

FOGGGS



LOOKOUT



**NATURE
SERIES**

FOGGS LOOKOUT

CONTRIBUTORS

State Library Victoria
National Library Australia

Lawrence Hood
Allan Layton
Leisa Lees
Kathie Maynes
Kelly Petersen
David & Debbie Hibbert

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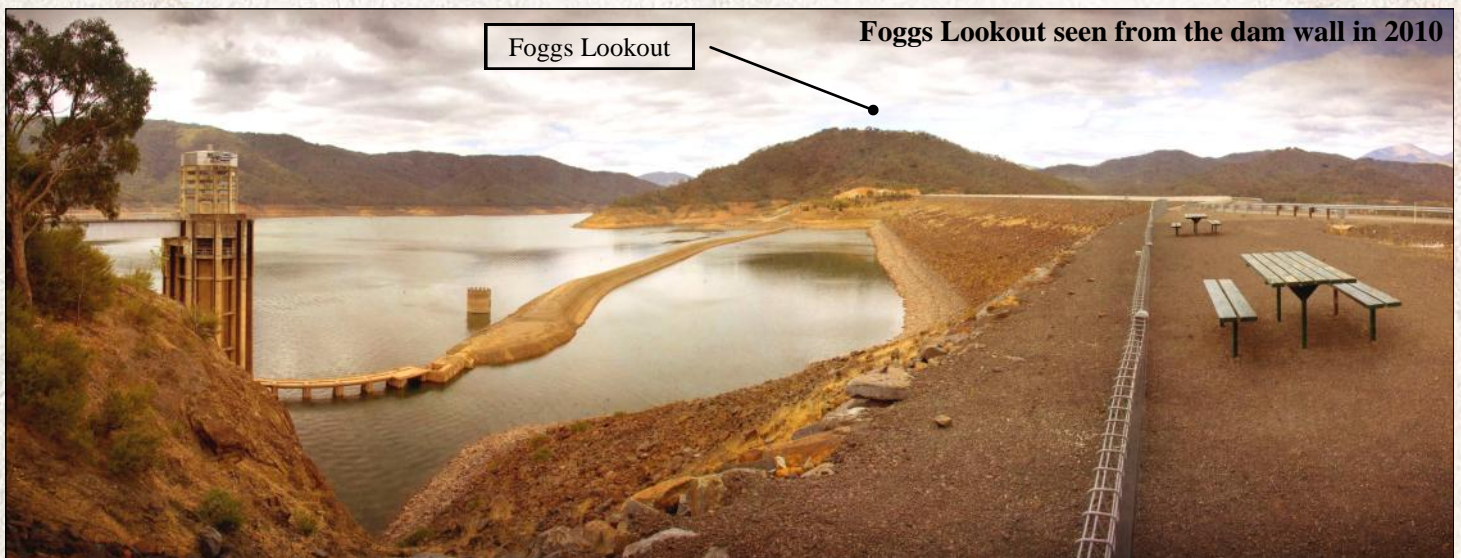
ESPLASH

HISTORIC FACTSHEET

HISTORY

Name: Foggs Lookout
Location: South of Eildon
Height: 543 metres above sea level
GPS: S37.227667, E145.940250

Foggs Lookout is in the Shire of Murrindindi and is one of its most significant lookouts. In 2010 the site was considered as the venue for a tourism resort. The lookout is incorrectly signed Mount Pinniger Lookout.



Foggs Lookout

Foggs Lookout is located 9 km from Eildon in the Shire of Murrindindi, between Eildon and Jerusalem Creek (off Jerusalem Creek Road). The site overlooks Lake Eildon, Lake Eildon National Park, the Eildon Pondages and the township of Eildon. The lookout is open to the public all year, and the last kilometre of road to the lookout is gravel.

Surveyor Thomas Pinniger

A lookout located to the south of Foggs Lookout was named 'Mount Pinniger Lookout' after Thomas Wilkinson Pinniger, a surveyor involved in the Victorian Geodetic Survey. This survey was completed in September 1858 and established baselines for all future local surveys. Today a survey marker and triangular trig can be found at this site, which has an elevation of 543 m.

It was possible that surveyor Thomas Pinniger once built a stone cairn here, as he built cairns at other local high points involved in his survey. Today no signs of a cairn remains. A gravel seasonal track leads up Mount Pinniger to the trig, but trees block the view.

HISTORIC FACTSHEET

HISTORY

Thomas Wilkinson Pinniger married Helen Stewart who lived at the highlands farming station *Habbies Howe* in 1857. They had seven children and one of them, George Stewart Pinniger, became Surveyor General of Victoria from 1925–26.

Incorrect signage at the site

The Mount Pinniger Lookout (located 1.8 km to the south of Foggs Lookout) was confused with Foggs Lookout in the 1970s or 1980s when a sign (labelled Mount Pinniger Lookout) was incorrectly erected at Foggs Lookout by workers (more [here](#)).

In a second error, the sign maker incorrectly spelt Thomas Pinniger's surname as 'Pinniger'. Then in a third error, the elevation shown on the sign (543 m) relates to the Mount Pinniger Lookout site further to the south, not Foggs Lookout which has an elevation of 503 m.

