

CATHEDRAL

A photograph of a rugged mountain peak. The foreground shows a dirt path leading up a rocky slope. The middle ground is dominated by a large, craggy rock formation with some green grass and small shrubs growing on it. Several trees, some with dark trunks and sparse foliage, are scattered across the slope. The background shows a valley with rolling hills under a cloudy sky.

CAVES



HERITAGE
TOURISM
SERIES

CATHEDRAL CAVES

CONTRIBUTORS

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Courtesy State Library Victoria
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Please note that it is always dangerous to enter the Australian Bush. Ensure you have appropriate clothing and footwear, and carry sufficient water at all times. Always let someone know of your travel plans. It is strongly advised that you carry a fully charged mobile phone with you.

In the event of discovering any caves, we would strongly advise against entering them without informing Parks Victoria staff and working with them to find the safest way to investigate the find.

Further, we ask that you not make any find public, without the permission of Parks Victoria.

Please always respect private property and local land owners.

Government records tell us that when white-man first arrived in this district, the area now known as the Cathedral Range was home to over 600 men, women and children of the Taungurung tribe.

*A brief history of the Taungurung can be found on their website **here**.*

We ask that you please show respect towards this beautiful and historical Bushland Reserve and remember those that previously inhabited this land.

HISTORIC FACTSHEET

CATHEDRAL CAVES

Name: Cathedral Caves
Mentions: 1890 - Alexandra Standard
1895 - Alexandra Standard
Lost: Around 118 Years

We believe that the Cathedral Caves may be a series of caves located below the main Cathedral Mount. All information at this time is via two early newspaper articles that were published in the Alexandra & Yea Standard.

***NO PHOTOGRAPHS CURRENTLY EXIST
OF THE CATHEDRAL CAVES AND THEIR
EXACT WHEREABOUTS REMAIN
UNKNOWN AT THIS TIME.***

Once used as a local tourist attraction, information on the Cathedral Caves - located on the western front of the main Cathedral Mount - is in very short supply. There are no photographs and currently only two articles have been identified that talk of the attraction. Both of these articles are from the late 1800s. Information from these two articles suggest that the caves may be substantial and significant in nature, though are also very hard to locate.

From the articles, we understand that at least some of the caves have a distance of over 300 feet. The 1895 article describes them as caverns and suggests they were large enough for bushrangers to take refuge in without the landowner's knowledge. It also suggests that the openings were hard to find and were initially the size of wombat holes.

No pictures have been found of the caves and although we have been spreading the news of the possible existence for over four years, no contact has led to them being discovered. Some people confuse them with the Buxton Cave which is resting some distance behind the Buxton Pub, while others confuse them with Wells Caves or one of a number of other small caves found along the eastern face of the range.

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CATHEDRAL CAVES

Based on the two articles, we feel that the caves may be located further up from where the popular 'Cathedral Side Hotel' was once located (between Clearview Court and Norman Road).

For those interested in history, the Cathedral Side Hotel was once owned and operated by William Burchall who also ran the first Mail Coach from Melbourne to Alexandra. A newspaper article in the Alexandra and Yea Standard reports that when the Burchalls first came to the Taggerty area, they had to cut through thick scrub just to get the Mail Coach through. At that time, they slept in the Mail Coach as it was their only home. It was also reported in that same newspaper article that 'Blacks' once visited Mrs Burchall when Mr Burchall was absent, and demanded food or they would take her two children away. Further, it reported that the Kelly Gang frequented the Cathedral Mount area and once shod their horses at the Burchall farm. Finally it mentions the presence of dingoes in the area, how Mrs Burchall once had a pack of dingoes snapping at the feet of her horse until a gunshot scared them away, and how upon visiting the campsite of one of his mates, William Burchall found he had been eaten by a pack of dingoes who had attacked him at the campsite - leaving only his clothes and bones.

It is hoped that one day we will find these caves, so that Parks Victoria may be able to conduct a risk assessment and conclude that they hold tourism potential.

With millions of people living just over the Black Range in Melbourne, a new tourism attraction may be a great way of enticing more of them into our district.

Once it warms up again, we hope to attract a much larger base of people for foot searches. Such a move would help us cover large areas in a shorter period of time.

If you have any information or can help in any way, please contact us.

emailartworkz@gmail.com

HISTORIC FACTSHEET

TIMELINE

- 24 January 1890** First mention of the caves on the Cathedral Mount in an article published in the Alexandra & Yea Standard.
- 13 September 1895** Second mention of the caves on the Cathedral Mount in an article published in the Alexandra & Yea Standard.
- 20 December 1895** A bitter fallout between neighbours James Batchelor and William Burchall (licensee of the Cathedral Side Hotel) may have been what spelt an end to Burchall being allowed onto the Batchelor property to access the caves. There is no mention found of the caves after 1895.
- Wednesday 26 Dec 1901** The Cathedral Side Hotel was destroyed by fire for the first time.
- 6 May 1932** A report in the Alexandra & Yea Standard made reference to Fossil Beds on the western side of the Cathedral Mountain and how people were being taken there to visit the attractions. We have not heard of this and like the caves, we are not aware of their location.
- 27 November 1933** The Cathedral Side Hotel was destroyed by fire for the second time, just two years after being de-licensed. It was occupied at the time by an unknown family.
- 2010** Artworkz first became aware of the caves from an article chanced upon during research on the Cathedral Ranges for the Historic Times Newspaper and our broader projects. We started asking people about the cave from this point on.
- March 2012** Artworkz 'Historic Times' editor Lawrence Hood included an article in the third edition of the Artworkz '*Historic Times*' newspaper, in order to generate interest in the lost caves.
- January 2012** Long-term Buxton local, the late Jack Jones was asked about the caves, though only knew of the cave some distance behind the Buxton Pub. He had never heard of the existence of these caves and was surprised when told of them.
- May 2013** A friend was told by a local that caves matching this description

HISTORIC FACTSHEET

TIMELINE

may have been used by a local thief to hide his loot up until his unexpected death in the late 1900s. They had no further information. It should be noted that the western front of the Cathedral Ranges contain numerous smaller caves, created by the large granite boulders resting upon each other.

May 2013

Artworkz published this factsheet in order to broaden the range of information and interest. After our Elephant Rock factsheet ultimately led to the discovery of Elephant Rock, we realised having a more public document may help.

4 June 2013

A WinTV interview by reporter Alexia Boland with Allan Layton and Leisa Lees saw Cathedral Caves spoken about as a new adventure we were pursuing.

4 June 2013

Allan Layton, Leisa Lees, Shannon Carnes and David Hibbert conducted their first feet-on-ground look at the search area at Cathedral. This was to ensure any subsequent searches were focused in area of highest probability. This process was helped substantially by a composite map that Allan had made. This map incorporated all details known to date, including new information Allan Layton uncovered while researching the caves during the past week. A new map was created based directly on his work.

7 June 2013

WinTV News ran a second 50 second piece on the Elephant Rock Discovery at the end of the news broadcast.

14 June 2013

Artworkz published an article in their free eSplash eMagazine regarding the caves. It included a link to this factsheet.

19 June 2014

The first field trip was conducted at the Cathedral Ranges looking for the Cathedral Caves. Involved were: Ron Cooper, Allan Layton, Stephen Handbury and David Hibbert. No evidence of the cave complex was found. Refer Artworkz eSplash94 eMagazine - page26 - for more details).

24 March 2015

Allan Layton made me aware of the fact that local John Fleming had discovered a cave on Cathedral Mount around six months ago. Little is currently known about the discovery except that it is

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on the Cathedrals. A link to a site showing two images is [here](#).

