



Ryde

Heritage

Walking

Trail

Contents

1	St Annes Church	p6
2	St Annes Cemetery	p8
3	Moss and Sons Family Butchers	p10
4	The First Court House	p11
5	Street Art Sculptures	p12
6	Wesley Church and Oddfellows Hall	p16
7	The Parsonage	p18
8	Westward Cottage	p19
9	Willandra House	p20
10	Police Watch-house	p22
11	Court House	p23
12	Wallumetta	p24
13	The Retreat	p25
14	Addington	p26
15	Masonic Temple and School of Arts Site	p27
16	Tramway Monument	p28
17	Ryde Civic Centre	p29
18	Hatton's Cottage	p30
19	Site of Smith's Folly, Hampton Court Residential Hotel	p31
20	Local Studies at the Ryde Library	p32
21	<i>La Piazza and La Strada</i> in Top Ryde City	p33
22	Ryde Public School	p34
23	Site of Tucker's Inn, the First Town Hall, and remains of Anderson's Building	p35
24	Former Post Offices	p36
25	Ryde Park and the Band Rotunda	p37
26	Queen Victoria Jubilee Fountain	p38
27	Ebenezer Chapel	p39
28	Ryde Cenotaph	p40

Preface

This booklet was produced by the City of Ryde as a guide to exploring local history. The sites described are around Top Ryde City and along Victoria Road toward West Ryde. They may be visited in any order. As it would take about four hours to view them all, you might like to split the walk into a couple of trips. Top Ryde City is a convenient bus destination, alternatively you can park in the shopping complex or in a Council car park in Church St.

Some of the places along the walking trail are not listed items of heritage significance, however, have been included for their historical, architectural, social or aesthetic importance to the locality. When viewing sites, please respect private property, be aware that Churches are not always open, and that entry to school grounds is prohibited other than to people on business. Some sites are best visited on open days. Victoria Rd is very busy, please cross at the lights.

Much of the information in this booklet has been summarised and updated from Council's database of Heritage listed sites available through the Office of Environment and Heritage:

www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/heritagesearch.aspx

For additional information see the following:

Geeves, P. 1970. *A Place of Pioneers.*

The centenary history of the Municipality of Ryde. Ryde Municipal Council pg206.

Levy M.C.I. 1947. *Wallumetta. A history of Ryde and its districts 1792-1945.* W.E. Smith Sydney.

Martin M. 1998. *A pictorial History of Ryde.* Kingsclear Books pg121.

Shaw K. (Ed.) 2002. *Historic Ryde. A guide to some significant heritage sites in the City of Ryde.* Ryde District Historical Society, pg149.

Smith K.V. 2005. *Wallumedegal: An Aboriginal History of Ryde.* Sydney, City of Ryde Council.

library.ryde.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/spydus.exe/MSGTRN/PIC/BSEARCH

Historic photographs of Ryde.

About Ryde

Ryde was the territory of the Wallumedegal clan of Aboriginal people whose totem was the snapper fish (wallumai). On the 3 January 1792, Governor Phillip made land grants to eight marines and named the area the Field of Mars, the words Mars and Marines being derived from the name of the Roman God of War. Over time the boundaries shifted and the area became known as the Eastern Farms, then Kissing Point, a name that referred to the way in which heavily laden boats passing up the Parramatta River bumped or 'kissed' the shallow bottom at low tide near Putney.

In 1792, there were eight settlers in the Field of Mars and twelve on the Eastern Farms who had a total of 1.6ha of wheat, 34ha of maize and barley, 3.2ha of garden, and 17.6ha of cleared land.

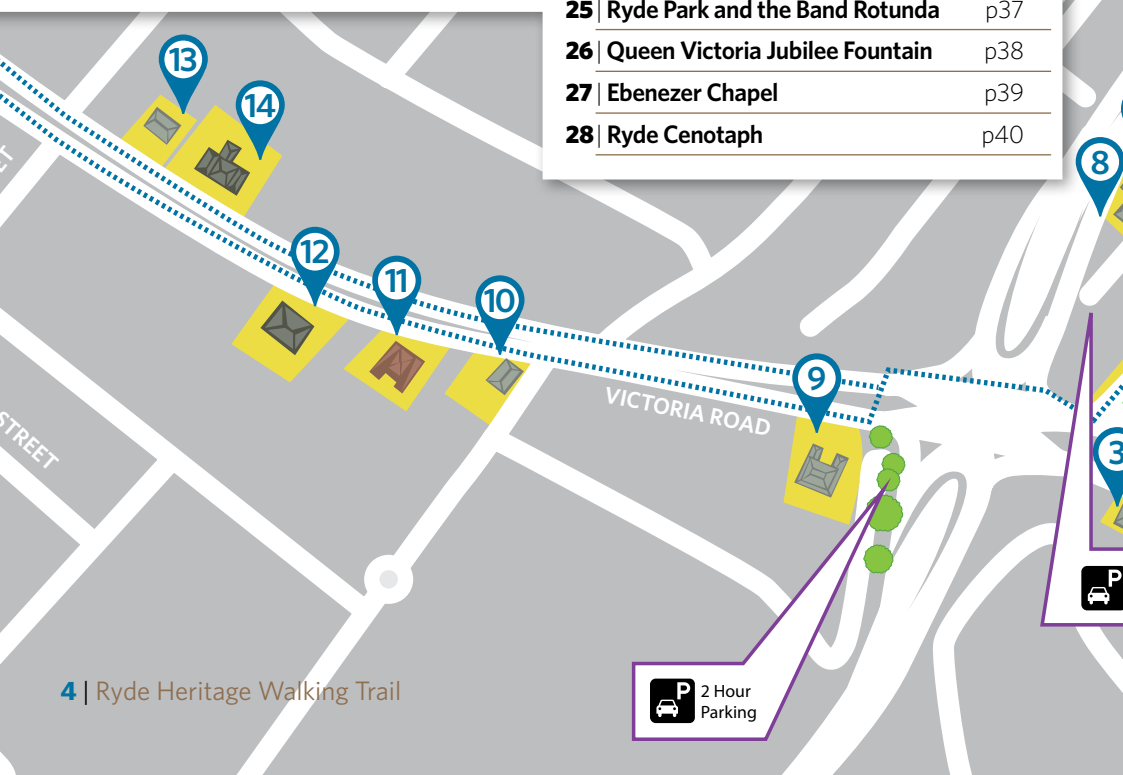
By 1802 there were 941ha allotted to 60 settlers at the Eastern Farms. About 184ha were cleared and 114ha under cereals. Produce from orchards, vegetable patches and poultry runs was shipped to Sydney Cove. Most of the grants were small as Phillip allocated 12.1ha (30ac) to a single man, with an additional 8.1ha (20ac) for a wife and 4ha (10ac) for each child.

