



Corner Country Exploration

Sturt's Inland Expedition

From Floods Creek to the Evelyn

From the campsite at Flood's Creek, Sturt's Inland Expedition passed across sand dunes and salt-holed creeks, before crossing the plains to the south of Mt Arrow smith. They made camp on Burr Creek, which runs easterly into Lake Bullea.

After camping one night they continued northwards, across Mt Browne Creek and on to Evelyn Creek where they found water.

Here they set up a more permanent camp. Sturt led a small party northwards, crossing the Queensland border to the west of the Grey Range and exploring far as the Wilson River before returning to the Evelyn Creek.

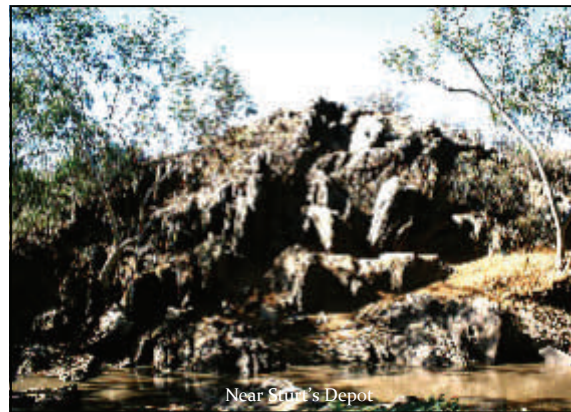


Evelyn Creek, Milparinka

The team relocates to The Depot

Meanwhile the remaining members of the group discovered a long sheet of water within a rocky glen in a creek name Preservation. It provided the possibility of water for almost twelve months.

On February 1st, 1845, the expedition relocated to this site. Their campsite became known as "The Depot", the water-hole was called "The Glen".

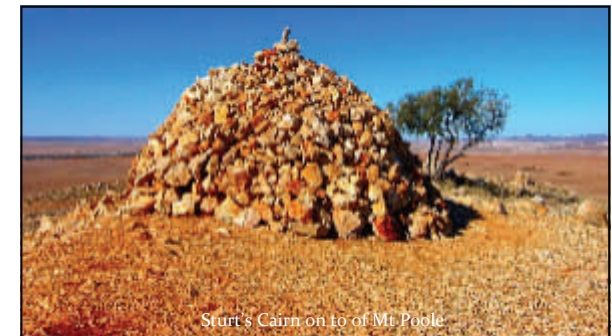


Near Sturt's Depot

There they remained for almost six months, entrapped because no other reliable water supplies were known to them.

Sturt erects a cairn on Mt Poole

In order to escape the heat, an underground room was constructed in the bank of the gorge. It also provided some comfort to Poole who was ill with scurvy.



Sturt's Cairn on top of Mt Poole

To relieve the monotony of camp-life, Sturt's men walked daily to the top of the nearby "red hill" Mt Poole, to construct a stone cairn. Seen from some distance, it was intended to be a navigational aid.

It remains a remarkable feature of the landscape today.