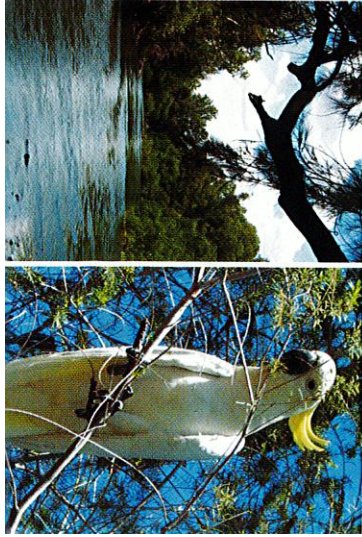




Mount Arthur Reserve Trails

WELLINGTON NSW

Mount Arthur Reserve Trails

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Mt Arthur Trust

PO Box 328

Wellington NSW 2820

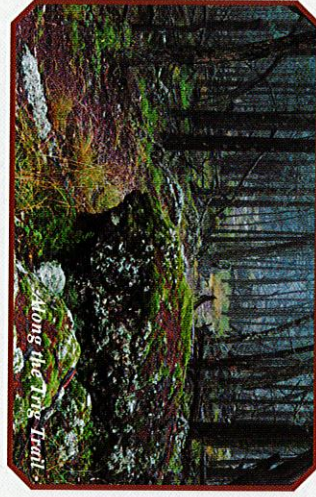
mount.arthur@hotmail.com

Mount Arthur Reserve Trails

WELLINGTON NSW

Visitor Information Centre
Freecall: 1800 621 614

Photography by Tony Layland, Erica Baigent and Shaun Baigent.
Panorama by George Dewar.
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Waterloo Trail

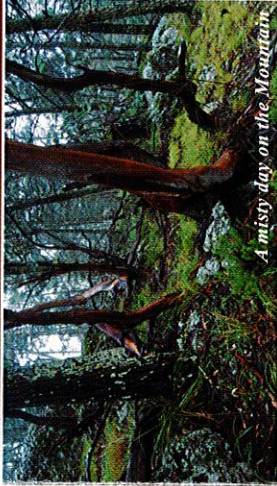
Length: 4.5 km

Time: 60 min

Grade: moderately steep

This is a beautiful trail running downhill, along a creek, from Mt Wellesley to a point near Evans Drive. From there it goes generally uphill to cross fire trail number 1 and downhill to the Old Reservoir Picnic Area. A mountain bike trail crosses at a marked point along the latter portion.

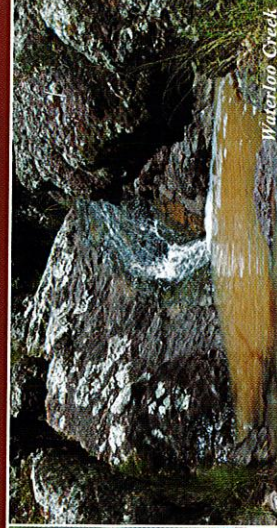
As with the Trig Trail, it requires bush awareness and moderate fitness. For those that prefer walking downhill, a good plan is to use two vehicles, leaving one at the small parking area off Evans Drive (800 m from Bushrangers Creek Road), then taking the other to the Telstra Tower to start the downhill walk.



A misty day on the Mountain



Fringe Lily



Waterloo Creek

WALKING TRAILS AND TRACKS NORTH OF BUSHRANGERS CREEK ROAD

Mount Arthur Reserve lies within the land of the Wiradjuri people, and some trail names are from the Wiradjuri language, in which case the English translation is given in italics.

The APEX Trail

Length: 3.5 km

Time: 90 min

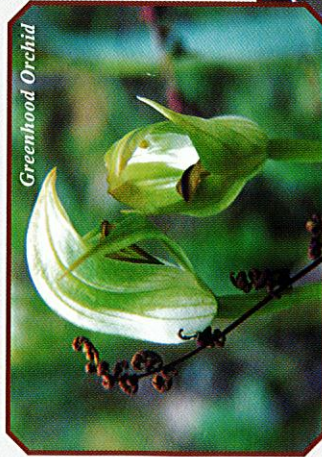
Grade: generally gentle

This is the most accessible and popular trail in the Reserve. It starts at the car park at the end of the Mount Arthur Scenic Drive. The trail was made by the Wellington APEX club in 1963, and it follows a route once planned for the extension of the Scenic Drive.