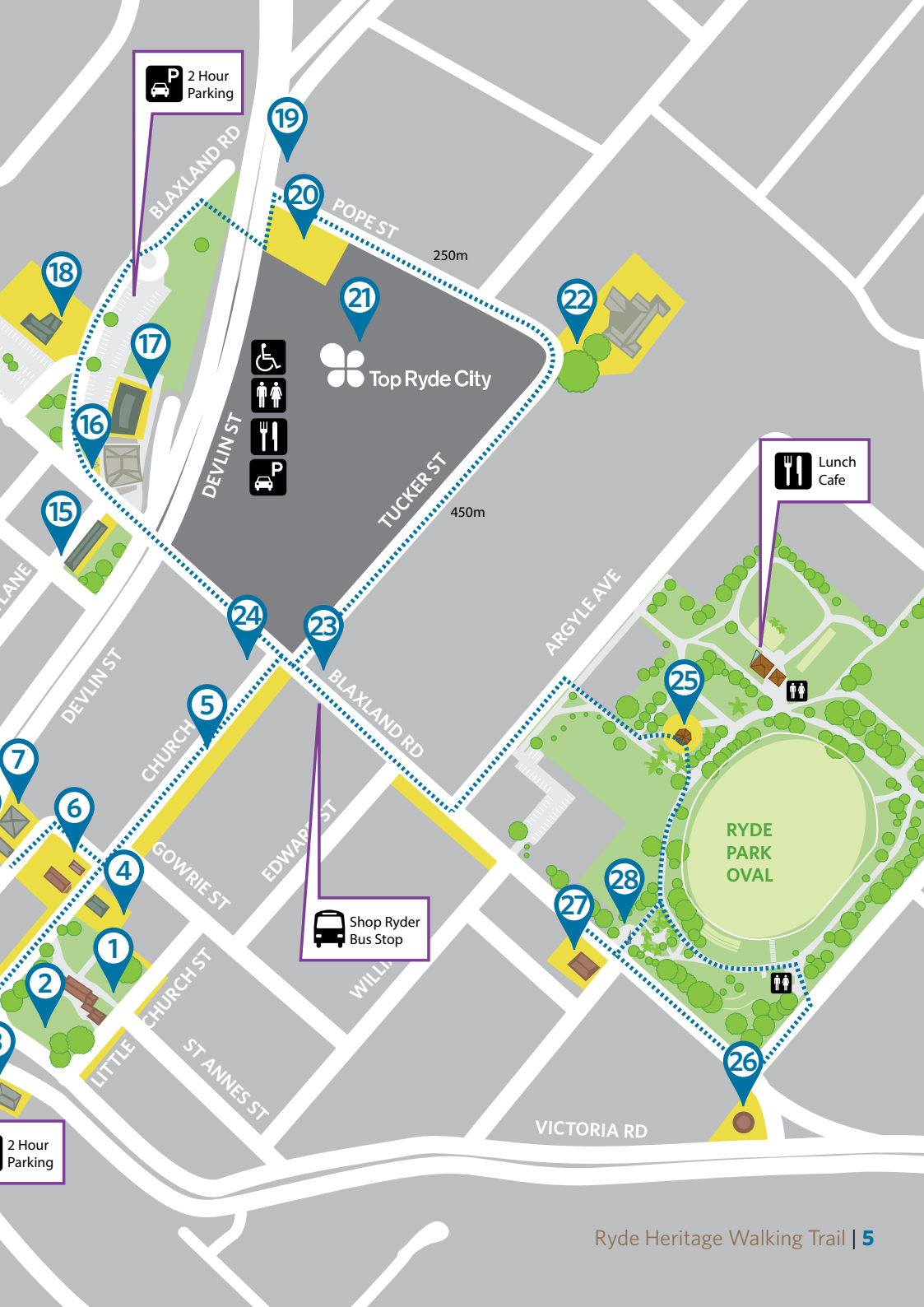
By 1803 the accessible land had been granted. Governor King recognised that the smaller settlers had insufficient land for their stock and set aside a 'traditional English common'. The Field of Mars Common covered 2,044ha north of the Eastern Farms. Ryde village was only a scattering of houses in a few streets around St Annes Church, surrounded by farms, orchards and some larger estates. The name Ryde was adopted by agreement between the Turners, Popes and Devlins because Mrs Turner and the Popes came from Ryde on the Isle of Wight. The Municipal District of Ryde was proclaimed on 12 November 1870.

Conversions. 1ha = 2.47 acres, \$2.00 = £1.0.0

Map and Key

1	St Annes Church	p6	14	Addington	p26
2	St Annes Cemetery	p8	15	Masonic Temple and School of Arts Site	p27
3	Moss and Sons Family Butchers	p10	16	Tramway Monument	p28
4	The First Court House	p11	17	Ryde Civic Centre	p29
5	Street Art Sculptures	p12	18	Hatton's Cottage	p30
6	Wesley Church and Oddfellows Hall	p16	19	Site of Smith's Folly, Hampton Court Residential Hotel	p31
7	The Parsonage	p18	20	Local Studies at the Ryde Library	p32
8	Westward Cottage	p19	21	<i>La Piazza</i> and <i>La Strada</i> in Top Ryde City	p33
9	Willandra House	p20	22	Ryde Public School	p34
10	Police Watch-house	p22	23	Site of Tucker's Inn, the First Town Hall, and remains of Anderson's Building	p35
11	Court House	p23	24	Former Post Offices	p36
12	Wallumetta	p24	25	Ryde Park and the Band Rotunda	p37
13	The Retreat	p25	26	Queen Victoria Jubilee Fountain	p38
			27	Ebenezer Chapel	p39
			28	Ryde Cenotaph	p40





P 2 Hour Parking



Top Ryde City

Lunch Cafe

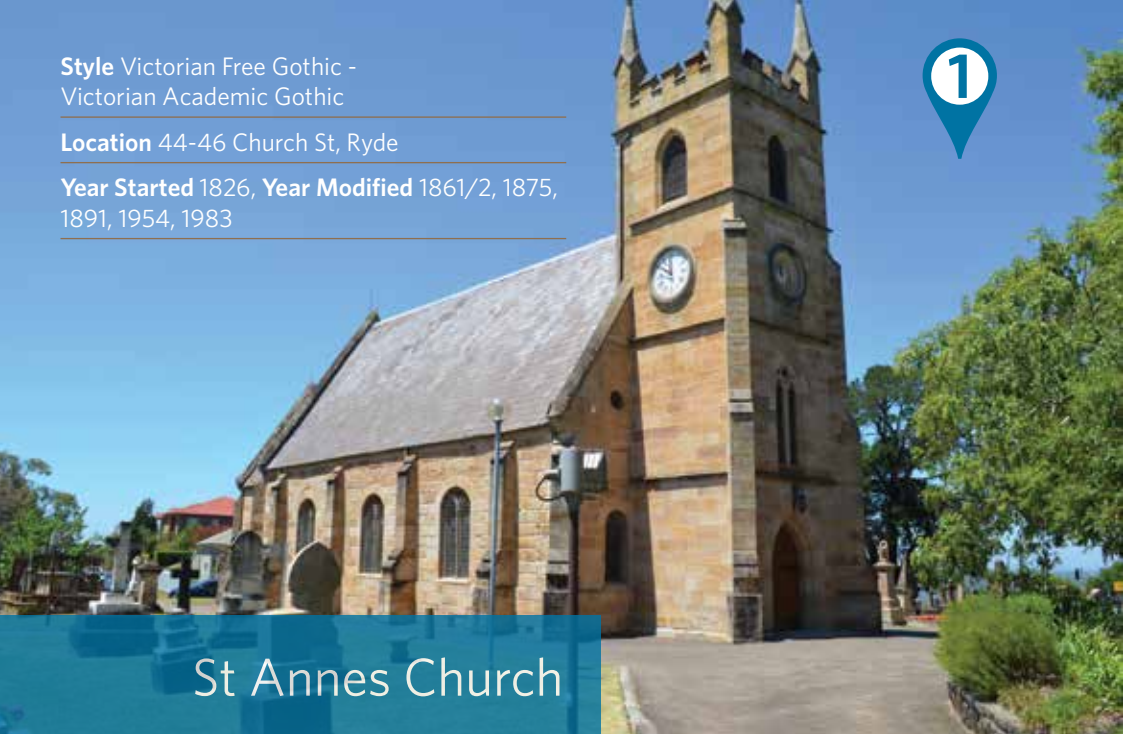
Shop Ryder Bus Stop

2 Hour Parking

Style Victorian Free Gothic -
Victorian Academic Gothic

Location 44-46 Church St, Ryde

Year Started 1826, **Year Modified** 1861/2, 1875,
1891, 1954, 1983

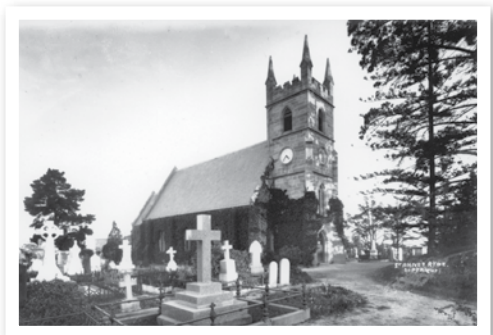


St Annes Church

St Annes Church and Cemetery are on Jones' Farm granted to William Jones in 1792. In 1794, John Small took an adjacent grant and it was in Small's barn that the first services were held in 1798 before a simple slab chapel and school was built in 1800 by Rev Roland Hassall partly funded through public subscription. The opening service was conducted by Rev Richard Johnson and Rev Samuel Marsden.

