

INFORMATION ON MINING IN BENDIGO

TYPES OF REEFS:

1. Saddle Reef
2. Fault Reef
3. Spur Reef

ORDOVICAN SLATES AND SANDSTONE folded into symmetrical anticlines and synclines.

There are 15 main lines of reef in the Bendigo Central area and of these the Hustlers, Garden Gully, Paddy's Gully, Sheepshead, New Chum, Nell Gwynne and Carshalton lines have been the most productive.

The quartz lodes are found in the anticlines and synclines and along faults and in large spurry formations.

Levels or drives are cut in the mines and from these the reefs are prospected and worked in a north and south direction.

The quartz reefs are much younger in age than the encasing slates and sandstones.

The gold is found in the quartz with other minerals, e.g. Galena, the ore of lead, iron pyrites, and arsenopyrites from which mineral arsenic is extracted.

The gold and other minerals find their way into the ordovician rocks at the same time as the quartz.

The quartz after being broken from the reef is hauled to the surface and crushed by stamp mills.

The crushed material passes over copper plates covered with mercury and the gold forms an amalgam with the mercury on the plates and is then collected.

Further treatment is needed to drive off the mercury leaving the gold for sale to the banks.

C I T Y O F B E N D I G O

Area of the City of Bendigo - 8.030 acres.
Area of Borough of Eaglehawk - 3,585 acres.
Population (City) 33,000; (District) 47,000.
Dwellings (City) 9,100; (District) 11,200.
Valuation of property - Net Annual Value - £1,196,092.
Capital Value of property (Estimated) - £25,000,000.
Annual Municipal Revenue - £399,000.
The deepest Gold Mine on the Bendigo Gold Field was
the "Victoria Quartz" Mine - 4,593 feet.
Total Gold Yield on the field from 1851-1949 : 21,351,272 ozs.
Value - Approximately £100,000,000.
Value at present price of gold - Approximately £322,937,989.

----- oOo -----

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

- | | |
|------|---|
| 1840 | Site of Bendigo included in Ravenswood Run. |
| 1851 | Gold discovered at "The Rocks" Golden Point - Now
Golden Square. |
| 1852 | Gold Field Commission appointed. |
| " | First Police Court held. |
| " | First Church erected. |
| 1853 | Bendigo Hospital established. |
| " | "Bendigo Advertiser" first issued. |
| " | First Bank established. |
| 1854 | First streets surveyed and named. |
| " | First Government Land Sale. |
| 1855 | Sandhurst Municipal District formed. |
| 1856 | First Municipal Council elected. |
| 1857 | First Circuit Court held. |
| 1860 | Bendigo Home and Hospital for the Aged opened.
(Benevolent Home) |
| 1861 | Sandhurst proclaimed a Town. |
| 1862 | Eaglehawk proclaimed a Borough. |
| " | Railway to Melbourne opened. |
| 1871 | Sandhurst proclaimed a City. |
| 1877 | Coliban Water Supply opened. |
| 1891 | City of Sandhurst changed to City of Bendigo. |

----- oOo -----

C I T Y O F B E N D I G O

1851 Gold first discovered.
1855 Sandhurst Municipal District Formed
1856 First Councillors elected
1861 Sandhurst proclaimed a Town
1871 Sandhurst proclaimed a City
1891 City of Sandhurst changed to City of Bendigo.

AREA : 12½ Square Miles.

POPULATION : Approximately 40,000

FORMATION OF COUNCIL :

3 Wards with 3 Councillors to each Ward
Councillors elected for 3 year term and retire in rotation
1 Councillor from each Ward retiring every year.
Mayor elected by Councillors immediately after
annual election of Councillors

OPERATION OF COUNCIL -

The main avenues of Council revenue are the levying of rates -
General Rates, Garbage and Sanitary Rates; Receipts from
Cattle Markets, Rents from Properties, Hire of Recreation Grounds etc.

Council Expenditure -

Public Works - The Council's principal duty is the construction and maintenance of roads, footpaths and bridges. Cleaning of streets, recreation grounds etc., street lighting, and care and protection of street trees and parks and gardens.

