

- Hall Village Motors
- St Francis Xavier Church
- Hall Village Well

## LISTED PLACES IN HALL VILLAGE [1]

1. Hall Premier Store & Post Office
2. "Winarlia"
3. Hall Village Well
4. Memorial Avenue of Trees
5. Hall Sportsground & Showground
6. "Glenona"
7. "Kenmira"
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11. "Avoca"
12. "Cooee"
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15. Native Tree Reserve
16. St Michael & All Angels Anglican Church
17. Cottage Site & Hall Common
18. William Morris' Bootmaker's Shop
19. Hall Village Motors
20. Kinlyside Hall



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# *A heritage tour of* HALL VILLAGE

## TOUR 1 of 2

A SELF-GUIDED TOUR  
– THE HERITAGE WALK



**NATIONAL TRUST**

CONSERVING AUSTRALIA'S HERITAGE

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

### Early Settlement

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

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

### A New Village

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

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

### The Australian Capital Territory and Further Development

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

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

New businesses were established, including an antique furniture shop, a real estate agency and a stock and station agent. In 1980 a by-pass was built around Hall to divert the Barton Highway, which had run through the centre of the village. This has assisted in preserving the village character. Hall is surrounded by open rural country and is visually isolated from any other development.

### Heritage Walk

The tour is best experienced on foot. It takes approximately one and a half hours. The walk can be shortened by omitting the Village Well, St Francis Xavier's Church and Rochford's House. These may be visited by car, although you will need to walk across the recreation reserve to view the well properly.

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

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

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

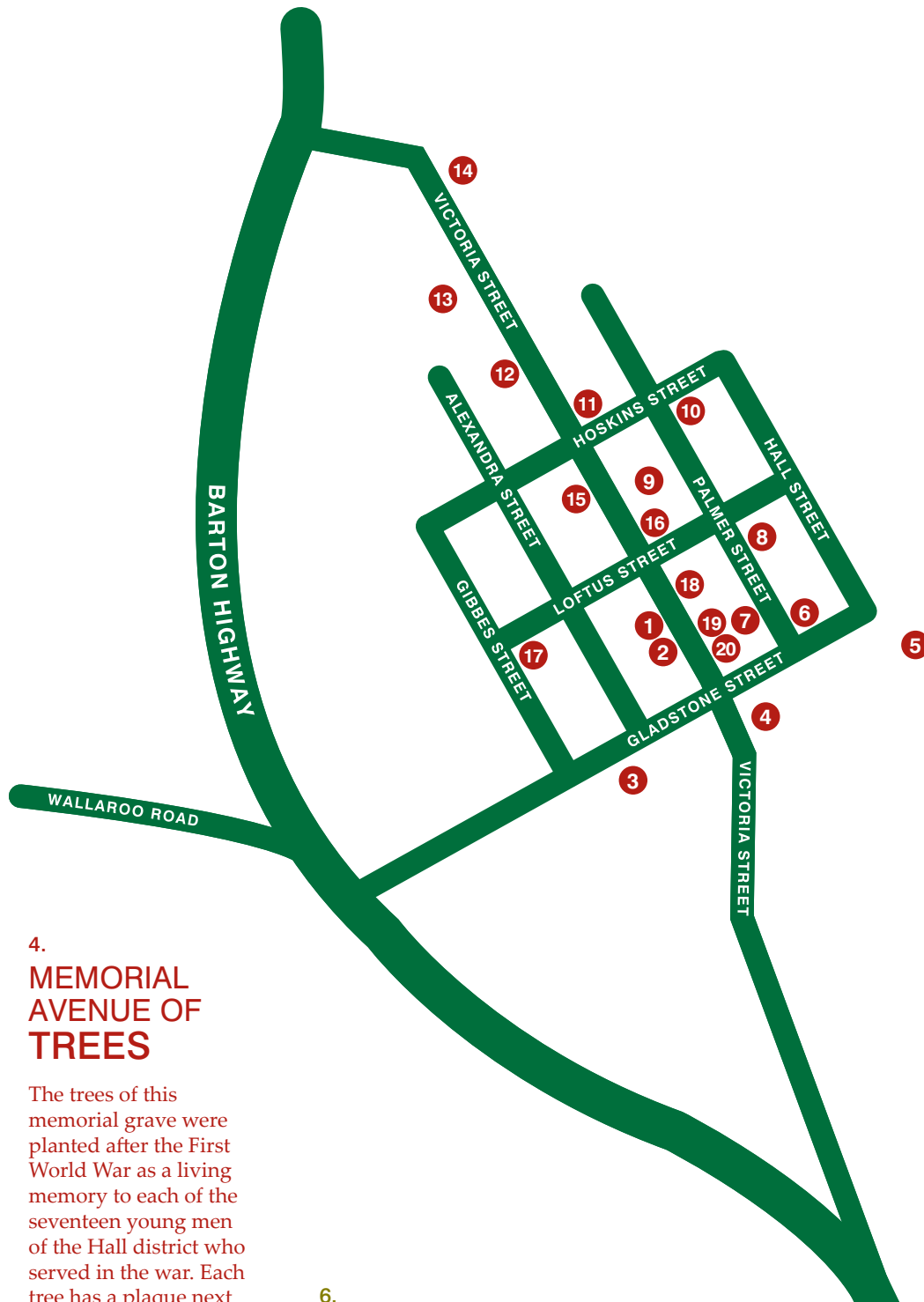
#### 2. "WINARLIA" (1901)

This house has particular significance because of its age and unique quality. It was built from rammed earth and is one of the oldest surviving buildings in Hall. It was the residence of Ebenezer Brown who ran the store with Charles Southwell. A later occupant was Jean Southwell MBE, who died in 1996. She ran the store for many years and was also the postmistress and Sunday school teacher.