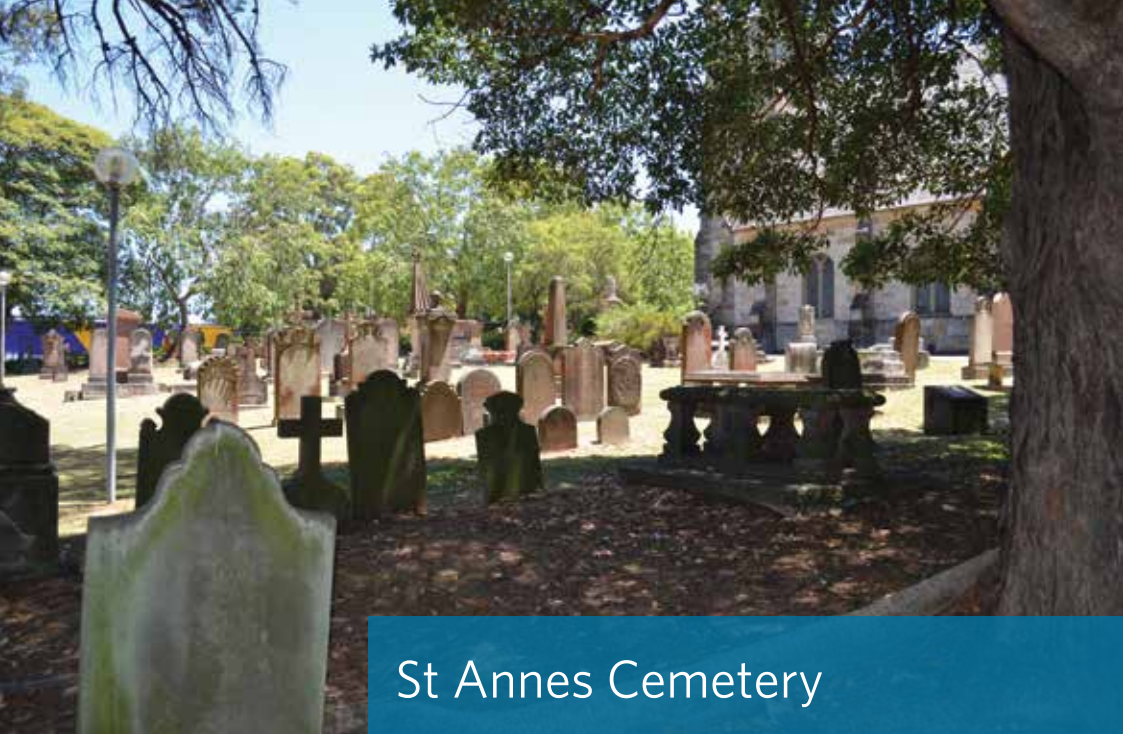
In 1826, a larger sandstone chapel/schoolhouse (now the church nave) was constructed. By 1826, Small owned Jones' Farm and the Church negotiated a land swap to create a manageable glebe. The building continued to function as a school until 1838 when the Hunters Hill Parochial School was opened on the corner of Belmore St and Victoria Rd. In 1858, most of the Church glebe was divided and sold on 99 year leases into small farms and residential plots between Church St and William St.

The attractive church is a rare Victorian Free Gothic style building, extended in 1861-62 when a sandstone tower was added followed by the bell and clock in 1875. In 1983, the vestries were extended and the organ moved from the chancel to the gallery. There are a number of memorial plaques and stained glass windows dedicated to district pioneers inside the church.



*St Annes in 1916.
State Library ON151/33-34.*





St Annes Cemetery



Location 44-46 Church St, Ryde

Year Started 1826 // **Year Closed** 1899 with a number of 'illegal burials' to 1916.

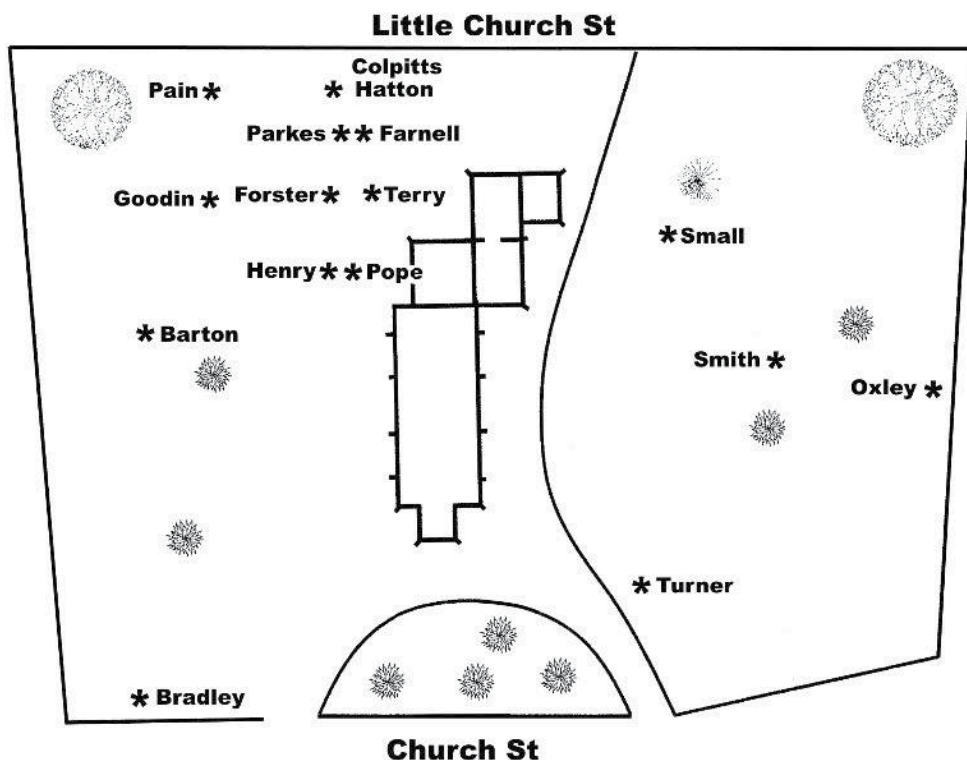


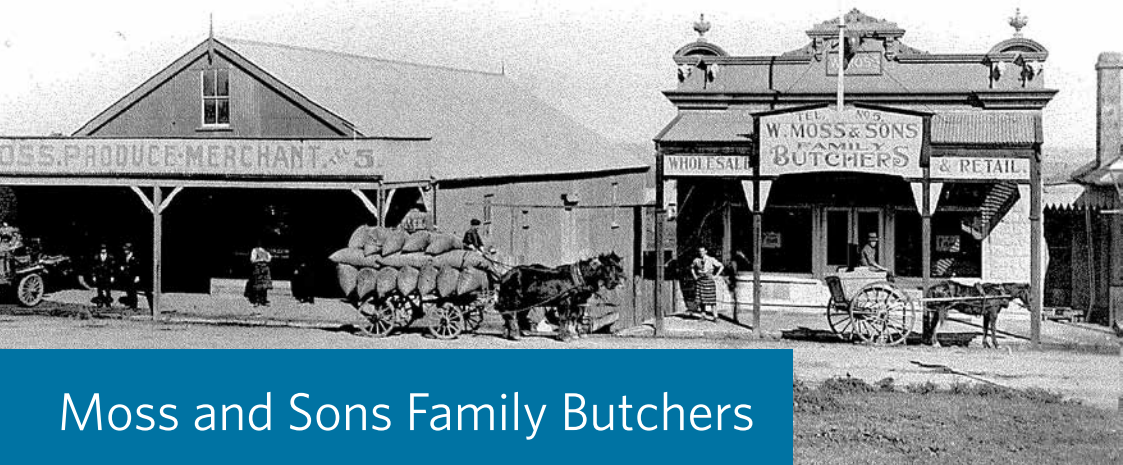
Typical of an old English churchyard. The widening of Victoria Rd caused some headstones to be moved including 27 that were reinterred in the Field of Mars Cemetery. The present cemetery includes memorials to:

- **Abraham Pain (Payne)**, a second fleet convict who has the oldest marked grave 1826
- At least five First Fleet convicts; **James Bradley, Ann Colpitts, Edward Goodin, Mary Parker** and **John Small**
- **Rev William Henry**, London Missionary Society who preached the first sermon in the Field of Mars in 1798 (Item 13)
- **Rev George Weaver Turner** whose wife, **Mary**, came from Ryde on the Isle of Wight
- The **Pope** family, also from the Isle of Wight

- The **Farnell** family plot includes **James Squire Farnell** the first Australian born Premier of NSW (1877-1878) and a grandson of **James Squire**, Australia's first commercial brewer
- **William Forster**, Premier of NSW 1859-1860. He was a grandson of **Gregory Blaxland** (Item 5)
- **Edward Terry** of Eastwood House, the first Mayor of Ryde (1871). Master of the Sydney Hunt Club which chased dingos with hounds at Eastwood. **Terry** was buried seven years after the cemetery was closed and the undertaker was fined £20
- **Lady Eleanor Parkes**, the second wife of **Sir Henry Parkes** (Item 14)
- **Emma Oxley (nee Norton)** wife of the explorer and Surveyor General, **John Oxley** RN
- **Maria Ann Smith** 'Granny Smith' (Item 5)
- The **Barton** family plot includes **Rose Isabella** the mother of **Andrew Barton Paterson**, the Australian poet
- **Joseph Hatton** of Hattons Flat (Item 18).

Memorial Locations





Moss and Sons Family Butchers

W. Moss and Sons c.1918.

Sometimes a mere trace of the past can be seen in the present landscape as in the view across Victoria Rd (formerly Glebe St) from St Annes Cemetery towards Tibby Rose Auto Electrical and the tyre service shop.

Henry Hay ran a butchers shop here from 1855 which passed to William Moss (c1863-1924) in 1901. Moss built a new shop lined with white tiles and fitted with marble counters. He also had an ice-making plant and owned the produce store next door. Meat came from his own slaughter yard in West Ryde.



