Discovering Australia's Oldest Garden Suburb

HUNTERS HILL
HERITAGE WALKS

Guide

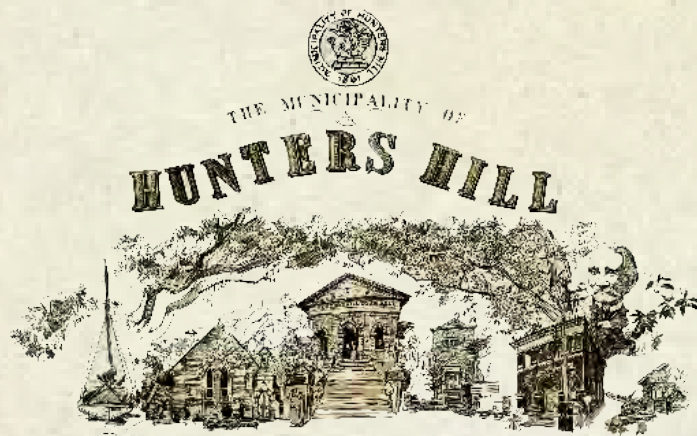# HUNTERS HILL HERITAGE WALKS

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Front Cover: View of first Figtree Bridge on Lane Cove River, built 1884-85

Hunters Hill Heritage Walks

The area of Hunters Hill, Australia's oldest garden suburb, is rich in history and has been home to many interesting Australians. Locally, the schedule of items of Environmental Heritage lists more than 500 places.

A former President of Hunters Hill Historical Society, Gil Wahlquist, had the original idea for the plaques to mark the sesquicentenary of Hunters Hill Municipality and the project was commenced in 2011.

Thanks to the generous donations of the Armati Family and Mostyn Family Foundation, the project was able to proceed. In all, 70 historic plaques are located throughout Hunters Hill. The plaques were designed by Brian Langford and manufactured by the Central Foundry Company of Sydney.

Thanks to members of our Historical Society: June Beck, Ros Maguire, Graham Percival, Beverley Sherry and others who researched and wrote the wording for the plaques and edited this guide. Historical sources drawn on include the Society's archives, the Hunters Hill Trust's book, *Heritage of Hunters Hill*, Beverley Sherry's *Hunter's Hill: Australia's Oldest Garden Suburb* and her entry on Hunters Hill in the online *Dictionary of Sydney*.

Thanks also go to Hunter's Hill Council for the installation of the plaques and assistance in the production and design of this guide, in particular Adrian Black. The publication of this guide was funded by the Armati Family.

Please enjoy your walks and discovering the wealth of history in Hunters Hill.
Chris Schofield
President, Hunters Hill Historical Society

1. John Hunter
1737-1821
Valentia Street Wharf

John Hunter was Captain of the *Sirius*, charted Sydney Harbour in 1788 and was Governor of NSW 1795-1800. On 28 January 1788, Hunter wrote in his journal: 'A few days after my arrival with the transports in Port Jackson, I set off with a six-oared boat and a small boat, intending to make as good a survey of the harbour as circumstances would admit: I took to my assistance Mr Bradley, the first lieutenant, Mr Keltie, the master, and a young gentleman of the quarter-deck [midshipman Henry Waterhouse].' Hunter's meticulous chart shows 30 depth soundings around the peninsula bounded by the Parramatta and Lane Cove Rivers. He is commemorated in the name of Hunters Hill.

2. Vineta
c.1892
2 View Street

Captain Julius Mergell was appointed Austro-Hungarian Consul in 1893 and lived here from 1897. A single-storey house stood on the site in 1881 but Vineta was largely built in the 1890s. The iron lace, carved woodwork, elaborate chimneys, and original name still on the gate reflect late Victorian taste for romantic detail. The most distinctive feature is the two-storey attached gazebo which was added in the early 1900s and is seen best from the water. As with all the early 'marine villas', Vineta faces the water, with its back to the street. Set in its original extensive garden, now with mature trees, it expresses well the character of Hunters Hill as Australia's oldest garden suburb.

3. Vailele
1892
2 The Point Road

This house was built in 1892 by Thomas M. Keddie. In 1903 it was bought by A.J. Kelynack, a leading King's Councillor, who named the home Vailele. It had associations with Robert Louis Stevenson, who visited Sydney. The Samoan name Vailele, 'running water', was the name of a property near Stevenson's own residence, Vailima, in Samoa.

4. Samuel Onions
Born c.1803
Beginning of the
The Point Road
plaque midway between 1 and 3
The Point Road

Ex-convict and city ironmonger, Samuel Onions was granted 19 acres here in 1835. Onions Point and The Point Road (formerly Onions Point Road) were named for him. In 1837 he was sentenced to seven years on Norfolk Island for perjury. Onions Point was the goal of convicts desperate to escape from Cockatoo Island, a high-security prison from 1839-1869. The only successful escapee, however, was Frederick Ward, the legendary 'Thunderbolt', in 1863.

5. 'The Town of Woolwich'
1841
plaque corner of Gale and
Collingwood Streets

A subdivision of 74 allotments in this area was advertised in 1841. The land had been purchased by Thomas Dyer Edwards in 1835 and was named after the dock areas of London. Promoted for proximity to the city and 'health in the breeze', the allotments varied in size, to suit 'either the magnificent villa or the humble cottage'. The convict prison at Cockatoo Island and the unsavoury reputation of Hunters Hill were unfavourable in attracting buyers. A few days after the land was advertised, the *Sydney Gazette* said that 'the district of Hunters Hill is infested with bushrangers'. In February 1842 the *Sydney Morning Herald* reported armed robbers going on a week's rampage in the area, plundering the property of both Mary Reibey and William Clarke. 'The Town of Woolwich' only began to prosper when Atlas Engineering set up on Clarke's Point in 1884.

