

10. WHITE POINT DIGGINGS

Grade: *Easy* | Length: *13 km* | Duration: *3.5 hrs*
 Style: *circuit* | Total uphill: *200 m* | Gradient: *gentle hills <10%*
 Path: *mostly on walking paths and unsealed minor roads*

Introduction

Discover some history of this area when transport was needed to move timber and potatoes and carry people to the mineral springs area at Hepburn Springs. The middle section of this walk encompasses the headwaters of Sailors Creek. This is a circuit walk on paths of varying significance. The walk follows the boundary of the peaceful Yoga Ashram before joining a section of the Great Dividing Trail (GDT) to visit the White Point Diggings site. After some minor road walking, and crossing Sailors Creek, the walk eventually follows a railway easement from yesteryear. This includes bridge remnants, embankments, cuttings, a culvert and a former station site. There is an optional scramble down the embankment to look more closely at the perfectly intact brick culvert. The birthplace of the GDT is passed during this part of the walk.

Getting there

From the Base (Hepburn Primary School) turn right onto Main Road. Continue on Main Road for about 4 km to Daylesford. At the roundabout intersection with the Midland Highway continue straight ahead on Ballan-Daylesford Road for 10.3 km to Sailors Creek Road. Turn right and travel 300 m turning left into Leonards Hill-Barkstead Road which becomes a gravel road. After 3.8 km turn right onto Rocklyn Road and travel 1.6 km to the Wombat Station rotunda and the start of the walk.

Preparations, Precautions & Hazards

The walk is on gravel roads and foot tracks. Take care walking on minor roads. Boots are not necessary and sturdy walking shoes would be suitable. Walking poles are optional.

Facilities

There are no facilities on this walk.

Walk Description

From the start at the Wombat Station rotunda (Grid Reference (GR) 415530) walk north-west on an elevated easement for 470 m. Turn right (north) onto a maintenance road for 420 m to a T junction and turn left to follow the boundary of Yoga Ashram. Continue north on a minor road beside a blue gum plantation. Follow the loop in the track, first east then south, then east again to a track junction at GR 415540. Turn right and walk for 130 m to another T junction. Turn left (north east) and, ignoring a track to the left after 300 m, continue for 1 km to a track on the right. Continue north-east and take a right-hand fork. Follow this footpad through to White Point Track at GR 426551. Turn right and walk along the road for 400 m to a GDT marker post at GR 430549. Turn left and follow the GDT into the bush to the site of the White Point Diggings (GR 434550), which can be seen in a gully 600 m from White Point Track. Continue a further 700 m to Sailors Creek Road, initially following the course of the headwaters of Sailors Creek.



