

A scenic view of a town from a hillside. Two people are standing on the hill, looking out over the town. One person is wearing a blue jacket, and the other is wearing a white t-shirt with a green graphic and a black cap. A black dog is sitting on the grass in the foreground. The sky is blue with white clouds.

# Walk MALDON™

**WALKS IN THE MALDON  
HISTORIC RESERVE**

# MALDON TOWN *Walking* TRACKS

Three short walks to explore Maldon's gold-mining history and the Maldon Historic Reserve.

Easy access to each walk from Maldon town centre.

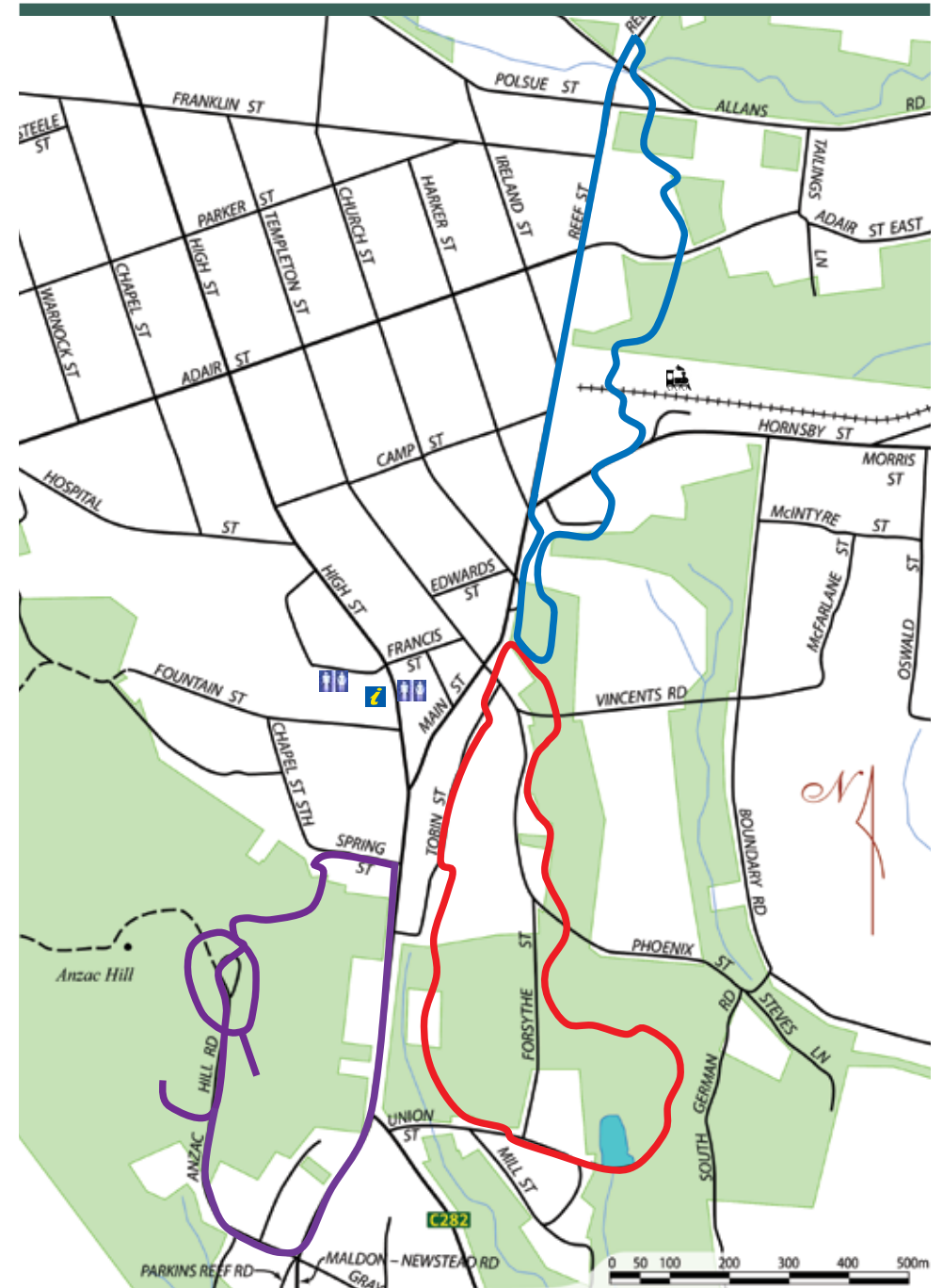
**Blue loop:** Beehive Mine – Union Hill Mine

**Red loop:** Beehive Mine – Long Gully

**Purple loop:** ANZAC Hill – High Street

Each loop is approx. 2.5 km long and one hour duration.

