



**Explore the historic townsites and let the trail take you back one hundred years and more.**

Take a break and rest in the shade of the gazebo – you'll find more interesting stories there.



Greenhills Inn/Landscape courtesy Ronja Dirksen; inset courtesy Bernie Wagner

The Greenhills Heritage Trail is kindly supported by:



HERITAGE COUNCIL

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**RAILWAY TURNTABLE AND ENGINE WATER TANK SITE**

Concrete footings are all that remain of the 50ft diameter cast iron turntable used for turning steam locomotives for the return journey back to York. Near the turntable stood a large cast iron Engine Water Tank that held water pumped from the nearby well. *Please keep to the trail footpath.*

A 'Sellers' turntable at Denmark  
Courtesy Jeff Austin

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**BAKERY**

The Bakery was owned by Herbert Taylor who lived in Greenhills from 1897-1909. It was restored in 2001 and is now the only existing building in this area of the townsite. A Blacksmith's shop and a General Store previously stood nearby.

Sketch of Greenhills Bakery  
Courtesy Heather Mills

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**SPORTSGROUND**

This paddock used to contain a well-used football oval, cricket pitch and grandstand for spectators. Greenhills Football players wore blue and white striped jerseys. Cricket was also very popular and many exciting matches were recorded here.

Greenhills Football Team 1920  
Courtesy Greenhills Progress Association



*The Original Greenhills Townsite (sites 19-22)*



The Greenhills district was one of the original Crown grants of land made to the Parker family when the first settlers moved east of York looking for additional good quality land.

This original townsite became obsolete with the coming of the railway in 1898 and Greenhills was then established in its present day position.

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**CO-OP STORE AND HOUSE**

A store was built here by Jonathon Bult Harris of York in 1908 and became a Co-operative Store in 1919. The Co-op Store no longer exists, but the house you can see today was the Manager's residence.

Co-op Store, early C20th  
Courtesy Mervyn Stephens / Greenhills Progress Association

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**RACECOURSE**

The Greenhills Amateur Race Committee first held races near the railway station in April 1899. A train service ran from York to Greenhills on race days. From 1904 until 1917 races were held at a new racecourse two miles from the station.

Horse and Jockey, early C20th  
Courtesy Beetson family / Greenhills Progress Association

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**AGRICULTURAL HALL**

You can just see the foundations of the Agricultural Hall, officially opened on 31 January 1896. Farmer's meetings, social events and dances were held here until the Hall was dismantled in 1948.

The Greenhills Agricultural Hall c.1940s  
Courtesy Graham Penny

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**ST ANDREW'S CHURCH**

This charming wooden Church opened in September 1912, with 130 people attending the first service. It replaced the original St. Andrew's Church, the remains of which can be seen in the Cemetery.

State Registered Heritage Place no.02821  
St. Andrews Church  
Courtesy Bernie Wagner

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**WELL ON PENNY DRIVE**

The exact origins of this well are uncertain, but it appears similar to a description for the construction of three wells in an advertisement of 1895 by the Greenhills Roads Board. It was used by local residents and the railway. Don't forget to make a wish when you visit!

Well Site  
Courtesy Aiden Gentle

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**BALLY BALLY / SITE OF GREENHILLS SCHOOL 1910-1945**

The school that once stood on this site was the weatherboard Bally Bally School building, previously situated from 1901-1910 on the Doodenanning Road, 6km from here. After relocation it was used here until 1945.

The weatherboard Bally Bally School building after relocation to Greenhills, c.1920s. Courtesy Graham Penny

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**SCHOOL ON CHURCH OF ENGLAND SITE 1895 - 1910**

A school was built here in 1895, opening in 1896 with Miss Georgina Elliot as the teacher for 15 boys and 5 girls. It ran until 1910, when more people lived at the new townsite and a school opened there.

Teacher Miss Mabel Jones and students in 1905  
Courtesy Graham Penny

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**CEMETERY**

The foundations in the centre of the cemetery are all that remain of the original St Andrew's Church, which was built in 1882 and constructed of stone. Please tread carefully; there are many unmarked graves here.

State Registered Heritage Place no.02821  
Headstones  
Courtesy Tanya Warnock



*York Trails*

Discover the rich history of this rural area on the Greenhills Heritage Trail.



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The Greenhills Heritage Trail is a community project by the Greenhills Progress Association, who thank all involved in fundraising, donation of materials, photographs, information and practical assistance. Special thanks go to Judy Binning, Barbara Ryan and Jenet Ryan whose dedicated efforts over many years have resulted in the information displayed on the trail.



All trails are classified Grade 1 - suitable for all ages and fitness levels

**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.

# The Townsite of Greenhills (sites 1-18)

The branch line from York to Greenhills opened in September 1898. Prospectors keen to make their fortune in the Goldfields often set out from here after buying provisions for the venture. By the 1930s the population of Greenhills was over 2000 people.



## RAILWAY STATION

The York-Greenhills Railway was opened on the 1st September 1898 after years of lobbying by the settlers in the York and Greenhills districts. Beside the railway line stood the Station and railway worker's houses, no longer in existence today.

