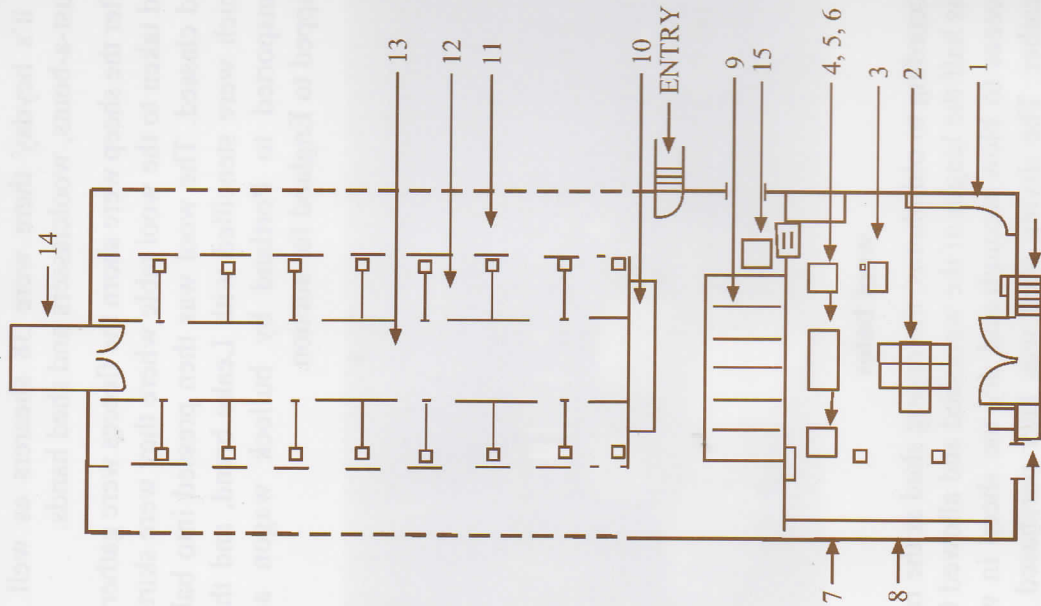
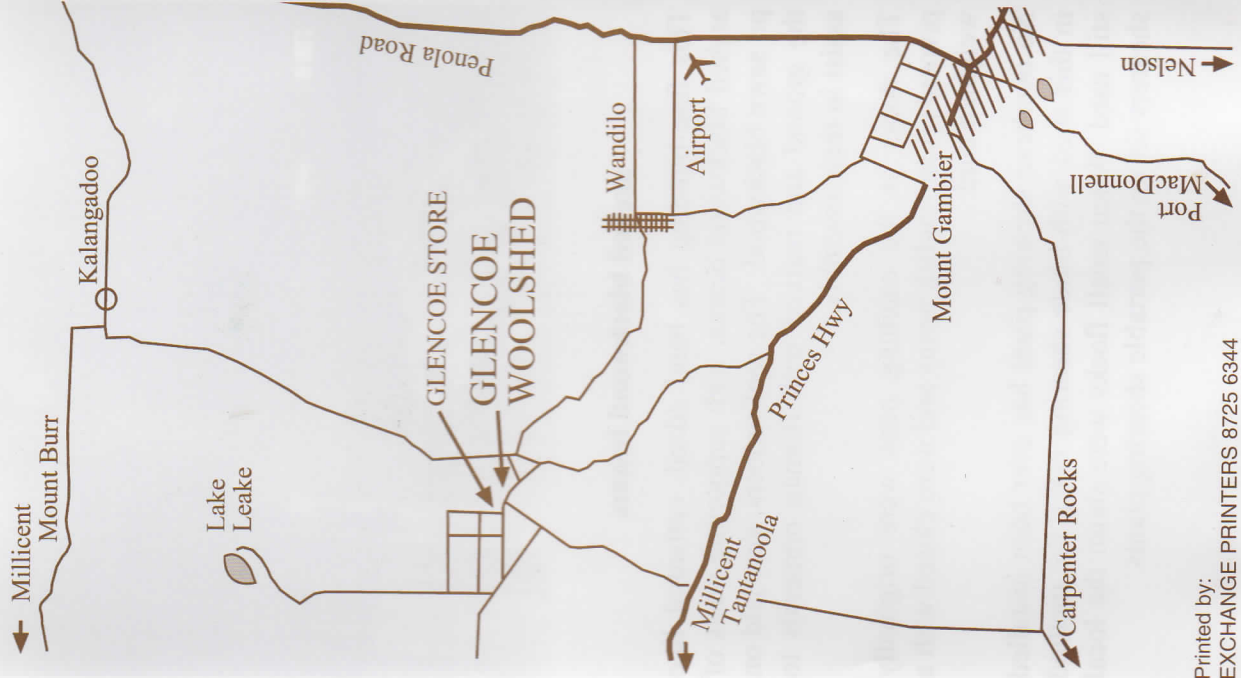