**Warning:** Please stay on the walking tracks to avoid the many old mine shafts and tunnels around the Maldon region.



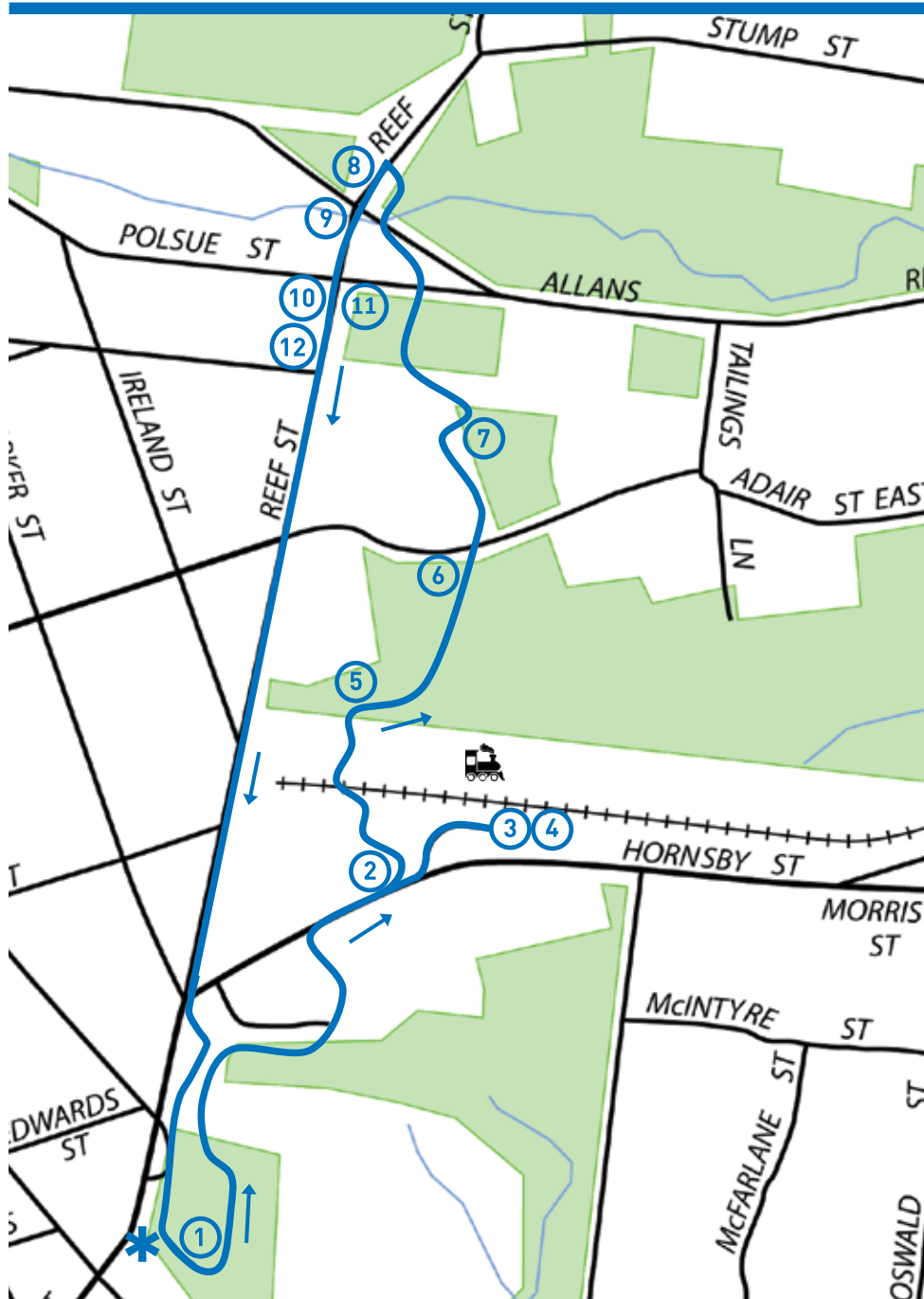
Community Bank  
Maldon & District

**Bendigo Bank**

We acknowledge the Dja Dja Wurrung people as the traditional owners of this land and pay our respect to their elders past, present and emerging.



**Blue loop: Beehive Mine – Union Hill Mine**



**BEEHIVE MINE - UNION MINE - REEF ST. LOOP**

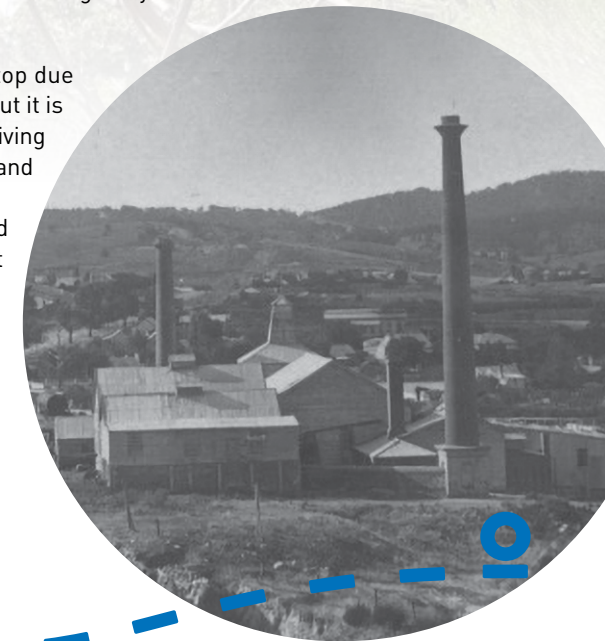
This walk takes you from the Beehive Gold Mine site to the Union Hill Mine site in the area that was known as Eagle Hawk. During the gold rush era, Eagle Hawk was more like a suburb of Maldon. Within and close to Eagle Hawk were many alluvial claims, deep-reef gold mines and the centre of the German and Chinese communities. It was a thriving part of the Maldon landscape.

**1. Beehive Gold Mine and Chimney**

This mine operated from 1859 to 1911. Early mines such as this used a vertical shaft with overhead winding gear supported by a poppet head. The remains of this shaft are within the fenced area. The chimney serviced the boilers that provided steam for engines to power the winding and crushing machines. Adjacent to the chimney are the stone and brick foundations of the various winding, pumping and battery engines and office buildings. The brick remains of the chlorination and cyanidation plant are also visible nearby. The chimney was completed 1863 using specially made curved bricks and originally stood 30 metres high.

Several metres have been lost from the top due to lightning damage in 1923 and neglect, but it is the only one of its age and height still surviving on any Victorian goldfield. The mine plant and machinery were sold off in 1918 but the chimney was purchased by T.B. Brooks and W.E. Preece to be retained as a monument to the town's pioneers, miners and gold. It was finally repaired in 1974.

*Follow the gravel path along the Castlemaine bike trail, veering right behind several houses, to Hornsby St. (Bendigo Rd.). Take care crossing the busy road and continue to the right along the footpath towards the railway station.*



## 2. House No.11 Hornsby St.

This little red cottage built right on the footpath was a shop in its early days. Around 1908, a fruiterer named Daniel Aust owned the property and most likely, he sold fruit to the passing railway passengers. *Continue along the footpath to the railway station.*

## 3. Railway Station

The railway station was opened in 1884 with just the goods shed, and the brick station built later in 1888. It was very busy with three return passenger services per day to Castlemaine, which operated until 1941. After that, the line was still used for goods traffic, until its closure in 1976. In 1986, the station was re-opened by the Victorian Goldfields Railway (VGR) for tourist services, and the line re-opened to its former junction point at Castlemaine

Volunteers have expertly restored several passenger and goods carriages, and now operate the train between Castlemaine and Maldon a couple of days per week. The interior and roof of the station building were destroyed by fire in 2009, but it has been fully and expertly restored and back in operation since 2011.



## 4. The Welsh Swagman (Joseph Jenkins)

In 1994, a water drinking fountain and plaque were erected on the platform to recognise the centenary of Joseph Jenkins's departure from Maldon and his unique diary record of life in Maldon and Victoria in the late 1800s. Joseph was originally a farmer in Wales, but deserted his wife and children, and travelled alone to Australia around 1869. He lived as a swagman and is famous for writing detailed diaries of his life as a rural worker in Victoria (available at Maldon Athenaeum Library). He also wrote poetry in Welsh. He lived in Maldon for about 10 years, working as the 'gutter and street cleaner' for the local shire. This was a laborious and dirty job as there were no sewers in those times. There's no longer any evidence of the home of the 'Welsh Swagman' Joseph Jenkins, but he called it 'North Railway Gate Lodge' and it was located on the other side of the rail tracks from the station.

