



- St Michael & All Angels Anglican Church
- Hall Cemetery
- St Francis Xavier Church

LISTED PLACES IN  
**HALL VILLAGE -**  
 THE HERITAGE DRIVE OR BIKE TOUR

1. Cricketers' Arms Hotel
2. Memorial Avenue of Trees
3. Hall Sportsground & Showground
4. Hall Village Square
5. 'Winarlia'
6. Hall Premier Store & Post Office
7. Kinleyside Hall
8. Hall Village Motors
9. William Morris' Bootmaker's Shop
10. St Michael & All Angels Anglican Church
11. Hall Primary School and Pines
12. 'Cooee'
13. St Francis Xavier Catholic College
14. 'Dellwood'
15. Wattle Park Uniting Church
16. Hall Cemetery
17. 'Sunnyside'
18. Hall Village Well



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*A heritage tour of*  
**HALL VILLAGE**

**THE HERITAGE DRIVE  
 OR BIKE TOUR**

A SELF-GUIDED TOUR



**NATIONAL TRUST**

CONSERVING AUSTRALIA'S HERITAGE

Hall Village is named after Henry Hall who was the first resident landholder of the Ginninderra district. Hall was born in Loughborough, England and arrived in New South Wales (NSW) in 1823. After working in Sydney for The Australian Agricultural Company he obtained a land grant of about 3,500 acres in the Ginninderra district in 1833. He named the holding 'Charnwood' and it became a very prosperous farming and grazing property. Henry married Mary Fisher and they had a family of ten children. The site of the original 'Charnwood' homestead is now located to the west of Hall, bordering the suburb of Fraser on land now leased by the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation.

*This is a tour for those who wish to see the outlying areas of Hall Village, as well as the village itself. It includes all three churches and the cemetery, which is well worth a visit. You may wish to stop at some locations and explore the area on foot. The tour will take approximately one hour, depending on how long you spend at each place. Cyclists should allow more time and perhaps make it a day's outing.*

### **Early Settlement**

The district in which Hall Village is located was the home of Aboriginal people for at least 20,000 years. The first European settlement in the Ginninderra district was not until 1826 when George Palmer established a station of 10,000 acres. Hall Village was established 1882 and its history is closely linked to the settlement of Ginninderra.

By 1861, settlement in the Ginninderra district had reached an advanced stage of development. The largest property was owned by William Davis and included homesteads, workers' cottages, a store and a post office. By 1881 it had developed as an unofficial village and the NSW Government surveyed the area for an official village site. The location of Hall's Creek, three kilometres away from the established village at Ginninderra was chosen.

### **A New Village**

The new village was proclaimed in 1882 and named Ginninderra, indicating the Government intended replacing the unofficial village with an official and properly designed one. After protest from the Ginninderra residents, the new village was renamed Hall. Although the earlier village of Ginninderra remained and thrived for a time, it eventually declined and its functions were replaced by Hall.

Hall Village was developed using a rectangular grid layout design which was common for villages of the time and still exists today. The first sale of land occurred in Hall in 1886.

### **The Australian Capital Territory and Further Development**

In 1911 the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) was proclaimed and Hall Village was situated just inside the ACT. The Hall district had been considered a possible site for the capital city after the Yass-Canberra district was selected in 1908, but was rejected.

With the growth of Canberra in the last 60 years, Hall suffered as there were few amenities and no town water supply. Many residents moved to Canberra. The school was threatened with closure in 1958. When Hall was provided with a water supply in 1967, the advantages of living in a rural centre close to Canberra became evident and the declining population trend was reversed.

New businesses were established, including an antique furniture shop, a real estate agency and a stock and station agent. In 1980 a by-pass was built around Hall to divert the Barton Highway, which had run through the centre of the village. This has assisted in preserving the village character, as has the lack of suburban development in the surrounding area. Hall is surrounded by open country giving it a distinct rural appearance even though it is on the edge of the Federal Capital.

## **1. CRICKETERS' ARMS HOTEL (1864)**

The first significant business development near Hall was the Cricketers' Arms Hotel (also known as the One Tree Hill Hotel) which opened in 1864. At that time, it was regarded as part of Ginninderra but as Hall became established, the hotel was generally seen as part of Hall as it was within easy walking distance of the village. It was the first hotel in the district and became the centre of social activity. The site is marked by a mature pine tree on the left, before entering Hall from the southern end of Victoria Street.

