

SIR PAWEŁ EDMUND STRZELECKI

***TRACES OF
A RESEARCHER
AND TRAVELLER
IN AUSTRALIA***

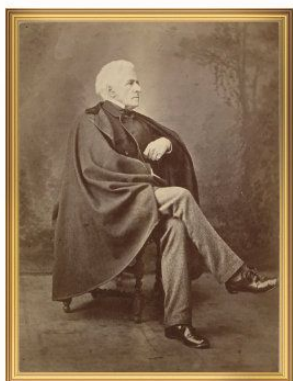


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SIR PAWEŁ EDMUND STRZELECKI

TRACES OF A RESEARCHER AND TRAVELLER IN AUSTRALIA



Paweł Edmund Strzelecki, also known as Paul Edmund de Strzelecki or Sir Paul Strzelecki, was born on the 20th of July 1797 at Gluszyzna, near Poznan in Western Poland, which was under Prussian rule at the time. His parents, Francis Strzelecki & Anna née Raczyński, both Polish noblemen leasing a Gluszyzna estate, died when Strzelecki was only 10 years old, resulting in Strzelecki being brought up by his mother's relatives.

Following his early education, he spent a short amount of time in the Prussian army in a cavalry regiment, leaving the service after receiving the rank ensign. Strzelecki left Poznan after an alleged attempt to elope with Aleksandryna (Adyna) Turno, to whom he wrote for many years.



Strzelecki then became a successful plenipotentiary for Prince Francis Sapieha's estates on the eastern outskirts of the former Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. The estates were restored to a good financial position due to Strzelecki's great ability as an administrator. Four years later, Prince Francis Sapieha died. In his will he left a large sum of money to

Strzelecki, his talented plenipotentiary. Eustace Sapieha, the son of prince Francis, refused to accept his father's will, resulting in some legal disputes. The matter was resolved out of court, leaving Strzelecki with only a quarter of the sum he was originally bequeathed.



TRAVEL AND DISCOVERIES



In 1830, Strzelecki left Poland for France, where he stayed for two years, studying geology. He then moved to England where he lived from November 1831 until June 1834. Not much is known about this period of his life. It's still a mystery as to how he became a member of the exclusive Alfred Club of London patronised by the High Society of England. Later in 1834, he left for

North America. There, he travelled extensively studying minerals, analysing soil as well as visiting farms to study soil conservation and investigate the gluten content of wheat. In 1836, Strzelecki visited mineral-rich areas in South America, and travelled along the west coast, from Chile up to California. During this time, he also became strongly opposed to the slave trade. In 1838, he sailed to Marquesa's and Hawaii, to climb Mount Kilauea, reaching a height of 1247 metres.



Edmund Strzelecki.
(Wypowiedź pamiętnika)

Przed daniem listu pan Karol Karolicki, krótko geologiczny obraz w. ka. pomniejszego i ubolewającego nad małą liczbą polskich pracowników na tym polu, powiedział: „Jedy powiem, do jakiegoś Dłuskiego, którego prace geologiczne w Ameryce południowej, i Strzelecki księgo podróże po Australii tyle u naszego świata znalazły uznania, nie tylko się opublikowały, że i na niemi polskiej szkoła badania geologicznego.” Otóż powiednie dnia mowca, że skoro dzisiaj przyjechał już zwłoki jedynego z tych mowców, który mógł być przyczyną dla kraju wiele korzyści, gdyż tak silnym węzłem nie zwązad się z narodem, umiarym sprawdził i ocenę naukową i historyczną, jak tego miedziastwa dawid na Strzeleckim. Lecznie księgo w tak miedziastwa wieku kraj opuszcza, a domowa geologia i historyczna i dowody, nieawna była wspaniałymi lat dziesiętnych. Pamięto to, w jednym ze swoich przedmówstwach łacno pisan autorzy podróży: „Jedynym był miedziastwa, najpiękniejsza mogła pocieszyć byłoby nakazywać życie w rodzinnym kraju, dla którego zachowują najczulsze uczucia, ale w moim wieku 70-letnim ulepszenie jest przesadzić się; można tylko podziwiać na miejscu, ale nie można głębiej (życia) rozpoznawać.”