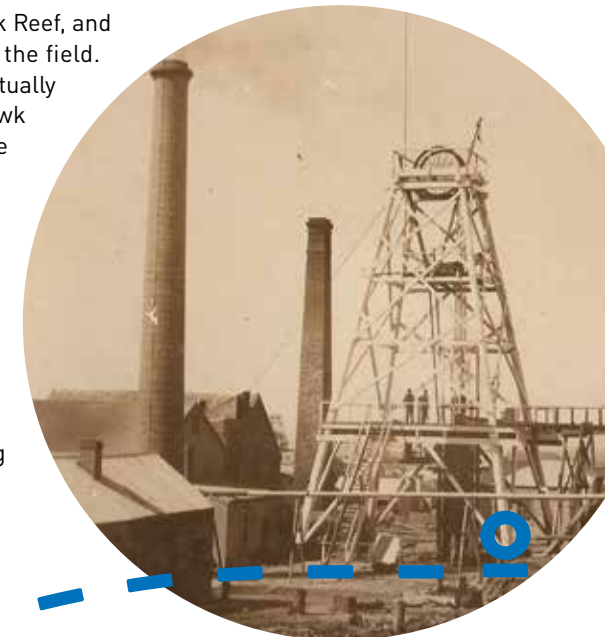


*Cross the railway line between the platform and the workshop sheds; please check for moving trains. Rejoin and follow the gravel path to the right, through the reserve.*

## 5. Alliance Gold Mine

This mine was situated on the Eagle Hawk Reef, and by 1886 was one of the richest mines on the field. The Alliance mine shaft (fenced) was eventually connected underground to the Eagle Hawk Associated mine shaft further north on the same reef. The Alliance mine had its own battery, so rock mined from the Associated mine was transported to the Alliance battery for crushing. The remaining brick foundations are of various mine buildings and battery and winding engines. In September 1895, the steam boiler at the Alliance battery exploded with a deafening roar, raining fragments of iron far and wide, and killing a passing Chinese miner.

*Continue walking along the path.*





## 6. Maldon State Battery

Many larger mines had their own batteries to crush the quartz rock, but this government facility was built in 1914 to service smaller mines and operated until 1989. When in operation, the noise from the many mine batteries shattered the peace of Maldon. This site consists of the State Battery buildings and machinery, cement foundations of miners' allotments, and remaining mullock heaps of mine sands.

*Proceed across Adair St. gravel road to the path in the bushy revegetation site.*



## 7. Eagle Hawk Pit and Gully area (revegetation site)

This area was the scene of feverish deep-reef mining prior to 1900. The Eagle Hawk reef was rich, with large amounts of gold being extracted during the 1860s by several different mines. In early 1900s, the Eagle Hawk Consolidated Mine Co. began using cyanide to extract the gold. After quartz rock was crushed at a battery, gold was extracted from the resulting 'sands' in tanks of cyanide solution, as seen in this photo. An open-cut mine was developed in this area as recent as 2003, but was very short lived and filled in, with revegetation of the site commencing in 2004.

*Continue through the revegetated land. Carefully cross Polsue St. and Allan's Rd. at the 60km speed limit signs. Join up again with the gravel path, continue across the little wooden bridge and on to Reef St. and up the steps to the timber viewing platform.*





## 9. View down Reef St.

Reef St. was originally called Eagle Hawk Rd. It was a thriving area with doctors, lawyers, chemists, butchers, hotels, churches, a school, a synagogue, and a German club and gym. Eagle Hawk was also the main area for the Chinese miners, with opium dens to entertain them. This photo was taken from Union Hill looking down Reef St. towards Maldon CBD with Union Hill mine in the foreground. It shows how densely the whole area was mined, with many poppet heads and chimneys in the distance belonging to numerous different mines.

*Continue along Reef St. and carefully cross back over Allan's Rd. and Polsue St.*

## 8. Union Hill Mine

Gold mining has been operating here since 1854, originally by the successful Union & United Central mines of the 1800s. The original buildings, poppet head, chimney and kilns in this photo have all been removed. Between 1974-5 and 1985-92, an open cut mine operated here. In 1995, underground mining recommenced when a 3m x 3m decline was dug linking some of the original tunnels. The decline opening can be seen from the lookout platform and runs southward under the Maldon township. This is still an operational mine.

*Return back down the steps of the viewing platform to Reef St.*





## 10. Eaglehawk Country House Hotel

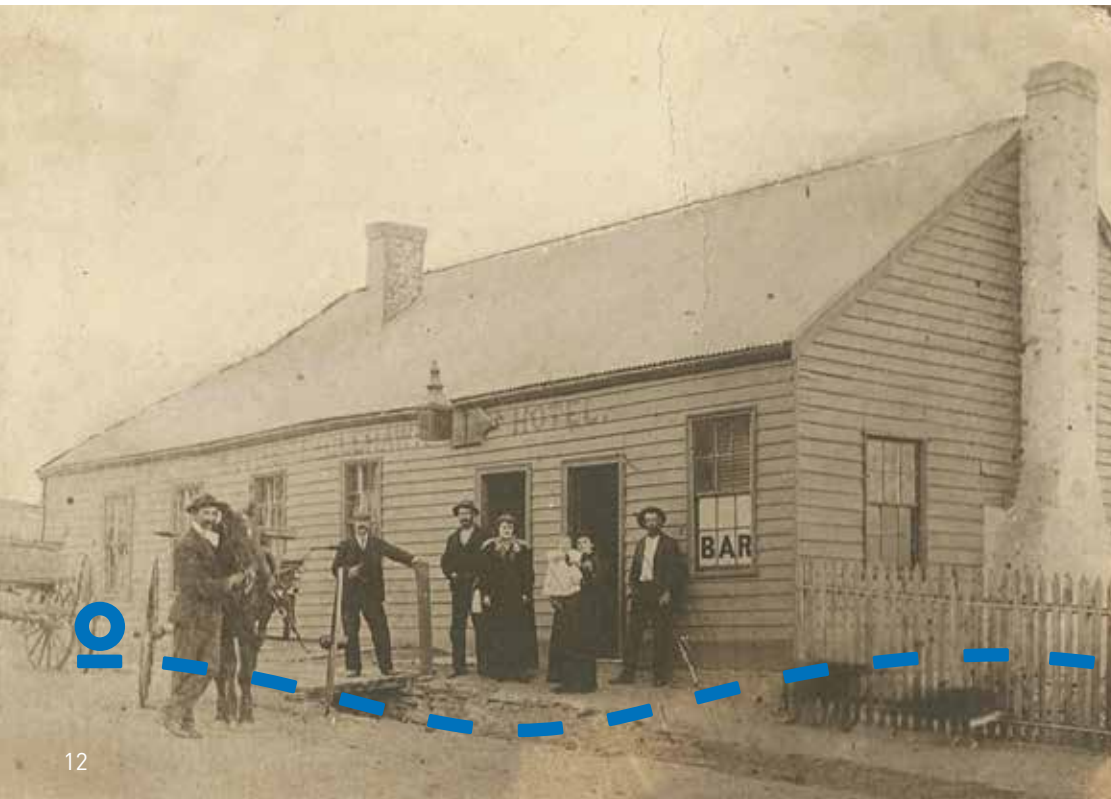
This site, central to the Eagle Hawk Gully diggings, has been used as a hotel and store since 1854, and was originally owned by Mr. Watts. From 1862, it was owned by Frederic Courtin, a significant Maldon citizen and leader of the German community. His hotel had 11 bedrooms, a bagatelle room, concert hall and stables. The hotel burnt down in 1906, after which this existing brick building was constructed.

