NORTH PINE HERITAGE TRAIL

NORTH PINE – KNOWN AS PETRIE SINCE 1911
This self-guided tour starts at Sweeney Reserve. Sites 1-29 are within walking distance in the town area.

Murrumba Homestead (Site 24) is up a hill on Armstrong Street and requires a little effort.

To see Sites 30-33, drive along Dayboro Road to Old Petrie Town (formerly North Pine Country Park) to continue your tour and visit the Pine Rivers Heritage Museum.

The Pine Rivers Heritage Museum encourages visitors to explore the district’s historic character through the permanent and ever changing special displays.

Old Petrie Town has buildings from North Pine including:

**Original Buildings**
- The Courthouse (1882)
- Police Lock-Up (1877)
- North Pine Presbyterian Church (1906)
- North Pine Railway Station (1888)

**Replica Buildings**
- Queensland National Bank
- North Pine Hotel

Remember that when walking, sturdy shoes, a hat, block-out and drinking water are recommended. Please respect the privacy of residents at the sites. Toilets and rest areas are available at Sites 1 and 20.

For further information on arts and culture within the Moreton Bay Region, visit www.moretonbay.qld.gov.au
Prior to European settlement, the area was home to the Turrbal Aboriginal people, who were the custodians of several sacred sites: the Petrie bora ground, the main ring of which was located near the present Petrie roundabout and the ‘Mandin’ fishing hole near the present North Coast Railway Bridge.

In 1823 Lt. John Oxley, the New South Wales Surveyor-General, discovered the Pine River, assisted by two castaway ticket-of-leave convicts. Oxley returned nine months later to help set up the Moreton Bay convict settlement. Further development of the area awaited the closure of this penal settlement, it was not until 1843 that the Griffin family established the ‘Whiteside Run’ on the North Pine River, an extensive sheep and cattle station. By the mid 1840s, logging was well established with the first timber-getters seeking valuable softwoods and establishing rafting grounds on the North and South Pine Rivers.

Tom Petrie acquired the lease of ten square miles from the Griffins in 1859 to create the ‘Murrumba Run’. His tenure as a squatter was short-lived as the land was surveyed for closer settlement and placed on sale from 1862. Petrie and seven other settlers were the first to buy portions of this freehold land. The North Pine River Reserve (much later known as Sweeney Reserve), was set aside at this time for government purposes.

Petrie’s Accommodation House was the first building in what became the township of North Pine.

In 1872 Edwin Willett opened the first hotel in Petrie’s Accommodation House and the inclusion of the North Pine Post Office in the same building gave the locality official status as a township.

The first school in the district, the North Pine River Crossing Provisional School (no.183), opened on the south bank of the river in 1874. By the end of 1875, the first police officer had commenced duty in the district. Two years later, the first bridge over the North Pine River was opened, finally removing the problems associated with the old ford.
The township assumed added prominence in 1881 when the first Court of Petty Sessions was held in the old schoolhouse; a new North Pine Courthouse was constructed the following year. By the mid 1880s, the growth of the small township was stimulated by Tom Petrie’s ‘North Pine Township Terminus Estate’, named to celebrate the impending arrival of the North Coast Railway which briefly terminated at the North Pine Railway Station.

By this time, Alexander Jackson Wyllie had purchased adjoining farmland, some of which he also subdivided to promote the growth of the town.

By the end of the 1880s, Charles Patterson had established a blacksmith shop, William Reid was in business as the first bootmaker, a new building had been erected for the North Pine Hotel and James Connors had commenced work as the town’s saddler. During early 1890 the local settlers opened the building known to this day as the North Pine School of Arts.

In 1911 the Department of Railways gazetted the change of name from North Pine Railway Station to Petrie Railway Station in honour of Tom Petrie, who had died the year before. As postal operations were being conducted from the station, it also became necessary to change postal addresses. Many local residents opposed the name change and the issue generated a great deal of controversy.

During the early 1920s, work commenced on Anzac Avenue, one of many Australian ‘avenues of honour’ established after World War I to commemorate fallen soldiers. Following the construction, it was decided an avenue of trees should also form part of the tribute. It has been estimated that about 1,800 trees were planted along Anzac Memorial Avenue between the North Pine School of Arts and Redcliffe.

It was in this area, that Nelson Marshall Cooke and his family established a new shop, later known as Cooke’s Corner. It remained the only general store in Petrie until the late 1940s.
In May 1936, a new bridge across the North Pine River was built and named the “A. J. Wyllie Bridge”. This bridge was later damaged in the 2011 floods and replaced in 2012.

