

Warrandyte State Park



Gold Heritage Walk

The walk takes you around historic landmarks and remnants of yesteryear when those down on their luck sought riches from the gold-laden hills of Warrandyte. Fourth Hill was stripped totally of its trees and the wood used to fuel stamping batteries used for crushing the quartz. Many of the old sites still remain today and your walk will take you into an area that was once rich in gold, and is now rich in history. The points of interest are outlined below.

1. Victory Mine

Previously known as Young Colonial, and Warrandyte Claim, the Victory mine produced one of the richest claims since records have been kept. It was worked from about 1896 and produced 1,870 oz in three years. The main shaft was sunk to 220ft. In this area you will also find a number of on-ground information boards.

2. Fourth Hill Summit

Once the site of Warrandyte's chief water supply (see the board on site)

3. Open Mines

Originally dug by Europeans, these open mines were often reworked by the Chinese who flocked to the area in search of their fortune. The Chinese were clever at recovering gold missed by the Europeans and they would move in and rework the ground, usually with a great deal of success. For this reason, resentment sometimes formed between the races.

4. Johnson's Mine

A lot of hard work and expense went into the Johnson's mine adit. Johnson tunnelled straight into the hill for approx 60mtrs following a small reef, but unfortunately found no sign of gold. The adit then turns to the left for another 20mtrs before being abandoned. An adit is a horizontal or gently inclined tunnel driven from the surface (typically into a hillside or outcrop) for the purpose of intersecting or mining an ore body.

5. Upper Monument Mine

Another European-built mine. Did you know that the Chinese made circular mines so that 'demons' could not hide in the corners?

6. Miners Hut

Probably built in the 1950s. Note how one corner of the hut is a tree trunk. This not only gave the structure some stability, but also saved precious man-hours so that time could be spent on important matters – the quest for gold.

7. Monument Mine

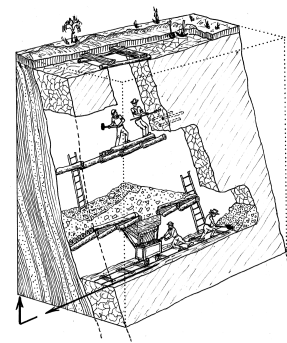
This type of shaft was usually operated by a partnership of two or three men. The two mines you see were in operation until 1960's and were the last working Gold mines in Fourth Hill.

8. Memorial Cairn

Erected in memory of Louis Michel and his team who were (arguably) the first in Victoria to find **GOLD!**

9. Geraghty's Mine

Patrick Geraghty constructed a tunnel to a distance of one hundred and thirty metres between June 1859 and February the following year. It is an extensive mine which branches off in various directions and was even equipped with a light tramway for the speedy transportation of quartz.



Quartz mines were mined in sections, leaving large slots (stopes) in the ground where the reef had been.

Prospecting

Prospecting is permitted in the bed of Andersons Creek which is located off Gold Memorial Rd. Only non-mechanical hand tools are permitted, excavations must be backfilled and vegetation must not be disturbed.

Safety

The walking track is steep in parts and may be slippery especially after rain so watch your footing.

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For further information

Parks Victoria
Information Centre

Call 13 1963

or visit the

Parks Victoria website

www.parkweb.vic.gov.au

Caring for the environment

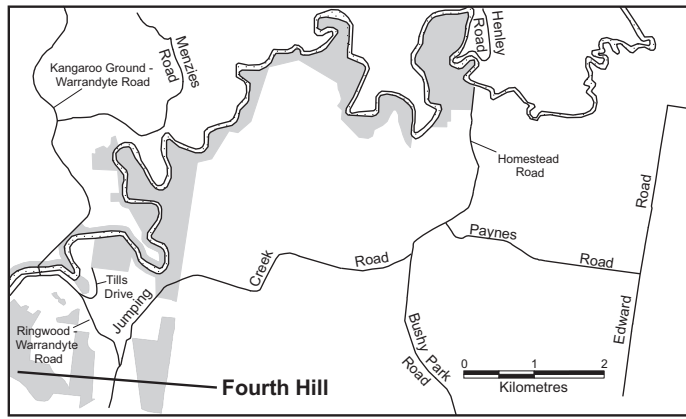
While Warrandyte State Park caters for a wide range of activities, it is one of few natural bush areas left near Melbourne.

Please use the park sensitively so that the plants, animals and scenery that everyone comes to see and enjoy are not destroyed.