Health : Garbage and sanitary removal, Baby Health centres, Home Help scheme, food sampling, immunization against Diphtheria, Tetanus, Whooping Cough, Poliomyelitis, Asian 'Flu, Small Pox Vaccination; Inspection of food premises, Boarding Houses, Lodging Houses, Eating Houses, Offensive Trade Premises.

Enforcement of Council By-Laws made under the Health Act - Keeping of Animals, Birds, etc., Garbage Service inspection; Infectious Diseases investigation, septic tank installations.

Parks & Gardens and Recreational Facilities

Swimming Pools

Council Properties - City Hall, Saleyards, Bath Corner buildings and other Council properties.

COUNCIL MEETINGS -

Council meetings are held on the first and third Mondays in each month at 7.45 p.m.

Committee meetings are held prior to the Council meetings or as arranged during the month or when required.

MAJOR PROJECTS IN RECENT YEARS :

Olympic Swimming Pool costing approximately £60,000.
Extensions to Municipal Sheep and Cattle Markets -
now the third largest Saleyards in Commonwealth, only Newmarket in Melbourne and Homebush in Sydney being larger.
Construction of Rosalind Park Sound Shell.
Golden Square Caravan Park.
Reclamation schemes eradicating unsightly mullock heaps.
Assistance in providing Senior Citizens' Club
Improvements to Showgrounds
Sealing of miles of roads and footpaths, undergrounding of drains, construction of concrete kerbing and channelling etc.

C I T Y O F B E N D I G O

GOLD DISCOVERED 1851
 CONSTITUTED A BOROUGH 1863

CONSTITUTED A MUNICIPALITY 1855
 CONSTITUTED A CITY 1871

C O A T O F A R M S .

SYMBOLS

COLOURS

LEGEND

... SUN STARS ON FLAG	BLUE GOLD	THE SOUTHERN CROSS
... CROWN EMPTRE	GOLD GOLD	SITUATED IN A CROWN COLONY DELEGATED AUTHORITY BY MUNICIPAL SELF-GOVERNMENT
... WISDOM	BLUE	WISDOM
... PASTORAL AND GRAZING	GREY GREY	PASTORAL AND GRAZING
... CATTLE	BLUE	

FIELD :

DIVIDED INTO 4 QUARTERS	GOLD & GREEN BACKGROUND ALTERNATED	
TOP LEFT - QUARTZ REEF	BLUE WITH GOLD SPECKS ON GOLD BACKGROUND	GOLD MINING INDUSTRY (MINERALIZED GOLD BEARING REEF).
BOTTOM LEFT - WHEAT SHEAF	GOLD - GREEN BACKGROUND	GOLDEN GRAIN
TOP RIGHT - PICK & SHOVEL	GOLD - GREEN BACKGROUND	PIONEERING NEW COUNTRY
BOTTOM RIGHT - BUNCH OF GRAPES	GREEN LEAVES & PURPLE GRAPES GOLD BACKGROUND	FRUITGROWING

TO :

"PROGRESS" IN GOLD ON PURPLE RIBBON.

B E N D I G O.

The origin of the name Bendigo is a little uncertain but it seems most likely to have been taken from a shepherd who was employed by a district pioneer prior to the discovery of gold in 1851. The shepherd was nicknamed "Bendigo" for his pugilistic skill, Bendigo then being a notable prize fighter in England.

LOCATION -

Situated north of the Dividing Range in Cenral Victoria between the rich Campaspe Valley and the fertile flats of the Loddon. Bendigo is the gateway to and capital of Northern Victoria, 100 miles from Melbourne by rail and 94 miles by road.

ALTITUDE - 650 - 850 feet.

RAINFALL - 20 Inches per annum (Average).

TEMPERATURE - Average Maximum 69°
Average Minimum 48°.

COMMERCE & INDUSTRY -

Modern shopping centre with 730 retail shops, 260 factories and third largest fat lamb market in the Commonwealth, with yardings of 1,100,000 sheep and 50,000 cattle per annum.

