

# Grand Designs

A look at the pubs and parapets that give York's main street its unique character.

## West Side



**5 CENTRAL BUILDINGS (1907)**  
Classic turn-of-the-century shopfront parapets like this one give York its 'timewarp' character.



**6 SETTLER'S HOUSE (1860s)**  
The Eastern Districts Chronicle newspaper was printed here from 1877 onwards. You can still read all the early York gossip and news at <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/title/734>



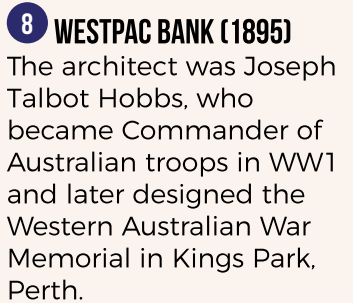
**7 YORK PALACE HOTEL (1909)**  
Described in 1912 as having "a tiled vestibule richly embellished with cedar and jarrah fittings; the furnishings throughout are luxurious and the luxury of hot and cold water baths are provided for patrons."



**3 SARGENT'S PHARMACY (1904)**

### CAN YOU SPOT?

Look up and you'll see a clue to the original use of this curious corner shop.



**8 WESTPAC BANK (1895)**  
The architect was Joseph Talbot Hobbs, who became Commander of Australian troops in WW1 and later designed the Western Australian War Memorial in Kings Park, Perth.



**9 OLD COUNCIL CHAMBERS / FIRE STATION (1897)**  
The original York Council Chambers; no longer needed after the Town Hall was built, York's Volunteer Fire Brigade operated from here 1914-1989.