3 July 2015

Local Geoff Proctor told us that he remembers human bones being found in a cave located on the western face of the mountain in the 1970s. He remembers being on a walk with a group, when the discovery was made. Further investigations are being made.

10 July 2015

Geoff Proctor discovered that William Burchall had an interest in a mine called the 'Indicator' and that a Burchall family member had suggested that the cave was thought to be close to the mine. He is still investigating the information regarding bones found in a cave (noted above - 3 July 2015).

15 September 2015

An attendee to the "Magic Murrindindi" talk conducted by Artworkz members Allan Layton and David Hibbert chatted regarding the caves. He told us that his father who is now aged in his eighties - was previously a commando in the Australian forces. During a training operation they were dropped at the front highway side of the Cathedral Range and told that they needed to climb the face and get over the top. He remembers his father telling him that during the exercise, they happened upon "massive caves" in the cathedrals. He told us he would contact his father and see if he has any further memories of the caves.

14 October 2015

Credible information received regarding the positive identification of a cave in the Cathedral Ranges where the Johnson's daughter (abducted in the late 1800s) was held in for a number of months before being rescued. Information was received via Kathie Maynes and is currently being investigated.

HISTORIC FACTSHEET

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The Cathedral Side Hotel in 1906.

In 1895, licensee of the Cathedral-Side Hotel (William Burchall) would take visitors to the Cathedral Caves. This appeared to end in December of that year after a bitter disagreement between James Batchelor and neighbour William Burchall, over Burchall's cattle continuously crossing into Batchelor's property.

It has been suggested by a local historian that William Burchall may have needed permission from Batchelor to access his land when taking people to see the caves, and that this permission could have been withdrawn after the dispute.

Courtesy State Library Victoria.



LOCAL OBSERVATIONS

BY WAYPARKER.

NO. 2.—ACHERON.

"Acheron" is certainly a very sonorous name, and from a purely euphonic standpoint could hardly be improved upon for adding the delights of musical nomenclature to the other charms of a region resonant with the gush of many waters, a land, as the poet sings,

"Made green with the number of rivers,
And gracious with temperance."

but there are other ways, not connected with phonetics, of regarding the subject, which make the appropriateness of the designation appear somewhat doubtful. A very considerable number of people know enough of ancient mythology to connect the appellation with quarters which are popularly supposed to lie very much deeper than the 3000 ft. level, and Shakespeare makes his witches in "Macbeth" conspire to meet at the Mt. of Acheron. One learned acquaintance has told me that Shakespeare was wrong, and that Acheron was not a pit, but a plain similar to the immortal herd in that I know "little Latin and less Greek." I forbear giving judgment on this point. I only know that the name has something to do with where I was once told I should arrive sooner or later according to the date of my decease. These reflections are prompted by a little adventure which happened to me when I first set foot in the district.

I met what my classical friend would call a "Heliocauter" (short for "sundowner") who was classical likewise. He persuaded me to surrender a pipeful of tobacco, and talked as he smoked of the electric railway construction that was on the tapis.

"The fault lies entirely in the name," he said. "The railway authorities have admitted that they must get here some day. But could you, as a reasonable being, possibly expect them to be in a hurry?"

"And what remedy would you suggest?" I queried.

"Call the district after the mountain—the Cathedral. You know the proverb—"the nearer to church," etc., and presumably the farther from judgment also. The seat of government would be removed to here in a week, with the whole Spencer-street terminus." And with this parting salutation, he shot across to a doctor's house for gratuitous tea and damper.

I found afterwards that the continuation of the Healesville line is as much a burning question here as at the Lower Acheron. The district suffers less, perhaps, but it suffers more keenly. There is more prospect here than at the settlement lower down, but the residents, being several miles nearer to Healesville and further from Alexandra and Yea, are naturally more deeply interested in a project that would bring a platform almost to their gates, and nearly everyone I interviewed spoke warmly to me upon the subject.

The local industries are principally wool-growing, dairying, and live stock rearing, but good crops are taken off the alluvial bottoms, and from small areas of high quality are produced, although for obvious reasons, not in particularly small quantities. For some time past dairying has been on the decline, owing to the increased competition from districts possessed of railway facilities, but with skill and enterprise profitable results can still be attained. Grazing is medium for want of proper means of transport, but fat calves are sent via Healesville and a ready sale is obtained for the produce of the locality. For this season has been wool, in which the enhanced prices have brought good returns, in many cases far exceeding the expectations of the owners.

Messrs. Craddock and Barrett are just putting through by far the largest clip in this district, but the fleeces are from travelled N.W. sheep brought over for shearing and subsequent disposal. As to the locally grown article, amongst the highest priced lots lately passed through the market were some submitted by Messrs. Ross and J. Webb, which realised 1s 1d and 1s 2d respectively. Other consistent producers at a slightly lower figure, have yielded at least as good a profit for the outlay. In the way of crops, oats have been better this season, and early potatoes have attained a very superior quality, some which I tasted from the garden of Mr Isaac Helmes being of especially notable excellence.

I visited the property held by Mr Batchelor, opposite the Cathedral, and was much pleased at the evidences of energy there displayed. The operations at present carried on are varied, and include horse and cattle raising, pig breeding, dairying and cheese making, and cultivation of a diversity of crops, and to these Mr Batchelor is prepared to add fruit and vegetable growing for the Melbourne market as soon as rail-road conveyance can be had. The land has about four miles of frontage to the river Acheron, and is watered in addition by several small creeks, upon one of which a large water-wheel has been erected to provide power for chaff-cutting. The soil—for the major part of river deposit—is of great fertility, and under intelligent treatment produces successful harvests of any crop that may be desired. A quantity of good-looking oatens hay was being stacked at the time of my visit, a good deal had been placed under cover already, and there was more to follow from the field. Some jolly looking pigs were taking a "refresher" in a pond prepared for their especial benefit, whilst a number of juveniles of the same species strayed so near as to whet my appetite and tantalize my palate with involuntary recollections of the flavor of porcupine—one of the greatest dainties imaginable, and almost peculiar to this part of the Colony. The sucking pig that can come up to porcupine baked in a clay coat, must be prime at all points. From the pigs we pass the building in which the stores are kept, and the dairying processes carried on. On entering one sees an array of cheeses with half a dozen presses, and a couple of vats, one of which is constructed of copper to serve a variety of purposes, and must have cost fifty or sixty pounds for the material and workmanship. It is capable of being used as an ordinary boiler (heat being supplied from

an ordinary boiler (heat being supplied from a steam jacket) or as a draining vat, being provided with a central upright perforated tube and removable water-tight siphon. In case of necessity, an air condensing apparatus could be procured and attached in place of the steam generator, thereby affording an efficient milk refrigerator, to render dairying practicable in the hottest of weather.

This system does not, however, afford a sufficiently rapid separation of the curds from the whey to suit the manufacture of such cheese as is prepared by Mr Batchelor, and the drainage is now effected by means of a gauze trough suspended in an inclined box which receives and conveys away the liquid. There are two methods of preparing the curds—the one by quick drainage, the other by settlement, and skimming off the whey. Cheese made by the latter process has a finer and closer grain, but it requires double the time for ripening and should then find its way into consumption speedily, as it is apt to become too solid. The quick drainage system gives a large knotty grain, and the product retains its qualities for some time after maturity, which takes place in a few weeks. The article produced here is best marketable as new cheese, and is of the type which finds most favor with the great bulk of the working classes in Melbourne.