Greenhills Railway Station, early C20th  
Courtesy Mervyn Stephens



## THE GREENHILLS INN

(originally called the Railway Hotel) was built in 1906 by one of the first female Publicans in Western Australia, Mary Ann McMullen. Today it's a popular destination with an enjoyable historic rural ambience.

Near Greenhills Inn  
Courtesy Janis Burns



## SHEEP SALEYARDS & TENNIS COURTS

An odd mix perhaps? But they didn't exist at the same time. Saleyards were built on this site c.1910. Many years after the saleyards ceased to function, the land was used as tennis courts until the mid-1960s.

Riding a sheep at the Beetson farm, c.1930's  
Courtesy the Beetson family / Greenhills Progress Association



## RAILWAY HOTEL & MALES STORE

The Railway Hotel was built on this site approximately 1896-97 and operated until a new hotel (now the Greenhills Inn) opened in 1906. It then became Males' Store, stocking hardware and groceries. Eventually dismantled, it was rebuilt as a home in York, where it still stands today.

Railway Hotel, c.1900  
Courtesy Greenhills Progress Association



## GREENHILLS HALL

In 1912, Mary Ann McMullen had this hall built for the community because the first Agricultural Hall at the original townsite was considered too small for the district's needs.

Fancy Dress Ball at the Hall, 1913.  
Courtesy York Residency Museum Po4.22 donor H. Nicholson



## BOORNA WAANGKINY (MESSAGE STICK)

This area is known as Ballardong Noongar Budjar (Ballardong People's Country). Mr. Kevin Fitzgerald, local Ballardong Noongar Elder, has written about the deep spiritual connection to ancestral lands by the traditional owners, the Ballardong people.

Grass Tree (Bor or Balga)  
Courtesy Shire of York



## THE GREENHILLS ROAD BOARD

In 1871, local governments were established, often called Road Boards, because in rural areas their primary function was to create and maintain the roads network. The Greenhills Road Board was established in 1892 - 1893.

Licence plate, early 1900s  
Courtesy Graham Penny



## CLUB HOTEL

The Club Hotel was established in 1906 by R.J.G. Reid and operated a quarter of a mile from the Greenhills Inn towards York, near Club Hotel Road, until 1918. The following year it was taken down brick by brick, transported by train and eventually rebuilt at Perenjori - where it stands to this day.

