



EXPLORE

THE HAWKESBURY

C. WINDSOR HERITAGE WALK – WINDSOR MALL PRECINCT

2 km walk

1 hour

Map nos. 25 – 53

Commencing at the waterwheel near Baker Street, this walk travels through the commercial heart of Windsor returning to Thompson Square via The Terrace. Along Windsor Mall and further along George Street, a variety of architectural styles may be observed above street level. Many buildings started their life as residences but were later converted to shop fronts as the demand for commercial premises grew. The walk also takes in several churches and the Windsor Reservoir, an item of industrial heritage significance.

Please note that this brochure includes many privately owned buildings which are not open for public inspection and may be viewed from the public street only.

25. Baker Street

Named after William Baker who had a grant in this area, this street is the location of the entry to the new Hawkesbury Regional Museum (opened May 2008) which features both permanent and temporary exhibitions which showcase the history of the area. Near to the commencement of The Mall may be found two early Victorian merchant's cottages which give some example of the type of housing common in this area in the mid nineteenth century. Situated at 3 Baker Street may be found *Uralla*, a fine Victorian cottage (c.1875) with face brick walls of Flemish bond. The timber verandah features a decorative cast iron frieze.

26. Windsor Mall

Opened in December 1984 the mall provides an appealing public space for visitors and residents alike. On most Sundays the area comes alive with the craft markets which have been operating since 1992 showcasing locally grown produce and handmade articles.

The waterwheel situated at the Baker Street end of the mall is based on the design of James and Benjamin Singleton's tidal powered water mill which was situated downstream from Wisemans Ferry. Sourcing grain from the Colo and Macdonald River Valleys, the flour was then transported by river to the markets in Sydney.

Along the mall can be seen many examples of nineteenth and early twentieth century buildings some of which were built as residences which were later converted to commercial premises. Take the time to pause and observe the buildings above street level where many interesting architectural styles may be found. The former department store Bussell Brothers (nos. 153-155), which also had a branch in Penrith, was constructed in 1932 and sold a variety of merchandise including grocery items and hardware. Advertisements proclaimed free delivery of orders within 10 miles of the Windsor Post Office.



For further information call the Hawkesbury Visitor Information Centre (02) 4578 0233 or 1300 362 874 or visit www.hawkesburytourism.com.au. The Centre is at Ham Common (opp. Richmond RAAF Base), Hawkesbury Valley Way, CLARENDON NSW 2756. Open 7 days. Managed by Hawkesbury City Council.

27. Loder House

One of the most intact examples of Australian Georgian architecture in Windsor, this house was built in 1834 for George Loder II, a member of the influential Windsor district family, farmer and storekeeper. Loder died before the house was completed, being then occupied by Laban White, son-in-law of John Howe, until 1873. The Victorian style balcony and lacework were added under the ownership of Daniel Holland. The disused building was purchased in 1975 by the NSW Department of Planning and Environment Commission then leased to Windsor Municipal Council in 1979 who undertook a detailed restoration.



28. Paine Ross & Co

This law firm is one of the oldest in Australia having commenced practice in Windsor by Frances Beddek in 1828. William Walker, owner of *Crescentville* (located on The Terrace) served as an articled clerk under the guidance of Beddek from 1841 to 1852. The firm has been owned by several generations of the Paine family since the 1930s. The classical style façade was added in 1921.

29. Former Pye's Pharmacy

Although the street level frontage of this building has been modernised, evidence of the original purpose of the premises may be seen in the mortar and pestle which adorns the parapet of the building. The original façade featured a corner mounted doorway and a double storey verandah supported by cast iron columns with frieze and balustrades. The building constructed by Robert A Pye replaced the photographic studio owned by Thomas Boston which was destroyed by fire in about 1890.

30. Former Congregational Church and Masonic Hall

The foundation stone of the Congregational Church was laid by James Fairfax of Sydney in March 1869. In 1922 the church was disbanded due to a declining congregation and the property was purchased by members of the Masonic Lodge and was known as Lodge Richard Coley. A manse was constructed on the corner of Macquarie and Kable Streets in the early 1880s but has since been demolished. The former church has since been used for a variety of commercial uses. Note the spire is topped by an iron crest.