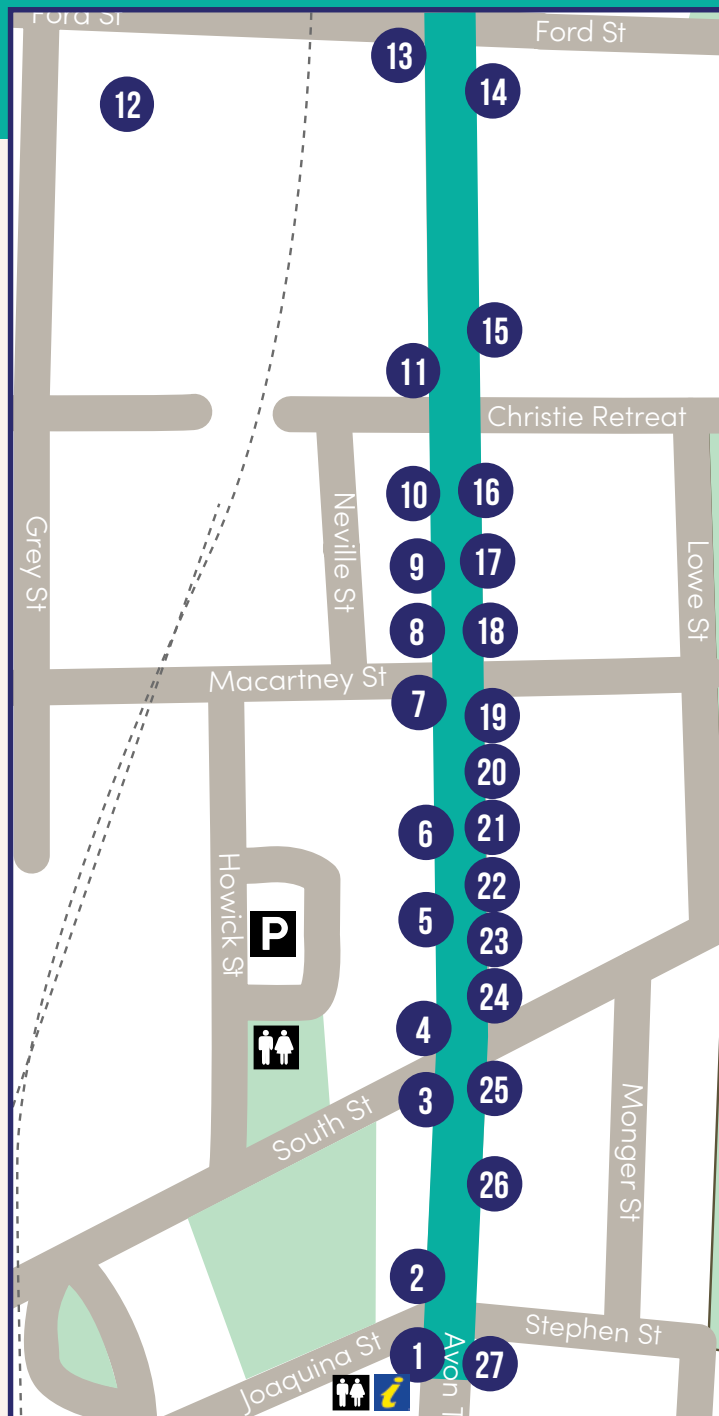


**10 FORMER MOTOR GARAGE (c.1912)**  
Purpose-built as York Motor Garage for Thomas Davies, it was used as an engineering workshop by the Army in WW2.



**4 CASTLE HOTEL (1853, EXT. 1905)**

The oldest section was built by convict labour for Samuel Smale Craig. Always a popular local meeting place, John Weeks recalls Friday afternoons in the 1950s: "Women and children would sit in their cars and wait for the menfolk to come out...then they'd jump in the car, crank them up and off they'd belt..."



## GRAND DESIGNS

### AVON TERRACE

Avon Terrace from Town Hall to Macartney St  
Distance approx. 0.7 km

Avon Terrace, including from Macartney to Ford St  
Distance approx. 1.5km

- Points of Interest
- Visitor Centre - York Town Hall
- All walks are classified Grade 2 unless otherwise stated
- Parking
- Public Toilets



**11 MONGER'S STORE (1879)**  
Now missing its once-grand façade, it's hard to imagine the flourishing store opened by John Henry Monger. This area became known as 'Monger's Town', as his 'empire' extended to the nearby Sandalwood Yards.



Between Monger's Store and the Sandalwood yards look left for a great view of:



**12 FAVERSHAM HOUSE (c.1840-1868 WITH LATER EXTENSIONS)**  
John Henry Monger built his home with the assistance of convict labour. Extended by successive generations of the Monger family and used as a convalescent hospital for servicemen during WW2.



**13 SANDALWOOD YARDS (c.1850s)**  
Here, J.H. Monger ran a thriving trade in sandalwood, a fragrant timber known as 'the poor man's moneybox' during the nineteenth century. Only the stable block now remains, along with the relocated Tipperary schoolhouse and York Society's Archives Centre.

## East Side



**14 YORK HOTEL'S BILLIARD ROOM (c.1884)**  
Private home, please respect the privacy of owners.

On this site, Joseph Monger built a replica of Faversham House owned by his brother John Henry Monger Jnr., supposedly just to irritate him. All that remains now is the stone-built billiard room.



**15 RSL GARDENS (EST. 2008)**  
Memorial rose garden, created by the York Branch of the RSL to commemorate those who served in two World Wars. Lest We Forget.



**16 CWA (c.1855)**  
The York Branch of the Country Women's Association of W.A. has met here since 1953. Then, meetings were held on Pig Sale days to placate husbands who would have considered an extra trip into York merely for a CWA meeting a sheer extravagance!



**17 DINSDALE'S EMPORIUM (1887)**  
William Dinsdale Jnr., bootmaker, saddler and businessman had this 'Emporium' built in 1887.



