

## Health & Safety Tips

- Just 30 minutes of walking on most days has many health benefits.
- Don't forget sunscreen, hat, sunglasses and a bottle of water.
- Look right, look left and listen for oncoming traffic before crossing the road.
- Cross roadways at the safest place. Where available use pedestrian facilities such as lights, refuges and crossings.
- Wear bright coloured clothing.



## Further Information

More information about the history of the Shire can be obtained from:

- Baulkham Hills Shire Libraries located at Baulkham Hills, Castle Hill, Carlingford and Dural.
- The Hills District Historical Society - Power House Discovery Centre - 172 Showground Road, Castle Hill  
Second Saturday of each month 10am - 4pm.

## Heritage Trail - Baulkham Hills



### For more information

contact:

### Baulkham Hills Shire Council

129 Showground Road, Castle Hill PO Box 75, Castle Hill NSW  
1765 Ph: 9843 0555 Fax: 9843 0409

Email: baulk@bhsc.nsw.gov.au

Website: www.baulkhamhills.nsw.gov.au

**24hr Emergency Number:** for issues relating to roads, drainage & trees on public land call: 0412 705 090

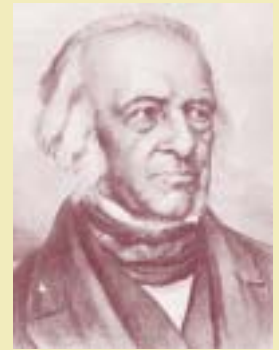
**For after-hours assistance** with animal control, development control or emergency environmental issues call: 9843 0555 and listen for the appropriate number.

**Vandalism Hotline (24hr):** 1300 884 885

**Garbage/ Recycling Hotline (8.30am-4.30pm):** 1300 134 897

**Auslan interpreters** can be provided on request for all public meetings. Council's TTY phone number is 8850 5622.

August 2003



## Baulkham Hills



## About the Shire

Baulkham Hills Shire occupies an area of 380 square kilometres from Oatlands in the south to Wisemans Ferry in the north. The Shire is one of the larger Local Government areas in Sydney, with two-thirds being rural land.

Residents enjoy a mix of urban and rural lifestyles, creating interesting contrasts from restaurants and modern shopping facilities to roadside stalls and peaceful bushland areas.

## History of the Shire

Governor Phillip and a party of settlers reached the Hills district in 1791 looking for suitable land to feed the struggling Sydney colony. Settlement began in Baulkham Hills in 1794 when Governor Hunter officially granted a parcel of land to William Joyce, a pardoned convict. The Castle Hill Government Farm began in 1801 and centred on Old Castle Hill and Banks Roads. Convicts, many of them Irish political prisoners, farmed wheat and maize for the starving colony.

Free settlers mostly stocked their land with cattle and sheep and cleared the bush to plant crops of wheat and maize. With the arrival of George Suttor and his citrus trees, orchards began to spring up all over the district and proved a more worthwhile crop than wheat or maize.

The Shire was proclaimed in March 1906 and consisted of farms and scattered villages. Agriculture was the dominant

industry and included citrus and stone fruits, vegetables, cut flowers, chickens, eggs, and dairy products.



Chelsea Farm

## Heritage Trail - Baulkham Hills

Baulkham Hills Shire Council and The Hills District Historical Society have developed an interpretative self-guided walking trail that delves into the history of Baulkham Hills. The trail highlights the link with original landholders and the change in land use.

The 6km trail through the diverse reserves features interpretative signage detailing history about the area. The trail, which is a shared footpath, can be accessed at numerous points. Unique bollards with the Heritage Trail logo indicate the path to follow.

## Interperative Signage

1. **Alfred Henry Whaling Reserve** (Plaque 1) - In 1799 Andrew McDougall received a grant of 150 acres and named it Roxburgh Place after his home county in Scotland. Roxborough Park housing estate was developed from the late 1960s until the early 1970s.
2. **Torry Burn Reserve** (Plaque 2) - George Suttor received a grant of 186 acres in 1802 between those of John Smith and Andrew McDougall. Suttor is credited with being the first nurseryman in the colony. The property was named 'Chelsea Farm' after George's birthplace in London.
3. **Torry Burn Reserve** (Plaque 3) - John Smith received a grant of 150 acres in 1799, naming it 'Torry Burn' after the village of his birth in Dunfermline, Fife, Scotland. His sons sold some of this land for the building of St. Michael's Church that was completed in 1849.
4. **Sophia Doyle Reserve** (Plaque 4) - Andrew Doyle arrived in Sydney from Ireland in 1801 as a convict and was accompanied by his wife Sophia and their three children. He was assigned to his wife who received a land grant of 60 acres in 1804, west of John Smith's property 'Torry Burn'.

5. **William Joyce Reserve** (Plaque 5) - William Joyce arrived in Sydney as a convict in 1791. He received 105 acres in 1794 - the first land granted in the present Baulkham Hills Shire. William worked for the Macarthurs, and in 1811 opened an inn on the Hawkesbury Road (now Old Windsor Road).
6. **Crestwood Reserve** (Plaque 6) - Major Joseph Foveaux received 300 acres in 1799 in the Crestwood area to which he added surrounding properties to create his Stock Farm of 1770 acres - the largest in the colony in 1801 when he sold it to John Macarthur.
7. **Crestwood Reserve** (Plaque 7) - In 1840, 700 acres in the vicinity of Crestwood Reserve was regranted to Andrew McDougall and J.F. Doyle (in trust). In 1869 paddocks were leased to various locals for grazing and cultivation. Residential subdivision began in the mid to late 1960s.
8. **McKillop Drive Reserve** (Plaque 8) - In 1952 the Sisters of St. Joseph of the Sacred Heart, bought a farm on Windsor Road south of Barina Downs Road and maintained their own dairy, piggery and fowls. By 1988 they sold much of their property for residential development, keeping their Novitiate building.



Left: an example of an interperative sign found along the Heritage Trail. Right: a unique bollard indicating the path to follow.