The new road from the bridge cut through a number of pre-existing properties to join Redcliffe Road (Anzac Avenue) at the site of today’s roundabout.

In 1957 the Australian Paper Manufacturers (APM) Petrie Mill was officially opened by the Prime Minister, the Right Hon. (later Sir) Robert Gordon Menzies.

The construction of the mill, now known as the Amcor Cartonboard Petrie Mill, was the most notable local development of the 1950s. It was an enormous undertaking and a post-war industrial development of national significance.

As early as 1955, an agreement had been signed to create the North Pine Water Supply Scheme to deliver the large quantity of water required by APM and other expanding local industries.

The scheme, which included Lake Kurwongbah and a water treatment plant, was officially opened in 1961.

The reticulated water supply provided by this scheme further encouraged urban development during the 1960s and 1970s.
In 1877, the first low-level bridge was constructed to provide a more reliable means of crossing the river. By this time, a number of temporary government buildings, including the first schoolhouse on the north bank of the river and a police residence and lockup, had been erected in the reserve.

Visible at low tide are the remains of the support posts for the original bridge which was opened on 13 August 1877 by the Governor, Sir Arthur Kennedy.

The bridge replaced a ford across the North Pine River which became impassable after heavy rain, dividing the community. This bridge, called Sir Arthur’s Bridge, was part of the main road north from Brisbane.

The raised road structure winds from the bridge through North Pine River Reserve (Sweeney Reserve).

The road ran from Brisbane via Bald Hills, through Leis Parade, across the river to the intersection of Old Dayboro Road and River Street before heading west to Dayboro or north to Gympie.
Site of North Pine School No. 183½ in the River Reserve. The school was described as a slab shed and was constructed by Edgar Foreman in 1875. The second school was necessary because it was impossible to ford the river at high tide or after heavy rain. Morning school classes were held at North Pine School No. 183, which was on the other side of the river. The teacher crossed by horse or boat. The No. 183½ building was also used for meetings, social events and church gatherings. The first local court sitting was held here on 21 January 1881 and it continued in use as a courthouse until the end of 1882.

In 1926 Pat Sweeney obtained a lease to operate a kiosk in the reserve. He also built facilities for bathers. Many visitors travelled by train from the city to picnic in the Reserve. It was eventually revoked in 1960. Sweeney’s makeshift house made from recycled motor vehicle crates was built on lower ground in the reserve, but after the 1927 floods it was moved to higher ground. It was again moved after the 1931 floods when water rose to the bottom of the railway bridge. The house was demolished in 1994.
The ‘Riverleigh’ homestead of Alexander Jackson Wyllie and his family was purchased on 18 April 1883. The 50 acres of the property extended over the area which today includes Wyllie Park, Mathieson Park and the northern banks of the North Pine River. Its gate posts still remain at the former entrance. The house is believed to have been built in 1862 by the original land owner, Courtenay Spry. It was demolished in the 1940s. Alexander Wyllie was heavily involved with the North Pine Presbyterian Church, where he taught Sunday School for 51 years.

A small eastern portion of Wyllie’s farm was leased for 15 shillings per week to the North Pine Branch of the Queensland National Bank. The bank opened on 27 August 1887 and closed in 1893 due to a severe economic depression. Captain Grant Pinnock, Tom Petrie’s son-in-law, was the bank manager. A replica of this building is on display at Old Petrie Town.
The Police Station house was built in 1915. It replaced an earlier building constructed in the 1870s. Both stations used the same ‘lock-up’ (cell) which was built before 1877. In July 1990, after 75 years of service, the house was moved to Samford and the cell moved to Old Petrie Town.

The name of the Police Station and Court of Petty Sessions changed from North Pine to Petrie in 1954.

No. 3, Connors Street, ‘Lorne Villa’, was built in 1898. The front section of the cottage remains original, but additions have been added to the rear. This cottage is considered to be of historical significance because of its age, style, history of use, and the presence of historic Hoop Pines within its grounds. It was built for Hugh O’Loan, who served as the Police Sergeant for North Pine from 1879 to 1890. O’Loan was also the first North Pine Clerk of Petty Sessions and District Court Registrar in 1881. The Harts, a local pioneering family, also resided there from 1941.
To the right of the old courthouse was James Connors’ saddlery. It operated from 1889 until his death in 1940. Before the saddlery was opened, the site was listed as a reserve for Post and Telegraph Services from 1884 to 1888. Connors’ living premises were built in 1907 at No. 6 Connors Street - the street having been given the family name.

