

LIBRARY

Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions

This PDF has been created for digital preservation. It may be used for research but is not suitable for other purposes. It may be superseded by a more current version or just be out-of-date and have no relevance to current situations.

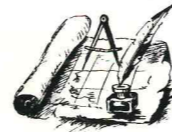
YANCHEP NATIONAL PARK

The Western Wonderland

ISSUED BY THE NATIONAL PARKS BOARD OF W.A.



HISTORY



Yanchep National Park, covering 6,894 acres, is situated on Wanneroo Road, 31 miles north of Perth. *51 Km.*

It derives its name from the native word "Yanjet", meaning "Bullrush" which grows in profusion on the fringes of lakes within the park.

This area was first brought to public notice through the discovery of the caves by Lieutenant (later Sir) George Grey, in 1838.

In 1901 the area was selected for grazing cattle by Henry White, whose home later became what is now the McNess Guest House.

Interest in the area was spurred by a Perth naturalist and lawyer, A. W. Milligan, between the years 1902 and 1920, around which time it was taken over by the government as a park, and placed in the care of the Chief Secretary's Department.

It owes much of its early development to the public works which were undertaken during the depression years when the road was extended from Wanneroo to Yanchep.

Largely through donations of the philanthropist Sir Charles McNess, Yanchep Lake, (now known as Loch McNess) was dredged, and, using labour on unemployment relief, the park began to take its present shape.

Every effort is being made towards making this a beautiful park for relaxation and recreation, while at the same time, preserving for posterity, the natural beauty of the area, with its distinctive natural features, fauna and flora.

On the 13th of March 1931, responsibility for the park was transferred to the State Gardens Board. (Since 1956, the National Parks Board of W.A.).

This class "A" reserve was given "National Park" status on the 9th of May 1969.



GEOLOGY



The Yanchep area is part of the distinctive formation of the coastal limestone belt. Basically it consists of eolianitic limestone, and is characterised as a landscape by the presence of an almost continuous crust of Travertine, perforated by solution pipes and numerous caves.



SCENIC ATTRACTIONS



CAVES—Beautiful cave formations are to be seen in the Crystal, Yonderup and Silver Stocking Cabaret caves. It is interesting to note that Yonderup cave was at one time an aboriginal burial place.

CRYSTAL and YONDERUP are open for public inspection as under:—

Sunday and public holidays	11.15 am to 4.30 pm.
----------------------------	----------------------

On days of conducted Metro tours	11.15 am.
Otherwise, daily at 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm.	

The Yanchep National Park Office should be contacted if a special inspection is required.

LOCH McNESS—A fleet of rowing boats is maintained for your pleasure and use. Oars for these may be obtained from the kiosk on the lake front on Sundays and public holidays, and from the office on all other days.

Launch trips around the lake provide a pleasant way to enjoy the scenery. They usually operate only on Sundays and public holidays, but during school holidays they may be arranged to suit public demand. Normal operating times are between 11.30 am and 4.30 pm.

BOOMERANG GORGE—is situated to the east of Gloucester Lodge.

This picturesque gorge is typical of the natural clefts found in the limestone belt within the area.

FACILITIES



This most attractive holiday and picnic resort provides a wide variety of facilities for the enjoyment of visitors.

PLAYING FIELDS—Two ovals provide playing fields for football, cricket and hockey. There are also Tennis Courts and a basketball ground.

These can be booked through the office, but intending users are warned that bookings are heavy and should be arranged well in advance.

GOLF COURSE—Yanchep Park contains a pleasant, grassed, nine hole all weather course. A ranger is in attendance on Sundays and public holidays. On other days, green fees should be left in the honour box provided at the course.

HALL—For indoor activities, a recreation hall is available for hire.

PICNICKING—The area of the lake front has been landscaped to provide a shaded and pleasant place in which to picnic.

Barbecues and tables have been set out to give you and your family some privacy. However, large parties may book a picnic area for their particular use, but this should be arranged well in advance.

All ovals have their own barbecues and when an oval is booked, the accompanying facilities are also reserved.

Another, pleasant picnic area is situated between the Inn and Gloucester Lodge.

ACCOMMODATION—Yanchep Inn (licenced premises), Gloucester Lodge (with swimming pool) and McNess Guest House (overlooking Loch McNess) provide comfortable accommodation.

Tariffs are available on request from the proprietors.

SHOPS—Both Gloucester Lodge and McNess Guest House have small shops providing cool drinks, confectionery, cigarettes, snacks and many other comforts and requirements.

MEALS—All establishments provide meals, but if your party is large, prior arrangements should be made.

CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUNDS—We acknowledge the generosity of certain public spirited societies who have presented much of the equipment provided in the children's playgrounds. We can assure our younger patrons of an enjoyable and memorable visit.