Location 744 Victoria Rd, Ryde

Year Started in 1906

The First Court House



Location 42 Church St, Ryde

Style Simple Victorian Rustic Gothic, single storey sandstone

Year Started 1863



The first Court House in Ryde was used between 1863 and 1923 and as a Council Chamber for a short time in 1879. Since 1923 it has been used by the Church.

The Court House was constructed by George Miller Pope (Item 2) and leased to the Justice Department. Pope was an Acting Clerk of the Justice Department in 1863, he became Guardian of Minors, Clerk of Petty Sessions, Deposition Clerk, Justice of the Peace, and later Town Clerk. His family operated the first Ryde Post Office in a building on the north side of this Court House from 1846 until 1905. The Ryde Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages was attached to the south side of this building.

These extensions were demolished in the 1930s and the building is presently used by YoungLife Australia, a Christian youth charity.



Church St with the Pope family residence, first Post Office and first Court House c.1910. St Annes tower in the background.

Street Art Sculptures



Location Eastern side of Church St from Gowrie St to Blaxland Rd, Ryde

Year Erected 2013

Designer Jane Cavanugh, Artlandish

The forged stainless steel artworks represent nationally significant pioneers from the local area.

Gregory Blaxland (1778-1853)

Pioneer farmer and explorer, co-leader of the first crossing of the Blue Mountains by Europeans. Born at Fordwich, Kent, England. Married Elizabeth Spurdon in 1799. Arrived in the William Pitt 1805, purchased 182ha of land at the Brush Farm from D'Arcy Wentworth for £3,000. Blaxland won silver and gold medals for commercial quantities of wine exported in 1823 and 1828.



Gregory Blaxland (1778-1853)



**Maria Ann Smith (nee Sherwood)
(1799 - 1870)**

'Granny Smith' was born in the rural parish of Peasmarsh, Sussex, England. At 19, she married Thomas Smith. Recruited for their agricultural skills, they arrived aboard the Lady Nugent in 1838. A seedling apple developed from French crab apples grown in Tasmania was exhibited as 'Smith's seedling' in the 1890 Castle Hill Agricultural and Horticultural Show and in 1891 'Granny Smith's seedlings' took the prize for cooking apples. Maria died in 1870 and never saw the global popularity of her apple.



Maria Ann Smith and her son Thomas



Street Art Sculptures

James Squire (~1754 - 1822)

A First Fleet convict on the Charlotte, James Squire was granted land in the Eastern farms in 1795. He sold his first block (Item 13) and purchased land around John Pollards grant in present-day Putney. By 1796/98 he had established Australia's first commercial brewery and experimented with planting hops in 1802. At the time of his death he was the largest landholder in the district and a respected citizen.

STAYED, from the Grounds of James Squires at Kuring Point, a Brown Mare, aged, with long tail, known by the name of Kicking Fanny. Any person restoring her will receive a Guinea Reward; but if kept up after this notice, the Officers will be prosecuted.

James Squire's advertisement for a lost (or stolen) mare. Sydney Gazette and NSW Advertiser 15 January 1809.



*House in Parkes St near Dunbar St c.1950.
Home of an unknown Chinese market gardener.*



Market Gardens

Corn or 'Indian maize' was one of the most successful crops on the small holdings of the first settlers. The Kissing Point farms were an important source of produce to Sydney through the early years of the 19th Century. Chinese market gardeners were known in Ryde as early as the 1880s with up to 20 operating in 1891. Each had about 2ha of land and commonly employed 4 to 5 men who worked as a cooperative and lived on site usually in poor conditions. By 1929, 58% of Ryde's market gardeners were Chinese, 7% were Italian and the rest were of other European backgrounds.

SYDNEY WHARF.---On Saturday Morning last, between 8 and 9 o'clock, 4 boats came in from Kissing Point with fruit, vegetables, potatoes, and poultry: Melons 4s. per dozen, plants 6d. per hundred, potatoes from 10 to 12s. per 100lbs.: Full grown fowls from 2s. to 2s. 6d. each, halfgrown do. from 1s. to 1s. 6d. each.

The first issue of the Sydney Gazette in 1803 advertised produce for sale from Kissing Point.



Location 25-27 Church St, Ryde

Style Colonial to Victorian Gothic

Year Started 1849, 1869, 1933



Wesley Church and Oddfellows Hall

The Methodist Church was the second church in the district and the sandstone chapel, now a hall at the rear of the site, was opened in 1849. Between 1871 and 1879 the chapel served as the Council Chambers. A new sandstone church was opened in 1870, and the George H. Trevitt Memorial Hall in 1933. Today the Church is known as the Ryde Wesley Uniting Church and the premises are shared with two other groups; All Nations Missions Centre Church, and Korean SOA Church.

The sandstone hall on the corner of Church St and Church Lane was originally the hall of the first friendly society to operate in Ryde. Oddfellow's Lodge Uniting Friends No 48 started in 1864 and this hall was opened in late 1869. It was built on a separate lot adjacent to the church land but was taken over by the church in 1917. A public meeting in this hall led to the incorporation of Ryde on 12 November 1870.

Nominations for the first council were called in February 1871 and among those elected were James Devlin of Willandra (Item 9), Charles Blaxland of Cleves, and Edward Terry (Item 2) of Eastwood House. Terry became Ryde's foundation Mayor.

The tramway to West Ryde ran along Church St between 1914 and 1949 and the street retains sandstone kerb and guttering that is more than 100 years old.



Original 1849 Wesley Chapel in 1945. Photo reference: 8504261, Ryde Library.



*View down Church St to present Blaxland Rd c.1910, before the tram line.
Photo reference: 557823A, Ryde Library.*

The Parsonage

Location 12 Turner St, Ryde

Style Victorian Italianate style dwelling

Year Started 1884 // **Year Renovated** 1997



7

In March 1883, the Wesleyan Church purchased the lot on which The Parsonage stands. The Parsonage (The Manse) was completed and the Minister, Reverend Davis, moved in during February/March 1885. The building cost £2,000. David Hartland, one of the stonemasons engaged in the construction lived in the nearby Westward Cottage (Item 8) whilst undertaking the project.

The Parsonage was the family home of the Minister, a hostel for lay preachers and visiting clergy, and an administrative office for the circuit. The building's original presentation was to Devlin St, with a formal garden. However, the gradual development of Devlin St, as a major transport route, required road realignment and widening that eventually turned the building's presentation towards Turner St. The Wesleyan Church sold The Parsonage following the establishment of the Uniting Church. The RTA purchased the property ahead of works to construct the Victoria Rd underpass in Devlin St. In 1997, they decided they no longer required the property and offered it for sale.



The City of Ryde purchased the property, undertook urgent remedial works to stabilise and waterproof the external fabric including the roof, removed unsympathetic and poorly constructed extensions, rectified fire and vandal damage, reconstructed external verandahs, and restored the interior staircase.



*The Parsonage in 1995 before restoration.
Photo reference: 7280637, Ryde Library.*

Location 8 Turner St, Ryde

Style Single storey Victorian cottage

Year Constructed 1852, 1849/1852, 1920 //

Year Moved and Renovated 1993



Westward Cottage

Located on John Small's 1794 grant, the site of Westward Cottage was first sold in 1841 for £76 to Henry Edmondson, a Sydney tailor. Edmondson sold to Henry Murray, a Kissing Point carpenter in 1843. Murray came from Dublin in 1840 and set up as a builder. He may have worked on James Devlin's new house Willandra (Item 9), but like Devlin, Murray went bankrupt. In 1849, he was forced to sell his land including his unfinished two-room weatherboard cottage to Sydney timber merchant George Head. In 1852, Head sold to George Porter a farmer of North Ryde for £100 acting as trustee for a juvenile Henry Watts. The cottage was then rented. One tenant, Frank Wilson came to Ryde in the early 1850s to work on St Charles Catholic Church as a stonemason.

Another stonemason, David Hartland lived in the cottage in 1884 while working on The Parsonage (Item 7). Otto Junge operated a laundry here from around 1888 until 1893. Watts died in 1918 and his daughter Jessie Elizabeth Taylor inherited the property and named the cottage Westward, inspired by the view to the Blue Mountains and the sunsets. She lived in the cottage until 1965. Her daughter Lennie lived there until 1978.

Plans for the construction of the Devlin St underpass in 1989 threatened the cottage. Ryde Council dismantled Westward and relocated it in 1993.



