

Camp established in the early 1850s. William Weston Howe was the Government Surveyor employed during the 1840s to locate the various headwaters of the Loddon River in the County of Talbot.

South of Howe's Survey Tree: *Eucalyptus scoparia*, Wallangarra White Gum (Qld), a small to medium-sized tree with smooth bark, linear to lance-shaped or curved adult leaves, flower buds in groups of seven, white flowers and cup-shaped, hemispherical or bell-shaped fruit.

Walk down to the path running along the creek and then walk in a northerly direction. In addition to River Red Gums, along the creek there are two species of acacia and a number of melaleucas.

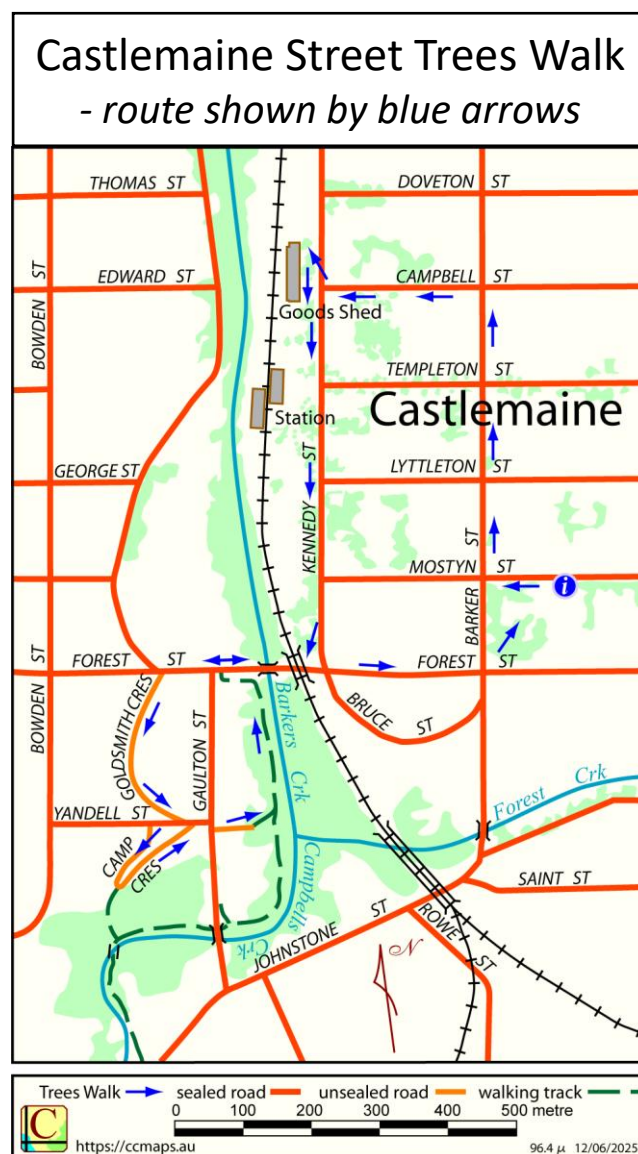
*Acacia dealbata**, Silver Wattle (south-eastern Aust), a fast-growing tree or shrub growing up to 30 m tall, typically a pioneer species after fire. The leaves are bipinnate, glaucous blue-green to silvery grey, and the leaves resemble those of a fern.

*Acacia mearnsii**, Black Wattle (south-eastern Aust), usually an erect tree with smooth bark, bipinnate leaves and spherical heads of fragrant pale yellow or cream-coloured flowers followed by black to reddish brown pods.

Melaleuca decussata, Totem-poles (south-eastern Aust). A densely branched shrub growing to a height and width of 3 m. The leaves are arranged in alternating pairs at right angles to the ones above and below so that the leaves are in 4 rows along the stems. The flowers are a shade of pink or purple but fade rapidly to white.