View from Foggs Lookout 2011



HISTORIC FACTSHEET

HISTORY

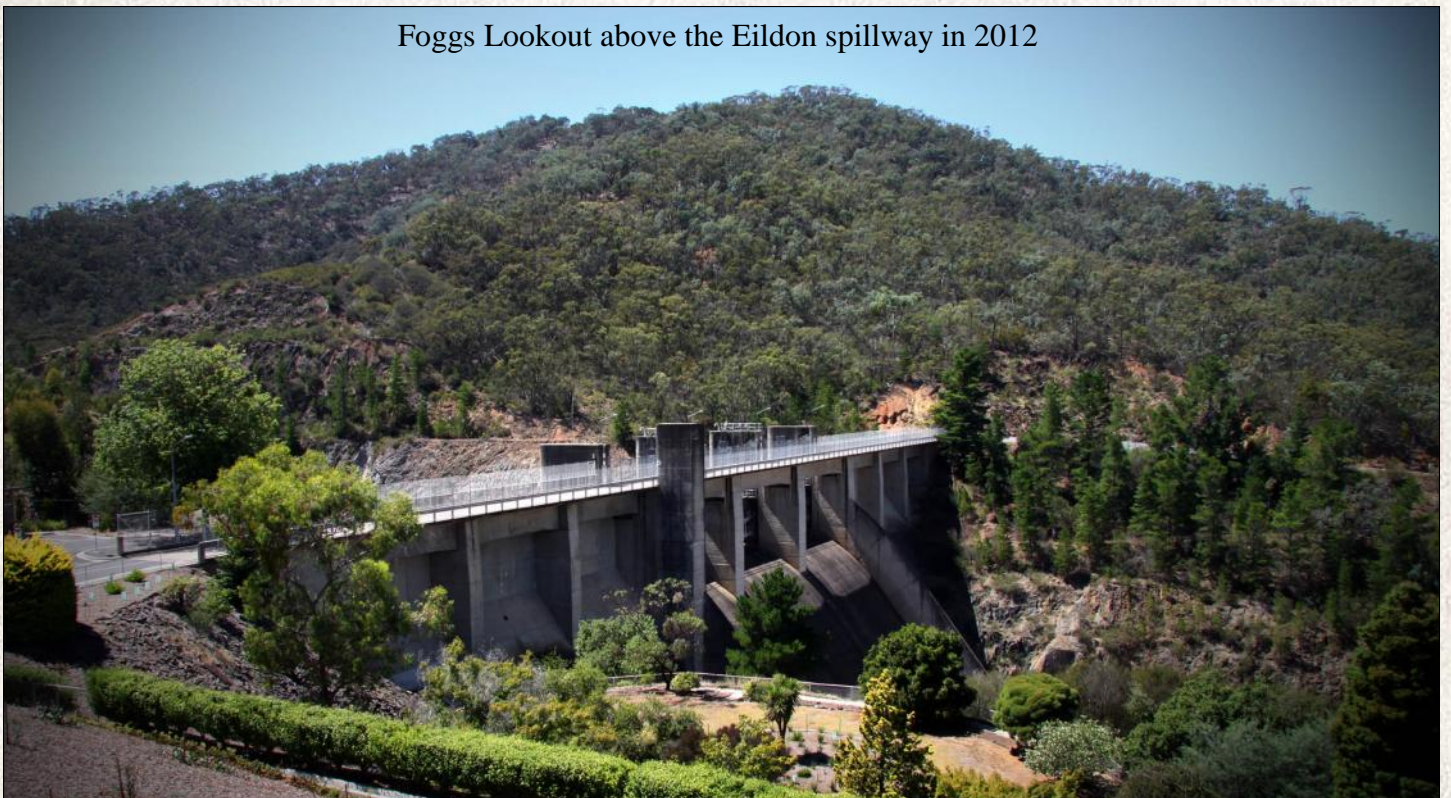
To date, there is no sign at Foggs Lookout that correctly names it, or displays its correct elevation. A possible solution to this unusual collection of errors would be to remove the Mount Pinniger sign from Foggs Lookout, fix the spelling error, then erect it at its correct location on Mount Pinniger. Finally, a new sign could be erected at Foggs Lookout with the correct name and elevation.



Who is James D. Fogg?

During the building of the Big Eildon Dam Project in the 1950s the lookout was officially registered as 'Foggs Lookout' after James D. Fogg - Project manager for UTAH Constructions. The American firm UTAH won the contract to build the wall.

