

WARBURTON

CALIFORNIA  
REDWOODS



**NATURE  
SERIES**

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# **WARBRTON CALIFORNIA REDWOODS**

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## **CONTRIBUTORS**

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Parks Victoria

Allan Layton  
Kathie Maynes  
David & Debbie Hibbert

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# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## INTRODUCTION

**Name:** California Redwoods  
**Location:** Cement Creek Road, Warburton  
Yarra Ranges National Park  
**Managed:** Parks Victoria  
**Start GPS:** S37.719943, E145.752366

Circa 1930, an experimental stand of California Redwood (*sequoia sempervirens*) trees was planted along Cement Creek Road, near the small township of Warburton and remains in place today.



Around 1930, an experimental stand of California Redwood (*sequoia sempervirens*) trees was planted along Cement Creek Road, 7 km from the township of Warburton - east of Melbourne. These remain today and have now grown to over 55 metres.

The stand is now part of the Yarra Ranges National Park and is managed by Parks Victoria. The site has a carpark area, however there are no other tourism features at the



# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## INTRODUCTION

site. A small plaque once mounted on the top of a large wooden post at the site has since been removed. It read:

*National Trust*

*Listed on the register of Significant Trees of Victoria*

*Sequoia Sempervirens*

*California Redwood*

*T12138*

The beautiful Cement Creek runs past the rear of the stand which is downstream from the popular Cement Creek Treetop Walk and Rainforest Area. The stand is listed in the 'Victorian Heritage Database' and its notes mention how the stand was planted by the Board of Works circa 1930. It further states how initial plantings were stands of 'Bishop Pine', 'Douglas Fir' and California Redwoods'. Later plantings of stands of Western Red Cedar and 'Redwoods' took place between 1960-1963. All plantings were experimental as part of the Board's research program.

As of 2015 the area contains over 1476 trees ranging from 20 metres to 55 metres. While the redwoods are not as tall as their sister trees in the Otway National Park, they are however some of the tallest California Redwoods in Victoria and easily the closest to Melbourne. Like their Cape Otway counterparts, they attract a large number of visitors each year. In the short time we were at the stand on 26 December 2015 a constant flow of tourists and locals visited the area. The Warburton Information Centre is well aware of the stand as a tourism feature and can supply printed information and directions for those wishing to visit the site.

It is unknown why this stand - which was planted earlier than the Otway National Park stand - has grown at a slower rate. However both stands are very worthy of a visit and we encourage anyone interested in nature and biodiversity experimentation to take the time to visit the Warburton Stand. It is easy to access and beautiful any time of the year. Plus its proximity to Warburton and the areas other tourism features makes visiting the area a great idea.

# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## TIMELINE

**Circa 1930**

A stand of California Redwoods (*sequoia sempervirens*) was planted along Cement Creek Road, near the township of Warburton - east of Melbourne in the Yarra Ranges National Park.

**26 December 2015**

Artworkz conducted their first photoshoot at the site.

**26 December 2015**

Artworkz commenced work on this factsheet.

**8 April 2016**

Artworkz published an article and this factsheet on eSplash146.



# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## GALLERY



**Wooden bridge over Cement Creek on Cement Creek Road near  
the Redwood stand December 2015.**

# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## GALLERY



**A trunk of a large California Redwood tree.**

# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## GALLERY



**Looking up.**



# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## GALLERY



**Warburton East Cement Creek California Redwood stand December 2015.**

# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## GALLERY



**Cement Creek at the rear of the California Redwood stand December 2015.**

# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## GALLERY



**California Redwood stand carpark December 2015.**

# HISTORIC FACTSHEET

## GALLERY



**California Redwood super-nest December 2015.  
Campers having fun built this nest during a campout. The egg is a large rock.**

eSPLASH  
MEDIA  
ARTICLES

ARTICLES FROM THE eSPLASH eMAGAZINE

# CALIFORNIA REDWOODS

YARRA RANGES NATIONAL PARK - WARBURTON

DEPARTMENT: PARKS VICTORIA  
MINISTER: LISA NEVILLE



## Local Victorian Redwood Stand

This stand is much closer to our district than the beautiful Otway Ranges Redwood Stand previously described in [eSplash133](#). While these trees are not as tall or numerous as their coastal counterparts, this is still a great place to visit and witness the majesty of large redwoods.

Around 1930 a large experimental stand of California Redwood trees (*sequoia sempervirens*) were planted along Cement Creek Road, just 7 km from the small picturesque township of Warburton (east of Melbourne). Some of these trees now exceed 55 metres in height and the stand has more recently developed into a small but important tourism attraction. After hearing of the existence of the California Redwood Stand at Warburton from team member Allan Layton on Christmas Day, 24 hours later we had travelled to Warburton, enjoyed a lovely breakfast at a local Café and were walking amongst the giant Redwoods.

