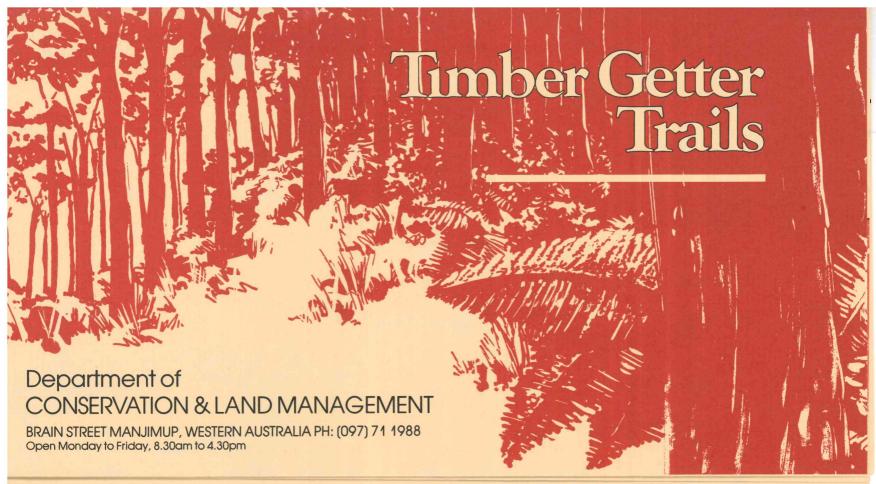
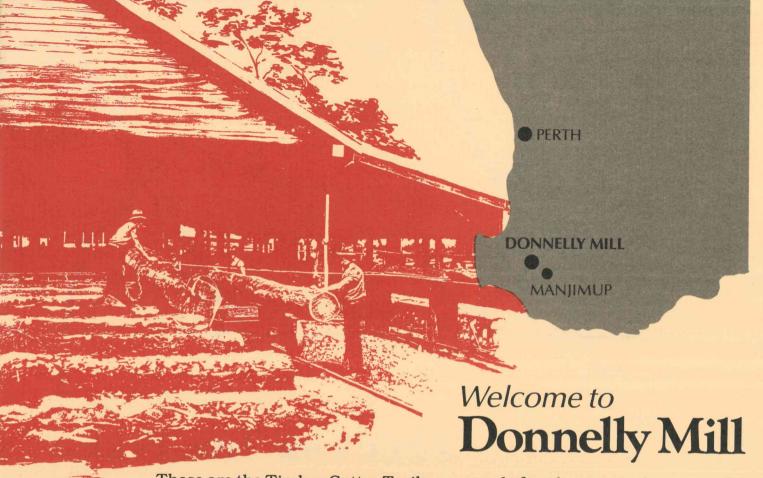
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These are the Timber-Getter Trails — named after the men and women who first started to open up the towering forests of the south-west for European settlement.

Take a journey back through time, and catch a glimpse of life in a small mill town just after the Second World War.

The way is clearly marked, and there are facilities for a rest or lunch stop on both trails.

King's Park Karri Loop — Is about seven-and-a-half kilometres in length and incorporates Willow-Springs Loop. Allow four hours leisurely walking.

Directional markers look like this:



Interest Point markers look like this:



Enjoy your walk in the forest, but please be careful with fire.





The Township of Donnelly Mill, known locally as Wheatley, has played a significant part in the history of the south-west. Your journey begins at the Donnelly General Store. Make your way east to the Sears Road Bridge. Crossing over the Donnelly River at this point, you will find the trail veering off to the right. Follow this to Interest Point 1.

INTEREST POINT 1

Wheatley Dam/Old Forests Department Settlement

Wheatley Dam is in front of you. This dam was constructed to provide water for the sawmill, the town, and the nearby Forests Department settlement. Fresh water was needed in the mill to feed the boilers which generated steam, driving the giant steam engine which powered the mill.

The larger section of the dam remains a popular swimming place, occasionally being used for local swimming carnivals and other activities.

Next to the dam, is the now vacant site of the Forests Department settlement. The settlement was constructed in the early 1950s to house the officers and workers responsible for managing much of the forest in this area.

