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## Other Heritage Trails

Coondebung's Kalleepgurr Heritage Trail is a 6.5km walk featuring Aboriginal sites, on the southern edge of Walyunga National Park. This trail can only be walked by arrangement with the Nyoongah Community, telephone (09) 342 6230.

The Yaberoo Budjara Heritage Trail is a 28km walk trail from Lake Joondalup in Wanneroo to Yanchep National Park (via Neerabup National Park), highlighting features of natural, Aboriginal and historical significance. The trail is based on the Yellagonga tribe's pathway linking the linear lakes of the coastal plain. At a leisurely pace the full trail should take two days but shorter sections can be selected. Trail brochures are available from the Department of Conservation and Land Management, City of Wanneroo and Yanchep National Park.

### Acknowledgements:

The Walyunga Heritage Trail was developed by the Western Australian Heritage Committee and the Department of Conservation and Land Management, which acknowledge the assistance of the following :

- Nyoongah Community Inc.
- Ken Colbung
- Department of Aboriginal Sites
- Aboriginal Affairs Planning Authority
- Battye Library
- W.A. Museum
- Roni Ellis
- Stuart Scobie

### Further Reading

Moore, George Fletcher. Diary of Ten Years of an Early Settler in Western Australia (London: M. Walbrook 1884) (Perth: U.W.A. Press, 1978)

Berndt, R.M and C.H. (eds.) Aborigines of the West: Their Past and Present (Perth: U.W.A. Press, 1979)

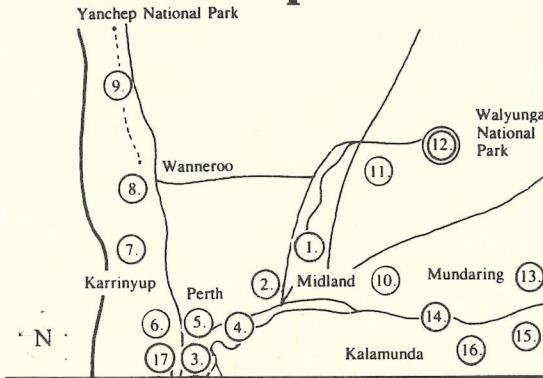
## W.A. Heritage Trails Network

The Walyunga Heritage Trail is part of the Heritage Trails network, a project for community participation devised by the Western Australian Heritage Committee. To commemorate the 1988 Bicentenary, the project established a statewide network of 'Heritage Trails' - routes designed to enhance awareness and enjoyment of Western Australia's natural and cultural heritage.

The Heritage Trails Network was jointly funded by the Commonwealth and Western Australian governments under the Commonwealth/State Bicentennial Commemorative Program.

*The map below indicates Heritage Trails in the North Metropolitan region of Western Australia.*

### North Metropolitan HTs



1. Swan Valley HT	10. John Forrest HT
2. Swan River HT	11. Coondebung's Kalleepgurr HT
3. South Perth HT	12. <b>Walyunga HT</b>
4. Perth HT	13. Railway Reserves HT
5. Four Seasons Trail	14. Bilgoman Well HT
6. Subiaco HT	15. Kattamorda HT
7. Star Swamp HT	16. Cala Munnda HT
8. Lake Joondalup HT	17. Claremont HT
9. Yaberoo Budjara HT	



## Walyunga Heritage Trail

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A Commonwealth/State  
Bicentennial Project

# Aboriginal Stories from the Walyunga Area

## How To Get There

Walyunga National Park is in the valley of the Swan River 40km north-east of Perth via the Great Northern Highway (National Route 95), a drive of about 40 minutes.

The Walyunga Heritage Trail is an easy 850m walk along the bank of the Swan River, linking Walyunga Pool and Boongarup Pool.

It is a journey through traditional Aboriginal stories as well as the uses of the river landscape and its plants and animals as seen through the eyes of the original inhabitants.

### Please note:

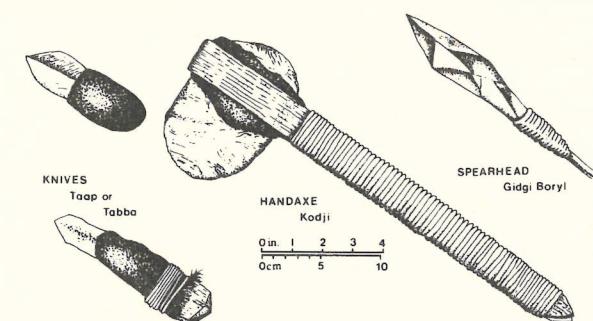
- The trail is rough in places, so sturdy footwear should be worn.
- Persons using this Heritage Trail do so at their own risk.

## On The Trail

The Walyunga area contains the largest known Aboriginal site within 80km of Perth and has been occupied intermittently for at least 10,000 years.

Four main tribes used this area: the Whadjuck, who came from the York - Toodyay area and was the main tribe using Walyunga; the Yaberoo tribe from Moore River (Gingardar); the Yellagonga tribe from the west to the Darling Ranges; and the Mundi tribe from the Mundaring area.

Though relations between the tribes may have been strained elsewhere, while in Walyunga they remembered their common cultural group, keeping the peace and respecting boundaries. The abundant food made Walyunga an ideal common ground for meetings, and settling disputes.



The area was used as a contact point for family members who had gone walkabout and for initiations, food-gathering and ceremonies. However, possibly the most valuable asset which the area possessed was a plentiful supply of chert and quartz suitable for tool-making. Legend has it that the Rainbow Serpent, the Waugul, travelled along the stream of a river bed and left behind the stone for making tools. This stone provided such tools as axes (kodj), knives (taap), spearheads (gidgi) and grindstones.

Aborigines lived a semi-nomadic lifestyle, following game across a wide territory as the seasons changed. However, it was sometimes necessary for them to stay in Walyunga in large groups for quite long periods, perhaps for ceremonial reasons, family gatherings, or to work the stone.

The main food source for Aborigines at Walyunga was Yonga, the Grey Kangaroo (*Macropus fuliginosus*). They also ate Comal, the bush possum which was once common in this area, as well as frogs, snakes, mice and gilgies (freshwater crayfish). Carrta (goannas) would be roasted, and tasted much like chicken. Murrara (ducks) were plentiful and Bardi (witchetty grubs) could be found in Balga (blackboys) and other plants.