Foggs Lookout above the Eildon spillway in 2012



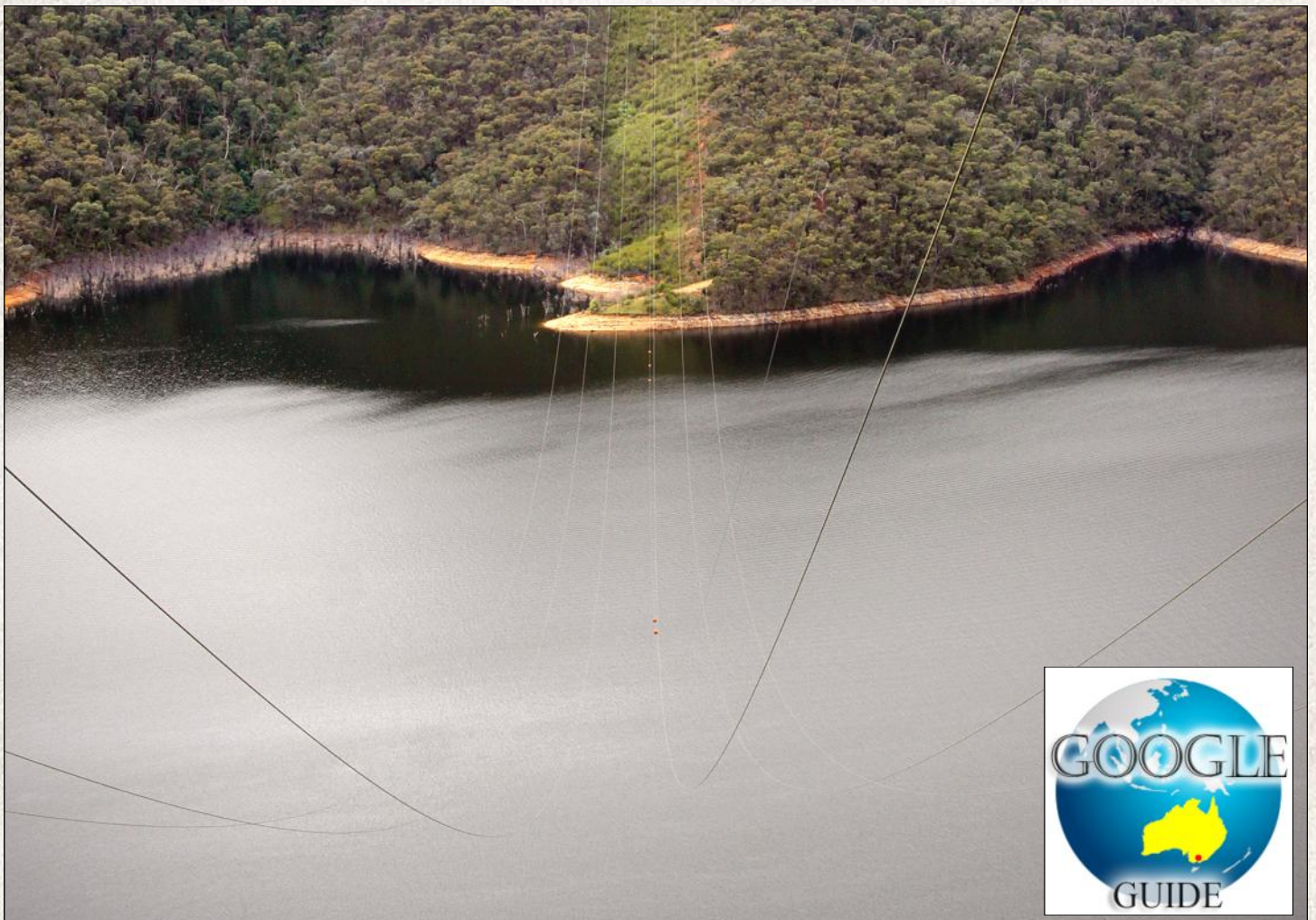
HISTORIC FACTSHEET

HISTORY

Fogg later became Managing Director of UTAH Australia and was also an instrumental player in the construction of Fogg Dam and the failed Humpty Doo Rice Project in the Northern Territory in the 1950s. Fogg Dam was constructed by the Royal Australian Air Force Construction Squadron (at a cost of \$100,000) to provide fresh water for the young rice crop. Project funders included American film and television stars, as well as the Territory Rice Limited (TRL).

Foggs Lookout is above the Spillway

During construction of the 'Big Eildon' dam wall, a large section of rock and soil was excavated to make way for the large three dam gate spillway. Bluestone taken from the spillway cut was used in other areas of the wall's construction and the high point directly above the cut was named Foggs Lookout.



HISTORY

The lookout has a gravel carpark and track to an upper viewing area which has three rock cairns, a picnic table and a 360° undercover viewing area.

Transmission Line Lookout

During the drive to Foggs Lookout you pass High voltage power lines which stretch from near Mt Pinniger to Mt Enterprise on the eastern side of Lake Eildon. The view from this location is excellent. The six high voltage lines are rated at 220,000 volts each and the span across the lake is the longest high voltage cable span in the Southern Hemisphere (2,234 m). It was built in 1955 by the State Electricity Commission Victoria (SECV) and links Keiwa with Melbourne (total length 246 km). The Eildon Power Station is also connected to the Victorian Power Grid via these high voltage lines.

Plane Crash

On 7 February 2004 four people lost their lives when a Piper Cherokee plane crashed into the high voltage lines near Foggs Lookout. The power lines stretch from Mount Pinniger to Mount Enterprise.

The pilot (Jason Lind) was killed, along with three members of the same Ferntree Gully family (Mechanic Paul Faccin, his wife Theresa, and their ten year old daughter Bree). Witnesses reported seeing the plane clip the lines before falling into the lake and sinking. The plane was travelling from Wallan to Yarrawonga. It has never been explained why the plane was at Eildon, which was a long way from their flight path. Mr Faccin's brother-in-law Fred Hack was also scheduled to be on the flight, however he pulled out due to work commitments.



Current state of Foggs Lookout

Today there is no wheelchair access to the upper viewing area and caution is required when walking up from the lower gravel carpark due to the weathered track. A section of the track has also been compromised by ant nests, so care should be taken by those with allergies to ant bites. The 360 degree vista from the upper viewing platform has been rendered ineffective due to overgrown trees. There are no toilet facilities at this site.

