NEOARCHEAN ERA (2800-2500 Ma)

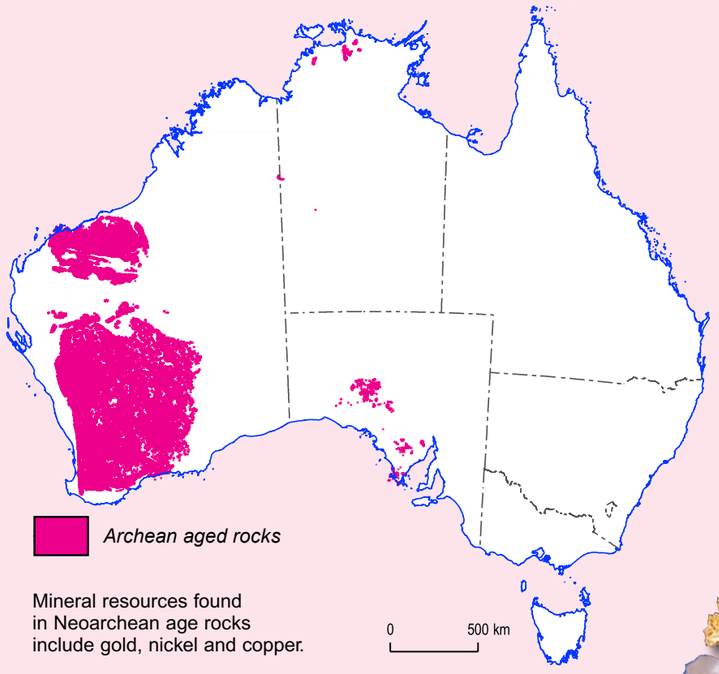
Geological TimeWalk

Continental blocks continued to form, including some that later became part of Australia. **Remnants of this old continental crust** can be found today in Western Australia, South Australia and the Northern Territory. This is why Australia is commonly referred to as an 'ancient land'.

Cyanobacteria populations became even more abundant and widespread, leading to an increase in the production of oxygen. By the end of this era, **some oxygen had entered the atmosphere.**

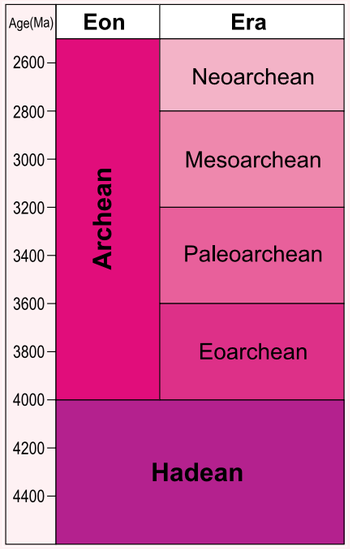
Large volumes of igneous rocks were emplaced in Western Australia during this era, which today host many world-class mineral deposits of gold, nickel and copper.

Archean rocks and resources in Australia



Mineral resources found in Neoarchean age rocks include gold, nickel and copper.

Neoarchean Timescale



Gold from near Kalgoorlie, Western Australia. Kalgoorlie is one of the largest gold deposits in the world.

Formed during a major igneous event, Wave Rock in Western Australia is 2 630 million years old and stands 14 metres high and 110 metres long.

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