6. Robert Gale
1818-1891
7 Gale Street

Robert Vining Gale was a schoolmaster, Mayor of Hunters Hill in 1872-73 and 1876, and Town Clerk from 1876-1887. In 1861 he lived in Wansfell Cottage, a five-room timber house, since demolished, on the western portion of Vailele (2 The Point Road). Gale Street was named after him, and his son Wilberforce Gale lived at Avon, 7 Gale Street, built in 1890. Subsequently St John's Anglican Church owned the property and the rectory was listed as Avon, with the Rev. Hofferman residing there.

7. Mort's Dock
1898-1902
Top of Gale Street
plaque on footpath outside
Woolwich Pier Hotel

In 1884 Atlas Engineering Company opened workshops for ship repairs at Woolwich on land first owned by the Clarkes. In 1888 it imported a floating dock from England. Mort's Dock and Engineering Company of Balmain took over Atlas in 1898 and over the next four years built a dry dock, then the largest in Australia. Ships were repaired in the dock and new vessels, including ferries and warships, were built on slipways on Clarkes Point. The dock closed in 1959 and the site was abandoned until 1963 when the Army acquired the dock for its small ships section. In 2001 the site was converted to public foreshore and is now known as Woolwich Dock.

8. Woolwich Pier Hotel
1890
Corner of Woolwich Road
and Gale Street

The hotel was built in 1890 on land owned by George Fesq, wine merchant from Bordeaux, France, and leading developer of Woolwich. It was patronised by dock workers living in the vicinity and sailors from the ships in dock. Woolwich Police Station was conveniently located nearby in Elgin Street to handle rowdy and disorderly behaviour.

9. Woolwich Baths
1907
plaque on steps to Baths on
Woolwich Road

10. Alfred Street Cottages
8,10,12,14 Alfred Street
plaque outside number 8

11. Woodstock
c.1849
3 Alfred Street

Opened in 1907, the Baths had a diving tower and turnstile and charged for admission. The caretakers included Mr Gale from Collingwood Street and after him Mr Mooney. In the winter Mr Mooney worked as a taxi-driver so that he could spend his summer in a tent beside the baths and support himself on the takings – sixpence for adults, a penny for children and threepence for hire of an old tyre for floating. The baths are still used.

In the late 19th and early 20th centuries some workers employed in industries in Woolwich lived in attached cottages. This row is an evocative reminder of the working class way of life in Woolwich at that time, distinct from the grander lifestyle of 'The Hill'.

In 1834 land was granted to shipwright John Clarke from the area of (now) Kelly's Bush to Clarkes Point. Woodstock was built by Clarke and his sons in the late 1840s. The sons were cabinet makers, and a carpenters' shop stood near the shore-line. In 1876, Henry Thomas Clarke, a ship chandler, appears to have inherited the house and lived here until 1885, after which he let it to Thomas Keddie. This is the oldest surviving house in Hunters Hill.

Mort's Dock

John Hunter

Woolwich Baths

See memorial at entrance to Kelly's Bush

Woolwich Pier Hotel

Map

TOWN HALL

ERNEST ST

ADY ST

LLOYD AVE

VIRET ST

FOSS ST

ALEXANDRA ST

25 FINISH

AMBROSE ST

FERRY ST

24

ROOKE LA

23 PASSY AV

HUNTERS HILL

ALEXANDRA STREET WHARF

ALEXANDRA BAY

N W E S

21 FERRY ST

19

FUTUNA ST

18

22

20

WYBALENA RD

JEANNERET AV

WOOLWICH RD

15

VERNON ST

17

GLEN VIEW CR

16

TREE AV

BLAKE AV

GLADSTONE AV

14

TO WOOLWICH

FRANCIS ST

13

EDWARD PD

GEORGE PD

12 START

PARRAMATTA RIVER

ST MALO AV

LE VESINET

CHEVALIER CR

FERN BAY YACHT & TENNIS CLUB

KELLY'S BUSH

FERN RD

FERN BAY

12. Prince Edward Parade
plaque at junction of Gladstone Avenue and Prince Edward Parade

13. Robert D. FitzGerald
1902-1987
plaque on top of monument opposite 4 Prince Edward Parade

14. Woolwich Public School
1892
Corner Woolwich Road and Gladstone Avenue

15. Mornington Reserve
16 Vernon Street

The New South Wales Property Investment Company registered a subdivision in this area of about 15 acres in 1881 and it was called the Sunnyside (South) Subdivision. It was notable for its provision of a reserve in the middle, a recreation area for tennis courts, and open park, which gave the area a cohesive identity. Houses around Prince Edward and Prince George Parades were built on a one-storey scale, with low-key fencing. Henry Budden (1871-1944) designed and built several of them from 1901. Some have been altered over the years but the intent of the subdivision, a quiet residential area, remains.

Robert D. FitzGerald was a distinguished poet who lived at 4 Prince Edward Parade. The plaque is placed on top of a monument which recognises FitzGerald's profession as a surveyor. He was born in Hunters Hill and descended from two families associated with Gladesville and Hunters Hill since the 1860s. His best known poem about Hunters Hill is 'One Such Morning' (1977), which calls up vividly the early life of the harbourside suburb.

Built in 1892, the school opened in 1893 with 71 pupils. The site marked a class division between the hard-working men and women of the industrial area of Woolwich and the people of 'The Hill'. In 1910 a flagpole was provided to fly a donated flag from the original Woolwich, then a working class dockyard district near London. Children from Cockatoo Island and Goat Island came by ferry and walked up from Margaret Street Wharf. The school closed in 1988 and was converted to an aged care facility.

