

BEFORE EUROPEAN SETTLEMENT

The Gundaroo & District Historical Society acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land on which Gundaroo sits. While some authorities consider the Yass Valley is Ngunawal and Wiradjuri land, with the Ngunawal peoples inhabiting the greatest area including what is present day Canberra, there are two other groups that also lay claim to being Traditional Owners, the Ngambri and the Ngambri-Guumaal. While the origin is not entirely clear, it's believed Gundaroo draws its name from the Ngunawal language. One theory is that it comes from the Indigenous name for the Yass River which was Boongaroon or Gondoroo. Another traces the name back to the Aboriginal name Candariro that was recorded by Charles Throsby Smith and meant either "big waterhole" or "blue crane".

ABOUT GUNDAROO

Officially founded in 1847 and now often described as a remnant 19th century village, Gundaroo has grown steadily over the past 40 years as a new population has discovered its charms. Once a sleepy hamlet, now it's the thriving home of a wide variety of people, from the descendants of original settlers to retired professionals to young families making their mark. Alongside this growth Gundaroo has retained much of its historic character with many of its historic buildings still standing as private residences, public buildings and homes to local businesses.

THE GUNDAROO HERITAGE WALK

~ NEW SOUTH WALES, AUSTRALIA ~

NATURAL HERITAGE

Complementing Gundaroo's built heritage is its natural heritage as recorded by Throsby Smith in December 1820:

"...and at midday crossed the river 'unto a beautiful clear plain called by the natives Candariro'... 'From the middle of the plain as far as the Eye could reach all round this is a finest Country as ever was seen. We were 25 minutes crossing the plain part of it...& the whole Country with the exception of about half a Mile that we passed to Day on both sides of the River is a beautiful forest Country thinly Wooded by Gums & Bastard Box admirably watered and a fine Black Soil fit for any purpose either for grazing or Agriculture'. *Errol Lea-Scarlett 1972*

Areas of this natural heritage are protected on the Gundaroo Common and McLeod's Creek Nature Reserve. They contain endangered natural temperate grassland and White Box/Yellow Box/Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland communities. They're also home to threatened species such as the striped legless lizard, golden sun moth, squirrel glider and the large-fruit groundsel, and each year the Superb Parrot migrates to Gundaroo to forage and breed in old-growth hollow-bearing trees. Feel free to explore our natural heritage areas but please keep to walking trails where appropriate.



GRAZING AT GUNDAROO
At the old Royal Hotel.
Open Thursday - Saturday for dinner.
Friday - Sunday for lunch.
Ph: 02 6236 8777.

Yass Valley
NSW AUSTRALIA



Use your smart phone or tablet to go to www.gundaroohistoricalsociety.com, click on "Heritage Walk" and you'll find detailed information on each of the sites in our Guide



Where good friends meet

GUNDAROO COLONIAL INN
The 'local'. Our restaurant serves modern Australian food.
Comfortable country style rooms available.
Ph: 02 6236 8155.
Or make a booking online at www.gundaroocolonialinn.com.au

Please be aware that a number of the sites in our Guide are private homes and not open for public access. We ask that you take a sensitive approach to such sites

1 GUNDAROO COLONIAL INN.

Built in 1872. Opened and run by Noah Cheesman as the Commercial Hotel, it later became the Star Wine Saloon and the Gundaroo Wine Bar owned and run by the Crowe family. Matt Crowe, a town icon and whose name still appears on the building, was still serving port at the bar at the age of 92. The Inn is a social hub of the village and also has a restaurant and accommodation. Head across Cork St to...

2 REMAINS OF PISE SHOP.

(Known as the old butchers shop) Built circa 1878 as a store for the Jones Brothers of Gunning, later operated as McGrath and Hart's shop and later still in the 1800s as a butcher's shop and by a baker around the time of WWI . To your right is...

3 THE OLD POLICE STATION, LOCK UP AND STABLES.

Built in 1857 by Thomas Hodson of Queanbeyan, it closed in 1935, and is now home to the Cork Street Café. Wander down the entry to see the old lock up and the stables where the café operates. The police horses were turned out on the Police Paddock in Morning Street. Back on Cork St to the left is...

4 ST MARKS ANGLICAN CHURCH.

Originally the Gundaroo Court House. Built in 1875 by W. Duncan of Goulburn, its first case was heard on 9 February 1876. It was sold to the Church of England in 1940 for 406 pounds and is still used for services. Next door is...

5 SALLY PASKINS STORE.

Built in 1870 from local materials. Sarah 'Sally' Paskins ran the store in the 1880's. She kept a cockatoo on the front counter. Next door is...

6 THE GUNDAROO STORE.

Built in 1893 from bricks made on site. It opened then as the Gundaroo Arcade. The store has been home to many local businesses in its history. Currently a private residence and business office. Next door is...

7 THE CALEDONIA STORE.

Built in 1880 by William Affleck, one of Gundaroo's most celebrated citizens. Also known as the fourth Caledonia Store. Now a private residence. Cross to the other side of Cork St to...

8 THE COMMERCIAL BANK / OLD BAKERY.

Built in 1868 as the third Caledonia Store (the first two no longer exist). Once used as a bank by the Commercial Banking Company of Sydney from 1890 to 1893, and later as a bakery. Now a private residence. Next door is...

9 THE LITERARY INSTITUTE.

Built in 1888 by William Affleck as a cottage for rent, in 1897 he donated it to the village's Mutual Improvement Society which used it as a library and reading-room known as a School of Arts. Next door is...

10 WONGA COTTAGE.

Built in 1882 as Dyball's Boarding House. Now a private residence it was given its current name in the 1980s. Continue along Cork St to the intersection of Harp St to....



