

J S Battye Library of West Australian History
State Film Archives – Collection Listing

FN 46

GOLD TOWN, GHOST TOWN - COOLGARDIE

**Produced by Bryan Lobascher
for the Tourist Development Authority of W.A. c1969.**

**Photography by Freddy Ford
Script by Malcolm Uren
Narration by Peter Carver**

Provenance

Unknown

Access

The Battye Library does not provide access to original material. In some cases, alternative formats such as VHS or DVD are available for researchers' use.

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Times, shown in minutes and seconds (e.g. 00:19), refer to the start of the images described. Times were taken from video run on a Phillips VR330 player.

- 01:15 Title: Gold Town, Ghost Town – Coolgardie.
- 01:24 Gravestones. Crows heard in background. Presumed to be Coolgardie cemetery.
- 02:05 Mining waste dump.
- 02:15 Pages from newspapers: "Colonial Goldfields Gazette" and "Westralia".
- 02:30 Bullion Room sign. Dozens of gold bars stacked behind security gates.
- 02:42 Still photo of prospector with a dryblower (shaker).
- 02:48 Newspaper page re the Londonderry find.
- 02:56 Ground being dug by pick.
- 03:03 Prospector climbing down ladder into small shaft.

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- 03:15 Shot of trousered legs taking faltering steps across flat stony ground.
- 03:20 Gold being poured.
- 03:25 Dozens of gold bars stacked behind security gates. (same shot as at 02:30)
- 03:31 Front of Warden's Office and Court, Bayley Street, Coolgardie.
- 03:43 Aerial type view of a model of the township of Coolgardie. See also at 23:56.
- 03:53 Goldfields water pipeline running up a slight incline in open country.
- 03:59 Railway lines.
- 04:15 Branches of a dead tree and a large wooden headframe.
- 04:19 An abandoned 'camp'.
- 04:21 Bayley Street, Coolgardie from the Post Office up to the Warden's Court building.
- 04:27 Bayley Street, Coolgardie from the Post Office up to the Warden's Court building. This image photographed from behind the ruins of a large brick building. It is also used at 24:27. Superimposed over this view are the words "Gold Town Ghost Town".
- 04:42 Still photo of prospectors with shovel and dryblower with a map of Australia.
- 04:54 Map shows the location of Bathurst, N.S.W.
- 05:02 Map shows the track from the eastern states to the Kimberley goldfields.
- 05:17 Map shows the track through to the Pilbara goldfields.
- 05:26 Map shows the track through to the Murchison goldfields.
- 05:30 Map shows the track through to Southern Cross and the Yilgarn goldfields.
- 05:34 Portrait of Arthur Bayley, one of the discoverers of the Coolgardie goldfield.

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- 05:50 Portrait of William Ford, one of the discoverers of the Coolgardie goldfield.
- 06:05 Bright golden sunlight.
- 06:19 Harsh blue sky.
- 06:20 Dry scrub country.
- 06:30 Outskirts of Coolgardie showing low hills.
- 06:39 Flat stony ground.
- 07:02 Hands holding gold-bearing rock.
- 07:17 1890s still photo of men clustered around notice board covered with Mining Claim notices.
- 07:17 Extension of notice board photograph showing men outside the Warden's tent with a corrugated iron building alongside.
- 07:34 Newspaper page.
- 07:42 1890s still photo of the prospector "Russian Jack" with his rough timber wheelbarrow loaded with his swag and supplies.
- 07:59 Reproduction of the Telegram sent to the Commissioner for Crown Lands announcing Bayley's find at Coolgardie in 1892.
- 08:12 1890s still photo of prospectors seated outside tents having hair cuts and being shaved by other prospectors.
- 08:19 1890s still photo of timber and hessian shops: Butcher and Laundry.
- 08:21 1890s still photo of Afghans wearing turbans, leading a string of camels.
- 08:32 1890s still photo of bearded cyclist laden with his swag and supplies.
- 08:38 1890s still photo of men seated outside tents with clothes strung up on lines between a tent and an upended wagon.
- 08:44 1890s still photo of a man seated on a camel with an aboriginal boy seated on a horse.

