

# Nhill Nature Walk from Jaypex Park

(Follow the green numbers 1 - 17 starting in Jaypex Park)

1. Jaypex Park was established in the early 1970s by Jaycees and Apex Clubs.

2. The Boardwalk was constructed mainly by Nhill College students in the late 1980s and refurbished in 2016.

3. Nesting boxes in trees are home to a wide variety of birds.

4. The Bird hide is ideal for viewing birds especially during flood years.

5. The Nhill Lake was created in 1960. The island was constructed during a major re-build about 1990.

6. This 'flood-lifter' was used to pump water into the lake from the lowest part of the swamp.

7. The Corroboree Trees. Macpherson and Belcher were the first Europeans to meet with Aborigines under these trees in January 1844. The word 'Nhill' is an indigenous word meaning 'Abode of Spirits' signified by 'mist over the water'.

8. The weir under the bridge helps regulate the water level which is now maintained by town storm-water and bores.

9. The floodway ensures that storm-water from the concrete drain is diverted into the swamp area when the lake is full.

10. The sewerage station, built in the 1930s, was in danger of flooding in 1974. The high bank enabled the town's system to continue to operate as normal.

11. In front of MacKenzie's Garage is Matt Nealy's tree. Matt was a blacksmith from the 1890s who shod hundreds of horses beneath the shade of this tree.

12. The Pioneer memorial is a tribute to the many people who settled around Nhill and built the town.

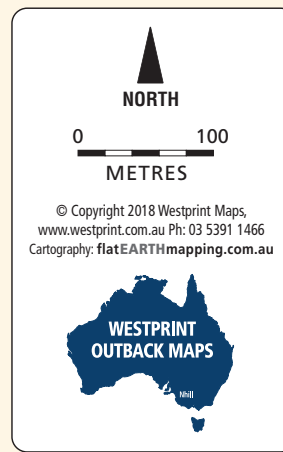
13. Wagon Inn. This information shelter holds a wagon typical of the type used to transport wheat and wool in the early days.

14. John Shaw Neilson Cottage. One of Australia's great lyric poets, Neilson lived in this cottage relocated from Penola. Many of his poems describe life around Nhill where he lived later in life.

15. The scar tree was relocated to this site during the reconstruction of the Western Highway.

16. Sound Shell.

17. Barbecue shelter.



## Nhill Heritage Street Walk

*(Follow the blue numbers 1 - 35 starting at the information centre)*

Nhill (Pop. 2100) was surveyed in 1879 and some buildings from the 1880s are still features of the town. The divided road separated by a wide park was designed to allow access for bullock wagons. Census in 1881 – 14 dwellings, 111 people. 1891 – 214 homes, 1002 people. In 1892 Nhill was the first town outside Melbourne to have electric street lighting.

The railway arrived in 1886. Fire Brigade established in May 1888 then six months later the largest fire in Nhill's history destroyed the west side of Victoria St from Brougham St to the Farmers Arms Hotel.

A severe cyclone in Nov. 1897 destroyed or damaged a wide area from Bordertown to Horsham and Warracknabeal.

Many houses, churches and shops in Nhill were damaged or destroyed. Damage in town estimated at £40,000. Many of the brick buildings in the main street date from the fire of 1888 or the cyclone of 1897.

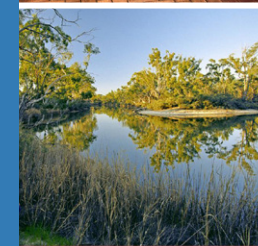
1. Information Centre opened 2003.
2. Band Rotunda built 1909.
3. Union Hotel. Nhill's first hotel was moved from Kiata in 1882. Current Hotel built in 1911 by pioneering Rintoule family.
4. Site of 1st Doctor's Surgery.
5. Pharmacy: site of Bounds Fruit & Veg shop then Central café. Stained glass installed 1927.
6. Bank of Victoria 1890.
7. Site of Kozminski's General Store. First shop in Nhill 1881.
8. Commercial Hotel built 1886 burnt down and rebuilt 1916.
9. Present Fire Station opened 2004, originally Treasury Hotel. Pre 1920.
10. Post Office built 1887. Oldest existing building in Nhill.
11. Site of 1st Fire Station built 1888 destroyed by fire 1930, rebuilt and used till 2004.
12. Shire Offices and Mallee Fowl Statue built 1962. Rebuilt

and extended in 2015.

13. Noske's Flour Mill built 1919. Largest single concrete silo in the southern hemisphere.
14. IGA. Site of Williams' motor garage and car sales.
15. Hotel Royal burnt down in 1919, then Moran & Cato Grocery Store.
16. Nhill Community Centre built by H V Schulz in 1928.
17. Morrows Car Sales. - Formerly Theatre Royal.
18. Masonic Lodge. Formed in 1892, this building 1924.
19. Presbyterian Church built 1889. Only wooden church building existing in Nhill.
20. First Lowan Shire Office built 1888. Home of Nhill Historical Society.
21. Court House built 1888.
22. Anglican Church dedicated 1899. Rebuilt after 1897. Formerly Chinese Market Gardens.
23. National Australia Bank built in 1890s.
24. Wesley Hall: Site of Mechanics Institute built 1883 and used as 1st Public Hall.
25. Uniting Church: formerly Methodist. A Salvation Army hall was once in the car park area.
26. CWA. Built 1938 as CWA Rest Rooms
27. Lowana Cottage Crafts established 1967
28. Snappy Seconds. Site of 1st Post Office, Ada Oliver 1st postmistress.
29. Olivers Café. Site of Olivers' Flour Mill built 1879, the 1st business in Nhill.
30. Private residence. Site of the Oriental Bank.
31. Jennifer Meek's- formerly General Store built 1909.
32. Café - formerly T F Blackburn Chemist, later Macaulay's Pharmacy for many years.
33. Farmers Arms Hotel rebuilt after 1919 fire.
34. Goldsworthy Park with memorials to early pioneers and war veterans.
35. Draught Horse statue built 1968.

# Heritage and Nature Trails

NHILL, VICTORIA



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