Discovery of gold and early company mining.
Spring Gully Visitor Area	Reef mining techniques, people's experiences of mining and living of the field, and revegetation processes.
Vaughan Mineral Springs	Historical use and people's experiences of the mineral springs, recreation, and the Chinese presence and experience on the field.
Wattle Gully Mine	Large company reef mining and processing, and the life of reef miners.

The HAP also proposes that the following sites, while not in the Park offer complementary parts of the interpretative story (living on the diggings, Cornish pumping and winding technology and ore processing technology), and close liaison on interpretation should be encouraged:

- Archbold's Gold Treatment Works
- Herons Reef Gold Diggings
- Duke of Cornwall
- parts of Welsh Village.

This HLMF builds on these priorities, expanding the range of places offered and framing them as part of the constellation approach. Since 2002 promotional management has been carried out at several of these sites including Eureka Reef, Forest Creek Goldmining site, Garfield Wheel, Pennyweight Flat Cemetery and to a limited extent at Vaughan Springs and Specimen Gully. The HLMF seeks to consolidate/update site management at these locations as well as undertake site management actions at Spring Gully, Cobblers Gully/Herons Reef and the Welsh Village site. The latter two sites have since been incorporated into CDNHP area.

Specific initiatives suggested in the HAP include:

- the development of an Interpretation Plan (MS 31)
- a program of group walks or car tours, updates to the Mount Alexander Diggings guide book, development of a Chinese Heritage Centre (possibly at the Vaughan Chinese Burial Ground or the Forest Creek Diggings Area (MS 20).

An Interpretation Plan has not been undertaken although this Heritage Landscape Management Framework does include proposals for interpretation at many of the sites and landscapes. Group walks were undertaken at one time and the Friends of Mount Alexander Diggings with support of various government bodies has produced walking and car tours of the Castlemaine Goldfields area via a podcast/DVD. To date, a Chinese Heritage Centre has not been established.

The Management Plan recognises the importance of interpretation in raising awareness of the Park and its cultural and natural heritage values. Specifically, it proposes to 'review and critique the development of cultural heritage interpretation and management in regional Victoria and the marketing and promotion of cultural tourism (MS 26).

#### The recovering forest

The HAP recognises that the regenerated forest is 'important historical evidence in its own right in demonstrating the evolution of the natural environment impacted by mining' and as part of the 'non-mining history of the Park, being associated with forestry activities and

other non-mining uses of the area such as bee keeping, water supply and fire detection' (2002:18,28). However, the current form of the forest is not what it would have been prior to mining starting, nor how it would have appeared during the mining phases. Much of the forest was cut during the mining era, resulting in extensive areas of coppiced, multi-stemmed trees.

The regeneration rates of the forest vary from area to area, depending on when mining ceased and what activities and land uses then followed. While some forest regrowth may be causing adverse impacts on mining remnants, in other areas it is protective, limiting erosion that could otherwise have damaged mining remains, and limiting some forms of access.

The HAP (2002:32) proposes that Parks Victoria has the opportunity within CDNHP to 'develop an appropriate management approach to the coppiced regenerated box/ironbark forest in the context of the cultural landscape, which recognises the various coppicing styles applied by different forest users over time'.

Policy 7 Parks Victoria recognises that vegetation forms a critical element of the culturally significant landscape of the Park. Non-indigenous plants may be a feature of a site or landscape that contributes to the cultural significance of the place. Regenerating box-ironbark forest vegetation is recognised as being significant as an artefact of disturbance of the environment by mining and is to be managed as a powerful interpretative tool.

Management Strategy 10 proposes that the management of the regenerating box-ironbark forest should allow for the selected removal of plants threatening or damaging cultural sites, and address the issue of possible selective culling of coppice boughs to encourage more rapid development of a mature and viable forest.

The Management Plan proposes to 'promote the natural regeneration of woody and herbaceous species in the Park's vegetation communities' consistent with the protection of cultural sites and landscapes and to reflect Indigenous knowledge and cultural obligations of the Traditional owners in relation to plants and vegetation (2007:22-23).

The Plan addresses the 'culling of coppiced boughs' through an ecological thinning trial to test ways that the recovering forest could 'more closely resemble the pre-European forests (2007:21-22). This is being carried out in two locations with the primary objective of the trial being to investigate whether ecological thinning can be used to achieve a more appropriate balance of juvenile, intermediate and mature trees and increased fauna habitat diversity. The findings from this research program will provide the basis for deciding whether or not to implement an ecological thinning program in the Park in non-mining related areas, and could offer a future interpretive opportunity.

#### *Cultural plantings*

Cultural plantings occur within the forest, marking the locations of past settlements and other activities.

HAP Policy 7 recognised that both cultural plantings and the recovering forest as important artefacts, with both having important interpretive potential. The associated Management Strategy (MS 10) proposes:

- development of a vegetation management program to identify and protect non-indigenous plants that contribute to the cultural significance of a landscape or site
- removal of weeds and self-seeded wildlings of no cultural significance
- removal or active management of indigenous plants threatening or damaging cultural sites.

This is not well reflected in the Management Plan and site-based recommendations are needed to enable effective decision-making and action.

#### *Involving communities*

The HAP acknowledges a range of stakeholder organisations – government and community – and recommends involvement of local community interest and action groups (such as

landcare/bushcare groups) in erosion and weed control and remediation, supervised by Parks Victoria staff or carried out to approved remediation plans (MS 9). The connections and attachments of local communities and groups is also acknowledged, with a focus on the important roles of the Dja Dja Wurrung (as described above).

The Management Plan emphasises the importance of building community awareness and broadening opportunities for community participation. Specific initiatives in the Management Plan of relevance to this project are ideas such as:

- an ‘annual ‘Park Information’ day/evening to provide information to park-related communities and park neighbours on the annual work program and the implementation of the management plan, and to celebrate the achievements of Friends, volunteers and community groups in the Park
- building strong relationships with Friends groups, volunteers and community groups to ‘ensure sustainable and rewarding volunteer experiences’
- coordinate community engagement that captures the diversity of people, ideas and opinions present in the community.
- Encourage community involvement in regular observation and standardised monitoring and recording programs for pest plants and animals, threatened flora and fauna, and cultural values using standard methods (Parks Victoria 2007:49-50).

## 4.2 Managing the heritage landscape constellations

### Goals

There are two key goals:

1. The primary goal is to provide visitors to the CDNHP with an easily accessible main gateway or gateways into the three landscape constellations where an introduction to the main heritage landscape stories can be presented and information provided on where those stories can be experienced in the broader constellation areas.
2. The second goal is that each of the three landscape constellations should offer different landscape experiences, encouraging repeat visits and a fuller understanding of the rich heritage of the whole Park.

This approach will enable a more localised and relative modest development of interpretation at the CDNHP and will help target management action on the ground. It is also intended to encourage local community input into the future development and interpretation of their local heritage, rather than one grand approach or major gateway site to the whole area; although this should not preclude future interpretive schemes associated with the Park’s potential status as a major tourist site or nomination to the World Heritage List.

### Objectives

There are five key objectives through which these goals can be addressed:

1. To provide a breadth of experiences at each landscape constellation where the main stories of the goldfields past and present can be told, ranging from sites that are accessible for most visitors to more remote sites for the interested adventurer.
2. To provide an opportunity at each landscape constellation to interpret and therefore distinguish between early gold rush features such as shallow mining, pioneer quartz mining, water movement, ground sluicing, and post gold rush features such as deep shaft quartz mining, major hydraulic ground sluicing, and cyanide re-workings.
3. To provide a broader appreciation of the working and domestic lives of the miners, their families and the wider community and not just the various ways of winning the gold and the necessity for securing water and other resources.



4. To place these gold mining landscape features within the context of other main themes including changing Country, changing forest.
5. To prioritise conservation and maintenance action at sites where these main stories are being interpreted.

### Actions

The gold mining landscapes in each of the three constellation areas have been categorised according to their level of access and use, based on the analysis described in section 2. This dictates the level of action within each landscape including conservation management actions, the type of trail to be developed or maintained and the accompanying on-site interpretation where appropriate and other interpretive materials. The actions in each of the constellation areas are designed to achieve the following objectives:

1. **Heritage:** conserve the significant heritage features of the Park.
2. **Aboriginal connections:** establish and celebrate indigenous connections to the Park and the wider landscape.
3. **Experiencing:** allow visitors to experience the full story of the heritage landscape through a range of sites that introduce the main interpretive themes and stories.
4. **Recovering forest:** highlight the importance of the recovering forest and contributions that can be made to help improve the habitat and future regeneration of the Box-Ironbark forest.
5. **Community:** seek ways of involving the local community in shaping the future management and interpretation of the CDNHP.

An explanation of each landscape type, the typology of the trails, and method of interpretation is given below. This is followed by goals, objectives, and opportunities for each of the three constellations and a tabulated action plan which identifies place, action type and priority for each action along with comments and recommendations where appropriate.

### Landscape types

A hierarchy of landscape types will govern the actions being recommended. These include:

#### *Gateway landscapes*

The gateway landscape forms the main entrance into the landscape constellation where visitors can park and pick up information. Actions within these landscapes may include appropriate site management works such as parking delineation, bollards, furniture, safety, fencing and vegetation clearance and the provision of way-marks, signs and information shelters.

#### *Key landscapes*

Key landscapes are those near the main gateway sites where good opportunities exist to interpret other significant gold mining landscape features and themes. Actions within these landscapes may include some site management works and on-site interpretation.

#### *Remote landscapes*

Remote landscapes are those further away from the main gateway landscape where no site management works are envisaged at present (although this should be monitored for future action) and limited interpretation is provided.

#### *Associated places*

Associated places are those sites within the general constellation area in addition to the gold mining landscapes identified by Kaufman, which are considered significant places that add to the understanding of the heritage landscape (e.g. Monster Meeting site).

### Trail categories

There are several trail development opportunities as described below.

#### *Way-marked trails*

At present, there are 2 way-marked trails within the identified gold mining landscape at Eureka Reef and at Garfield Wheel. Opportunities exist for other way-marked, self-guided trails which expand on the themes developed in this framework. Trails may require footpath work and vegetation clearance plus an initial safety audit and conservation works where appropriate.

#### *Short loop walks*

At some significant sites on the Goldfields Track or other main routes there are opportunities to introduce a short loop walk to explore associated features (see map locations in Appendix 4). No on-site interpretation is proposed for these compact sites which could be interpreted by illustrative maps or other materials.

#### *Extended walk circuits*

There are many opportunities to provide a broader network of longer circuit walks in each constellation area, linking the gold mining landscapes (see maps in Appendix 4).

#### *Guided walks*

There are a number of complex sites where access may be problematical or features difficult to interpret that would benefit from an expert guide, such as the Welsh Village site. As in the past, it would be beneficial to encourage such a programme of walks at these sites.

### Interpretation and education

There are two ways of interpreting the main themes of the Park either by on-site interpretation or through the provision of interpretive materials. The various types of these are discussed below. There are also many opportunities for educational programmes and activities, although these have not been developed in this framework. There is however, a need to inform the park user of the potential impacts of various forms of activity such as the Prospectors Code of Conduct and these messages can be incorporated into the interpretive provision at CDNHP.

#### *On-site interpretation*

Whilst not wanting to introduce too many signs into the Park it would be appropriate to introduce some form of on-site interpretation at the main gateway landscapes to act as an introduction to the constellation area. This may take the form of traditional Parks Victoria panels and signs, as detailed in their sign manual, or take the form of distinctive place markers or interpretive artworks to evoke a response to the significance and character of a particular site or place.