The trail is a loop which is best walked clockwise. From the car park to the summit of Mount Arthur the trail climbs at a moderate grade. After about 1.2 km, you will see the Bimberdong Trail branching off to the left.

A further 300 metres brings you to the summit at the Ningana (Rest) Lookout, which looks out to Mount Wellesley with the Telstra Tower to the SE. It is worth walking the 240 meters to the NW to the Binjiang (Meeting of the Waters) Lookout. It has excellent views of Wellington township and the junction of the Bell and Macquarie Rivers. The view to the NW stretches as far as Mount Bodangora.

Return to Ningana Lookout and continue along the upper ridge and back down to the car park. Along the way you will pass Kalang Lookout.



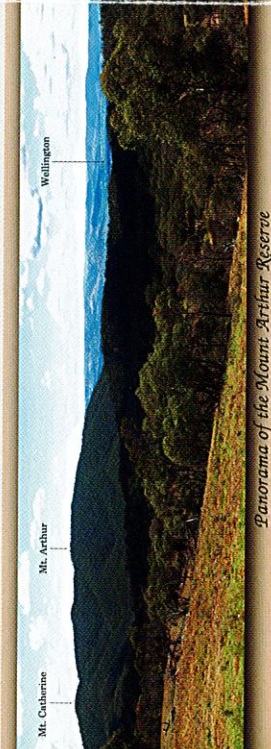
Greenhood Orchid



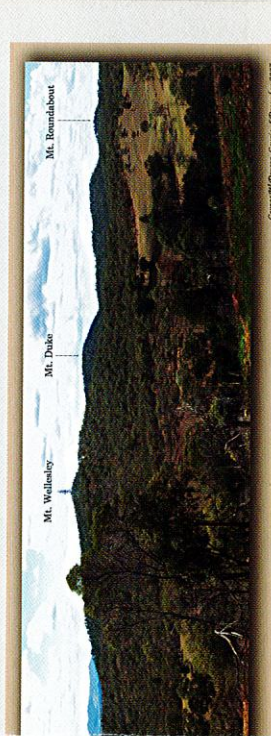
Fairy Orchid



George D. Dewar



Panorama of the Mount Arthur Reserve



George D. Dewar Reserve - December 2007

WALKING TRAILS AND TRACKS SOUTH OF BUSHRANGERS CREEK ROAD

These trails have quite different vegetation, with more eucalypts, and very different rock formations compared to trails north of Bushrangers Creek Road.

Trig Trail

Length: 2 km

Time: 50 min

Grade: moderately steep

This trail starts at the Old Reservoir Picnic Area. It was named because it ends at a former trig station on the top of Mt Wellesley, close to the Telstra tower. It is a bush trail and, although the way is marked by occasional yellow paint dots, it requires a bit of bush sense and awareness.

This trail trends mostly upwards and requires a reasonable degree of fitness.

You can either return to the picnic area by the same way or make a round trip (6.5 km total) using the Waterloo Trail.

Bundari (*Haunt of the Kangaroo*) Trail

Length: 2 km
Time: 50 min
Grade: moderate with a few steep gradients

This trail includes some good stands of eucalypts, especially box trees, and seasonal lush undergrowth along creek lines. It is the haunt of wallabies and echidnas as well as kangaroos.

The head of the trail is at a car park just off the Mount Arthur Scenic Drive 1.2 km up from Bushrangers Creek Road and 0.5 km from the car park at the end of the Mount Arthur Scenic Drive.

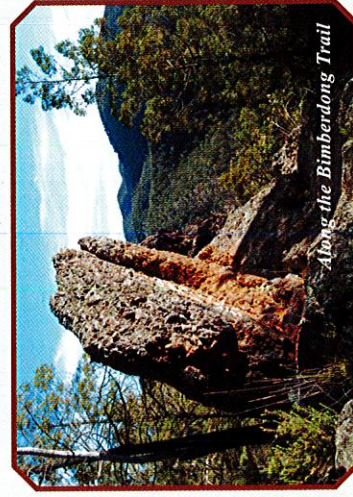
The trail connects to the Burrunggee Trail and the easiest route is to take the APEX Trail to the Binjang Lookout and then follow the Burrunggee Trail until the Bundari trail branches off to the left. If you have left your car at the top car park, you will need to walk to it back up the Scenic Drive. The total circuit is 4.3 km and should take about 90 min.