The Reserve was named after Mornington (c.1906), 16 Vernon Street, a distinctive house designed by Hunters Hill architect Henry Budden (1871-1944). The original owners were Arthur and Ada Muddle and the name Mornington was chosen by Mrs. Muddle, who was an organist and fond of the music of Lord Mornington. Steps leading down to the now-demolished Mornington Wharf are part of a right-of-way granted in 1911 to the Balmain New Ferry Company. The second owners were the Meggitt family, who purchased the property in 1918. Harold Meggitt founded the linseed oil industry in Australia.

16. Glenview
1888
21 Glenview Crescent

Glenview was built by Charles Jeanneret in 1888 for his eldest son, Henry, who had married Mary Bank-Smith. Glencairn and Glenrock nearby were built for other children on their marriages. Henry was manager of the Parramatta River and Tramway Company.

17. Charles Jeanneret
1834-1898
3 Jeanneret Avenue
plaque on footpath opposite

Steamboat proprietor Charles Edward Jeanneret was Mayor of Hunters Hill three times, an alderman for 28 years, and introduced the Council's tree policy. He was also an alderman of Sydney City Council, a member of the NSW Legislative Assembly, and one of the *Australian Men of Mark* (1889). He took over the Parramatta Steam Company in 1873 and ran 20 steamers during the years of his ownership (1875-89). As a developer, he left a material legacy in Hunters Hill of at least 16 stone houses. This house, which he named Wybalena, was built in 1874-75 and was his home for 20 years with his wife, Julia Ann, and their 11 children.

18. Wybalena
1895
22 Woolwich Road

A second Wybalena built in 1895 by Charles Jeanneret, his last residence. As a boy Charles went to Tasmania with his father, Dr. Henry Jeanneret, who had responsibility for the Aboriginal settlement on Flinders Island. The name of the settlement was Wybalenna. The well-known Aboriginal woman, Truganini, told Dr. Jeanneret that the name meant 'blackfellow sit down here by campfire'. The Jeanneret family retained a strong affection for the name so there are two Jeanneret houses named Wybalena in Hunters Hill – this house and the larger Wybalena at 3 Jeanneret Avenue – as well as Wybalena Road.

Nora Heysen
See bronze bust at
Cuneo Building , Alexandra Street

Wybalena, Jeanneret Avenue

19. St Peter Chanel Catholic Church
1890-1901
Futuna Street

On land that was originally part of Jeanneret's 30-acre estate, this church was built in two stages between 1890 and 1901 and was supported by the early Irish community. The church commemorates the French Marist missionary, Peter Chanel, killed on the island of Futuna in 1841. The Blessed Peter Chanel Catholic School was here from 1899 to 1936; it was a primary school for boys and girls run first by the Sisters of St. Joseph, then by the Marist Sisters of Woolwich. There were about 60 pupils and two teachers. In 1954 Peter Chanel was canonised.

20. John Tawell
1784-1845
Corner Woolwich and Wybalena Roads

John Tawell, an ex-convict, transported for forgery, had an original land grant of 48 acres here in 1837. He bought more acres from William 'Billy the Bull' Morgan. He was Sydney's first chemist and a pioneer of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Australia. He returned to England a very wealthy man but was hanged in 1845 for poisoning his mistress. Tawell was a classic example of a Jekyll and Hyde character.

21. Leonard Bordier
1821-1861
Corner Ferry Street and Woolwich Road

Leonard Etienne Bordier, a French-speaking Swiss emigrant, bought four acres extending from here to the Parramatta River in 1855. He imported four prefabricated Baltic pine houses from Hamburg in 1854 and paid the passage of three German carpenters under contract to assemble the houses. They were erected in 1855, two on either side of Ferry Street. This was the first planned multiple-housing development in Hunters Hill. Bordier established a wharf at the end of Ferry Street, which became the first commercial gateway. A Post Office was set up next to the wharf. However, by 1856 Bordier was insolvent; he sold the estate to Didier Joubert and returned to Switzerland.

22. Nora Heysen
1911-2003
2 Yerton Avenue
plaque on corner of Ferry Street and Yerton Avenue

The artist Nora Heysen, the first woman to win the Archibald Prize for portraiture, lived here from 1954 until her death in 2003. The house, The Chalet, is the only one remaining of four prefabricated wooden houses imported by Leonard Bordier in 1854 and erected in 1855.

23. Passy
1855-1856
1 Passy Avenue
plaque on footpath opposite

Passy was financed by Didier Joubert and built by his brother Jules between 1855 and 1856 for Louis Francois Sentis, Consul of France and the Sicilies. The French tricolour flying high above its roof was seen from the Parramatta River. In 1858 Edye Manning, who pioneered the paddle-wheel steamers on the Parramatta River, bought Passy, subdivided the original 30 acres leaving the property with 11 acres, since subdivided further. Sir George Dibbs, Premier of NSW, lived here from 1897. Edmund Biddulph Henning bought Passy in 1906-07 and his sister, the author Rachel Henning (1826-1914), lived here.

24. Wurley Court
1903
8 Passy Avenue

25. All Saints' Anglican Church
1888
Ferry Street

The Windeyer family named the first house here Wurley in recognition of their association with Aborigines. Wurley was built in 1903 after Passy was subdivided. William Archibald Windeyer (1871-1943) was elected an alderman of Hunters Hill Council in 1904, served for 23 years, and was Mayor in 1913 and from 1917-1924. He subdivided 'Cuneo's Paddock', naming Toocooya Road in recognition of an Aboriginal leader of the Hunter River region of New South Wales. The family lived here until 1959. Subsequently the house was established as a retirement village for ex-service women and war widows.