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

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

TO YASS



4. **MEMORIAL AVENUE OF TREES**

The trees of this memorial grave were planted after the First World War as a living memory to each of the seventeen young men of the Hall district who served in the war. Each tree has a plaque next

6.

10. **LAVENDER COTTAGE (1927)**

On the corner of Palmer and Hoskins streets is a weatherboard cottage which was transported to Hall in 1960. It was one of several constructed in a settlement on Acton Peninsular in 1927 to house workers who were building Old Parliament House.

11. **“AVOCA”**

*(Original building 1897)*

This was William Jones’ residence who was a carpenter. He and his wife ran a store from the premises until 1915 when they left and it reverted to a residence. An art gallery was built on the same block in the 1970s and continued to be used for this purpose in the 1980s; it has since been turned into a sympathetic extension to the house and used as part of the residence. The interior has been renovated in a sympathetic manner which preserves the exterior of the cottage and some

14. **ST FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH (1910)**

This is one of three local churches. It is built in the Neo Gothic architectural style and is built from locally quarried bluestone granite. There have been no alterations to the building since its construction.

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

15. **NATIVE TREE RESERVE**

Returning to the village centre, the native tree reserve is located on the opposite side of Victoria Street to the school. The trees are mainly yellow box and red gum.

16. **ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS ANGLICAN CHURCH**

18. **WILLIAM MORRIS’ BOOTMAKER’S SHOP (c1900)**

The original Bootmaker’s Shop was built around 1900. It was a small worker’s cottage of corrugated iron with a weatherboard front at a verandah. It also had a corrugated iron roof with gable ends. It was demolished and rebuilt in the 1980s in a similar style and is currently used by the local real estate agent. William Morris lived at nearby “Dellwood” (now just over the border in NSW). As well as a boot maker, he operated from the same premises as a bicycle repairer, barber and banker.

19. **HALL VILLAGE MOTORS (c.1938)**

The present Hall service station is the site of George Kinlyside’s business. As well as a blacksmith, he was a wheelwright, coachbuilder, tank builder and an undertaker. Kinlyside Hall, next door, is named after him. Jim Rochford,

tree has a plaque next to it with the soldier's name inscribed on it. The two cypress trees located either side of the original gateway (replaced in the 1980s) are in memory of the two who died during active service. Other replacement trees have been planted as the originals age and die. A memorial cairn commemorating those who served in the armed forces was built just inside the new entrance gate in 1992.

## 5. HALL SPORTS GROUND & SHOWGROUND

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

## “GLENONA” (c.1900)

Located on the corner of Gladstone and Palmer streets, this was the home of the Smith's (the family of Leon Smith who wrote Memories of Hall) in the early twentieth century. Originally a weatherboard building, it has been extended and clad in 'Hardiplank'.

## 7. “KENMIRA” (c.1900)

This is a weatherboard cottage originally built by George Kinlyside, backing up to his business premises. It was later the property of Jim Rochford, who established the Hall service station.

## 8. “OTTOCLIFFE” (1907)

This residence was built by John Southwell in approximately 1907 to replace one built in 1894 which burned down. The walls are of “ashlar block” composed of local crushed rock, sand and cement. The block to the right of Ottocliffe was originally part of the same block and included a tennis court. This area, surrounded by pine trees, has been retained as part of the block because of its heritage significance.

## 9. HALL PRIMARY SCHOOL AND PINES

*(Original building 1911)*

The original school building, located towards the centre of the block, was built in 1911, following the closure of the school at Ginninderra. Extensions were completed in 1924. It is the only one-room school building remaining in the ACT. It has an open fireplace and a chimney at one end. The school building is set among mature pine trees planted around 1918. It is surrounded by additional buildings constructed after 1960. In the 1990s facilities were improved with the addition of a hall and a separate library.

The original school building is now an education museum established by Laurie Copping, former principal of the school. The museum was officially opened in 1986 and is used by Hall Primary and other schools throughout the ACT as a valuable resource for heritage studies.

TO CANBERRA

of the interior features such as the fireplace.

## 12. “COOEE” (c.1900)

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

## 13. TRAVELLING STOCK ROUTE

There is an open space on the left as you leave the village which is part of a travelling stock route. A sales yard was constructed there and regular sales of sheep and cattle were held. The yards no longer exist.

This church is located on the corner of Victoria and Loftus streets. The foundation stone was laid in 1941 and the church was completed in 1945. Its rendered external walls have been coursed to give the image of stonework. An unusual stained glass window depicting two eucalyptus trees has been since installed to commemorate the lives of two young local people who died.

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

## 17. COTTAGE SITE & HALL COMMON

Turn right into Loftus Street and proceed to Gibbes Street. Just before reaching the end of Loftus Street, you will see a laneway on the left. The first block on the left after the laneway is the site of a weatherboard cottage, built in 1926, and home of the Gillespie family for a time. It has recently been sold and demolished. Hall Common, an open public area, used by Hall residents for keeping horses, can be seen at the end of Loftus Street, beyond Gibbes Street.

a local resident, purchased the property from Kinlyside in 1938 and built a service station there which operated until 1974, except for two breaks, one of which was to serve in the Second World War.

## 20. KINLYSIDE HALL (1907)

The Hall was first used as a paint shop with a unique air-drying system by George Kinlyside. It soon became the focal point of the developing Hall Village and was used for dances, as a cinema, a church, and as clubrooms for various clubs. It was also used for visiting medical services, including dental work. Silent films were shown here from as early as 1911, using hand operated projectors. The hall is now used as an antique dealer's shop.