TIMELINE

BASIC TIMELINE OF EVENTS

HISTORIC FACTSHEET

TIMELINE

- September 1858** Thomas Pinniger completed the Victorian Geodetic Survey. It is likely he created a rock cairn on the top of Mount Pinniger during this time, as he did elsewhere in our district.
- 1957** The Big Eildon Dam Wall was completed. The Mount Pinniger Lookout became known as 'Foggs Lookout' after UTAH 'Big Eildon' Project Manager James D. Fogg.
- 2 May 1966** The name 'Foggs Lookout' was officially registered with VicNames.
- 1960/70s** A wooden sign labelled Mount Pinniger Lookout was erected at Foggs Lookout in error by workers. The only name registered with VicNames for that site is Foggs Lookout and the name Mount Pinniger Lookout has never been registered for that location.
- 7 February 2004** Four people lost their lives when a Piper Cherokee plane they were travelling in clipped the high voltage lines near Foggs Lookout and crashed into the lake below the Mount Pinniger summit.
- 2010** Foggs Lookout was considered for the possible site of a Tourism Resort. The proposal failed to get off the ground.
- 15 November 2014** Foggs Lookout became a part of the 'Lake Eildon GeoTour'. The GeoTour was established by local geocaching group 'North Central Geocachers' and directs visitors to significant tourism destinations. A geocache was placed at Foggs Lookout and became the first geocache to ever be located there.
- 29 October 2014** Artworkz raised the issue of the missing lookout sign on Jerusalem Creek Road with Shire of Murrindindi Chief Executive Officer Margaret Abbey at their bi-monthly tourism and heritage meeting.



HISTORIC FACTSHEET

TIMELINE

December 2014

Artworkz commenced work on this factsheet. Foggs Lookout was also included in their 'District Lookouts' eBook at this time.

2015

By 2015 Foggs Lookout had become run down and the pathway to the upper viewing area has significant weather damage. There is no wheelchair access to the upper viewing area.

January 2015

Researcher Allan Layton discovered the incorrect height on the incorrectly placed 'Mount Pinniger Lookout' sign and that the only registered name for the lookout was 'Foggs Lookout'.

25 May 2015

A new Foggs Lookout sign was installed at the main turnoff to the lookout. Previously the sign was either too small or often completely missing. Our thanks go to the Shire of Murrindindi Chief Executive Officer, Margaret Abbey who organised the sign to be made and erected.

GALLERY

RELATED IMAGERY

HISTORIC FACTSHEET

GALLERY



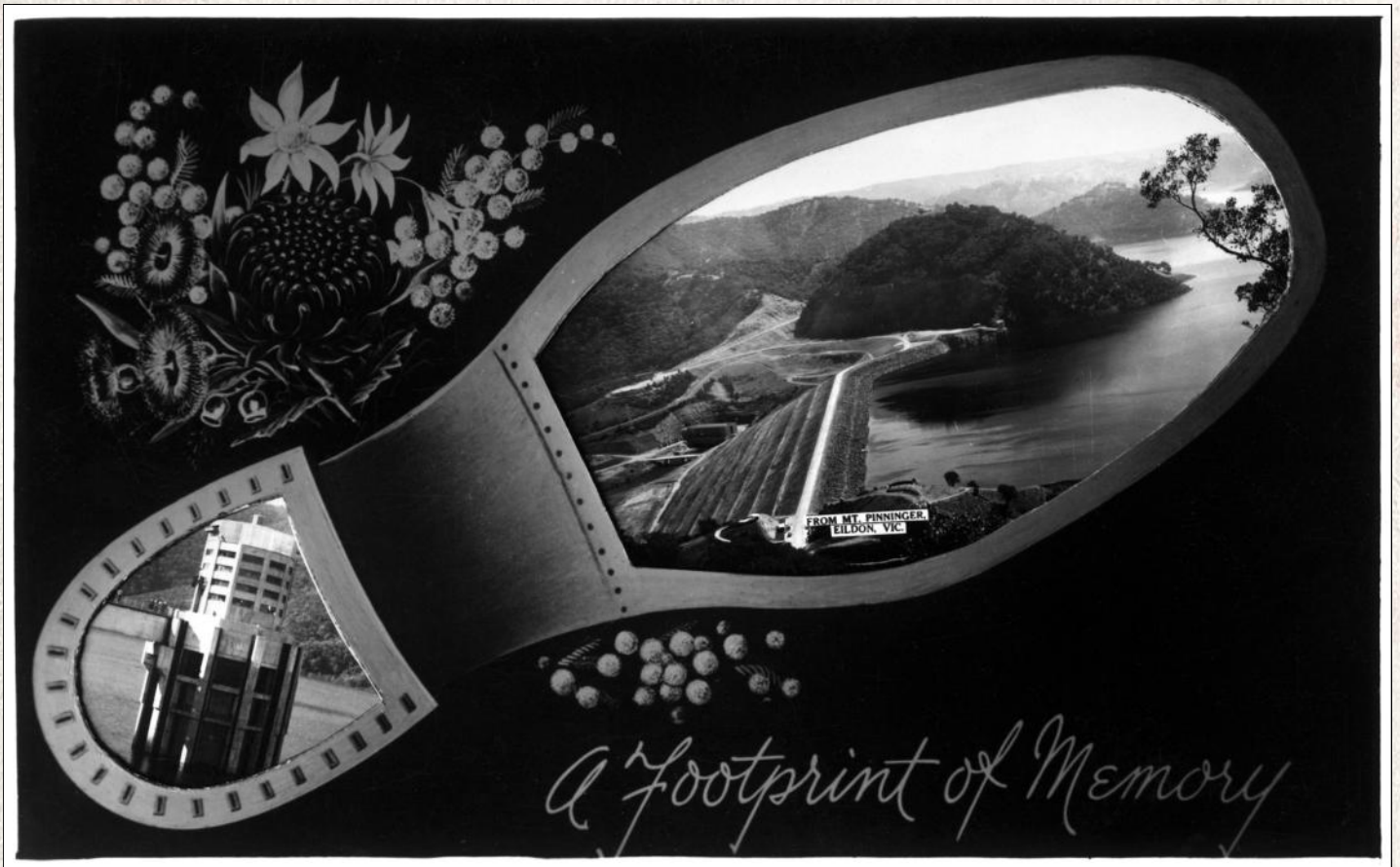
THE ROSE SERIES P. 14110 A MAGNIFICENT PANORAMA FROM PINNINGER LOOKOUT, EILDON WEIR, VIC.
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Eildon Dam Wall from Mount Pinniger (Foggs Lookout) circa 1956