*Westward Cottage in 1970.
Photo reference: 4783794, Ryde Library.*





Willandra House

Location 770-782 Victoria Rd, Ryde

Style Old Colonial Georgian style house

Year Started 1841 // **Years Modified** 1844, 1935 // **Year Restored** 1980

Builder/Architect James Devlin



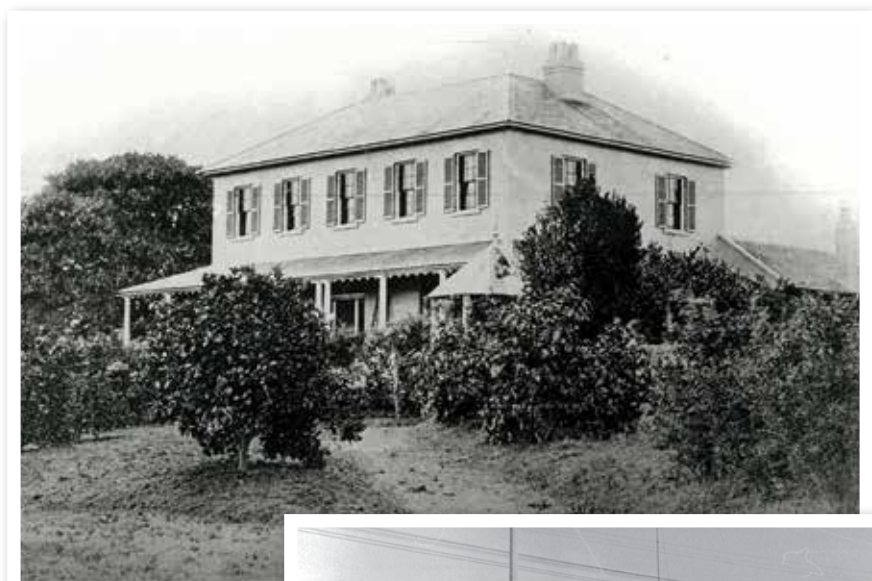
Willandra House in 1872 with some of the Devlin family. Photo reference: 4738381, Ryde Library.

This State Heritage listed property is constructed of brick with doric columns on the verandah, a slate roof, and north-coast cedar in the interior with views of the Parramatta River. Constructed as Ryde House in 1841 by James Devlin, the son of Irish exile Arthur Devlin and Priscilla (nee Squire). James was a local wheelwright, pound-keeper, postmaster and contractor who supplied food to several asylums and prisons.

In 1875, Devlin sold the house to Jane Darvall, the widow of Major Darvall of nearby Ryedale. By 1879, it had passed to William Henry Suttor [junior] and Benjamin Buchanan in trust for Caroline Elizabeth Mary Manning (nee Suttor) through the will of her late father, William Henry Suttor [elder] and the name of the house changed from Mansion House to Willandra reflecting

a squatting run held by the family in the Riverina.

Miss Ellen Blundell Pye rented Willandra from 1894 to 1899 and operated the Rydalmount Boarding and Day School for Girls. Other tenants followed. The property was subdivided in 1926 and the house passed to descendants of the Small family in 1932. After Ryde Bridge opened in 1935, a service station was developed on the Victoria Rd frontage which was owned by The Shell Company from 1952 to 1970. In 1974, a private buyer wanted to dismantle the house and take it to the Hunter Valley but this was prevented when Ryde Municipal Council purchased the property in 1976 with Federal Government assistance. Restoration work was completed in 1980 and the present tenants are Ryde District Historical Society and the City of Ryde Art Society.



*Willandra undated
with orange trees in
the foreground.
Ryde Historical Society.*



*Willandra House and Howard's Ryde Brake and Clutch Service
in 1973. Photo reference: 8504296, Ryde Library.*

Check the following websites for open days and Art Society exhibition dates.

www.rydehistory.org

www.cityofrydeartsociety.com



*Police Watch House in 1945.
Photo reference: 8502552, Ryde Library.*

Police Watch-house

The Kissing Point Police Watch-house or lockup was built in 1837 and is possibly the oldest functioning police station building in NSW.

Mortimer Lewis, Colonial Architect (1835-1849) was a prolific designer, responsible for the first buildings in the Tarban Creek Lunatic Asylum (Gladesville Hospital). Ex-convict John Small was the first Constable.

In 1836, the Watch-house had one male and one female cell, plus two toilets and a Constable's room.

A hall led from the front to the back of the building, and the Pyrmont sandstone walls were 305-380mm thick. The purpose of the small alcoves adjacent to the front door is unknown. At the rear of the Watch-house are brick cell blocks and a police residence dating from 1898-1899.

Location 808-810 Victoria Rd, Ryde

Style Simple Colonial Civic

Year Started 1837 // **Year Modified** 1840, 1864, 1899 and 1979/1980 and 1996

Builders David Taylor, and Messrs Brodie and Craig

Colonial Architect Mortimer Lewis



Court House

Location 812 Victoria Rd, Ryde

Style Inter-war Georgian Revival style

Year Started 1923 // **Year Completed** 1924

Builder NSW Public Works Dept.

Architect Architect's Office of the Government Architect, George McRae

Court House in 1924.

Photo reference: 850248A, Ryde Library.



In 1922, a new Court House was erected following reports that the original Court House (Item 4) was dilapidated and inadequate. This building was designed by the Government Architect - George McRae (1912-1923), and the Public Works Department. The foundation stone was laid on 4 August 1923 by the Minister for Justice, Hon. T.J. Ley and the building opened by the Hon, Mr D.M. Anderson MLA seven months later (Item 24 Anderson's Building).

The Court House was closed in 2014 along with several other local courts including North Sydney, Balmain and Windsor. Local Court cases are now heard in Parramatta or Burwood.

Wallumetta

Location 826 Victoria Rd, Ryde

Style Late Victorian Villa Gracemere/
Glenora/Wallumetta

Year Started approximately 1890 //

Year Modified 2007



Wallumetta in 2008



Wallumetta in 2014

This house stands on New Farm, land granted to convict James Stewart in 1794. The early history of the land is not well known but there was probably a house in this location before the 1860s. By about 1890 this part of Stewart's grant was owned by Mary Elizabeth Bowden, a daughter of Isaac Shepherd and widow of prominent Sydney solicitor Thomas Kendall Bowden. From 1861 to 1879, the Bowdens lived in Addington (Item 14). When her husband died, Mrs Bowden seems to have moved to another house on the same block of land and this building of stuccoed brick with Federation Arts and Crafts features was constructed as an additional residence or rental property.

From 1897 until 1902 it was occupied by Captain G. E. Bulmer and is listed in Sands' Sydney Directories as Gracemere. In 1902, it became the property of William Edward Sparke of Elizabeth Bay and the residence of Frederick Sparke who changed the name to Glenora. From 1922, it was owned by a succession of medical doctors; Dr Leslie Halse Rogers, Dr Arthur Ellis Blythman and Dr Robert Longfield Stephen. Between 1966 and 1996, the premises were used by the Wallumetta Ryde Business Men's Club. It was sold again in 1989 and in 2007 it was converted for use as an office for the local newspaper *The Weekly Times*.



The Retreat



Location 817 Victoria Rd, Ryde

Style Victorian Georgian style sandstone cottage

Year Started 1843

Builder Isaac Shepherd and James Shepherd Henry

Originally part of a grant of 12.1ha from Lieutenant-Governor Patterson to James Squire in 1795. Squire found land closer to the river more suitable for his brewery and wharf and in 1799 sold his grant to his former assigned servant, James Shepherd, for £100. This land was owned by Shepherd's descendants until 1911. In 1843, James Shepherd 'being desirous of making some provision' for his daughter, Ann Henry, gave her 0.4ha of land on which The Retreat

The Retreat in 1987.

Photo reference: 5640377, Ryde Library.

was built. Ann was the second wife of the Rev William Henry, a London Mission Society preacher who had spent time in Tahiti. Ann's stepson (James) and her brother Isaac were apparently the builders and the sandstone was taken from James Shepherd's [senior] nearby quarry. The Henrys returned to Tahiti for four years then settled in The Retreat in 1849. William preached at St Annes and acted as schoolmaster. He died in 1858 and Ann Henry continued to live at The Retreat until she moved to Glebe in about 1880. The property remained in the Henry family until 1911 and has had a succession of owners since. A Permanent Conservation Order was placed over The Retreat in 1987 and it was transferred to the State Heritage Register in 1999. Ceilings are of lath and plaster or pressed metal and an original front verandah has been removed.

Addington

14

Location 813-815 Victoria Rd, Ryde

Style Old Colonial Georgian style dwelling

Year Started approximately 1810-1820 //

Year Modified c.1840, 1863-1866 and 1873 //

Year Restored 1985

Builders James Shepherd, Isaac Shepherd, Thomas Kendall Bowden



Addington in 1974.

Photo reference: 507570A, Ryde Library.

Addington stands on James Stewart's 1794 12.1ha grant, named New Farm. Stewart died in 1806, James Squire was appointed to administer his estate and James Shepherd acquired New Farm for £70 in 1809 and his son Isaac was the owner from 1833 until 1876. It is uncertain when Addington was first built. Architectural evidence suggests that the earliest part of the house may date back to 1810 and it was first occupied by Isaac Shepherd.

