

UPPER TEMORA

By mid 1880 the Temora goldfield comprised three communities each more than a kilometre from it's neighbour.

Beyond the Austral Street boundary of the original government town of Temora, "Upper Temora" spread southeast along the Cootamundra Road to cover the reef mining gold claims of the Diorite hill.

Centred upon Harry Ponting's "Bristol Arms Hotel", at what is now the intersection of the Cootamundra Road and Maroney's Lane, Upper Temora (or "Top Town") mining activities focused on the areas of McPherson's Reef, Mother Shipton's Reef, and the alluvial deposits below the Mother Shipton that spread out towards the "Golden Gate Hotel". To the west of the present 'Golden Gate Dam', this hotel once stood on the corner of the Cootamundra Road and De Boos Street.

McPherson's reef had first been discovered in 1871, but it's neighbour, the "Mother Shipton", named for a sixteenth century Yorkshire witch, claimed the limelight.

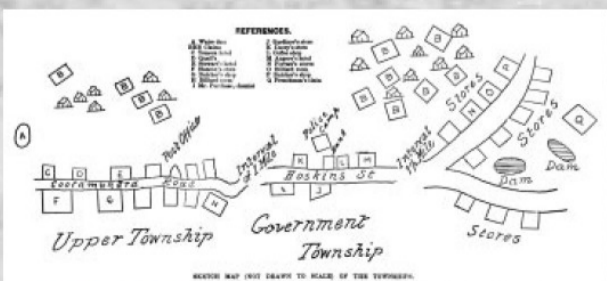
In late 1881, as the glory days of the rush to Temora were fading, Jim Bushel, Harry Allen and Geordie Penman took over the "exhausted" Mother Shipton claim. At a depth of 90 feet their drill lodged in gold-bearing stone and a charge of dynamite subsequently dislodged the "Mother Shipton Nugget" in three pieces totalling 315 ounces of fine gold.



Mother Shipton Mine



Bristol Hotel



Goldfield Sketch Map

Temora Heritage Committee



Temora Shire Council