Edmund Strzelecki urodził się w w. ka. pomniejszym r. 1796. Od roku 18-go do 18-go życia (t. j. w okresie warszawskiego mieszkając w Warszawie u swego krewnego Józefa Zimochowskiego, chodził do szkół z korpusem, Hilarystem i Korpusem Zimochowskim. Poemty w naukach podłożo nie zapowiadały późniejszej znakomitości, a miedziastwa razu pownego, nie odpowiedziały się swymi opiekami, opuścił Warszawę, która już nie była mu miłą ojczyzną, i udał się do Krakowa. Wiedziący go później w Anglii, studiującego prawo w Oxfolku w miedziastwa miedziastwa i podłożo okoliczności, dają rozpoznać nie w miedziastwa podłożo na wstrząsanie krańce świata. Jakoś w tym czasie znalazł się w Australii w Anglii, przył w latach 1830-34, powiada, że od lat 45 jest polskimi Wielkiej Brytanii. Pięna angielskich w miedziastwa miedziastwa, że do 35 roku życia odwiedził Amerykę, Indje Zachodnie, wypry miedziastwa Polubochowskiego, Ja-

*) Polska to w miedziastwa dwadzieścia i lat do 18-go życia (t. j. w okresie warszawskiego mieszkając w Warszawie u swego krewnego Józefa Zimochowskiego, chodził do szkół z korpusem, Hilarystem i Korpusem Zimochowskim. Poemty w naukach podłożo nie zapowiadały późniejszej znakomitości, a miedziastwa razu pownego, nie odpowiedziały się swymi opiekami, opuścił Warszawę, która już nie była mu miłą ojczyzną, i udał się do Krakowa. Wiedziący go później w Anglii, studiującego prawo w Oxfolku w miedziastwa miedziastwa i podłożo okoliczności, dają rozpoznać nie w miedziastwa podłożo na wstrząsanie krańce świata. Jakoś w tym czasie znalazł się w Australii w Anglii, przył w latach 1830-34, powiada, że od lat 45 jest polskimi Wielkiej Brytanii. Pięna angielskich w miedziastwa miedziastwa, że do 35 roku życia odwiedził Amerykę, Indje Zachodnie, wypry miedziastwa Polubochowskiego, Ja-



Edmund Strzelecki. Według nakładki fotograficznej.

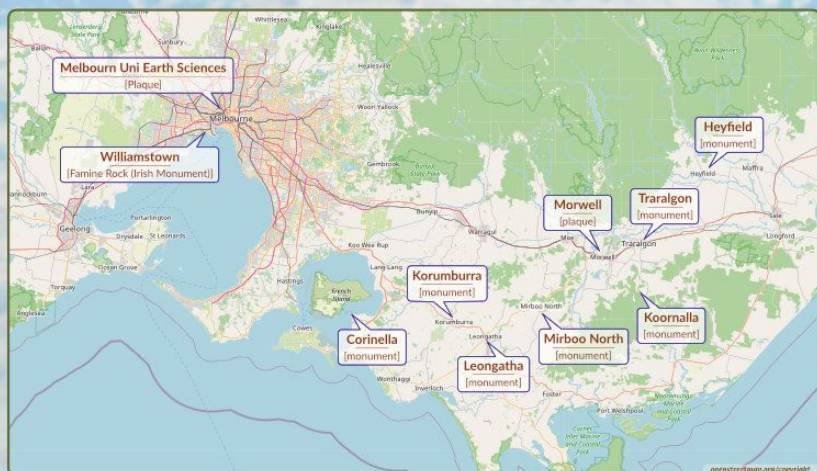


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TRAVEL AND DISCOVERIES

In 1839, when Strzelecki was in New Zealand, he was a guest of James Busby. In April of that year, he arrived in Sydney with letters of introduction to Governor George Gipps. He met P. P King and Stuart Donaldson, who became his close friends.



In August 1839, he planned to complete a geological survey of Australia, and set out on an exploration that led him across New South Wales, and to the Australian Alps. There, Strzelecki climbed and conquered the highest peak, naming it after the Polish Democratic leader, Tadeusz Kosciuszko. As he continued his exploration of Australia, Strzelecki discovered traces of gold around the areas of Wellington (NSW) and Hartley, however he kept his discoveries quiet at the behest of Governor Gipps. He continued south, into an area that he named Gippsland in honour of the Governor.



The journey went awry, as they passed the La Trobe River. Strzelecki and his companions were weary and on the edge of starvation. They were forced to abandon their horses and all their specimens. They were only able to survive the three weeks thanks to their Aboriginal guides, Charlie Terra and Jackey. They finally reached Melbourne in May 1840, completely exhausted. From Melbourne, Strzelecki went to Van Diemen's Land (Tasmania), where he became close friends with the Franklins. While in Tasmania, Strzelecki worked as a scientific farmer, explorer and geologist.