31. Elouera

This timber cottage on the corner of Macquarie Street and Kable Street was built in the late Victorian style including bay window and front door with transom light. The adjacent commercial premises were constructed in the 1940s of concrete bricks which were manufactured at North Richmond by Bill Clark of Kurmond.

32. Anschau House

The Anschau family owned the substantial tannery complex on the bank of South Creek and this substantial home was constructed for the family in about 1910. The tannery operations were commenced in 1867 by Mr J S Busby and the premises two blocks to the north of the house were enlarged in 1881 and by 1898 were able to produce two hundred and fifty hides a week. In 1904 it was purchased by the F B Anschau and family. The adjoining land, once part of Anschau's Paddock was subdivided in 1936 forming Anschau Crescent and Ross Street.



33. Former Bank of NSW (Westpac)

The Bank of New South Wales opened in Windsor in November 1858 under the management of Mr Nicholas Nugent. The old Georgian building was in use until being replaced by this Georgian Revival style structure with two storey portico supported by Tuscan columns in 1936. In March 2007 the premises were sold and the Windsor branch of the bank relocated to the new Riverview Shopping Centre further down George Street.

34. Former Commercial Banking Company of Sydney

The Commercial Banking Company of Sydney first opened in Windsor in 1874 in premises leased from businessman Laban White before relocating to this site which was formerly occupied by the Horse and Jockey Hotel operated by Richard Ridge. This building including banking chamber and residence was erected in 1879 at a cost of £3,630 and was designed by Sydney architects Mansfield Brothers who also designed the mansion *Abercrombie House* at Bathurst. The windows of this imposing building feature very large double hung sashes with moulded arched lintels on the ground floor with shuttered French windows opening onto the upstairs verandah at the front. Interior joinery is mostly original and in fine condition and the cast iron columns were made by J R Bubb of Sydney.

35. Commonwealth Savings Bank

In December 1931 the Government Savings Bank of NSW merged with Commonwealth Savings Bank of Australia which had been inaugurated by act of parliament by the Federal Government in 1911. Since 1919 the Government Savings Bank of NSW had operated from premises on the corner of George and Fitzgerald Streets, Windsor (see no. 42). Following the merger the bank continued to operate from the department store premises. This new two storey Art Deco style building opened in April 1936 was noticeably different to other buildings constructed at the time such as the former Westpac Bank. The restrained symmetrical facade is relieved by the fluted columns with crowned mouldings to each side of the central doorway and the minimal decorative motifs.

36. Fitzroy Hotel

Named after Charles Augustus FitzRoy (governor of New South Wales 1846-1855) this hotel is credited with holding the oldest continuous hotel licence in Windsor. Built by Richard Ridge who also built the Horse and Jockey now occupied by the National Australia Bank (no. 34). The premises opened for business in 1857 on the same site as an earlier Fitzroy Hotel. Meetings to discuss the building of the Windsor School of Arts were held here in 1860 and horse drawn coaches to Parramatta ran from outside the doors in 1847. The building was remodelled and modernised in 1955.

37. Former Post Office

The first Post Office in Windsor opened in 1828 and was housed in a number of different private buildings, including The Doctors House. This building designed by Colonial Architect James Barnet and built by Michael Leeds was opened in 1880, with Thomas Cambridge II as postman at that time. The family tradition continued with his son Thomas III continuing on as postman until 1925. A single storey wing in Fitzgerald Street was added in the late 1890s to accommodate the telegraph and telephone service. In



1990 a new post office building was constructed in New Street and the former post office [pictured 1980s] continues to be used for commercial purposes.



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38. Methodist Church

The original Methodist church (constructed c.1838) was destroyed by the Great Fire of December 1874 along with a large proportion of the buildings in the block from Suffolk Street to Fitzgerald Street. The foundation stone for this building was laid in December 1875 and completed the following year at a cost of £2,080. The church is a fine example of Victorian non-conformist Gothic revival architecture. It is built of rendered brick with Gothic detailing and a slate roof. Most of the fittings are original and there is a marble memorial to the pioneer Wesleyan missionary, the Rev. Peter Turner (1803-73), who was associated with Windsor for the last twenty years of his life.