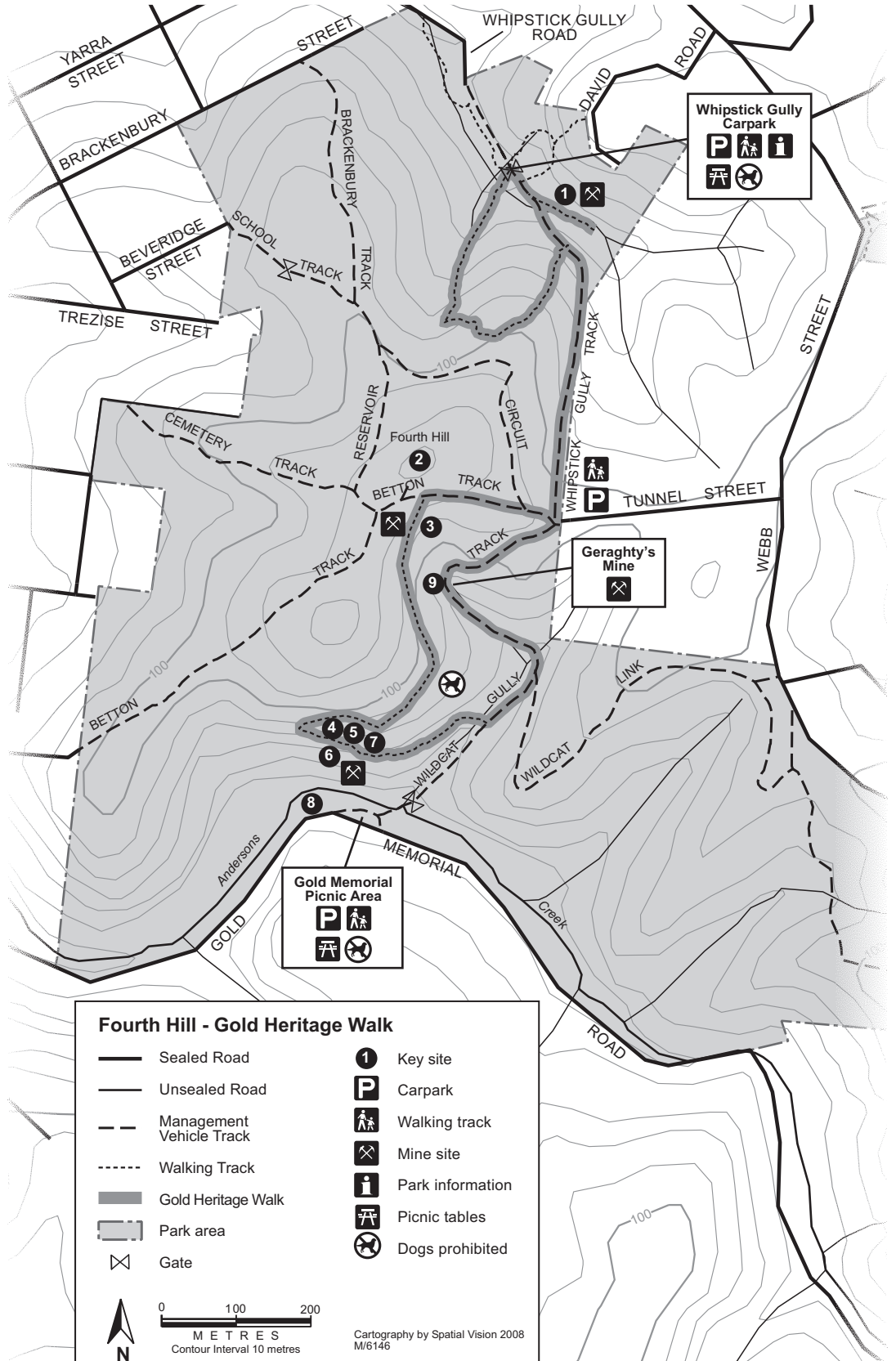
Help us look after this park by following these guidelines:

Please take rubbish away with you for recycling & disposal.

All native plants & animals are protected by law. Please do not disturb them in any way.



- 1 Victory Mine
- 2 Fourth Hill Summit
- 3 Open Mines
- 4 Johnson's Mine
- 5 Upper Monument Mine
- 6 Miner's Hut
- 7 Monument Mine
- 8 Louis Michel Memorial Cairn
- 9 Geraghty's Mine



Updated May 2008