Extensive additions to the dwelling house are at present in course of erection, and the building, when completed, will have an elegant and tasteful appearance. The location of the property is good, being at an easy distance from splendid fishing, shooting, and the principal points of interest in the national scenery, and doubtless the future will see the district replete

with establishments for the convenience of tourists and holiday makers, who are certain to be attracted to large numbers as the locality becomes better known and opened up.

There are caverns about the cathedral opening, which have never yet been thoroughly explored. They have apparently been formed by the wombats penetrating in subterranean crevices of the rock, and the openings are difficult to discover. Proofs are not wanting, however, that they were known and inhabited by white men long before the farming residents had any knowledge of their existence, and it appears almost demonstrated that they were once the secret haunts of the bushangers who infested the region when the Woods' Point diggings were in the height of their prosperity. Perchance in the gloomy recesses of these caverns there may be bleaching skeletons with rusted rifles still by the clench of the horny fingers, guarding hoards of ill-fated golden—who knows? At all events these relics, for this colony, a remote and buried antiquity, are well worthy of a fuller investigation than has yet been accorded to them.

Whilst shooting in the hills at the foot of the mountain, I encountered an agreeable surprise, falling in with a young local artist in the person of Mr W. B. This was a very enjoyable conversation about the way art is till a late, or rather an early hour, and I had subsequently an opportunity of inspecting some of his pictures. Although his first attempts, and executed in ordinary house-painter's colors, some of them are well finished and all exhibit good conception and promise as to the future. It is Mr Burchall's intention to proceed to Melbourne and study at the National Gallery, where, with practice and such improvements in technique as the instruction there will afford, he should be able to take equal rank with other professional artists, and for my own gratification of obtaining the very inadequate reward, which the city offers to other than commercial merit.

Proceeding towards Alexandra, I passed on the left hand side the establishments of Messrs T. Webb, Ross, and Mullins, and on the right that of Mr Kerr—Fairfield Farm. The road here runs almost midway between the Acheron and the Little River, which both carry water underground for some distance from the banks, enabling wells to be sunk for considerable domestic supply and for dairying purposes. The water that is preferred for the latter, however, is not river soakage, but the percolation from the hills. It is perennial and very cool and clear. A trace of brackishness is here and there objected to by the residents, but only persons accustomed to the exceedingly pure water of the rivers would perceive it. Some of the points which I jotted down on my tour were the following:—At Mr Webb's I found the water produced to be of excellent quality, in fact amongst the best textured, smoothest, and richest that I noticed. There were plenty of well grown swine taking things easy in their own fashion, and appropriate accompaniments appeared to advantage in a nice little orchard and vegetable patch close at hand, upon which ploughing was being done. Mr Ross, higher up, realised the highest prices for locally grown wool this season, as already mentioned, the price, one shilling, being given for lighter conditioned lots than the majority sent out from the district. Merinoes are the favorite sheep here, as they do well on hilly ground, the heavier fleeced varieties being looked upon as the most reliable for profit. All wool is sold in the grass, or at least forwarded to market in that condition, but the same is generally a little weight likely to be lost in washing, and Mr Charles Mullins was latterly contemplating a new disposition in the line. He has some good stock running on the land, and supplies fat animals to the Melbourne and meat markets. He was unfortunately suffering from a severe accident which precluded conversation, but his brother contentedly afforded me a good deal of useful information.

Over the way is Fairfield Farm, owned by Mr Kerr, who does a good deal in live stock and would do more if there were a ready access to market. There is a splendid stallow, Royal

Scottish, who is evidently well cared for. The stallow has been good here in almost all places along the road, but complaints are made on account of the wheat, which is little grown in the district, and will not make much headway until encouragement is given to enter upon the necessary combination of drainage and irrigation to avoid the risk of rust. Under those conditions it could be successfully cultivated. I should also mention that Mr Kerr runs a number of Lincoln sheep on the Little River flats, these being, with the exception of some cross-breds, the only non-merinoes in the locality.

Crossing over the Little River where it falls the Acheron, and the bridge which spans the latter lower down, I came to the united estates of the Messrs. White, comprising 2600 acres, of which 1900 were hill country and 700 alluvial bottoms. About one sheep to the acre of hill country and one head of cattle to ten acres of the same is the average at present, of course they have the run of the bottoms as well, and the carrying capacity of this part of the country is far greater. The animals are more likely to get thin, if they ever do so, from indigestion through over-feeding, than from the reverse cause. The sheep average 1900, and are heavy-fleeced merinoes living on the hillsides. They do well, and have returned eleven pounds for the last clip in grease. Cattle—well, here is something special. From 180 to over 200, and averaging that number at least, of well-characterised Hereford decent, with twenty-five per cent usually in milk, yielding butter good enough for export to England under the new bounty system, they make no mean show. One could almost fancy them human beings, so well defined is the individuality of each. On this account alone they should be invaluable for breeding and particularly for experimental purposes. In the pride of the herd is Warren Duke the Fourth, now three years old, son of the celebrated Warren Duke, who stood champion of the colony at the National Agricultural Society's show, where young Warren was purchased in his infancy. A splendid beast, with long straight back, big muscular shoulders and neat squarely taken-off rump, fine stalwart neck, arching at will like a stag's, and big pendant dewlap, he is as yet only half the weight which he may be expected to attain when full-grown. His mild and somewhat patriarchal face is an index to his character, for he is so gentle that a child may lead him anywhere, and he makes it his regular business to go round the milch herd at milking time, making a thorough inspection of every cow, and apparently conversing with any that have allowed themselves to become overheated or nervous during the afternoon.

The butter as soon as made is stored away in a cool cellar until it can be sent to Melbourne for shipment. For the export trade, the new enamelled casks of 70 lbs are employed. Mr Wylie was awaiting the result of the experimental cargo at the time of my visit, but there is little need for anxiety if, as I learn by the metropolitan morning papers, the minimum price of the entire colonial shipment was 25/6s per cwt., or nearly 1s per lb.

Naturally, the bye-products of the dairy are not altogether inconsiderable, and these are utilized in the rearing of pigs, of which Mr Wylie formerly kept a large number. Just now he is reducing them to what the dairy waste will support, on account of the condition of the market. They are sent down either alive or as carcasses, but like others in the locality are never put for sale. The reason assigned is that the Melbourne curers command the market, and that country hams and bacon find little demand. Although aware of the fact, I believe that the explanation is different. There is certainly no such caprice on the part of the consumers, who can get nothing but inferiorly cured bacon stuffs at any price at the present time. I am sure that the salting and smoking—the latter in particular, upon which so much depends—could be managed just as well here as there, and in fact the great range of selection that you have for a sweet-scented fat should render it possible to turn out better flavored produce than in any other district through which I have travelled. The only whim on the subject, so far as I have taken notice, is a rage for well-fleshed lean meat, rejecting the delicate fat which in my opinion constitutes bacon's principal charm, but it is the country districts above all that can comply with the requirement if so desired. The fact of the case is, that the metropolitan curers hold a monopoly, which can only be broken down by energetic and united action on the part of those outside the "ring." It is within my own recollection that before these individuals had wheeled the trade into their own hands by holding out conveniences for curing to the country growers, there was a large variety of stocks to select from, and the Melbourne-smoked article was looked down upon by the Melbourne public in comparison with that of rural production.

To return to the subject—Messrs Wylie do not crop more than is necessary to supply the wants of their own animals. Occasionally, however, a surplus may be got rid of when taking live stock, etc., to market. About a hundred acres roughly speaking, have been regularly laid down with English grasses, but it is found that the native growths endure the summer better and answer very well for general purposes. Inquiring upon the subject of fruit I was informed that the soil will grow anything—and "anything" with as much robustness as "non-anything" sorts. They will grow themselves, and need no pruning or attention to produce a plentiful crop. All that is positively necessary is to procure the stocks or cuttings, and plant them.