Bimberdong (*Hillside*) Trail

Length: from APEX trail to Old Reservoir picnic area 1.3 km
Time: 30 min one way
Grade: steep

This trail connects the Old Reservoir Picnic Area with the APEX Trail. If taken uphill from the picnic area it is challenging for fit walkers. However it is relatively easy if taken downhill from the APEX Trail. In this case two cars are necessary in order to leave one at the Scenic Drive car park and one at the Old Reservoir Picnic Area, resulting in a total distance between the two cars of 2.5 km, which should take about 60 min.

Along the way you will catch glimpses of a tall fence, now in disrepair. This was constructed some years ago as a kangaroo enclosure.



Yarraman/Macquarie Horse Trails

Total length: 13.5 km one way

Although intended overall as a bridle trail, the first stage is a pleasant and easy walking track as well.

The bridle trail begins at Bushrangers Creek Road near the "Welcome to Mount Arthur Reserve" sign. The complete length is divided into three stages.

STAGE 1 (the Yarraman Trail)

Length: 1.6 km
Time: walking one way 30 min
Grade: easy

This is an easy ride for the novice equestrian and runs around a small foothill on the eastern slope of Mount Arthur. It ends at Brennans Way.

STAGE 2

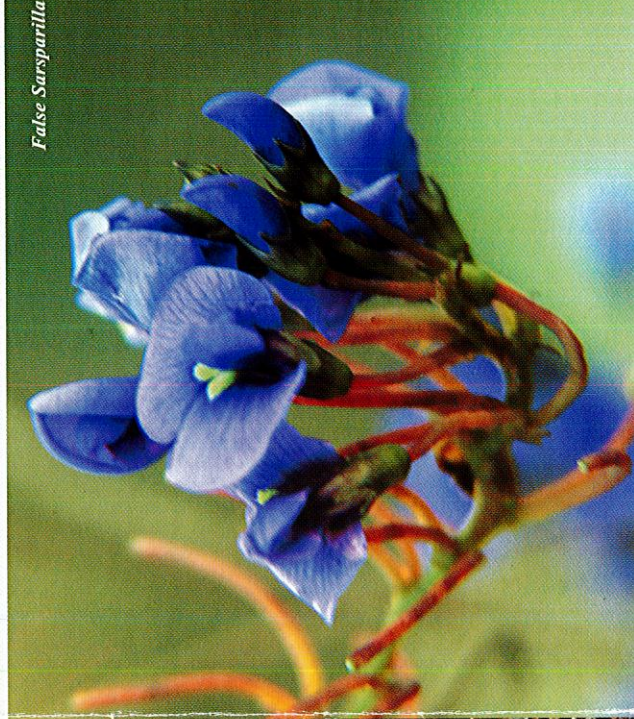
Length: 3.4 km
Grade: easy, undulating

This stage runs NW (to the left) along Brennans Way, a good but unpaved road.

Alternatively, Brennans Way, running east (to the right), returns to Bushrangers Creek Road past the council sewage plant.



