



Mt
Stronach
Survey
Cairn,
Circa
1903

MT. STRONACH FOREST RESERVE

Mt. Stronach is on State Forest and is managed by Forestry Tasmania as a Forest Reserve under the Regional Forest Agreement, to protect the floristic and recreation value of the area.

It can be reached east from Scottsdale along the Tasman highway (towards St. Helens.) About 4 km from the Forest EcoCentre turn off to the left into Buckney's Road. A sign on the right of the highway indicates Mt. Stronach Forest Reserve. Follow this gravel road to the base of the mountain.

The mount rises from 130 metres above sea level to 465 metres at the summit and covers an area of more than 1000 hectares.

Mt. Stronach is geologically described as a 'monadnock' which is a prominent rounded mountain sized landform rising from the surrounding plain; a large mass of erosion – resistant granite formed between 350 and 400 million years ago.

The mountain was obviously visited by the aboriginal population, as artefacts have been found on the summit and they might have appreciated and used it for various values.

The slopes of Mt. Stronach are clothed in dry forests of peppermint and stringy bark eucalyptus with white gum and dry white top stringy bark around the rocky knolls along the ridge line. Poorly drained areas carry Teatree while exposed granite slabs are often covered in Kunzea scrub.

Following European settlement, Mt. Stronach, like other granite areas of the North East, was prospected for tin but very little was found except in some of the streams flowing out from the lower slopes. Some water races were constructed to collect water for hydraulic mining of alluvial tin.

In keeping with early exploitation of natural resources, the better stands of forest were cut for sawlogs and fencing material in the early part of the 20th century. The original walking tracks actually followed one of the old logging tracks where logs were pulled downhill by horse or bullocks, this has become severely eroded.

In 1903 a cairn was erected on the summit to commemorate Federation. Like other dry forest areas, Mt. Stronach has been subjected to frequent fires causing damage and soil loss following hot fires.

A new track has been located and constructed by local volunteers under Forestry Tasmania supervision. This track is at an easier grade and will gradually be upgraded. Care is still required.

To enjoy this walk all that is needed is a pair of strong shoes, a windproof jacket and some lunch. Time required – approximately 2-½ hours return trip.

ACCESS PASSES THROUGH PRIVATE PROPERTY

PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU LEAVE ALL GATES AS YOU FIND THEM.



Information Supplied by Scottsdale Visitor Information Centre

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