No. 5, Old Dayboro Road, was the original site of the timber North Pine Courthouse which was built in 1882 and used until 1965 when it was superseded by a brick building. The timber courthouse was moved to Kallangur for use as the Baptist Church. It was then moved to Old Petrie Town where it was restored in 1982. This courthouse and the old police cell are the oldest known government buildings in the Pine Rivers District.
By the early 1860s, the section of road between Brisbane and North Pine via Bald Hills (later known as Gympie Road) was beginning to supplant the Old North Road as the main thoroughfare through the district. Instead of bypassing the area to the west, travellers were now passing within proximity of Tom Petrie’s Murrumba Homestead. By 1865, increasing demand for a hostelry which could offer a range of services to travellers provided Petrie with the incentive to set up a hostelry and combine this with a store and accommodation house.

The North Pine Wesleyan Church was constructed in 1877 on the southern side of Dayboro Road. In 1907 it was mounted on wheels and moved to a new site on Old Dayboro Road where it later became known as the North Pine Methodist Church. Services were conducted there until 1959 when the church was dismantled and rebuilt as a hall in Lawnton.
On Lot 6, River Street, on the corner of Old Dayboro Road, Archibald Hamilton Snr. opened a general store and accommodation house in 1882. It was used from 1892 to 1901 by Thomas Ware who made butter churns and dairy utensils under the name of ‘Devon’. It was bought by William Osborne in 1911. The Osborne family kept the general store there until 1924. After this, ownership of the operation changed hands several times with Herschel, Pollard, Hope, Senyard Bros. and the Cooke family until the late 1930s.

The new North Pine Hotel boasted 22 rooms, including 13 bedrooms, when it opened on 7 April 1887. Henry Gottschalk was the licensee. In 1906, sliding on greased logs, the hotel was moved a short distance along River Street to the present site of Petrie Hotel. The Baldwin family owned the hotel from 1907 until 1956, when it burnt down. A reproduction of the hotel stands in Old Petrie Town.

*North Pine Hotel, 1913.*
*Courtesy of Lila Adlem.*
*Moreton Bay Region Libraries (Strathpine Library) P2260*

*Thomas Henry Ware, butter churn and dairy utensil manufacturer and importer, 1895. These buildings are visible in the foreground of the North Pine township image (site 12).*
*Moreton Bay Region Libraries (Strathpine Library) P1684/19*
Occupying a position now in the middle of Cooke Street, a small greengrocer and fruiterer’s store was first operated by Jeremiah McCarthy from around 1896 to 1903. John and Esther Sargent later added to the business by serving “tea and coffee at all hours”. John Neilsen was a store keeper in the building from April 1917, followed by Bert Lack (1920) and from 1925 to 1933 the building was known as Twible’s Store. The following year, the site was cleared to make way for Cooke Street.

In 1929, on the corner of present-day River and Cooke Streets, Gordon Jackson, who was a newly qualified mechanic, opened ‘North Pine Service Station’, the first motor garage in the district. The garage was both underneath and in front of an elevated house. After the new North Pine River road bridge opened in May 1936, he moved to the present site of North Pine Motors. The business expanded with a Ford franchise, then Holden (1951) and Massey Ferguson (1957).
The building at 18 Dayboro Road was moved from River Street in 1936. King’s Cottage stood behind a butcher’s shop which faced Dayboro Road. The two buildings, which were built in approximately the 1880s, had always been together. Butchers listed at the shop were Jessie Kruck (1913), Alfred King (1914), Ebert & Young (1921), J. Young Jnr. (1923), F. L. Hatton (1927), and Redvers King (1935). King was required to move the two buildings to make way for the new main road through Petrie. The butcher shop was demolished in the late 1980s. Other stores that originally stood alongside the butcher shop on River Street had been demolished in the 1930s.

From 1933 Nelson Cooke owned two of the stores in River Street, but when the new road bypassed River Street in 1936, he closed them and opened a new general store facing the new road. Some of the timber from the previous stores was used in the construction of the new building. The building at Cooke’s Corner, which remained in the ownership of the Cooke family until September 2003, still stands.
The North Pine School of Arts on Anzac Avenue opened with a gala ceremony on 28 January 1890. This hall was to become the focal point for the residents of North Pine. The hall housed social and cultural events included dancing, concerts, and movie showings, as well as being used as a polling booth, local government office and library. The hall was built in the architectural style of the late 19th century. Its construction costs ran to £1,000 and included a semi-grand piano.