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TRAVEL AND DISCOVERIES

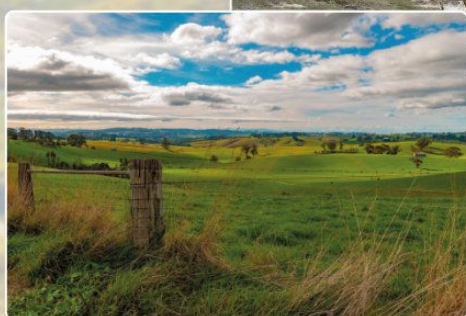
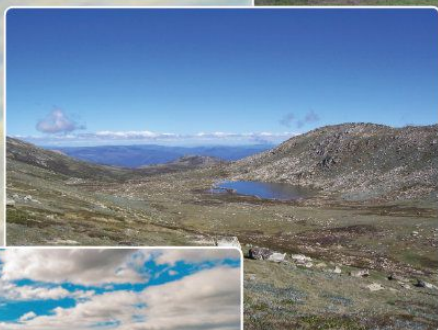
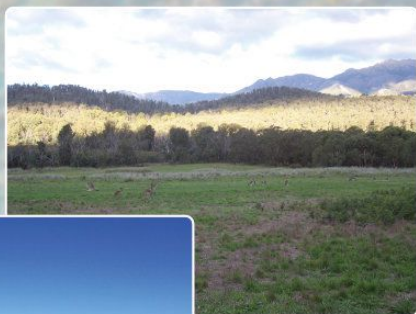
After Strzelecki returned to London in 1845, he became a British subject, and published his work, titled 'Physical description of New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land'. He received the founder's medal of the Royal Geographical Society for his work, which laid the foundations for the study of Australian palaeontology. Strzelecki did outstanding work in 1847-48, overseeing the allocation of relief funds in Ireland, where the funds were collected by the British Relief Association. Strzelecki developed a program to provide meals and clothes to schoolchildren in the Westport Union. He was able to administer aid in 65 towns across Ireland despite getting typhoid fever. In 1856, the publication of 'Gold and Silver' resulted in the acknowledgment of Strzelecki's scientific priority.

In Strzelecki's final years, he was involved with helping immigration to Australia until his death from cancer, in October 1873. In his will, Strzelecki requested the destructions of his papers, and left instructions for his body to be buried in an unmarked grave. In 1997, Strzelecki's remains were moved to Poland, where he was buried in the Crypt of Eminent Poles at the Church of St Adalbert in recognition of his outstanding achievements.

THE LIVING MEMORY OF STRZELECKI

There are a lot of places in Australia that are named after our distinguished compatriot. These include:

- The Strzelecki Ranges in Victoria
- Mount Strzelecki in the Northern Territory
- The Strzelecki Peak on Flinders Island
- Strzelecki Creek in South Australia
- Strzelecki Desert (located west of Lake Eyre)
- Strzelecki Regional Reserve located in the Strzelecki Desert
- Strzelecki Village in Victoria



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MOUNT KOSCIUSZKO



Mount Kosciuszko can be found in the Snowy Mountains of southeastern New South Wales. Reaching a height of 2,228 metres, it is the highest mountain peak in mainland Australia. Mount Kosciuszko is considered one of the Seven Summits - a grouping of the highest mountain peaks on each continent.

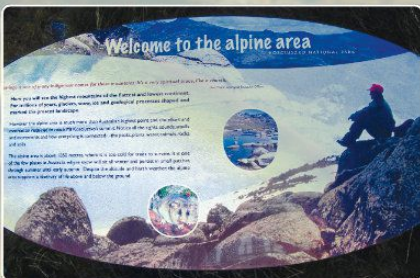
The mountain, which is part of the Kosciuszko National Park, was named in 1840 by Polish explorer, Paweł Strzelecki, after the Polish patriot and statesman hero, Tadeusz Kosciuszko.

These days, it is relatively easy to reach the peak of Mount Kosciuszko. Hikers can access a chair lift which can take them most of the way up the mountain. From there, it's a 6 km walk to the peak, which most people can complete within a few hours.

The region has been developed for winter sports.