The day was drawing to a close when I entered the gates of "The Station"—or what remains of that which was the Acheron station in former years. It is a compact block of about 1200 acres, of which the rich alluvial flats constitute one half. The deep drainage channel

estate one half. The deep drainage channel and the great Blue Range trends towards the Thornton ward end of the property, and the Acheron, which passes in curving lines almost around the estate, has left unmistakable traces of former volume and of its ancient submergence of vast areas.

All these rich flats have been deposited at a time when either the edge of the former cracked and fissured plateau formed by the fractured surface of the upland Silurian strata, were not yet sufficiently cooled to admit of passage along definite lines to the sea, or when the volcanic disturbances which have in geologically recent times altered the configuration of the colony were still sufficiently active to alter the levels and dam back the streams, producing dense swampy horizons which have for ages past been gradually drying up. In this way low hills or dunes have been made, either by the piling up of material between confining streams or by the spilling up of water-courses at protected parts of the pre-existing deposits over which they flowed when spread out over areas of swamps. It is possible that deep leads may underlie these very elevations—more than probable that they exist somewhere within the alluvial area. Mr Coombs, the new proprietor of the station, is of this opinion. He has applied for a lease of the ground under the Mining on Private Property Act, and intends to test the deep leads by boring. Should he be successful an immense change will be brought about in the district. The principal obstacle in the framing of the laws and regulations by which its officers are bound compels them to enact the same labor covenants, based upon averages, for purely prospecting leases, as for land where nothing has to be done but to get out the gold, and there is no provision for protective searching licenses where gold is concerned. During the time I spent in the service of the Department, I have known inquiries to be made on this subject, and an amendment authorizing the grant of such licenses would be a great public convenience. As matters stand, a more operative character is imparted to gold mining than to mineral leases, and in a corresponding degree a premium may be said to be held out to the fostering of companies rather than to the development of the stiferous deposits.

It is also Mr Coombs' intention to thoroughly clear and improve the property. The rushy portions of the flats will be drained and provision made for irrigation. Mr Coombs is strongly in favor of a stock tax, and would be prepared, were it passed, to expend several thousands of pounds upon cattle. For the present he will confine himself to general improvements of the nature indicated, and to experimenting upon the other capabilities of the land. I saw here a number of fruit and other English trees which have been left to themselves for many years—notably some pears and quinces growing in a paddock. The cattle repose in the shade under their boughs, and every limb is covered thickly with fruit. I estimated the size of one of the trunks, and should give it roughly speaking a yard and a half in girth a couple of feet above the ground. Chestnuts, hazels, elms, walnut, flourish in a garden that has been all but abandoned until now, and ample proof is afforded of the excellence of the situation for grape growing. Whilst on this subject I may remark that Mr John Wylie told me he found all sorts of early vines to do well, especially the Sweet Water and the dark Heritage. I have seen abundant evidence of the richness of the country in all directions, but what I saw at the station brought such direct conviction by actual experience, of the marvellous and varied resources of the region that I felt with a thrill of surprise and wonder at so magnificent a district being allowed to lie unexplored for so long. I did not find time, however, for much speculation on the matter, as I had to make my way rapidly to "fresh fields and pastures new." So, leaving the task of solution to the "heliocauter" should he pass again this way, I packed up my baggage, and departed.

Alexandra & Yea Standard
Friday 24th January 1890
Courtesy National Library Australia

See the next page
for a zoomed in
version of the
relevant text.

HISTORIC FACTSHEET

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

There are caverns about the cathedral opposite, which have never yet been thoroughly explored. They have apparently been formed by the wombats penetrating in subterranean crevices of the rock, and the openings are difficult to discover. Proofs are not wanting, however, that they were known and inhabited by white men long before the farming residents had any knowledge of their existence, and it appears almost demonstrated that they were once the secret haunts of the bushrangers who infested the region when the Wood's Point diggings were in the height of their prosperity. Perchance in the gloomy recesses of these fissures there may lie bleaching skeletons, with rusted rifles still in the clutch of the bony fingers, guarding hoards of illicitly gotten gold - who knows? At all events these relics of, for this colony, a remote and buried antiquity, are well worthy of a fuller investigation than has yet been accorded to them.

"There are caverns about the cathedral opposite, which have never yet been thoroughly explored. They have apparently been formed by the wombats penetrating in subterranean crevices of the rock, and the openings are difficult to discover. Proofs are not wanting, however, that they were known and inhabited by white men long before the farming residents had any knowledge of their existence, and it appears almost demonstrated that they were once the secret haunts of the bushrangers who infested the region when the Wood's Point diggings were in the height of their prosperity. Perchance in the gloomy recesses of these fissures there may be bleaching skeletons, with rusted rifles still in the clutch of the bony fingers, guarding hoards of illicitly gotten gold - who knows? At all events these relics of, for this colony, a remote and buried antiquity, are well worthy of a fuller investigation than has yet been accorded to them."

*Alexandra & Yea Standard. 21st April 1890
Courtesy National Library Australia.*

CURRENT EVENTS.

The following is the roster for Wednesday next:—Messrs. R. W. Wightman and F. Wheeler.

A somewhat remarkable cure has been effected in the local hospital within the past few days. An old man (82 years of age) was sent by the Yea Council apparently to die here. His sufferings were on admission something terrible, and with his advanced years added to them there did not seem a particle of hope of his recovery. And, indeed, the patient himself thought his last hours had come, and sought for and obtained the services of a minister of his church. As a trifling series of complications we would here mention that he had three ribs broken on one side, four on the other, the lobe of right ear shot away, an arm broken in two places and never joined properly, and a skull fractured from a blow from the butt of a musket. These were reminiscences of the battle of the Eureka Stockade (in 1854), in which Mr. Williams, we are informed, took an active part. As his name denotes, his forefathers hail from Gallant Little Wales, but he was born on the Welsh Back Bristol. The veteran has gone out cured and, as might be expected, loud in his praises of Dr. Lethbridge. He is an old miner and intends resuming 'prospecting' at once and has, as a stimulus, an intense desire to find a good 'specimen' for the kind matron (Mrs. Newman) and her worthy husband. More power to him, we say. When we saw him, shortly after he had taken his bed in the ward, he reminded us of some of the canvassers who had played a prominent part during an electioneering campaign in America. These in livings never trouble themselves as to the opposition they have to contend with, physically, so long as they return their man.

The Rev. G. F. Frewin (of Jamieson) has arranged with the Incumbent of St. John's, Alexandria, for an exchange of pulpits on Sunday next, 15th September, when he will preach morning and evening. Our rev. friend has recently been appointed Grand Chaplain to the Freemasons, and is on his way to Melbourne to fulfil in Grand Lodge the duties appertaining to his exalted position.

The farmers' excursion train has been fixed for to-morrow (Saturday). As 'The Butterfly' will be among the throng, we hope she will be able to furnish us with a few interesting items for our lady readers. Passengers holding Alexandria Road to Melbourne cheap excursion tickets will be allowed to join the special from Mansfield at Cathkin and travel thence on such cheap excursion tickets. Sharp's coach leaves here on Friday morning at 10 a.m. to meet this train—fare 2s.

Mr. M. K. McKenzie, M.L.A., has informed the President of the shire that it is the intention of the Public Works Department to pay the second moiety of this year's municipal endowment during the course of this week, and that in all probability the amount due to this shire under the Municipal Advances Bill will also be paid before the end of the financial year. With these amounts paid into the shire revenue, the financial position of the council will not be at all bad under the circumstances, and ex-president Scale will then have the satisfaction of knowing that his expenditure for the year was just about on a par with the revenue for that period.