The western wing of two bedrooms and a verandah were added in about 1832. In 1850, the eastern wing was added and in 1861 another three rooms and attics in front of the original structure were constructed for Thomas and Mary Bowden (nee Shepherd).



In 1873, the Bowdens built a ballroom and redecorated. After the death of Thomas Bowden in 1879 the property was leased to many tenants including Sir Henry Parkes, NSW Premier and 'Father of Federation' and a couple of surveyors. In 1896, Mary Bowden's daughters Mabel and Florence took ownership. In 1919, after the property was sub-divided Sydney Benson of a well-known family of orchardists purchased the house. It remained in the Benson family until its transfer to the Addington Trust in 1970. Ryde Municipal Council purchased it in 1985 and have undertaken several conservation programs.





Location 142 Blaxland Rd, Ryde

Style Inter-war Free Classical

Year Started 1908 //

Year Modified c.1925-1926



*School of Arts and Masonic Temple in 1912.
Photo reference: 5485991, Ryde Library.*

The Masonic Lodge first met in the Eastwood Hotel in 1885. Lodge Star of Eastwood No. 715 Scottish Constitution then moved to Ryde. Meetings took place in various places and in 1902 the Lodge bought land for construction of the Ryde Masonic Temple also known as the Lodge Horace Thompson Ryde.

A subscription financed the building in 1908. The foundation stone was laid by the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, His Excellency, Admiral Sir Harry H. Rawson GCB, Governor of New South Wales. The Lodge has met here monthly except during the Spanish flu epidemic in 1918.

By 1921 the Lodge and supper rooms were too small. A new building was considered but the existing one was altered instead and dedicated in 1926. With the larger hall and a stage, the Ryde Masonic Centre became the social hub of the district with regular dances and was a popular wedding reception venue.

Masonic Temple

AND SCHOOL OF ARTS SITE

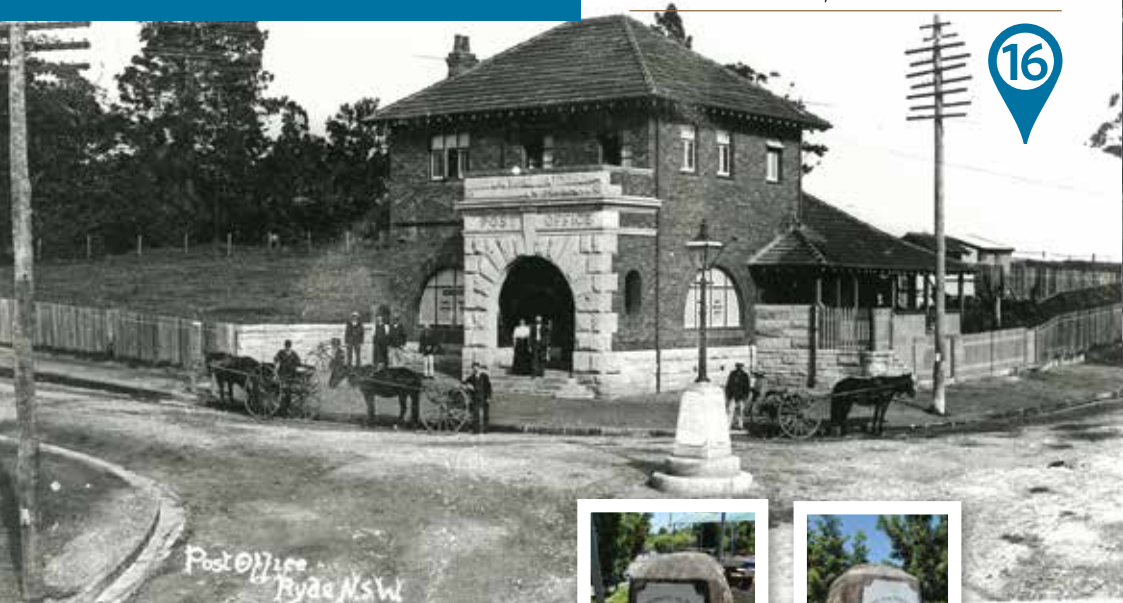


The small park adjacent to the Temple was the site of the Ryde School of Arts. Founded in 1898 with 105 members it lost much of its library in a fire in 1902. A new building of brick and tile was opened by the Premier Mr J. Carruthers in 1905. Designed by Mayor W. Thompson, and built by J. Park and Sons of Gladesville it contained a lending library and reading room, two billiard tables, and a meeting room. Demolished in 1965 the stone wall with a wooden seat is part of the original foundation.

Tramway Monument

Location Opposite the Masonic Lodge behind the Civic Hall, 1 Devlin St, Ryde

Year Erected 1908, moved several times



Tramway monument complete with gas lamp in its original location outside Ryde's second Post Office (Item 24) in 1909.

Photo reference: 5485029, Ryde Library.



In the 19th century, transport between Ryde and Sydney was by road and river. The first Gladesville bridge opened in 1882 and the Meadowbank Railway bridge in 1886. The tram service to Ryde started in 1908 after years of campaigning and work began with a sod-turning ceremony when this monument was erected as an ornamental street lamp. The lamp was unveiled by the Minister for Works. It was first erected at the intersection of Church St and Parkes St (now Blaxland Rd). It was reported that, *'Some of the Ryde alderman who were so strongly and virtuously opposed to the erection of an ornamental street lamp to permanently commemorate the commencement of the construction*

of the Ryde tramway, as being a useless expenditure, were the first to fall on top of one another to increase the expenditure by getting their name carved on the marble pedestal.' (The Cumberland Argus, 12 December 1908).

The monument was later shifted (without the lamp or its pedestal) to an island in Devlin St at Hattons Flat near the tram terminus. During the construction of the Ryde Civic Centre in 1962-63, the monument was moved to the bus terminus. In 2008-10 during construction of the new Top Ryde City Shopping Centre, the monument was moved for the third time to this temporary location. Hattons Flat was the terminus of the Ryde Tramway between 1910 and 1949.



Aerial view of Ryde Civic Centre on the day of the official opening, 15 August, 1964

Location 1 Devlin St, Ryde

Year Started 1962 **Year Completed** 1964

Architects Leslie J Buckland and C Druce

Council has continually out-grown its premises and an 'island block' of land on Hattons Flat, created when Devlin St was extended in the 1930s was developed as the site of the Civic Centre which opened in 1964. The Civic Hall and Centenary Library were opened in 1970 as part of the celebrations of 100 years of local government in Ryde. The architects also designed Holroyd Council Chambers and the administration block of Parramatta Council. The curved 'curtain wall' design was inspired by the AMP building, designed by Peddle Thorp & Walker Pty Ltd, which had been erected at Circular Quay in 1962. Ryde City's Coat of Arms may be seen on the wall above the former library near the lift to the southern overhead pedestrian walkway.

A commemorative plaque was installed in August 2014 to mark the 50th anniversary of the building opening.

Ryde Civic Centre



Ryde Civic Centre, Civic Hall and Centenary Library in 1971.

Photo reference: 5089581, Ryde Library



*AMP Building,
Circular Quay Sydney*



Ryde Civic Centre

Hatton's Cottage



Location 158 Blaxland Rd, Ryde

Style Victorian Georgian style cottage

Year Started c.1884

Builder probably Joseph Hatton (the third 1832-1914)



Hatton's Cottage, undated, Ryde Historical Society.

The first Joseph Hatton was a hawker and peddler. Born in Yorkshire in 1748, he was transported for seven years on the Scarborough. He married fellow convict, Rosamond Sparrow in 1790 and in 1792 received a 20ha land grant where Holy Cross College now stands on Victoria Rd.

In 1795, Rosamond stabbed Joseph during an argument. By 1800, Joseph had taken up with another first fleet convict, Ann Smith (nee Colpitts 1758-1832). In England, Ann had three children by Thomas Colpitts, on the voyage to Botany Bay she formed a liaison with a marine John Colethead and bore him two children. In 1791, she married Thomas Smith in Parramatta and had three daughters. Her relationship with Joseph Hatton [senior] produced the second Joseph Hatton.

By 1802, Joseph [senior] had sold his land to James Squire and purchased the grant of Edward Marsh and this area became known as Hattons Flat. Joseph Hatton [junior] inherited the land claiming that he could not find his father's will. However his half-sister Elizabeth Bryan (nee Smith) challenged his ownership and in 1834 Rosamond Sparrow re-appeared and claimed ownership in the Supreme Court on the basis that Joseph

senior had left no will. Young Joseph suddenly found the missing document and had to share the land with his half-sister.

