



THE VICTORIAN
GOLDFIELDS



WORLD HERITAGE BID

Presentation to Castlemaine Society Information Forum

23 November 2023

TREVOR BUDGE

World Heritage -Strategic Projects Officer
City of Greater Bendigo

Acknowledgment of Country

We are proud to acknowledge the many Traditional Owners of Country which includes the Victorian Goldfields today;

***Barengi Gadjin (the Wotjobaluk, Jaadwa, Jadawadjali, Wergaia and Jupagulk peoples),
DjaDjaWurrung,
Eastern Maar,
Gunaikurnai,
Taungurung,
Wadawurrung,
Wurundjeri WoiWurrung,
Yorta Yorta and other peoples.***

We pay our respects to all Elders, past, present and emerging, as well as Elders from other communities who reside in our region today. They hold the memories, traditions, culture and hope of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people around Australia



Content

- What is World Heritage?
- What is the process?
- Why is the Victorian Goldfields being put forward?
- What would be the benefits?
- What happens next?
- How do communities get involved?
- Discussion and Q and A

What is World Heritage?

World Heritage is the designation for places on Earth that are of ***outstanding universal value*** to humanity and as such, have been inscribed on the World Heritage List to be protected for future generations to appreciate and enjoy. *UNESCO World Heritage Convention*

1199 listed properties

48 Transboundary

168 Countries out of 195 countries have properties inscribed

About 2/3 are Cultural –1/3 Natural

Australia 20 properties –16 Natural 4 Cultural including Victoria's two properties

Australian Convict Sites – similarities with this bid – multi sites

World Heritage Recognition of the Victorian Goldfields - APPROACH

- Need to demonstrate that the Victorian Goldfields are the world's most authentic and intact representative goldfields, and we have suitable management frameworks in place

Draft Statement of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV), -the Victorian Goldfields

‘comprises a series of landscapes, rural and urban, that exemplify the goldrush phenomenon in all its technological, social and environmental character and consequences. Moreover, it represents one of the most significant and sensational goldrushes the world has ever witnessed.The principal global goldrush era is characterised by a succession of overlapping rushes from 1849 to 1900.’

Proposed criteria:

(iv) be an outstanding example of a type of building, architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history

(vi) be directly or tangibly associated with events...of outstanding universal significance.

- **Desktop and site visit comparative analysis -the Victorian Goldfields are ‘unparalleled’.**

Bringing to life a journey of more than 35 years...



- We are on the journey to 'Tentative Listing'
- If successful, a full nomination could be submitted to UNESCO in 2026
- The earliest the nomination could go to the World Heritage Committee is 2027/2028

CO-PATRONS



The Hon. Denis Napthine AO



The Hon. John Brumby AO

LOCAL GOVERNMENT PARTNERS



CO-FUNDING PARTNERS



We are now full partners with the Victorian Government, and we are working with Heritage Victoria to achieve World Heritage Listing

Partnership Vision

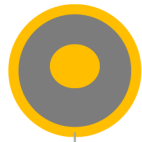
Secure World Heritage listing to share the extraordinary story of the Victorian Goldfields with people from across the globe.

Create social, cultural and economic opportunities for every community and person across the region.

Timeframe (to date)

- **Late 2022** State Government commits ‘in principle’ to submitting an application to the Australian Government for Tentative Listing
- State Government through **RDV provides \$500,000** to match \$125,000 raised regionally, to fund a series of specialist consultancies Sustainable Tourism Master Plan and Identification of Potential Sites for ‘Tentative Listing’
- **May 2023** – Minister for Planning states that she will ‘expedite’ the project to submit a Tentative List application to the Commonwealth in 2024 (for their review)
- **2023 May** State Budget **allocates \$3.8m to Heritage Victoria for two WH bids including the Victorian Goldfields** and sets up a timetable for full nomination to UNESCO by 2026 (indicative only)

The Process for World Heritage Nomination in Australia



Stage 1: Draft Outstanding Universal Value

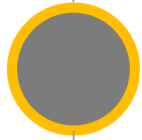


Stage 2: World Heritage Tentative List

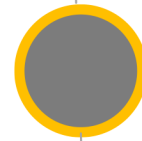


The **Australian Government** must **add** the Victorian Goldfields to their **Tentative List** at least **one year prior** to **nominating** the Goldfields for World Heritage Listing

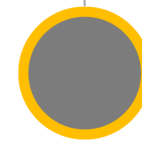
From nomination to World Heritage Inscription takes **18 months**



Stage 3: Nomination for World Heritage



Stage 4: Assessment



Stage 5: World Heritage List

Where are we now?