## 11. Tarrangower Bathing Co. Public Baths

Opposite the Eaglehawk Hotel were the public baths. The Tarrangower Bathing Company operated the baths from 1860, with Frederic Courtin from the Eaglehawk Hotel as chairman. Water from the nearby Eagle Hawk mines was used to fill the pool. It was a large rectangular pool which measured 90 ft by 60 ft and 3-6 ft deep. It also had a special enclosure for women.



*These quartz roasting kilns were located at Union Hill Mine, but were demolished in 1990-1991.*



## 12. Existing Eaglehawk Motel

Next door to the Eaglehawk Hotel is the existing Eaglehawk Motel. This site was one of the many businesses that operated in this area, and was originally a butcher's shop operated by J. Crisp.

*Continue walking along Reef St. back to Hornsby St. passing several typical miners' cottages, and then right into Hornsby St. and back to the start at the Beehive Gold Mine area.*

**Red loop: Beehive Mine – Long Gully**



**BEEHIVE MINE – STH. GERMAN MINE - LONG GULLY LOOP**

This walk takes you from the Beehive Gold Mine site to the South German Mine and dam area, and then on to the Long Gully mining area. The return route is via Tobin St, providing a behind-the-scenes view of the Main St. commercial buildings.

**1. Beehive Gold Mine and Chimney**

This mine operated from 1859 to 1911. Early mines such as this used a vertical shaft with overhead winding gear supported by a poppet head, seen here in the photo. The remains of this shaft are within the fenced area. The chimney, seen on the far left of the photo, serviced the boilers that provided steam for the mine engines to power the winding and crushing machines. Adjacent to the chimney are the stone and brick foundations of the battery, boiler and steam engines, and office buildings. The brick remains of the chlorination and cyanidation plant are also visible nearby. This chimney was one of many in and around Maldon and was completed in 1863 using specially made curved bricks. It originally stood 30 metres high but several metres were lost from the top due to lightning damage in 1923 and later neglect. It is the only one of its age and height still surviving on any Victorian goldfield. The mine plant and machinery were sold off in 1918 but the chimney was purchased by T.B. Brooks and W.E. Preece (for 19 pounds) to be retained as a monument to the town's pioneers, miners, and the gold won. It was finally repaired in 1974.



Walk down the gravel path leading to Vincents Rd. and the Machinery Museum, sign posted direction to the Sth. German mine. Cross Vincents Rd. and follow the path to the right of the Machinery Museum. Stop beside the wire fence a few metres on.



## 2. Great Western Mine

The Beehive Reef extended south from the Beehive mine. There were other mines operating along this reef, including the Great Western Mine seen in this photo. One of the brick footings of this poppet head can be seen behind the museum's fence. Another mine, the Welsh Cymru Mine was located just further along the path near the Men's Shed.

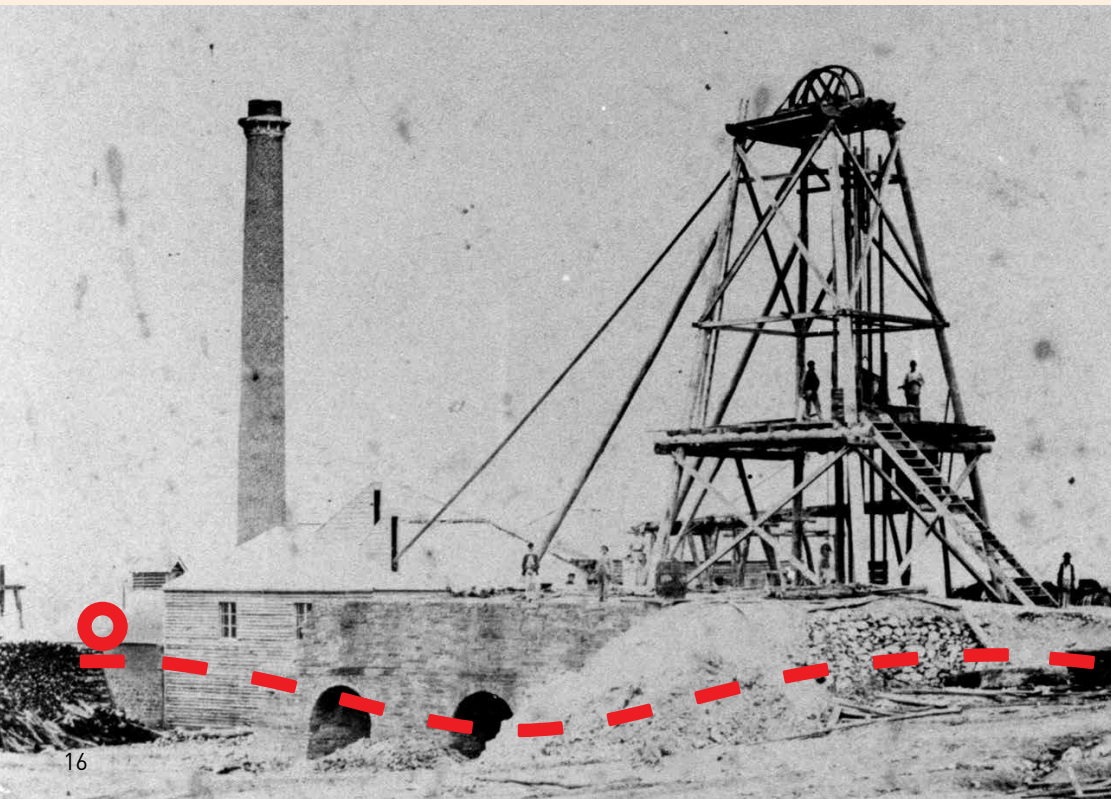
*Continue along the path with a left-right dog leg at the gravel track and continue walking behind several houses, then veer left to cross over Phoenix St. Rejoin the path through the bush, veering left and stop at the seat built around an old pear tree.*



## 3. Phoenix Tavern and Crushing Plant

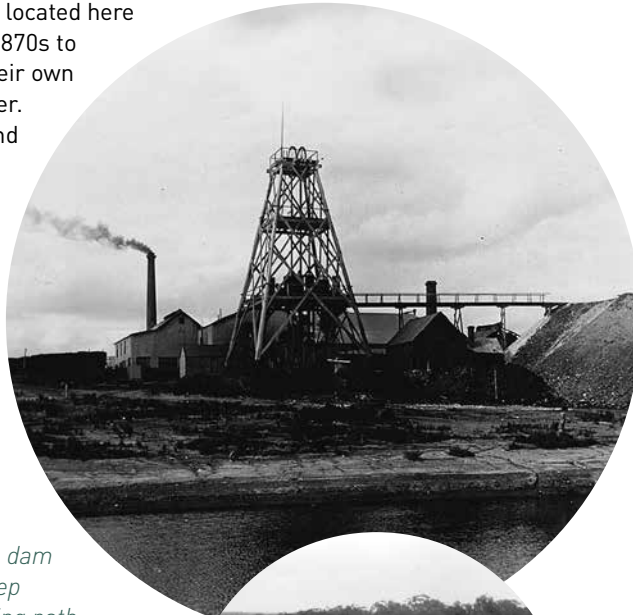
The Phoenix Tavern was near here facing onto Phoenix St. The Atlas Crushing Plant was also near here. This burnt down in 1862 and the ruins were rebuilt and later renamed the Phoenix Crushing Plant because it was then owned by the proprietors of Phoenix Tavern. Is the pear tree old enough to belong to the tavern do you think?

