

This guide has been assisted with funds received from the New South Wales Centenary of Federation Committee



- ❁ 1 Stroll the main street - 25 minutes
- ❁ 2 Walk around the town - 60 minutes
- ❁ 3 Explore old Burrowa - 75 minutes

# Boorowa

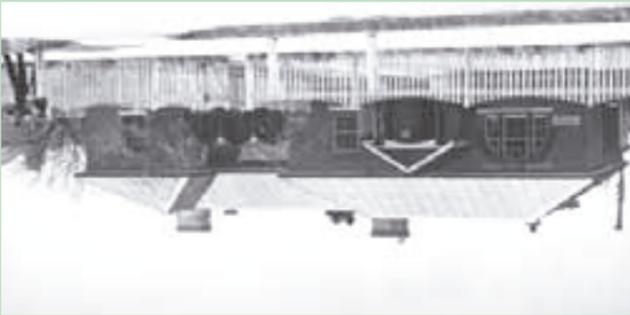
## AROUND HISTORIC Trails Shamrock FOLLOW THE

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Hancock cash store (Later part of Wentworth House)



Boorowa Post Office

Photo E.A. Lumme, Mandurama Collection, NLA Canberra

Photo E.A. Lumme, Mandurama Collection, NLA Canberra

The first Court House Hotel (on right) as a single storey building in Pudman Street



## Morgan's memories

In the 1850's Burrowa was the furthest south-west settlement and all around the country was like a forest. Streets were not formed in Burrowa till about 1874. Before that there were only blazed tracks, fences were unknown. The first hotel in the town was Tim O'Brien's where the (former) Convent was built. Alongside was a store, owned by the same man - both built with slabs and a bark roof. Hennessey's West End Hotel was close to where Ryan's Bakery stands (corner Market and Pudman Streets) but facing Market Street. Next door was a bark building that was replaced by Learmonth's first shop before they moved to Marsden Street. (Model Store). Next to the store was the Commercial Hotel and next to that a store that later became the Bank of New South Wales. The bank later reversed its frontage to Marsden Street. EXTRACTS FROM BENJAMIN MORGAN'S MEMOIRS PUBLISHED IN THE BURROWA NEWS 19 OCTOBER 1934

## The Boorowa district

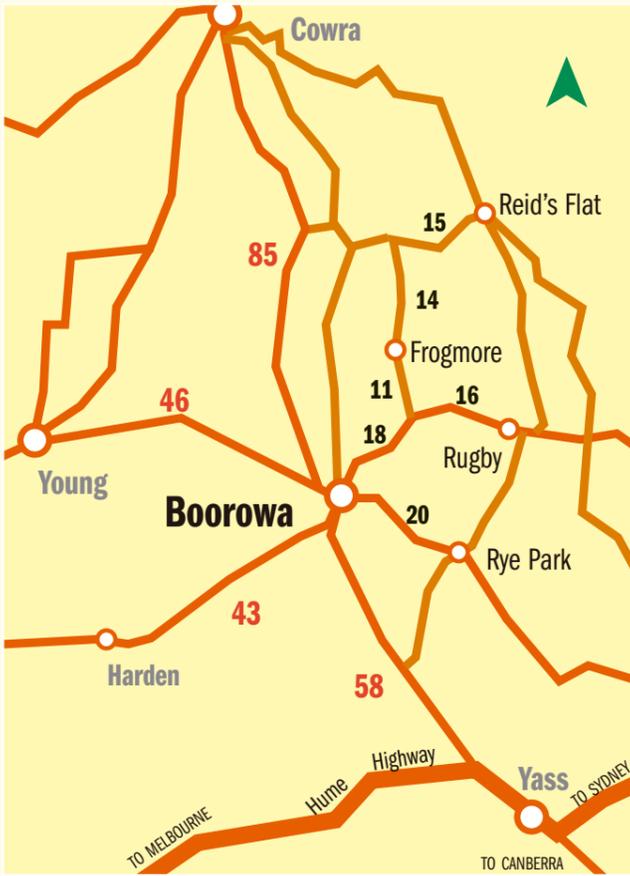
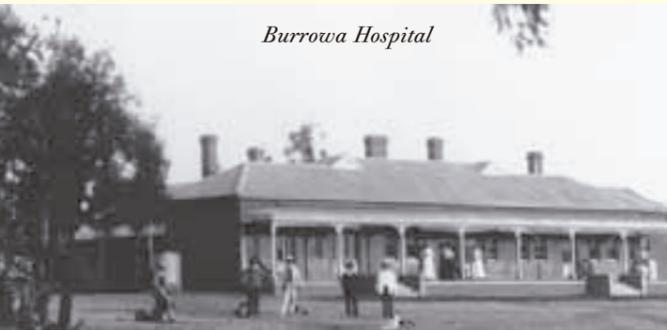


