



THE CHAFFEY TRAIL

Mildura ~ Australia's First Irrigation Colony

Trace the story of how Mildura became an irrigated oasis in the midst of an arid land

Innovative technology is available for Deaf and hearing impaired people to view information about the Chaffey Trail.

George and William Benjamin (WB) Chaffey were developing an irrigation settlement in Ontario, California when they met the Victorian Cabinet Minister Alfred Deakin. Deakin was appointed by the Victorian Parliament to visit America on a fact finding mission.

The Chaffeys' model irrigation settlement impressed Deakin, who in turn impressed them with the potential for irrigation from the Murray River in Australia.

The Chaffey brothers subsequently came to Australia and, after protracted negotiations, in 1887 purchased the then defunct pastoral lease and created the Mildura Irrigation Colony.

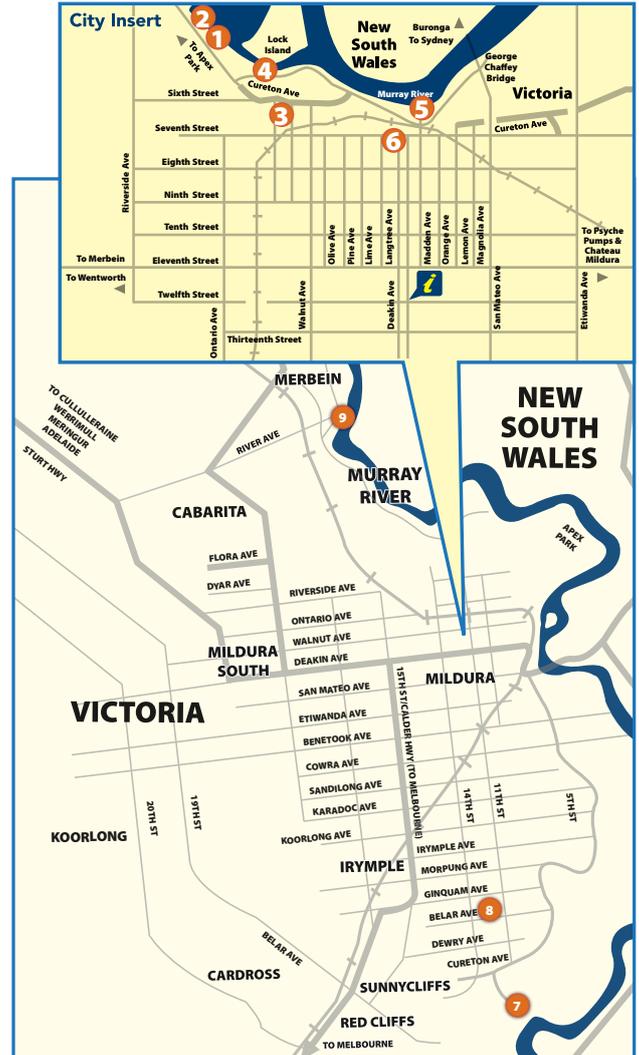
The Chaffeys adapted the plan of Ontario to the present site of Mildura. They developed a series of steam-driven pumps to lift the water from the Murray River, first into King's Billabong, then to various heights to irrigate up to 33,000 acres.

The Chaffey brothers wanted to make Mildura a vibrant community.

Their plans included many visionary concepts: an agricultural college was needed and to finance this, one property in 15 was designated as college lease land now providing funding for schools. Prominent locations were made available for churches and facilities for clubs were encouraged. Parks and town transport were considered – together this gave us the beautiful centre plantation of Deakin Avenue, surely one of the finest thoroughfares in Australia. Lanes and streets were laid out in all the town planning making Mildura the beautiful place it is.

Now you can trace the development of Mildura through the Chaffey Trail. A video production of the 'Chaffey Trail' can be viewed in the theatre at the Mildura Visitor Information Centre 180 Deakin Avenue, from 9.30am – 4.30pm daily ☎ 03 50188 380 for more information.

A version of each site is also available in Braille. Please ask at the Mildura Information Desk.



 * INTERPRETIVE SIGNS ARE AT EACH SITE TO PROVIDE A GREATER STORY

 Braille



How Smart Auslan Works on your Android Smart Phone



Download Smart Auslan app from the App Store or enquire at the Mildura Visitor Information Centre



Scan the Quick Response (QR) code on the brochure or direct from the Chaffey Trail site



The phone plays the Auslan translation video with captions

www.thechaffeytrail.com.au



For more information please email chaffey.trail@mildura.vic.gov.au
For more history information please email mildurahistorical@gmail.com

For captioned Auslan translation video, download the Smart Auslan application from the App store on your Android smartphone or go to our website. Then scan the below QR codes for the relevant sites.

1



The Old Mildura Station Homestead

Part of the Chaffey Trail

What is here today?

Did you know?



2



Mildura Homestead Cemetery

Part of the Chaffey Trail

What is here today?

Did you know?



3



Rio Vista Historic House

Part of the Chaffey Trail

What is here today?

Did you know?



4



Lock 11 & Mildura Weir

Part of the Chaffey Trail

What is here today?

Did you know?



5



Mildura Wharf

Part of the Chaffey Trail

What is here today?

Did you know?



6



Mildura Grand Hotel

Part of the Chaffey Trail

What is here today?

Did you know?



7



Psyche Bend Pump Station

Part of the Chaffey Trail

What is here today?

Did you know?



8



Chateau Mildura

Part of the Chaffey Trail

What is here today?

Did you know?



9



Merbein

Part of the Chaffey Trail

What is here today?

Did you know?