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- 08:53 c1930s still photo of a man with a barrow laden with a collapsible? Dryblower.
- 09:00 c1930s still photo of men around square water tanks.
- 09:15 Small outback cemetery. Possibly the first Coolgardie cemetery.
- 09:46 1969 moving images of Coolgardie prospector Jack Carins wheeling a dryblower.
- 10:07 Jack Carins tipping a pan of dirt into a dryblower.
- 10:18 Jack Carins 'shaking' the dryblower.
- 10:34 Close up of dirt blowing out of the dryblower.
- 10:48 Jack Carins 'panning off' the dirt.
- 11:14 Jack Carins studying a piece of rock.
- 11:18 Paddy Hannan statue at Kalgoorlie.
- 11:20 Ore train passing by a mine building.
- 11:24 Hannan Street, Kalgoorlie. Film is travelling east showing cars angled parked into kerb all along the street,
- 11:35 Shots of Jack Carins.
- 11:42 Wooden headframe. Narration mentions Burbanks.
- 11:59 Man walking through hilly, stony country. Narration mentions Londonderry.
- 12:18 Shows shaft collar of the Londonderry "Golden Hole".
- 12:33 Man smoking a pipe and studying a piece of rock.
- 12:44 Prospector Warwick Taylor using a dolly-pot to break up stone.
- 12:56 Prospector Warwick Taylor using a dolly-pot to break up stone, showing a headframe in the background. A 1930s? motor car with CG number plate is also in the picture. (Londonderry?)
- 13:14 Tipping pulverised stone out of the dolly pot.
- 13:29 Prospector fossicking at foot of a hill.

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- 13:35 Hands holding pieces of quartz rock.
- 13:40 Newspaper pages featuring large number of mining companies floated.
- 14:20 Newspaper pages featuring the collapse of the Londonderry Hoax.
- 14:36 Plaque at Bayley's Reward Reef with headframe showing in background.
- 14:43 Overview of surroundings of Bayley's Reward Mine.
- 14:48 Bayley's Reward Slime dump remains.
- 15:01 Prospector Harry Boucher on Fly Flat at Coolgardie using motorised machinery to haul ore up out of his shaft in round buckets.
- 15:46 Window signwritten "Mining Registrar".
- 15:51 Colonnade of the Coolgardie Warden's Court building, with men inspecting the Mining Claim notice boards. Nickel, 1969.
- 16:05 Close up of sheets of Nickel Mining Claims. 1969.
- 16:10 View of Kambalda and causeway across Lake Lefroy.
- 16:20 Drilling for nickel.
- 16:33 Kalgoorlie Airport with plane on the tarmac. Two men are waiting behind a wire fence, one is wearing a white Stetson hat.
- 16:37 Four wheel drive vehicle driving across open stony ground.
- 16:41 A row of caravans. Probably at Kambalda.
- 16:43 Highway Motel, lower Hannan Street, Kalgoorlie.
- 16:46 Helicopter over lake country. Narration makes the point that the work is that of a 'scientist' not of a 'prospector'.
- 16:52 Kambalda houses. Newly built. Gardens not established.
- 17:08 Kambalda. First shop.
- 17:12 Kambalda mine site infrastructure.
- 17:22 Warden's Court building in Bayley Street, Coolgardie.