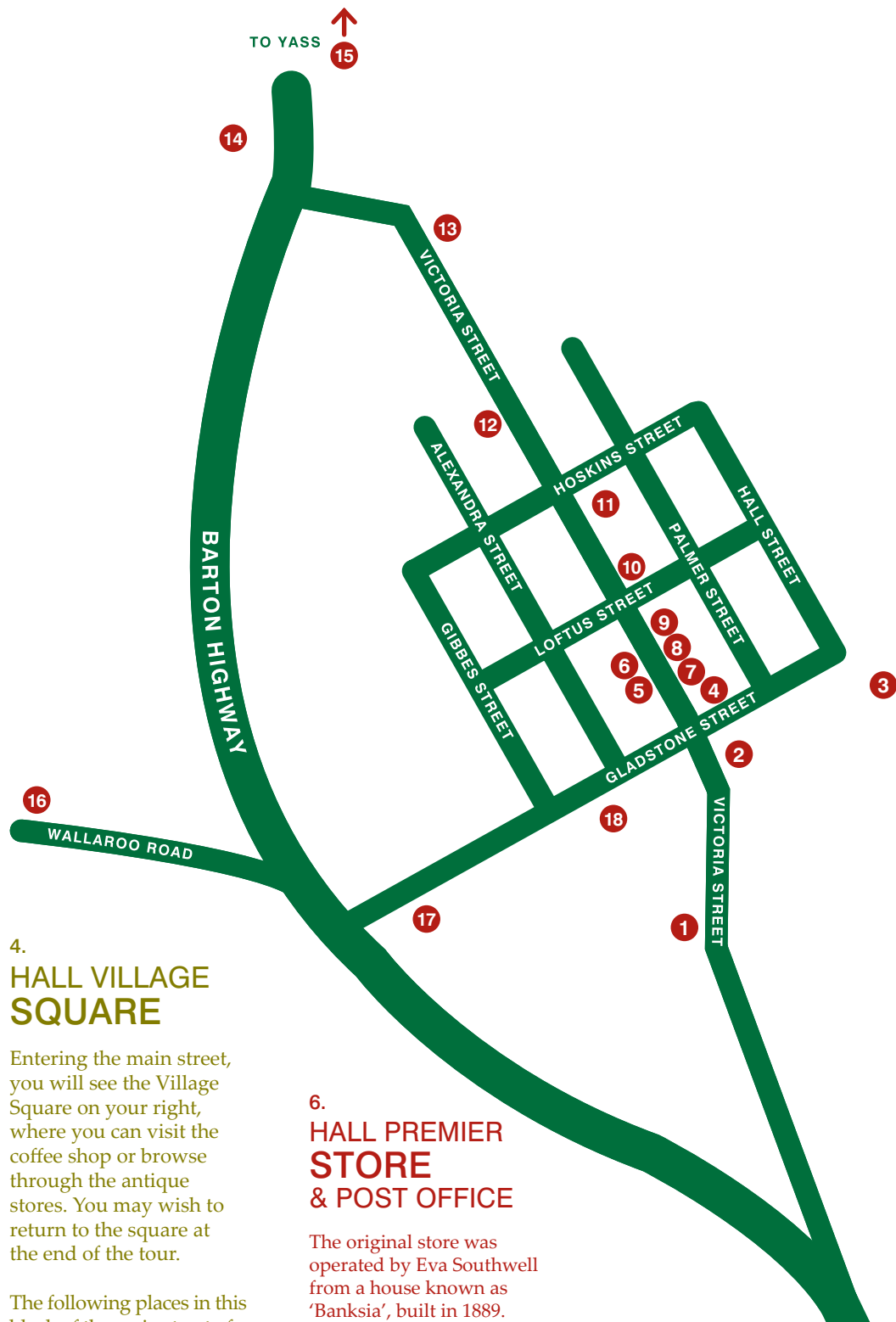
Across the road from this site, on private property, is the former cricket ground. In the heyday of the Cricketers' Arms Hotel, this was the centre for sporting activity in the district, with a variety of sports, including cricket, being played. It had earlier been used for ploughing matches.