Principal industries are :- Commonwealth Ordnance Factory, Railway Workshops, Victorian Inland Meat Authority, Swift Australian Company (Pty), Ltd., Massey Ferguson (Aust) Ltd., John Brown Industries Ltd., Stramit Boards Ltd., B.L.B. Corporation of Australia, Bradford Cotton Mills, Dunlop Rubber (Aust.) Ltd., Crystal Egg Co., Crestknit Pty. Ltd., Bendigo Preserving Company, Welmar Industries and several engineering works, clothing, food and fruit factories, cool stores and egg floors.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS -
COMMONWEALTH -

AHQ Survey Regiment, 6 Coy. RAASC., Divisional Headquarters of P.M.G. Department, Commonwealth Employment Office, Social Services Department, Electoral Office.

STATE -

Divisional Headquarters of State Electricity Commission, Country Roads Board, Lands Department, State Rivers and Water Supply Commission, Victorian Railways, Gas and Fuel Corporation, Social Welfare Department, Offices of Milk Board, Public Works, Labor, Agriculture, Health and Mines Departments, Licencing Court and Egg Board.

EDUCATION -

Institute of Technology, Teachers College, with residential accommodation, 8 secondary schools, two secondary technical colleges, 19 primary schools, psychology and speech therapy centres conducted by the Education Department, 7 Kindergartens, training centre for retarded youths, special school for mentally handicapped, school for the deaf and spastic centre.

HOSPITALS & HOMES -

Bendigo & Northern District Base Hospital, Mount Alvernia Hospital, Bendigo Home & Hospital for the Aged, Bethlehem Home for Aged, Northern District School of Nursing, Home for the Aged Blind, Golden Oaks Village, Commonwealth Health Laboratory, Mental Hygiene Hospital in course of construction.

TRANSPORT -

Bendigo has a heavy duty double rail link with Melbourne with three passenger trains per day in both directions. Bendigo is the junction of the main line to Melbourne and lines to Northern

Victoria and Southern New South Wales. Lines radiate from Bendigo to Robinvale through Korong Vale, Kooloonong through Swan Hill, Koondrook through Kerang, Cohuna through Elmore and to two New South Wales centres, Balranald and Deniliquin through Echuca.

Tram services are operated by the State Electricity Commission and urban bus services operate throughout the Bendigo district.

ROAD TRANSPORT -

Bendigo is the hub of a network of arterial roads linking major centres in Victoria and southern New South Wales, and is the junction of the Calder, Loddon Valley, Midland and McIvor Highways.

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES -

There are 486 acres of parks, gardens and recreational facilities in Bendigo including the famous Rosalind Park situated in the centre of the City. The principal sportsgrounds are the Queen Elizabeth Oval, Showgrounds the home of the Bendigo \$2000 footrunning event, Racecourse which conducts 12 meetings a year, Grass Tennis Courts, Olympic Swimming Pool, Bowling Greens, Squash, Croquet, Golf, 10 Pin Bowling, Hockey, Basketball, Rifle Range, Water Skiing at Lake Eppalock (15 miles).

CLUBS -

R.S.L. with Memorial Clubrooms, Business & Professional Women, National Council of Women, Rotary (3), Apex, Lions, Legacy, Junior Chamber of Commerce, Elderly Citizens, Penguin, Horticultural Society, C.W.A., Red Cross, Chamber of Commerce, Retail Traders, Pipe and Brass Bands, Sea Cadets, Scouts, Guides, Cubs, Brownies, Y.M.C.A., Y.W.C.A. and Rostrum etc.

CHURCHES -

Two cathedrals, seat of Anglican and Roman Catholic bishops, 43 Churches of all denominations.

BANKS -

Branches of all banks operate within the City and suburbs.

CULTURAL -

Regional Library with 56,000 volumes, Art Gallery, with a representative collection of Australian paintings, as well as a unique display of French Impressionists of the Barbizon School, Corot and many others, Operatic Society, Music Advancement Society, Music Lovers, Shakespeare & Literary Groups, Bendigo Competitions Society, Choral Societies, Bendigo Orchestral Society.

GOLDEN SQUARE -

Suburb with Post Office, schools, police station, churches and 5 hotels, tram and bus 2 miles.

LONG GULLY -

Suburb with schools, churches, kindergarten, tram and bus 2 miles.

WHITE HILLS -

Suburb with four churches, schools, reading rooms, police station, hotels, racecourse and botanical gardens with zoo and swimming pool, bus 3 miles.