Z prezentacji uczestnika konkursu o Strzeleckim 2023 – Rawdanowicz



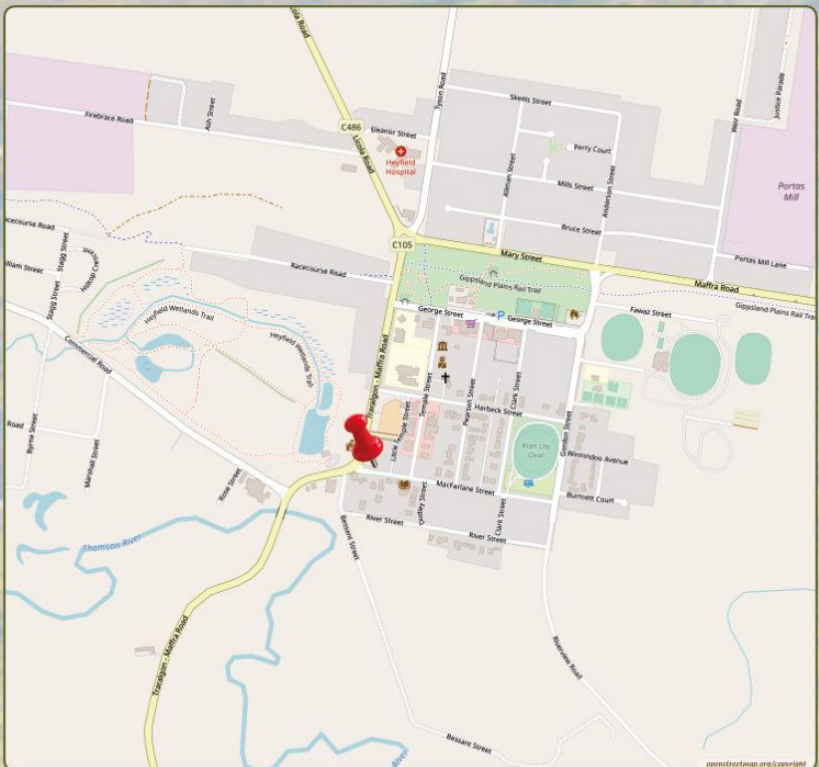
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SIR PAWEŁ EDMUND STRZELECKI MEMORIAL IN HEYFIELD

In 1840, Paweł Edmund Strzelecki was the first European explorer to travel through the Heyfield area, followed by Angus McMillan. They crossed the Thomson River near Heyfield on their exploration of the Gippsland area.

A memorial cairn was erected to commemorate the memory of the explorers, Paweł Edmund Strzelecki, and Angus McMillan. It was unveiled by Lord Somers the Governor of Victoria. The memorial is located at 15 Davis Street, Heyfield, Victoria.



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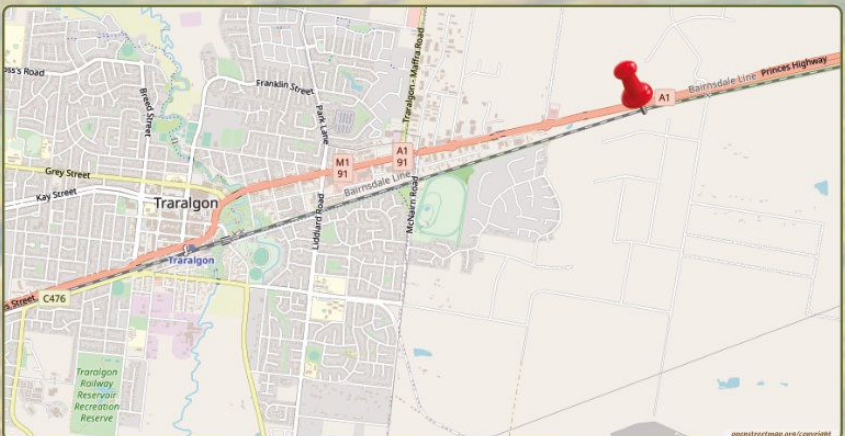
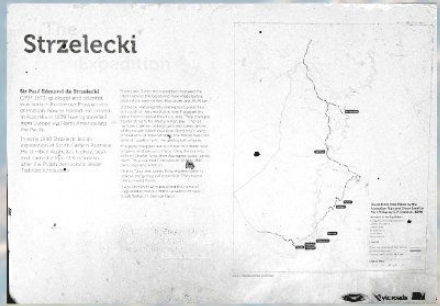


SIR PAWEŁ EDMUND STRZELECKI MEMORIAL IN TRARALGON

In 1840, Paweł Edmund Strzelecki reached the area of Traralgon. A memorial was built to commemorate this event. It was unveiled in April 1927 by Lord Somers, the Governor of Victoria. This memorial was the first of four such monuments that mark various points along Strzelecki's route.

In 1966, the Strzelecki monument was restored, and a plaque and a relief portrait of Strzelecki were added - the work of Arthur Santowiak, donated by the Polish Association of the Latrobe Valley. On the 10th of July of the same year, the monument was unveiled by Sir Herbert Hyland.

This historic monument acknowledges the route of Gippsland's first explorers which has been preserved for the future generation as part of the duplication of the Princes Highway East.