Settlement houses were relocated and sites cleared between 1979 and 1981 and the now spacious area is used for strolling and picnicking. Plants from the gardens of the mill workers provide an interesting contrast with the native forest close by.

Spot the line of pine trees at the fringe of the site. Follow the trail near these back to Sears Road then turn left. The trail continues along Willow-Springs Road which is off to your right. Walk about one kilometre to Interest Point 2.

The Trees on the Way — To help you recognize the commonest trees of the forest a number of trees on the walk have been identified with a name plaque.

KARRI — Eucalyptus diversicolor is the tallest tree in this area, and is commonly thought to be the third tallest in the world, after California's Redwood and Victoria's Mountain Ash. The tallest recorded karri tree still standing is 85 m high and is growing in bush to the south of the old Glenoran Forest settlement. The silver-grey colour of the karri gives way to a beautiful salmon

pink as older bark is shed each year toward the end of summer.

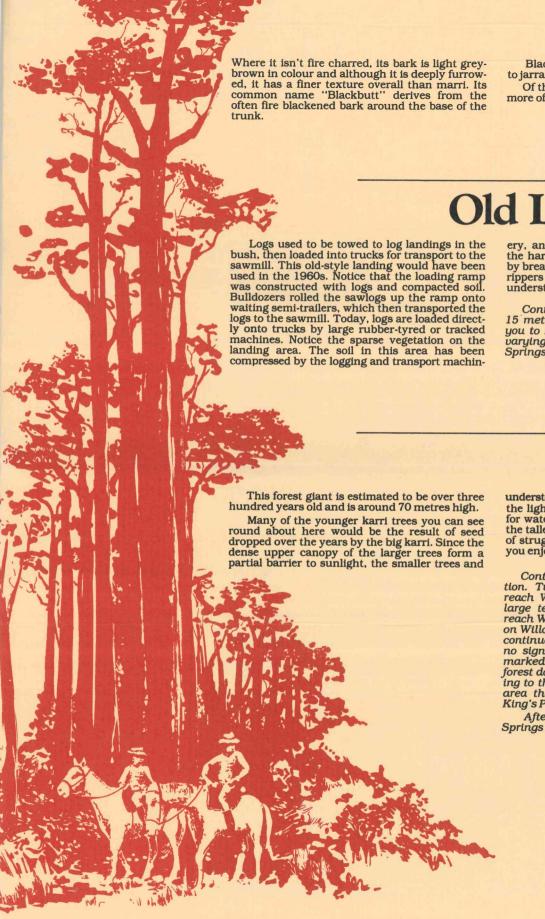
As well as being a regal forest giant, karri is a very important commercial timber in Western Australia. The wood is hard and strong, making it prized for heavy construction work.

MARRI — Eucalyptus calophylla is a medium to large tree, growing to a height of around fifty metres. Its rough, flaky bark, normally dark grey and brown, is often blackened by fire. The reddish gum or "kino" which often exudes from wounds in the tree gives rise to its popular name of "Red Gum". The white flowers of the marri provide much of the honey produced in Western Australia.

JARRAH — Eucalyptus marginata is a stately tree, sometimes growing to around fifty-five metres in height. Jarrah timber is highly regarded in the manufacture of fine furniture and its strength and durability have given it an impressive reputation for a wide number of other uses, ranging from fencing to heavy construction.

W.A. BLACKBUTT — Eucalyptus patens is similar in appearance to marri at first glance and grows to around forty-five metres in height.





Blackbutt timber is very similar in character to jarrah, but is much lighter in colour.

Of these four trees, which do you think occurs more often along this section of the walk?

INTEREST POINT 2

Old Log Landing

ery, and plant roots have difficulty penetrating the hard soil. Modern landings are rehabilitated by breaking up the compacted soil with bulldozer rippers and hand planting suitable tree and understorey species.

Continue walking past the landing for about 15 metres then turn right. The trail will take you to Interest Point 3, through karri forest of varying age, eventually looping back to Willow-Springs Road.