There is nothing in this world that we revere and hold in kindly remembrance more than the memory of a departed relative or friend, and we all have our own manner of expressing same. Many a silent tear is shed unknown only to those who give way to their grief in this way. Others mark their respect by occasionally visiting 'God's Acre' and looking at the mound under which is hidden the remains of, perhaps, one who was in life dearer to them than all the wealth and attractions of this busy world. The cutting of some choice botanical plant is often inserted thereon, and the mourners take their leave, apparently satisfied that a desire has been fulfilled; but how crushing it must be to their finer feelings when they next appear on the scene to discover that some graveyard sneak has desecrated the spot by robbing it of its friend's treasure. We are ashamed to admit that we have in Alexandria one whose act in this direction is unworthy an uncultured savage. Some two years ago, the daughter of one of our most esteemed townsmen was removed from the midst of her family and friends at a time when she was just verging into womanhood, possessed of all the accomplishments necessary to fit her for the struggles of this life—virtue and christian charity. During deceased young lady's life, she had nursed and cherished a botanical plant. For a year after her demise, the flower failed to retain its vigor, as if remindful and mourn-

ing for the tender hand which tended it when in life. However, it seemed to have during the past year again blossomed forth, and the bereaved mother took consolation as if it were that her child had returned to life. On the anniversary of the second year of the deceased young lady's death, the plant was conveyed to the cemetery and placed on the grave. But a few weeks only had elapsed when the cemetery sneak was in evidence and had removed the flower from the vase with the earth which surrounded it. Our readers can well realize the feelings when the grave was visited by the one whose loving hands had placed it there to discover what had taken place. Our pen refuses to write more upon the subject.

Judging from the number of horses in training there will be a good day's racing on Friday, 20th September. The first race (Hurdles) is timed to start punctually at 12.30. Mr. George Payne has been busy preparing the track and will have some in first-class order for race-day. The Alexandria Brass Band, under the leadership of Mr. Lonis Basing, will discourse the best of music, which will greatly add to the pleasure of the day's sport. We are pleased to hear that there is every likelihood of Herr Becker coming from Yea and 'taking an instrument, in order to render a helping hand to 'comrades of old.' This kindly expression of goodwill on the part of Herr Becker is greatly appreciated by each and every member of the Alexandria band. A race meeting without a band is like giving a dance without music, at least such appears to our minds. The catering will be in the capable hands of Mr. Harry Wood, which is a sufficient guarantee that the public will be well provided for in this respect. The committee of Payne's Racing Club will leave no stone unturned in order to make Friday, the 20th September, a pleasure for all who attend. The programme consists of seven events. Owners of horses are reminded that entries close for Hurdles, Handicap, Shire Handicap and Pony Race on Monday next at 8 p.m., at the secretary's office. A meeting of the race committee will be held at Wood's hotel on Wednesday evening next at 8 sharp.

Mr. C. Edwards, of Gobar, writes asking us to publish the following, and it affords us much pleasure in complying with his moderate request:—To the Editor:—Will you kindly give space in your ever useful columns, and allow us ('the Gobar people') to thank those who kindly gave their time and talent to raise a few pounds to repair the old Wesleyan church. I say old, because I think its the oldest in the shire excepting Alexandria. It had got very much out of repair. First let us thank the Rev. J. Smith, Mr. W. Vining, Mrs. Wilson, Miss Irvine, Mr. J. Hill and Mr. J. Davies, who came so far and helped so well to make our concert a success; Mr. Maitland's nigger business, which amuses both old and young; not forgetting the Messrs. Edward and L. W. Rasche, and Miss Rasche and Mr. Scale, who filled the chair admirably, and Mr. Warden with his (can't spell it), I think I shall use the word in future. It may keep me out of many a scandal. Messrs. Palmer and Cumming have completed their contract of repairing and renewing with various tasty touches where required. Our population is small and our wants ditto—but one service a month suffices. Well, if money was more plentiful I suppose we should have more preaching. So you see filthy lucre produces religion. But I must stop or I shall get out of my depth.

The order calling an inspection parade of the Alexandria detachment of F. Co. Victorian mounted rifles for the 13th inst., by Colonel Price, has been postponed until further notice, of which every member will receive notice by circular. It is not probable that the parade will be postponed for any lengthened period, and the extension of time should be availed of by members in perfecting their drill to the utmost extent, so that credit may result from inspection. Dress for the parade will be marching order, which means that everything is to be carried. Hats are to be worn and caps carried on top of the overcoat in the usual way. The dress and every article of kit and saddlery should be turned out in the highest state of cleanliness and good order, and especial attention should be paid to personal appearance by having the hair cut short and clean shaving by those who shave. Recruits will have to pay one-half the cost of their uniforms from and after this date, as the funds at the disposal of the officer commanding the Company will not permit of same being wholly defrayed out of issue.

Inspector Gamble's report of result of examination of Alexandria Road school:—Inspector's percentage, 91. Buildings are

Inspector's percentage, 91. Buildings are in a very satisfactory state. Furniture and apparatus satisfactory. Organization is sound and judicious. Instruction has been very carefully and effectively imparted. Programme is respected. The progress made is very good. Singing, drawing and physical drill are satisfactory. Discipline and tone excellent. Records are compiled to date.

The twelfth anniversary in connection with the Yarek Presbyterian Church is fixed for Monday evening, 30th inst. Mr. M. K. McKenzie, M.P., will be present.

The annual meeting of the members of the Alexandra Cricket Club will be held at the Shamrock hotel on Saturday evening 21st inst., having been postponed.

The following is the new order issued by President and will be carried out under his personal supervision:—The President and councillors, accompanied by the shire engineer, will visit Yarek on Thursday next, 19th instant, for the purpose of inspecting the roads and noting the parts in need of repair. The following timetable will as far as practicable be observed, and ratepayers resident in the various localities indicated, are invited to attend to point out those places which require urgent attention:—Leave Alexandria, 9 a.m., reaching Cathkin, 10.15 a.m., Yarek, 11.30 a.m., Junction of Middle Creek and Gobar Road, 1.30 p.m., Kanumbra Creamery, 3 p.m. The route from Yarek to Alexandria will be via Middle Creek, past Messrs. Miller, and Collin's properties, and Miller's Pond school house. Inspection will also be made of Merton Gap Road and road leading to Mr. D. Cumming's property.

The Bill for lending £50,000 out of the trust funds of the municipalities was carried in the House on Tuesday night by a bare majority.

The Wesleyan Social Committee desires to thank the ladies who provided the refreshments at the late social; also all those who kindly lent decorations, etc.

'Gazette' notice.—Mining lease awaiting execution: W. J. Robb, H. Robb, T. A. Robb and T. Higgins, Alexandria division, 19 acres 2 roods 16 perches.

The last but one of this season's Cinderella's took place on Wednesday night of last week, and had it not have been that the compiler of the programme went from bad to worse in his efforts to effect a much needed alteration, the dance would have been as successful as its predecessors in spite of the fact that it was not quite so well attended as usual.

We hear that sports are to be held at the Cathedral-side hotel on New Year's day next, when visitors will have an opportunity of exploring the caves in the Cathedral Mount, some of which run for a distance of over 300 feet, a description of which appeared in the STANDARD a few years ago, and are well worthy of a visit. Mr. W. Burchell, junr., has kindly consented to conduct any person through these caves, which he is now fully exploring for the information of those interested,

Alexandra & Yea Standard
Friday 13th September 1895
Courtesy National Library Australia

CURRENT EVENTS

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Alexandra & Yea Standard.
13th September 1895
Courtesy National Library
Australia.