Tentative Listing submission by the state government is the forerunner to an inclusive communication and consultation program

- **Robust case – World Heritage and Regional Investment**
- **Extensive partnership**
- **Local Governments and First Nations**
- **State government commitment and resourcing**
- **Working towards Tentative Listing submission**

VICTORIAN GOLDFIELDS: Bid Process July 2022 –November 2023

Shift to '*Victorian Goldfields*' – 2023 to bring in additional local Government Areas to strengthen the bid

International and national comparisons (on-the-ground) –

2023 - Barry Gamble, World Heritage Expert, UK

Tr'ondëk-Klondike – California Goldrush – Central Otago Goldrush – Other Australian Goldfields

"...Victorian Goldfields stands out as exceptional among global goldrushes, and pre-eminent in the context of potential for the World Heritage listing of a representative cultural landscape. Quite simply, it is unparalleled..." Barry Gamble, World Heritage Expert, UK

VICTORIAN GOLDFIELDS: Bid Process July 2022 –November 2023

Comparative analysis, December 2020 to November 2023

- To ensure OUV of Victorian Goldfields is justified through robust comparative analysis at the global, national, and local level.
- To demonstrate that the Victorian Goldfields is both exceptional and there is a place for it on the World Heritage List.

Site investigations, December 2022 - Ongoing – Barry Gamble, World Heritage Expert, UK & local experts

Appointment of Australian consultants: December 2022 – December 2023

Victorian Goldfields World Heritage Tentative Listing Report
– **Barry Gamble, Extent Heritage**

Sustainable Tourism Master Plan – **Arup, Extent Heritage**



THE STORY OF THE VICTORIAN GOLDFIELDS

SLV

Printed by John Ferris, at the Government Printing Office

The Bearer

B. R. Murray

having paid to me the Sum of One Pound Ten Shillings, on account of the Territorial Revenue, I hereby License him to dig, search for, and remove Gold on and from any such Crown Lands within the

District

Loddon

as I shall assign to him for that purpose during the Month of *June* 1853, not within half-a-mile of any Head Station.

This License is not transferable, and to be produced whenever demanded by me or any other person acting under the authority of the Government, and to be returned when another License is issued.

A. Smith

Commissioner.

This is a story about gold but so much more.

**A multi-layered story about our history and heritage,
and about a global event.**



It is the story of the global gold rushes of the 19th Century.

An unprecedented event.

Mass global migration motivated by economic opportunities.

An event that generated massive wealth.

An event that changed Victoria, Australia and the World.



**A story in all its richness and excitement,
with profound global impact and influence
in the Victorian Goldfields between 1851 and 1900**

**It is the human story in all its forms
that comes together in and around the Victorian Goldfields.**

First Peoples

Impact

Massive Change

Innovation

Contribution

Place, community, people, culture and time all interwoven.



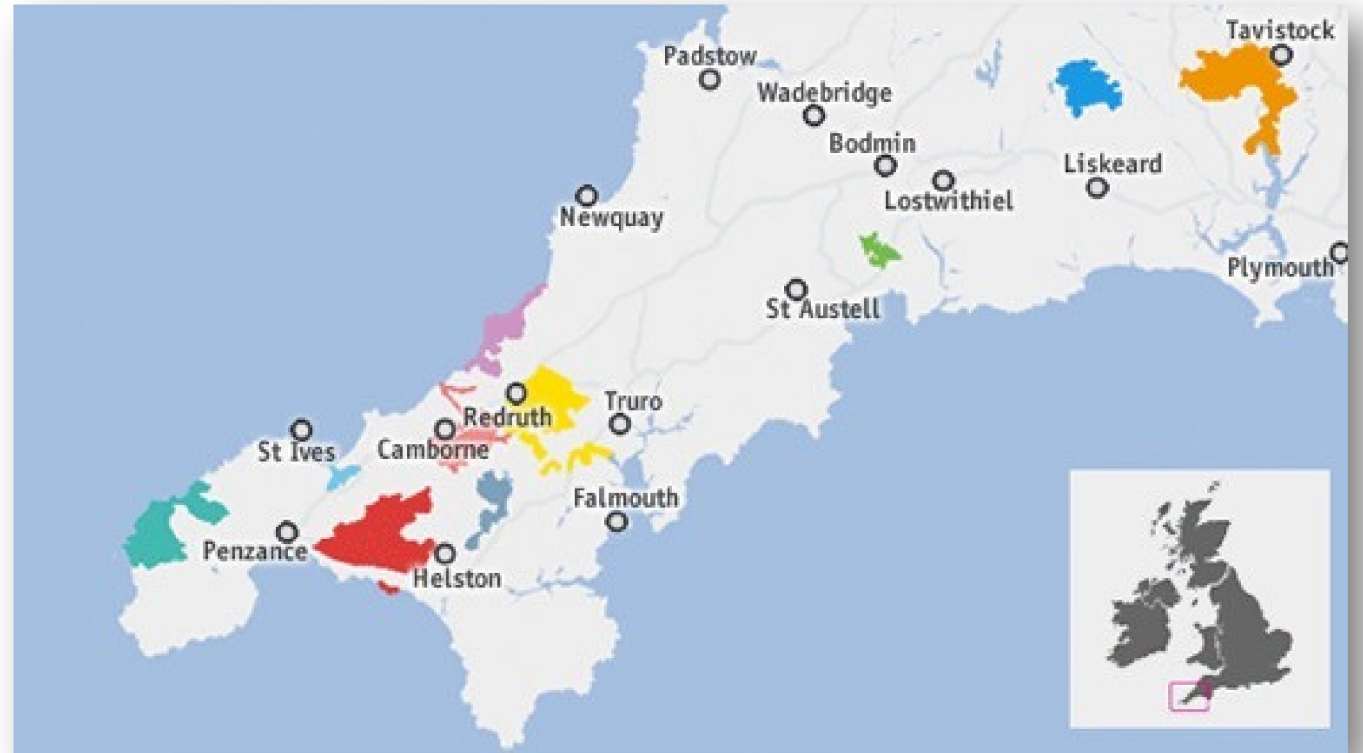
**It is the story of who we are today.
And who we want to be going forward together.
Our legacy for future generations.**