When you reach Forest Street cross the road and walk east along the northern side to Barker Street. Cross at the traffic light and then walk in a north-easterly direction diagonally across the park (Victory Park) to Mostyn Street and the Visitor Information Centre, noting the fine *Corymbia citriodora*, Lemon-scented Gum, in the park.

The Castlemaine Field Naturalists Club acknowledges the Dja Dja Wurrung community as the traditional owners and custodians of the country where we meet and study the natural environment.



Compiled by Cathrine Harboe-Ree, Sue Luke and Jenny Rolland, May 2025, drawing on earlier work by Ern Perkins and others.
Map by Jase Haysom, Cartography Community Mapping.
Eucalypt sketches by Ern Perkins.
Pterostylis nutans (Nodding Greenhood) sketch by Rita Mills.

CASTLEMAINE STREET TREES WALK

Kennedy Street, Goldsmith Crescent, Yandell Street loop walk, 2.75 kms.

Castlemaine has an extraordinary number of native Australian trees lining its streets. This walk showcases twenty of them. Trees that are native to this area are marked with an asterisk ().*



Eucalyptus sideroxylon rosea and *Eucalyptus viminalis*, Camp Crescent.

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From the Visitor Information Centre in Mostyn Street make your way to the western end of Campbell Street. (Walk west along Mostyn Street to Barker Street, walk north past Lyttleton and Templeton Streets to Campbell Street, walk west along Campbell Street to No 6).

No. 6: *Melaleuca linariifolia*, Snow in Summer (NSW, Qld). A small evergreen tree with a dense broadly domed canopy, beige-cream papery bark, peeling in thick sheets, small linear-shaped leaves and dense inflorescences of honey-scented cream flowers in summer.

No 4: *Geijera parviflora*, Wilga (eastern Aust). A small tree with drooping branches, linear to narrow lance-shaped leaves, small white flowers in loose panicles and spherical fruit containing a shiny black seed.

No 2: *Melaleuca styphelioides*, Prickly Paperbark (NSW, Qld). A tree with spongy bark that peels in thick sheets, prickly leaves and spikes of creamy-white flowers in summer.

Cross Kennedy Street to the northern end of the Goods Shed.

Goods Shed N: *Melia azedarach*, White Cedar (northern Aust). A species of deciduous tree in the mahogany family that is native to Indomalaya and north and north-eastern Australia.

Goods Shed centre N end: *Eucalyptus crenulata*, Buxton or Silver Gum (Vic). A small bushy tree with silvery leaves with serrated edges in stalkless opposite pairs. Buds are powdered white.

Goods Shed centre: *Eucalyptus yarraensis*, Yarra Gum (Vic). A species endemic to Victoria that has rough bark on the trunk and larger branches, lance-shaped to elliptical or egg-shaped adult leaves, flower buds in groups of seven, white flowers and conical fruit.

Goods Shed centre S end: *Eucalyptus lansdowneana*, Crimson Mallee (SA). A species of slender stemmed, straggly mallee that is endemic to a small area of South Australia. It has rough, fibrous or flaky bark at the base, smooth, grey over creamy-white bark, lance-shaped adult leaves, flower buds in groups of seven, crimson flowers and barrel-shaped fruit.

Railway car park, SE of Goods Shed: *Eucalyptus camaldulensis**, River Red Gum (Aust, widespread). An iconic Australian tree with smooth white or cream-coloured bark, lance-shaped or curved adult leaves, flower buds in groups of seven or nine, white

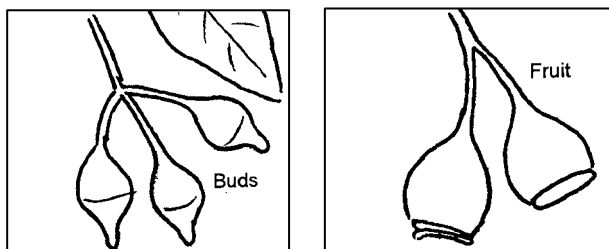
flowers and hemispherical fruit with the valves extending beyond the rim.