#### ***Information shelter***

This would include an information panel/shelter that would provide a general map of the CDNHP, a larger map of the constellation area with information on where to go and what to do and an introduction to the main interpretive themes. It will also include the *Prospectors and Miners Code* as recommended in the Heritage Action Plan (2002). In several cases this would include updating existing on-site information.

#### ***Place marker***

In addition, there is an opportunity for a place marker at each of the main gateways. This could take the form of an interpretive sculpture utilizing materials of the place – slate, timber, quartz, rusted steel – and incorporate an interpretive symbol/motif that could reflect that landscape constellation

#### ***Interpretation panel***

The information shelter may also include an interpretive panel pertinent to that gold mining landscape, or an interpretive panel may be appropriate at the start of a way-marked trail. The panels as with all signs would comply with Parks Victoria sign manual.

***Interpretive artwork***

Sculptural artworks, sensitively designed and located would form an alternative to more traditional interpretive panels and provide a sense of self-discovery and a personal response to the significance of a particular site.

***Way-marks***

Already used at several sites, these simple posts help visitors navigate the main features in the key landscapes and may be employed with an illustrative map or an interpretive panel.

***General Signage***

Direction signs are required at key locations to help Park visitors easily find the main gateway landscapes. This will require consultation with appropriate planning authorities.

***Interpretive materials and media***

A variety of interpretive materials can be prepared adding to the existing publications on the Castlemaine Goldfields and these are discussed below. Such interpretive materials would be available at outlets such as the Tourist Information Centre in Castlemaine and from downloads via websites or from QR codes on a panel or post that can be scanned by smart phone and information displayed.

***Illustrative Map***

Illustrative maps providing a mainly visual interpretation of complex sites, such as the Tubal Cain site in Sailors Gully, would bring to life and help make sense of the many features found at significant sites. The map would provide a 'birds-eye' view of the site and use drawings and photographs to describe the role of particular features as well as referencing the wider themes of living, forest recovery and Indigenous Country. The maps would key in easily recognised elements removing the need for on-site interpretation.

***Guide Book/Publication***

There are so many stories and themes to explore in each constellation area that a guide book would enable a deeper appreciation. Such a publication would explore the main interpretive themes, highlight the main sites and provide guidance on discovering the wider area by car or through longer walking circuits. It would include a fold-out map celebrating the historic and cultural landscape and provide an illustrated glossary of 'humps and bumps' – a spotter's guide to those features that may be encountered in the landscape.

***Podcast/DVD***

A short film and podcast tour on DVD entitled "Living Stories of the Victorian Goldfields" has already been produced that covers the Bendigo, Castlemaine and Maldon area. This was a collaborative effort between Mount Alexander Shire Council, the City of Greater Bendigo, Parks Victoria, Heritage Victoria and Regional Development Victoria. There is potential to produce a second podcast tour on DVD to explore further the three constellation areas within the CDNHP.

***Downloads***

Audio downloads have been used at other parks to tell evocative stories. Sounds of the forest, Indigenous voices, noises of mine workings, rallying cries from the Monster Meeting could all be explored at significant sites. (Parks Victoria has also been experimenting with wind-up listening posts which could deliver an on-site alternative.)

**Conservation and maintenance**

Conservation actions include the stabilisation of significant structures at key sites being interpreted as well as targeted vegetation clearance. Other general maintenance tasks include footpath repairs and upgrades and weed removal.

## 4.3 Constellation action plan

### Introduction

Existing management zones and overlays for each constellation are noted below followed by a vision of how constellation area will be managed to fulfill conservation and presentation objectives and create opportunities to enrich the visitor experience. This is then followed by an Action Table where the actions described develop further the current and potential visitor infrastructure identified in the 2002 Heritage Action Plan for all 16 gold mining landscapes and associated places.

### Northern Constellation

#### *Existing management zones and overlays*

There are several special protection areas which have been identified by Parks Victoria within this constellation including Quartz Hill, Welsh Village, Expedition Pass and Kalimna. In addition, the following areas are considered significant and are excluded from any gold prospecting activity; Forest Creek Gold Diggings, Garfield Waterwheel, Pennyweight Flat Cemetery and Specimen Gully. These sites and areas form a large part of the gold mining landscapes where management actions are being proposed and their significance and sensitivity have been considered. Also, within this constellation area, site-specific heritage action plans have been prepared for Garfield Wheel (2001) and Castlemaine Goldfields Burial Grounds (2003) and these have been referred to during the preparation of this Heritage Landscape Framework Plan.

#### *Vision*

The northern constellation represents a collection of landscapes and other sites of significance that communicate all the main values of the CDHNP. Access into this area will be through an introduction at Garfield Wheel from where a range of experiences from short, self-guided walks around the inner Garfield area to a series of longer walks to other significant sites will be provided. It is also clear that many of the sites are complex and visitors would benefit from expert or local guides who could interpret the main themes associated with the Park – historic gold mining, natural history, recovering forest, Caring for Country etc.

The development of the highly significant Monster Meeting site and associated land holding recently added to the Park, presents a major opportunity to interpret an important goldfield story as well as provide another gateway landscape into the constellation area. Links to other significant sites in the vicinity such as Expedition Pass reservoir, Forest Creek mine site, old cemeteries at Pennyweight and Butchers Gully in Chewton will also enrich the visitor experience. Equally, the development of joint programmes with the local community in Chewton should be encouraged including interpretive initiatives associated with the community owned Chewton Town Hall.

Table 10 Action plan

For each landscape/place type, action objectives are summarised where H= heritage; A= Aboriginal connections; E= experiencing; R= recovering forest; C= community.

The action is described and a priority assigned in terms of relative importance; high, medium and low, as well as the period over which the action may be carried out; immediate (I), medium term (MT) and long term (LT).

Northern Landscape Constellation – Garfield/Forest Creek: Action Plan									
Landscape/ Place Type	Action Category	Action Objective					Action	Priority/ Period	Comment/Recommendation
		H	A	E	R	C			
<b>Constellation wide</b>	Extended walks circuit	X	X	X	X		<b>N1:</b> Develop constellation-wide walk circuits offering mid-level to longer walks to other historic landscapes; linking Garfield to associated places and Scotchmans Gully, Burns Hill and Nimrod.	Medium (LT)	Requires further investigation into potential tracks and footpaths in the medium term and mapping in the longer term associated with the proposed guide booklet.
	Interpretive materials	X	X	X	X		<b>N2:</b> Prepare Guide Book to Northern Constellation Landscape to enable a deeper appreciation of the area.	Medium (LT)	This publication would explore the main interpretive themes, highlight the main sites and provide guidance on discovering the wider area by car or through longer walking circuits. It would include a fold-out map celebrating the historic and cultural landscape and provide a glossary of significant features.
	Interpretive materials	X	X	X	X	X	<b>N3:</b> Produce Podcast / DVD Short Films production to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>tour of each historic gold mining landscape allowing images and interpretation of remote or dangerous sites</li> <li>Garfield Wheel heritage trail podcast (similar to Eureka Reef).</li> </ul>	High (LT)	Parks Victoria to commission. This will require lead in time to investigate potential content as well as joint funding with the Shire Council, Heritage Victoria, Commonwealth government and others.

Northern Landscape Constellation – Garfield/Forest Creek: Action Plan									
Landscape/ Place Type	Action Category	Action Objective					Action	Priority/ Period	Comment/Recommendation
		H	A	E	R	C			
Garfield <b>Gateway Landscape</b>	Site planning & design			X			<b>N4:</b> Prepare site plan to improve site presentation and introduction to the constellation area. To include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New information board/shelter</li> <li>• Site furniture as required – place marker, picnic bench, bollards etc</li> </ul>	High (I)	Parks Victoria to implement..
	General site works			X			<b>N5:</b> Undertake appropriate site works based on above.	High (MT)	Parks Victoria to implement.
	On-site interpretation	X	X	X	X				
Nimrod /Welsh Village  <b>Key Landscape</b>	Way-marked trail	X	X	X	X		<b>N6:</b> Prepare illustrative maps for the existing way-marked trails (Garfield Trail and Dirty Dicks Trail). Introduce an interpretive panel at the beginning of each trail.	High (I)	Parks Victoria to implement.  At present information at the numbered way-mark stops is given on the existing information panel and therefore difficult to remember when walking the trail. (No interpretation exists for Dirty Dicks Trail.)
	On-site interpretation								
	Interpretive materials								
Nimrod /Welsh Village  <b>Key Landscape</b>	Site planning & design	X					<b>N7:</b> Survey and prepare work programme for the conservation of existing ruined structures associated with the site.	High (I)	Requires conservation architect / engineer input.
	Vegetation clearance	X				X	<b>N8:</b> Remove invasive pines and other weed species that impede access or threaten further deterioration of significant archaeological sites.	High (I)	Parks Victoria staff with community volunteers.
	Conservation of structures	X					<b>N9:</b> Undertake a programme of conservation works on ruined structures where identified.	High (M)	Parks Victoria to implement.

Northern Landscape Constellation – Garfield/Forest Creek: Action Plan									
Landscape/ Place Type	Action Category	Action Objective					Action	Priority/ Period	Comment/Recommendation
		H	A	E	R	C			
	Interpretive materials	X	X	X	X		<b>N10:</b> Prepare illustrative map for the Welsh Village site.	Medium (M)	Parks Victoria to commission with possible further grant funding from other sources.
	On-site interpretation	X		X			<b>N11:</b> Introduce interpretive artwork at key sites on the theme of evoking everyday life on the goldfields.	Medium (M)	Parks Victoria to commission with possible further grant funding from other sources.
	Guided walk	X	X	X	X	X	<b>N12:</b> Research and implement guided walk to interpret the many features at Nimrod/Welsh Village.	Medium (M)	Develop programme of guided walks with Parks Staff and/or volunteers to interpret complex or difficult sites such as here (Eureka Reef and Cobblers Gully would be similar).
Burns Hill <b>Remote Landscape</b>	Guided walk	X	X	X	X	X	<b>N13:</b> Research and implement guided walk to explore Burns Hill	Low (LT)	Remote site suitable for longer walks or guided walks accessed from car park at Garfield Wheel or car park on Chinamans Point Road.
	Extended walks circuit	X	X	X	X		<b>N14:</b> Develop link to Burns Hill as part of a wider walk circuit off the Goldfields Track.	Medium (LT)	Circuit from Garfield Wheel along Dead Cat Mine Track to Burns Hill to Chinamans Point Road; Forest Creek Track to Monster Meeting site back to Goldfields Track at Chewton (See N1 above).
Scotchmans Gully <b>Remote Landscape</b>	Guided walk	X	X	X	X	X	<b>N15:</b> Research and implement guided walk to Quartz Hill	Medium (MT)	Remote site suitable guided walk or longer walks accessed from Garfield Wheel car park.
	Extended walks circuit	X	X	X	X		<b>N16:</b> Develop link to Scotchmans Gully as part of a wider walk circuit off the Goldfields Track	Medium (LT)	Circuit from Garfield Wheel to Quartz Hill, along Roms Track into Scotchmans Gully; Folly Track to Tobys Track into Welsh Village and back to Goldfields Track at Welsh Street (See N1 above).