11 THE WAR MEMORIAL.

Erected by public donations originally to commemorate WWI. It now recognises all Gundaroo residents who served overseas. Look across Cork St to see...

12 KILAMAROY.

Built in 1889 as a private residence by Jeremiah Leahy from bricks made on site it was considered one of the finest homes in Gundaroo. The name was changed to 'Hazelville' about 1929. The current owners reverted to the original name in the 1970's. From the War Memorial cross Harp St to...

13 THE CLEMENGER MEMORIAL.

Erected by grateful Gundaroo residents to acknowledge the tireless work of W.R (William) Clemenger in the development of Gundaroo. He died on 23 February 1918. A little further along Cork St is...

14 OLD GUNDAROO POST OFFICE.

Built in 1882 it operated as a post office until 1989 and then as a post office and general store until 2005, when it moved to its present location. The original building is now a private residence. The building on the northern edge of the block is an old shearing shed relocated from Adelong in the 1990s. Cross over Cork St and to your left is...



15 THE ROYAL HOTEL.

Built in 1865 for William Affleck. Run by a number of publicans until its licence was transferred to the Queanbeyan Hotel in 1928. Home of the legendary Gundaroo Pub for 30 years it now houses the award-winning Grazing at Gundaroo restaurant and Capital Wines Cellar Door. Continue along Cork St to....

16 THE GUNDAROO SOLDIERS' MEMORIAL HALL.

Built in 1890 as the Elite Skating Rink it is now the village venue for meetings, trivia nights, weddings and films. Two doors down is...

17 CLEMENGER'S COTTAGE.

Built for the postmaster W.R (William) Clemenger in 1890. Also referred to as Mrs Davis' Store. Now part of The Nest accommodation. Stroll a little further along Cork St to...



18 GUNDAROO PARK.

Proclaimed as a public park in 1886 after lobbying by William Affleck. The big trees are what remains of a large "pinereta" established by Affleck and other locals in the 1880s. Now a Crown Reserve run by local volunteers. Short-term camping is welcomed at the Park. From the Park walk along David St to the intersection with Morning St. The open paddock on the corner is the Police Paddock. Turn right into Morning St.

19 MORNING ST COTTAGES.

As you walk up Morning St on your right you'll pass a number of cottages dating from the 1880s including Greenwood's Cottage, one of the few remaining slab buildings left in the village. At the top of the street is...

20 ST JOSEPHS CATHOLIC CHURCH.

Built in 1881. Sitting above the village, its stonework is a testament to the workmanship available at the time. Services are held regularly and its community hall used for local events. Now turn left into Harp St and wander along to...

21 GUNDAROO COMMON.

The village Common is one of few remaining in NSW and has been actively managed by a local Trust since 1870. Used for agisting cattle and for recreation including walking, dog exercise and horse riding, it's recognised as a significant site of natural heritage with remnant eucalyptus and natural temperate grasslands and is home to a number of endangered species. Wander onto the Common and turn right towards the Gundaroo Cemetery. (Or turn right into Lute St and walk down to Lot St to access the Cemetery.)

22 GUNDAROO CEMETERY.

Dedicated in 1868 the general cemetery contains the graves of both old and new Gundaroo families. The old Catholic cemetery is located on the road to Sutton. From the Cemetery head back down Lot St to...

23 THE GUNDAROO PUBLIC SCHOOL.

Built in 1898. It was a single room and one-teacher school until the late 1970's. It now thrives with around 85 pupils and four teachers. Just down Lot Street is...

24 UNITING CHURCH COMMUNITY CENTRE.

Built in 1864 as the Presbyterian Church at a cost of 443 pounds and used for a short period in 1868 as the first Gundaroo School. Restored in recent years, it's used for community church services and weddings. Across Lot St is...

25 OLD BOREE STATION HOMESTEAD.

The buildings date from about 1865, when they were part of the Boree Creek stock run near Wagga Wagga. The abandoned homestead was bought in 1988, painstakingly dismantled and reassembled in Gundaroo, ready for occupation in 1990. It's used as a private residence.

Just around the corner you'll find yourself back at the Gundaroo Colonial Inn where you can put your feet up and enjoy a refreshing drink.



THE NEST AT GUNDAROO

Located on Cork Street, this family-owned business provides luxury short-stay accommodation in six generous self contained villas. Ph: (02) 6236 8460 | E: info@thenestgundaroo.com.au



THE CORK STREET CAFE

Behind the old Police Station. Open Thursday and Friday for lunch and dinner. Saturday and Sunday for breakfast, lunch and dinner. P: (02) 6236 8217



GUNDAROO FRIENDLY GROCER

CORK STREET CELLARS & TAKEAWAY Open 7 days P: (02) 6236 8141



CAPITAL WINES CELLAR DOOR

Behind the Royal Hotel. Open Thursday to Sunday 10am - 5pm P: (02) 6236 8555



DOORSTEP DINNERS

Good fresh food delivered to your doorstep. Servicing all suburbs within the ACT plus Bungendore, Jerrabomberra, Queanbeyan, Murrumbateman, Hall, Gundaroo, Sutton and surrounds. www.doorstepdinner.com.au

Gundaroo also has Tin Shed Bread woodfired sourdough bakery and Mickle's Pickles - products available at the Friendly Grocer

Jolly Miller Apple Cider available at the Friendly Grocer and Gundaroo Colonial Inn

The Society thanks local businesses for supporting this Heritage Guide

Front photo: Greenwood's cottage www.rogfryer.com

Left bottom photo: Gundaroo Literary Institute, Cork Street Gundaroo & District Historical Society

Gundaroo map image: Laurence Rimes

Right top photo: St Josephs Catholic Church, Morning Street Gundaroo & District Historical Society