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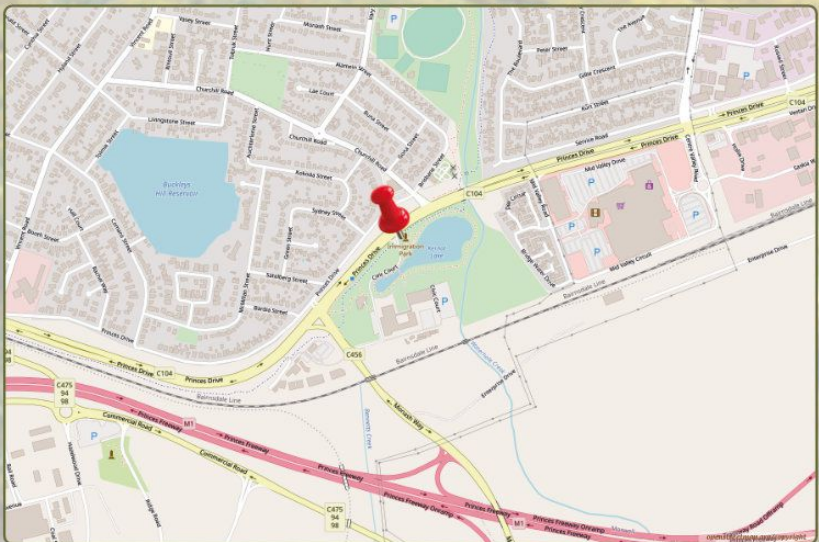
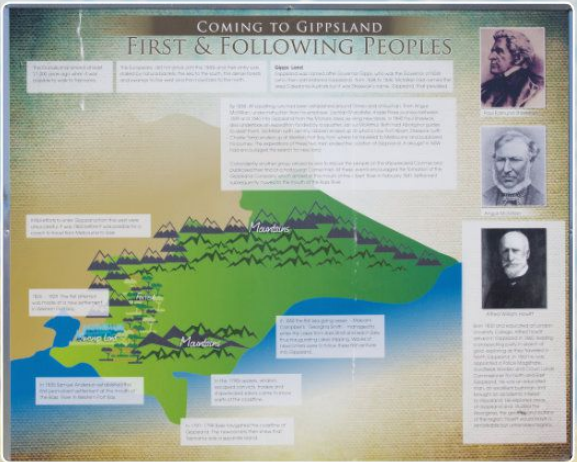
MORWELL - GIPPSLAND IMMIGRATION HENGE

The Gippsland heritage walk consists of 72 panels about Gippsland's history. These panels are located around the lake at Kernot Hall, Princes Way, Morwell, adjacent to the Gippsland Immigration Wall of Recognition. The themes present throughout the panels are:

- Gunaikurnai history,
- coming to Gippsland,
- settling in, energy,
- life in Gippsland,
- government,
- rule of law, transport,
- war time,
- educating Gippsland,
- serving Gippsland,
- and the community of Gippsland.



This venue is perfect for day excursions. Visitors can learn about various aspects of Gippsland's history, while appreciating the beauty of nature. The walk starts with the Gippsland Immigration Wall of Recognition before continuing towards the panels.



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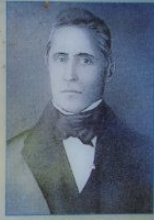
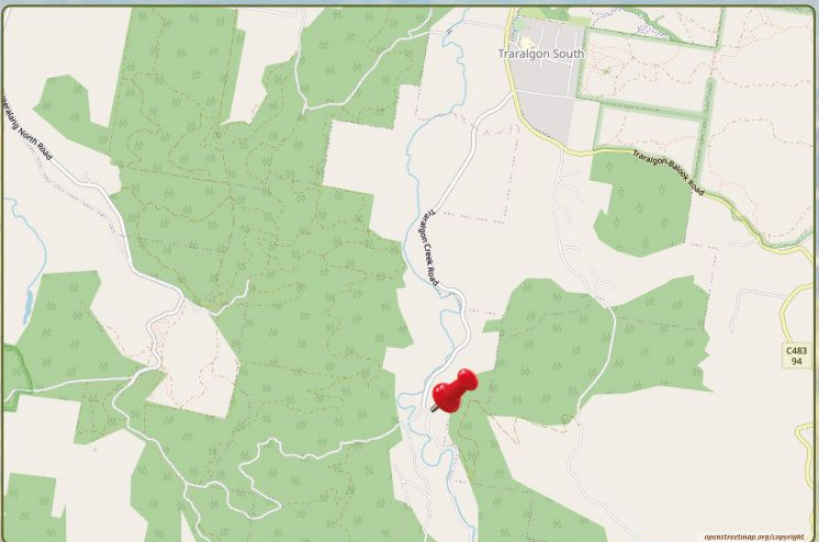
SIR PAWEŁ EDMUND STRZELECKI MEMORIAL IN KOORNALLA

In 1927, a memorial was built to commemorate Pawel Edmund Strzelecki who passed through the area in 1840. The Polish Association of the Latrobe Valley donated an additional plaque and relief portrait (the work of Arthur Santowiak). These were unveiled on the 10th of July 1966 by Councillor E.A. Farmer President of the Shire of Traralgon.