CORNWALL - WEST DEVON World Heritage Site Model

**Ten unique areas: One World
Heritage Site**

**This Cultural Landscape Serial Listing
model:**

- **Inscribes a series of areas to better demonstrate the full Outstanding Universal Value narrative**
- **Spreads the benefits of World Heritage Listing across the region**



Cornwall West Devon Mining Landscape

APPLYING THE CORNWALL - WEST DEVON MODEL TO THE VICTORIAN GOLDFIELDS

Need to ensure a balanced selection of sites.

Attributes need to be appropriately represented and distributed across the landscape.

Identify the 'signature sites' a series of places from the alluvial diggings to the deep leads and super quartz reefs.

Best and most coherent but representative of the whole

"...Capture in the landscape sufficiently in a series of sites from gold rush to end of 19th century to form a 'compositional integrity' that illustrates the breadth and essential components, and a single OUV of one of the world's sensational gold rushes..."



Photo source: Barry Gamble



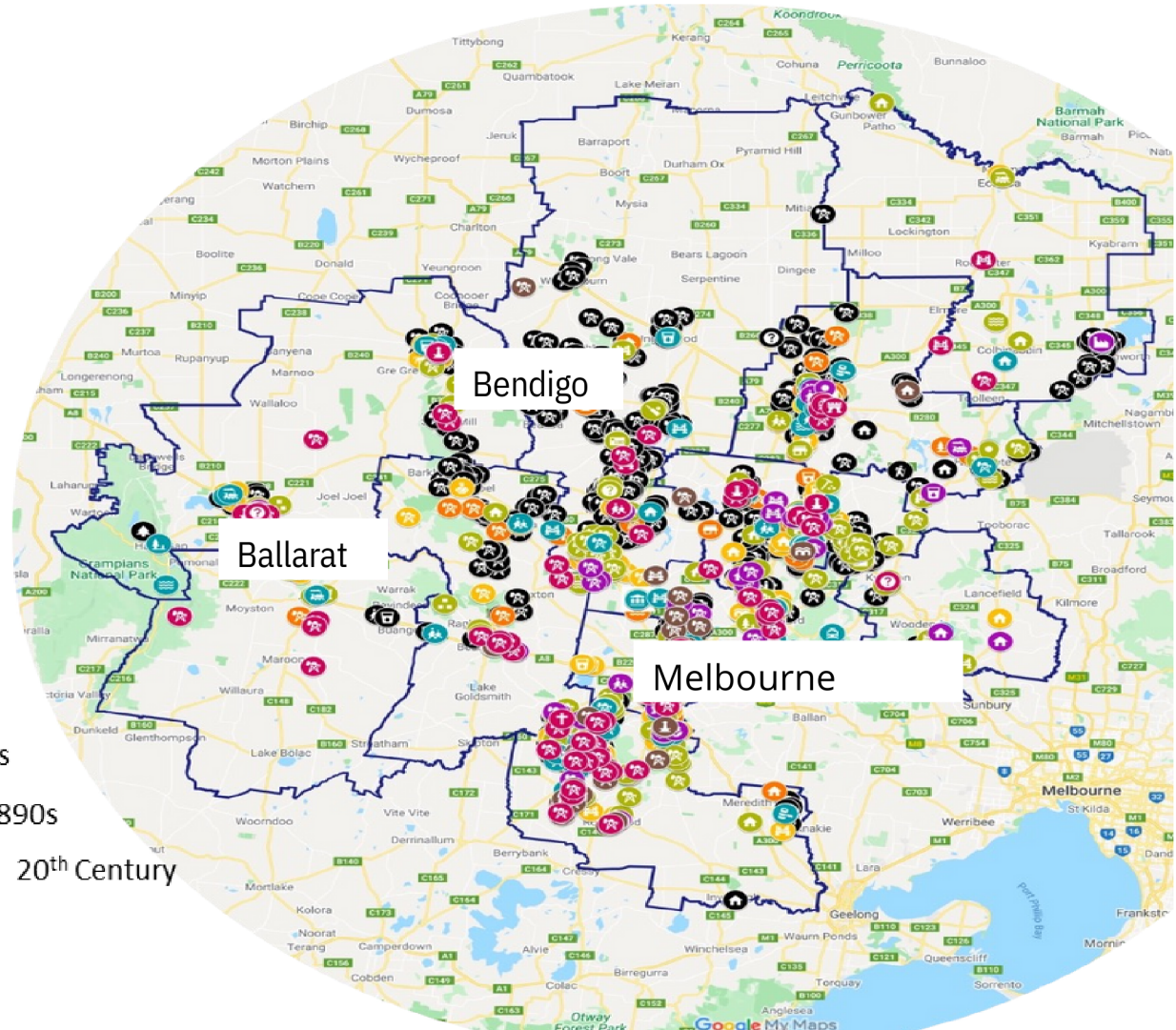
METHOD FOR THE SERIAL NOMINATION OF THE VICTORIAN GOLDFIELDS

Victorian Heritage Database Mapping

- Based on information from the VHD with the following search terms for each LGA:
 - Gold
 - Mining
 - Mine
 - Rush
 - Diggings
 - Etc.



- 1850-1855
- 1855-1860
- 1860s
- 1870s
- 1880s
- 1890s
- 20th Century



VICTORIAN GOLDFIELDS: Attribute groups and attributes

Alluvial mining

- Water races, shallow shafts, puddlers etc.

Quartz Reef and Deep Lead Mining

- Open cuts, adits, deep shafts etc.

Ore Processing

- Batteries, roasting kilns, cyanide vats etc.

Social Infrastructure

- Burial grounds, recreation grounds etc.

Goldfield Architecture (archetype)

- Banks, Post Offices, Town Halls, Courthouses etc.

Goldfield Architecture (housing)

- Cottage, homestead, mansion etc.

Goldfield Architecture (religion/ethnicity)

- Church, chapel, joss house etc.

Infrastructure

- Roads, bridges, railways, water etc.

Support Industry

- Market gardens, timber etc.