Courtesy Kelly Petersen and David & Debbie Hibbert 2015

HISTORIC FACTSHEET

GALLERY



Eildon Dam Wall from Mount Pinniger (Foggs Lookout) circa 1960

Courtesy Kelly Petersen and David & Debbie Hibbert 2015

HISTORIC FACTSHEET

GALLERY



**1962 postcard of Foggs Lookout purchased on eBay 2014.
It was marked as 'View from Mt. Pinning from Eildon Township'.**

HISTORIC FACTSHEET

GALLERY



Foggs Lookout 2012

HISTORIC FACTSHEET

GALLERY



Foggs Lookout 2012

HISTORIC FACTSHEET

GALLERY



Sunset as seen from Foggs Lookout 2013

HISTORIC FACTSHEET

GALLERY



Location plaque at Foggs Lookout 2014

SUNSET FROM FOGGS LOOKOUT



GET UP
GET OUT
GET EXPLORING



HISTORIC FACTSHEET

GALLERY



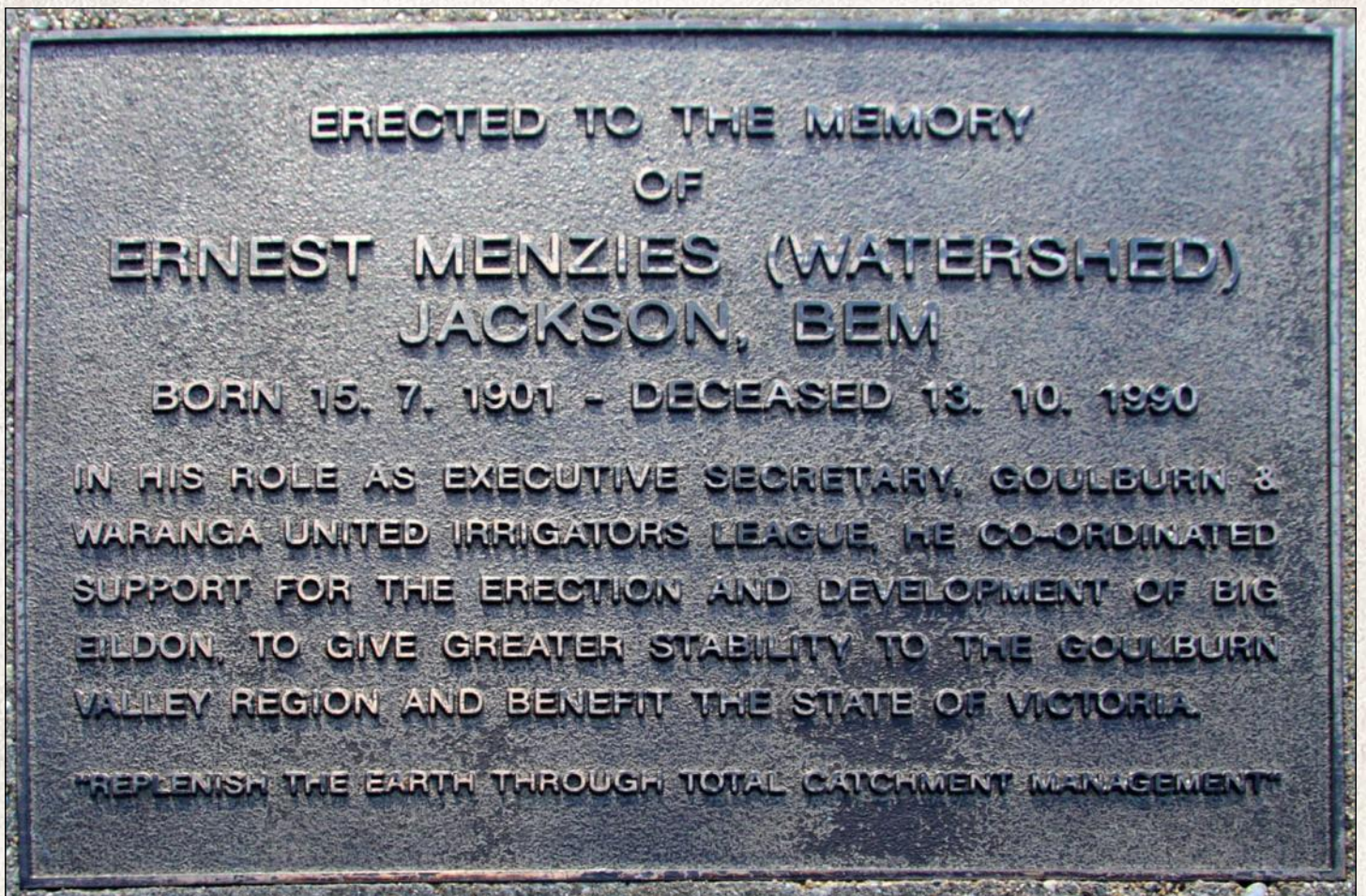
View from Foggs Lookout 2013

HISTORIC FACTSHEET

GALLERY



**Foggs Lookout plaque
dedicated to Ernest Menzies
(Watershed) Jackson**



HISTORIC FACTSHEET

GALLERY



The incorrectly spelt and incorrectly placed Mt Pinniger Lookout sign in August 2011.

The elevation is incorrectly listed as 543 metres, which is actually the height of the Mt Pinniger Summit located on Mt Pinniger, 1.8 km to the south.

Foggs Lookout has an elevation of 503 metres.

HISTORIC FACTSHEET

GALLERY



Location plaque at Foggs Lookout 2012

FOGGS LOOKOUT 2014

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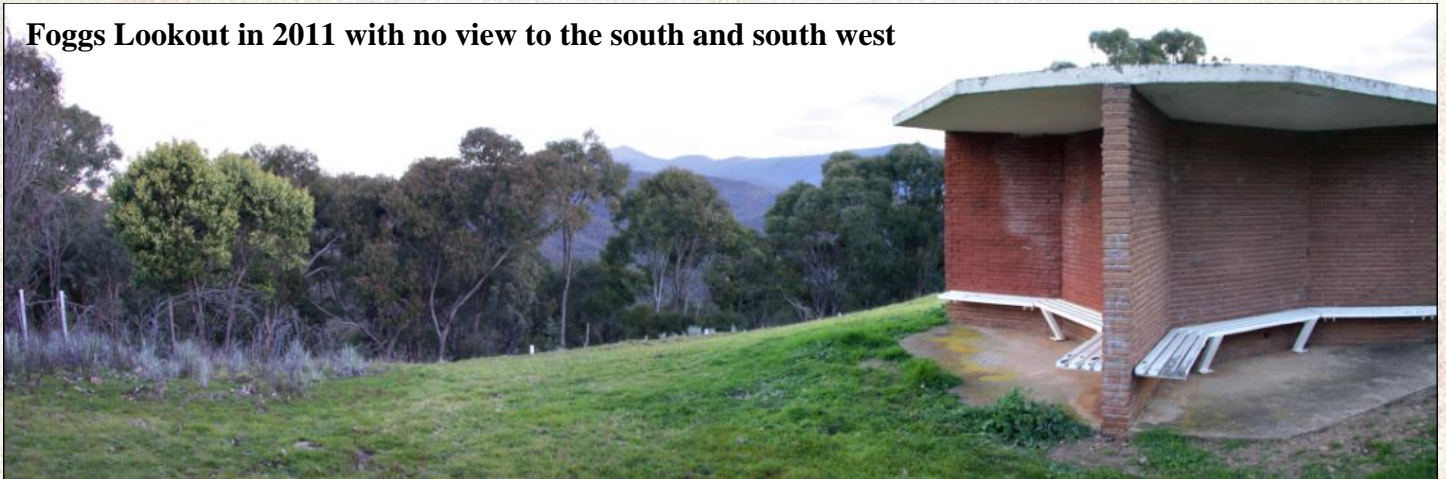