HISTORIC FACTSHEET

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

Personal

Mrs. Jos. Brown, accompanied by her son Desmond, is at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Burchall, Cathedral Side Hotel, Taggart. The diamond wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Burchall was celebrated last night. The Burchall family ran the first mail coach from Melbourne to Alexandra. When the family first arrived at Taggart the way had to be cut through dense scrub. The waggon was their only home. On one occasion while Mr. Burchall was absent from the camp it was visited by blacks. They demanded food from Mrs. Burchall and let her understand that if she did not comply they would take her two children away. The Kelly gang are reported to have often visited the district about Cathedral, and once they shod their horses at Burchall's farm. Once Mr Burchall encountered a pack of dingoes. They were snapping at the horses' hoofs but were scared off by a shot. Later Mr. Burchall visited the camp of his mate and found only his clothes and bones—he had been eaten by dingoes.

The death occurred at Freemantle, West Australia, on Tuesday, of Mr. Stephen Anderson, the eldest son of the late Stephen Anderson, whom Werribee folk will remember as an overseer at Werribee Park in the early days. The late Mr. Anderson was a brother of Messdames John and Francis Beamish. His grandfather, the late Mr. Armstrong, built the Racecourse Hotel, the first building at Werribee. At the time it was called the Bridge Inn.

Werribee Shire Banner
Thursday 10th February 1927
Courtesy National Library Australia

The Cathedral-Side Hotel was burnt to the ground for the first time.

This article also mentions the Kelly Gang being in our area, and Dingoes once roaming the area.

*Werribee Shire Banner. 27th February 1927.
Courtesy National Library Australia.*

HISTORIC FACTSHEET

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

FIRES IN THE COUNTRY

Delicensed Hotel Destroyed

ALEXANDRA, Monday.—The Cathedral Side Hotel building, midway between Buxton and Taggerty, was destroyed by fire at 9 p.m. yesterday. The hotel was de-licensed about two years ago. The occupants had a narrow escape. Some of them had to leave the building in their night attire. Mrs. A. G. Burchall, the wife of the owner of the premises, had her hair burned while she was rescuing some of the seven children who were asleep in different parts of the house. The cause of the fire is unknown. The building was not insured.

The Argus

Tuesday 28th November 1933

Courtesy National Library Australia

The Cathedral-Side Hotel was burnt to the ground for the second time, just two years after being de-licensed.

The Argus. 28th November 1933.

Courtesy National Library Australia.

HISTORIC FACTSHEET

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

ALEXANDRA POLICE COURT

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8.

Excise v. M. A. Burchall, same offence.
Mr. Fynn for defendant.

M. A. Burchall deposed she was licensee of Cathedral-side hotel; her son-in-law bought the whisky and brought it out to the hotel; it had never been tampered with by anyone and was served to customers exactly as she got it.

W. Burchall corroborated above evidence, adding that he opened the bottle of whisky, and thought at the time that it was not Bourke's whisky; it was bought from Mr. J. Leckie; the capsule was loose when he got it; in another bottle he bought he found a corkscrew-mark in the cork and had returned it that day to Mr. Leckie.

To the Inspector: You offered to test the bottle of whisky I have brought back to-day before the court opened, but I had not time to bring it to you.

Charles Jones deposed to purchasing the whisky from Mr. Leckie's store, and that he had not tampered with it in any way.

Fined £1, with £3 14s. 6d. costs—in default distress; liquor to be forfeited. Excise v. Margaret Nicholls, same offence. Defendant pleaded guilty.

The inspector said the whisky in this case had been reduced to 30 under proof.

Fined £2 with £3 14s. 6d. costs—in default distress; liquor to be forfeited.

Execution in all the excise cases was stayed for a fortnight.

J. Batchelor v. J. Burchall, W. Burchall and C. Jones.

Rescuing cattle seized for purpose of impounding.

Mr. Giles for complainant, Mr. Fynn for defendants.

James Batchelor, farmer, of Taggerty, deposed: I know the defendants; my land adjoins that of W. Burchall's; I have been very much troubled with trespassing stock for some time past; I gave instructions to my sons to yard any stock and take them to the pound; on the 19th December we yarded 3 horses and on the 20th, at about 5 o'clock a.m., watered and had them fed; afterwards J. Burchall came along and asked me what I was going to do with the horses; I said if he would give me the trespass fees he could have them; I then had a chain and padlock placed on the gate so that they might not be taken away; told young Burchall that if he did not pay the trespass fees I would impound them; my son was present at the time, standing along side of me; about two hours after saw four men coming towards me, one flourishing a stick and the defendant (W. Burchall) with an axe; they all seemed excited and W. Burchall broke open the gate, and when I asked why he did so he replied "You ——— scare-crow, I will show you."

To Mr. Fynn: Had the horses fed in the yards; they were taken from one of my paddocks which has a good fence; when I saw the fence on the morning of the 19th it was in good order; I never had horses in my yards for a week; I asked for pound fees and expected to be paid 8s. per head, as it was a cultivation paddock.

To Mr. Giles: All defendants seemed to be excited.

Ernest Batchelor stated that he resided with his father; on the 19th December saw some stray horses in the paddock and told his younger brother to put them in the yard, which he did; next day by instructions from his father he was going to take them to the pound in Alexandra; met the defendants in an excited state; J. Burchall was riding and the others walking; J. Burchall was carrying a stick, and W. Burchall an axe, who asked me to open the gate; I refused; some talk ensued; when W. Burchall opened a link in the chain of the gate and placed it on the fence; then took the horses away; Afterwards W. Burchall came up to me and threatened to knock a ——— hole through me.

To Mr. Fynn—Fred Williams was in the creamery at the time, but came out on hearing the disturbance; I did not bring the chain with me because I did not think it was necessary; have not been in the habit of opening the chain after it was locked; Burchall's horses have been yarded previously, but had been taken out; saw these horses fed and watered.

John Batchelor corroborated the evidence of the previous witness, as also did Fred Williams.

W. Burchall (one of the defendants) made a most rambling statement to the bench, but was checked by the magistrates, who said that when Mr. Giles was cross examining him he could not give a direct answer, but when Mr. Fynn asked him a question he was most volun-
tious.

J. Burchall and C. Jones also gave evidence in their own defence.

The bench decided in fining W. Burchall £2 with £1 10s. 2d. costs; J. Burchall £4 with £1 5s. 2d. costs, and C. Jones £1 with £1 10s. 2d. costs.

Mr. Morrison remarked that the defendants instead of taking the law into their own hands had their remedy at the hands of Justice.

In December 1895, James Batchelor was growing troubled of his neighbour (William Burchall - licensee of the Cathedral-Side Hotel) who's stock would be constantly trespassing onto his property. A bitter fallout resulted on the 20th of December 1895.

It has been speculated that this fallout may have marked the end of a relationship that saw Burchall given permission to take visitors onto Batchelor's property on the way to the Cathedral Caves.

Up until that time Burchall would take visitors to the Caves at Cathedral - which were noted as being opposite Batchelor's farm.

It is possible that this event marked the end of their friendship and Burchall was no longer granted permission to access Batchelor's property on the way to the caves.

If true, this would help explain why the cave's existence fell from public knowledge.

Alexandra & Yea Times.

10th January 1896.

Courtesy National Library Australia.

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

An Old Kilmoreite.

