

SECTION 2

Wellington to Glenorchy

PART A: via Reedy Creek and Mt Arapiles

PART B: via Reedy Creek and Officer's Station

PART C: via Bordertown - 'northern route'



SECTION 2, PART B: Wellington to Glenorchy via Reedy Creek and Officer's Station

The diary of Oliver Ragless provides a comprehensive account of this route and local historians have confirmed that a route through this way was in use at the time. He describes meeting a number of other travellers including some wool drays on the way to Geelong within a days travel of Lake Wallace

Follow **Part A** from Wellington to Edenhope.

There are several roads between Edenhope and Toolondo that could form part of those used in 1852, but none provide a straightforward through-route today. The route suggested gives an approximation of the type of country experienced in the 1850's

From the Wimmera Highway north-east from **Edenhope**, take the first turn to the right (east) onto the Charam-Wombelano Road. A short distance along, on the right, is the Murrnbool Swamp and Lake Reserve near Charam.

Major Mitchell came through this area from north to south in late July 1836 and the road crosses his route not far east of the intersection with the Harrow-Goroke Road. Their campsite was approximately 1.5 km north of the road near Konnepra Swamp.

Continue travelling east through Wombelano and on to the township of Douglas.

Between Wombelano and Douglas the road passes through the southern end of the Jilpanger Flora and Fauna Reserve. There are several access tracks into the Reserve

At Douglas continue across the intersection on Wombelano Road where it turns right (south). After several turns it skirts the eastern side of **White Lake**, veering the left (south-east) near the southern shore. Follow this road to where it joins the Natimuk-Hamilton Road and turn left to Kanagulk. There is a (rough) gravel road to the north that takes you to Lake Kanagulk Wildlife Reserve - signposted Lake Road / Fulham No 1 Road.

Oliver Ragless describes a large gum tree measuring 28 feet around the butt which is believed by locals to have been 'a couple of chains' north of Lake Kanagulk. It was cut down in 1955. He also mentions that earlier that day they had been directed to a road further to the north as they had been on the wrong road. Camping is permitted in the Lake Kanagulk Wildlife Reserve.

Alternative route: to the north of Lake Kanagulk

There is a road which passes around Lake Kanagulk from north west to south east. It involves gravel roads that are extremely rough in parts. Where the road from Douglas follows the eastern shore of White Lake turn left (east) into Rex Hobbs Lane, and cross McKechnie's Road where it becomes Hobbs and Flynn Road. Follow the road as it winds its way through Little Youngs Scrub and joins Wades Road at a corner. Take the left fork of Wades Road, heading east, which follows the shore of Lake Kanagulk and then turns south to join the Natimuk-Hamilton Road to the north of Kanagulk, joining the main route

From the intersection of Fulham No 1 Road and the Natimuk-Hamilton Road, turn left and proceed north to Toolondo and Toolondo Reservoir on the right.

The area to the left of the road is the location of **Officer's Station** of the 1850's. In Toolondo turn to the right onto Wonwondah-Toolondo Road and follow it north-east.

This is the area described in Oliver Ragless's diary as Pinsons Station, believed now to be Pynsent's Wonwondah Station

Follow the road to Lower Norton where it joins the Horsham-Noradjuha Road and crosses the Norton Creek.

A little further, just after the turn off to Three Bridges Road, the road crosses the Wimmera River. Local historians describe a river crossing in this area in the 1840's-50's. Continue on to join the Wimmera Highway to the west of Horsham and turn right.

Follow the Wimmera Highway into **Horsham** and **re-join Part A**

Alternative route: Edenhope to Glenorchy via Roses Gap (Grampians) eg Peters account

NB: This route goes through the Black Range State Forest and is very rough in places and may not be signposted - make sure you have a topographical map

Follow **Part B** to the junction of Fulham No 1 Road and the Natimuk-Hamilton Road. A short distance north, turn right into Telangatuk East Road, left at the T-intersection and then right (east) into Rees Road. Follow Rees Road and continue on as it turns left and becomes Black Range Road, crossing the northern end of the Black Range. Where it heads north take care and slow down when crossing 2 quite distinct dips in the road. After approx 18 km and passing over the Black Range and leaving the State Forest, turn right into Campbell's Lane, which becomes the Brimpaen-Laharum Road after it crosses the Henty Highway. After another approx 18 km, turn right into Mt Victory Road and another 3.5 km turn left into Roses Gap Road. (Alternative route below re-joins here)

After passing through Roses Gap, the road follows Troopers Creek. Near the source of the creek there is a camping area and a marker describing the area as part of a route to the goldfields where troopers were stationed. Stop and enjoy the stunning views of the Mt Difficult Range, before continuing to Glenorchy.

Alternative route: via Old Adelaide Road

NB: for 4 wheel drive vehicles only and make sure you have a topographical map:

After passing over the Black Range, and reaching the intersection with the Henty Highway in Campbells Lane, turn right towards Cherrypool and Glenisla. After 5 km turn left into Old Adelaide Road. This is approx 15 km of gravel road and in some places rough sandy track. Turn right where it joins O'Sullivan's Road and left into Mt Victory Road through Wartook. Approx 2 km along turn right into Roses Gap Road - where it joins the alternative above.