

SECTION 1

All areas in South Australia to the Murray River crossing at Wellington:

PART A

Burra to Adelaide - via 1850's 'copper roads'

PART B

Adelaide to Wellington

PART C

Burra to Wellington via Reedy Creek Mine



SECTION 1, PART A: Burra to Adelaide

By 1851 there were several 'copper roads' in use between Burra and Gawler and on to Port Adelaide, all of which passed through Black Springs, to the south of Burra

From **Burra**, take the Barrier Highway toward Saddleworth and Gawler, but just as you drive out of the town, turn left onto the Old Adelaide Road (gravel).

Approximately 10km along, a day's travel by bullock dray from Burra, is what remains of the **Sod Hut** settlement. It is worth stopping to see the extent of the ruins.

Approximately 3 km south of Sod Hut, veer to the right and pass through Stony Gap. Continue via Koonoona Road, Burra Road and Black Springs Road and turn right at the intersection of Black Springs Road and Old Burra Road to **Black Springs**. The original site of the settlement is approximately 1.5 km to the north of today's township.

At Black Springs there was a permanent spring providing good water. The various 'copper road' routes diverged here.

Approaching **Apoinga** from Black Springs today involves a slight back-track from Black Springs to take the right fork into Apoinga Road and left into Heinrichs Road at the southern end of Apoinga Lagoon, to the Apoinga Historic Sight at the intersection with Tothill Belt Road. Alternatively, continue along Black Springs Road to Tothill Belt Road and turn right to reach Apoinga.

There was a good supply of timber at Apoinga, and in 1849 one of South Australia's first smelters was constructed here. By 1851 there were approximately 30 houses and a population of 100

Alternative route: Sod Hut to Apoinga direct

From Sod Hut, continue south on the eastern side of the Tothill Range of hills and turn west onto Black Springs Road through the Tothill Gap and continue direct to Apoinga. From there Black Springs is a 30 minute (round trip) detour

From **Apoinga**, continue south along Tothill Belt Road to **Tothill Creek** where ruins are still visible beside the Tothill Creek.

www.postcards-sa.com.au/features_videos_pages/saddleworth_museum.html

Continue south from Tothill Creek and turn right (to the south-west) into Slant Road and left into Main Road (Burra Road) at the settlement of **Springfield**. A short distance south along Main Road, opposite the cemetery, was the Australian Arms Hotel and Stables now marked by Heritage Marker 7 - see <http://dossrow.rbe.net.au/HERITAGE%20PEGS.htm>

Quoting from the website: *Heritage marker No 8 shows the location of the English & Australian Cooper Company in 'the days when copper was transported by road from Burra to Port Adelaide', 'sold in 1869 when the railway line was extended to Burra'.*

Heritage marker No 9 shows the site of the Twyford Primitive Methodist Church, now facing a closed road, where there are two old almond trees with some building stone close by and flag irises which grew along the original fence line.

The Light River flows for quite a distance close to this road, and there are various fords marked on maps. The River veers away to the east to the north of Hamilton

Continue along Burra Road/Main Road south through Marrabel to **Hamilton, Allandale North and Kapunda**

Map Curnow, the giant statue of a Cornish miner stands close to the spot where copper was discovered in 1842. This and associated interpretive signs are easy to access from the road

From **Kapunda** take the Thiele Highway, or Adelaide Road, south and after a few kms take the Kapunda-Greenock Road. A short distance along, where the road veers to the left, turn off to the right, continuing south into Almond Corner Road which passes through **Bagot Gap**, in the Nain Range.

Capt Charles Bagot was one of the first settlers in the Kapunda area. See 'Setting the Scene' for more on his role in early 'copper roads'

After crossing Leske Road (on a diagonal) it becomes the Old Kapunda Road until it meets Daveyston Road.

At Daveyston Road, the original road south-south-west to Shea Oak Log peters out into farming land and it is necessary to leave the 'copper road' for a short distance

Turn left into Daveyston Road, and then right onto Eden Road (Old Sturt Highway) to pass through Shea Oak Log which was on the original 'copper road'. Continue on to join the Main North Road north of **Gawler** and follow it into Adelaide.

Take note passing through Smithfield as this appears on maps of the original 'copper roads' to the Port of Adelaide

To complete the journey following an original 'copper road', you may wish to turn right at the Gepps Cross intersection into Grand Junction Road which takes you to **Port Adelaide**.

Otherwise, continue on, following the signs for **Adelaide**

Alternative route: via Barrier Highway

Follow Part A to Black Springs, and continue along Black Springs Road to the Barrier Highway, passing through Manoora, Saddleworth and Riverton and join Main North Road. Continue on through Tarlee, Linwood and the small township of **Templers**.

Templers is believed to be the site of 'Templar's Inn' (North Star Inn) shown on the 'copper road' maps, and mentioned in the Charles Rule diary

This road follows closely one of the original 'copper roads' between Burra and Port Adelaide South of Templers, re-join the main route and continue following directions into Adelaide.

Alternative route: To avoid gravel roads completely, take the Barrier Highway south from Burra through Saddleworth and Riverton and Gawler. To visit Kapunda either turn off at Saddleworth through Marrabel, or continue and turn at Tarlee