Wombat Station Rotunda



Railway Cutting

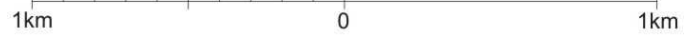
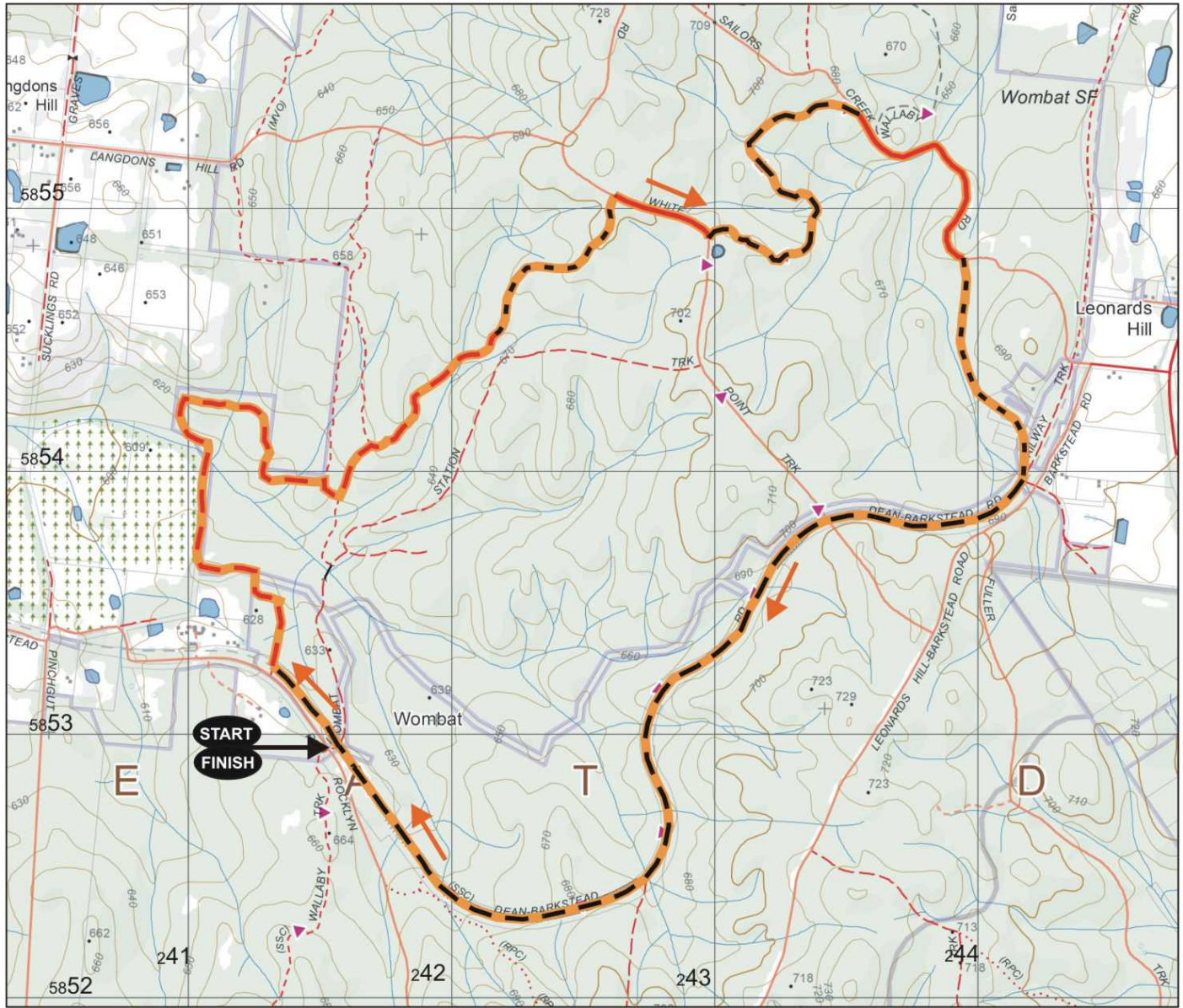
Turn right onto Sailors Creek Road and cross the bridge over Sailors Creek at GR 438552. Continue along the road for a further 500 m and turn right onto a faint vehicle track (GR 439548), which enters the forest and curves around to join an old rail easement. Note the old rail bridge remnants on the left at GR 442540. Follow this prominent railway easement for 850 m to White Point Track. Cross White Point Track and continue for 2.7 km through distinct cuttings, passing the signposted birthplace of GDT, to a beautifully crafted and perfectly preserved brick culvert at GR 418526. It is possible to scramble down the left-hand (west) side of the embankment to inspect the tunnel. It may also be possible to walk right through the tunnel, depending on whether there has been recent rain. Continue along the easement for 500 m back to Wombat Station and the start of the walk.

This Walk Sheet describes a bushwalk, part of Bushwalking Victoria's Federation Walks 2015 program in the Daylesford and Hepburn Springs area on 24-25 October 2015. The host clubs for this event are Bayside Bushwalking Club and The Great Dividing Trail Association. Bushwalking Victoria, the host clubs, their members and walk leaders cannot accept any responsibility for errors, omissions or changes to the circumstances on which this information is based, nor can they accept responsibility for any loss or injury sustained by any person using this Walk Sheet.

Bushwalking Victoria: www.bushwalkingvictoria.org.au/

Bayside Bushwalking Club: www.baysidebush.org.au/ Great Dividing Trail Association: gdt.org.au/

10. WHITE POINT DIGGINGS



- Walk Surfaces**
- Road —
 - Vehicle Track - - -
 - Foot Track - - -
 - Off Track · · · · ·
 - Walk Route —



Maps
 Vicmap Topo 1:25000 A0
 7723-3-S DAYLESFORD SOUTH
 Vicmap Topo 1:30000 A4
 7723-3-3-1
 7723-3-3-2



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This map is provided solely as a guide to the subject walk. The map is not intended to be used as a substitute for the applicable Vicmap Topographic map(s). Vicmap Topographic maps may be purchased in printed form from map shops and digital (PDF) maps may be purchased online at <http://services.land.vic.gov.au/maps/imf/search/Topo30Front.jsp>