Photo E.A. Lumme, Mandurama Collection, NLA Canberra

## Boorowa

- ❁ The Boorowa Council covers an area of 2,600 square kilometres and is situated in the South West Slopes Region of New South Wales.
- ❁ The municipality was approved in 1850.
- ❁ The main town of Boorowa is 111 kilometres from Canberra and 299 kilometres from Sydney.
- ❁ Boorowa is 489 metres above sea level, situated on the Boorowa River and has a population of 1,350.
- ❁ There are four villages in the district, Frogmore, Reid's Flat, Rugby and Rye Park.
- ❁ The population of the district is 2,690.
- ❁ The main industries are rural. The area is noted internationally for its wool. Fat lambs, cattle, grains, sheep and horse studs are also prominent.

Burrowa Hospital



Brial Street looking east



Photo E.A. Lumme, Mandurama Collection, NLA Canberra

## The Irish connection

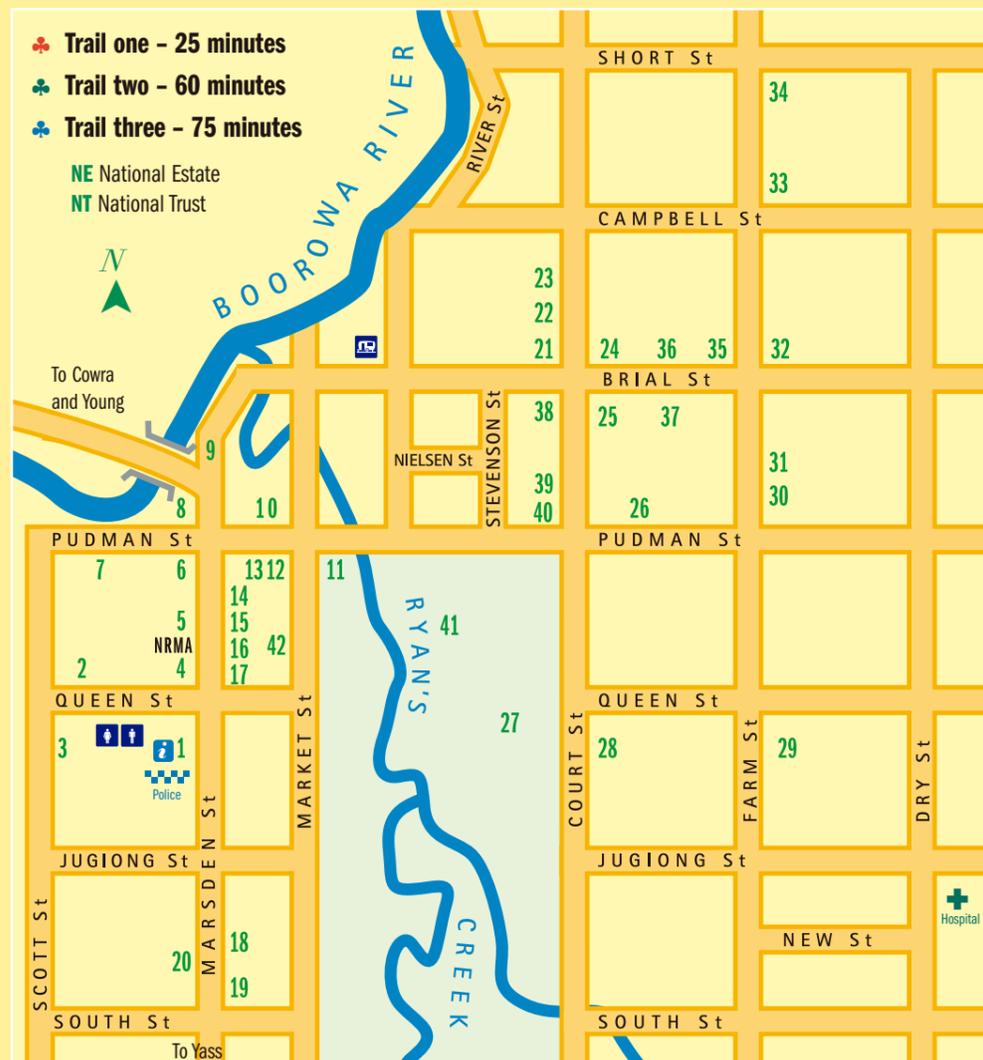


In the 19th century a Catholic nun was asked 'Have you been to Ireland?' 'No', she replied. 'But I've been to Burrowa.' Boorowa's Irish connection dates back to the 1820's when cousins Roger Corcoran and Ned Ryan arrived in the area on 'Ticket of Leave'. They had been sentenced to transportation, to New South Wales from Clonoulty in Tipperary. Their crime was participation in the destruction of a hospital that a garrison of English troops planned to occupy. They were later granted a 'Ticket of Freedom' and played prominent roles in the settlement and growth of the area.