As featured in the eSplash

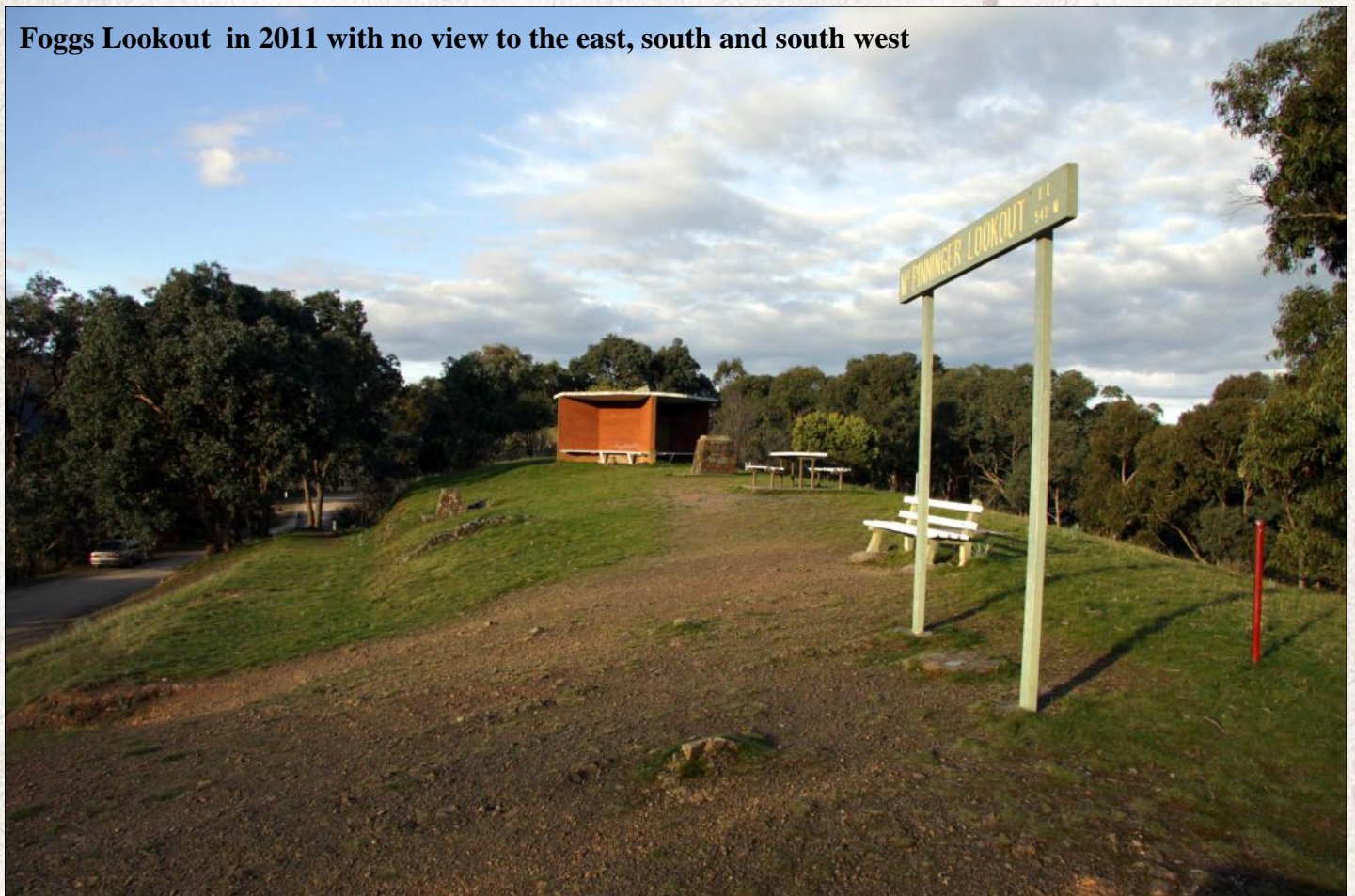
HISTORIC FACTSHEET

GALLERY

Foggs Lookout in 2011 with no view to the south and south west



Foggs Lookout in 2011 with no view to the east, south and south west



HISTORIC FACTSHEET

GALLERY



The pathway from the Foggs Lookout carpark 2012

There are two pathways to the upper lookout area. Both offer no wheelchair access and the main path is dangerous due to its rough eroded surface. There are no handrails and ant nests compromise a section of the track.

HISTORIC FACTSHEET

GALLERY



Uneven pathway in 2015 and evident from 2009–18

HISTORIC FACTSHEET

GALLERY



Uneven pathway in 2015 and evident from 2009–18

FOGGS LOOKOUT 2011



GET UP
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HISTORIC FACTSHEET

GALLERY



A water Tank near the Eildon Alliance Boat Ramp seen from Foggs Lookout in 2014

eSPLASH
MEDIA
ARTICLES

ARTICLES FROM THE eSPLASH eMAGAZINE

FOGGS LOOKOUT

CENTRAL VICTORIA - 2014



Our Premier Lookout is truly magnificent.

Foggs Lookout was named after Dam Wall Engineer and Project Manager James D. Fogg who oversaw the construction of the 'Big Eildon' Dam. It is unofficially known as Mount Pinniger Lookout after Surveyor Thomas Pinniger. Foggs Lookout is one of our most picturesque lookouts.





The Mount Pinniger Trig Point and Survey Point are located 1.8 kilometres south east of Foggs Lookout at the summit of Mount Pinniger.

A seasonal track gives access to the site in the warmer months and the track can be walked in the cooler months.

There is no view from the site due to overgrown trees.





One of three cairns at the upper viewing area

HISTORIC SIGNAGE

Foggs Lookout Sign in December 2014

This extra 'N' in the word is an error



543 metres is the height of the summit of Mount Pinniger found 1.8 km south east of Foggs lookout (where this sign was incorrectly erected). The height at Foggs Lookout is actually 503 metres.

The name 'Mount Pinniger Lookout' is not registered with VicNames (the official register of geographic names). The only officially registered name is 'Foggs Lookout'. This explains why most maps call it 'Foggs Lookout'. Why this sign was ever placed at this location is a mystery. It is likely it was meant for the actual Mount Pinniger Summit found 1.8 km south east of Foggs Lookout (which is 543 m high and was a lookout at that time). Today the view is obscured by trees.