Joseph Hatton [junior] married Sarah Patfield (1805-1879) in 1824 and they had ten children. The land passed to the third Joseph Hatton (1832-1914) who married Jane Stubbs (1844-1888) and they had sixteen children. Hatton's cottage and Hatton's orchard were probably built and planted by this third generation. Members of the Hatton family were still living in Hatton's Cottage until 1953.



Hatton's Cottage in 2015

Location 219 Blaxland Rd, Ryde

Year Started 1909

Demolished c.1920



Site of Smith's Folly,

HAMPTON COURT RESIDENTIAL HOTEL

Opposite Hatton's Cottage on the corner of Blaxland Rd and Pope St, there once stood two of Ryde's vanished buildings. The first was Clifton House the residence of Samuel Small (1834-1910). This was followed by construction in 1909 of the Hampton Court Residential Hotel which was intended to be one of the most modern tourist hotels in the State, by Harry Smith (~1862-1913) also known as Harry Curzon-Smith of Curzon Hall. Smith arrived in Sydney from Ontario with his parents in 1878. He worked with his father as a travelling salesman, manufactured soda water, and by 1894 became the lessee of railway refreshment rooms across the state and Caves House at Jenolan.

In 1884 Harry married Isabell Curzon Webb and by 1900 had completed Curzon Hall in Marsfield as a twenty room mansion. The Hampton Court Tourist Residential Hotel was to be a five story, five star, sanatorium with 70 bedrooms. Smith anticipated that Hatton's Flat would become a popular picnic ground and that tourists would flock to Ryde. Smith died in 1913 and the building was never completed. The shell became known as 'Smith's Folly'. In 1920 William Sundin announced plans to recycle the bricks into a number of shops and cottages, these buildings too have vanished and in 2014 residential apartments were built on this site opposite Ryde Library.



Clifton House c.1890 the home of Samuel Small. Demolished for Smith's Folly. Photo reference: 5483891, Ryde Library.



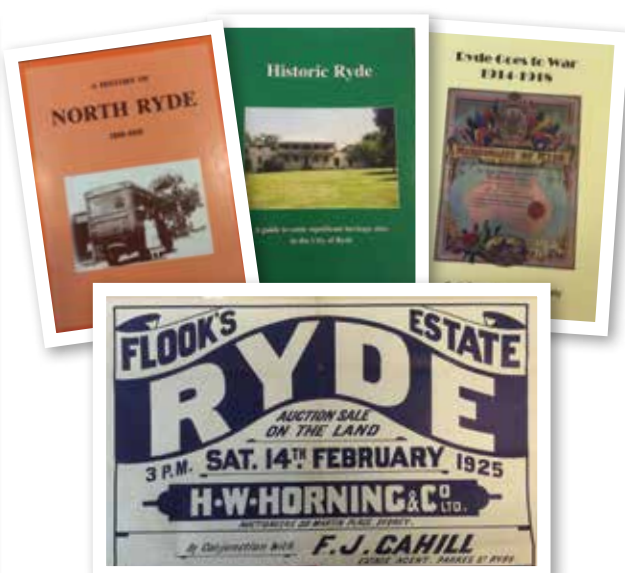
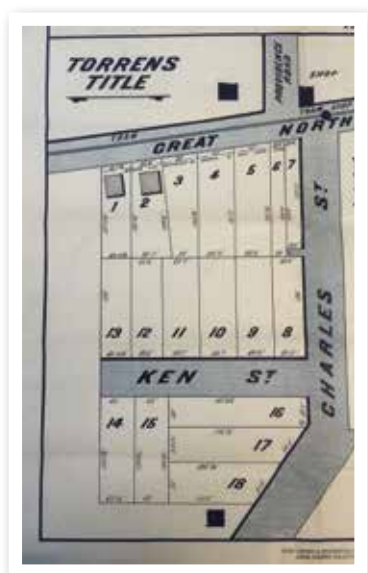
Hattons Flat in 1912. Hampton Court or Smith's Folly on the left, Hatton's cottage and tram shed centre, and Hatton's orchard right foreground.

Photo reference: 4892283, Ryde Library.



Shops erected on the site of Hampton Court with recycled bricks in the 1920s, photographed c.1950.

Photo reference: 7405901, Ryde Library.



The Local Studies collection at Ryde Library is a specialised reference collection (items cannot be borrowed) that can help you research the history of the area and the people who have lived here. The collection includes:

- Records of the Municipalities of Ryde, Marsfield/Eastwood
- Miscellaneous documents on individuals, places, streets, houses, and subjects related to the City of Ryde area held in vertical files
- Access to historic Australian newspapers and older editions of local community newspapers
- Sewerage diagrams for the 1930s showing the outline of buildings on their blocks and sometimes the name of the house
- Land subdivision plans produced by real estate agents across the whole of the city

- Land Valuation Records for the years 1924, 1939, 1944, 1947, 1951, 1957 for Ryde Municipality and 1941 for Eastwood Municipality
- Sands Directories listing the occupiers of houses from 1875 to 1933
- Electoral Rolls of the 20th century for New South Wales 1903-1928, 1935, 1939, 1946, 1950, 1955, 1960, 1965, 1970, 1975, 1980 as well as print volumes for the 1970s - 2000s for the local area
- Local Cemetery Records and Church Registers
- Street Names index.

For further information on Local Studies please contact the City of Ryde Local Studies Librarian on 9952 8353 or email cityofryde@ryde.nsw.gov.au

Designer Lend Lease for Bevillesta Pty Ltd.

Year Started 2006

Stage 2 opened in 2010



Corten steel floral sculpture and vertical garden La Strada in 2015.



Top Ryde Shopping Centre.

This modern shopping complex with residential apartments above has been under development since 2006 and Stage 2 was opened by Prime Minister Julia Gillard in 2010. Top Ryde City replaced an earlier retail centre known as Top Ryde Shopping Centre which was the first such modern shopping complex in NSW, opened in 1957. The original centre was designed as a shopping street centred on a major department store, A.J. Benjamin & Co, a supermarket, a chain variety store and 45 other shops grouped around a pedestrian mall, with 400 car parking spaces. The centre's catch phrase was; '*Come as you are ... shop in comfort*' and it offered a new experience to shoppers who previously travelled to Sydney or Parramatta to visit such a wide range of shops. Top Ryde grew to park 600 cars whereas the new centre occupies several levels, has space for 3,000 cars, and incorporates over 600 apartments above the shopping levels.

Take time to look a little closer at some of the architectural features around the complex. The vertical garden and laser-cut Corten steel floral sculptures above La Strada are attractive, as is the use of cream and grey granite and black basalt pavers throughout the centre.

Again the administrative needs of the City of Ryde have outgrown Ryde Civic Centre and two important functions of Building and Planning Services, Community Life and the Library have been incorporated into the complex.



*Ryde Public School maypole in 1908.
Photo reference: 4954718, Ryde Library.*



*Ryde Public School in 1938, Year 5 pupils
in wattle costume for Australia's 150th.
Photo reference: 5579449, Ryde Library.*

Ryde Public School

In 1862, a campaign was begun to establish a public school in Ryde village and with the help of local donations, a school was started in 1868 in the premises of Stanley's Inn on the corner of Parkes St (later Blaxland Rd) and Tucker St (Item 23). A campaign for a new school building succeeded in 1877 with a single-storey sandstone building erected on this site. One qualified teacher and two pupil-teachers supervised an average attendance of 113 students in that first year. Lord and Lady Jersey opened a new infant's school building (two-storey sandstone building) in 1892. Petitions were presented to the Council of Education in 1919 and 1923 which resulted in the erection of brick classrooms to relieve overcrowding. By 1929, enrolments had

Location - 2 Tucker Street, Ryde

Year started 1877, extended 1892, 1919 and 1923, 1986

Government Architects G.A. Mansfield (1877 building); W. Kemp (1892 building); R.M.S. Wells (1919)

Builder 1877 George Coutes and Sons

risen to 700, and in the same year the primary school was divided into separate boys and girl's departments. In 1934, a new infants school building was constructed and during WWII, air raid trenches were dug in the sports grounds. In 1986, a new school hall was built. The first Arbor Day in NSW was held at Ryde Public School in 1890 on the initiative of the Minister for Public Instruction and trees were planted by dignitaries adjacent to the front gate.

*1877 building.
LEP.*





Site of Tucker's Inn

THE FIRST TOWN HALL, AND REMAINS OF ANDERSON'S BUILDING

Location 89 Blaxland Rd, Ryde

Various ages

Diagonally opposite the former Post Office on the corner of Tucker St and Blaxland Rd, the site which is now occupied by the C3 Church, was the location of the first Town Hall and Municipal Chambers and prior to that, a school, Stanley's Inn and Tucker's Inn. The shops along Blaxland Rd from Tucker St to Top Ryde City entrance still retain some trace of the first shopping complex, Anderson's Buildings of the early 20th Century.