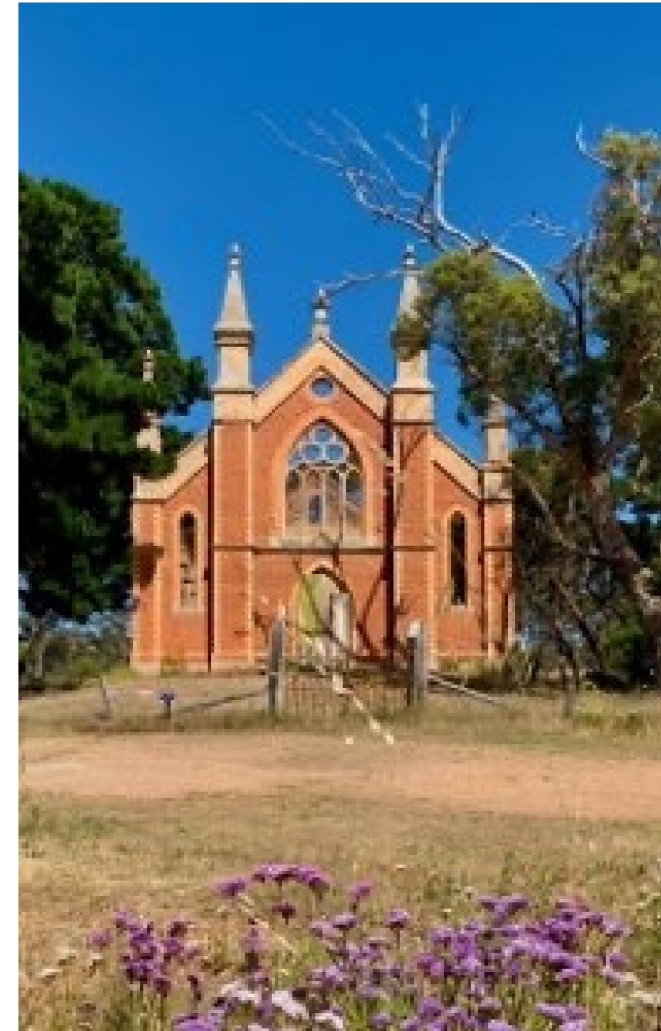


Photo source: Barry Gamble

VICTORIAN GOLDFIELDS: POTENTIAL INVESTIGATION AREAS

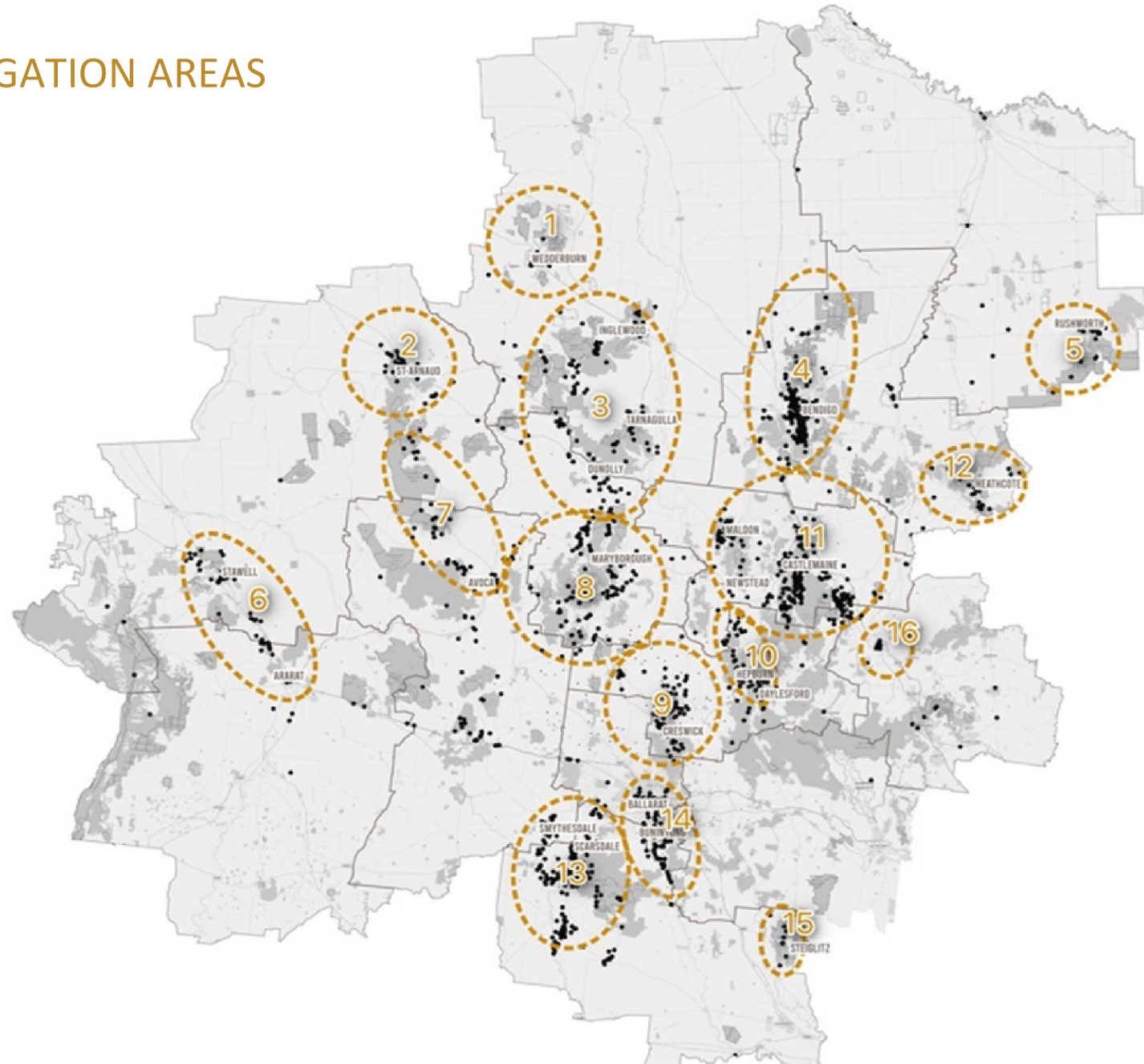
POTENTIAL INVESTIGATION AREAS

LEGEND

• GOLDMINING SITE IN VICTORIAN HERITAGE DATABASE

POTENTIAL INVESTIGATION AREAS

- 01. WEDDERBURN
- 02. ST ARNAUD
- 03. DUNOLLY TO INGLEWOOD
- 04. GREATER BENDIGO
- 05. RUSHWORTH - WHROO
- 06. STAWELL - ARARAT
- 07. ST ARNAUD RANGE - AVOCA - PYRENEES
- 08. MARYBOROUGH
- 09. CRESWICK
- 10. DALYESFORD - HEPBURN
- 11. MALDON - CASTLEMAINE
- 12. HEATHCOTE
- 13. SMYTHESDALE - SCARSDALE
- 14. BALLARAT AREA
- 15. STEIGLITZ - BRISBANE RANGES
- 16. KYNETON