In 1884 the site, formerly Seymour's Pleasure Gardens, was purchased for £1000 and J. Horbury Hunt (1838-1904) was appointed as architect. The foundation stone was laid by the Bishop of Sydney in 1885 and the building was dedicated in 1888. The stained glass windows are considered some of the finest in Australia and include the only Burne-Jones/Morris & Co. windows in Sydney. The east window, made by the Sydney firm of Lyon & Cottier in 1889, was greatly admired and was adapted for Grafton Cathedral (also by Horbury Hunt). It was removed during World War II and buried in the cellars of St. Ives in Crescent Street.

St Peter Chanel Catholic Church

Charles Jeanneret and Family

All Saints' Anglican Church

26. Moocooboolah
1863
65 Alexandra Street

Home of Jules Joubert, a driving force for the establishment of the Hunters Hill municipality in 1861. Joubert had discovered that the Aboriginal word for the peninsula was Moca Boula, meaning 'two waters', and the Colonial Secretary of the time suggested this as a name for the new municipality. When the petitioners for the municipality decided on 'Hunters Hill', Joubert named his house Moocooboolah in defiance.

27. Garibaldi Hotel
1861
Corner Alexandra and Ferry Streets

The hotel was a focal point for supporters of the Italian national hero, Giuseppe Garibaldi. It was built in 1861 of the local golden sandstone as Hunters Hill's first hotel by John Cuneo, who came from Genoa in 1854. The Cuneos were shopkeepers, yachtsmen and had a jazz band. 'Cuneo's Corner' was a centre of social activity and 'Cuneo's Recreation Ground' was on the opposite corner. The Garibaldi lost its licence in 1911 during an era of temperance fervour but the statue of Hebe, cupbearer to the gods, remains in her niche above the front door. The Garibaldi survived a threat of demolition in the 1970s.

2016

Garibaldi Hotel c.1890

28. The Haven
1858
1 McBride Avenue

The house was built in 1858 by Jules Joubert. In 1869 it was called Clarence Villa, then in 1879 Rocklea. It was renamed Asseroe in 1886 by owner Bernard McBride, who was Mayor of Hunters Hill in 1892-93. Maybanke Anderson (1845-1927), reformer and activist for women's and children's rights and one of Australia's most remarkable women, lived here for the last seven years of her life. She was married to Sir Francis Anderson, inaugural professor of philosophy at Sydney University, and they renamed the house The Haven.

The Haven

Alexandra House c.1890s

2015

29. Angelo Tornaghi
1823-1906
31 Madeline Street
plaque on footpath opposite

30. Elizabeth Quirk
1837-1939
27 Madeline Street
plaque on footpath opposite

31. Jules Joubert
1824-1907
Corner Ernest and Madeline Streets

32. Malvern
1890
6 Ernest Street

An eminent scientific instrument-maker from Milan and supporter of Garibaldi, Angelo Tornaghi lived here from 1866-92 calling the house Milano. He was Mayor of Hunters Hill in 1879 and 1882-83 and was included in the *Australian Men of Mark* (1889). The house was built by Antonio Bondietti in 1863-66. It is now known as Cleveden.

Mrs Quirk lived here from 1871-1939. She emigrated from County Meath, Ireland, and in 1871 married John Quirk, a quarryman from Tipperary, Ireland. The cottage at 27 Madeline Street was built in 1866 by Antonio Bondietti, who sold it to Quirk in 1871. The home was a centre of Irish hospitality, and frequent visitors were Irishmen Francis Gralton, Thomas Connolly, and Jeremiah Cronin. Mrs Quirk ran a dairy, owned three houses, and outlived her husband by more than 50 years. The formidable 'widow Quirk' died aged 102 and credited her longevity to good health and hard work.

Jules Joubert was a leading pioneer. In 1861 he was the first Chairman of Hunters Hill Council as the office of Mayor was then called. Ady, Madeline, Ernest, and Ferdinand Streets were named for his second wife Adelaide and their children. Jules, the younger brother of Didier Joubert, arrived in Sydney in 1839 aged 15. In 1848 he married and moved to Adelaide where, in 1850, his first wife died from typhoid and his two babies also died. He settled in Hunters Hill in 1854 and married Adelaide Levi in 1855. From this time, with Didier's finance and Jules's knowledge of building, the Jouberts' development projects took off. This was the area of Jules's 1859 subdivision.

Originally named Huaba, this house was built in 1890 for Andrew Francis Lenehan, son of the noted furniture maker Andrew Lenehan. The distinguished Malvern School, founded by the Rev. Alfred Rolfe, operated here from 1912-1962. In 1963 the property was sold to Hunters Hill Bowling Club for a carpark. The Club sold the house to tennis player Lew Hoad, who named it Ysabel after Jules Joubert's first steam ferry. The name Ysabel was retained by the owners in 2011, but the house has been subsequently renamed Huaba.

33. Vienna
1871
38 Alexandra Street

Ann O'Donnell came to Australia from County Leitrim, Ireland, in 1857 as a bounty migrant and married a German, John Jacob Hellmann (later Hillman). They built this stone cottage in 1871, naming it Carrum Carrum. Hillman, the district's first lamplighter, was a shoemaker and Ann had a dairy and an orchard next door.