The history of Bendigo is a tale of romance. Prior to 1851 Bendigo was part of a sheep run but the accidental discovery of the first nugget of gold by a shepherd in the Bendigo valley completely transformed the destiny of the City. The first place at which gold was discovered was at what is known as Golden Square, but at that time known to station hands as "The Rocks". An obelisk now marks this spot and commemorates the historic event.

A gold rush set in and 30,000 diggers altered the calm beauty of the landscape with such relentless energy that what had been a wooded ridge became Bald Hill, and other hills suffered the same fate. The creeks were silted up, and vegetation disappeared from the valleys, which were strewn with thousands of yellow mounds, each adjoining a shallow pit. What had been dainty dells became gullies where the feverish search for the precious metal was undertaken. Green meadow land was churned up into piles of yellow mud, which, from a distance, looked like ant-hills swarming with busy workers, who now dropped into pits and appeared again with heavy loads.

Bendigo, where gold was obtained in bucketsful, leapt into world fame. A nugget of 573 ozs., valued at £2,100, was found in October 1852 at White Horse Gully. Another nugget, the Victoria, which weighed 340 ozs., found in the same gully, was bought by the Government and presented to Queen Victoria.

Life was crude and hectic in Bendigo in the roaring fifties and the diggers for the most part lived in tents. Since that day the production of gold had not ceased until approximately 4 years ago and over twenty one million ounces of gold valued in 1964 at nearly £323 million have been taken from the field. Although no mines are now operating, the romantic aura of the goldfield still survives.

The story of Bendigo would not be complete without a special reference to George Lansell - that indomitable personality known for many years as the "Gold King". In the Gardens in Pall Mall there is a bronze statue of George Lansell holding a piece of white quartz in his hand. Born at Margate in England, he arrived at Bendigo in 1853 with his brother William. They opened a butcher's shop, store and soap and candle factory. When the alluvial workings showed signs of exhaustion, and the quartz reefs began to receive attention, he invested in them but lost his money. Later he tried again, and lost again. He advocated new methods of working the reefs, and kept on investigating until he succeeded and made a fortune. His name is honoured in Bendigo as a synonym for enterprise and perseverance. His faith in the district and his indomitable pluck contributed to the building of Bendigo in no small measure. Many were the struggling companies that he saved from extinction and helped to ultimate success.

Despite the gold already won in Bendigo, it is said that as you walk the streets you walk on gold, for its treasures have as yet only been scratched. The City Fathers must have been men of vision with faith in the future of Bendigo, and it is to their credit that they have transformed the unsightly diggings into so fair a city as it is today.

Between the days of the "diggings" and the present, stretches a period of progress and development truly remarkable. Bendigo is rich in history and a perusal of the list of chronological events accompanying this article will be of interest. Bendigo (then known as Sandhurst) was proclaimed a municipal district in 1855 and a City in 1871. The name of the City was changed from Sandhurst to Bendigo in 1891.

Bendigo is set in undulating country between the rich valley of the Campaspe and the fertile flats of the Loddon. Geographically the City is almost in the Centre of Victoria, and it is "The Golden Gateway to the North" with its rich wheat belt. Located just north of the Great Dividing Range, Bendigo is 101 miles from Melbourne by rail and 93 by road. It is a rail centre from which five main lines radiate to the Mallee and Southern Riverina, and is adequately served by fast comfortable rail services and a network of first class roads.

Owing to its geographical position on the northern slopes of the range, with a mean altitude of 800 feet above sea level, Bendigo is blessed with a glorious climate and it is estimated that the sun shines in this City on an average of 320 days per year. The winter climate is bright and clear and the summer, whilst sometimes hot is dry and not enervating. It is however, in the autumn that the City is at its very best and at Easter time is the scene of a magnificent Easter Fair which has been described by world travellers as the greatest carnival south of the equator.

