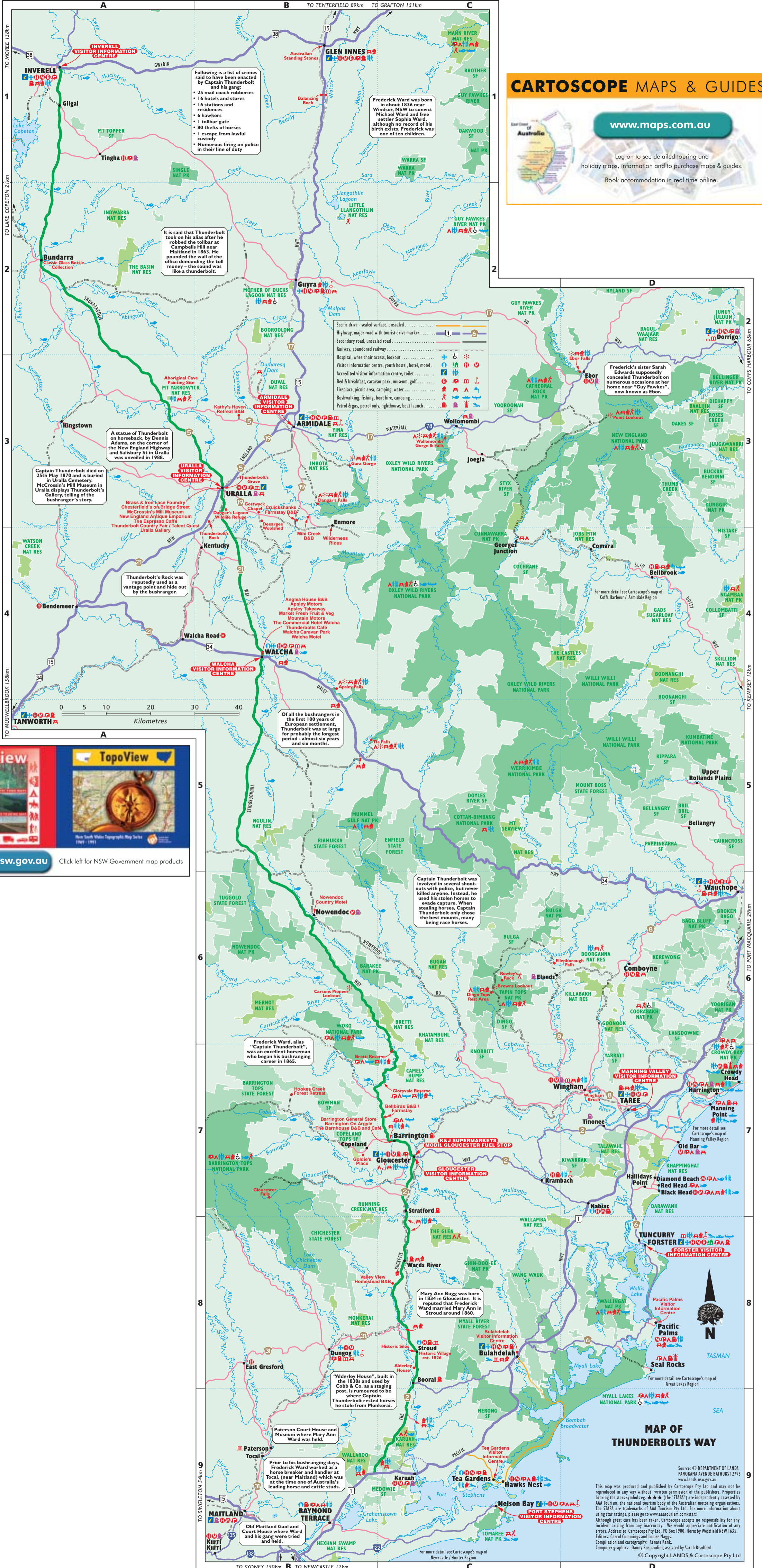


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Following is a list of crimes said to have been enacted by Captain Thunderbolt and his gang:

- 25 mail coach robberies
- 16 hotels and stores
- 16 stations and residences
- 6 hawkers
- 1 toll bar gate
- 80 thefts of horses
- 1 escape from lawful custody
- Numerous firing on police in their line of duty

Frederick Ward was born in about 1836 near Windsor, NSW to convict Michael Ward and free settler Sophia Ward, although no record of his birth exists. Frederick was one of ten children.

It is said that Thunderbolt took on his alias after he robbed the tollbar at Campbells Hill near Maitland in 1863. He pounded the wall of the office demanding the toll money – the sound was like a thunderbolt.

A statue of Thunderbolt on horseback, by Dennis Adams, on the corner of the New England Highway and Salisbury St in Uralla was unveiled in 1988.

Captain Thunderbolt died on 25th May 1870 and is buried in Uralla Cemetery. McCrossin's Mill Museum in Uralla displays Thunderbolt's Gallery, telling of the bushranger's story.

Thunderbolt's Rock was reputedly used as a vantage point and hide out by the bushranger.

Of all the bushrangers in the first 100 years of European settlement, Thunderbolt was at large for probably the longest period – almost six years and six months.

Captain Thunderbolt was involved in several shoot-outs with police, but never killed anyone. Instead, he used his stolen horses to evade capture. When capture was inevitable, he used his best mounts, many being race horses.

Frederick Ward, alias "Captain Thunderbolt", was an excellent horseman who began his bushranging career in 1865.

Mary Ann Bugg was born in 1834 in Gloucester. It is reported that Frederick Ward married Mary Ann in Stroud around 1860.

"Alderley House", built in the 1830s and used by Cobb & Co. as a staging post, is rumoured to be where Captain Thunderbolt rested horses he stole from Monkerai.

Paterson Court House and Museum where Mary Ann Ward was held.

Prior to his bushranging days, Frederick Ward worked as a horse breaker and handler at Tocal, (near Maitland) which was at the time one of Australia's leading horse and cattle studs.

Old Maitland Gaol and Court House where Ward and his gang were tried and held.

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