NATURE TRAILS



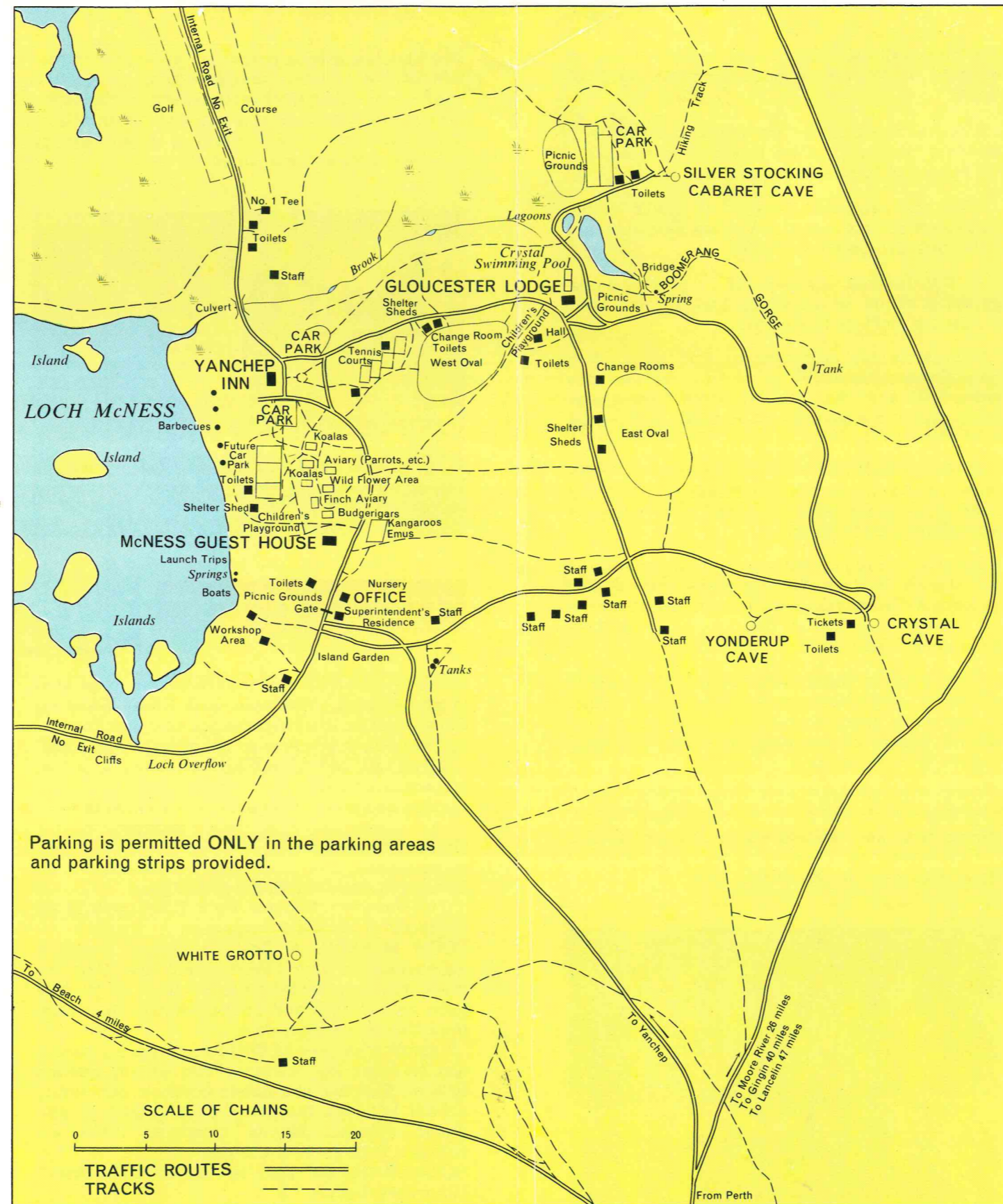
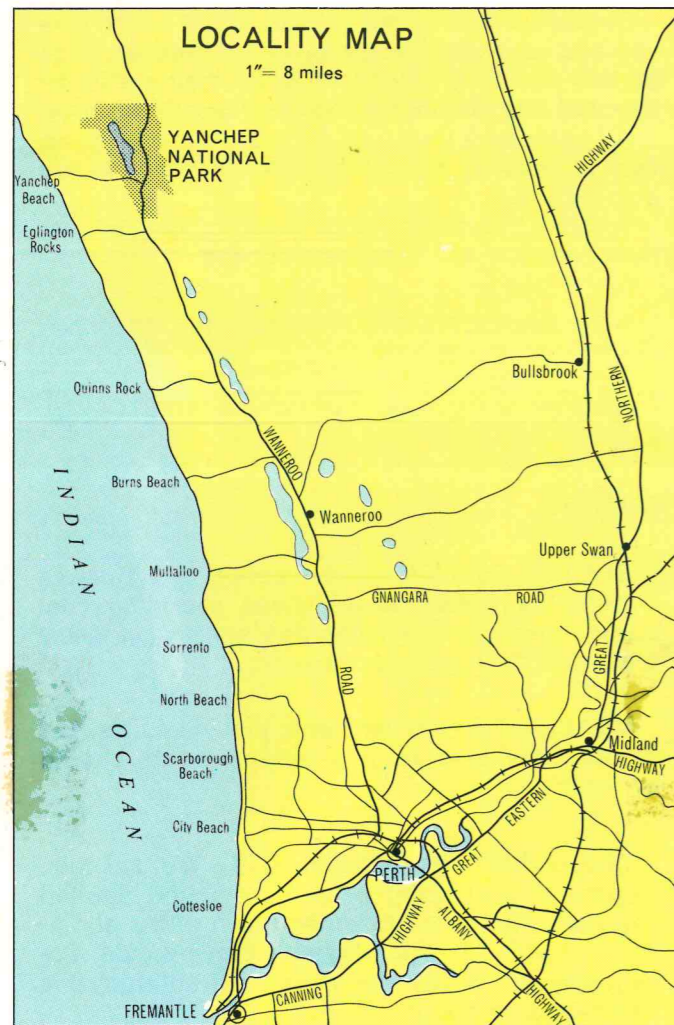
There are a number of walks through the park suitable for the more energetic. The office should however be contacted for information and advice concerning these.

