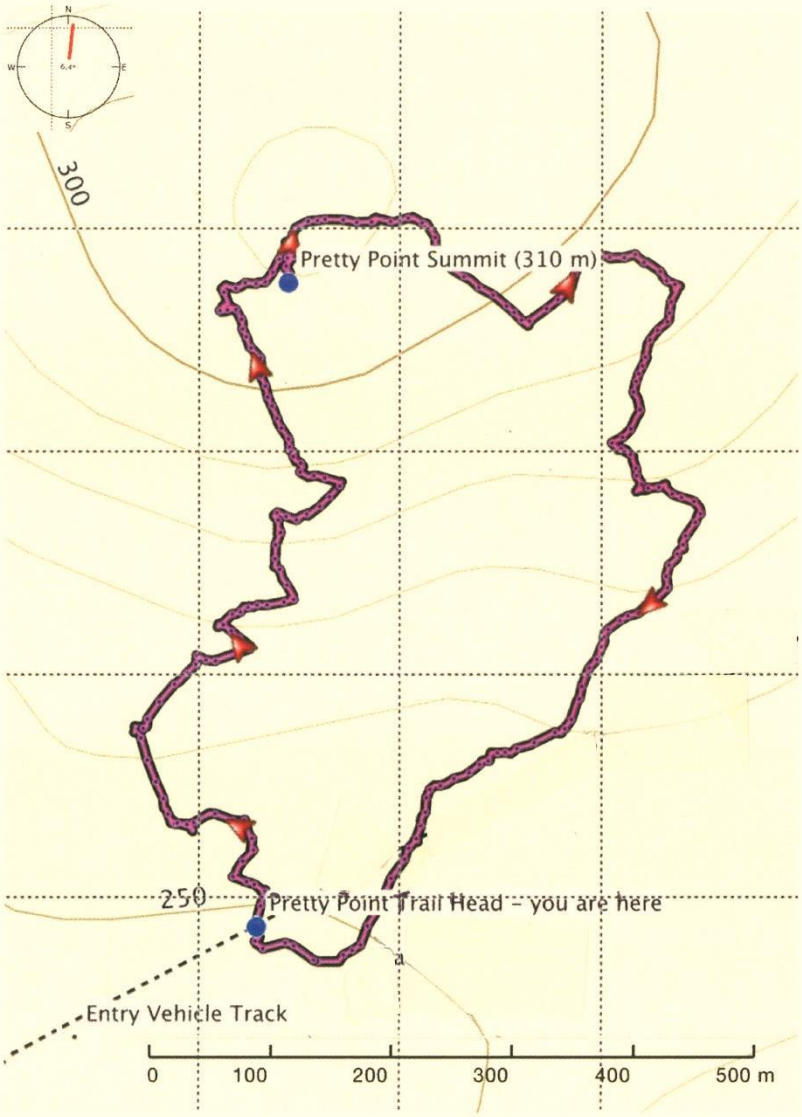
Betty and Bob Lewis Loop Walk around Pretty Point

One way 1.8 Km loop walk, allow 1 hour
Some steep sections
Sign posted track with some obstacles
Some bush walking experience recommended
High points may have Telstra mobile phone coverage



Betty and Bob Lewis Walking Trail – Trail Notes

- **Nature Foundation strongly recommends a buddy system** – this trail should not be walked alone.
- **Register your trip** – please register your trip at the Hiltaba Homestead. If the Hiltaba Managers are not available it is mandatory that all walkers log their details (including people walking, vehicle registration and start time) in the Registration Book located on the side of the garage adjacent the Homestead.
- **Plan your trip** – walkers must take personal responsibility for their own safety with suitable footwear, clothing, have navigation device/s (compass/GPS), adequate water, food, medical and first aid supplies. A suggested allowance for water per person in an arid area is 4 litres per person per day. Allow sufficient time to complete the walk before sunset (this is a day walk only).
- **Competency/Fitness Level** - this trail is steep and is recommended for people with some bushwalking experience and reasonable fitness level. There is no clear pathway and self-navigation may be required. Don't forget to stop and enjoy the spectacular views.
- **Caution:** Some steep sections, irregular surface with loose ground, Spinifex (*Triodia* species) (recommended use of hiking gaters).
- **Trail markers** are up to 200 metres apart. Some sections are supplemented by pink ribbon between markers. Where distance is noted on trail markers, it refers to the distance back to the Pretty Point Trail Head
- **Mobile phone coverage** - Telstra mobile phone coverage may be available from high points. UHF channel 11 is the Hiltaba Homestead channel.
- **All vehicles to be parked at Pretty Point car park.**

Distances referenced are distances from Pretty Point (starting point).