**18 UNION BANK (1900)**  
Like the Westpac Bank, these premises were designed by Joseph Talbot Hobbs.



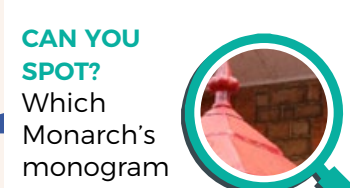
**19 EDWARDS STORE (1872, SHOPFRONT EXTENDED 1884)**  
During the 1890s gold rush York was the 'last stop shop' to buy food and equipment. "almost every necessity of the domestic ménage being procurable from its well stocked shelves and storage cellars" said a review in 1912. Still true today at the IGA!



**CAN YOU SPOT?**  
Unusual motifs on the shopfront?



**20 POST OFFICE (1893)**  
George Temple-Poole, Chief Architect of the Public Works Department in the 1890s, designed this building and the Courthouse next door.



**CAN YOU SPOT?**  
Which Monarch's monogram is on the original postbox outside?



**21 YORK COURTHOUSE COMPLEX (1850s ONWARDS, COURTHOUSE 1895)**  
A rare 1852 convict-built Cell Block and other buildings stand behind this imposing Court House.



**24 DAVIES BUILDINGS (1905-1908)**  
Around 1950, owner Laurie Davies installed a two-faced chiming clock on the balcony - which had to be silenced due to complaints from guests at the Castle Hotel!



**22 YORK MOTOR MUSEUM (1908)**  
A car collector's paradise housed inside a previous motor garage and showroom that once boasted the oldest Ford dealership in Western Australia.

# Walks York Trails

'Go to York! Ye invalids who are weary and worn with long months of pent-up office life! Go to York for a change of air!...



SHIRE OF  
**York**

[VISIT.YORK.WA.GOV.AU](http://VISIT.YORK.WA.GOV.AU)



**23 COLLINS BUILDINGS (1907)**  
Purpose-built as shops with offices above, one of the first occupiers was Haroldmos Tiliakios, a Greek fishmonger, who served at Gallipoli in WW1.



**26 SHELL GARAGE (c.1923)**  
The second oldest continuous Shell Garage in Australia and a real nostalgia trip for motoring enthusiasts.



**24 DAVIES BUILDINGS (1905-1908)**  
Around 1950, owner Laurie Davies installed a two-faced chiming clock on the balcony - which had to be silenced due to complaints from guests at the Castle Hotel!



**27 THE RABBIT SHED (c.1920)**  
In the 1930s rabbits reached plague numbers in Western Australia. Trapping provided people with food, or a small income gained at this collection point for receiving rabbit carcasses, until the 1950s.



**25 SITE OF ROYAL HOTEL (c.1894, ORIGINALLY THE RAILWAY HOTEL, DEMOLISHED 1968)**  
Demolished after the Meckering earthquake, it's hard to imagine the Royal as John Weeks remembers it: "The 1955 flood was a biggy....they were serving beers at the Royal with blokes waist deep in water".



# Hidden Gems

Tour the undiscovered jewels of York's sidestreets

## FORD SREET



### 28 FAVERSHAM HOUSE STABLES (c. 1850 WITH ALTERATIONS TO 1906)

Our Barn Girl Guides Centre, the former stables of Faversham House.



### 29 YORK BUSHLAND GARDEN

Meander through a native wildflower wonderland with over 400 native flora, a plant photographer's paradise in spring and a fascinating rest stop on your town tour. Plant brochure available at Town Hall Visitor Centre.

## CENTENNIAL DRIVE



### 30 UNITING CHURCH HALL 1854, CHURCH 1888

When Wesleyan Minister John Smithies built the brick chapel in 1854 it was opened by "...an excellent discourse on the Transfiguration of Christ, attended by a numerous, respectable and attentive audience. In the afternoon more than 50 Sabbath school and other children were regaled with buns and tea...."

#### CAN YOU SPOT?

Something outside that's often found inside?



Answer: The Church Bell

## HOWICK ST

### 31 FORMER YORK PRIMARY SCHOOL (1886, EXTENDED 1898)

Designed by George Temple-Poole and constructed by local builders Thorn, Bower and Stewart. Boys and girls had separate classes and playgrounds.