It is a city of trees with 176 miles of tree-lined streets, of elms, white cedars, poplars, jacarandas, and gums, including the famed Bendigo Ironbarks, which in spring and summer are covered in blossom and alive with thousands of parakeets. Within the City environs are 486 acres of parks and gardens. Its sporting facilities are well developed. There are five 18 hole golf courses within easy access to the City. The grass tennis courts, bowling green, croquet green, Olympic Pool and Water Polo Courses are as fine as any in the State. Bowling greens and croquet greens are also available at other centres within the City. In the surrounding countryside game abounds and sportsmen are catered for by local gun and rifle clubs.

Bendigo possesses many important industries. In addition to those mentioned elsewhere, there are the Railway Workshops, the extensive and splendidly equipped Ordnance Factory now engaged in peace time production, knitting mills, pottery, brickworks, plaster sheet and tile manufacturing, butter factories, ice works and numerous others.

Industrially, Bendigo is fortunate in that its development has been favoured with wide resources. Original settlers entered the vast and fertile valley in which it is situated to raise sheep and today its citizens refer with pride to its sheep market which is the third largest market in the Commonwealth. Over 1 million sheep annually are sold in these markets, as well as a large turnover in cattle, calves, pigs and horses. Associated with the primary production of fat lambs and sheep the fine Inland Meat Authorities Works at Bendigo East handle export lamb as well as meat for the local markets.

Bendigo is the centre of a rich agricultural and fruit growing district and its principal industries include several extensive fruit processing factories. A peculiar property of the soil gives to its fruits a full bodied and wholesome flavour, and Bendigo has achieved a very high reputation for its garden products notably tomatoes. Famous throughout the Commonwealth, Bendigo tomatoes are in firm demand. Factories within the City produce hundreds of thousands of tins of tomato pulp which forms the basis of almost every Australian tomato product of quality.

Bendigo is also the centre of a very large poultry industry and egg pulp and export eggs are packed in modern factories for overseas markets. To the south of Bendigo the orchards of Harcourt produce some of Australia's finest apples. Valuable dairy herds produce the City's milk supply on pastures irrigated from the Coliban, Australia's oldest irrigation system. Thousands of tons of butter are handles yearly through the Bendigo Railway yards. The post war expansion of industry into country districts has brought many new industries to Bendigo. Here there is a reservoir of first class labour and ideal working conditions. Manufacturers who have established factories in the City are delighted with the increased efficiency that has been shown by the employees of the district as compared to the metropolitan area. This is largely attributed to the absence of travel fatigue in employees who, living close to the factories in which they are employed, avoid the long hours of weary travel to which they are subject to in the metropolis.

To the pioneers of this delightful City must be paid a generous tribute for the broadness of vision and the firm faith in its future which is evinced by the delightful setting of its gracious park lands, broad streets and dignified public buildings. Rosalind Park is a natural gem renowned throughout the world and it extends along dignified Pall Mall which is one of the most charming thoroughfares in Australia. On one side are business premises, the northern side being a series of well laid out gardens, memorials, statuary and public buildings, with Rosaling Park in the background, containing a very fine Conservatory where may be seen a glorious display of floral beauty that would be difficult to excel elsewhere. Other features are the Queen Victoria Statue, the Soldiers Memorial Institute, George Lansell Statue, South African War Memorial, King George V. Statue and Gold Jubilee Statue.

There are many fine public buildings which are admired by visitors, and are an expression of the solidity of the City. The Post Office, Law Courts, Town Hall and Home and Hospital for the Aged are all examples of beautiful architecture. Many church buildings also make their contribution to the architectural features of the City the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, the Anglican Cathedral and churches of the principal denominations all being buildings of impressive and dignified appearance.

The Bendigo Art Gallery, situated in View Street, is open free to the public. This gallery ranks as one of the four most important collections of pictorial art in Australia, and contains some very fine sculptures in marble as well as specimens of the potter's art. Bendigo is liberally endowed with educational facilities, and in addition to 12 state schools, secondary education is provided at the 2 High, 3 Junior Technical and Girls Schools. There are also schools and colleges provided by the Roman Catholic and Anglican Churches, as well as the Bendigo Technical College and Teachers Training College. The entertainment needs of the community are excellently catered for by two modern and attractive picture theatres, each of which provide two performances daily, and a drive-in theatre.