34. Merimbah
1863
21 Alexandra Street

Built by Count Gabriel de Milhau in 1863 as a small cottage. De Milhau was exiled from France for his part in the 1848 revolution and came to Hunters Hill in 1854. He was a signatory to the petition for the municipality and served as Mayor in 1863. The house was greatly extended by barrister and later Supreme Court Judge, Charles James Manning. Marjorie Barnard and Flora Eldershaw's novel *A House is Built* (1929) was set partly here, partly at Passy.

35. Town Hall
1866
Alexandra Street

The original Town Hall was built in 1866 for £750 and enlarged in 1903 and 1938. In 1978 it was almost destroyed by fire with the loss of valuable Council records. The rebuilt Town Hall preserved most of the original façade and was opened by Sir Roden Cutler, State Governor, on 11 July 1980.

36. Antonio Bondietti
c1838-1882
Congregational Church
Alexandra Street

Antonio Bondietti migrated from Switzerland in 1855 and became a leading stonemason in Hunters Hill. The unusual and beautiful stonework of this church, built 1875-78, is by him. He died in 1882 aged 44 years and was buried at St Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, Ryde, where a headstone remains in his memory.

37. Hunters Hill Public School
1870
Alexandra Street

Residents built this school of local stone on land donated by Captain William Wright of Drummoyne. The building was furnished and given to the Education Department. It was designed by G.A. Mansfield and opened by politician Sir Henry Parkes in 1870. It is a fine example of a simple Gothic-style schoolhouse of the Victorian period.

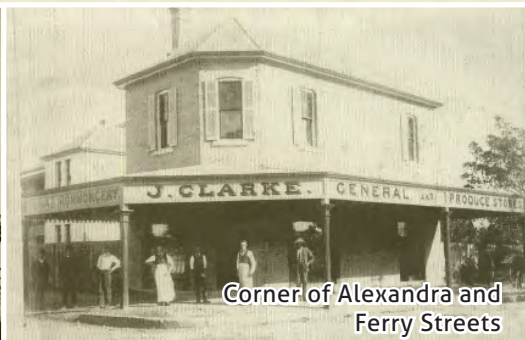
Hunters Hill Town Hall c.1870

Opening of enlarged Town Hall, 1903

Hunters Hill Public School, 19th Century

Corner of Alexandra and Ferry Streets

Campaigning for Hunters Hill, 1974

38. Merilbah
1858
19 Alexandra Street
plaque around the corner in
Stanley Road

This marine villa was built by Count Gabriel de Milhau and designed by William Weaver in 1858. Weaver was Colonial Architect from 1854 to 1856 and was the first assessor of Council rates in 1861. The house was designed for land extending to the Parramatta River. William Weaver shared ownership of adjoining land with a colleague, Alfred Huntley. In 1888 Merilbah was sold to Justice C.J. Manning. (See No 21 Alexandra Street, Merimbah) The name Merilbah had belonged to Merimbah next door but the name was brought here when Mrs Manning moved to this house after her husband's death in 1898. Their daughter lived here until 1973.

39. Lyndcote
c.1858
7 Stanley Road

This house, with its picturesque Victorian Gothic bargeboards, was the first of many residences built in Hunters Hill by Charles Jeanneret. It was constructed in the 1850s. Jeanneret lived here for a time but retained ownership until 1877 when the Bank of New South Wales took possession. In 1881, Richard N. Rothwell, civil engineer, owned it and called it Windermere. In 1886, it passed to Robert Smith, a solicitor, of the neighbouring house, Lyndhurst.

40. Eulbertie
1878
Stanley Road

This stone building, now part of Hunters Hill Public School, was built in 1878 for one of Hunters Hill's first doctors, Dr. John Gerard. Later Edward Marsden Betts, a descendant of the Rev. Samuel Marsden, lived here and was Mayor of Hunters Hill from 1905-1912. This house and Loombah, across the road, were built by the same builder. Eulbertie survived a demolition threat in the 1970s.

41. Loombah
1879
3 Stanley Road

Built in 1879 for the distinguished lithographer, Arthur Stopps (1833-1931), who lived here for 51 years until his death, aged 98. Stopps made exquisite lithographs for Robert David FitzGerald's *Australian Orchids.* There was no gaslight in Hunters Hill in those days and Stopps' daughters remembered their father working with his eyes close to the lithographic stones by the light of a kerosene lamp. During the last years of his life he was totally blind.

42. Winden
c.1858
7 Mount Street

A cottage, built in the 1850s, was leased to Mrs Clapham as a schoolhouse with residential pupils. It is thought to be the second local educational facility. The land was originally owned by Ambrose Foss, who sold it to William Wright. From 1883 until 1889 Leopold Hippolyte Delarue, gentleman and jeweller, owned the house, calling it Berck and then Vatua. For a few years after 1889, Thomas Salter, solicitor, lived either here or in a house where nearby Hunters Hill Hospital now stands.

43. Alexandra House
1867
5 Alexandra Street

A 10-roomed house with shop and store built by John Cuneo in 1867. Property leased to Frederick Nelson until 1881. Nelson purchased No 5 Alexandra Street and also No 3 (Trafalgar Cottage) and extended the trading premises. In the 1890s purchased by the Needham family, named 'The Trade Palace'. In 2004 fire severely damaged the building and tenants withdrew. It has now been restored as a private residence.

44. Felix Cullen
c.1830-1898
The Gladstone 1882
Corner Alexandra and
Mount Streets

A migrant from County Leitrim in Ireland, Felix Cullen subdivided a large estate here. He built several houses and this as a private boarding house in 1882. It became the Gladstone Hotel in 1887 with the slogan 'The Best of Everything'. Cullen subscribed financially to St Peter Chanel Catholic Church, Futuna Street, the main place of worship for the local Irish community.