## RAILWAY STREET



### 32 WAR MEMORIAL PARK (EST. 1921)

The WW1 War Memorial is flanked by a bronze bas-relief and an original WW1 German 77 mm Krupp Field Gun.

#### CAN YOU SPOT?

Who is depicted on the bas-relief?



Answer: Lawrence McCarthy

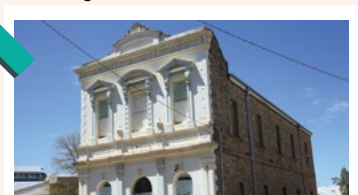


### 34 RAILWAY STATION (1885)

Private home; please respect the privacy of owners.

Easy transport of farm produce and passengers boosted York's prosperity when the railway from Fremantle to York opened in 1885.

## JOAQUINA ST



### 35 MASONIC HALL

Originally built for the Oddfellows Society, it became Masonic Lodge no. 5 in Western Australia. Lodge meetings took place here for over one hundred years; always held on a moonlit night.

### 33 FLOUR MILL (1892)

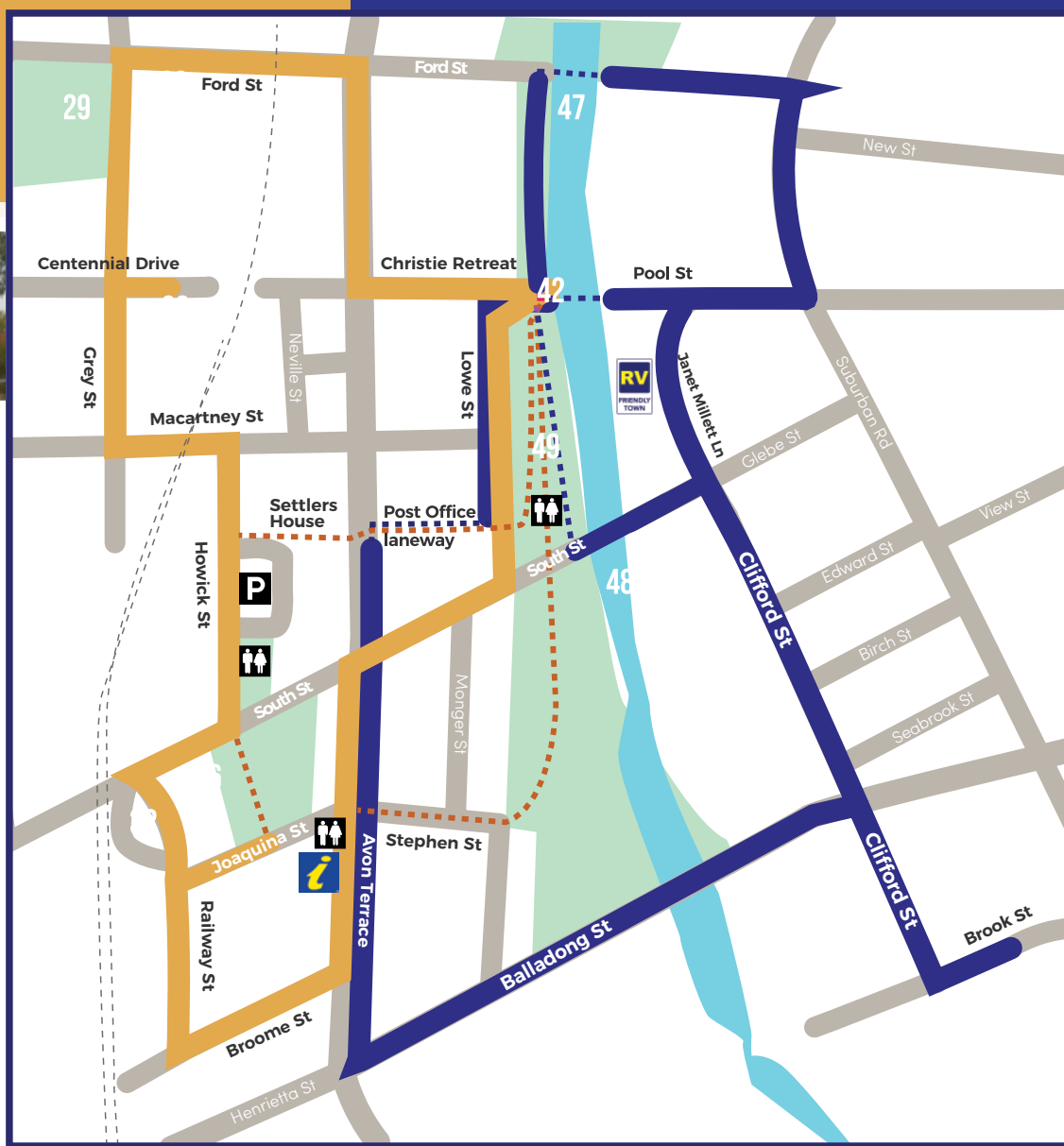
When constructed, it was the largest flour mill in the State. The mill operated until 1967, with the railway alongside allowing easy loading and transport to Fremantle for the export of flour.