COUNT PAUL EDMUND STRZELECKI

Pushing on to the south, Strzelecki and his companions soon found themselves climbing the hills near Koornalla in April 1840, and it was quite impossible to get through the huge trees and over the big logs with their four horses. They had to leave them here, and the Count decided to make straight for Western Port where they knew they would find settlers. He guided the party in a straight line up and down the ranges, and they were all very lucky that they did not die from starvation and exhaustion before they reached Western Port at last, after 22 days in the forest.

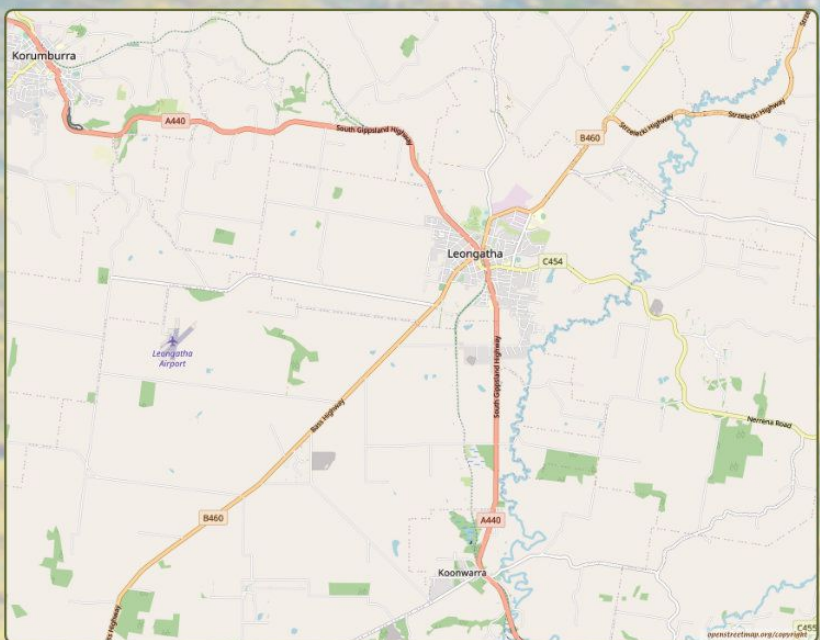
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SIR PAWEŁ EDMUND STRZELECKI MEMORIAL IN LEONGATHA

The Strzelecki memorial at Leongatha was constructed by Jason Palmer according to the design of James T Knox. The memorial is a simple squat square tapered column of concrete blocks on a square base of course bluestone rubble, with a flat pyramidal top surmounted by a weathervane. It was officially unveiled on the 8th of April 1927 by the Governor, Lord Somers. The bronze plaque on the east side commemorates the passage of Strzelecki through South Gippsland. The message engraved on the plaque - 'Count Strzelecki First Explorer of South Gippsland passed within 10 miles of this spot May 1840'. A small drinking fountain is located above a small stone basin, beneath the commemorative plaque.

The memorial is located close to the road on Long Street in the railway reserve.



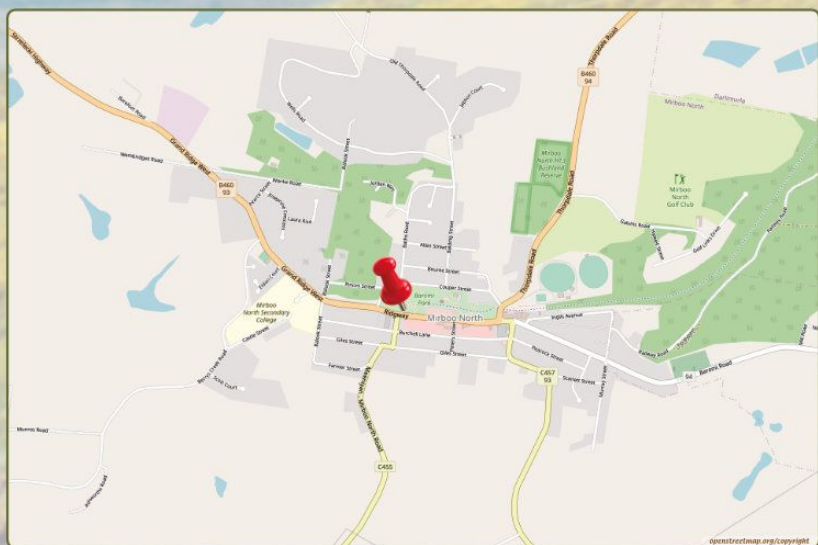
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SIR PAWEŁ EDMUND STRZELECKI MONUMENT IN MIRBOO NORTH

This Strzelecki monument was constructed by Tom Nilan in 1927. It is located on the north side of the Ridgeway in Baromi park. Strzelecki's passage through the area in 1840 is commemorated with a white marble plaque.