The stand makes up a small part of the Yarra Ranges National Park and the site is managed by Parks Victoria. There is a well established carpark area capable of holding 15-20 vehicles, though there are no other tourist facilities at the site. A small plaque previously located on a post near the entrance and identifying the trees for visitors, is now missing. It once read:

**National Trust**  
**Listed on the register of Significant Trees of Victoria**  
**Sequoia Sempervirens**  
**California Redwood**  
**T12138**





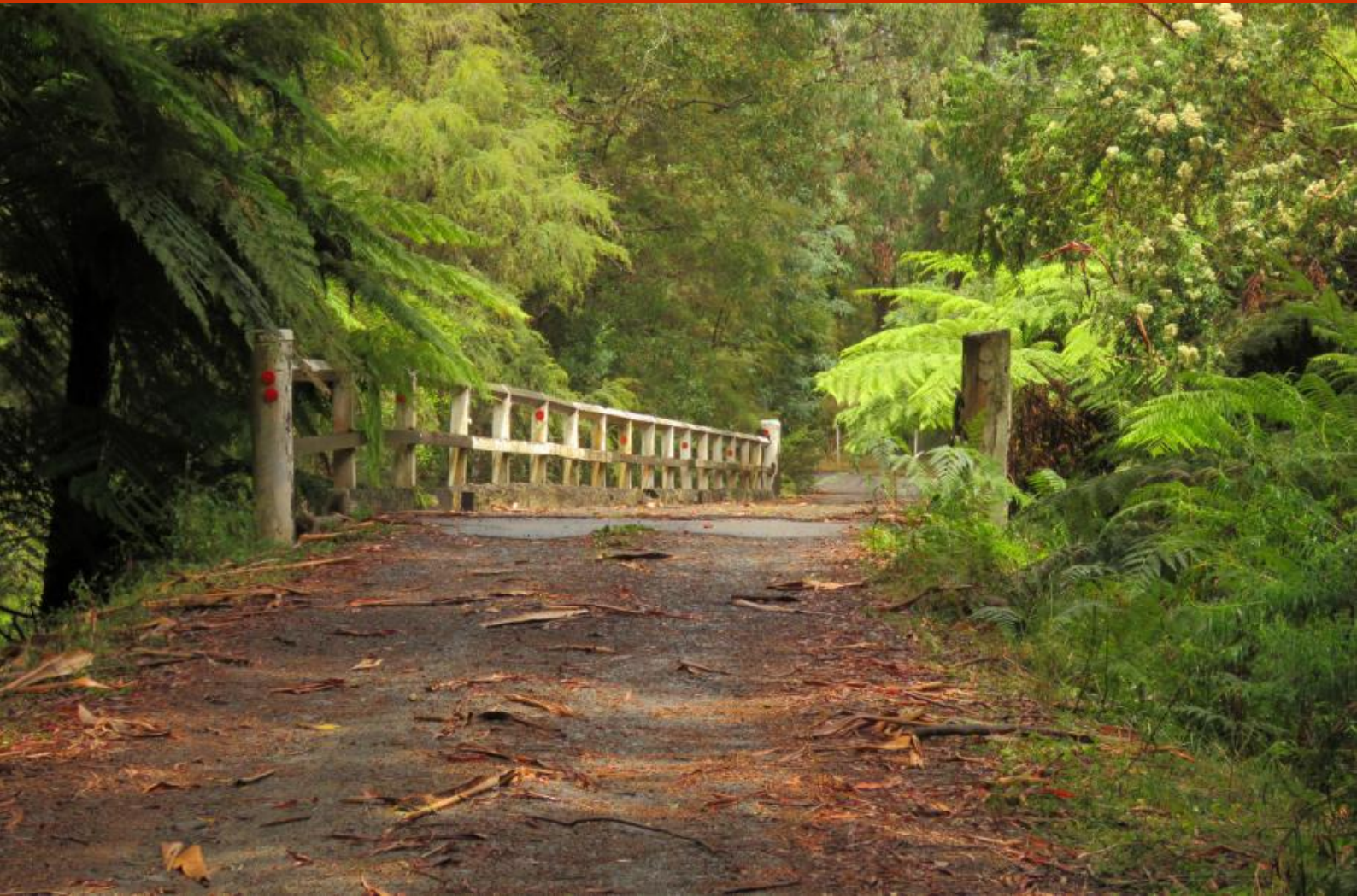
The Stand entrance from the carpark





The beautiful Cement Creek runs past the rear of the Stand which is downstream from the popular [Donna Buang Rainforest Gallery Board Walk Loop and Treetop Viewing Platform](#). The stand, planted circa 1930 by the Board of Works, is listed in the [Victorian Heritage Database](#). The database explains how initial stands were Bishop Pine, Douglas Fir and California Redwoods. Later stands of Western Red Cedar and Redwoods were planted between 1960 and 1963. All were part of the Board's research program. As of 2016 the site contains over 1476 trees ranging from 20-55 metres. While the Redwoods are not as tall as their sister Redwoods in the Otway National Park, they are the tallest California Redwoods this close to Melbourne. Like their Cape Otway counterparts, they attract a large number of visitors each year. In the short time we spent at the Warburton Stand, a constant flow of tourists and locals visited. The Warburton Information Centre is well aware of the stand and have printed information and directions for those wishing to visit the site or just learn about it.