WILDFLOWERS



The park has planted a collection of West Australian wildflowers in special beds provided for this purpose. This only represents a small part of the State's magnificent natural flora, which we are happy to present to our visitors.

The indigenous wildflowers are at their best during the months of August, September and October, during which time conducted "wildflower walks" may be organised by arrangement with the park office.



23581/10/73-20M-O/FAL

Prepared for the National Parks Board by the Department of Lands and Surveys Perth W.A.

* From Perth Tel: (STD 095-611004)

FAUNA



A further attraction of the park are the many animals and birds which are housed under the most natural conditions.

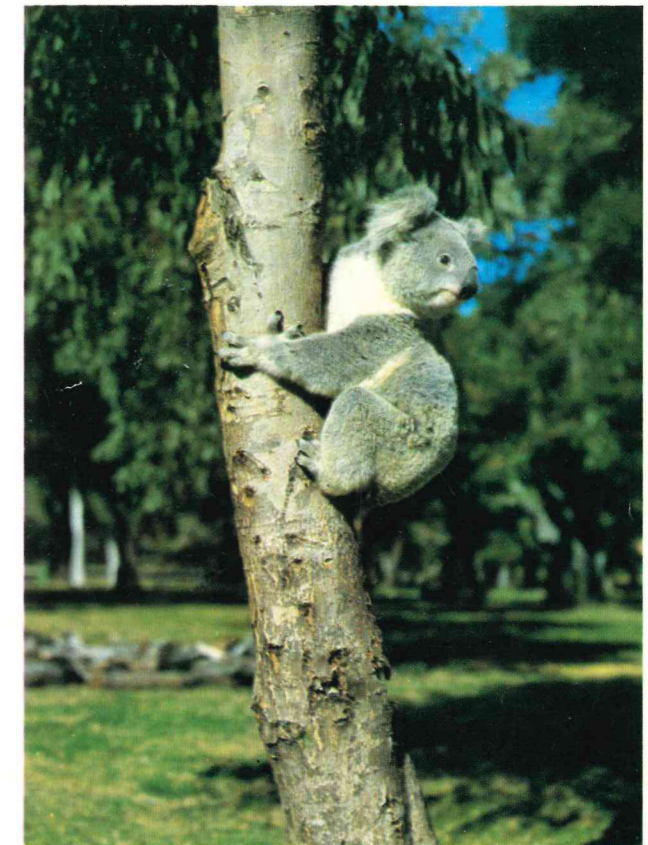
Yanchep park is proud to present the only Koala Bears in Western Australia.

These may be seen at any time, but feeding time, which is at 2.40 pm daily, provides the best opportunity for photography.

Kangaroos, emus, black swans, parrots, budgerigars, finches and many other species may also be seen.

The grey kangaroo may nearly always be sighted on a quiet evening, grazing on the ovals and golf course.

Over 100 species of birds have been recorded within the reserve.



INFORMATION



For further information, you will be most welcome to call personally or telephone the park office on *915004. We have an interesting display of colour slides and postcards which may be purchased as a memento of your visit.

The office and staff are at your service.