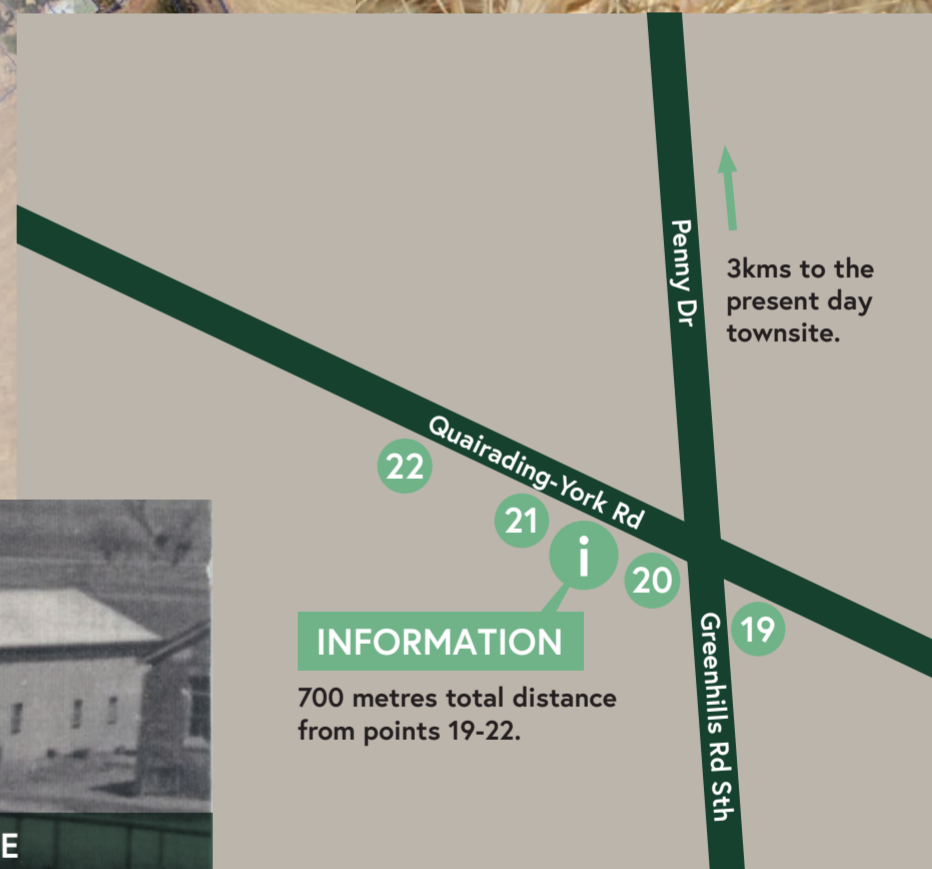
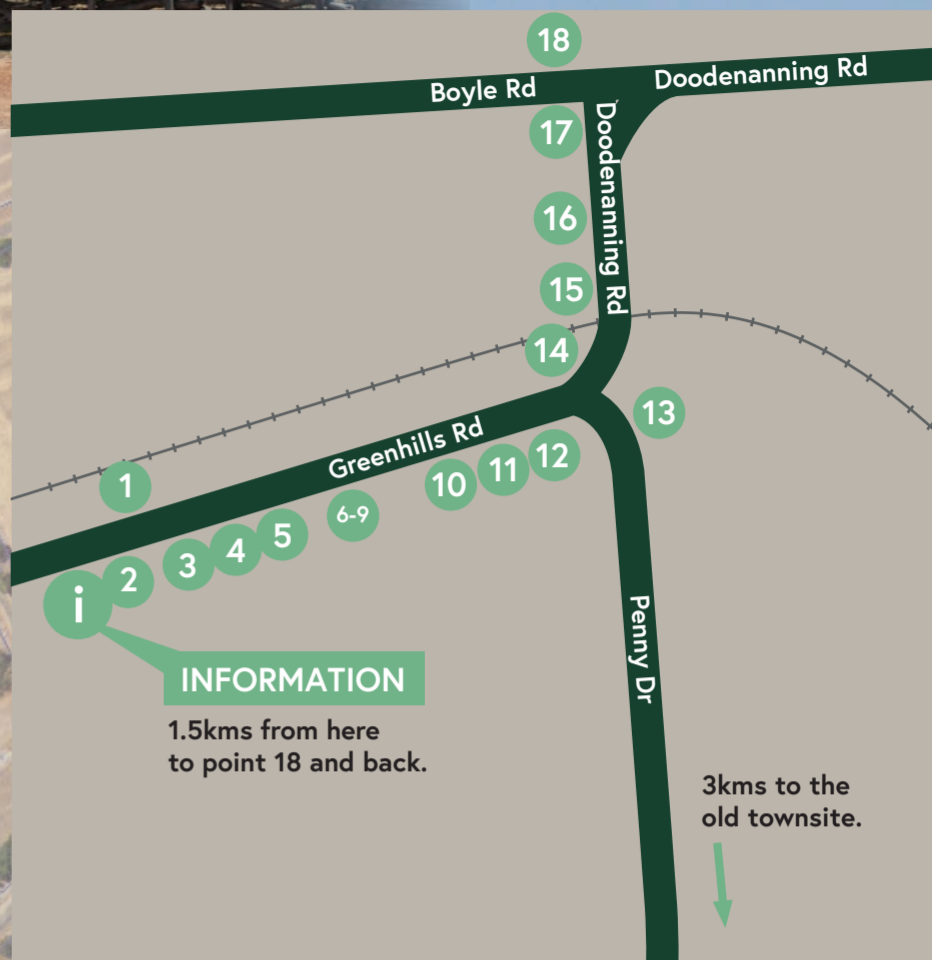
Club Hotel  
Courtesy Arthur Taylor



## SITE LISTING

- 1 Railway Station
- 2 Greenhills Inn
- 3 Saleyards / Tennis Courts
- 4 Railway Hotel / Males Store
- 5 Greenhills Hall
- 6 Boorna waangkiny
- 7 Road Board
- 8 Club Hotel
- 9 George Meredith's Garage
- 10 WA Bank
- 11 Post Office
- 12 Co-Op Store
- 13 Well Site
- 14 Railway Turntable / Watertank
- 15 Sportsground
- 16 Racecourse
- 17 Bally Bally / Greenhills School
- 18 Bakery
- 19 Agricultural Hall
- 20 School
- 21 St Andrew's Church
- 22 Cemetery

## THE TOWNSITE OF GREENHILLS (present day sites 1-18)



## GEORGE MEREDITH'S GARAGE

This was the site of George Meredith's Garage, built in 1930 and demolished in 1963/64. George was a renowned mechanic and welder and people were said to come from 100 miles around as he was an excellent repairer.

George Meredith's garage, c. 1930s  
Courtesy Greenhills Progress Association



## FORMER WEST AUSTRALIAN BANK

This building operated as a sub branch from November 1909 until April 1940. Mrs Bell, the teller, was also a nurse and often called upon to assist the community as the nearest hospital was in York. *Private property, please respect the privacy of the owners.*

Sketch of the West Australian Bank  
Courtesy Heather Mills



## POST OFFICE

The Post Office building was commissioned in 1898 by the Commonwealth. Completed in 1899, it served the district until 1956. As a private house in 1984 it featured in the telemovie of Albert Facey's book 'A Fortunate Life'. *Private property, please respect the privacy of the owners.*

The Post Office, early C20th  
Courtesy Mervyn Stephens / Greenhills Progress Association

## ORIGINAL GREENHILLS TOWNSITE (sites 19-22)