VICTORIAN GOLDFIELDS: LAYERS

Landscape

- RAP areas, Geology, EVC 1750 & 2005

Historic maps

- Mining districts, townships, surveyor maps

Mining layers

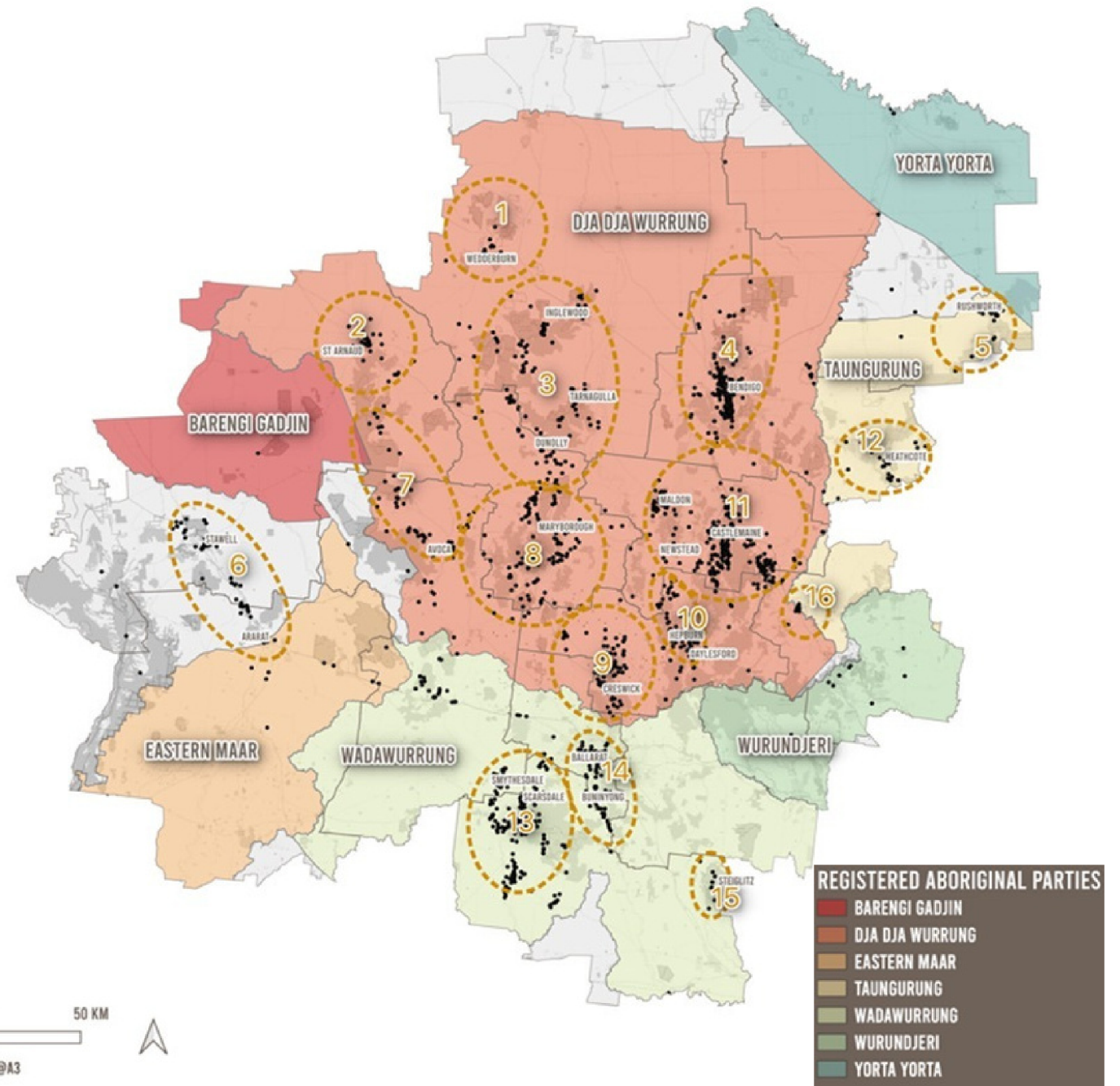
- Vic mining sites, shafts, deep leads, leases