## **2. MEMORIAL AVENUE OF TREES**

Crossing the Halls Creek Bridge you will see a line of trees on your right. The trees of this memorial were planted after the First World War as a living memory to each of the seventeen young men of the Hall district who served in the war. Each tree has a plaque next to it with the soldier's name inscribed on it (all were in the First AIF). The two cypress trees located either side of the original gateway (replaced in the 1980s) are in memory of Clyde Hollingsworth and Morley Brown who died during active service. As the trees age and die they are being replaced with the same species. A memorial cairn commemorating those who served in the armed forces was built just inside the new entrance gate in 1992.

## **3. HALL SPORTS GROUND & SHOWGROUND**

The Sportsground and Showground are located behind the Memorial Avenue of trees. The Advance Hall Association held shows annually at the Hall Showground from 1925 until 1964, when they moved to Exhibition Park. The buildings at the showground include the pavilion and the shed at the north eastern side of the grounds and sheds located on the southern side. These are simple vernacular buildings constructed of corrugated iron and wood and are typical of showground constructions of their time. Markets are held monthly at the showground.



#### 4. HALL VILLAGE SQUARE

Entering the main street, you will see the Village Square on your right, where you can visit the coffee shop or browse through the antique stores. You may wish to return to the square at the end of the tour.

The following places in this

#### 6. HALL PREMIER STORE & POST OFFICE

The original store was operated by Eva Southwell from a house known as 'Banksia', built in 1889.

#### 10. ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS ANGLICAN CHURCH (1945)

This church is located on the corner of Victoria and Loftus streets. The foundation stone was laid in 1941 and dedicated in 1948. Its rendered external walls have been coursed to give the image of stonework. An unusual stained glass window depicting two eucalyptus trees has since been installed at the Victoria Street side of the church. It commemorates the tragic deaths of two young local people who died in motor accidents.

The church bell is hung on a wooden frame in the yard. It was cast in 1854 and originally hung in St John's Anglican Church spire in Canberra. It was erected in the Church grounds in 1965.

#### 11. HALL PRIMARY SCHOOL AND PINES

#### 13. ST FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH (1910)

This church is located just outside the village. One of three local churches, it was built in 1910 in the Neo gothic style from locally quarried bluestone granite. It is an ornate building with rendered brick window and door surrounds. There have been no alterations to the building since its construction.

Across the road and towards Barton Highway is Eneagh Hill (the older weatherboard cottage) where James Kilby lived from 1905, and ran a butcher's business from 1907 to 1918, delivering meat twice weekly to the local community.

#### 14. 'DELLWOOD'

Travel to the northern extension of Victoria Street and turn right into the Barton Highway. The former home of William Morris, bootmaker, can be seen on your left about a half a kilometre along, and a short distance from the Highway. Tanning pits were located here, where hides were tanned for the boots made at the shop. In the 1920s possums were killed under licence and their skins were tanned here to make possum rugs, which were

#### 16. HALL CEMETERY (1907)

Travel back south along the Barton Highway, passing the point where you exited Victoria Street. Take the next turn right into Wallaroo Road. After a short distance you will see Hall Cemetery on your right. You can walk to the cemetery from the gateway. It was proclaimed a general cemetery in 1883 and was the first such cemetery of the area. It is divided into sections according to religious denomination, including Church of England, Catholic, Wesleyan, Presbyterian, Independent, Jewish and a general section. It contains the graves of early Hall residents and the first recorded burial was in 1907. It has been used continuously by residents of the Hall region since that time.

The cemetery reserve includes a small island of remnant yellow box and red gum open forest and associated kangaroo Grass. It also contains the rare Leek Orchid; the only other known location for this species is Boorowa, NSW.

#### 17. 'SUNNYSIDE' (c.1900)

Returning to the Village

block of the main street of Hall, Victoria Street, are best viewed on foot.

## 5. 'WINARLIA' (1901)

On your left you will see Winarlia, one of the oldest surviving buildings in Hall.

This house has particular significance because of its age and unique quality in the district. It was built in 1901 of pisé (rammed earth) and displays the characteristic building techniques of the era: its walls are slightly rounded at the corners and it has a corrugated iron roof and a verandah with wooden posts and a concrete floor. It was the residence of Ebenezer Brown who ran the Premier Store with Charles Southwell. A later occupant was Jean Southwell MBE, who died in 1996. She ran the store for many years and was also the postmistress and Sunday school teacher.