The village blacksmith shop stood at the corner of Dayboro Road, beside the North Pine School of Arts from 1886. It was owned and run by Charles Patterson until his death in 1928. The Moreton Mail newspaper of 1886 noted the presence of “the blacksmith so indispensable to the country village”. Charles’ son, Robert Patterson, took over the business from 1929 to 1942. It was a great meeting place for the menfolk of the district, being across the road from the hotel.
In 1921 Thomas Rothwell proposed the development of an ‘Avenue of Honour’ to commemorate the fallen soldiers of World War I. Two Cocos palms were planted at the entrance to the North Pine School of Arts by the Governor, Sir Matthew Nathan, on 2 March 1925. A further 1,800 trees were planted along the Avenue between Petrie and Redcliffe.

Anzac Day parade in the early 1950s. The march is passing down Redcliffe Road in front of the North Pine School of Arts. The wooden two storey North Pine Hotel is in the background. At that time, the two palms marked the commencement of Anzac Avenue and were donated by Elizabeth Petrie, widow of Tom Petrie. The palms, which were resited from the garden at Murrumba, were officially planted by the Governor of Queensland, Sir Matthew Nathan, on 30 April 1925. Moreton Bay Region Libraries (Strathpine Library) P79

The Tom Petrie Memorial, which now stands in Petrie Place, was unveiled by Governor William MacGregor on 15 July 1911. Although it has been moved a number of times, it is now situated near its original location. Originally alongside the monument, the water trough was connected to a windmill. A few weeks prior to the unveiling of the memorial, the locality name of North Pine was officially changed to Petrie.
A boarding house stood on Anzac Avenue near the northern corner of Young Street. The house and adjoining allotments were purchased by the Willmer family around 1920. They turned it into a family home and store that sold fruit and pastry items. A pie and peas could be bought for four pence. The boarding house was demolished and a bakery, built on this site in the 1930s, traded for 75 years.

‘Murrumba’ is the Turrbal people’s word for ‘good place’.
Moreton Bay Region Libraries (Strathpine Library) P0076

The first stage of Tom Petrie’s grand residence, Murrumba Homestead was built in 1864. It was sold in 1951 and demolished to build Our Lady of the Way School. The front doors from this house are now the main doors of the North Pine Presbyterian Church in Old Petrie Town. Many of the Macadamia Nut and other exotic trees planted by the Petrie family still survive today.
No. 3, Station Street, was built by Miss Ida Petrie as a post office, telephone exchange and residence. In 1926 the Petrie Post Office was transferred from the Railway Station to these premises. It was first operated by Postmaster John Foley and remained the Petrie Post Office until 1958. During World War II the telephone exchange was upgraded and additional staff employed to meet the demands of large numbers of servicemen stationed nearby. The site is now a private residence. Photos of the original building are not available.


Land for the Whites Road Masonic Hall was purchased for £50 in 1929. Members of Phoenix Lodge No. 85 had previously met at the North Pine School of Arts and the Presbyterian Church. A cyclone in 1937 moved the building, necessitating a working bee to move it back. The building was again realigned and renovated in 1966. Since 1969 Pine Rivers Lodge 511 has also used the venue for its meetings. Photos of the original building are not available.

On 1 March 1888 the North Coast Railway was officially opened to traffic as far as North Pine. The first North Pine Railway Station dates from this period. The coming of the railway significantly improved the commercial viability of farming communities along its length. The station name was changed to Petrie later in 1911, causing a name change to the whole district. The original building was moved to Old Petrie Town in 1991.
Campbell’s Sawmill in Mill Street was built on the site of an earlier mill which had operated from 1905 to 1914. The Campbell mill, established in 1944, ran until 1967. It was one of the first Australian mills to use hydraulic equipment for positioning logs on the saw bench. The mill, which occupied both sides of the road, employed up to 25 people in the planing mill and firewood depot.

James White was born at Lower Winchenden, Buckinghamshire, England on 13 October 1843. He left Plymouth, England on 14 April 1865 on the “Golconda” and arrived in Brisbane four months later on 16 August.

