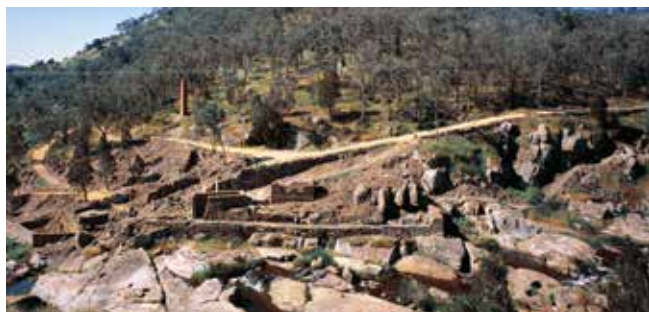


WELCOME



The Adelong Falls Gold Mill Ruins - site of the Reefer Battery 1869/82 - is heritage listed and marked by Engineers Australia.

VISITOR FACILITIES INCLUDE:

- A viewing platform accessible from the visitors' car park provides a comprehensive view of the ruins and surrounding area.
- Coach parking.
- Toilets and picnic shelters.
- Fresh drinking water.
- Interpretive signage helps visitors to understand the historic site.
- Guided tours are available or take a self guide walk from Adelong or the Adelong Falls visitors area.
- The 60 hectare reserve is for all visitors to use as an "outdoor classroom" and for passive recreation.
- Gold panning only is permitted - declared fossicking area.



A GOLDEN HISTORY

Located in a spectacular gorge in the centre of the Adelong Falls reserve are the extraordinary and unique stone ruins of the Reefer quartz crushing mill. The water driven mill processed the quartz ore mined in the surrounding hills to extract gold.

- Alluvial gold was first found at Wondalga in the last week of 1852 by a prospecting party on their way to Tumbarumba and onto Victoria.
- Reef gold was discovered in 1857 on Mount Charcoal overlooking Adelong Township.
- Dredging and hydrosluicing of alluvial gold was undertaken on a grand scale between Grahamstown and Shepherdstown on the Adelong Creek below the Adelong Falls.
- Gold production between 1857 and 1916 realised, from available records, about 25 tons. The amounts of gold won prior to 1875 were not recorded nor are the winnings from small operators or the gold that left in the pockets of miners and merchants. Unrecorded amounts of gold were sent home by the Chinese or made into jewellery or crossed the The Reefer Battery 1880 border to Victoria where gold brought a higher price. It is estimated that an additional unrecorded 50% more gold was won from the Adelong Gold Field.
- Adelong's population during the boom times was around 5000, many prospectors coming and going in search of the elusive ore.



THE OUTDOOR CLASSROOM

The Adelong Falls reserve is a 60 hectare classroom that provides an opportunity for all to learn the history of the Adelong gold field and discover the life among the ruins and the surrounding environment.

Subjects include water study, heritage, archaeology, flora and fauna, geology, the environment, Aboriginal culture, geography and the visual arts.

Teachers are invited

- To contact the Riverina Environmental Education Centre to assist or run an excursion on site.

For information on tours and excursion opportunities contact the conservation coordinator on 0429 619 128 or 6947 3208



ADELONG ALIVE MUSEUM

A "must see" on your walk is a visit to the Adelong Alive Museum located on Adelong's main street next to the park.

The museum features a scale model of the Reefer ore rushing mill and models of ore crushing machinery. The museum also holds a comprehensive collection of Adelong's gold mining history.

The Adelong Falls Gold Mill Ruins site is part of the Gold Trails Network: www.goldtrails.com.au



Cover image: Destination NSW

ADELONG



ADELONG FALLS GOLD MILL RUINS

Explore and experience

www.visitsnowyvalleys.com.au

INTERPRET



The Entrance Stamper

The stamper at the entrance was constructed in San Francisco and operated in Ballarat, Kiandra and along the Adelong Creek, however was not used in the Reefer ore crushing mill.



DISCOVER



Explore Adelong Falls Gold Mill Ruins

From the Falls car park the accessible viewing platform gives an overview of the heritage ruins. A self guided walk takes you around the original workings of what was once a hive of significant gold extraction. Enjoy the creek and the stunning natural environment.

Adelong Falls Walk

From the Adelong Alive Museum, follow the directional posts along the southern bank of the creek, cross the foot bridge at the rear of the S&C Club car park on Tumut Street. Head through the Adelong Golden Gully Caravan Park to reach the start of the walk.

The sealed walking track is suitable for prams, wheelchairs, bikes and mobility scooters. The path from the sealed section is gravel to the ruins where there are steps and bush paths.

Aproximate walking times

- Follow the sealed path from the Adelong Alive museum and either return on this path; or return via the grassed path to Travers Street – allow 30 minutes to 1 hour.
- Walk from the end of the sealed path to the Ruins – allow 1-2 hours.

EXPLORE



Welcome to Wiradjuri Country Gawaymbanha Wiradjuri ngurambang

For untold generations of Wiradjuri people, water meant life and the Adelong Creek was, and remains, a reliable source of food, medicinal plants and all manner of materials to make tools, containers and other domestic items.

Running water also meant life for kangaroos (*wamburwuny*) and wallabies, small mammals, land and water birds, reptiles and insects to name a few.

The creek itself was home to finned fish (*guya*) and shellfish (*dangarin*), not to mention the Platypus (*biladurang*) a Wiradjuri women's totem – and a variety of amphibians, including the Booroolong Frog.



Illustration by Grace Bowman



LEARN