*Continue along the gravel path until you arrive at the Sth. German picnic shelter.*



#### 4. South German Mine

The South German Mine (pictured) was located here beside the dam, operating from mid-1870s to 1918. Many of the larger mines had their own dam for a more reliable source of water. The brick foundations of the battery and winding engines can be seen beyond the picnic shelter. This mine had the deepest shaft in Maldon at 2,200 feet, and was one of the leading gold producers in Victoria in the 1890s. In 1897, the South German Mine was the first in the area to use cyanide treatment to extract gold from battery-crushed rock. Cyanide treatment was done in large, round vats at ground level, as seen in the photo inset.



*Continue walking along the path on the dam wall. You'll come out onto Union St. Keep walking up Union St. to rejoin the walking path at the corner of Forsythe St. Continue walking along the gravel path into the Long Gully area.*

#### 5. Long Gully

Approx. 50m along on the righthand side of the path is a mullock heap of mine tailings. These tailings are from yet another mine located near here, called the New Chum Mine. A little further along the track to the left you'll see a stone gutter running parallel to High St. This stone-lined culvert was referred to as Tarrangower Creek as it was part of the natural water course running through the Maldon township.

*Continue walking through the gold-mining landscape to the remnants of the Caledonian roasting kilns.*



#### 6. Caledonian Kilns and Battery

When alluvial (i.e. surface) mining in the creeks was exhausted, gold was then extracted from underground gold bearing quartz reefs. The quartz rock retrieved from mines was burnt in roasting kilns to help remove impurities and make it easier to crush. The 'roasted' rock was then crushed at a battery into smaller pieces to make the gold extraction process more effective. The Caledonian Kilns and Battery were operated by Robert Dent Oswald, who lived across the road in Lauriston House (looking across High St., the grey stone house left of the picket fence). The Caledonian Battery crushing plant was located below these kilns. You can still see some of the brick foundations of the battery and the bridge supports providing access over the creek to Oswald's house. This photo shows the brick kilns (mid-left), the Caledonian chimney and large battery building in the centre beside the dam, the bridge over the creek, and Oswald's grand house in High St. (mid-right with a large tree in the front yard).

*Continue walking a few metres along the gravel path. Turn left onto the gravel track, which leads to a sealed bicycle course part of the previous Blue Light Youth Camp.*

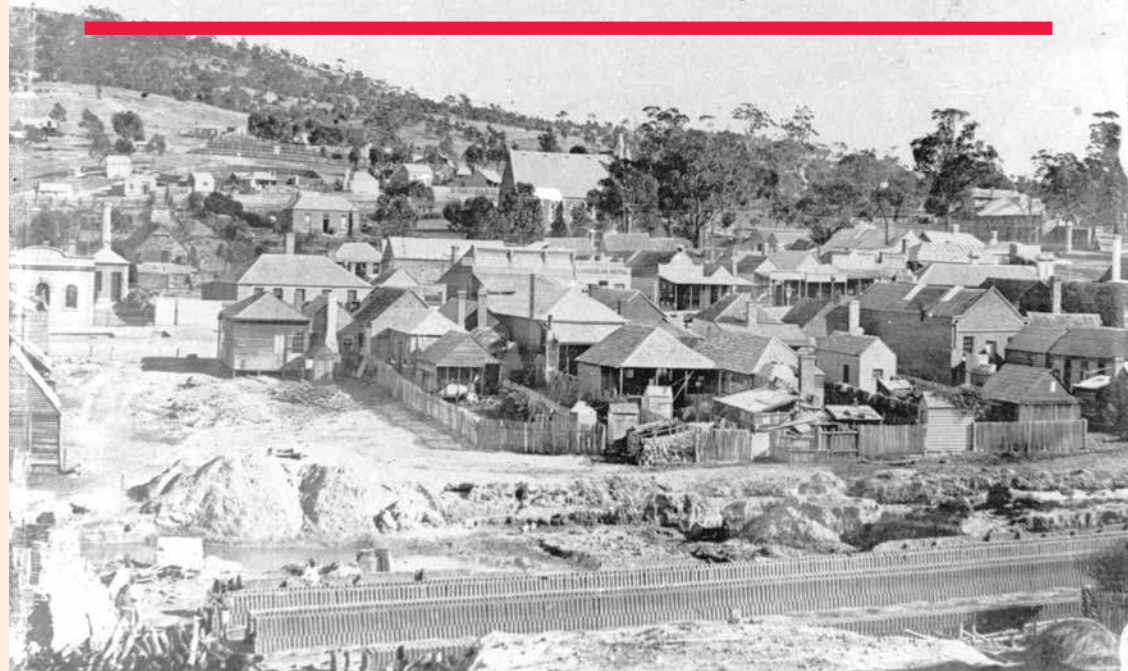
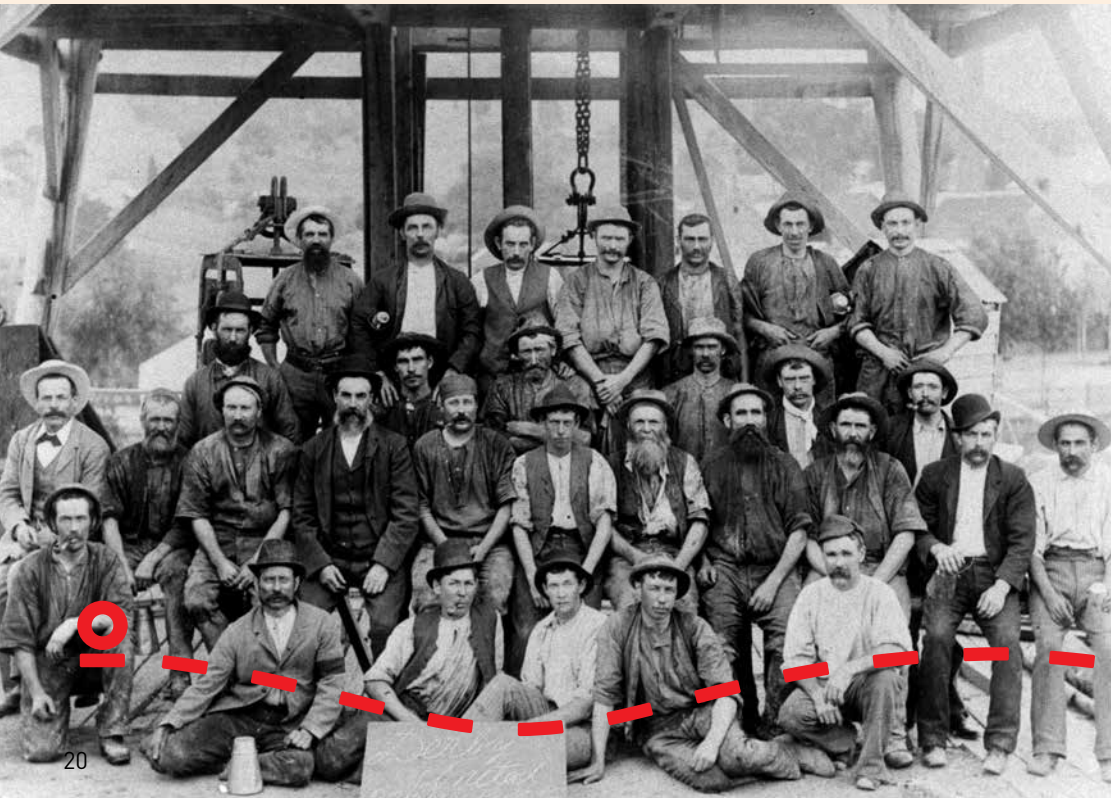