39. Wesleyan Methodist Hall

This simple rendered brick Colonial Georgian building constructed in 1861 was one of the few buildings in the vicinity which survived the fire and features twelve pane windows with stone sills and transom lights above the doors. Services were conducted in the hall until the new church facing Fitzgerald Street was completed.

40. Former Methodist Parsonage

Built during the 1870s as a home for the Methodist clergy of Windsor Circuit this elegant two storey building was in use by the church until 1982. The building features a symmetrical façade with large windows and a four-panelled front door with transom and coloured sidelights. The two storey verandah includes attractive cast iron balustrades and paired columns

41. Mackenzie House

Constructed about 1915, this house was used more recently as a rectory for the minister of the adjacent Uniting Church. The house features elegant turned timber verandah posts with timber balustrade and prominent brackets. The side entrance includes a small timber castellated porch.

42. Former Department Store and Government Savings Bank

Constructed in 1919 by the Government Savings Bank of NSW at a cost of £5,071 this building included a banking chamber and a large shop premises. The premises were purchased by Maurice Pulsford in February 1935 and the bank continued to operate as the Commonwealth Savings Bank until new premises were opened along George Street in 1936. Pulsford's Department Store sold a great variety of merchandise including plants, fabric by the yard, clothing, hardware and manchester. In 1962 the business and premises were sold to brothers Hunter and Ross Hordern who were fifth generation descendants of the famous Sydney retailer Anthony Hordern and Sons. The store continued to stock everything from 'underwear to hardware' until the Hordern brothers retired in 1998.

43. Windsor Fire Station

A Volunteer Fire Brigade was formed in Windsor in 1863 but the effectiveness of the operations was seriously hampered by rudimentary equipment and lack of water supply. The Windsor Fire District was created in 1910 and received a contribution from Windsor Municipal Council of 44 pounds 14 shillings and 7 pence. The present fire station built in the Federation Free Classical style opened in June 1915 and was refurbished in 1996.

44. Windsor Reservoir

This elevated cast iron water tank and filtration system was an integral part of the Windsor Water Works, the first reticulated water supply for Windsor and was constructed in 1889 with a capacity of about one million litres. A plaque records F J Mortley, Mayor of Windsor and John F Sharkey, Civil Engineer of Sydney. Together with the Windsor Water Pumping Station situated on the riverbank



at the lower end of Johnston Street the reservoir is listed on the Sydney Water Heritage and Conservation Register.

Adjacent to the reservoir is the studio of the local community radio station Hawkesbury Radio. This station broadcasts on the FM band at 89.9.

45. Former Library and Women's Rest Rooms

This building was built by Windsor Shire Council in 1953 and housed the public library which was operated in conjunction with Colo Shire Council as well as Women's Rest Rooms. A new library was constructed in 1980 in George Street opposite McQuade Park and in June 2005 the Deerubbin Centre opened at 300 George Street including a new Library and Regional Gallery.

46. Sunnybrae

This beautiful home of stuccoed brick was built in 1875 for Robert Dick, first Mayor of Windsor. The home has been passed down through many generations of the Paine family. Of generous proportions this home was built in the Victorian style and features cast iron decorative verandah posts, slate roof and paired brackets under eaves. The spacious garden includes many mature trees and an interesting variety of shrubs and flowers. The land along The Terrace alignment of the block opposite Howe Park was the site of Cadell's Brewery which was operated by Thomas Cadell from 1844 to 1870. Following the demise of the brewing industry in Windsor the structure was damaged by frequent flooding and demolished in 1899 with the building material being purchased by local builders, the Mullingers.

47. Royal Exchange Hotel

This hotel was operated by Isabella Bushell from 1875 to 1908. It was modernised and rebuilt by A S Turnbull in 1936 using similar bricks to that of the former Westpac Bank completed the same year.