Northern Landscape Constellation – Garfield/Forest Creek: Action Plan									
Landscape/ Place Type	Action Category	Action Objective					Action	Priority/ Period	Comment/Recommendation
		H	A	E	R	C			
Specimen Gully  <b>Remote Landscape</b>	Site planning & design	X					<b>N17:</b> Undertake survey and devise works programme as necessary for the conservation of the house site.	High (MT)	Requires conservation architect / engineer input.
	Conservation of structures	X					<b>N18:</b> Carry out any necessary works to consolidate house site.	High (MT)	Parks Victoria to implement.
	On-site interpretation	X		X			<b>N19:</b> Introduce an information/interpretation panel and update interpretation inside house site.	Medium (MT)	Existing site ‘interpretation’ includes a memorial cairn to the first discovery of gold on the Mt Alexander Goldfield and some written text inside the building.
Chewton <b>Associated Places</b>	Site planning & design			X			<b>N20:</b> Introduce an appropriate road sign on the main road through Chewton directing visitors along North Street to Garfield Wheel site. Investigate similar signage to Eureka Reef site along Dingo Park Road.	High (I)	Consult with VicRoads.
	Site planning & design					X	<b>N21:</b> Investigate possibility of providing a place marker and information board somewhere central in Chewton.	High (LT)	Consult with Mount Alexander Shire Council, Chewton Domain Society and other local community groups to ascertain support.  It has been suggested that Chewton Town Hall (managed by the local community) with its collection of historic photos and other sources could play a role in future interpretation and visitor information.



Northern Landscape Constellation – Garfield/Forest Creek: Action Plan									
Landscape/ Place Type	Action Category	Action Objective					Action	Priority/ Period	Comment/Recommendation
		H	A	E	R	C			
Monster Meeting Site <b>Associated Places</b>	Site planning & design			X			<b>N22:</b> Investigate potential for further site presentation/interpretation and access into the park area.	High (I)	This is a significant site including land recently acquired by Parks Victoria with potential to form a second gateway into the northern constellation landscape.
Forest Creek Trail <b>Associated Places</b>	Site planning & design			X			<b>N23:</b> Investigate opportunities for interpretation along the Forest Creek Walking Trail.	Medium (LT)	Parks Victoria has recently constructed /upgraded a trail path following Forest Creek from Castlemaine through Chewton along Golden Point Road to Expedition Pass Reservoir. The trail links the Goldfields Track at either end and connects all the important sites (such as the Monster Meeting Site) as well as giving access to key historic goldfield landscapes in this constellation.

## Central Constellation

### *Existing management zones and overlays*

There are several special protection areas which have been identified by Parks Victoria within this constellation including Cobblers Gully/Herons Reef, The Monk, Arthurs Track and Little Specimen Gully. In addition, the following areas are considered significant and are excluded from any gold prospecting activity; Spring Gully Historic Mine, Escott Grave, Eureka Reef and Wattle Gully Mine. These sites and areas form a large part of the gold mining landscapes where management actions are being proposed and their significance and sensitivity have been considered. Also, within this constellation area, a site-specific heritage action plan has been prepared for Wattle Gully Mine (2009) and this has been referred to during the preparation of this Heritage Landscape Framework Plan.

### *Vision*

There are two entry points into the central constellation area; from Chewton in the north and from Fryerstown/Vaughan in the south. Spring Gully will form a gateway into the heart of the gold mining landscape with an introduction at the car park off the Old Coach Road and Eureka Reef can provide a second gateway landscape approached from Chewton along Dingo Park Road. These two landscapes are virtually contiguous linked as they are by the Goldfields Track along Cobblers Gully and will provide an opportunity to explore in detail the full range of gold mining landscapes together with the forest environment and aspects of indigenous culture.

Cobblers Gully is a key landscape that can contribute a major understanding of life on the goldfields and should be managed to provide access for guided walks or low-key self-discovery. German Gully being a remote landscape can be left to be explored locally, whilst the main site at Wattle Gully mine should be subject to future developments managed in accordance with the 2009 Heritage Action Plan.

The local community at Fryerstown, as at Chewton, could be encouraged to develop interpretive initiatives in the future to link in with the interpretation of the nearby gold mining landscapes.

Table 11 Action plan

For each landscape/place type, action objectives are summarised where H= heritage; A= Aboriginal connections; E= experiencing; R= recovering forest; C= community.

The action is described and a priority assigned in terms of relative importance; high, medium and low, as well as the period over which the action may be carried out; immediate (I), medium term (MT) and long term (LT).

Central Landscape Constellation – Spring Gully/Eureka: Action Plan									
Landscape/ Place Type	Action Category	Action Objective					Action	Priority/ Period	Comment/Recommendation
		H	A	E	R	C			
<b>Constellation wide</b>	Extended walks circuit	X	X	X	X		<b>C1:</b> Develop constellation wide walks circuits offering mid-level to longer walks connecting Eureka to Spring Gully and other features such as The Monk viewpoint.	Medium (LT)	Requires further investigation into potential tracks and footpaths in the medium term and mapping in the longer term associated with the proposed guide booklet.
	Interpretive materials	X	X	X	X		<b>C2:</b> Prepare Guide Book to Central Constellation Landscape to enable a deeper appreciation of the area.	Medium (LT)	This publication would explore the main interpretive themes, highlight the main sites and provide guidance on discovering the wider area by car or through longer walking circuits. It would include a fold-out map celebrating the historic and cultural landscape and provide a glossary of significant features.
	Interpretive materials	X	X	X	X	X	<b>C3:</b> Produce Podcast / DVD Short Films production to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tour of each historic gold mining landscape allowing images and interpretation of remote or dangerous sites.</li> <li>• Spring Gully Battery heritage trail</li> <li>• Eureka Reef heritage trail based on a review of existing material.</li> </ul>	High (LT)	Parks Victoria to commission. This may require lead in time to investigate potential content as well as joint funding with the Shire Council, Heritage Victoria and others.

Central Landscape Constellation – Spring Gully/Eureka: Action Plan									
Landscape/ Place Type	Action Category	Action Objective					Action	Priority/ Period	Comment/Recommendation
		H	A	E	R	C			
Spring Gully  <b>Gateway Landscape</b>	Site planning & design			X			<b>C4:</b> Prepare site plan to improve site presentation and introduction to the area. To include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New information board/shelter</li> <li>• Site furniture as required – place marker, picnic bench, bollards etc</li> </ul>	High (I)	Parks Victoria staff to work with consultant to improve site presentation.
	On-site interpretation	X	X	X	X		<b>C5:</b> Undertake appropriate site works based on above.	High (I)	Parks Victoria to implement.
	Way-marked trail  On-site interpretation  Interpretive materials	X		X	X		<b>C6:</b> Develop new circular walk at Spring Gully Battery and introduce interpretation. Stages include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare site plan</li> <li>• Footpath work, way-marking and fencing where appropriate</li> <li>• Remove and replace information panel at beginning of trail</li> <li>• Prepare illustrative map.</li> </ul>	High (MT)	Parks Victoria to implement with help from community volunteers.
Eureka Reef  <b>Gateway Landscape</b>	Site planning & design			X			<b>C7:</b> Prepare site plan to upgrade Eureka Reef car park. To include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information panel/shelter</li> <li>• Bollards, entrance sign, seating</li> <li>• Place marker.</li> </ul>	High (I)	Parks Victoria to implement with help from community volunteers.
	General site works  On-site interpretation	X	X	X	X		<b>C8:</b> Undertake appropriate site works based on above.	High (MT)	Parks Victoria to implement.

Central Landscape Constellation – Spring Gully/Eureka: Action Plan									
Landscape/ Place Type	Action Category	Action Objective					Action	Priority/ Period	Comment/Recommendation
		H	A	E	R	C			
	Guided walk	X	X	X	X	X	<b>C9:</b> Research and implement guided walks to remote sites within the Eureka Reef landscape area.	Medium (MT)	These include ruined sites on the slopes between Dingo Park Road and Cobblers Gully including the round stone chimney site at the pioneer reefing site.
	Extended walks circuit	X	X	X	X		<b>C10:</b> Develop a longer walk circuit between the historic landscapes within the area.	Medium (LT)	Potential for a longer circuit to link Eureka with Spring Gully via The Monk, the Old Coach Road and Cobblers Gully sites.
Cobblers Gully  <b>Key Landscape</b>	Site planning & design	X					<b>C12:</b> Prepare measured drawings for the miner's cottage and site plan for the cottage and walled enclosure.	High (I)	Parks Victoria to commission survey.  This is one of the few, relatively intact sites which evokes the 'living on the goldfields' theme.
	Conservation of structures	X				X	<b>C13:</b> Undertake conservation works on the miner's cottage including repair of cracks and other remedial works and maintenance of garden walled garden enclosure.	High (I)	Parks Victoria to appoint appropriate contractor to carry out repairs and engage community volunteers in undertaking any maintenance work.
	Site planning & design	X		X			<b>C14:</b> Investigate access to the Chinese settlement ruins.	High (I)	Access to this area is difficult, being impeded by deep sluiced gullies and ground vegetation. Given the importance of interpreting 'people stories' it is worth investigating access to this area.
	Conservation of structures	X					<b>C15:</b> Consolidate Chinese settlement ruins if required.	Medium (MT)	Parks Victoria to implement.
	Short loop walk  Interpretive materials	X		X	X		<b>C16:</b> Establish short walk circuit and prepare illustrative map for the Herons Reef mining area including links to the settlement sites.	Medium (MT/LT)	This action to follow on from further investigation.

Central Landscape Constellation – Spring Gully/Eureka: Action Plan									
Landscape/ Place Type	Action Category	Action Objective					Action	Priority/ Period	Comment/Recommendation
		H	A	E	R	C			
	Guided walk	X	X	X	X		<b>C17:</b> Research and implement guided walk around the main features of the site including the main mining site, miner’s cottage site and Chinese community ruins.	Medium (MT)	Current access to the extensive remains at Cobblers Gully/Herons Reef is problematical in terms of easy parking, but remains an excellent site for a guided tour.
Wattle Gully  <b>Key Landscape</b>	Site planning & design	X		X			<b>C18:</b> Undertake a visitor feasibility study for the main Wattle Gully mine site.	Medium (LT)	This major late phase site with its poppet head and associated buildings requires a separate feasibility study to consider access and interpretation as well as conservation requirements.
	On-site interpretation	X		X			<b>C19:</b> Renew existing interpretation panels at Wattle Gully mine site.	Medium (LT)	A car park and short walk leads to a viewing area with information panels interpreting the mine buildings. The area is not maintained and the panels are now faded. (Dependent on C18.)
	Interpretive materials	X		X			<b>C20:</b> Incorporate interpretation of the other identified areas within the Wattle Gully landscape into a constellation wide guide book.	Low (LT)	The Extended Mine (3) displays above ground machinery as well as a concrete lined water race and is easily accessed by car. The South Mine (4) is also easily accessed by car and exhibits extensive open areas of mechanical ground sluicing.
German Gully  <b>Remote Landscape</b>	Interpretive materials	X	X	X	X		<b>C21:</b> Include interpretation of German Gully into a constellation wide guide book	Low (LT)	This landscape is remote from the others in the constellation and affords no extra features that cannot be easily experienced elsewhere.
Fryerstown	Site planning & design			X		X	<b>C22:</b> Investigate potential for providing a place marker and information board in central Fryerstown	Medium (LT)	During the consultation period several references were made to a past local initiative to provide some form of goldfields interpretation within Fryerstown. Need to

Central Landscape Constellation – Spring Gully/Eureka: Action Plan									
Landscape/ Place Type	Action Category	Action Objective					Action	Priority/ Period	Comment/Recommendation
		H	A	E	R	C			
<b>Associated Place</b>								liaise with Mount Alexander Shire Council and local community.	
	On-site interpretation	X	X	X	X	X	<b>C23:</b> Introduce an information point at appropriate location.	Medium (LT)	Following on from C22.
Cornish Engine House <b>Associated Place</b>	Interpretive materials	X		X			<b>C24:</b> Maintain as viewpoint and interpret in the constellation wide guidebook.	Medium (LT)	The building is privately owned and fenced off but is easily viewed from the Vaughan Chewton Road.
<b>The Monk Associated Place</b>	Interpretive materials		X	X	X		<b>C25:</b> Viewpoint interpretation	Medium (MT)	The one spot in the Park where panoramic views of the surrounding landscape can be appreciated
	Site planning & design			X			<b>C26:</b> Investigate feasibility of new footpath route down from The Monk	High (MT)	This would enable The Monk to be experienced on a circuit, rather than as one-way approach as existing. (A desire line path exists at the moment)

## Southern Constellation

### *Existing management zones and overlays*

There are several areas which have been identified by Parks Victoria within this constellation as significant and where prospecting is not permitted within 50 metres of walking tracks, including Butchers Gully, Central Spring, Vaughan Mineral Springs, Red Knob and Glenluce Spring. These sites and areas form a large part of the gold mining landscapes where management actions are being proposed and their significance and sensitivity have been considered. Also, within this constellation area, a site-specific heritage action plan has been prepared for Vaughan Springs Public Reserve (2004) and this has been referred to during the preparation of this Heritage Landscape Framework Plan.