The Inn constructed on Richard Hawkes' land grant of 1792. Used as a school from 1868 to 1879, purchased by Council for £800, converted to the Town Hall and used until 1903. This photograph is about 1897. Photo reference: 5578620, Ryde Library.



Ryde's first purpose built Town Hall designed by Varney Parkes, the son of Sir Henry Parkes constructed in 1903. This photograph was taken in 1922 on the day that a WWI trophy machine gun was lifted onto the parapet on the right.

Photo reference: 5075300, Ryde Library.



Shops were added to the front of the Town Hall in 1923 and Municipal Chambers were constructed on the right hand side. Photographed in 1965 after the Ryde Civic Centre was completed on Hatton's Flat. Photo reference: 7102186, Ryde Library.



Anderson's Building and shops in 1914, Blaxland Rd (Parkes St) viewed from the Post Office. Compare with the modern view. State Library ON 151/99.

Former Post Offices

Location 100 Blaxland Rd, Ryde

Year Started 1903 // **Year Replaced** 1967

Ryde's original Post Office was adjacent to the first Court House (Item 4) and in 1903 a new Post Office was built on the corner of Church St and Parkes St (now Blaxland Rd). This was constructed of brick with a sandstone façade and had accommodation for the postmaster and his family on the second floor. By 1967, demand for postal and telephone services had significantly increased and a new Post Office was constructed on the same site.

With the 1957 opening of the original Top Ryde Shopping Centre, centralised services were considered desirable and postal business was also included in that complex.

The original shopping centre was demolished in 2007 and by 2012 the present Top Ryde City Shopping Centre became the latest location for postal services.



Post Office in 1939.

Photo reference: 5485045, Ryde Library.



Ryde's third Post Office opened in 1967.

Photo reference: 5485061, Ryde Library.

Location 7 Blaxland Rd, Ryde Park, Ryde

Park Opened 1908 // **Rotunda Started** 1934,
restored 2009

Builder M. Herbert of Chatswood

Architect Summerhayes, Son and Allsop

Ryde Park

AND THE BAND ROTUNDA

Originally part of a 20ha grant in 1792 to Richard Hawke who arrived on the Alexander. The land was still held by Richard and his wife at the time of his death in 1828. It then became known as Salter's paddock in which Ryde Park was opened in 1908 and extended in 1925. Facilities included grounds for lawn bowls, football, tennis, cricket and hockey, and it was the venue for exhibitions such as the Poultry and Canine Societies' Shows in 1922 and the Gladesville Horticultural Society Show in 1932. The Band Rotunda was erected in 1934 for Ryde Council at a cost of £700.

The Rotunda was officially opened on the 'King's Birthday' in 1934 by the Minister for Local Government, Mr Spooner and was followed by a sports display. The Ryde Band was founded in 1883, but has lapsed twice since and is now known as the Ryde City Concert Band.

The Rotunda was restored in 2009, with a new floor and paved surrounds designed by artists Milne and Stonehouse. The pavers combine black diorite and rose quartzite in a pattern reflecting the entangled shadow of wisteria branches along with historic references etched into the floor.



*Band rotunda
in 1965.
Photo reference:
7102054,
Ryde Library*



*Ryde District band at the opening in 1934.
Photo reference: 8525242, Ryde Library.*



*Procession in Ryde Park in 1916.
Photo reference: 5158850, Ryde Library.*



ERECTED BY THE PEOPLE OF RYDE TO COMMEMORATE THE
RECORD REIGN OF HER MAJESTY QUEEN VICTORIA 1837- 1897



*Queen Victoria
Fountain in 1900 at
the original location
Church and Glebe Sts.
Photo reference: 5481589,
Ryde Library.*

Queen Victoria Jubilee Fountain

Location Corner of Blaxland Rd and
Victoria Rd, Ryde

Year Erected 1897 // **Year Moved** in the
1920s // **Year Modified** 1973

Designer Arthur Collingridge De Tourcey
(1853-1907)

Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee on the throne was in 1897. Celebrations were initiated by the Rev Henry Ham Britten of St. Annes Church. Subscriptions were collected and Arthur Collingridge, Vice-President of the Arts Society of New South Wales and local resident designed this drinking fountain. Collingridge was born in London and emigrated with his wife Margaret and three children in 1877. He became a staff artist for several newspapers, and with his brother George was important in the establishment of the Art Society of New South Wales. He taught in several technical colleges and was a trustee of the Art Gallery of New South Wales.

The fountain was erected at the intersection of Church St and Glebe St (now Victoria Rd) with four posts around the base connected with chains. Street lighting came to Ryde in

1893 and a gas light was fitted on top. After unveiling by the Governor of New South Wales a banquet was held for males ('the sterner sex') in St. Annes Hall, the ladies were entertained at Willandra, and Ryde's school children marched to the cricket ground in Tucker St where lollies, cakes, bananas and toys were distributed.

By the 1920s with increased motor traffic the fountain was moved to the intersection of Victoria and Blaxland Rds. In 1973 Ryde Rotary Club carried out landscaping works and converted the monument into the present form.



*Arthur Collingridge, designer
of the Queen Victoria Fountain,
photo of undated self portrait.
Photo reference: 5664489, Ryde Library.*



*Ebenezer Chapel
in 2015*

Ebenezer Chapel

Location 22 Blaxland Road, Ryde

Year Started 1892

Style Simple Victorian Rustic Gothic style

Architects Mr. Hare and Mr George Spurway

The Baptists had been running a Sunday School in Ryde from as early as 1845. Their first church, known as the 'Strict and Particular Baptist Church at Ebenezer, Ryde' was a sandstone building constructed in 1862 on land donated by Mr J. Farnell and later within the grounds of St Brigids orphanage at 512 Victoria Rd, Ryde.

The present brick Ebenezer Chapel was erected in 1892. Mr George Spurway drew the plans of the building, and M. Hare was the architect for the work. The first pastor, James Hicks, married a daughter of Henry Jupp (of a well-known 19th century family of orchardists in Lane Cove Rd) and remained the pastor until his death in 1903. The second pastor was James Spurway.

Ryde Cenotaph



Location Ryde Park, 7 Blaxland Rd, Ryde

Year Built 2006

Project Partners North Ryde, Ryde, Gladesville and Eastwood RSL Sub Branches

Project Funding City of Ryde and Bevillesta Pty Ltd

Project Artists Milne and Stonehouse

Memorials of the First World War in Ryde were principally Honour Boards, the War Memorial Hospital, and the establishment of Returned Services Clubs. In 1966, RSL sub-branch members and local Aldermen identified the need for a memorial to perpetuate the memory of Australian soldiers who had participated in all theatres of war. The following year a memorial was constructed near the Civic Centre. This cenotaph was made from granite on a stepped dais with an eternal flame set in a bronze bowl and carried the insignia of the

three armed forces together with the words 'LEST WE FORGET'.

Construction of an overhead footbridge to Top Ryde City in 2009/10 impinged on the cenotaph and in cooperation with local RSL sub-branches a new cenotaph was designed for Ryde Park. The central stainless steel obelisk points towards eleven o'clock. A permanent shadow in the paving engraves the history of service by men and women stretching the imprint of the obelisk to the insignia wall. Within the body of the obelisk a light source evokes the eternal flame. Small pieces of granite from the first cenotaph were incorporated in the new monument. Insignia from the original cenotaph were moved to the Memorial Rose Garden at the North Ryde RSL Club in Pittwater Rd in April 2015.



Original Ryde Cenotaph in the circle adjacent to the Civic Centre in 2003.

Photo reference: 7101562, Ryde Library.



2015 Anzac Service



The Ryde Heritage Walking Trail Book is a project of the City of Ryde and the Ryde Heritage Advisory Committee.

Ryde Heritage Advisory Committee 2015

Staff Convenor	Ms Lexie Macdonald
Heritage Advisor	Mr Michael Edwards
Local Studies Librarian	Ms Angela Phippen
Chairperson	Councillor Terry Perram
Delegate	Councillor Denise Pendleton Councillor Jane Stott

Committee members	Mr Gregory Blaxell	
	Ms Eleanor Chainé	Putney Progress Association
	Mr Peter Colthorpe	
	Ms Cate Fisher	
	Mr John Hull	
	Ms Beth Kosnik	
	Ms Lyn Langtry	Ryde-Hunters Hill Flora & Fauna Preservation Society
	Ms Suzanne Marks	
	Ms Jennie Minifie	Ryde Community Alliance
	Dr Peter Mitchell OAM	
	Mr Jim Vaughan	Brush Farm Historical Society
	Mrs Betty Willis	Ryde District Historical Society

We hope to produce additional booklets in the future and would appreciate feedback from readers. Please contact cityofryde@ryde.nsw.gov.au

