

### Visiting the Falls of Cobaw

On his 1836 'Australia Felix' expedition, Major Sir Thomas Mitchell stopped for a day at a waterfall on the Coliban River, which he named the Falls of Cobaw. He included an etching of the falls in his published account of the expedition:



Now known as Coliban Falls, the falls are not signposted, and are not all that easy to get to. Nevertheless, they are quite close to Redesdale, and you can combine a visit with orienteering to Kimbolton or Eppalock.

Access is via Summerhill Road, which runs off the Metcalfe to Redesdale Road (see <https://binged.it/2qlqfwB>). Summerhill Road is not signposted and has been adapted by the farmer to look like a private road, but it is public. The entrance looks like:



The property name on the horizontal white boards is Summer Hill.

You can drive 2 kilometres down Summerhill Road, which will bring you to a locked gate. The road beyond is still public, but you will need to hoof it from here ...



Continue between paddocks down the road on foot for a further 550 metres, at which time you will come to another gate with a see a narrow strip of fenced out land on the left, starting just past the gate. In this picture, you can see the land in question carrying long grass, in contrast to the paddocks in front and behind.



This strip of land is an unused road reserve, and is also public land. You can follow this for 850 metres up over a ridge and down towards the Coliban River. When you come to the Falls reserve there is (at last!) a signpost, and you can make your way downwards to the left for about another 150 metres to the falls. When I visited, the aborigines in Major Mitchell's picture were not there, but it was a weekend, so they might have gone to the footy!



Return the way you came. I hope you enjoy the visit.

Warwick Williams.