45. Kyarra
1886
1 Madeline Street

This grand 11-room stone house was built by Felix Cullen in 1886 for letting and owned by his widow until 1906. It was then sold to the Addison family. Later owners/ tenants included the Windeyer and Bevan families. A quarry operated on the steeply sloping western side of the garden for some years. The well-known journalist James Kingston ['King'] Watson and his wife Eleanor spent years restoring Kyarra in the 1950s.

46. Mary Reibey
1777-1855
Emancipist Businesswoman
1 Reiby Road

Mary Reibey (or Reiby) purchased 30 acres here in 1835, which she soon expanded to 110 acres. She named the place Figtree Farm after a large Port Jackson fig that grew by the water. She had a house and two cottages built. The artist Joseph Fowles was a tenant and left an account of the farm in his journal (1838). In 1847 Reibey sold the property to Didier Joubert, an agent for French wine merchants. Didier and his brother Jules became the leading pioneers of Hunters Hill.

47. Coorabel and Annabel Lea
c.1855
28 and 28A Joubert Street

48. Warrawillah
c.1878
1 Figtree Road

Built by Didier Joubert in the 1850s, Coorabel is a stone villa constructed at the centre of Figtree Farm for Pierre Bonnefin. In 1874 it was tenanted by James Levick and in 1880 by John De Villiers Lamb, a merchant, squatter and barrister. Annabel Lea was constructed as an adjacent building with kitchen and servants' quarters. In the 1970s a fire destroyed the connecting walkway and the houses are now separate residences. The French character is evident in the tall gabled building.

One of Didier Joubert's Figtree Farm houses. The house was designed in a bungalow-style, with symmetrical design and deep verandahs, similar to Joubert's home, St Malo. Built around 1878, it was occupied by Captain R.R. Armstrong. In 1881, Madame Joubert rented it to Herbert Sinclair Lumsdaine, and he purchased it shortly afterwards, renaming it Warrawillah. The name means 'Swirling Waters'. The house remained in the Lumsdaine family until 1924.

Coorabel

Fig Tree Hotel

Hunters Hill Cricket Club 1894

49. Hunters Hill Hotel
1940
64 Gladesville Road

The Fig Tree Hotel, built in 1880, stood on this site. The area was then known as Figtree, named from Mary Reibey's 1830s Figtree Farm, which extended down to the Lane Cove River. The hotel was first owned by Patrick O'Maley and demolished in the 1930s to make way for the present building, Hunters Hill Hotel. The hotel was refurbished and extended in 2014 and incorporates the Figtree Lounge Bar.

50. Euthella
c.1883
2 Joubert Street

Built by George Dunham in the 1880s, Euthella is a fine example of Victorian design and construction. An early tenant from 1901 to 1905 was Edmund Biddulph Henning, brother of the writer Rachel Henning, before he lived at Passy. The name Euthella was changed to Villa Euthella in 1910.

51. Hillrest
1879
62 Gladesville Road

In 1878 Carlo Ceruti, a stonemason from Milan, purchased this land from Didier Joubert. The house was built a year later and named Hillrest because this is where horses were rested after the pull up the hill. Ceruti also built Glenrosa, a cottage at 12 Mark Street. In 1886 the Police Station was next door.

52. The Bungalow
c.1879
22 Avenue Road

This house on the Figtree Farm Estate was one of the last homes built by Didier Joubert in the late 1870s. Until 1886, the house had a Ryde Road listing. It remained in family ownership until 1941. A Mr Drinkwater was the first of many tenants. A two-roomed timber outbuilding, set in the large gardens, possibly predates the stone house.

53. Saintonge
1884
24 Avenue Road

Alfred Randall bought land from Numa Joubert in 1883 and built the house in 1884. Randall was a civil engineer with the New South Wales Railway Department. He lived here with his family – his wife's parents, and her brother, William C. Piguenit, whose landscape paintings hang in the New South Wales Art Gallery. The Randall family owned and occupied this house until 1975. The house was named for the French province of Mrs Randall's family.

54. Kaoota
c.1896
26 Avenue Road

This four-roomed stone house with a studio attached was built by Alfred Randall in the late 1890s for his brother-in-law, William C. Piguenit. Kaoota remained in Randall ownership until 1917-18 although tenanted for most of the time. The house was later rented by the Director of the New South Wales Conservatorium of Music, William Orchard. Dame Nellie Melba gave recitals in the front room. Kaoota means 'eventide'.

55. St. Mark's Anglican Church
1857
Figtree Road

56. Francis Abigail Subdivision
1884
10,12,14 Martin Street
plaque on corner of Martin and James Streets

The building was paid for by public subscription on land donated by Didier Joubert. It was originally known as Figtree Chapel. It was designed by Weaver and Kemp and built in 1857 as a schoolhouse and chapel on the corner of Church and Joubert Streets. Weaver had been assistant to Edmund Blacket, Colonial Architect, in the 1850s. In 1962, the building was relocated to the site of the tennis court of the adjacent house, Kaoota, to allow for expressway construction. The building became St Mark's Anglican Church after being moved. The plain windows were replaced by stained glass. It is the oldest public building in Hunters Hill.

Three timber cottages built on Francis Abigail's subdivision. In 1885 Amelia and Thomas Parcel, a gardener, built number 12 and rented it to Walter Hook. They also built the adjacent cottage, number 14, called Wainload. By 1890 Lilyville (number 10) was occupied by Mrs. Sarah Hodge. These cottages contribute to the evocative historic environment of Martin Street.