To Glencoe Woolshed from Mount Gambier

1. 20km on Princes Highway to Millicent
2. 6km on Princes Highway
3. 12km on Princes Highway, TURN RIGHT to Kalangadoo/Glencoe 22km undulating road

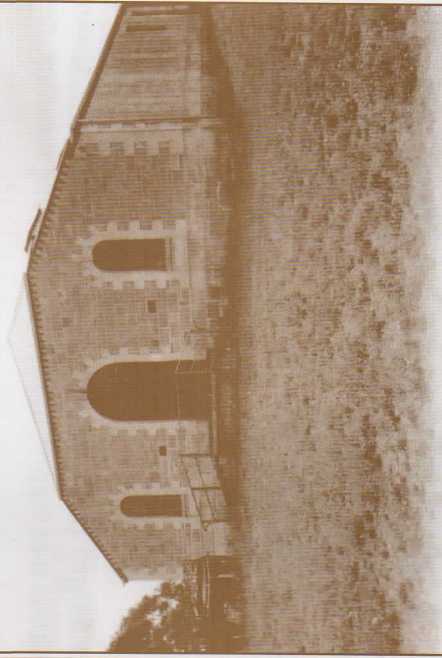


GLENCOE WOOLSHED

1. Display panel
2. Wool bales
3. Stencil table
4. Woolpress
5. Woolpress
6. Woolpress
7. Wool samples
8. Display panel
9. Wool bins
10. Wool classing table
11. Shearing stands
12. Sheep pens
13. Sheep race
14. Access ramp
15. Grindstone

VISITOR GUIDE to the GLENCOE WOOLSHED

BUILT IN 1863



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NATIONAL TRUST
SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Welcome to the Glencoe Woolshed, your journey back to the era of the early Pioneer Pastoralists.

The Glencoe district was first settled in 1844 by two brothers, Robert and Edward Leake who came from Rosedale in Tasmania bringing with them Saxon Merino Sheep.

Their holdings here consisted of 90,000 acres stretching from Mount Muirhead near Millicent and taking in the Mount Gambier region to Penola Road. They built their first homestead and outbuildings near Lake Leake where there was permanent water.

The timbers of their building were mortised and the bark roof laced to the purlins with greenhide. No nails were used during the construction.

Eleven years later they decided to build a two storey house, 400 metres south of the woolshed calling it Frontier House.



Frontier House

Unfortunately Frontier House was demolished, but the fine two storied coach house, stables and groom's quarters, built in 1857, are still standing.

Robert Leake died in 1860 and Edward was left to continue managing the property. When the flock reached nearly 50,000 Edward decided that a good woolshed was needed, and in 1863 this was built and officially opened with a gala ball for 200 guests.



arched blackwood beams

This fine building has hand adzed, cathedral like arched blackwood beams, with supporting posts of pit sawn blackwood. The roof timbers were laid on the ground and marked with Roman numerals to assist in their assembly.

The doors of the catching pens were originally pivoted on an English penny and were closed with a weighted cord.

No overhead shearing plant has ever been installed in this shed with blade shearing being the method still used. When small flocks were shorn the local shearers set up the portable shearing plants.

In it's heyday there were 38 shearers as well as roust-a-bouts, woolclassers and shed hands.

After the sheep were shorn the fleeces were gathered and taken to the wool table where they were skirted and classed. The wool was then pressed into bales which were stencilled with Leake brand, and then transported to Portland by bullock wagon and shipped to England for auction.



wool bales

According to old photos, the drying shed at the rear was half the length of the woolshed and allowed the breezes to blow through and dry the sheep in wet weather. The drying shed was later purchased by Coola Station.

The most sheep shorn in one year was 53,000 when they shored 2,000 per day and employed an extra 100 men.

The present Glencoe Public Hall was the former men's quarters.

Edward Leake died in 1867 and the property was purchased by George Riddoch who sold it for closer settlement in 1901. After further changes in ownership it was acquired by Mr Kennedy (Scotty) who later donated it to the National Trust.