Bendigo is the centre of a vast agricultural district. To the north west lies the Wimmera and the Mallee, one of the greatest wheat producing areas in the world. At present farmers are busy sowing wheat - and other cereals - and agricultural machinery worth millions of dollars are in use. To the north, extending into the Riverina and the north east, whilst some cropping is undertaken, grazing and irrigation is the chief activity. Succession farming is the general rule, crops alternating on most properties. These methods of farming entail the use of machinery in large quantities.

HOUSING - The State Government provides industrial housing of a high grade. The Housing Commission provides homes which can be

- (a) Rented at a low rental
- (b) Purchased on terms by workers.

Land is very cheap in many parts of Bendigo. We are an old mining district and until 1948 vast acreages were taken up and reserved as mining leases. These areas are now available for reclamation and we are turning them into first class residential areas served with all amenities such as sewerage, water, electricity and gas. Roads and footpaths are laid as the areas are reclaimed and subdivided.

The climate is temperate and probably as pleasant as anywhere in the world. In winter we have frosts for about 4 months as a rule, but days are mostly sunny and temperatures in the coldest weather usually reach 50 deg.F. each day. The summers are dry and very rarely really hot. We are 750 feet above sea level which makes the climate so attractive. We successfully grow oranges, grapes, tomatoes, apples, pears, peaches and all vegetables of subtropical kinds in our open gardens. We are about fifteen miles from the famous apple orchards of Harcourt which grow a great deal of Australia's apple export. We were producing 4 million cases of tomatoes a year until recently, but lately the primary producers have switched over largely to egg production - now about 4½ million dozen eggs a year. Some years ago Bendigo was a great wine producing centre and this industry could easily spring into prominence again. There are millions of acres of Crown Land at present growing only thin forest which will enable extension of our primary production. The great thing is that so many crops can be grown here that producers tend to swing as the market changes in profitability. In the last twenty years a large amount of wool has been produced and a vast amount of wealth garnered from it. We have a rapidly expanding meat industry, and today boned meat is shipped direct from Bendigo to shipboard and thence to southern Europe.

Land can be purchased here at present at prices that can be confidently expected to increase in value by many times. Home owners can expect a capital gain in this regard, and this applies to new workers who come here and purchase homes under the State Government Co-operative Home Ownership Plan.

We have first class land available much of it adjacent to the railway line which could make transport only a minor problem. We are served however, with excellent national highways which lead in every direction, to Mildura in the north west, the Murray and Riverina Towns in the north, to the Goulburn Irrigation area in the north east and beyond this irrigation area, to the Wimmera and central highlands in the south west, to Melbourne in the south and the Campaspe area in the east. These roads are wide bitumen highways. The cost of land is low and where crown land is reclaimed, modern earthmoving machines are preparing factory sites at very little cost. Modern tounapulls and other tractors are making this work very easy.

Cultural and living conditions in Bendigo are of the highest order.

Education - Every type of educational establishment exists in Bendigo. There are residential schools for boys and girls (not all co-educational) and schools exist for classical (arts) and technical education right through to degree level. There are musical, dramatic and operatic societies, an Art Gallery equal to that in any comparable city in the world and I believe every conceivable cultural provision. There are excellent clubs for those who desire some club life.

Sport - We have numerous football and cricket grounds - we are addicted to Australian rules football, but soccer and rugby are played. Basketball has caught on with both sexes and in one area 1500 girls play basketball every Saturday. We have several golf links, several bowling greens of first class standard, baseball, lawn and hard court tennis, squash, indoor bowling and I believe, as wide a variety of sporting and recreational facilities as one could desire. Life in Bendigo is not only profitable, but it is pleasurable and satisfying.

Fourteen miles from Bendigo is Lake Eppalock, a man made lake holding 250,000 acre feet - 60 million gallons. On this lake boating, fishing, water skiing, yachting and other water sports are enjoyed. It is a mecca for enthusiasts all over Australia. There are chlorinated and other swimming facilities in the City area and plenty of other field sports in the near vicinity. Snow sports can be had within two hours motoring from Bendigo in the season.

Northern Victoria is the location of many romances of industry, Old pioneer craftsmen came into a new land and setting up forge or bench commenced works that are now great factories. Our land and nation is growing and the demand for skills is unlimited as are the resources we have to enable you to meet them.