Continue walking in a southerly direction along Kennedy Street, to Forest Street.

From Templeton Street to Forest Street there is an avenue of red, white and pink-flowering *Eucalyptus leucoxylon*, Yellow Gum (south-eastern Aust). Various forms of Yellow Gum are extensively planted in the town, and the great majority of the eucalypt avenues are made up of this species. There is much variation in growth habit and height, flower colour, time of flowering, size of the buds and fruit, leaf colour and roughness of the bark. Generally, this tree has smooth yellowish bark with some rough bark near the base. It has lance-shaped or curved adult leaves, flower buds in groups of three and cylindrical, barrel-shaped or shortened spherical fruit. The subspecies *Eucalyptus leucoxylon pruinosa** is native to this area.

The Yellow Gum avenue is broken opposite the tennis courts by two *Eucalyptus saligna*, Sydney Blue Gum (NSW, Qld). A tall, distinctive tree with smooth silver bark and glossy upper leaf surfaces.

The shape of the buds and fruit of eucalypts are helpful for identification, e.g. *Eucalyptus leucoxylon* shown here.



Cross under the railway bridge at Forest Street and walk in a westerly direction along Forest Street to Goldsmith Crescent. Note the avenue of the endemic subspecies of Yellow Gum in the next section of Forest Street, between Goldsmith Crescent and Bowden Street.

Goldsmith Crescent has a number of species, including the eucalyptus species *melliodora**, Yellow Box (south-eastern Aust), *macrocarpa**, Grey Box (south-eastern Aust), *camaldulensis**, River Red Gum (Aust, widespread), *leucoxylon**, Yellow Gum and *nicholii*, Narrow-leaved Peppermint (NSW).

Note especially:

No. 2, middle of Cres: *Eucalyptus melliodora**, Yellow Box, a species of medium-sized to occasionally tall tree with rough, flaky or fibrous bark on part or all of the trunk, smooth greyish to yellowish bark above. The adult leaves are lance-shaped to egg-shaped, the flower buds are arranged in groups of seven and the fruit is more or less hemispherical.

No. 8: *Eucalyptus microcarpa**, Grey Box. A tall tree with rough, fibrous or flaky bark on the trunk, smooth whitish bark above, lance-shaped adult leaves, flower buds in groups of between seven and eleven, white flowers and oval, cylindrical or urn-shaped fruit.

This is a registered National Trust significant tree known locally as the Prisoner Tree. According to the Statement of Significance, the tree is believed to have been used by police in the 1850s as a standby jail. It is said that prisoners were attached to a heavy chain around the trunk when the nearby log jail was full, however this may not have been the case. The old courthouse from that period, now the Castlemaine Historical Society, stands adjacent on the eastern side of the road.

At the southern end of Goldsmith Crescent cross Yandell Street to Camp Crescent.

Middle of Cres: *Eucalyptus sideroxylon rosea*, Red-flowering Ironbark (eastern Aust), a distinctive tree with very dark brown to black bark that is deeply furrowed, grey-green foliage and pink to red flowers in clusters of seven.

Middle of Cres: *Eucalyptus viminalis**, Manna Gum (south-eastern Aust), a small to very tall tree with rough bark near the base, smooth above, lance-shaped to curved adult leaves, flower buds in groups of three or seven, white flowers and cup-shaped or hemispherical fruit.

Return to Yandell Street and walk in an easterly direction, cross Gaulton Street and walk towards the creek.

East end: *Eucalyptus camaldulensis**. This magnificent River Red Gum is a registered National Trust significant tree known as Howe's Survey Tree. It stands at the junction of Barkers and Forest Creeks and is marked by an X and the notation 'the late Mr Howe's marked tree' on the 1854 plan of the town of Castlemaine. The tree was marked during an 1840s pre gold rush survey and is adjacent to the site of the Gold Commissioner's