48. Johnston Street Terrace

Built about 1840 this simple two storey brick home laid in English bond has elegant turned timber columns supporting the verandah and six pane six windows with sandstone sills.

49. Former Windsor and Richmond Gazette Office

Originally known as Rosa's Buildings it was within these premises that the local newspaper *The Windsor and Richmond Gazette* was originated by John Charles Lucas Fitzpatrick. The first edition which circulated on 21 July of 1888 consisted of eight pages and sold for three pence. An enthusiastic supporter of free public libraries he served as a trustee of the Public Library of NSW from 1900 until his death in 1932. The newspaper is still in publication as the *Hawkesbury Gazette*.

50. O'Brien's Buildings

Constructed in 1930 to replace an earlier structure, this building features a central clerestory along the ridge of the roof which provided a source of natural light to the interior and an elaborate decorative parapet. From the mid 1940s until 1994 it was known as Hall's Hardware and Produce selling bulk fertilisers, seeds, stockfeed and hardware to the farming community of the Hawkesbury.



51. Former Royal Picture Theatre

Opened in January 1926 with the Cecil B De Mille's mammoth production *The Ten Commandments* the theatre was owned by Messrs Terry and Dixon and was constructed by George Rush of Coogee. Contemporary advertising noted the marble stairways which lead to the dress circle and the brown morocco leather chairs in the gallery. The floor was made of tallow wood which was ideal for dancing and the building was lit by electric light. The theatre closed in January 1963 due to falling attendances caused according to a local newspaper article by the introduction of television several years before.

52. Gambrill's Grocery Shop and Former Inn

This property which dates from 1840 is distinguished by the still intact original shop display window and the large central chimney. The land was originally granted to Joseph Smallwood in 1797 and was part of Maria Cope's subdivision in 1838. In August 1839 the property was sold to John Suffolk for £80 who sold the property the following year for £300. It is thought that the great increase in the value of the property indicates that the building was constructed at this time. [pictured 1960s].



53. Former Church of England Hall

Built for St Matthews Church of England in 1880 this building originally served as school and then a hall but is now privately owned.

OTHER WINDSOR HERITAGE WALKS

A. Thompson Square precinct nos. 1 – 10

With the focus on Thompson Square, this walk features many fine examples of nineteenth and early twentieth century buildings. The square was named by Governor Lachlan Macquarie in honour of his friend Andrew Thompson and was originally the centre of the village known as Green Hills which was proclaimed the town of Windsor by Governor Macquarie in December 1810.

500m walk, 30 minutes.

B. The Peninsula precinct nos. 11 – 24

This walk which commences in Thompson Square explores The Peninsula area, site of early land grants and many significant public buildings of the Colonial era. The area today includes a variety of housing styles ranging from Victorian cottages and inter-war bungalows to modern houses all of which contribute to the unique character of the streetscape. Within this precinct John Tebbutt also built several observatories from which he made several important astronomical discoveries.

2 km walk, 1 hour.

D. McQuade Park precinct nos. 54 – 83

Continuing along George Street from New Street to the Windsor Railway Station and back along The Terrace, discover the residential areas of Windsor as they have developed around McQuade Park. The park was planned by Macquarie when the town was laid out in 1810. Of special interest is St Matthews Anglican Church which was commenced in 1817 during the time of Governor Lachlan Macquarie and its associated burial ground and rectory.

3.5 km walk, 2 hours.