Heritage protection

- HO, VHR, VHI

Ownership

- Public Reserves, Crown Land



VICTORIAN GOLDFIELDS: LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS

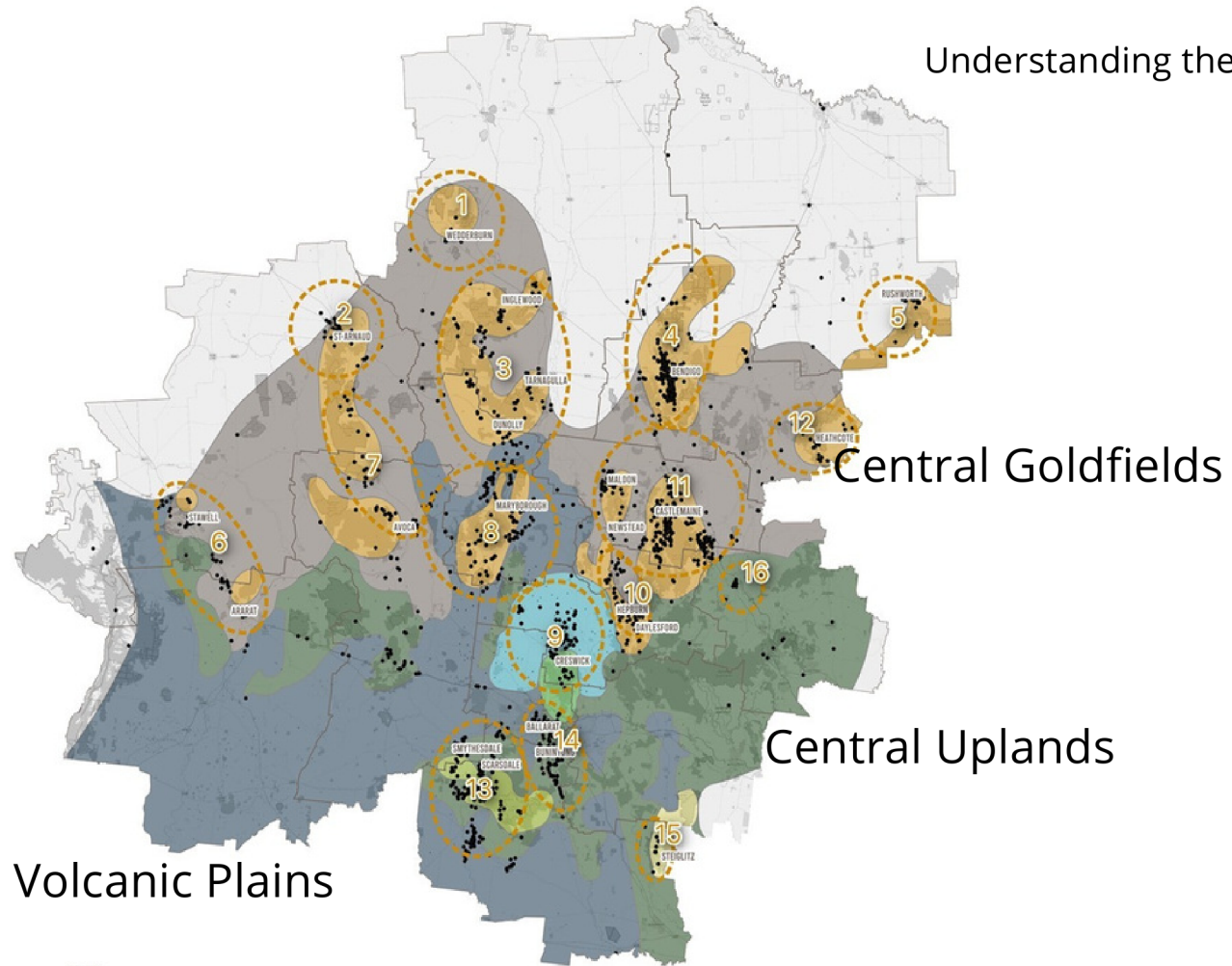
CENTRAL VICTORIAN
GOLDFIELDS
WORLD HERITAGE BID

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS

LEGEND

• GOLDMINING SITE IN VICTORIAN HERITAGE DATABASE

POTENTIAL INVESTIGATION AREAS	LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS
01. WEDDERBURN	1A
02. ST ARNAUD	1B
03. DUNOLLY TO INGLEWOOD	2A
04. GREATER BENDIGO	2B
05. RUSHWORTH - WHROD	3
06. STAWELL - ARARAT	3A
07. ST ARNAUD RANGE - AVOCA - PYRENEES	3B
08. MARYBOROUGH	3C
09. CRESWICK	
10. DALYESFORD - HEPBURN	
11. MALDON - CASTLEMAINE	
12. HEATHCOTE	
13. SMYTHESDALE - SCARSDALE	
14. BALLARAT AREA	
15. STEIGLITZ - BRISBANE RANGES	
16. KYNETON	

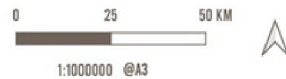


Understanding the landscape setting

Central Goldfields

Central Uplands

Volcanic Plains





WHAT MAKES THE VICTORIAN GOLDFIELDS STAND OUT?

Extraordinary preservation of alluvial mining provides eloquent testimony to the gold rush era.