Oak Farm was established by James White in 1871. It was a prosperous mixed farming and dairying property. Some 70 to 80 head of cattle were milked by hand morning and night, with milk taken by cart to the railway station. Any milk over the quota was separated and the cream was sent to the butter factory at Caboolture. The original farmhouse was at the end of Whites Road on the north bank of the North Pine River. The property remained in the White family until bought by Australia Paper Manufacturers to establish the Petrie Cartonboard Mill.
No. 42, Dayboro Road, was the site of the North Pine (Petrie) School which opened on 20 January 1879. It replaced No. 183 (Lawnton) and No. 183½ (Sweeney Reserve) schools. It opened with 73 pupils and was first called the Pine River North State School, then North Pine State School, finally becoming Petrie State School. Its first classroom measured 33 feet by 18 feet. A play shed was constructed in 1906 (moved to Old Petrie Town) and in 1920 the original shingle roof was replaced with iron.

The Presbyterian Church at 55-61 Old Dayboro Road was built in 1884 by James Foreman. It cost £142 to build on land earlier donated by Captain Townsend. Services had previously been held in the slab schoolhouse in Sweeney Reserve. The building, which was moved to Old Petrie Town in 1985, is protected by the Queensland Heritage Register because of its exposed external framework method of construction.
Gordon Jackson Lookout is situated on the site of Duffield’s Store. In 1885 John Duffield opened a general store opposite the North Pine School. His daughter, Esther, worked at the store and was the Post Mistress from 1888 until 1899 when the Post Office moved from the store to the North Pine Railway Station. The store was destroyed by fire in 1901.

Old Petrie Town on Dayboro Road, Whiteside, contains many of the district’s relocated historic buildings. Originally called Hyde Historical Village (1981) after the Hyde family, and then North Pine Country Park (1982), the park is home to many shops, a rum distillery, cafes, craft and collector groups and the YMCA Lodge. The cultural heart of the park is Pine Rivers Heritage Museum which was opened by the Pine Rivers Shire’s Mayor, Cr. Yvonne Chapman, on Australia Day 2000, with the dedication, “a gift from the residents of the old millennium to those of the new”.

*John Duffield Jnr.*
*Courtesy of Judith Perryn.*
*Moreton Bay Region Libraries (Strathpine Library) P2431/
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1823</td>
<td>Lt. John Oxley discovered the Pine River.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1862</td>
<td>The North Pine River Reserve was set aside for government purposes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1864</td>
<td>Tom Petrie built ‘Murrumba’ homestead.</td>
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<td>1865</td>
<td>‘Petrie’s Accommodation House’ opened.</td>
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<td>1875</td>
<td>A provisional school opened on the north bank of the river. The first police officer was appointed to the area.</td>
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<td>1877</td>
<td>‘Sir Arthur’s Bridge’ was opened by the Governor. The North Pine Wesleyan (Methodist) Church was constructed.</td>
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<td>1879</td>
<td>The Pine River North State School opened in a new building.</td>
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<td>1882</td>
<td>The North Pine Courthouse was constructed. Archibald Hamilton Snr. opened a general store.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1883</td>
<td>Alexander Jackson Wyllie purchased land in North Pine.</td>
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<td>1884</td>
<td>The North Pine Presbyterian Church was opened.</td>
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<td>1885</td>
<td>Charles Patterson established a blacksmith shop in North Pine.</td>
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<td>1886</td>
<td>William Reid set up business as North Pine’s first bootmaker.</td>
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<td>1887</td>
<td>A new building was erected for the North Pine Hotel. The North Pine Cemetery was officially opened.</td>
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<td>1888</td>
<td>The Pine and Redcliffe Divisional Boards were established. The North Coast Railway opened as far as North Pine. James Connors established a saddlery shop.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1890</td>
<td>The North Pine School of Arts was officially opened.</td>
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<td>1898</td>
<td>The first section of ‘Lorne Villa’ was erected by the O’Loan family.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1911</td>
<td>The Dept. of Railways changed the name of the North Pine Railway Station to Petrie.</td>
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<td>1925</td>
<td>The first trees on Anzac Memorial Avenue, two Cocos palms, were planted by the Governor.</td>
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<td>1926</td>
<td>The Petrie Post Office was moved to new premises in Station Street.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1929</td>
<td>Gordon Jackson opened the ‘North Pine Service Station’. The Petrie Masonic Hall was opened in Whites Road.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1936</td>
<td>Construction of the new North Pine Bridge was completed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>The name ‘North Pine Country Park’ was approved for the historical village project on the former Hyde family’s property.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>The Pine Rivers Heritage Museum was opened in the North Pine Country Park.</td>
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