## 7. Victoria (Derby Hill) Mine

The Victoria Mine was located near the top of this hill. Because this mine didn't have its own battery to crush the rock, a railway track was built from Victoria Mine across the top of Derby Hill to deliver the rock to the Beehive Mine's Battery. The railway cutting can be seen later from Phoenix St. This photo is of some of the Victoria Mine workers.

*Now veer to the left and continue walking down the gravel path towards town centre, then left and over the little bridge to Tobin St. at the back of the Main St. shops.*

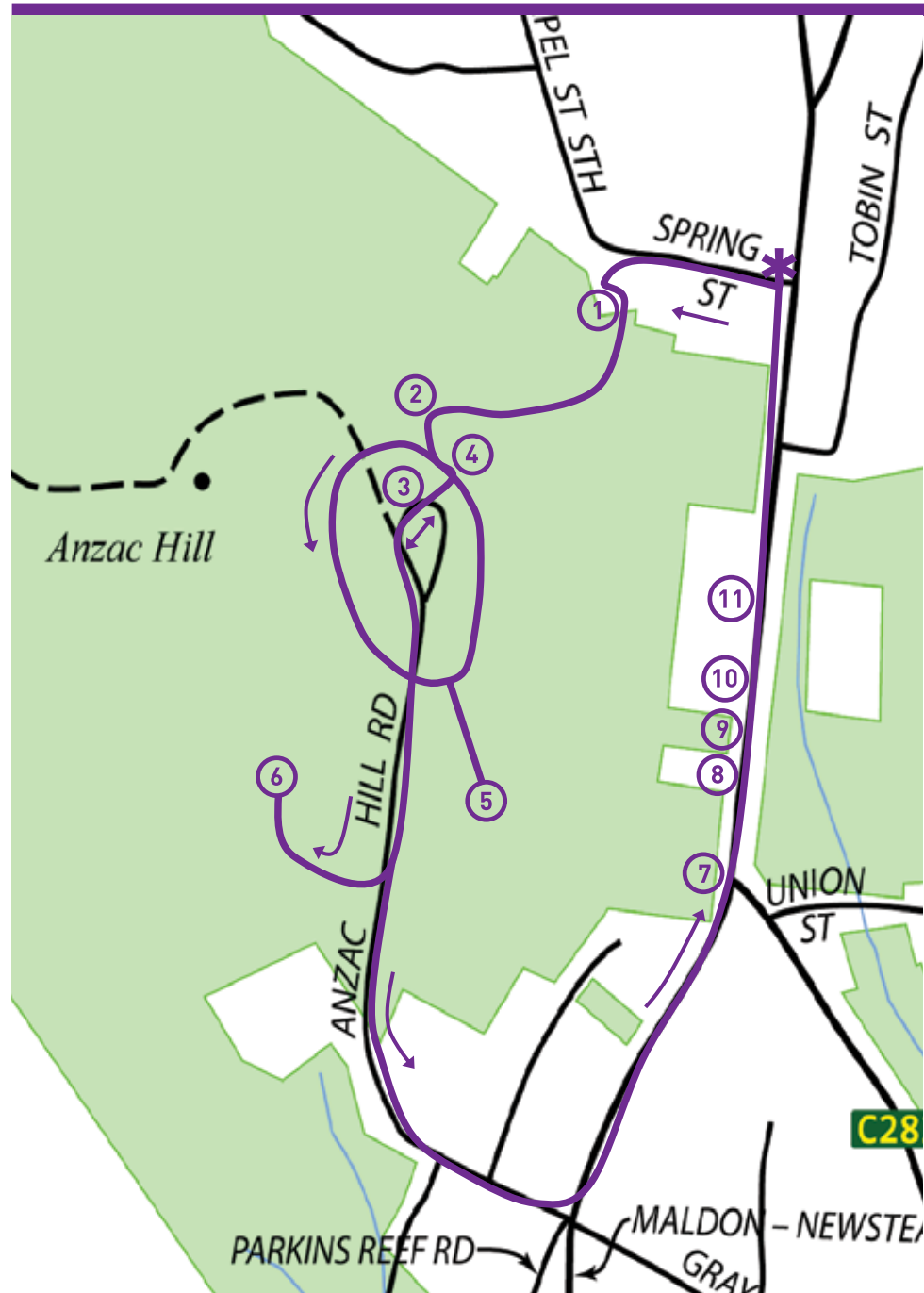


## 8. Tobin St.

A brick-making works was located in Tobin St. The kiln is in the bottom-left corner of the photo (taken in 1867) and the long stack of handmade bricks along the bottom of the photo are lined up waiting to be fired in the kiln.

*Turn right into Tobin St., and continue walking past the back of shops and some quaint residences, until you reach Phoenix St. Turn right past No.2 house to see the railway cutting, then back to Main St. and turn right to go back to the Beehive Mine.*

**Purple loop: ANZAC Hill – High Street**



**ANZAC HILL – HIGH ST. LOOP**

**N.B. Difficulty:** The first 250m is very steep with a rough surface. An alternative option is to drive up to the top of ANZAC Hill. The remainder of the walk is easy-moderate.