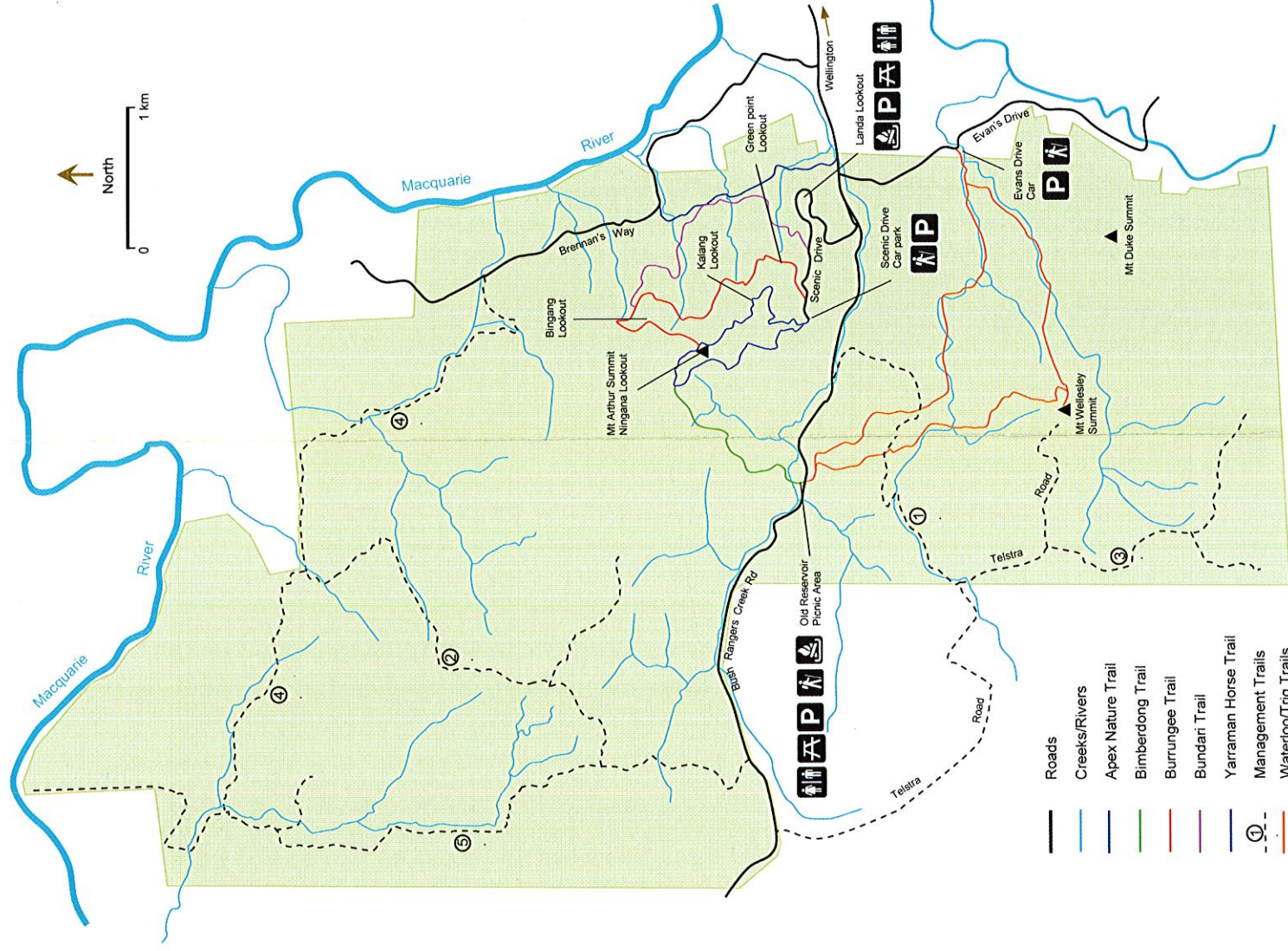
Echinina



False Sarsparilla



Swamp Bottlebrush



STAGE 3 (the Macquarie Trail)

Length: 8.5 km
Grade: easy with a few moderately steep grades

This is an excellent ride along fire trails to Bushrangers Creek near the southern edge of the Reserve. The gate at the end is locked, and it will be necessary to retrace your route.

Stage 3 starts at a locked gate at the head of Fire Trail Number 4. There is a bypass around this gate for horses. The fire trail winds in a generally westerly direction through mixed forest along gentle descents and up several small hills. After 2.8 km it passes the start of Fire Trail 2 which forks off to the left (South) (this fire trail has two very steep sections and is unsuitable for horses).

After another 1.7 km, Fire Trail Number 4 ends at a group of derelict farm structures (a small hut, sheep yards and an open shed) where it runs into Fire Trail Number 5 (also known as Long's Road from the former owners).

Follow Fire Trail Number 5 to the South. After 4 km it comes to a locked gate at Bushrangers Creek Road. Unless you have made prior arrangements with the ranger to unlock this gate, it will be necessary to return the way you came.

BE AWARE!

There is usually no water on the Reserve, and when water is present in creeks or dams it is not drinkable. Be sure to carry sufficient water with you.

Mount Arthur Reserve Trails are "bush" trails and require care and proper walking equipment, especially sturdy shoes. It is important to be constantly aware of where you are. At places where the trails are obscure or likely to be confusing, yellow paint has been used to mark the path. Carrying a compass is a good idea! There is no place on the Reserve where the Telstra tower is not visible from a high point.

The Reserve will be closed on declared "Catastrophic" fire days. In emergency, contact the ranger (6845 2374) or dial 000.

Please observe Reserve Rules:

- Wheeled vehicles are prohibited on walking tracks
- Motorised vehicles are prohibited off public roads
- Dogs are permitted to be off leash only if they remain under control
- Carry litter out with you
- Fires are prohibited entirely during bushfire season and at other times are permitted only in fire places provided at Landa Point and the Old Reservoir Picnic Area.
- Camping is prohibited
- All native flora and fauna are protected