It was officially unveiled on the 8th of April 1927 by the Governor of Victoria, Lord Somers. Originally, this cairn monument was located at the intersection of Ridgeway and Strzelecki Highway opposite St Mary's Anglican Church. It was relocated to its present site in February 1972 due to road works. The Shire of Mirboo threatened to demolish the monument in 1944, but the monument was saved following public outrage at the proposition.



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SIR PAWEŁ EDMUND STRZELECKI MEMORIAL IN KORUMBURRA

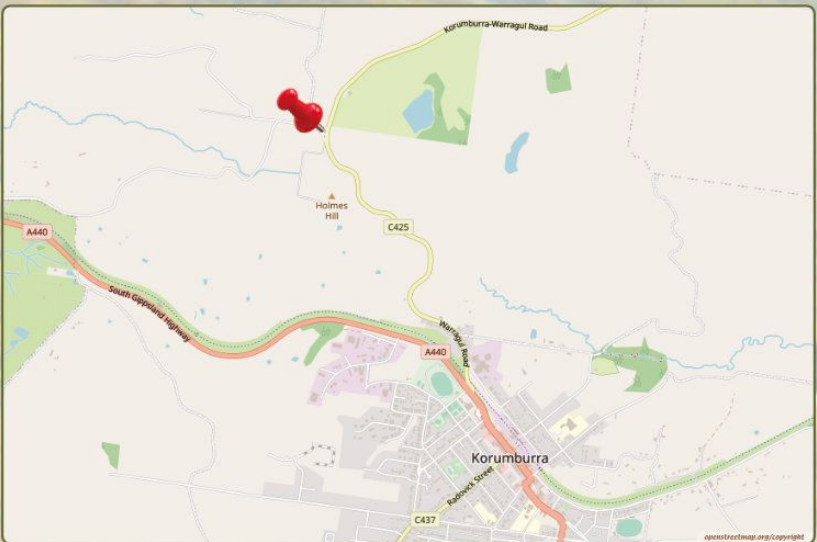
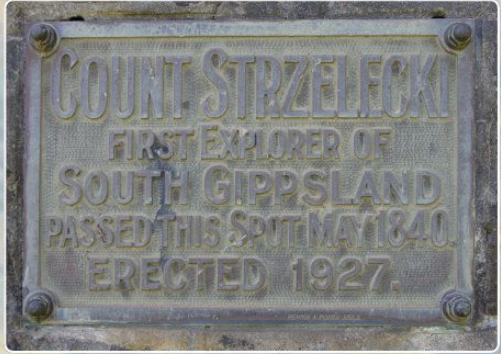
The Memorial of Paweł Edmund Strzelecki at Korumburra was designed by the Korumburra Shire Engineer, Mr Horsfall. It was constructed in 1927 at the intersection of the Old Bena Korumburra Road and Warragul Road.

The Memorial was officially unveiled on 9th April 1927 by Lord Somers, the Governor.

The construction is a simple tapered square column of split bluestone pitcher quoins and coursed bluestone rubble on a square base, with battered sides and a pyramidal top.

A bronze plaque on the east side commemorates Strzelecki's passing through this region in May 1840. The plaque is engraved with the following message:

*"Count Strzelecki
the first explorer of
South Gippsland
passed this spot May 1840.
Erected 1927".*



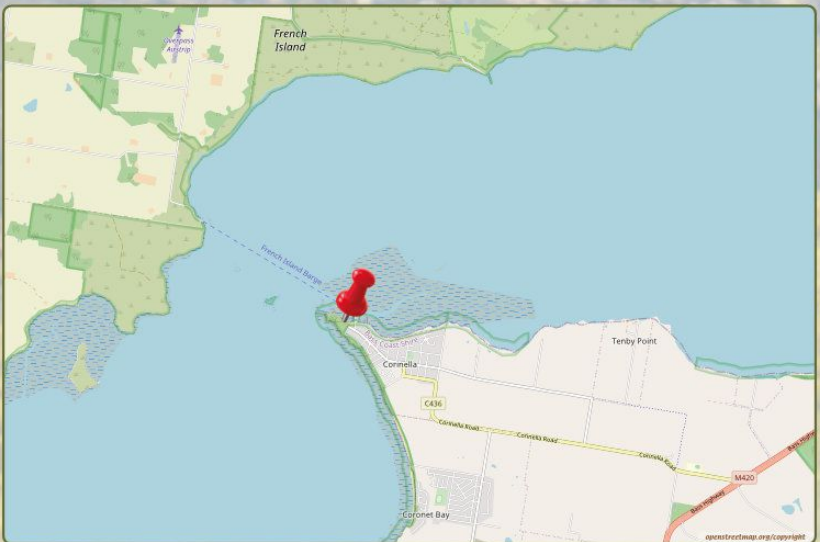
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SIR PAWEŁ EDMUND STRZELECKI MONUMENT IN CORINELLA

Corinella - The monument is located at the end of Smythe Street in Corinella Foreshore Caravan Park.