This walk takes you up to the Flagpole Lookout for the best view of Maldon, and around ANZAC Hill war memorial area and Mt. Tarrangower mine, then returns along High St. past historical residential, commercial, and mining sites. There is a very steep climb of about 250m at the beginning, but it is worth the effort for the wonderful view from the flagpole lookout.

Begin on the corner of High and Spring Streets and walk along Spring St to the righthand bend, but turn left around the dirt track (or alternatively, turn left down the driveway to Sinnamon's Cottage (No.7) and look for the gravel path leading up the hill).







"Parsons Climbing" (Parsons, a local identity in the 1920s, taking part in motor cycle sports on a 'Harley'.)

## 1. ANZAC Avenue

In 1916, the Maldon Progress Association decided to improve the surroundings of the town. They renamed Garfield's Hill to "ANZAC Hill" and set 21 acres aside as a reserve. This steep track up the hill is ANZAC Avenue. Families paid for a tree guard which enabled a tree to be planted along ANZAC Avenue in memory of a person or family they nominated. Sadly, only a few of the original trees along this track have survived.

This photo was taken at a motor cycle "hill climb" event soon after tree planting began. It shows spectators watching a motor cycle racing half way up the hill, and also shows the newly planted trees with guards lining the avenue. Note how denuded the hill was of natural vegetation, because wood was needed for fuel and building in mines and homes.

## 2. Flagpole Lookout

Stop at the flagpole for a wonderful view of the historic Maldon township. There are also lovely distant views of the Nuggetty Ranges and Smith's Reef, both areas within the Maldon Historic Reserve. Every ANZAC Day Eve, a ceremony is held here in honour of all those who have fought in wars to protect Australia.

*Walk up the gravel path to the top of the hill where you'll find an interpretive sign with information about ANZAC Hill.*

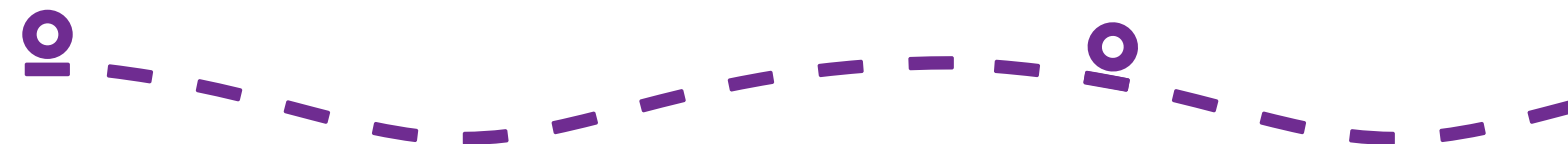
## 3. ANZAC Circle Memorial trees

In 1916, a plan was drawn up for ANZAC Hill to plant trees in memory of Maldon pioneers, residents, and soldiers who died in WW1. It had three sections; ANZAC Avenue (pioneers and residents), ANZAC Circle (WW1 soldiers) and ANZAC Drive (Avenue of Honour). This photo shows the original plan of the three sections. ANZAC Circle began as one circle with 32 trees linking ANZAC Avenue and ANZAC Drive. The 32 trees commemorated servicemen from the district who died in action in WW1.

Later, this circle was doubled with another 32 trees to commemorate more local WW1 servicemen. Only one of the original trees has survived, but you can still see a few of the large original dead trees. In 2018, ANZAC Circle was replanted by the Maldon Urban Landcare group with hardy local Yellow Gums.

Click on the QR reader on the sign for a link to Maldon Museum and a list of the local servicemen who are honoured.

*Walk a little way back down to the Circle path to the WW1 Turkish gun.*



#### 4. WW1 Turkish Gun

Some say that the Turkish Army used this gun to shell Australian Forces at Gallipoli, but according to the military historian Major R.S. Billett, it is the type of gun used, but there is no evidence that this gun was actually there. The gun was donated to the Maldon community in 1920 by then Prime Minister Billy Hughes, when captured war trophies were allocated to many communities all over Australia.

*Take a walk around the Circle then down the side track to the WW2 Observers Hut.*



#### 5. WW2 Volunteer Air Observers Hut

During WW2, the Australian Defence Dept. set up air observation posts around Australia to observe and identify aircraft flying within range of each post. This is a scaled-down replica of the Maldon 'Spotters' hut which was manned by volunteers between 1942-45. The original hut was equipped with a telescope and a compass. The remains of the compass can still be found here. Note the 'upside-down country' around here. Local Aboriginal peoples referred to the landscape as 'upside-down', due to the miners digging up the land and not restoring all their holes and mounds.

*Walk back around the Circle to ANZAC Drive (the Pine tree lined road) and turn left down the hill about 100m when you reach the track off to the right and walk along this path.*

#### 6. Mt. Tarrangower Tunnelling Co. Tunnel

This was an ambitious proposal to drive a tunnel through Mt. Tarrangower. The first rock drill in Australia was introduced by this company in 1868 because the rock was so hard. Work commenced in 1864, but after tunnelling only about 300m into the hill, and without yielding significant gold, it was abandoned four years later.

Walk back to ANZAC Drive and turn right, continuing downhill into Gray St. Note the stone cottage at No 5 Gray St. Middlemiss Cottage is believed to be the oldest cottage in Maldon.

*Continue walking all the way to Newstead Rd., turn left and walk along to the T intersection of High Street & Castlemaine Rd., passing several heritage houses on both sides of Newstead Rd.*



#### 7. Cumberland Inn

On the left was the site of the Cumberland Inn. This hotel was one of the many drinking establishments that existed in Maldon. More than 60 licenses to sell alcohol were issued at one time during the gold rush, within an 8 km radius of the centre of town. The many hotels and beer houses provided refreshments, entertainment and a social life for the miners.

*Continue walking towards the town centre to the first house on your left, No. 5.*