An incorrect sign at an incorrect location





NORTH

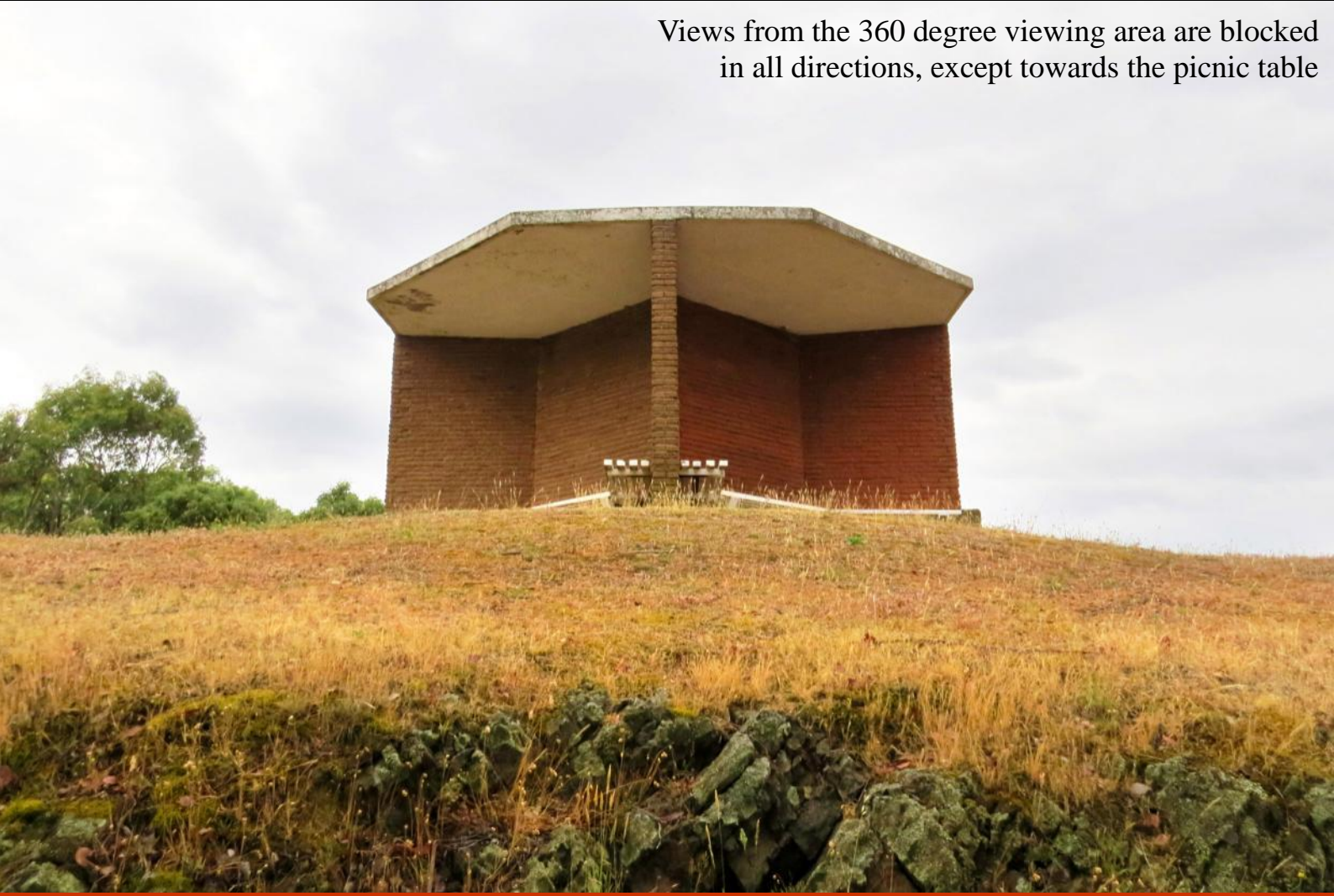
The view is blocked from the viewing platform



SOUTH

The view is blocked from the viewing platform

Views from the 360 degree viewing area are blocked in all directions, except towards the picnic table



The viewing area is not being fully used for its intended purpose as views have been interrupted by trees

FOGGS LOOKOUT SIGN

JERUSALEM CREEK - 25 MAY 2015

DEPARTMENT: SHIRE OF MURRINDINDI
CEO: MARGARET ABBEY

FIXED



Lifting the standard - Another sign replaced

Raised with the Shire 29 August 2014, a new Foggs Lookout sign has been installed. Previously the sign was either too small or often completely missing. A big thanks to the Shire of Murrindindi Chief Executive Officer, Margaret Abbey who saw this issue through to its end.



Foggs Lookout (unofficially called 'Mount Pinniger Lookout') is located 9 km from Eildon in the Shire of Murrindindi. It is found between Eildon and Jerusalem Creek on Mount Pinniger Road and overlooks Lake Eildon National Park, the Eildon Pondages, the Eildon Wall and the township of Eildon. The last kilometre of road to the lookout is gravel, yet is passable all year-round.

The lookout is often been referred to by the incorrect name 'Mount Pinniger Lookout' or the misspelt name 'Mount Pinniger Lookout'. Thomas Wilkinson Pinniger was a surveyor involved in the 1858 Victorian Geodetic Survey. Incredibly, after many decades, an old sign at the lookout continues to promote the misspelt and incorrect name - along with an incorrect elevation.

During the late 1950s the lookout was officially registered as 'Foggs Lookout' after James D. Fogg - Project manager for UTAH Constructions during the building of the Big Eildon Dam Upgrade Project. Fogg later became Managing Director UTAH Australia and was an instrumental player on the construction of Fogg Dam and the failed 1950s Humpty Doo Rice Project located 70 km from Darwin.



Artworkz

Serving the Community