

eGold



A Nation's Heritage

Electronic Encyclopedia of Gold in Australia

Goldfields Heritage

Student Activity Booklet

New Diggers, Welcome!

Welcome to the eGold website, an electronic Encyclopedia dedicated to telling the story of gold in Australia. The exercises available on eGold will take you through some of the features of the website and show you how to access the site's facts, images, stories and multimedia for your research.

Goldfields Heritage

The discovery of gold in Victoria played an enormous role in shaping future Australia. The economic, commercial, political and social changes that occurred rapidly during the 1850s are echoed by the structures, institutions, infrastructure, industry and society that we have today. Understanding the past is linked to how we interpret history. Having a physical link to the past – through an object or a place, or a cultural landscape – helps us to understand and interpret history.

Part A

Using the navigation tabs or the search engine on the eGold website, answer the following questions about the preservation of goldfields heritage sites.

1. **What are the two Victorian goldfields sites that have been placed on the National Heritage List?**

The _____ and the _____

2. **What are the objectives of the National Heritage List?**

- i) _____
- ii) _____
- iii) _____
- iv) _____

3. **Why do we try to preserve places that have significance to our nation's cultural history?**

4. **How were the two goldfield sites selected for inclusion on the National Heritage List?**

5. **Choose one of the Victorian goldfields sites on the National Heritage List. What are three of the reasons given for this place's inclusion on the List?**

i) _____

ii) _____

iii) _____

6. **The Eureka Stockade Gardens and the Castlemaine Diggings Heritage Park were both placed on the National Heritage List because of their goldfields associations, but they are very different sites. In the table below, list three things that the sites have in common, and three things that make them different.**

Similarities	Differences

7. Briefly discuss your answers above.
Do any of the differences make one place more significant than the other? Discuss your answers in pairs?

Part B

Interpreting heritage sites is a complex practice. What may appear to be a pile of rocks or a natural landscape may be the remnants of a house or a former mining site.



1. This is a recent image of a site at the Castlemaine Diggings Heritage Park. Look closely at the picture and list some features you can see in the photograph.

i) _____

ii) _____

iii) _____

iv) _____

2. Can you guess what this photograph depicts the remnants of? List some suggestions below.

i) _____

ii) _____

iii) _____

3. Find this image on the Castlemaine Diggings Heritage Park page on the eGold website. Read the details about the image. Why was it so difficult to guess what the remnants were?

Part C

Imagine it is your job to select five places in Australia to be added to the National Heritage Register. Below discuss some reasons why each place has national significance. Use the criteria that the Eureka Stockade Gardens and the Castlemaine Diggings Heritage Park were assessed against as a guide.

Discuss and compare your suggested places in a group of three or four. Within your group and your combined answers, decide on the top four places you would select. Present these final places to your class.