## 8. House No. 5 High St.

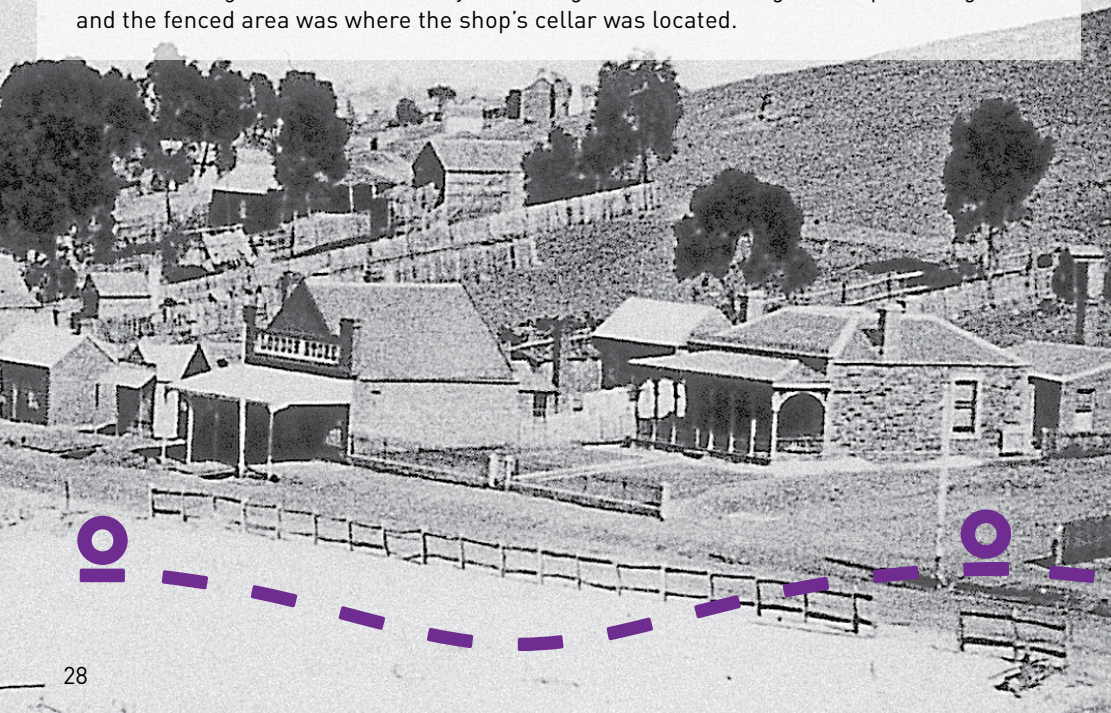
William Haslem, Maldon's 'Town Crier and Bill Poster', lived here. In 1861 he took over the business of "bill sticking and bell ringing" which he performed for 50 years. William rang his bell to advertise public meetings, social events and public services, such as disasters and emergencies. He was also paid to post notices around town and to light Maldon's street lamps. William was a respected community member and an active member of the fire brigade, as seen here in his fire brigade uniform in 1899.



*Walk a little further along High St, to the empty block next door.*

## 9. Loddon General Store

This photo shows William's little house on left, then the Loddon Store in the centre and Lauriston House on the right. The Loddon General Store traded during the gold-rush era. The red brick garden wall is the only remaining section of the original shop building and the fenced area was where the shop's cellar was located.



## 10. House No. 9 "Lauriston House"

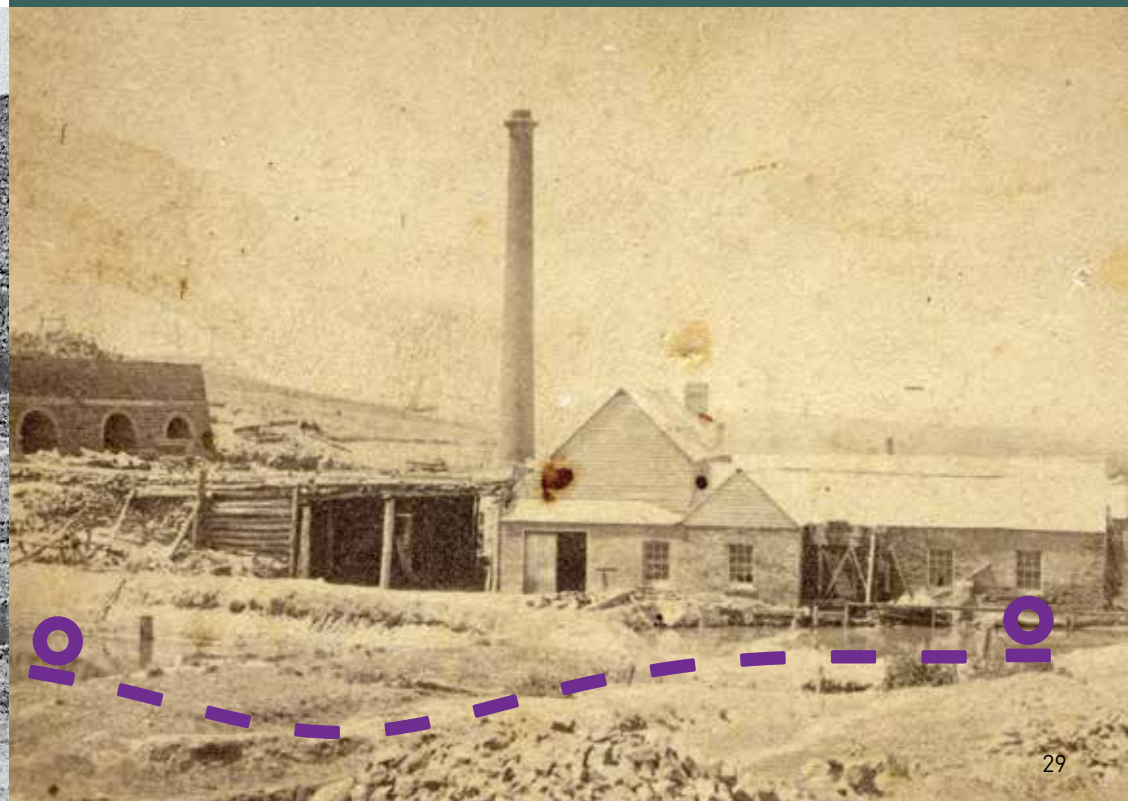
This grand house was built in 1865 for successful miner, Robert Dent Oswald, and is classified by the National Trust. Note the fine iron gate and fence, unusual timber fretwork verandah arches and turned timber balustrade. There is an underground water tank at the rear. Unlike many other 'quartz kings', Oswald took an active part in civic life and was well respected. He served as a Justice of the Peace and was president of the Shire of Maldon, and is buried in the Maldon Cemetery.

*Walk a little further then look across the road to the Long Gully reserve area.*

## 11. Caledonian Battery and Kilns

Opposite Lauriston House was the site of the Caledonian Battery (crushing plant) and Kilns, which were owned and operated by Robert Dent Oswald from 1859. The remains of the quartz roasting kilns and some brick foundations of the Battery building are still visible. The kilns were used to burn the quartz rock to make crushing easier.

*Continue walking along High St. back to the town centre where the walk began.*







# Walk MALDON™



*View of the Victoria and Beehive mines and the rail track between them, taken from ANZAC Hill.*

## **This brochure was produced in partnership by:**

- Friends of Maldon Historic Reserve
  - Maldon Inc.
  - Maldon Museum and Archives  
(including all historical photographs)
  - Maldon Urban Landcare
    - Parks Victoria
  - Mount Alexander Shire Council
- Maldon and District Community Bank
- Maps by Cartography Community Mapping
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and Jump Rope Design

## **References:**

- Maldon Our Stories - the Early Years*  
by Tony Kane
- Maldon and the Tarrangower Diggings*  
by A.J. Williams
- A Rich Vein*  
by Christopher Creek
- National Trust Victoria Website

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THE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION OF MALDON

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Maldon & District

**B** Bendigo Bank