Heritage Trail

CAPT. CHARLES STURT (1795-1869) was a renowned explorer of Australia and pioneer of South Australia. He established his farm on this site in 1840 and built a home for his family.

Before the European settlers arrived, enormous sandhills existed along the coast, stemming the flow of Torrens River into the sea and creating a landscape amass with marshes and reeds. It was a landscape that sustained a rich biodiversity of flora, fauna and birdlife and offered an idyllic home to the Kaurna people.

Trace the history of this property from pre-settlement to suburban growth by following the signs.

Wittunga, The Place of Reeds

What was the name of the people who occupied the Adelaide Plains prior to white settlement?

What did these people call this place?

These people had a way of life and a set of spiritual beliefs that were based on their relationship to?

Why did the number of Aboriginal people living on the Adelaide Plains declined rapidly after settlement?

DRAWN FROM LIFE

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Page 1 of 12
THE FIRST WAVE

1. Where was Charles Sturt born?
   - Soldier

2. In what year was he born?
   - Transport convicts

3. As a young boy, where was Charles Sturt sent to school?
   - India

4. At age 18 years what career did Charles Sturt choose?
   - River Murray

5. Why did Charles Sturt come to Australia?
   - 1795

6. Which mighty new river did Charles Sturt discover in 1830?
   - England

Captain Sturt’s Expedition

Match the correct answer with the numbered questions.
THE PROMISED LAND

What did Sturt sell so he could come back to Australia?

Sturt travelled overland to South Australia in 1839, what did he bring with him?

What position was offered to Sturt by the Governor?

Look at the picture of Sturt’s home in 1849. Write down one thing that you notice is different?

Sturt built his home in the Reedbeds. What did he name his home?
CHANGING FORTUNES

Can you name one of Sturt’s three sons?

There is a picture of a young girl, what was her name and who was she?

Name an activity that the children enjoyed doing at home?

Sturt’s property was a farm, can you name some plants that he grew or animals he kept?

Charles Sturt left this site in 1844 on expedition, where did he go?

Looking at the picture of the Grange, what is the main noticeable difference between then and now?

Life at the Grange

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## CHANGING LANDSCAPES

When did the Sturt Family return to England?

Why did they leave South Australia? Name one reason.

Where did Sturt die in 1869?

Lady Sturt sold their property in 1877 for subdivision into allotments. What was the new subdivision called?
CAPT. CHARLES STURT (1795-1869) was a renowned explorer of Australia and pioneer of South Australia. He traced the course of the Darling, Murrumbidgee and Murray Rivers and solved the riddle of the rivers of the River Murray Basin. He later led an expedition into Central Australia in search of an inland sea.

FIND these objects carried by Charles Sturt on expedition. Can you suggest what you would take as a replacement?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Object</th>
<th>Answers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sword</strong></td>
<td>Carried for protection</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Ink and pen</strong></td>
<td>To make Journal entries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Map table</strong></td>
<td>For laying out and drawing maps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Metal case for letters</strong></td>
<td>Used by horse riders to carry letters over long distance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cylinder for Maps</strong></td>
<td>Protection for maps against dust and water while on expedition</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Find the model that shows Sturt’s campsite on the Murrumbidgee River. The bullock wagons had become so bogged in swamp lands that Sturt decided to make camp and assemble a whale boat so as to continue their journey by river. The whale boat had been carried in sections on a bullock wagon, and the carpenter Clayton was hired to reconstruct it when required.

Can you see Clayton’s tool box? NAME four objects around the site that Clayton used to construct the whale boat?

1. 
2. 
3. 
4. 

Sturt had stores of food for the journey, can you see the salted pork and the flour.

What do you think they made with the flour?

Why was the meat salted?

Inside the model there is flag mounted on a pole. It is called a Union Jack.

Can you FIND two other Union Jacks in the Gallery. One was carried by Sturt on his River Murray Expedition 1829-1830 and the other on the Central Expedition 1844 -1846.

These were hand made by ladies and presented to the Expeditionary leader at a public breakfast before expedition party began their journey.

To which nation does the Union Jack belong?
An activity for later. Colour-in the flag.

What are the origins of the Union Jack?

...
Search the Grange

Look for these objects.
What would you use in your house today.

Missies Room: Box stool

This stool was used as a seat or small table. They had a compartment inside which could be used for special items, such as books.

Study: Writing Desk

People used to contact each other through letter writing. When they travelled they would take their writing desk so they could write letters to friends.

Main Bedroom: Travelling Wash stand

This wash stand allowed people to wash their face, clean their teeth and shave when they were travelling on a ship or on expedition.
Main Bedroom:  Commode

Toilets were always outside the home in Sturt’s time because there was not a sewerage system. So to avoid going outside in the middle of the night with candle in hand, a chamber pot was kept in the bedroom, often inside a boxed chair called a commode.

Pantry:  Buttersafe

This safe was allowed air to flow through netting to keep butter cool and keep the flies away.

Pantry:  Storm Lamp

This lamp, which held a candle, was used when walking outside of an evening. The glass protected the candle from being blown out by the wind.

Storeroom:  Bath
People used this bath in their bedrooms in front of the fire. Sitting in a chair next to the bath, you placed your feet in the tub so as to wash your feet and legs.

Dining Room: Cellaret

This cabinet was used to store wine. The lead lining stopped the melting ice from damaging the timber cabinet.

Drawing Room: Stereoscope

A stereoscope was a viewing box for 3D photographs. Most people didn’t own cameras so they purchased photographs of their holiday destinations to show to family and friends when they came home.
Word Search

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- BOAT
- BOOKS
- BIRD
- DARLING
- FLAG
- GRANGE
- MURRAY
- REEDBEDS
- RIVER
- ROW
- SAIL
- SNAKE
- STURT