

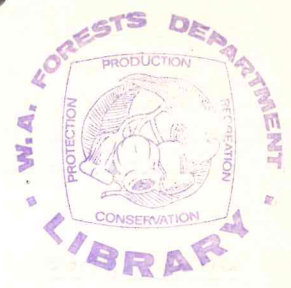
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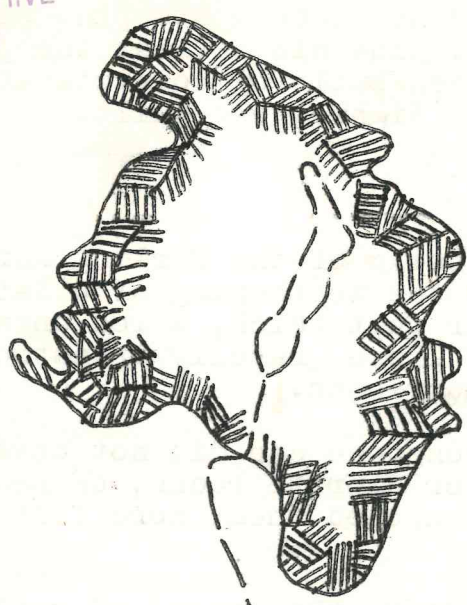
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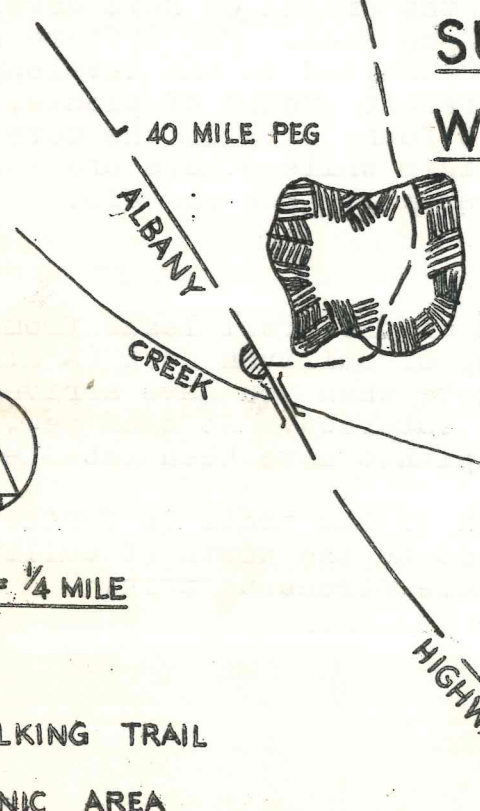
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110 OCT 1972



# SULLIVAN ROCK WALKING TRAIL



SCALE: 1" = 1/4 MILE

PAM01729



WALKING TRAIL  
PICNIC AREA

41 MILE PEG

## Historical

The "41 Mile" has been a stopping place for travellers for many years. The old well at the picnic area is said to have been built by convicts at the time the original Albany Highway was built.

## Soil Types

Most of the soils of the Darling Range plateau have developed from the weathering of a lateritic (ironstone) cap, up to four feet thick, which once covered most of the Range. These gravelly ironstone soils are very low in plant nutrients.

Where the ironstone cap did not cover the underlying granite or diorite rocks, or weathering over the centuries has exposed them, more fertile soils have developed.

On Sullivan Rock, the origin of soil development from parent rock can be seen. The differences in soil fertility have resulted in the development of several broadly different groups of plants, i.e. some plants are found only on the more fertile soils of granite origin while others are adapted to growing on the poorer ironstone gravels.

## walking Trail

The first section of the trail leads from the "41 Mile" to the top of Sullivan Rock ( $\frac{1}{4}$  mile). Numbered pegs indicate when you have arrived at a particular point of interest. At each peg, several of the more common plants have been labelled.

The second section of the trail (a further  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile) leads to a high point to the north of Sullivan Rock. This section is a more strenuous walk.

### STOP 1

This is on a typical low fertility sandy gravel soil. Sometimes used as indicators of this type of soil are a group of plants including Bossiaea ornata, Lasiopetalum floribundum and Adenanthos barbiger, all of which are growing close to this spot.

### STOP 2

This is a soil containing a mixture of lateritic ironstone gravel with some epidiorite floater rocks. The soil is slightly more fertile than at stop 1. and this is reflected by the presence of some additional plants such as Haakea lissocarpa which commonly grows on the loamier soils.