### *Vision*

Vaughan Springs Reserve provides a major gateway into this southern constellation area with its well-developed visitor facilities. The reserve offers an excellent site from which to introduce the main themes and attractions of the area and to offer short walks to nearby gold mining and related features. Longer walks can be developed in the future linking with the existing track network as well as opportunities to develop new footpath links to significant sites.

Irishtown offers an alternative or ancillary gateway landscape into the southern constellation providing an introduction to the area giving ready access to early gold rush features as well as the important water resource story and later gold-mining activity with links to Red Hill and Fryerstown. As with the central constellation, both Vaughan and Fryerstown should be encouraged to develop future interpretive initiatives to link in with the interpretation of the gold mining landscapes.



Table 12 Action plan

For each landscape/place type, action objectives are summarised where H= heritage; A= Aboriginal connections; E= experiencing; R= recovering forest; C= community.

The action is described and a priority assigned in terms of relative importance; high, medium and low, as well as the period over which the action may be carried out; immediate (I), medium term (MT) and long term (LT).

Southern Landscape Constellation – Vaughan Springs/Irishtown: Action Plan									
Landscape/ Place Type	Action Category	Action Objective					Action	Priority/ Period	Comment/Recommendation
		H	A	E	R	C			
<b>Constellation wide</b>	Extended walks circuit	X	X	X	X		<b>S1:</b> Develop constellation-wide walk circuits offering mid-level to longer walks to other historic landscapes; linking Vaughan Springs to associated places and Sailors Gully, Red Hill, Irishtown and Devils Gully.	Medium (LT)	Requires further investigation into potential tracks and footpaths in the medium term and mapping in the longer term associated with the proposed guide booklet.
	Interpretive materials	X	X	X	X		<b>S2:</b> Prepare Guide Book to Southern Constellation Landscape to enable a deeper appreciation of the area.	Medium (LT)	This publication would explore the main interpretive themes, highlight the main sites and provide guidance on discovering the wider area by car or through longer walking circuits. It would include a fold-out map celebrating the historic and cultural landscape and provide a glossary of significant features.
	Interpretive materials	X	X	X	X	X	<b>S3:</b> Produce podcast / DVD Short Films production to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>tour of each historic gold mining landscape allowing images and interpretation of remote or dangerous sites</li> <li>Vaughan Springs heritage trail podcast (similar to Eureka Reef).</li> </ul>	High (LT)	Parks Victoria to commission. This may require lead in time to investigate potential content as well as joint funding with the Shire Council, Heritage Victoria and others.

Southern Landscape Constellation – Vaughan Springs/Irishtown: Action Plan									
Landscape/ Place Type	Action Category	Action Objective					Action	Priority/ Period	Comment/Recommendation
		H	A	E	R	C			
Vaughan Springs Reserve  <b>Gateway Landscape</b>	Site planning & design			X			<b>S4:</b> Prepare site plan to locate appropriate location for new information Board/Shelter.	High (I)	Parks Victoria to implement.
	General site works			X			<b>S5:</b> Undertake appropriate site works based on above.	High (MT)	Parks Victoria to implement.
	On-site interpretation	X	X	X	X				
	Site planning & design			X			<b>S6:</b> Investigate potential short walk circuits from Vaughan Springs.	High (MT)	There are no way-marked short walk circuits from Vaughan Springs car park at present, but potential exists to create a walk to Central Springs (Chinese market gardens) returning along the south bank of the Loddon River to join the Goldfields Track which follows the water race above the river. Similarly to Butchers Gully and back.
	Way-marked trails	X		X			<b>S7:</b> Implement way-marked short walk based on outcome above.	Medium (MT)	As above.
	Extended walks circuit	X	X	X	X		<b>S8:</b> Investigate options for a network of circuit walks and implement progressively.	Medium (LT)	Potential to develop a longer circuit utilising the Goldfields Track. One circuit could follow significant sites along Sailors Gully returning via Helge and Italian Hill Tracks. Another could extend the Central Springs walk to Glenluce Springs and returning along the Goldfields Track.
On-site interpretation	X		X			<b>S9:</b> Investigate up-dating on-site interpretation at the Chinese Cemetery.	Medium (MT)	This is a significant site easily accessed from the entrance to Vaughan Springs.	

Southern Landscape Constellation – Vaughan Springs/Irishtown: Action Plan									
Landscape/ Place Type	Action Category	Action Objective					Action	Priority/ Period	Comment/Recommendation
		H	A	E	R	C			
	General maintenance	X				X	<b>S10:</b> Undertake general maintenance as required at the Central Springs site.	High (I)	This is the site of a Chinese market garden on one of the few level areas adjacent to the Loddon River.
Irishtown <b>Gateway Landscape</b>	Site planning & design			X			<b>S11:</b> Prepare site plan to allow for a small car parking area and location of information panel/shelter and place marker.	High (I)	Irishtown is a relatively compact site and a good introduction to the early gold rush and easily accessed from the road network. Requires conservation architect / engineer input.
	General site works			X			<b>S12:</b> Undertake appropriate site works based on above.	High (I)	Parks Victoria to implement.
	On-site interpretation	X	X	X	X				
	Vegetation clearance	X					<b>S13:</b> Undertake minimal vegetation clearance of house site and adjacent diggings to enable a walk circuit to be created.	High (I)	Parks Victoria to implement with help from community volunteers.
	Conservation of structures	X					<b>S14:</b> Carry out survey and conservation of ruins to enhance their longevity.	High (MT)	Requires conservation architect / engineer input.
Waymarked trail Interpretive materials	X		X			<b>S15:</b> Introduce a short way-marked walk circuit and prepare an illustrative map for the house and diggings site.	High (MT)	Parks Victoria to implement with help from community volunteers.  Parks Victoria to commission map with possible further grant funding from other sources.	

Southern Landscape Constellation – Vaughan Springs/Irishtown: Action Plan									
Landscape/ Place Type	Action Category	Action Objective					Action	Priority/ Period	Comment/Recommendation
		H	A	E	R	C			
	Guided walk	X	X	X	X		<b>S16:</b> Research and implement guided walk.	Medium (MT)	A guided walk could extend the visitor experience to neighbouring areas of sluicing and water management.
	Extended walks circuit	X	X	X	X		<b>S17:</b> Develop longer walk circuit to explore water races and siphons on Loddon Water Race.	Medium (MT)	A longer walk can link the Irishtown site with the water race arrangements, tunnel and remains of the iron siphons at Devils Gully, returning along the Irishtown Track. An extension can be made into the Red Hill gold mining landscape along the Goldfields Track.
Sailors Gully  <b>Key Landscape</b>	Site planning & design	X					<b>S18:</b> Undertake survey and work programme for the conservation of existing ruined structure at Liverpool mine site.	Medium (MT)	Requires conservation architect / engineer input.
	Conservation of structures	X					<b>S19:</b> Consolidate ruined structure at Liverpool mine site.	Medium (MT)	Parks Victoria to commission contractor with conservation experience.
	Interpretive materials	X	X	X	X		<b>S20:</b> Prepare illustrative map of Tubal Cain mine site.	Medium (MT)	Parks Victoria to commission with possible further grant funding from other sources.  The Goldfields Track runs through the middle of these extensive remains and the site would benefit from low-key interpretation such as an illustrative map.
Red Hill  <b>Key Landscape</b>	Short loop walks	X		X	X		<b>S21:</b> Investigate short loop walk off Goldfields Track.	Medium (MT)	The Goldfields Track passes through major areas of sluicing and a short loop walk could be formed to experience the devastating effects of major sluicing in more detail.
	Interpretive materials	X	X	X	X		<b>S22:</b> Consider interpretation to be included in future publications.	Medium	The Red Hill landscape is extensive and away from the Goldfields Track is difficult and

Southern Landscape Constellation – Vaughan Springs/Irishtown: Action Plan									
Landscape/ Place Type	Action Category	Action Objective					Action	Priority/ Period	Comment/Recommendation
		H	A	E	R	C			
								(LT)	potentially unsafe for general access. Potential to use text and images in digital or hard copy guide formats.
Devils Gully <b>Remote Landscape</b>	Conservation of structures	X					<b>S23:</b> Undertake conservation works to extant siphons and support structures, including vegetation clearance to prevent further damage from falling trees.	High (MT)	Devils Gully is significant for the passage of the Loddon Water Race (including its junction with the Fryers Water Race) which enabled extensive sluicing operations at Red Hill, Irishtown and Vaughan.
	Vegetation clearance								
	Interpretive materials	X	X	X	X		<b>S24:</b> Consider interpretation to be included in future publications.	Medium (LT)	The closest access point is from Warburton Bridge Camping Ground via Bridge Track.
Sebastopol Gully <b>Remote Landscape</b>	Site planning & design			X			<b>S25:</b> Investigate short loop walk off Goldfields Track.	Low (LT)	Sebastopol Gully has a number of standing ruins – chimney bases, house site and dams that can be explored off the Goldfields Track.
Middletons Creek <b>Remote Landscape</b>	Interpretive materials	X	X	X	X		<b>S26:</b> Consider including interpretation in future publications.	Medium (LT)	This is a difficult area to interpret and best left to existing information given in the Goldfields Track Guide Book.  Sites through which the Goldfields Track passes include Mr Hunt’s water race, various ruins in Brown Gully and shoring works to the creek.
Red Knob <b>Associated Places</b>	Interpretive materials	X		X			<b>S27:</b> Maintain as viewpoint and interpret in the constellation wide guide book.	Low (LT)	Impressive feature in a relatively open landscape.

Southern Landscape Constellation – Vaughan Springs/Irishtown: Action Plan									
Landscape/ Place Type	Action Category	Action Objective					Action	Priority/ Period	Comment/Recommendation
		H	A	E	R	C			
Warburton <b>Associated Places</b>	Site planning & design			X			<b>S28:</b> Investigate potential for information point.	Medium (MT)	Popular camping ground giving access to Devils Gully and proximity to other landscapes in the constellation.

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### **Websites**

Australian Heritage Database, Place ID 105683 Castlemaine Diggings

<http://visitgoldfields.com>



## APPENDIX 1: VICTORIAN HERITAGE REGISTER LISTING

The Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park is listed on the Victorian Heritage Register, as well as on the National Heritage List. Parks Victoria advises that the NHL takes precedence. The values expressed in both listings are broadly similar.

### Statement of Significance

#### *What is significant?*

The Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park envelopes a goldfield which was the catalyst for the Victorian gold rush of the early 1850s. In that tumultuous decade, Victorian gold transformed the demographic, social, political and economic complexion of Australia. The gold won from Mount Alexander (later renamed Castlemaine) and other early rushes such as Ballarat and Bendigo mainly found its way to England as bullion where it helped bankroll a spectacular period of world trade, industrial and commercial expansion.