INTEREST POINT 3

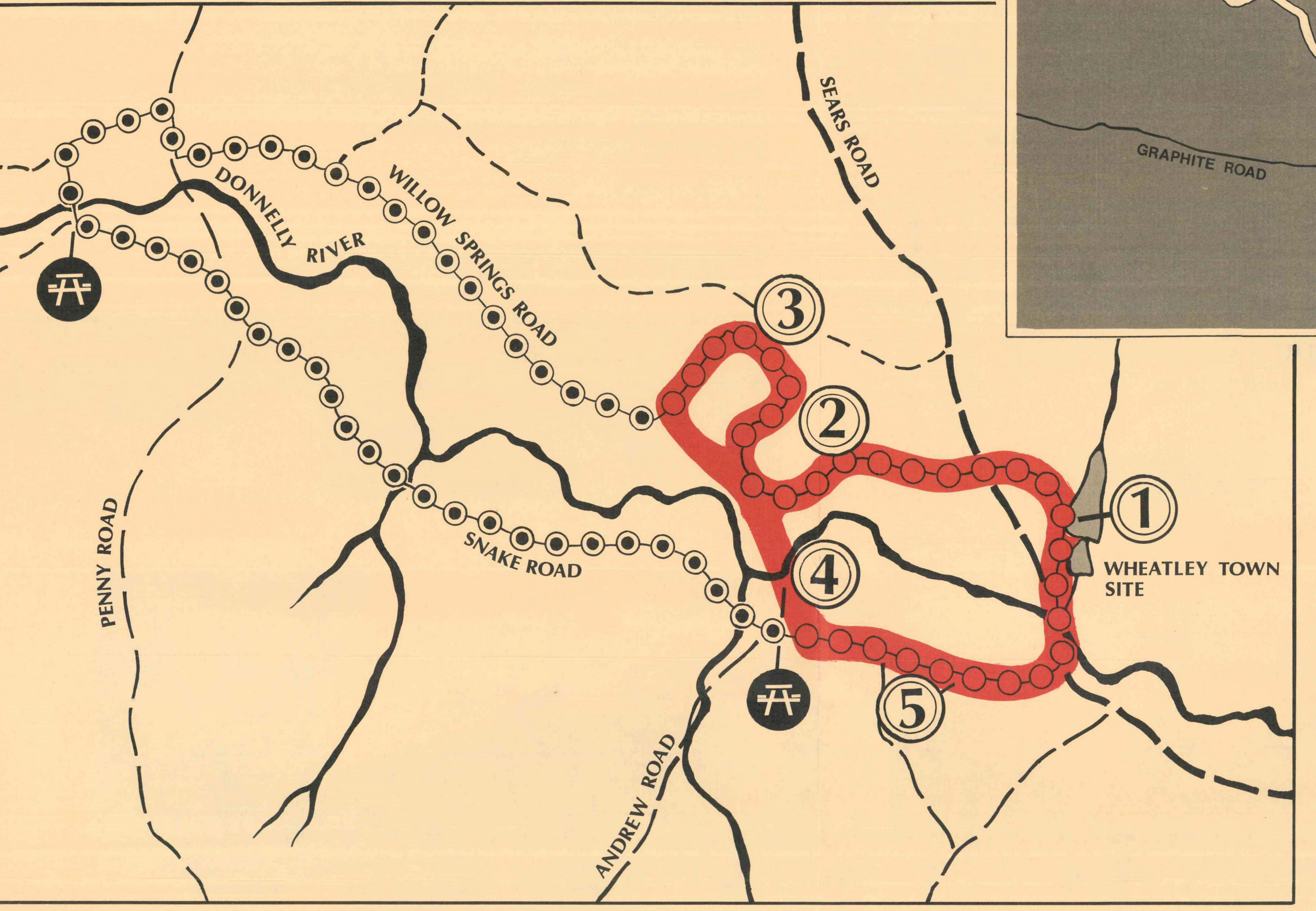
Big Karri

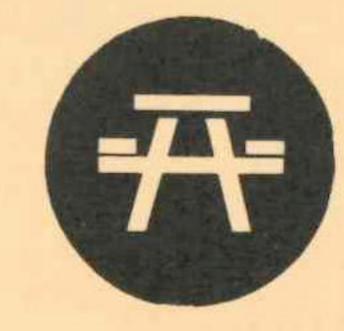
understorey shrubs are locked in mute combat for the light which filters through. The competition for water and nutrients is just as flerce and only the taller, stronger plants really thrive. This kind of struggle for life can be difficult to imagine as you enjoy the peacefulness of the forest.