This memorial commemorates the arrival Paweł Edmund de Strzelecki's expedition to the Settlement on 12th of May 1840 during his overland expedition from the Murrumbidgee River in New South Wales, through Omeo and Gippsland to Melbourne.



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MONUMENT STRZELECKI UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

Sir Paweł Edmund Strzelecki Monument

*The bronze relief of Sir Paweł Strzelecki (1797–1873)
a Polish explorer and geologist.*

Date Unveiled: 1988

*The Sir Paweł Edmund Strzelecki Monument is located on the wall of the
University of Melbourne School of Geography, Earth & Atmospheric Sciences
building, Parkville, Melbourne.*

Inscription:

This Monument commemorates

SIR PAUL EDMUND STRZELECKI

20 June, 1797 to 6 October, 1873

The Polish born geologist who pioneered new frontiers for Australia.

*Donated to the people of Australia in the Bicentenary year by the Australian
Polish community.*



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STRZELECKI TOWN

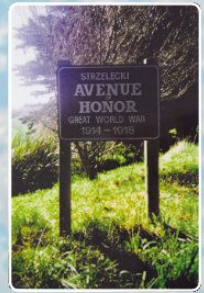
Strzelecki is a rural locality in eastern Victoria, situated in a mountainous country which is 12 km north-east of Korumburra. It was named after Sir Paweł Edmund Strzelecki, a Polish explorer and scientist who travelled through Gippsland in 1840, starting from the upper Murray area through to Western Port Bay. Strzelecki's route was marked by historic monuments in 1927, one of them being built at Korumburra. In 1990, Strzelecki's journey was replotted, indicating that his route was several kilometres north of Korumburra, and hence quite close to the present locality of Strzelecki.

Apart from Strzelecki's journey, the next significant exploration was by a group of surveyors who marked out McDonald's Track between 1860 and 1862. During the late 1870s, settlement of the area began and entered through Poowong, and later moved to Strzelecki. The McDonald's Track route to Gippsland underwent construction and became the Great Southern Railway between 1888 and 1891. The railway successfully crossed through Koo-Wee-Rup Swamp lands making a route from Tooradin to Korumburra.

After thirty years, and constant agitation from the Poowong district, a railway line was constructed from Koo-Wee-Rup to Strzelecki. The last kilometres to Strzelecki went through steep hills, cuttings, and trestle bridges. Soldier and settlement farms existed along the route when it was opened in 1922. However, the cost of maintaining the line was unacceptably high, and many farms collapsed due to economic pressures of the 1930s depression, resulting in a decline in population and economy. Until this happened, Strzelecki was fortunate enough to have a general store, a hall, a church, a stockyard, and a farming community of about 300 people.

In 1930 the last 5km of rail around Strzelecki was closed, but road transport was on the way to being established.

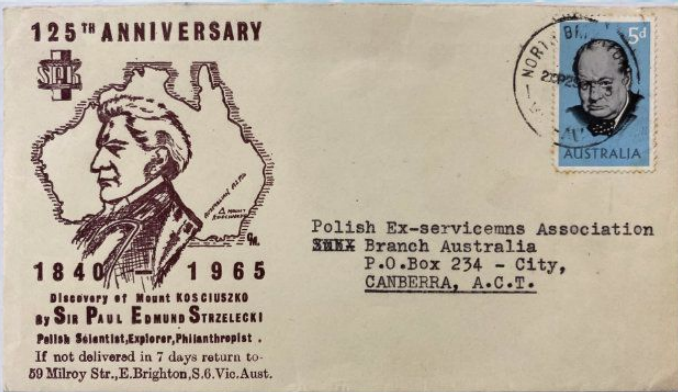
Strzelecki had maintained its agricultural potential for grazing and dairying, although the majority of the village's buildings have collapsed or been removed. Remaining buildings include, the Mechanics' Institute hall (1905) and a Uniting church, as well as an avenue of honour (1919).



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STAMPS AND MEDALS



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ART COMPETITION 2023

For years Kaia listened to her grandma's stories (related to Strzelecki's family). To her, these sounded just like fairy tales.

Since her grandma is a member of the Alpine club, she was able to check the clubs archive, learning that not only did Paweł E. Strzelecki discover the tallest mountain in Australia, he also climbed it!!

Kaia has never been to Australia, and her vision of the mountain comes solely from her vivid imagination.