Following the flush of discovery in July 1851, Mount Alexander all but depopulated other Australian goldfields; by mid-1852 it was renowned as a world significant goldfield. The Mount Alexander rush drew large numbers of gold seekers from Britain, Europe and America and was the first Victoria goldfield on which Chinese miners converged in large numbers, in 1854. The Mount Alexander rush helped established a pattern of international and local migration for future Australian and international gold rushes.

Of the major 1850s goldfields, Mount Alexander alone remained a primarily surface field, and for this reason has uniquely preserved the early alluvial landscape. Ballarat and Bendigo were transformed into great cities by even richer underground mines which obliterated their gold rush workings.

At the core of the Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park is an area of land, approximately 50 km by 10 km, containing auriferous quartz reefs, gullies, flats and hills which encompasses the goldfield known historically as the Mount Alexander Diggings. Inextricably linked to the historic gold locations is an abundance of mining relics relating to the early 1850s Mount Alexander gold rush. They form subtle landscapes comprising shallow alluvial diggings, tracks, burial grounds, huts and fireplaces, puddling machines, sluices and tail races, quartz roasting kilns and early quartz mining & battery sites. Interlacing the gold rush features is physical evidence of successive periods of mining which lead up to the present day.

Despite the transformation of the natural environment evidence of Aboriginal occupation such as rock wells and stone tools is also present. This outstanding archaeological palimpsest is now part of a regenerating Box-Ironbark forest which is in its own right an artefact of gold mining and later forestry. The place names of the Park's gold mining locations are significant markers of ethnicity, experiences and events of the Mount Alexander rush. Adjoining the Park are the townships born of the gold rush, Barkers Creek, Castlemaine, Chewton, Fryerstown, Vaughan, Campbells Creek and Guildford.

#### *How is it significant?*

The Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park is of historical, scientific, archaeological and aesthetic (landscape) significance to the State of Victoria.

#### *Why is it significant?*

The Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park is historically significant as an authentic and intact early 1850s goldfield. It was the catalyst for the Victorian gold rush of the 1850s, which was a profoundly significant event in the shaping of Australia. In that tumultuous decade Victorian gold transformed the demographic, social, political and economic complexion of Australia.

The Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park is scientifically significant because it envelopes an extraordinary mass of geological, geomorphologic and cultural features relating to initial and subsequent periods of gold mining from 1851 to the present day. Its uniqueness lies

in the authentic nature of the gold rush material evidence as compared to other contemporary goldfields, its association with the momentous Mount Alexander rush, and the intactness and diversity of the preserved mining sequence over a period of 150 years. The integrity of the 1850s gold-rush landscape in the section south of Vaughan is particularly exceptional. The Park also has some of the earliest remaining gold reef mining sites in Australia. Many of the alluvial and reef mining sites are associated with remnants of housing, which are significant both as evidence of historical occupation of the goldfield and as archaeological resources likely to contain evidence which will cast greater light on ethnicity, mining and domestic life. The land and its regenerating Box-Ironbark forest is important scientific evidence in its own right in demonstrating a spectacular event of transformation of the pre-gold rush environment.

The Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park is a mysterious and picturesque landscape of environmental transformation and regeneration and is culturally significant as the embodiment of the Mount Alexander rush, the commencement of the Victorian gold rush proper. The overall quality and range of surviving sources of information (archaeological, environmental and historical) when combined speaks eloquently of the history of the Mount Alexander rush of Victoria's first great concentration and mixing of ethnic and regional groups. Mount Alexander and its central Victorian contemporaries, Bendigo and Ballarat, were responsible for energising society in the early 1850s with results that transformed Australia.

## APPENDIX 2: COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVES

This Appendix provides a summary of responses from the online survey and the site walkovers with key community groups.

### The online survey

The online survey was promoted through the Parks Victoria website, and through local organisations known to have an interest in the Park. There were 265 responses over a 12-week period. There was a strong response from prospectors (65% of the responses) and the analysis compared prospectors and non-prospectors to see if there were differences between these two groups.

#### *Who uses the Park and why?*

Based on the online survey, 35% live in an adjoining area or township, or in either Mount Alexander or Hepburn Shires, however this is strongly influenced by the prospectors who mostly live elsewhere in Victoria (76%) or Australia (11%), whereas most of the non-prospectors are local (76%). There was no discernible age difference between prospectors and non-prospectors, and only a small number of responses came from people who identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent, most being prospectors.

The prospectors visit only for prospecting, whereas the non-pro prospector group engage in a diverse range of activities, primarily nature or culture based:

- enjoy nature, birdwatching 25.8%
- walking or hiking 23.7%
- visiting historic sites or features 15.1%
- mountain biking 7%.

Non-prospectors visit more frequently than prospectors with 45.2% of non-prospectors visiting daily or weekly compared to 57% of prospectors who visit a few times a year

Comparing the reasons for visiting to the frequency of visiting revealed that those who visit for 'walking or hiking' are the most frequent visitors followed by those who 'enjoy nature, birdwatching' and 'cycling, mountain biking'. Those who visit 'a few times in the year' are primarily those who visit to go 'camping' and to 'have a picnic or a barbeque'. Prospectors predominantly visit 'a few times a year' although a smaller group of prospectors visits monthly or weekly.

#### *Community values*

A key purpose of the online survey was to understand the importance of CDNHP to visitors. Looking at five implied values – aesthetic, historic, scientific, social, spiritual - 'historic' values were the most commonly mentioned, followed by scientific/natural values and aesthetic values. Other values were also mentioned – with the two most prominent being 'as a place for prospecting' and amenity values associated with open space and recreation. The most often mentioned values relate to the history of the area – primarily the gold mining history – combined with a sense of feeling connected to the past through experiencing the Park (via prospecting, camping, walking, cycling etc.). Only a few people mentioned the Aboriginal history and cultural heritage values. The beauty of the landscape and its value as an open space resource was often mentioned, as was the interest created by the contrast between the natural and historic elements in the landscape. The natural landscape – the regenerating bush, its habitat values and varied ecology were also important qualities, offering the opportunity to feel connected with the natural environment. Other valued aspects included the 'awe-inspiring scale' of the Park, and the opportunity it offers for quiet reflection.

*Stunning landscape and a rich mining history.*

*Place to relax and escape the city madness.*

*Our National Heritage Park is important to me for its inherent natural landscape of box forest and it's amazing subtle, precious flora. It's significance as a significant site of note sits well with a resilient landscape demonstrating over 150 years of gold mining history.*

*... It is a delightful background for the towns, which are thus a thorough joy to visit.*

The prospectors emphasised the history of gold mining and the experience of prospecting today, sharing the experience with children. The sense of discovery comes through strongly in many of their comments.

*It's beautiful Australian bush, and is a prospecting site.*

*I mostly enjoy the peace and quiet, birds chirping, wind rustling through the trees, it offers a sense of tranquillity. I can forget all about the outside world and just enjoy prospecting at its fullest.*

*I love exploring the bush and finding new amazing landscapes, which are largely unknown to the public, to prospect in*

*When I go prospecting in these areas I feel like I belong to the past and can feel the history and the spirits of miners past. By doing prospecting I feel like I'm keeping our history alive.*

*The whole area is fantastic, I feel part of the heritage, I have tourists come up to me and ask me questions, I show them small bits of gold and they are thrilled to see it.*

*The whole park. For teaching my children and grandchildren how to fossick and look after the bush.*

For non-prospectors, their interests also focused on the sense of discovery evoked by visiting some of the landscapes and looking back into past eras.

Asked to respond to specific values statements (Table 13 below) most were rated as either important or very important by both prospectors and non-prospectors:

There were noticeable differences several of the values statements, with prospectors' values appearing to emphasise the important of mining, mining history, the lives of miners (etc.) whereas non-prospectors put more emphasis on the values associated with the regenerating Box-Ironbark forest and significantly more emphasis on Aboriginal sites and stories. Both groups acknowledged that CDNHP has 'one of the richest collections of mining sites and landscapes in Australia'.

Table 13: Values statements tested in the online survey

Statements	Very Important and Important
The gold rushes in the Castlemaine area are a defining event in Australia's history.	Slightly stronger support from prospectors (95%) than non-prospectors (82%)
The Park is a great place for recreation: walks, picnics, cycling and other activities.	Slightly stronger support from non-prospectors (95%), than prospectors (82%)
The mining landscapes tell us about life and work of the miners.	Slightly stronger support from prospectors (91%), than non-prospectors (77%)
The regenerating Box-Ironbark forest is part of the beauty of this landscape.	Much stronger support from non-prospectors (85%), than prospectors (61%)
There are important Aboriginal sites and stories throughout this landscape.	Much stronger support from non-prospectors (85%), than prospectors (42%)
The Park has one of the richest collections of mining sites and landscapes in Australia.	Slightly stronger support from prospectors (95%) than non-prospectors (82%)
The goldfields landscapes create a strong sense of the past.	Slightly stronger support from prospectors (88%) than non-prospectors (82%)

Statements	Very Important and Important
Mining has turned a natural landscape into 'upside down country'	This quote from the DDWCAC Country Plan gained less support, with 50% of non-prospectors saying it was important or very important and only 21% of prospectors.

### *Favourite places*

Another way to understand what people value about CDNHP was to explore the places people value most (as a 'favourite place') and which places within the sixteen heritage areas they have visited and would visit again, compared to those they might visit again and those they didn't enjoy and those that they have never visited.

The survey asked people to name their favourite place; this was then analysed in relation to the 16 heritage landscapes. The favourite places for non-prospectors included Garfield Wheel, Eureka Reef and Sailors Gully (Vaughan Springs), whereas prospectors tended to be less specific and often identified 'all mining areas' and 'everywhere' as their favourite places, perhaps suggesting that many prospectors do not know the CDNHP very well or and/or that they would prefer to keep their favourite location secret. Some favourite places are not within the 16 landscapes: for example, Chewton, The Monk, and Fryerstown, indicating the potential to link visits to the Park with other nearby localities, and to link the stories and themes into the wider landscape.

### *Favourite place to visit*

#### ***Views expressed in the online survey***

Then, looking at the 16 landscapes, the online survey asked whether it is a favourite place to visit, a place they have visited and may visit again, a place they have visited but didn't enjoy, or a place they haven't visited. The places that came up most strongly overall as favourite places to visit were Garfield Wheel, Eureka Reef, Spring Gully, and Sailors Gully (Vaughan Springs). All of the 16 landscapes were a favourite place for 15-19% of respondents, and around 50-60% of respondents noted each landscape as somewhere they had visited and would visit again.

Three landscapes were identified by a small percentage (<3% of responses) as a place they had visited and didn't enjoy: these are Burns Hill, Golden Point; Red Hill, Choken Flat Campground; Irishtown; Devil's Gully, Warburton Bridge. Most of the other landscapes attracted a negative response from 1-3 people (1%).

For each landscape that people enjoyed visiting, they were asked to identify the positive qualities of that area; this has been included in Section 2.3 of the HLMF.

#### ***Views from the site walkovers***

Participants in the walkovers gave interesting and contrasting responses on the values imbedded in the same landscape. Deep sluicing of the creeks was seen as either fascinating landforms resulting from mining or scenes of environmental devastation. The forest was seen as recovering but also upsetting due to the presence of weeds.

Some walkover participants questioned whether the gold heritage was of enough interest to the general public, and some saw the gold mining period as a 'blip' in the timeline of this landscape. Other values associated with the natural environment (flora and fauna, geology), with Indigenous culture, and with well-being and recreation were seen as adding to the attraction of the heritage landscapes.