Today Boorowa and Clonoulty acknowledge their connections with a twinning charter. When you enter the magnificent St. Patrick's Church, in the heart of Boorowa, look to the stained glass windows above and read the dedication 'Daniel O'Connell - Liberator of Ireland'.

Front Cover: Corner of Marsden and Pudman Streets c 1900.

# Follow the *Shamrock Trails* around Historic Boorowa



## 1 Court House 1884 NT

Judge Forbes presided on the first case in January 1886. It ceased to function as a court house in 1988 and is now the Tourist Information Centre and an Arts and Crafts Shop and Tea Room. The original court fittings remain. Open daily from 10.00am to 5.00pm.

## 2 St. Patrick's Church 1877

Presbytery (1864) – Convent (1885 – now a private residence) – St. Joseph's School (1888). The church has outstanding stained glass windows and marble altars. The south windows, above the main entrance, were imported from Ireland in 1881 and depict Daniel O'Connell, the Liberator of Ireland, with the saints Patrick, Bridget and Columbia. Open daily.

## 3 The Dairy 1854 NE

This rare slab dwelling was the residence of one of the town's first dairymen. The house was in two sections – living quarters at the front and amenities at the rear. These are still clearly visible though they were connected in later years with more living space. The slab shed at the rear was moved from the adjoining block. The house was named Dendavilleigh by the current owners. Private residence

## 4 Post Office 1876

The original Post Office (1874) adjoins this building and is now a private residence. It was originally known as the Burrowa Post Office but was changed to Boorowa in 1914 to conform with the other public buildings.

## 5 Guild Hall 1909

Built for the Holy Catholic Guild, it was used for social functions and later the Empire Theatre. The Guild also conducted the St. Patrick's Day Carnival. The building is basically unchanged.

## 6 Crown Inn 1853

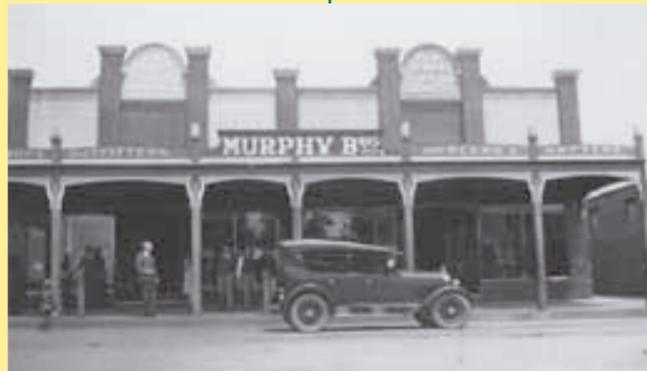
The original hotel was a little further down Pudman Street. The inn changed its name to the Court House Hotel in 1866 as local court sittings were held there. The present building was constructed in 1908.

## 7 Burrowa News Printery 1936

The Burrowa News was first printed in 1874. This building, housed the paper from 1936 to the war years. The masthead was changed to the Boorowa News in 1951. The original name remains on the building façade.

## 8 J.J. Cummins Building 1919

Mr. Cummins was a builder, carpenter and furniture manufacturer. Additions were made in 1922 and 1927 to accommodate his expanding business. In 1951 a fire destroyed the timber yards and residence.



Murphy Brothers

## 9 War Memorial 1933 NT

Constructed of local bricks, Western Australian jarrah flooring, Queensland maple windows and a doorstep of Hawkesbury sandstone this eye catching monument serves as the focal point for Anzac remembrance and the RSL meeting room. Note the clock uses the ANZAC letters instead of numerals.

## Entry to river walk

## 10 Union Bank 1930

The bank commenced business in Burrowa in 1885. This building, opened in 1930, features a central arch, which was the distinguishing feature of their branches. The merger with the Bank of Australasia in 1951 created the ANZ Bank. This branch closed in 1996.