It is unknown why this stand, planted earlier than the Otway Stand, has grown at a slower rate. However even with this in mind, the Stand is worthy of a visit and we encourage those interested in nature and biodiversity to take the time to do so. The Stand is easy to access and beautiful all year. Its proximity to Warburton, a township surrounded by many other nature and heritage attractions, makes visiting Warburton more like a great adventure. We have always enjoyed visiting and dining at Warburton ourselves, and we often sit beside the Yarra River and enjoy its tranquility before returning to the incredible Upper Goulburn Valley via Cambarville and Marysville.











(Top) Cement Creek - (Bottom) Is this evidence of the rumoured huge bird species?



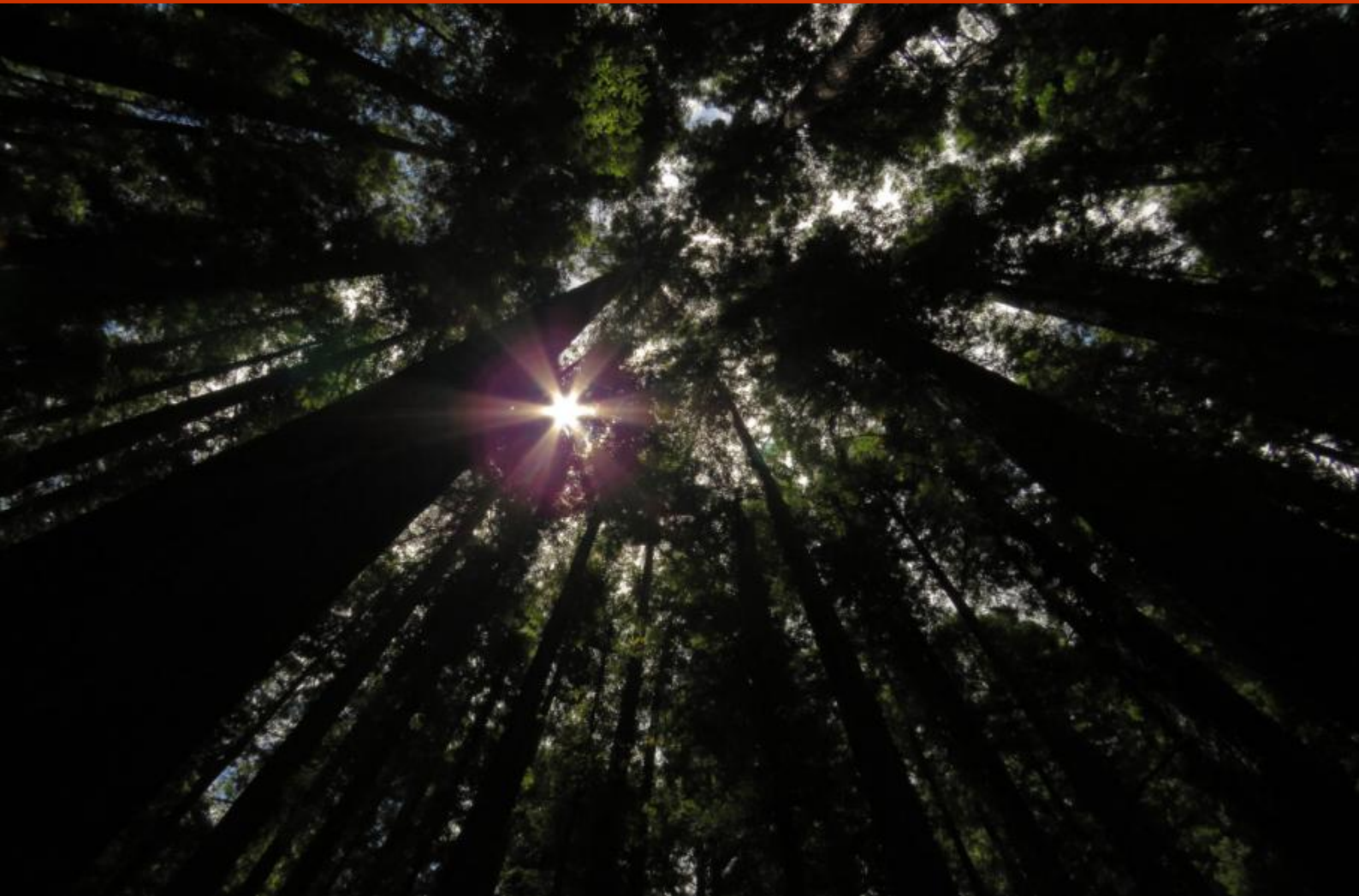


A lone tree growing between rows of California Redwoods









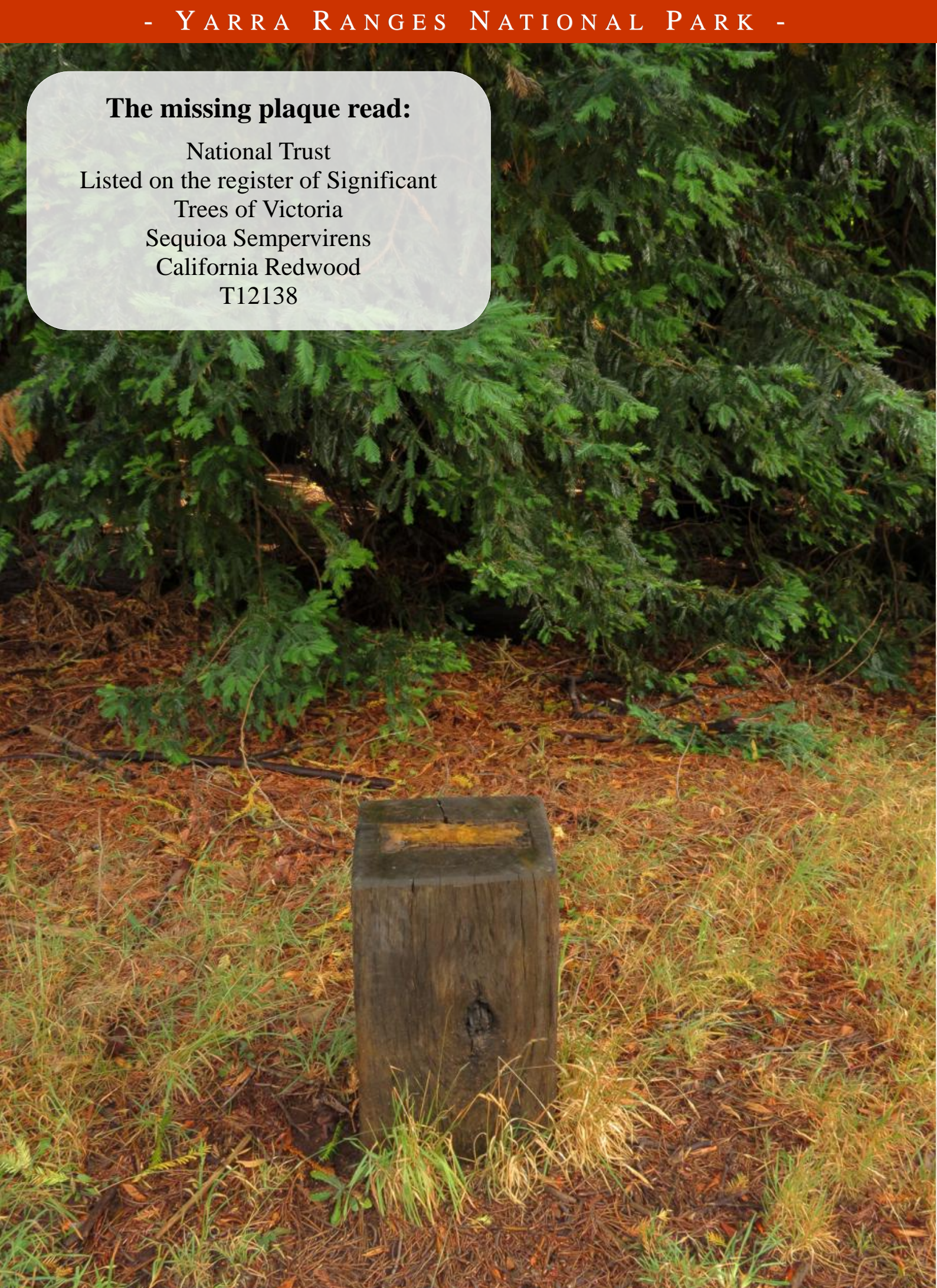
Canopy





**The missing plaque read:**

National Trust  
Listed on the register of Significant  
Trees of Victoria  
Sequoia Sempervirens  
California Redwood  
T12138



A wooden stand with its plaque removed

- USA REDWOOD HARVESTING -



California Redwoods being harvested in America during the late 1800s and early 1900s



*Artworkz*

*Serving the Community*