There were many references to a 'multi-layered' landscape and a timeline of pre-gold rush Dja Dja Wurrung landscape followed by the gold rush period and the post-gold era recovery. There were also references to tranquillity in the forest, bird-life, native flora and the importance of low-key 'atmospheric' sites requiring sensitive management. The diversity and range of sites were noted by some participants: for example, Welsh Village and Vaughan

Springs having a ‘different feel’ to the rest of the Park. The social significance of sites to local communities was often commented on.

*Favourite places – by constellation*

We also analysed these favourite places in relation to each of the three constellations, and this material is summarised below.

**Northern constellation**

Drawing on the online survey, the five landscapes that make up the Northern constellation are well known and liked, with Garfield Wheel the most popular of the five as a favourite place to visit, and as popular as each of the other most popular places in the other constellations (e.g. Eureka Reef and Spring Gully in the Central constellation, and Sailors Gully, Vaughan Springs in the Southern constellation).

Garfield Water Wheel is an easily accessible site, well known and often portrayed in tourism and walking guides. Asked to describe a favourite place in CDNHP Garfield Wheel, two of the online survey respondent said:

*The Garfield Water Wheel ...to visit is to be taken back in time to an era when mining was one of the mainstays of the area. The ruins not only tell the story of the resourcefulness and hope of the miners but evoke a sense of a different age now gone.*

*I find the Garfield Wheel a fascinating piece of goldfields infrastructure that help us visualise what life was like on the goldfields at the time.*

There were some differences between prospectors and non-prospectors, with Specimen Gully and Scotchmans Gully being slightly more popular with prospectors than non-prospectors. Quotes from two prospectors in the online survey:

*Specimen Gully I liked the way the area changes in such a small distance.*

*Specimen Gully - Visualising historic miners making their finds and hoping that I may do something of the same nature.*

Of those who responded to the survey, the two least visited places are Burns Hill (33% haven’t visited), Welsh Village/Nimrod (23%) and Scotchmans Gully (22%). More prospectors haven’t visited Welsh Village/Nimrod than non-prospectors, whereas more non-prospectors haven’t visited Scotchmans Gully, indicating that each attracts a slightly different audience. Welsh Village is relatively well known, and much loved by those who have visited, but perhaps hard to find as the second comment indicates:

*The Welsh Village is favourite spot, I love taking people there who haven't seen it before, full of history, a great spot for photography of diggings, ruins, fungi and Orchids. A great sense of mystery.*

*The Welsh Village - we had heard of this place but tried 3 times to find it before we actually found it. Once we finally 'found' the area it felt like a true discovery. It was like it had been left years ago. The romanticism and hardship was easy to imagine when walking through the stone ruins.*

Looking at the five landscapes within the northern constellation, the values attributed to each by those who chose one of them as a favourite place include:

Table 14: Northern constellation landscape values

Landscape	Non-prospectors	Prospectors
Specimen Gully		Gold prospecting* Diverse landscape types within a small area Historically as a place where gold was first found Experiencing the past

Landscape	Non-prospectors	Prospectors
		Quietness Learning about the history and geology of the landscape
Nimrod/Welsh Village	Great place to take visitors Attractive landscape for photography Evokes a sense of time depth Combination of the natural environment and sense of the past Isolation from regular tourist spots Good on-site interpretation	Demonstrates the way in which people lived and mined adjacent to each other Sense of the past Engineering feats of earth moving and water sluicing Variety of landscapes with picturesque views Elevated position
Scotchmans Gully	Its link between Moonlight Creek and Forest Creek Retains evidence of the changing development in gold mining	Gold prospecting* Local wildlife Wild bush feel that has not been developed Good place for camping that is family friendly
Garfield Wheel	Easy access, good signage and interpretation Provides a sense of scale for local gold mining operations Engineering feats associated with mining and its evolution Good place to take visitors, with facilities for picnicking Pleasant tracks	Demonstrates evolution of mining methods through equipment Rich in history Family friendly place
Burns Hill, Golden Point	Demonstrates methods of gold extraction over the years Hidden treasure Insight into working conditions for miners Pleasant bush landscapes and bird life	Gold prospecting*

\* Note: Gold prospecting is not permitted within 50 metres of the walking tracks located in the following sites and areas: Butchers Gully, Central Spring, Vaughan Mineral Springs, Red Knob, Glenluce Spring, Spring Gully Historic Mine, Escott Grave, Eureka Reef, Wattle Gully Mine, Forest Creek Gold Diggings, Garfield Waterwheel, Pennyweight Flat Cemetery and Specimen Gully (PV 2007:11)

### ***Central constellation***

From the online survey, the five landscapes that make up the central constellation are well known and well liked, with the most popular being Eureka Reef and Spring Gully.

The least visited places are Herons Reef/Cobblers Gully (30% haven't visited) and German Gully (26%). Of these, non-prospectors are less likely than prospectors to have visited each

place. Herons Reef is a favourite place for this non-prospecting respondent to the online survey:

*Herons Reef area appeals as one of my favourite places because there is a very wide range of heritage, both mining heritage and that associated more generally with 'life on the goldfields' (non-pro prospector)*

*No 9 German Gully. I like the scenery. I feel sort of European connection to my ancestors there and I have been lucky with my detecting there (prospector).*

There were some differences between prospectors and non-prospectors, with German Gully and Eureka Reef being slight more popular with prospectors than non-prospectors.

Looking at the five landscapes within the central constellation, the values attributed to each by those who chose one of them as a favourite place include:

Table 15: Central constellation landscape values

Landscape	Non-prospectors	Prospectors
Wattle Gully Gold Mine	Easy access Quiet place	Important historical place for understanding Australian/Victorian mining history
Eureka Reef	Great place to take visitors, especially for picnicking Provides insight into the daily life of miners in the area Affords nice walks Aesthetically pleasing flora, especially in spring time Indications of how the local Aboriginal peoples lived	Gold prospecting* Great place to take visitors with informative interpretation Important historical place for understanding mining life and its hardships Interesting geology
Spring Gully	Peaceful and enjoyable for walks Largely intact landscape that creates a historical atmosphere	Exploring the landscape and gold prospecting* Affords nice walks and things to see Land locked nature of the diggings
German Gully	Experiencing indigenous flora, particularly wildflowers	Gold prospecting* Experiencing indigenous flora and fauna A place with connections to the past Tranquil and isolated
Cobblers Gully/Herons Reef	Important historical place for understanding the engineering/technical aspects of mining heritage and also more generally, daily life on the goldfields	



Landscape	Non-prospectors	Prospectors
	Remnants and ruins of many stages and types of mining, especially Cornishman's Hut	

\* Note: Gold prospecting is not permitted within 50 metres of the walking tracks located in the following sites and areas: Butchers Gully, Central Spring, Vaughan Mineral Springs, Red Knob, Glenluce Spring, Spring Gully Historic Mine, Escott Grave, Eureka Reef, Wattle Gully Mine, Forest Creek Gold Diggings, Garfield Waterwheel, Pennyweight Flat Cemetery and Specimen Gully (PV 2007:11).

### ***Southern constellation***

From the online survey, the six landscapes that make up the southern constellation are slightly less well known than the landscapes in the other two constellations, with the most popular being Sailors Gully/Vaughan Springs.

Vaughan Springs offers a diverse range of recreation opportunities and this is reflected in some of the expressions from online survey respondents, for non-prospectors:

*Living near Vaughan Springs, love the beauty, serenity and history of the area.*

*Vaughan - the Loddon river, the feel of the place - it's magic.*

*The Vaughan area is such a beautiful place to visit especially the spring's section. It's always green, lots of wildlife where you can relax or walk.*

And for prospectors:

*I like Vaughan Springs for brief camping and gold detecting in surrounding areas.*

*Vaughan always produces finds that keeps me interested and is family friendly.*

There were some slight differences between prospectors and non-prospectors, with Middleton Creek and Sebastopol Gully being slight more popular with prospectors than non-prospectors.

Irishtown is another popular location within the southern constellation, especially for prospectors:

*Irishtown... I love the old mining huts and historical dwellings in the area... I enjoy prospecting around this area and it gives me a connection with the historical past.*

More than 30% of survey respondents 'haven't visited' four of these landscapes: Middleton Creek (38%), Sebastopol Gully (34%), Devils Gully, Warburton Bridge (33%) and Red Hill/Choken Flat Campground (32%). For these four places, there were more non-prospectors who hadn't visited than prospectors. Each of these locations is somewhat more remote than the most popular places, and for some visitors this enhances the experience of visiting:

*The area between Brown's Gully and Middleton Creek is a bit wilder than most of the park, and its natural beauty easier to appreciate, but the whole south end of the Park is beautiful for that reason.*

*Middleton Creek. A quiet beautiful place with in part, examples of early life on the bustling goldfields, natural creek and regenerating landscape.*

*Sebastopol gully has a forest that has some larger trees and an 'easy mood' and invites contemplation. i.e. some evidence of mining but also evidence of vegetation regenerating.*

*Red Hill/Choken Flat area, interesting re historical mining techniques, water engineering, peaceful.*

Looking at the six landscapes within the southern constellation, the values attributed to each by those who chose one of them as a favourite place include:

Table 16: Southern constellation landscape values

Landscape	Non-prospectors	Prospectors
Red Hill, Choken Flat Campground	Consists of a wide range of landscape types within a short walk	Provides easy access to gold prospecting areas* Important historical place for understanding mining techniques, including water engineering Peaceful Provision of good camping grounds
Irishtown	Aesthetically pleasing flora particularly in spring and times of seasonal change Has a gold rush atmosphere without being too 'touristy'	Gold prospecting* Historical dwellings add to sense of place A place where you can experience and understand mining industries and gold rush history Great place for camping
Devils Gully, Warburton Bridge	Gold prospecting* A place for understanding water race and sluicing heritage Experiencing indigenous flora especially in spring Four-wheel driving and camping A place that inspires reflection on living as a miner Experiencing bird life	
Sailors Gully, Vaughan Springs	Quiet and remote, especially when walking along the creek beds Important historical place for understanding mining history An all-natural place Learning about important Aboriginal ceremonial sites Great swimming hole, slide and running track	Gold prospecting and metal detecting* Easy access and enjoyable scenery Provision of toilet facilities and well-maintained park Family friendly Historically important place, especially for links with seafarers
Sebastopol Gully	Remote and quiet Only place in district where <i>Euryomyrtus ramosissima</i> can be seen Large trees and peaceful atmosphere that inspires contemplation	

Landscape	Non-prospectors	Prospectors
	Regenerating vegetation from mining activity	
Middleton Creek	A bit wilder and more naturally beautiful than most of the Park Quiet, beautiful place with natural creek and regenerating landscape	Interesting prospecting potential* Great camping spot Experiencing local wildlife

\* Note: Gold prospecting is not permitted within 50 metres of the walking tracks located in the following sites and areas: Butchers Gully, Central Spring, Vaughan Mineral Springs, Red Knob, Glenluce Spring, Spring Gully Historic Mine, Escott Grave, Eureka Reef, Wattle Gully Mine, Forest Creek Gold Diggings, Garfield Waterwheel, Pennyweight Flat Cemetery and Specimen Gully (PV 2007:11).

### *Managing the heritage landscapes*

#### ***Views expressed in the online survey***

Management issues and activities was the focus of the next question in the online survey, with people offered a range of issues and asked to prioritise them as top priority, medium or low.

High priority overall was given to: tackling vandalism, reducing weeds, and addressing fire risk. The next highest priority actions were: information to help me find specific sites; better standard of access tracks and restoration of specific structures. There were some differences between prospectors and non-prospectors. Prospectors were more concerned about the risk of fire, the need for a better standard of access tracks and tackling vandalism and visitor safety around mining sites than non-prospectors. Non-prospectors gave a higher priority to improved signage, interactive and digital interpretation, and reducing weeds. One 'issue' in the list was 'preventing disturbance from prospecting' and few prospectors (1%) identified it as a high priority compared to 69% of non-prospectors.