#### CAN YOU SPOT?

Who designed this building?



Answer: the firm of Wright later James Wright would design the Town Hall



## MAP KEY

### 1 Points of Interest

Visitor Centre - York Town Hall

Parking

RV Parking

All walks are classified Grade 2 unless otherwise stated

### HIDDEN GEMS

total distance 2.8km

For shorter walks; cut through at Settlers House and Post Office laneway

Top half loop 1.8km  
Bottom half loop 2.1km

### CONVICTS and CROSSINGS

total distance 3.4km

For shorter walks; cut through at South Street and Post Office laneway

Top half 2 loops 1.6km  
Bottom half loop 2.4km

Grade 3 Walk

Public Toilets

## SOUTH STREET



### 36 CONVENT SCHOOL

Built after the Elementary Education Act of 1871 enabled State aid for Catholic Schools, it was run by the Catholic Sisters of Mercy until 1971. The Sisters lived in the Convent next door, now privately owned.



### 37 ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH (1886, TOWER EXT 1909) AND HALL (1860)

Now the Church Hall, the small original Church was built from 1859-60. The 'new' Church, designed by Joseph Nunan, was described at the opening as "decidedly the most handsome edifice for religious purposes in the Colony."

\*All can be a WALK or ROAD CYCLE  
Dotted lines = alternative routes - walk only

## SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCES

#YORKWA #SHIREOFYORK

Ngala Kaaditj Ballardong Noongar Moort Keyen Kaadak Nidja Boodja  
We acknowledge the Ballardong Noongar People as the Traditional Custodians of the land in this area.

## Before you head out, have you considered:

Suitable footwear  
Water bottle

Sun protection [hat, sunglasses, sunscreen]  
A mobile phone

Letting someone know where you are going

Please dispose of rubbish in bins provided or take your rubbish with you.

.... Go, then, to York if you are a lover of the picturesque, the beautiful and the sublime....and I venture to assert that you will return home good tempered'

The Inquirer, 26 December 1860

Find out more about many of these sites on Wikipedia.

## PHOTO CREDITS

andytyndall.com - 6, 19, 31, 35 | John Clarke - 3, 5, 22 | heritageintelligencewa.com.au - 14, 17, 27, 28, 38, 39, 45, 46  
Debbie Matthews - 2, 9, 12, 20, 21, 23, 33, 34, 36, | Karina Leonhardt - 42 | lisanicoleimagery.com.au - 7, 8, 37 | Audrey Sole - 29 | John Weeks - Text | York Residency Museum - 11 P.10,29 Donor W. Bennett; 25 P01.161 Donor A. Lott; 47 P09.298 Donor J. Parker



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# Convicts and Crossings

Follow the footsteps of York's convicts and those who lived here in the convict era. Feeling intrepid? Cross the river by suspension bridge or the ancient ford in summertime.