It was located two blocks along from the present store. Another small shop was built next to the house in 1898 and operated as the Premier Store (both 'Banksia' and this shop have been demolished). In 1901, the store was taken over by the partnership of Charles Southwell and Ebenezer Brown. A new store building was erected on the present site in 1908. The store was demolished and rebuilt in 1982 using corrugated iron (which was the original building material) with a glass and timber façade and a verandah. The façade is a replica of the early store. The building continues to be used as the village's shop and post office.

## 7. KINLYSIDE HALL (1907)

This building was constructed using a timber frame clad in corrugated iron, a construction technique characteristic of the era. The hall was first used as a paint shop using a unique air-drying system designed by George Kinlyside. It soon became the focal point of the developing Hall Village and was used for dances, as a cinema, a church, and as clubrooms for various clubs. It was also used for visiting medical services, including dental work. Silent films were shown here from as early as 1911, using hand operated projectors. The hall is now used as commercial premises.

## 8. HALL VILLAGE MOTORS (c.1938)

The present Hall service station is the site of George Kinlyside's business. As well as a blacksmith, he was a wheelwright, coachbuilder, tank builder and an undertaker. Kinlyside Hall, next door, is named after him. Jim Rochford, a local resident, purchased the property from Kinlyside in 1938 and built a service station there which operated until 1974, except for two breaks, one of which was to serve in the Second World War.

## 9. WILLIAM MORRIS' BOOTMAKER'S SHOP

The original Bootmaker's Shop was built around 1900. It was a small worker's cottage of corrugated iron with a weatherboard front and a verandah. It also had a corrugated iron roof with gable ends. The building was demolished and rebuilt in the 1980s in a similar style and is currently used as a commercial business. William Morris lived at nearby 'Dellwood' (now just over the border in NSW). As well as a bootmaker, William operated from the same premises as a bicycle repairer, barber and banker.

TO CANBERRA

AND PINES

(Original building 1911)

The original school building, located towards the centre of the block, was built in 1911, following the closure of the school at Ginninderra. Extensions were completed in 1924. The school building is set among mature pine trees planted by the school children around 1918. Today, it is surrounded by additional buildings constructed after 1960. In the 1990s facilities were improved with the addition of a hall and a separate library.

The original school building is now an education museum established by Laurie Copping, former principal of the school. The museum was officially opened in 1986. After many years serving the population of Hall and district the school was finally closed to students in 2007.

## 12. 'COOEE' (c.1900)

Located towards the northern end of Victoria Street, this early twentieth century weatherboard cottage has a corrugated iron gable roof, with decorative bargeboards, and a verandah. An extra room has been added at the rear of the building. Lyall Gillespie, a well-known local historian, spent his earliest years here.

hand down and lined.

## 15. WATTLE PARK UNITING CHURCH (1882)

Wattle Park Church is on the right about three kilometres from the turn onto the Highway. You cross the NSW border before arriving there. You can drive or cycle into the Church grounds. This Picturesque Gothic style church was built in 1882 for the Methodist congregation in the district. It was built of local granite with a shingle roof, fretted barge boards and decorative ridge finials. The shingles were later covered with corrugated iron.

The vestry was added in 1954 and has stones from the homes of pioneers of the church and the district incorporated in its walls. There is also an Aboriginal axe head incorporated in the wall. The Sunday School Hall was built beside the church in 1928, using concrete blocks.

The church was founded by members of the Southwell family who were early settlers in the Ginninderra Creek area and moved there in the early 1880s. Since the Australian Capital Territory was proclaimed in 1911, its location has been outside the Territory. It is historically very significant for its associations with the pioneer settlement of the Limestone Plains.

centre from the Cemetery, cross the Barton Highway and turn left into Gladstone Street. The first property you pass on your right is 'Sunnyside'. The pisé (rammed earth) house was built by David Rule, the original owner, early this century. It was later occupied by George Southwell and his wife.

## 18. HALL VILLAGE WELL (c.1890)

Known as the Reserve Well or McClung's Well, it is located in the recreation reserve at the southern end of Gladstone Street, twenty metres south west of the intersection with Alexandra Street. Built by McClung and Burton, it is the only well remaining of three wells which supplied Hall with water.

## Hall Village Square

*Return to the Village Square where there is a coffee shop and several antique shops if you care to browse.*