#### ***Views from the site walkovers***

The site walkovers also included discussion of management issues. Concerns were raised in several locations over the damaging effects of 4-wheel drive vehicles or trail bikes on historic gold mining sites. Garfield Wheel area offered an example of damage and erosion caused by vehicle. Having a clear demarcation of where prospecting is allowed or not allowed was seen as important, but may be hard to determine on the ground. It was suggested that tracks to sites should be clearly marked with other tracks being blocked off and rehabilitated (including ongoing weed control). One participant expressed concern that DEWLPs Fire Operation Plans and planned burns have impacted hugely on the Park in recent years.

At most sites visited the problem of noxious weeds was raised, particularly self-seeded pine trees, the spread of gorse, blackberry, St John's Wort and exotic grasses. Management of these plant species needs to recognise that some exotic plants are part of the historic fabric and help tell the story of historic occupation, such as the fruit trees, Ponderosa pine and rosemary found at the Welsh Village site.

Benign neglect versus arrested decay of the remaining historic structures was a big discussion point. As there are many ruined structures across the Park, it was considered important to prioritise sites and structures based on their heritage significance and visitor/interpretive potential. At the more important sites consideration should be given to undertaking conservation and remedial works (such as stabilising walls, removal of saplings etc.) to ensure the longevity of significant features.

Another suggestion was that partnerships with local communities and groups could be encouraged as a good way to attract project funding, retain a sense of local 'ownership' etc. To

do this the protocols for managing the Park would need to be established and refined so that these partnerships could work effectively.

#### *Interpretive and visitor opportunities*

##### ***Views from the online survey***

The online survey explored, through an open-ended question, whether there were other themes, stories or aspects of the Park that should be included in interpretation. The strongest story identified was that of 'Aboriginal cultural use of the landscape', followed by 'local gold rush history generally', 'natural values (including landscape, ecology, geology and biodiversity)', and 'individual stories about people who lived and worked on the goldfields'.

The final question in the on-line survey asked where people go for information on CDNHP: the most common information resource are online sources, followed by the Castlemaine Visitor Centre and the Parks Victoria website. A second but less important group of sources included local maps, GeoVic and local history books.

##### ***Views from the site walkovers***

The following topics were put forward as additional themes and stories to add to the gold mining themes by walkover participants:

- Geological story – the 'story of rock' came through at several sites including Quartz Hill, and above Vaughan Springs.
- Water story – how it was utilised from pre-gold rush to present day.
- Forest story – habitat, coppicing, age of trees, its recovery and regeneration.
- Native vegetation – bush tucker and other uses.
- Human occupation – seeing the landscape through 'people stories' was consistently referred to – Thompson Brothers, Vern Hooper's *My Mining Life*, Fred Cahir's *Black Gold* etc.
- Naming the landscape – there was much interest in how localities got their name – Cornish, Butchers Gully, Scotchmans, Irishtown etc.

It was recognised that there was a broad audience for these stories and a range of visitor types that may be encouraged or catered for, including tourists, heritage specialists, students, locals, cavers, photographers, prospectors and botanists.

In terms of how to interpret the Park, discussions at most sites led to the following views being consistently put forward:

- Sites need to be clearly interpreted using a variety of methods otherwise 'over-signage' will become an issue. There was an on-going discussion about the use of signs in the Park. There was some support for an introductory/information panel at key sites, but the over-use of interpretive panels was not generally supported.
- Illustrative maps were one way of visualising sites, linking remains, mounds and other features together to form a coherent story.
- Other methods to include: web sites, phone apps, coded posts, geo-caching as well as audio opportunities.
- Use of historic photographs where possible.
- Sites could be connected to the Goldfields Track by loop walks. Other walks could be done in a similar fashion as the Park is very fragmented.
- Guided walks to the more sensitive sites.
- Important to utilise local community knowledge and their potential to be engaged in future interpretation.

There were several suggestions about having a central focus for picking up information and orientation and also for having a dedicated repository for finds etc. In terms of available resources, the collection of historic photos and other documents in Chewton Town Hall (a building owned by the community) could be included in the interpretation of the gold rush. There were other references made to books and journals including a specific reference to the Welsh Village site – “*The Welsh Village near Castlemaine, Victoria: a study of people in the landscape*” by Valerie Hill, 1998.

## APPENDIX 3: FRAMEWORK OF HISTORIC THEMES

**NOTE:** VIC THEME (in blue) = This relates to the relevant associated theme/s taken from *Victoria's Framework for Historical Themes* (Heritage Victoria, 2010).

The framework of historic themes includes sub-themes or storyline that sit beneath the main themes. Generic types of places are defined further as specific examples of places within the Castlemaine Diggings. The last column references whether the place is included in one of the 16 mapped landscapes (Kaufman, 2014), and if so which one.

<p>1.0 Mass immigration to the goldfield</p> <p>This theme addresses the mass migration of people to gold-rush Victoria in the 1850s, from all over the world, including Britain, Ireland, Germany, China, America, Denmark, etc. and the ways in which this migration is evident in settlement patterns.</p> <p><b>VIC THEME 2: <i>Peopling Victoria's places and landscapes</i></b></p>			
Sub-themes	Examples of place types	Specific examples	Kaufman landscapes
<p>1.1 Migrating to a new country</p> <p>1.2 Recording ethnicity in place names</p> <p>1.3 Displacing Aboriginal people from Country</p> <p>1.4 Creating new cross-cultural engagements</p>	<p>Place names</p> <p>Culturally specific settlements</p> <p>Chinese sites</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'Welsh Village'</li> <li>• Irishtown</li> <li>• Chinese cemetery at Vaughan Springs</li> <li>• Scotchmans Gully</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nimrod</li> <li>• Irishtown</li> <li>• No – the nearest are Sailors Gully and Red Hill</li> <li>• Scotchmans Gully</li> </ul>
<p>2.0 Winning of gold and stone</p> <p>This theme addresses the various stages and processes of gold mining on the Castlemaine Diggings, from manual techniques to the use of more complex industrial machines and processes. It also includes other kinds of extraction, for example slate mining and granite quarrying.</p> <p><b>VIC THEME 4: <i>Transforming and managing land and natural resources</i></b></p> <p><b>VIC THEME 5: <i>Building Victoria's industry and workforce</i></b></p>			
Sub-themes	Examples of place types	Specific examples	Kaufman landscapes
<p>2.1 gold-mining</p> <p>2.2 Quarrying</p> <p>2.3 Fossicking</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gold mines (develop)</li> <li>• Slate mining</li> <li>• Granite quarrying</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'Welsh Village' slate mine</li> <li>• Spring Gully</li> <li>• Red Hill (sluicing)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All</li> </ul>
<p>3.0 Routes, tracks and travelling</p> <p>This theme addresses the development of routes and tracks within the goldfields area, and the development of wheeled transport routes for coaches to and within the goldfields.</p> <p><b>VIC THEME 3: <i>Connecting Victorians through transport and communication</i></b></p>			
Sub-themes	Examples of place types	Specific examples	Kaufman landscapes

<p>3.1 Making tracks into difficult country</p> <p>3.2 Forming roads</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tracks and routes within the NHP</li> <li>• Former coach routes</li> <li>• Horses paddocks</li> <li>• Blacksmiths' forges</li> <li>• Wheel ruts? [Mt Alexander Road]</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Goldfields Track</li> <li>• Former Gold Escort Route?</li> <li>• 'Old coach road', Fryerstown</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sailors Gully</li> <li>• Cobblers Gully</li> <li>• Middletons Creek</li> <li>• Red Hill/Welch Gully</li> <li>• Spring Gully</li> <li>• Eureka Reef</li> <li>• Garfield</li> <li>• Specimen Gully</li> </ul>
<p>4.0 Living on the goldfields</p> <p>This theme addresses the emergence of permanent settlements on the goldfields (in contrast to early camps), the establishment of the necessities of domestic life, including habitations (often rudimentary), gardens, and water supply, and the likelihood of cross-cultural interactions.</p> <p><b><i>VFHT THEME 2: Peopling Victoria's places and landscapes</i></b></p>			
Sub-themes	Examples of place types	Specific examples	Kaufman landscapes
<p>4.1 Establishing homes on the goldfields</p> <p>4.2 Brick-making for local use</p> <p>4.3 Forming gardens for production and ornamentation</p> <p>4.4 Sites of cross-cultural engagement and/or conflict</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Villages and settlements (or patterns/ footings of same)</li> <li>• Domestic gardens and orchards</li> <li>• Market gardens</li> <li>• Terracing</li> <li>• Ruins of houses / chimneys / fireplaces</li> <li>• Miner's leaseholds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'Welsh Village'</li> <li>• Spring Gully</li> <li>• Eureka Reef (ruins)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nimrod</li> <li>• Spring Gully</li> <li>• Eureka Gully</li> </ul>
<p>5.0 Securing water</p> <p>This theme addresses the means by which people on the goldfields sourced and secured a water supply for personal, domestic and industrial uses, reshaping the landscape to move water from place to place.</p> <p><b><i>VFHT THEME 4: Transforming and managing land and natural resources</i></b></p>			
Sub-themes	Examples of place types	Specific examples	Kaufman landscapes
<p>5.1 Means of sourcing water supply for domestic use (including rock wells)</p> <p>5.2 Water supply for towns and settlements</p> <p>5.3 Water supply for industry</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water races</li> <li>• Dam sites</li> <li>• [Elements of the Coliban system?]</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expedition Pass reservoir</li> <li>• Crocodile reservoir</li> <li>• Garfield Wheel and aqueduct/channel</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No, near Nimrod &amp; Burns Hill</li> <li>• Ditto</li> <li>• Garfield</li> </ul>

5.4 Water reserves			
6.0 Working This theme addresses the wide range of work — paid and unpaid, permanent and transient — that occupied men and women on the goldfields of Castlemaine. <b><i>VFHT THEME 5: Building Victoria’s industry and workforce</i></b>			
Sub-themes	Examples of place types	Specific examples	Kaufman landscapes
Tracking Exploring Farming work Fruit-picking and market gardening Prison labour?? Working as a tour guide / interpreting cultural heritage places Brick-making Employment of Aboriginal people on the goldfields in range of work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mines or mining areas and quarries (pits, shafts, etc)</li> <li>• Tunnels</li> <li>• Tramways</li> <li>• Roads</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are there any remnants of Chinese market gardens?</li> <li>• Fryerstown – any industry?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No</li> </ul>
7.0 Ritual and ceremony in community life This theme recognises the importance of ritual and ceremony in people’s lives, including religious and spiritual activities, celebrations around birth and marriage, and commemorations. <b><i>VFHT THEME 8: Building community life</i></b>			
Sub-themes	Examples of place types	Specific examples	Kaufman landscapes
7.1 Worshipping 7.2 Holding ceremonies 7.3 Ritual burying of the dead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sacred places</li> <li>• Church sites and places of worship, e.g. ‘tent churches’</li> <li>• Cemeteries</li> <li>• Lone graves</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pennyweight Flat Cemetery</li> <li>• Vaughan Springs Cemetery</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No, near Garfield and Scotchmans Gully</li> </ul>
8.0 Taking political action and shaping political identity This theme addresses the emergence of political concerns and political action in the early 1850s that were pivotal in the establishment of democratic reforms in the Colony (and later State) of Victoria. <b><i>VFHT THEME 8: Building community life</i></b> <b><i>VFHT THEME 2: Peopling Victoria’s places and landscapes</i></b>			

