

A SHORT HISTORY OF THE HUME HIGHWAY

1788

Sydney founded

1805

The first road leading southward from Sydney, population 3163

1819

Governor Macquarie ordered the construction of a 'cart road' to the Goulburn area

3 October 1824

Hamilton Hume and William Hovell began their southward exploration and reached the coast near Geelong on 16 December 1824.

1835

Melbourne founded

1836

Lennox's stone arch bridge over Prospect Creek, Lansdowne opened and remains in use

1836

Ten Mile Creek (later Germanton, later Holbrook) founded

1836

First settlements in Albury Wodonga area

1836-1842

Towrang Stockade housed up to 250 convicts engaged in the construction of the Great Southern Road

1838

Albury surveyed and declared the official Murray River crossing place

1851

Victoria becomes separate colony

1858

The Great Southern Road, proclaimed as one of the three main roads in the Colony

1860

First bridge across Murray River

1867

Prince Alfred Bridge over the Murrumbidgee River at Gundagai opened. It was the first iron truss road bridge to be built in NSW and remains in use.

1884

Mr A. Edward completed the first bicycle ride from Sydney to Melbourne

1896

Concrete arch bridge at Black Bobs Creek in NSW opened



May 1900

Melbourne mechanic Herbert Thomson completed the first vehicular trip between Sydney and Melbourne

1922

The song 'The Road to Gundagai' first published

1928

Government Gazette N0 110 proclaimed the Great Southern Road as a State Highway, giving it the name 'Hume Highway'

1931

Lorry checking station built at Marulan

1932

Dog on the Tucker Box monument erected north of Gundagai

1940

Hume Highway now fully sealed

1954

Commencement of the Remembrance Driveway project in NSW

1954/55

Route 31 signs erected over the full length of the Hume Highway

1959

First curve advisory speed signs

1961

The first 4 lane modern freeway standard section was completed in Victoria at Craigieburn

1961

Union Bridge over the Murray River opened

1967

The last single-lane bridge on the Hume Highway eliminated

1970

Dual carriageway north of Goulburn

1974

Passing of the National Roads Act with the Federal Government assuming full responsibility for construction of National Highways

1979

Truck blockade on Razorback Range

1986

B-Double heavy vehicles commence operation on the Hume Highway

2006

Higher Mass Limits (HML) introduced

2007

Tarcutta truck changeover facility opened

2007

Wodonga becomes last Victorian section to be duplicated

Mid-2013

9.5 km Holbrook Bypass opened completing the duplication of the Hume Highway