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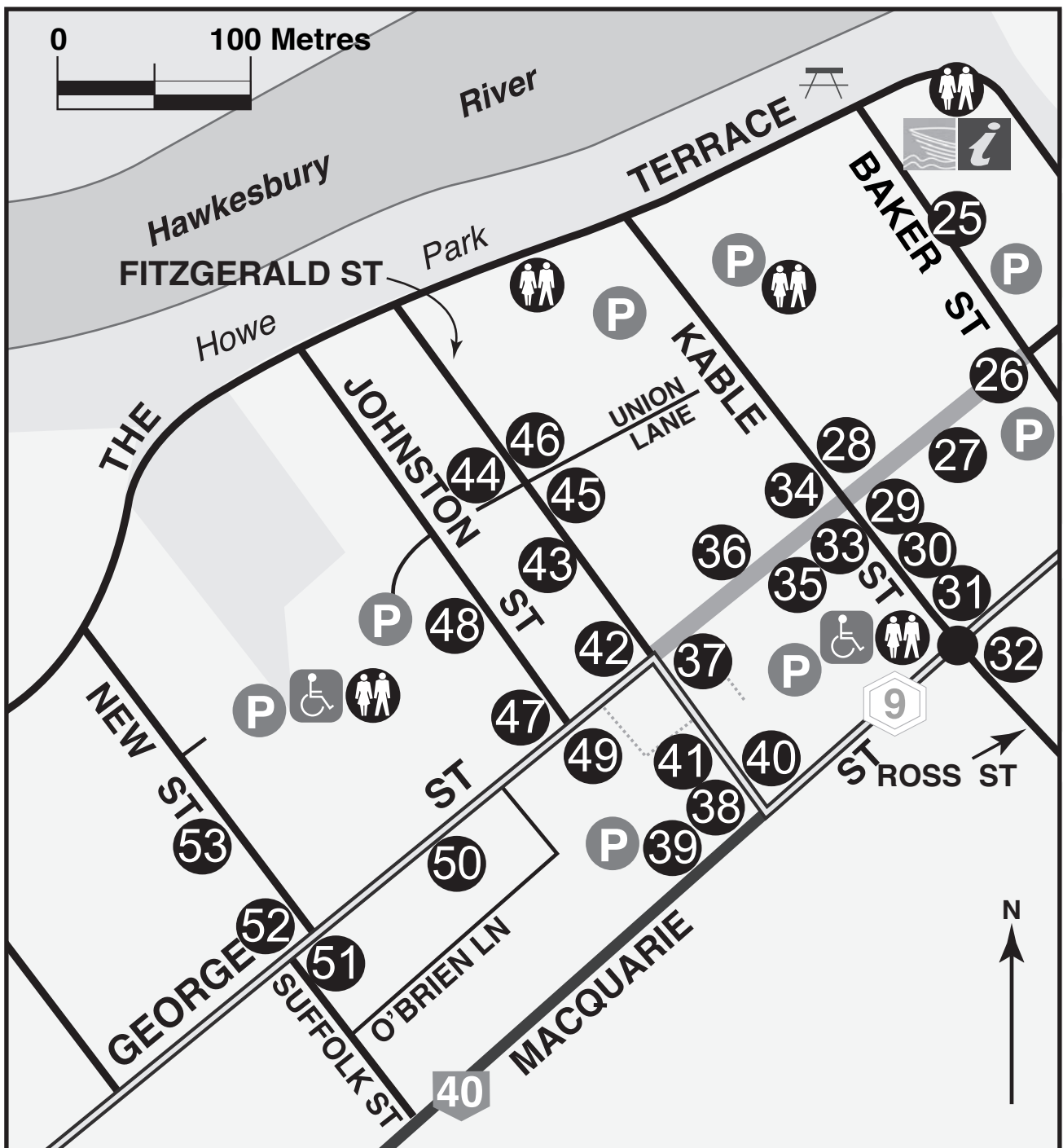
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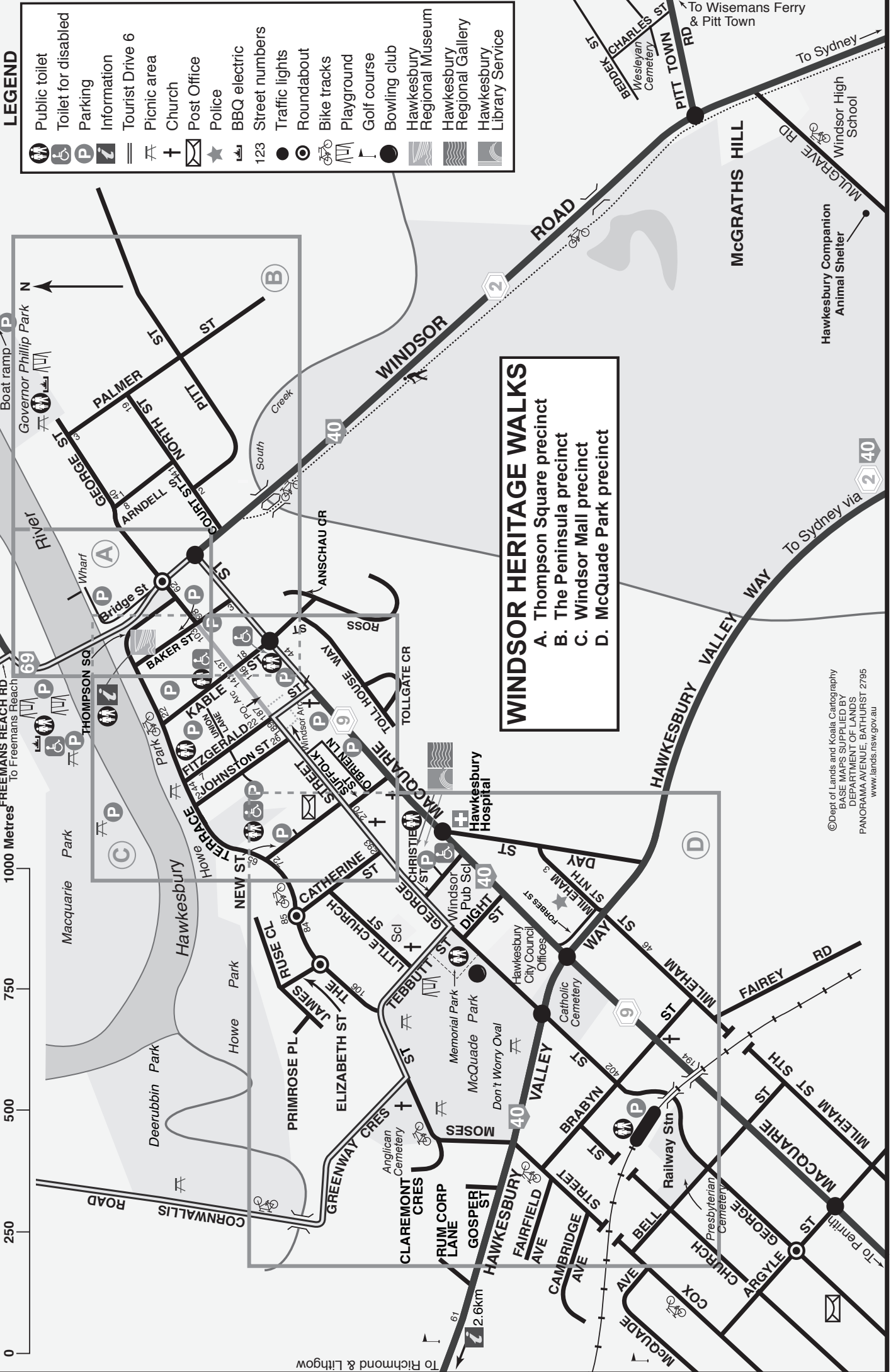
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C. WINDSOR HERITAGE WALK - Windsor Mall precinct

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WILBERFORCE ROAD
To Wilberforce & Singleton



LEGEND

- Public toilet
- Toilet for disabled
- Parking
- Information
- Tourist Drive 6
- Picnic area
- Church
- Post Office
- Police
- BBQ electric
- Street numbers
- Traffic lights
- Roundabout
- Bike tracks
- Playground
- Golf course
- Bowling club
- Hawkesbury Regional Museum
- Hawkesbury Regional Gallery
- Hawkesbury Library Service

WINDSOR HERITAGE WALKS

- A. Thompson Square precinct
- B. The Peninsula precinct
- C. Windsor Mall precinct
- D. McQuade Park precinct

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