## 11 Shamrock Base

This base marks one hundred years of local government in Boorowa and commemorates Patrick Ryan the first

Mayor (1889–1890 & 1904–1905) Behind is the current council building which was completed in 1956.

## Entry to river walk

## 12 Central Hotel 1912

The first hotel built on this site was the Harp of Erin in 1876. The slab and galvanised iron building was destroyed by fire in 1911. This double-storey building replaced it and was named the Central Hotel. The hotel closed in 1998.

## 13 Murphy Brothers 1919-28

The original slab and iron store (c 1880) was replaced in two stages by builder J.J. Cummins. Note the beautiful custom made counters and the unusual interior-lit lead light in the ceiling.

## 14 Model Store 1918

Many of the town's early businesses faced Market Street. The Learmont Family built this double-storey building to replace their store in Market Street. It has 17,000 square feet of retail space. Note the central staircase to the galleried upper level and the stained glass windows.

## 15 Bank of New South Wales 1909

The bank opened in Wentworth House in 1866. It later moved to Market Street and subsequently to a bungalow style building facing Marsden Street. This building is still visible behind the extension to the street added in 1956. The bank was renamed Westpac in 1981. The branch closed in 2000.

## 16 George Patterson Store c 1882 NT

One of the few buildings constructed of pise (rammed mud) known to still exist in a commercial precinct. The building has had many uses including that of an undertaker. The building opened as the Boorowa Museum in 1975. Open Saturday 10.00am – 12 noon, or by appointment.

## 17 Royal Standard Hotel 1880 NT

The last hotel to be built in Boorowa. First a single-storey structure, the second floor was added in 1905. Note the different footpath flagging. The last additions were in 1924. The name was subsequently changed to Boorowa Hotel.

## 18 Star Hotel 1867 NT

The name was changed to Clonoulty in 1874 by the third licensee William Corcoran after his home village in Ireland. The hotel became a boarding house in 1895 and is now restored as a private residence.

## 19 Glenara 1866 NT

This Victorian Georgian six bedroom residence was built for the owner of the Burrowa Union Flour Mill. The building retains most of its original features.

## 20 Mill Manager's House 1866

This picturesque little cottage was built for the Manager of the then adjoining Flour Mill. The cottage remains in its original form as a private residence.

## 21 J.J. Kershaw Store 1883

Unique for its time, this store had a pine planked footpath and stone guttering, later to be replaced by flagstones. The interior was remodelled extensively with timber in 1907 and remains in this condition today.

## Entry to river walk

## 22 St. Patrick's Church 1855

The site of the first Catholic church which was built from stone rubble with a shingle roof. On Good Friday 1865 a portion of the ceiling fell on worshippers. Though repaired it was decided that a new church was needed. The church has decayed with time.

## 23 Ellerslie c 1880

A notable owner of this house was Dr. Le Fevre who practised in Boorowa for 40 years, retiring in 1947. He was related to the explorer Hume's family through marriage to Vera Hume in 1912. Their house is typical of a townsman who was "comfortably off". The detached kitchen is still noticeable though it has since been connected to the house. Private residence.

## 24 Wentworth House 1885

Anything and everything of the best quality could be purchased here. Once the most significant emporium in Burrowa, it was a grand renovation of a neglected hotel. The building was almost destroyed by fire in 1914. A reminder of its splendour can be seen in the two-storey section on the eastern side, with its wrought iron enclosed balcony. The single-storey section was rebuilt in 1915.

## 25 Royal Hotel 1860

This is the oldest hotel in Boorowa and retains its initial structure including the footpath of sandstone slabs. It was a single-storey building until 1925 when a second floor was added. The hotel guest list boasted many prominent people of the time including John Dunmore Lang and Banjo Paterson. The hotel was renamed the Ram and Stallion in 1989.

## 26 Mechanics Institute c1883

Established to 'educate and elevate the tone of the town' the Institute boasted 2000 books by the year 1900. It was a popular venue for social functions and later the town's first picture show. In 1901 Banjo Paterson spoke at a political rally. The building was occupied by the Country

Marsden Street looking south



Women's Association from 1937 to 2000. During World War II the building housed a Silk Knit factory.

## 27 Boorowa Railway Station 1914

The residents of Burrowa first petitioned for a railway line in 1869. Their request took 45 years to be realised with a spur line being built from Galong. The passenger service was discontinued in 1983 and the station demolished. The railway continued to transport grain and wool until 1987. The twin silos built in 1929 are still used for grain storage.

## 28 St. James Church 1885

The Presbyterian Church opened in 1885 and the adjoining manse in 1890. On the formation of the Uniting Church the church was closed in 1982 and the property sold. Private residence.