### STOP 3

This is at a granitic outcrop and the soil is a rather gritty sandy loam. Several new species are to be seen here.

### STOP 4

At the small creek where a reasonable depth of loamy soil has developed, plants such as Calythrix angulata are growing. This would be a reasonably fertile acid soil derived from the weathering of Sullivan Rock itself.

From this point to the top of Sullivan Rock, the track is marked with rock cairns. Take care, the surface is slippery after rain.



## STOP 5

On the edge of Sullivan Rock where the soil is very shallow, plants such as Borya nitida and Astroloma drummondii are the only ones capable of growing reasonably well. Further from the edge, where the depth of soil increases, shrubs such as Hakea petiolaris and Acacia pulchella grow quite vigorously.

## STOP 6

Colonisation of the rock face begins with lichens; heating, cooling and rain causes the rock face to exfoliate and crack at weak points. These small catchments for debris and moisture allow mosses and other lichens to colonise and these further break down the rock which begins to form soil. As soil depth gradually increases, plants such as the Drosera's and Borya nitida will grow. With further increasing soil depth, plants such as those at Stop 5 begin to appear.

From the highest point on Sullivan Rock, several similar granite outcrops can be seen. One of them is Mt. Cooke (1910 ft above sea level), about three miles to the South East. The granite outcrops belong to the Pre-Cambrian era and are some of the oldest in the world. They are believed to be over 2½ thousand million years old.

\* \* \* \* \*

Follow the rock cairns to the start of the second section of the walk.

\* \* \* \* \*

## STOP 7

The stump at this point was cut in 1941 using an axe and cross cut saw, and the "coppice" growing on it has developed since that time. The "Sheoak" peg protruding from the stump was used by the faller to stand on while falling the tree. Since then, the peg has been overgrown by the still living stump.

1. Markers near the top of the granite rock indicate the prominent features which can be seen from this point.

\* \* \* \* \*

2. Other similar trails have been constructed at Mt. Dale Forest Park and also at the Lesley Forest Park (at the 28 mile peg, Brookton Highway).

\* \* \* \* \*

## Stop 1

Xanthorrhoea preisii	Blackboy
Kingia australis	Black Cin
Macrozamia reidleyi	Zamia Palm
Adenanthos barbigera	Hairy gland flower
Lasiopetalum floribundum	Free flowering Lasiopetalum
Hakea ruscifolia	Candle or Spike Hakea
Crevillea wilsonii	
Bossiaea ornata	
Hibbertia hypercoides	
Leschenaultia biloba	Blue Leschenaultia
Acacia extensa	
Hovea chorizemifolia	Holly leaved Hovea
Boronia spathulata	

Stop 2

*Hypocalymna angustifolia*  
*Grevillea Pulchella*  
*Petrophila striata*  
*Leucopogen oxycedrus*  
*Daviesia preisii*  
*Daviesia pectinata*  
*Acacia nervosa*  
*Hakea lissocarpa*  
*Patersonia rudis*

Beautiful Grevillea

Thorny Bitter-Tea  
Rib Wattle  
Honey Bush

Stop 3

*Hakea lissocarpa*  
*Hakea undulata*  
*Casuarina humilis*  
*Astroloma pallidum*  
*Acacia pulchella*  
*Andersonia lehmanniana*  
*Gastrolbrum villosum*  
*Grevillea bipinnatifida*  
*Dryandra nivea*  
*Daviesia horrida*  
*Leptospermum ellipticum*

Honey Bush  
Wavy leafed Hakea  
Dwarf Casuarina  
  
Prickly Moses  
  
Crinkle leaved Poison  
Fuchsia Grevillea  
  
Prickly Bitter-Tea  
Swamp Tea Tree

Stop 4

*Xanthorrhoea preissii*  
*Astroloma drummondii*  
*Grevillea bipinnatifida*  
*Baeckea camphorosmae*  
*Hakea petiolaris*  
*Calythrix angulata*

Blackboy  
  
Fuchsia Grevillea  
Camphor Myrtle  
Sea Urchin Hakea

Stop 5

Macrozamia reidlii  
Acacia pulchella  
Hakea petiolaris  
Trymalium ledifolium  
Darwinia citriodora  
Astroloma drummondii  
Dodonea attenuata  
Borya nitida  
Cryptandra arbutiflora

Zamia Palm  
Frickly Moses  
Sea Urchin Hakea  
Lemon scented Myrtle  
Native Hop  
Pincushion plant