1. On the main access track into Pretty Point there is a sign post directing (180 metres) to the car park at the start of the walk.
2. The loop walk has been regularly signposted with track markers with arrows, at approximately 200 metre intervals.
3. Some of the track markers have a letter sticker on them to highlight a feature, as follows:

- "**M**" Example of Mallee tree (*Eucalyptus species*) and Notable Wattle *(Acacia notabilis).*
- "**G**" Granite outcrops.
- "**Q**" Quandong tree (*Santalum acuminatum*); note seeds at base of tree.
- "**P**" *Pittosporum* - this is the tall tree behind the granite boulder.

- "**MC**" Canyon between granite boulders.
- "**D**" turn around to see the Diprotodon dinosaur in the left hand side outcrop.
- "**L**" Lookout - this is the highest point of the walk at 317 metres above sea level. Salt lakes to the south-west, Hiltaba homestead to the west, Mount Hiltaba to the north-west, Mount Mungo to the north-east, Barbers Hill to the south-south-west.
- "**R**" Note the difference in the weathering and colour of the north and south facing boulders.

4. At the end of the walk, the car park (walk start) is 180 metres south following along the fence line.

Congratulations - you've completed the walk and experienced some spectacular views of Hiltaba Nature Reserve. If you have feedback on this walk please log when you sign-out, alternately email NatureFoundationSA@nfsa.org.au – tell us what worked well and what we can do better.

If you'd like to share your photos of the walk with Nature Foundation then please email them to NatureFoundationSA@nfsa.org.au – If used we will credit the photographer and will not supply images to any third party.

Betty and Bob Lewis Walking Trail - Trail Coordinates

	Map Coordinates	UTM UPS
Trail Head, Walk Starting Point	53H	0513901 6440323
Quandong tree	53H	0513864 6440423
Lookout	53H	0513924 6440873
Trail End	53H	0514025 6440406

Hiltaba Nature Reserve – Flora/Fauna/Geology

Nature Foundation's overarching management goal is to oversee the restoration of ecosystem health to Hiltaba. Hiltaba has very high biodiversity value and the creation of the Hiltaba Nature Reserve is providing protection for 9 species of national conservation significance and 40 species of state conservation significance in addition to 7 species that only occur in the Gawler Ranges:

- *Pterostylis ovata* - Gawler Ranges Greenhood
- *Grevillea parrallelinervis* - Gawler Ranges Grevillea
- *Dodonea intricata* - Gawler Ranges Hopbush
- *Acacia toondulya*- Toondulya Wattle
- *Protanthera florifera* – Gawler Ranges Mint Bush
- *Eucalyptus lansdowneana* - Crimson Mallee
- *Amytornis merrotsyi* ssp. *pedleri* - Short-tailed Grass-wren

Gawler Ranges Grevillea

The **Western Short-tailed Grasswren** (Gawler Ranges) inhabits rocky (granitic) hillsides, ridges and hilltops and may be found on the rocky rounded hilltops typical of Hiltaba. The vegetation is usually dominated by Spinifex (*Triodia species*) tussock grassland, usually with scattered spiny shrubs, particularly *Acacia species* and *Grevillea species*. Excessive frequencies of fires, both natural and human mediated, along with grazing, are the most immediate threats to the sub-species.

The total number of mature birds in the region is low and was estimated to be about 900 in 2010, based on estimates of a few hundred birds each at Paney Station and Mt Ive, and significantly fewer birds at each of four smaller sub-populations, including that on Hiltaba.

Grasswrens are extremely shy and elusive and difficult to see, hiding under shrubs and darting across open ground. The call is a high, soft, squeaky and brief trill. You are more likely to hear these elusive birds than see them.

Geology - Gawler Craton in summary

Hiltaba Nature Reserve is located in the Gawler Craton which covers approximately 440,00 sq km of central South Australia.

The Gawler Range Volcanics (1590 Ma) form a huge felsic volcanic province, in the central Gawler Craton, with over 25 000 km^2 of preserved outcrop. They are divided into two broad groups, an upper and lower unit. The lower unit is more varied, gently to steeply tilted and contains dacite-rhyodacite-rhyolite, ignimbrites and flows with thick, interlayered sequences of basaltic lavas whereas the upper unit contains thick, subhorizontal, porphyritic dacite sheets predominantly ignimbritic in origin.

The extensive Hiltaba Suite (1600–1585 Ma) is comagmatic with the Gawler Range Volcanics and is dominated by felsic granite plutons. Outcrop is most abundant in the central Gawler Craton particularly on the western and south-western margins of the Gawler Range Volcanics. This unit is characteristically pink due to hematite dusting of the feldspar crystals. The Hiltaba Suite and Gawler Range Volcanics were derived from partial digestion of the crust by mantle plumes and are the source for widespread Au-Cu-U mineralisation within the Gawler Craton.

Ref:
http://www.geothermal.dmitre.sa.gov.au/prospectivity/geothermal_provinces/gawler_craton?SQ_DESIGN_NAME=printer_friendly