## 29 St John's Church 1862 NT

The Church of England used 70,000 locally made bricks and 9,000 feet of timber. Some of the stained glass windows were donated by the Hume family. A resident clergyman was appointed in 1866 and the rectory built in 1875. The lych gate was added in 1928 as a First World War memorial. Open daily 10.00am – 5.00pm.

## 30 Burrowa Public School 1870

The initial school, now part of the residence, was a single classroom with an enrolment of 50 students. School fees were ninepence a week for a single student to one shilling and ninepence for a family of four. A new public school of two classrooms was built in 1892 with additional rooms added in 1934. The name was changed to Boorowa Central School in 1958.

## 31 The Laurels c1860

This house was built for the Stevenson family who were influential in the town's commercial life and also owned Wentworth House. This colonial-style house retains the original detached kitchen, servants' quarters and stables. Private residence.

## 32 Wesleyan Church 1869

A tea meeting in 1867 raised 60 pounds towards the ultimate cost of 363 pounds. In 1902 it became a Methodist Church and in 1977 a Uniting Church. The Church was restored in 1996. The adjoining parsonage, which is now a private residence, was built in 1917. Church inspection by appointment.

## 33 Shamrock Cottage c 1850

The site of the first Queens Arms Hotel, and changed to Shamrock Hotel in 1877. The slab and pise hotel has been demolished but the licensee's cottage and a storage building at the rear have survived. The storeroom is probably the oldest building still standing in Boorowa. The hotel was the start and finish for the town racecourse. Private property

## 34 Mill Cottage c 1854

This bluestone building was constructed beside one of Boorowa's two flour mills. First used as a residence it was later (1878) converted to a bakery. The remnants of the baking ovens can still be seen. Private property.

## 35 Webb & Crego's 1862

Henry Webb and John Crego had a store constructed of local bricks on this site. The store had 16 rooms and an outbuilding to store dynamite, which is all that remains today. Their best known customer was bushranger Ben Hall, who outfitted himself at gunpoint in 1863. Private property.

## 36 Oriental Bank 1879

The Oriental Bank operated here until its suspension in 1884. The building was then occupied by the Commercial Bank until 1893 when it too was suspended. The Union Bank purchased the property in 1898 and operated here until 1930. The Bank and outbuildings remain as constructed including the streetscape signage. Private residence.

## 37 Carpenter's Arms Hotel c1860

Successive licensees gave it a different name – Telegraph, Burrowa, Farmer's Arms and finally the Queens Arms when it was purchased by the licensee of the first hotel bearing that name. The original building was demolished in 1914 to be replaced by a weatherboard structure. The hotel closed in 1925 and was then used as a boarding house and later as a general store. Private property.

## 38 Court Street

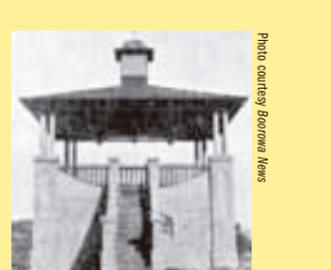
Original main street of Burrowa. This double-storey building was a produce store that was enlarged in 1927 to accommodate a farm machinery business. Next was the billiard hall (vacant block), then the White Rose Café. Further along was the barbershop, a haberdashery, the drapery store, which under previous occupiers had been a dentist and a gunsmith. On the opposite side the first Post and Telegraph Office can still be seen behind the Ram and Stallion Hotel.

## 39 Municipal Chambers 1909

Boorowa was proclaimed a municipality in 1888. Six aldermen were appointed the following year and met in the Mechanics Institute. A prize of five pounds was awarded to the designer of this building. Council first met here on the 10th January, 1910. The names of the first six mayors appear above the door. The Council moved to new facilities in 1956.

## 40 Boer War Memorial 1901

George Tom Cooper was a member of the NSW Bushman Contingent in the Boer War. He was killed in action on the 12th October, 1900. This memorial was paid for by public subscription.



The Rotunda

## 41 Boorowa Recreation Ground 1850

The survey of 1850 set aside 95 acres in the centre of the town for recreation. The reserve was divided by Ryan's Creek and dedicated in 1881. You are invited to rest a while – BBQ, child play facilities and public toilets are provided.

## 42 Market Street 1850 - 1880

Stroll back up Market Street and let your imagination wander. In the early days of Boorowa this was the main street. There was a large two-storey general store and other shops, the Telegraph Office, the Bank of New South Wales, a builder and the Commercial Hotel. The remaining monument to those early entrepreneurs is a few sections of brick wall.