Mr Richings, an old resident of Taggerty, now proceeding to Queensland, thus gives some of his reminiscences to the *Alexandra Standard*. Mr Richings is the brother of the late Mr John Richings, an old resident here:—

He said that he was a native of Launceston, Tasmania, being born there in 1832. He arrived at Sandridge (now Port Melbourne), in the steamer *Porto Bello*, in 1851, the day before Black Thursday. That memorable day he will never forget. After a short stay in Melbourne, young Richings invested his capital in a general store at Pyalong, and being a good judge of cattle and horses, followed the occupation of a dealer in connection with the store. Horsebreaking he indulged in to a considerable extent, and was known throughout the district as an adept at this business. After three years at Pyalong, Mr Richings sold out at a profit, and entered the carrying trade. At this time £150 per ton was charged for conveying goods to Beechworth and £120 to Bendigo. Determined to try his hand at this work, he commenced to look about for a suitable team of working bullocks. This was no easy matter. It was at Kilmore he bought his team, giving Mr John M'Gowan, of that town, £170 for 12 bullocks. The waggon and other necessary outfit cost a big sum. Proceeding to Melbourne he had no difficulty in obtaining loading. He travelled to Bendigo and Beechworth, the trips occupying from three weeks to a month, and the loading 1½ tons the outside. "I made a pile of money, but misfortune overtook me." His bullocks became diseased, the police shooting them in consequence. At Kilmore he met the late Mrs Richings, she being a daughter of Mr Dann, a respected resident. He sold out his carrying business,

and removed to the Doogalook Station owned by the late Mr Peter Snodgrass, father of Lady Janet Clarke. Here he followed horsebreaking. Having an idea of the country he moved to Taggerty passing through the Red Gate (known now as Alexandra), which was one vast expanse of sheep country. The historical Red Gate, Mr Richings states, was immediately in front of Mitchell's shop. Not a living soul was to be met with, the town was not even surveyed. The nearest homestead was Eglinton station, owned by Mr Luckie, and afterwards purchased by the late Mr H. Johnson, who previously owned the Mohican Station, Taggerty. One of the first settlers at Red Gate was the late Mr R. Vining, who established a boarding house near the gate. Aborigines were fairly numerous, their camp being where the post office now stands. Arriving at Taggerty, he made his way to the Government Black Station, managed by Mr Nixon, now resident at Benalla. The manager was pleased to receive Mr Richings and found employment for him. He had nearly 100 blacks under his charge, and in a very short time mastered the dialect and became a favorite. He translated their private business and acted as adviser, interpreter and secretary. Leaving the station, he opened a public house at Little River, and held the license for 10 years. He was the only settler at Taggerty, when a Mr Thompson surveyed the township. The late Mr John Wylie, and Messrs C. Mullens and G. Webb were the first selectors. Disposing of the hotel to the late Mr O. Collins, and the corner blacks known as Bano's Mr Richings selected the Glendale property which was sold recently.

KILMORE FREE PRESS
THURSDAY 5TH JULY 1906
NATIONAL LIBRARY AUSTRALIA

The fact that the area was once inhabited by Aborigines is not disputed. It is recognised that any caves in this area, may once have been used by those previously living here.

Kilmore Free Press. Thursday 5th July 1906. Courtesy National Library Australia.

HISTORIC FACTSHEET

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

THE STANDARD

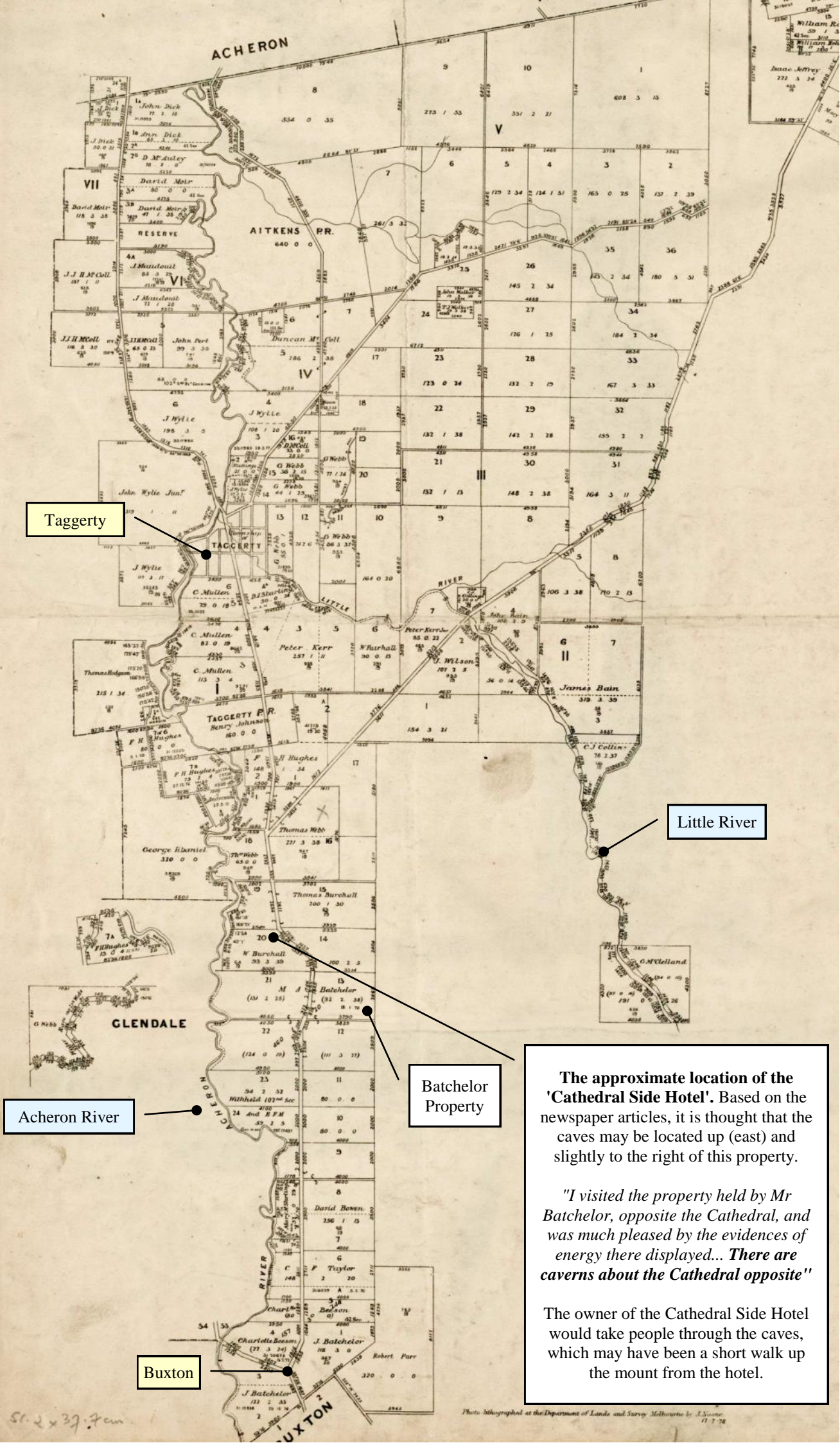
—Friday, May 6, 1932.—

The local branch of the Teachers' Union will hold its May meeting next Saturday, when there will be a geology excursion to Mt. Cathedral. Members of the general public who are interested may join the party if they wish. The walking will probably start from a spot near Burchall's, and as there is some fairly strenuous climbing, sensible walking costume is essential. Small lunches, arranged in handy packages, should be taken, as lunch will be partaken of at the top. Messrs **Buxton and Gerraty will lead the party, and it is hoped to visit the fossil beds.** Cars will leave Alexandra at 9 a.m. and it is hoped to get back by 3 p.m.