### 38 COTMORE (HENDERSON'S BRICKWORKS) (c. 1860s)

Private property, please respect the privacy of owners.

Henry, son of George Henderson, Convict no. 1417 developed a brickworks here, digging natural clay from the land behind the house. He supplied 200,000 bricks for building the Town Hall in 1911.



### 39 OLD HOSPITAL (1896)

Private property, please respect the privacy of owners.

Designed by Government Architect George Temple-Poole and built on the site of the York Convict Depot, replacing the Depot Medical Quarters that had previously served the town.



### 40 RESIDENCY MUSEUM (1852)

Noongar cultural heritage exhibitions

The last remaining part of York's Convict Depot. "It's like a Tardis" say visitors, "there's so many exciting, colourful exhibitions and child-friendly hands-on activities inside here."



### 41 PIONEER CEMETERY AT CROSSROADS (1840)

The first settler cemetery in York, with the site of the first St. John's Church marked by a wooden cross and relocated headstones.

#### CAN YOU SPOT?

The lion, mermaid and pelican?



Look for the grave of Goldsmith Meares and his wife Ellen.



### 42 SUSPENSION BRIDGE (1888, REPLACING ORIGINAL 1888 AND LATER REPLACEMENTS)

Warning: Unstable surface - it swings! Cyclists dismount.

This section of walk is classified Grade 3.

Have fun and a fantastic view of the river as you sashay and sway across the swing bridge! It's a replacement of the first suspension bridge erected in 1888 nearer to the current South Street bridge.



### 43 HOLY TRINITY (1854)

Consecrated in 1858, the tower and other additions were added between 1891 and 1905. It contains a magnificent Alfred Pease pipe organ and windows designed by Robert Juniper.

#### CAN YOU SPOT?

Another Church, now disguised!



Answer: St. John's Church and forms the present York's central crossroads was relocated in 1905 from Church Hall.



### 46 KAIREY COTTAGE (1858/9)

Private home, please respect the privacy of owners.

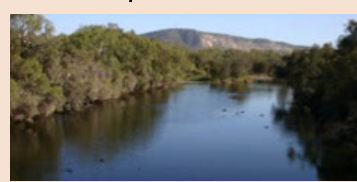
A mudbrick walled and shingle-roofed cottage built on the land originally allocated to Pensioner Guard John Kairey. Pensioner Guards were granted land in York for services guarding convicts on the voyage to Australia.



### 47 SITE OF MONGER'S BRIDGE [FORD CROSSING]

This section of walk is classified Grade 3

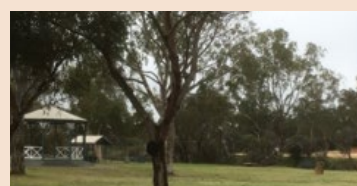
The ancient ford crossing is usually passable in summer from October through to April. Your safety is our concern but your responsibility. Cyclists dismount. Unlevel, unstable path surface. Take great care if there is water flowing. **Do not use in winter months or at any time if water is more than ankle deep.**



### 48 BILYA - THE AVON RIVER

Site of Noongar significance

Bilya means bellybutton - the umbilical cord, the source of life. For thousands of years a rich source of food and water for the Ballardong people.



### 49 AVON PARK

The York Agricultural Society held their Annual Show and Fair here until the 1890s, when Municipal Gardens were developed and a brass band played on Sundays.



### 50 HISTORIC GRAPEVINE (c. 1900)

ENVIRONMENTAL DISCOVERY CENTRE  
Probably the last remnant of Craig's Orchard, established in the 1890s.

### 51 CROQUET CLUB (1909)

Founded 1909 and still going strong.