Continue walking until you reach a tee junction. Turn left. About 20 metres before you reach Willow-Springs Road you may notice a large termite mound to your left. When you reach Willow-Springs Road, turn left to continue on Willow-Springs Loop. King's Park Karri Loop continues off to the right and although there are no signed Interest Points, the trail is clearly marked and winds its way through magnificent forest down to the Donnelly River before returning to the town site. It is from the forest in this area that the karri log on display in Perth's King's Park was taken.

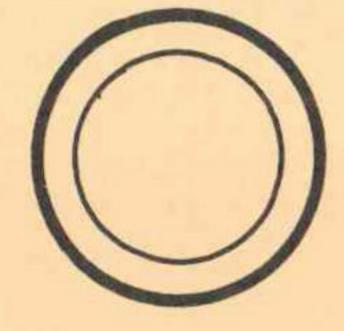
After turning left, continue down Willow-Springs Road for about 200 metres. Turn right.

Timber Getter





REST FACILITIES

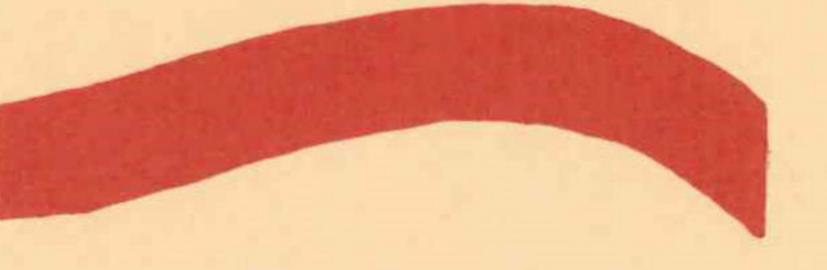


INTEREST POINTS



PALGARRUP

KINGS PARK KARRI LOOP



WILLOW SPRINGS LOOP

INTEREST POINT 4

Little One Tree Bridge

river, Little One Tree Bridge was named after One Tree Bridge on Graphite Road over the Donnelly River to the south. This is an ideal spot to stop and relax, listening to the music of the river in

Built in 1984 from one tree-log spanning the season. You will find rest facilities provided off the trail to the left, just south of the bridge.

> Follow the trail marker posts from here to the Old Donnelly Mill site.

> > INTEREST POINT 5

The Donnelly River Mill was built in 1948 and after it was officially opened in 1951, became known as the "showmill" of Australia. Visitors to the mill included a duke, politicians, bankers and university professors.

For the construction of the sawmill, Engineer Charles Bunning and Millwright Harry Martin, looked for a site with plenty of fresh water and sloping land so that gravity could assist logs to move through the mill. Fresh water was needed to power the mill steam engine and service the

Initially the mill cut only jarrah, but it wasn't long before karri was included. In its day, the mill was considered to be one of the most efficient in Australia, with an output of about fifty-eight cubic metres of timber daily. This is roughly equivalent to the amount of timber needed to build four houses. Timber from the Donnelly was exported to South Africa, the United Kingdom, the Middle East and throughout Australia. Donnelly Mill

About one hundred men were employed at the mill, including many timber-getters, or fallers, who were regarded as the glamour-men of the industry and were the best paid. An ace faller known as "Snowy" Henderson worked with the mill for many years and is accredited with the falling of the large karri tree now resting on display in King's Park. In 1978 the mill closed and milling operations were transferred to Deanmill.

Now restored, the mill stands as if a slice of history has been frozen in time. You can almost hear the faint ring of footsteps and the sound of voices disappearing into the night after the knock off whistle has sounded.

Any Questions?

The Department of Conservation and Land Management, at Brain Street in Manjimup, is open between 8.30 am and 4.30 pm, Monday to Friday. Phone (097) 71 1988.





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