Victorian Goldfields illustrates the entire technological and architectural goldrush ensemble in the landscape.

Predominant absence of goldmining activity between 1915 and the early 1980s exploration and timely heritage conservation.

Crown Land prohibiting successive large-scale corporate hydraulic mining and dredging.



Social infrastructure that was **sustained by permanent settlement and which maintains a viable future.**

The **living cultural landscape is not under threat.**

VICTORIAN GOLDFIELDS: Attribute Groups



Traditional Country



Mining landscapes and sites
and different technologies



Geological features and ecological features



Supporting industries



Mining settlements and social infrastructure



Diverse cultures that came and left their mark

Themes and Stories

Potential Outstanding Universal Value

The most extensive and best-surviving landscape, anywhere, that illustrates the global goldrush phenomenon of the second half of the nineteenth century

Gold

The Human Story



First Nations

Country and Culture
Truth Telling and Language
Landscape and Cultural Heritage



Gold Miners

Prospecting and Mining
Geology and Landform
Industries and Invention



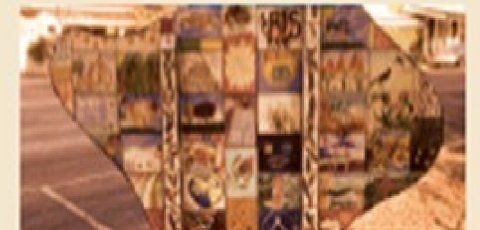
Rebels

Law and Order
Protest and Democracy
Characters and Crime



Migrators

Ancestry
Diversity and Multiculturalism
Settlements and Architecture



Makers

Artisans, Crafts and Lost Trades
Culinary and Cultivation
Creativity and Innovation

Local communities telling their stories is a critical part of this work.

Importantly, Traditional Owners will be able to tell their own stories about the those with visitors in the ways they choose.

Impact of the gold rush, of their resilience and share



VICTORIAN GOLDFIELDS WORLD HERITAGE - A CATALYST FOR REGIONAL REGENERATION

The Victorian Goldfields has uneven social and economic opportunities, visitation and a lack of services for locals and visitors.

***However,* it has extensive, and what we now know as, globally significant heritage assets.**



Cultural heritage is vital to the wellbeing of communities.
It provides opportunities for connection to place and each other.



Celebrating and sharing our story with the world will leverage and strengthen this community pride.

Bring people together.

Build local community capacity.

Create new confidence in the future.



**World Heritage listing of globally significant sites
will shine light on the extraordinary story of the Victorian Goldfields.**



**PEOPLE ARE EXCITED ABOUT THE POSSIBILITIES
BUT UNLOCKING THE BENEFITS WILL TAKE ALL OF US WORKING TOGETHER.**



TOURISM BENEFITS

- **2.2 MILLION** new visitors over 10 years
- From **9.4 MILLION** visitors 2019 (base year) to **11.6 MILLION** visitors (year 10)
- **INCREASE** in visitor spending average of **\$44 MILLION** each year (\$440 million over 10 years)
- **1750** new local tourism jobs over 10 years
- Increase in rooms over 10 years = **4140**
- Investment in new visitor accommodation = **\$570 MILLION** over 10 years

World Heritage listing is estimated to be worth \$1 billion to the region over 10 years.

And it provides opportunities to:

Increase tourism to unlock new opportunities that will drive regional regeneration and sustainable growth.

Create new investment and new jobs.

Celebrate and elevate Aboriginal Cultural Heritage.

Master Plan: Key moves

- Develop a series of World Heritage Journeys
- Support access to and amenity of heritage sites and townships
- Create World Heritage signature experiences
- Get World Heritage Ready (including sustainable tourism accreditation)
- Promote and raise awareness of the Victorian Goldfields and its communities

Targeted Investment

to address the following challenges:

- Globally significant heritage assets under-utilised, unrecognised and under-resourced
- Pronounced socio-economic disadvantage across the region embedded vulnerability
- Untargeted investment private sector hasn't had the level of certainty needed to invest
- Prevalence of poor-quality visitor experiences/services, unevenness in visitation and capacity/attractions

What's next? – after Tentative Listing

- Developing the nomination dossier and management plan –2 years
- Wide scale community engagement and participation
- Extensive industry and key stakeholder engagement and participation
- Resourcing and management for the nomination/post nomination and regional regeneration and tourism masterplan delivery

What is the effect of World Heritage Listing?

- Ultimately the World Heritage Committee will decide whether the Victorian Goldfields will be listed.
- Other than the power to delist sites, because they no longer contribute to the statement of Outstanding Universal Value, UNESCO has no role in site management, the determination of planning permit applications, or tourism development for listed World Heritage sites.



THE VICTORIAN
GOLDFIELDS



WORLD HERITAGE BID

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