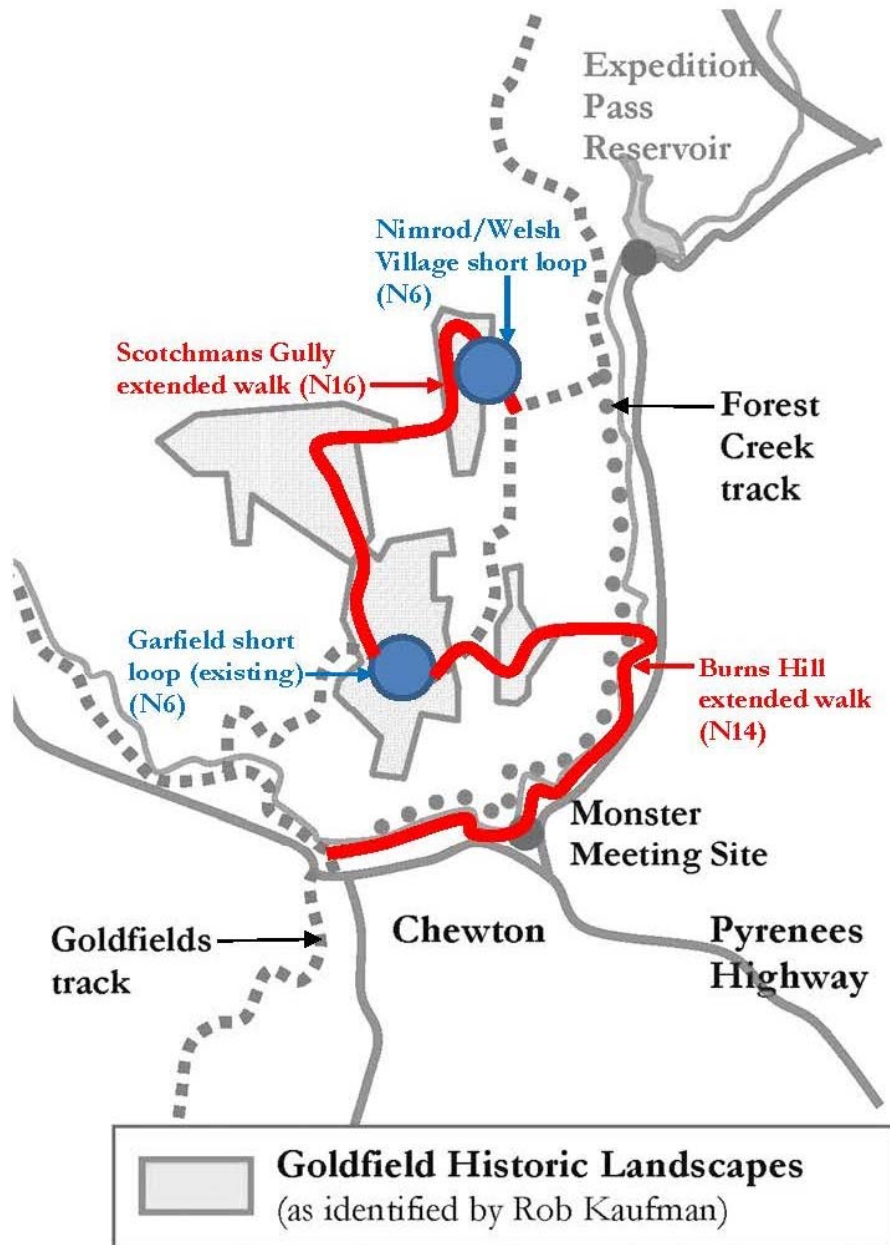


Sub-themes	Examples of place types	Specific examples	Kaufman landscapes
8.1 Fighting for identity and political reforms on the goldfields (e.g. democratic processes) 8.2 Fighting for Aboriginal political reforms (any examples?)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sites of public meetings</li> <li>• Sites of conflict and /or grievance</li> <li>• Evidence of miners' leases</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chewton area ('monster meeting')</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No, near Garfield</li> </ul>
9.0 Changing Country, changing forest This theme refers to dramatic transformation of Country and the forest landscape through gold-mining and associated activities from 1851/52, followed by the development of forestry and forest industries, and later a focus on regeneration and protection of natural values <i>VFHT THEME 1: Shaping Victoria's environment</i> <i>VFHT THEME 4: Transforming and managing land and natural resources</i> <i>VFHT THEME 5: Building Victoria's industry and workforce</i> VFHT THEME 7: Governing Victorians			
Sub-themes	Examples of place types	Specific examples	Kaufman landscapes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Defining Country (and creation stories)</li> <li>• Timber-cutting</li> <li>• Forestry</li> <li>• Forest regeneration</li> <li>• Working in forest industries</li> <li>• Fire prevention</li> <li>• Preserving flora and fauna</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Places associated with creation stories</li> <li>• Timber reserves</li> <li>• State forest reserves</li> <li>• Coppiced trees</li> <li>• Sawmill sites</li> <li>• Erosion through mining activity</li> <li>• Sluicing areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Red Knob</li> <li>• Former State forest reserves – [ask FOBIF]</li> <li>• More research needed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ALL</li> </ul>
10.0 Imposing law and order This theme refers to the imposition of government authority on the dispersed landscapes of the goldfields from the early 1850s, through the powers of the Gold Commissioners and the Victorian police (including Native Police). <i>VFHT THEME 7: Governing Victorians</i>			
Sub-themes	Examples of place types	Specific examples	Kaufman landscapes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incarceration</li> <li>• Working as police</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gold Commissioners camps (with flagpoles)</li> <li>• Native Police camps</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gold Escort Route?</li> <li>• [more research needed to identify key examples]</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ALL</li> </ul>

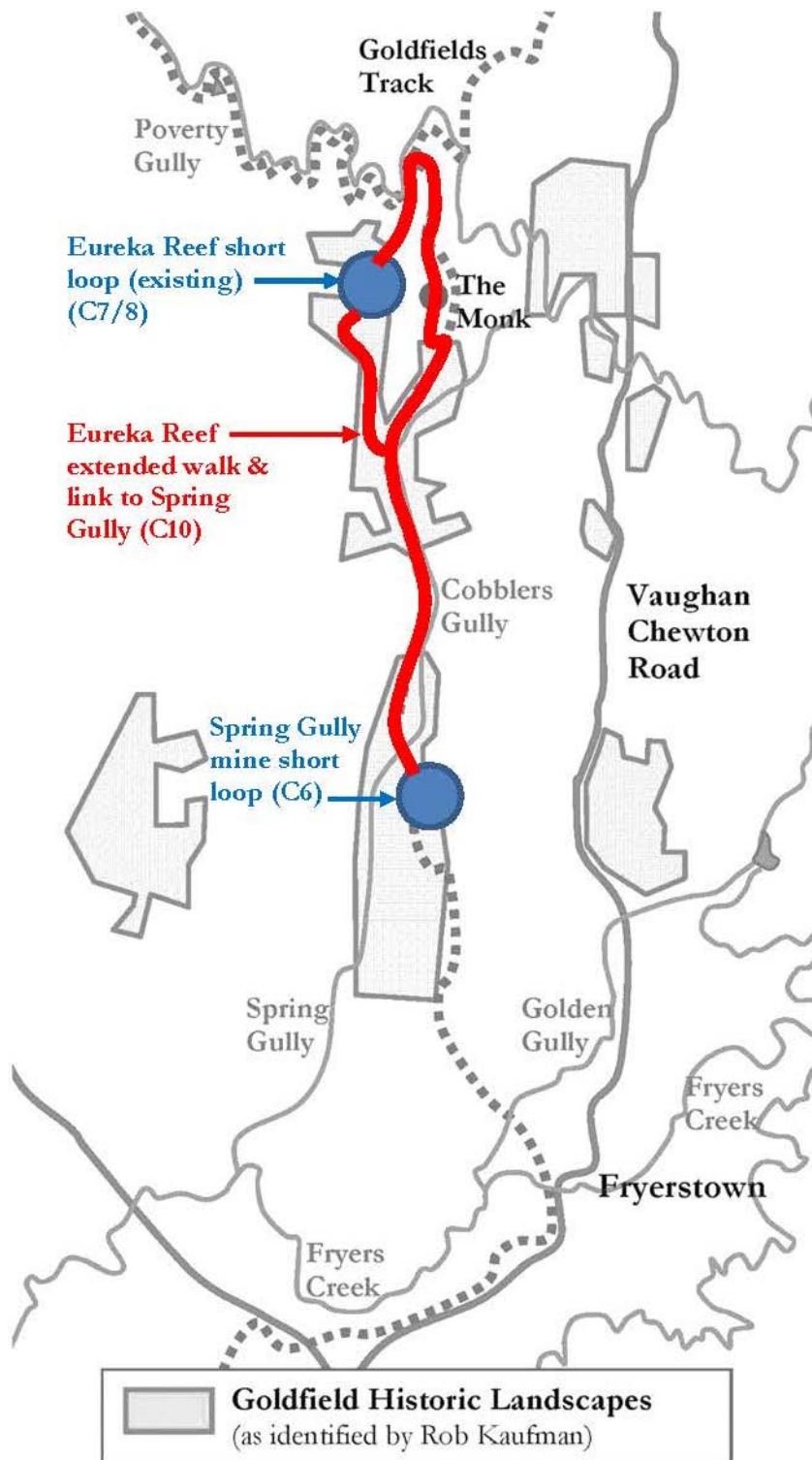
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Police camps</li> <li>• Police paddocks</li> </ul>		
<p>11.0 Finding time and space for leisure</p> <p>This theme refers to the ways in which people organised opportunities for sport and recreation on the goldfields, and for other informal leisure activities.</p> <p><b><i>VFHT THEME 9: Shaping cultural and creative life</i></b></p>			
Sub-themes	Examples of place types	Specific examples	Kaufman landscapes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organising recreation</li> <li>• Appreciating the natural environment</li> <li>• Bushwalking (repeated in Theme 12)</li> <li>• Art and photography (goldfields landscapes)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Places where sporting games were played</li> <li>• Tea gardens</li> <li>• Mineral springs</li> <li>• Public meeting places</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vaughan Springs Mineral Springs and tea gardens (this includes Central Spr and Glenluce Spr)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No, nearest is Sailors Gully and Red Hill</li> </ul>
<p>12.0 Remembering the past</p> <p>This theme refers to the ways in which the goldfields have been celebrated and remembered as an iconic and formative element in the shaping of Australian history and an Australian historical conscience.</p> <p><b><i>VFHT THEME 8: Building community life</i></b></p> <p><b><i>VFHT THEME 9: Shaping cultural and creative life</i></b></p> <p><b><i>VFHT THEME 7: Governing Victorians</i></b></p>			
Sub-themes	Examples of place types	Specific examples	Kaufman landscapes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing an historical consciousness</li> <li>• Tourism</li> <li>• Heritage industry</li> <li>• Fossicking / souvenir hunting</li> <li>• Bushwalking</li> <li>• Preserving Aboriginal cultural</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monuments and memorials</li> <li>• Ruins</li> <li>• Popular tourist sites</li> <li>• Signage</li> <li>• Routes of early tourist trails and</li> <li>• Bushwalking routes</li> <li>• Aboriginal cultural sites</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ‘Welsh Village’</li> <li>• Garfield Water Wheel</li> <li>• Duke of Cornwall mine / Engine house</li> <li>• Specimen Gully gold memorial</li> <li>• ‘Golden Point’ memorial</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nimrod</li> <li>• Garfield</li> <li>• No, nearest is Cobblers Gully and Spring Gully</li> <li>• Specimen Gully</li> <li>• No, nearest is Burns Hill</li> </ul>

## APPENDIX 4 SHORT LOOP AND EXTENDED WALK MAPS

### Walks Map Northern Constellation



### Walks Map Central Constellation



Walks Map Southern Constellation