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- 17:27 1890s still photo showing crowd in Bayley Street. Men, women, children, bicycles and horses & drays.
- 17:52 1890s still photo of horses outside two Coolgardie two storey hotels.
- 17:59 1890s still photo of mounted police outside West Australian Bank in Coolgardie.
- 18:08 1890s still photo of a laden horse drawn stage coach surrounded by travellers outside the large corrugated iron Coolgardie Hotel.
- 18:16 1890s still photo of a camel and corrugated iron water tanks as well as barrels of water.
- 18:22 Workers laying the Goldfields Water Scheme pipeline.
- 18:29 1890s still photo of Post Office corner, Bayley Street, Coolgardie with crowd of people.
- 18:33 1890s still photo of coach drawn by four horses. Nine men are top of the coach and one is standing alongside.
- 18:43 1890s still photo has man standing in foreground looking across to a railway line. There is a train on the line and horse drawn wagon nearby.
- 18:47 1890s still photo of crowds on foot and in horse and buggies with a train on the line, with numerous people posed alongside the train.
- 19:06 1890s still photo of the crowd outside the Coolgardie Railway Station at the time of the official opening of the railway.
- 19:16 1890s still photo of business premises on fire in Bayley Street.
- 19:51 1890s still photo of a view of Bayley Street in Coolgardie showing the large water tanks in the middle of the street, to be used for firefighting.
- 20:04 1890s still photo of the Coolgardie Fire Brigade on horsedrawn drays outside the Coolgardie Fire Station.
- 20:13 1890s still photo of Warden Finnerty. Narration covers aspects of law and justice on the goldfields.
- 20:29 1890s still photo of a large crowd of men attending a 'roll-up' to deal with a complaint.

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- 20:42 1890s still photo of a uniformed Police Constable (1).
- 20:45 1890s still photo of a uniformed Police Constable (2).
- 20:51 1890s still photo of crowds of men.
- 20:57 1890s still photo of upright water condenser tanks.
- 21:11 1890s still photo of a crowd of men with an effigy strung up about to be burned.
- 21:15 1890s still photo of a large bank of horizontal water condenser tanks that were part of the State Government condensing plant.
- 21:30 1890s still photo of an iron wheeled tractor pulling wagons piled with logs to be burned to heat the condensers.
- 21:39 1890s still photo of men outside the premises of the “Golden Courier” and the “Golden Age” newspaper offices in Coolgardie.
- 21:45 1890s still photo of the Coolgardie Exhibition Buildings with a large banner reading “ADVANCE COOLGARDIE”. Large crowds in the street.
- 21:56 Repeat of the image at 21:39.
- 22:04 1900s still photo of a family in a motorcar. This image also appears in “In Old Kalgoorlie”; Pascoe & Thomson, p41 with the information that it is the family of Michael O’Reilly, Hannan Street draper in their 1905 Oldsmobile Model C, taken in March 1907.
- 22:08 A mine at Coolgardie surrounded by native vegetation.
- 22:21 Rows of soldiers bearing arms. Narration is re the large enlistment of men from Coolgardie for World War 1.
- 22:27 World War 1 troop ship with crowds of people on the wharf.
- 22:23 Soldiers in rowboats come ashore (in Gallipoli?)
- 22:50 Old mine dumps and abandoned machinery.
- 23:01 Prospector Warwick Taylor panning off.
- 23:11 1969 view of cars travelling along the Eyre Highway.
- 23:20 Portrait of explorer Edward John Eyre.

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- 23:29 Small bus travelling towards the camera along a highway.
- 23:38 Gold being poured.
- 23:43 1969. Headframe at Kambalda.
- 23:45 1969. Warden's court buildings at Coolgardie.
- 23:48 1969. Goldfields Exhibition inside the Warden's court building. Among the exhibits is a table model of Coolgardie township at 23:56. (This model is also at 03:43.)
- 24:27 Bayley Street, Coolgardie from the Post Office up to the Warden's Court building. This image photographed from behind the ruins of a large brick building. This image was also used at 4:27.
- 24:32 1969. Goldfields Exhibition inside the Warden's court building. Included is the following:
24:55 An 1890s photo of children at the Coolgardie School.
25:08 An 1890s photo of T'othersiders Hop Beer Stall.
25:23 First page of the Manifesto of the E.G. Reform League with narration regarding Federation.
- 26:00 End.

Overview:

This film shows the discovery, boom, and decline by the First World War, of the Coolgardie goldfield. 1890s photographs and newspapers, enhanced with narrative and sound effects are used to a large extent. It contains footage of individual prospectors from the 1890s and 1930s as well as showing the newer scientific prospecting methods used in the 1960s by the exploration companies. The mine site and the emerging townsite of Kambalda is shown, with shots of the mine headframe, the newly built houses, and the first of the shops in the town. Some scenes from Kalgoorlie include Hannan Street, the Highway Motel and the Kalgoorlie Airport.