Alexandra & Yea Standard
Friday 6th May 1932
Courtesy National Library Australia

Our attention has also been drawn to a report regarding Fossil Beds on the western face of the mountain. This is also another astonishing piece of information that has us wondering where!

Courtesy National Library Australia.



Taggerty

Little River

Acheron River

Batchelor Property

Buxton

The approximate location of the 'Cathedral Side Hotel'. Based on the newspaper articles, it is thought that the caves may be located up (east) and slightly to the right of this property.

*"I visited the property held by Mr Batchelor, opposite the Cathedral, and was much pleased by the evidences of energy there displayed... **There are caverns about the Cathedral opposite**"*

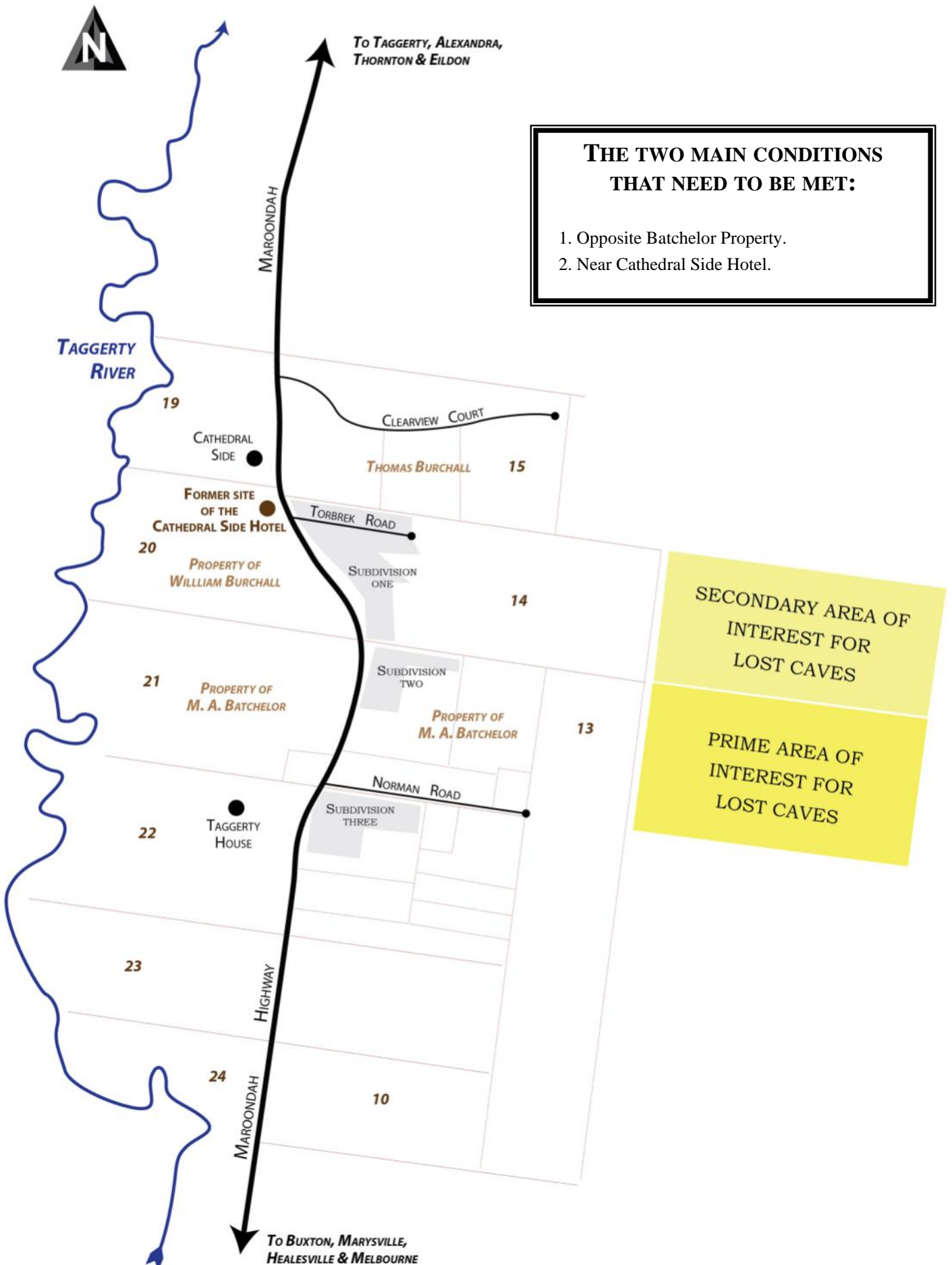
The owner of the Cathedral Side Hotel would take people through the caves, which may have been a short walk up the mount from the hotel.

Courtesy National Library Australia. nla.gov.au/nla.map-rm2741-19-sd-cd

51.2 x 39.7 cm

CATHEDRAL

IN SEARCH OF CATHEDRAL CAVES



THE TWO MAIN CONDITIONS THAT NEED TO BE MET:

1. Opposite Batchelor Property.
2. Near Cathedral Side Hotel.

SECONDARY AREA OF INTEREST FOR LOST CAVES

PRIME AREA OF INTEREST FOR LOST CAVES

THE CATHEDRAL CAVES

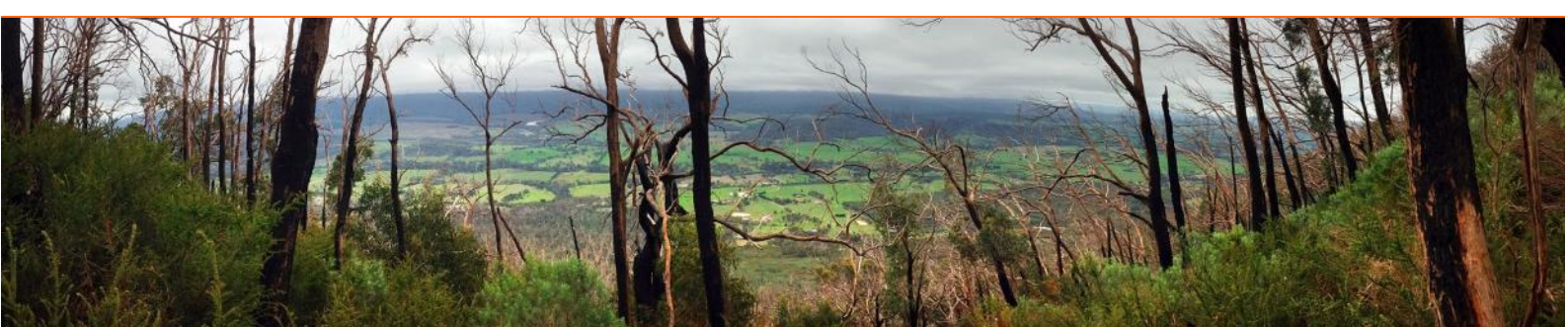
IN SEARCH OF THE LONG LOST TOURISM ATTRACTION



Searching for a needle in a haystack

On Thursday 19 June, Ron Cooper, Allan Layton, Stephen Handbury and myself headed up the Cathedral on our first attempt to try and find the long lost Cathedral Caves. We didn't find them, though we made a great start.

19 JUNE 2014



We spent five hours in the field looking for the caves and gathering information.

- NEAR THE TOP OF THE MOUNT -

19 JUNE 2014



All images taken with an iPhone.

IF YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION ON THE CAVES, PLEASE LET US KNOW.



Artworkz

Serving the Community