57. Daybreak
1883
2 James Street

58. St. Joseph's College
1876-1895
Ryde Road

Robert Lenehan built this house in 1883. It is constructed of sandstock bricks, cement rendered and limed to simulate stonework on a Victorian Gothic theme. A lawyer, Lenehan was a Major in the Boer War. The house, also named College View, was occupied by the Lenehan family until the 1920s. It is one of the many houses in Hunters Hill to have associations with the legal profession; Lenehan and other lawyers having lived here. The grounds contain one of the few remaining fig trees of Hunters Hill.
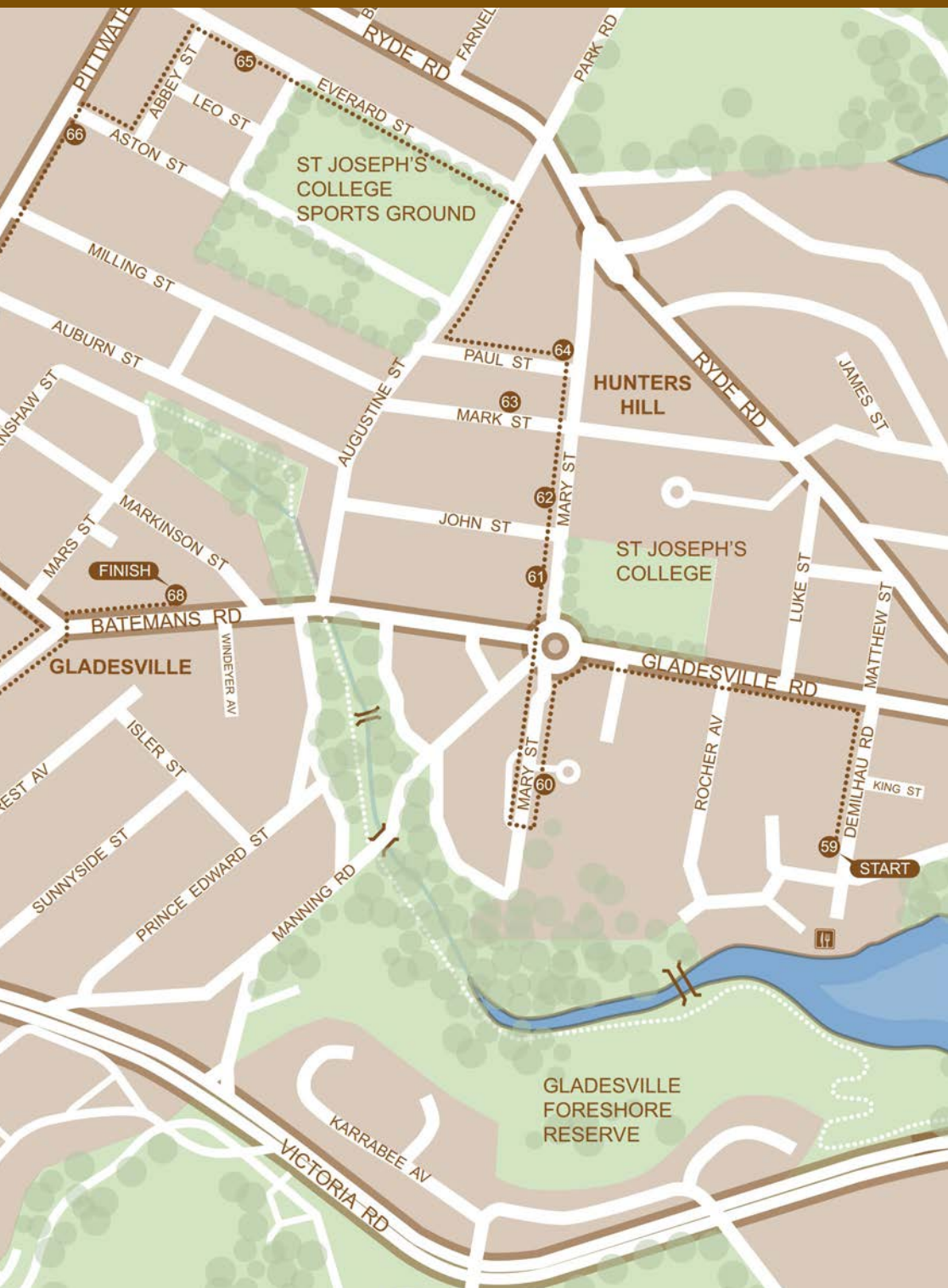
Built by the Marist Order on land purchased from Didier Joubert, a temporary wooden building was erected first in 1876. By 1881, 55 boarders, mainly from an earlier school in Harrington Street, Sydney, were accommodated there. This structure was demolished in 1895. In 1882, three sandstone buildings – south, central and north – were erected. A cupola and statue were added in 1904. The main gates on Ryde Road originally stood in front of Sydney Town Hall and were made by John Connolly of Woolloomooloo.

Figtree Chapel c.1961

St Joseph's College

59. Paraza
c.1855
9 De Milhau Road

Count Gabriel de Milhau owned land and three houses in this area. In the 1850s, he built Paraza which was the maiden name of his wife. He also built No 11 to the north on his 18-acre farm. He lived at Paraza until 1862, the year he was Mayor. John S. Adams, draughtsman, owned the house from 1876 and sold it to W.D. Armstrong in 1881. It passed to Mary Richmond in 1922. The Piguenit family lived here prior to moving to Saintonge in Avenue Road.

60. Villa Maria Monastery
1860s-1871
Mary Street

The Monastery was built in the 1860s as a haven for Marist Fathers who were Catholic missionaries in New Caledonia, the Solomon and Woodlark Islands and Vanuatu (New Hebrides). They came to Hunters Hill in 1847 and moved here in 1864. Fathers Dubreuil and Rocher were responsible for the construction. A burial ground remains adjacent to the Monastery. The sandstone church, Holy Name of Mary at Villa Maria, was built in 1871. It was initially the monastery chapel. Its construction was supervised by Father Joly. The Marists built two other significant churches in the 19th century, St Charles Borromeo, Ryde, and St Peter Chanel, Futuna Street, Hunters Hill.

Villa Maria Monastery

61. Dacre Villa
c.1878
36 Mary Street

This house was built by Lewis Truscott in the 1870s. Truscott was a ship's captain, friend and associate of Didier Joubert and the Marists. Dacre Villa was named after the maiden name of his wife, Elizabeth. In 1884, it was tenanted by the Halligan and later the Carter families. It was noted for its flower and vegetable garden and, in particular, for its 100-year-old magnolia grandiflora. Some windows in nearby Villa Maria Catholic Church form a memorial to Captain and Mrs Truscott.

62. Toorak and St Elmo
1878 and 1885
44 and 46 Mary Street

Toorak was built in 1878 by Augustine Arndt for G.R. Barker who was an attendant at Gladesville Hospital. In 1919 Toorak was purchased by T.M. Morgan and his wife and occupied by their son in 1969. Mrs Morgan conducted a business on a site, now known as Harry Shelley Memorial Playground, at the corner of Alexandra and Mount Streets. The adjacent house, St Elmo, was built in 1885. It was owned by Barker's brother, James.

63. Timber Cottages
1880s
17 and 19 Mark Street

Didier Joubert sold the land to William Murray, a stonemason, in 1879. In 1884, William Devitt, a carpenter, purchased it. He built these two timber cottages shortly afterwards from demolition materials from the first St. Joseph's College building. Devitt let the cottages and owned them until 1921.

64. Kentigern
1885
58 Mary Street

This stone house of nine rooms was designed by architect Edward Gell of Bathurst. It was built for Louis F. Heydon, a lawyer, politician and influential Catholic close to the Marists. Heydon was a member of the Legislative Council (MLC). He paid the first rates in 1885. The house is named after a Scottish saint. Originally it had frontages to Mary, Paul and Augustine Streets.

65. Llanthony
1884
6 Everard Street

This Victorian two-storey mansion, built in Italian villa-style, included 15 rooms, a separate stone ballroom, cottage and stables. It was built by barrister John Leo Watkins. Watkins also kept a farm and orchard. The house was named after an abbey in Wales which was destroyed in the 16th century by Henry V111. The surrounding land was subdivided in 1918. Additions were made to the servants' quarters in 1935. Llanthony was renovated and turned into 10 strata units during the 1970s. It is best viewed from Leo Street.

66. Summer Hill
c.1885
59 Pittwater Road

This site is part of James Everard's land grant of 1798 and was part of the land's subdivision in the early 1880s. Summer Hill was built shortly afterwards by William Swindall, a stonemason, who worked on St. Mary's Catholic Cathedral in Sydney. He was in residence here until 1899.

67. Stone Cottages
1880s
Batemans Road
16A and 29 Opposite

These stone cottages were built in the 1880s. They replaced rustic timber buildings on land which was cultivated as orchards. No 16A was a second house, for tenants, on the property of David Poyntz. His own residence, Qambi, a weatherboard house further south in the street, was demolished in 1972 to make way for home units. This, and No 29 opposite, are good examples of the many stone cottages in Hunters Hill, a number of which were built by the early stonemasons for their own homes. John Reeves kept a dairy nearby.

68. 52 Batemans Road
c.1840s

This building stands on land originally granted to James Devlin, as do all those in Batemans Road. A farmhouse appears to have existed on the site in Robert Bateman's time. The house incorporates an old cellar, rubble walls and stone storage areas, perhaps for dairy produce. It was owned by the Earnshaw family for many years.

Crescent Street
c.1945

Opening of the Historical Society
15 April 1967

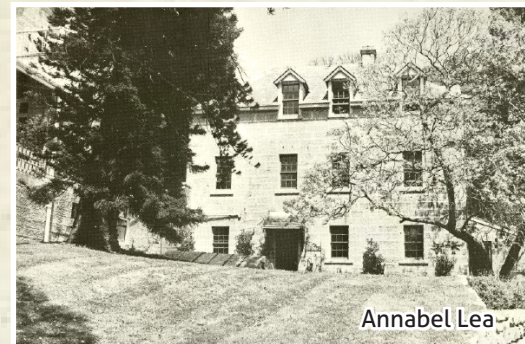Girrahween School

Kingston Moore Family c. 1915

69. Burnham
1887
24 Dick Street

A three-storey tower and other Italianate features distinguish this house from its neighbours. The house was built in 1887. Oscar Schultze, an engineer, lived here from 1893. It was the home of the Consul-General for Germany, Dr Georg Irmer, in 1910 -11.

70. Huntleys Point House
c.1852
34 Huntleys Point Road

In 1851 engineer and surveyor Alfred Huntley purchased all the land now called Huntleys Point, and built this five-roomed house shortly afterwards. Huntley was a close colleague of architect and engineer, William Weaver. A.S. Huntley occupied this house after his own home, Ethelstone, was demolished due to the construction of the Gladesville Bridge.

Annabel Lea

Vineta

Passy

Eulbertie

Ken Bell's Garage c.1940s

St. Malo c.1869

Hunters Hill Museum

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HUNTERS HILL HERITAGE WALKS

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Avenue Pleasure Grounds c.1910