

Walking Subiaco

Shenton Park



CITY OF
SUBIACO



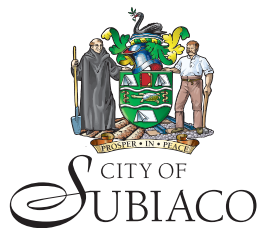
Approximately 4 kms - allow 1½ hours

Shenton Park



Lake Jualbup





The Shenton Park Story

The green and shady areas of public open space found in Shenton Park include the tranquil waters of Lake Jualbup, part of the wetlands system of the western suburbs. The wetlands were a source of water and food for the Nyungah people who lived in and around this area and moved with seasonal changes along the Swan River and Swan Coastal Plains. Lake Jualbup is also an Aboriginal burial area and is registered with the State Government as an Aboriginal Site. Nyungah people today remain connected to Lake Jualbup through their religion and work closely with the City of Subiaco to protect and maintain the wetlands system.

Shenton Park, with its quiet streets and interesting shops, differs in atmosphere from the busy centre of the City of Subiaco. Shenton Park has a wide variety of housing styles. Many of the original homes have been carefully maintained, restored and extended, resulting in precincts of great charm. Combinations of colour, design and architectural detail seen among groups of houses contribute to the unique ambience of this area where workers' cottages built of timber and iron mingle with larger brick houses.

The area was known as West Subiaco until the 1930s. The name was used by groups such as the local football club and the boy scouts. Well beyond the western boundary of Subiaco, the name was also adopted by the privately owned West Subiaco Aerodrome.

The walk is approximately 4 km in length – allow 1½ hours





Welcome to Walking Subiaco

The walk begins at the rotunda on the eastern side of Lake Jualbup near Excelsior Street, Shenton Park.



Emu Bus Service at Lake Jualbup

Lake Jualbup

1

Jualbup was the original name for this area, referring to a place where water rises in the season of spring. In the early days of European settlement a sawyer named James Dyson worked in the area which became known as Dyson's Swamp. In the twentieth century it was named Shenton Park Lake, after land developer George Shenton. The Aboriginal name was restored at a ceremony beside the lake in 1996.

As you leave the rotunda, cross Excelsior Street in the shade of a row of mature Ficus trees. Entering Keightley Road, walk a short distance eastwards to Derby Road. The two-storey red brick house on the south-eastern side of the intersection was originally a sub-station for transforming electricity.

Shenton Park Sub-Station – 1923

2

This building was one of three electrical sub-stations operated by the Municipality of Subiaco from 1923 until 1951. During this period the sub-stations transformed power purchased from the East Perth power station for domestic and industrial use. In 1951 the State Electricity Commission became the supplier.



Turn left into Derby Road and walk northwards to the intersection with Nicholson Road. Two interesting building projects are seen at the junction of Derby and Nicholson Roads. Several studio apartments were built on the north-eastern corner in 1995 on the site originally occupied by the Shenton Park Picture Theatre. This theatre is well remembered by many older residents. Films were also shown outdoors in the adjacent Picture Gardens during summer.

The former Shenton Park Hotel, a building of both architectural and historical interest, stands opposite on the south-eastern corner. In 2002 the hotel building was incorporated with a group of new apartments.



3 Shenton Park Hotel – 1907

The Shenton Park Hotel was a popular meeting place for almost a century. It closed in 1999. Locally known as 'The Shents', the hotel served the followers of cricket and football in the early twentieth century when these sports were played beside Lake Jualbup.

At the hotel corner turn right and walk eastwards along Nicholson Road. At No. 161, between Waverley and William Streets, you will pass the former site of a timber building used by the Army as a Drill Hall. It was also available to the civilian community and is well remembered as the venue for dances and fancy dress parties in the mid twentieth century.

4 The Drill Hall – 1915

The Army Drill Hall which stood on this site was used by the 11/44 Battalion, Red Cross Voluntary Aid Detachment and Cadet Corps as a training and social centre. The property extended to Keightley Road and included a parade ground. The Drill Hall was sold in 1989.





Walk further eastwards along Nicholson Road. The house at No. 134, built in 1917, served for a time as a private maternity hospital – one of several such hospitals in Shenton Park and Subiaco during the early twentieth century. In 1937 it became the residence for the Roman Catholic sisters who taught at the nearby St. Aloysius Convent in Henry Street.

Turn right into Henry Street, one of many quiet streets in Shenton Park lined with a variety of interesting houses and cottages in the architectural style typical of the area and period. Examples of original weatherboard and iron roof cottages can be seen as you walk down this street. Near the southern end of Henry Street you will see a small park on your left.

Joe Tyrie Park – 1998

5

Mr. Clifford (Joe) Tyrie was made an Honorary Warden of the Henry Street Park in 1985 and of the City of Subiaco in 1993. The park was named after Mr. Tyrie in 1998, in acknowledgement of his many years of community service.

No. 21 Henry Street, opposite the Joe Tyrie Park, is now a private home. It was originally the Church of St. Aloysius. Behind the Church stood the St. Aloysius Convent School. From 1983 to 1991 the buildings were used by the Quintilian Community School.



St. Aloysius Church & Convent School – 1909

6

The school was founded in 1909 by the Sisters of St. John of God, who were followed in 1912 by the Sisters of Mercy. The school enrolled students up to year 10 level. The teaching sisters travelled daily by tram from Victoria Square, Perth, to Shenton Park until 1937 when they moved to Nicholson Road. Forty students attended the school in 1973, the year of its closure.



Continue to Keightley Road and turn right, walking westwards. Turn left into Waverley Street and continue to Onslow Road. Almost opposite the Onslow Road entrance to the Rosalie Primary School you will see a small shop, originally the school's tuck shop.



Maypole dancing, Rosalie Primary School

7 Rosalie Primary School – 1906



The Rosalie Primary School opened with sixty-seven students in 1906. The first headmaster was Mr. John Blair. The local name Rosalie, originally spelt Rosalea, was the name by which Rosa Roberta Onslow was known. She was the mother of Sir Alexander Onslow, appointed Chief Justice of Western Australia in 1882.

As you walk westwards and turn left into Derby Road, you are approaching Rosalie Park – a large area of public open space and playing fields.

8 Rosalie Park

This area, formerly known as the Onslow Road Reserve, was officially named Rosalie Park in 1952. The playing fields are used for a wide variety of sports. Until 1998 Rosalie Park was the home ground of the Western Australian Women's Cricket Association.



Continue south along Derby Road with Rosalie Park on your left, until you reach Aberdare Road. An example of a Federation style bungalow with the original bull-nosed verandah can be seen on Derby Road. Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, Perth's second largest public hospital is seen across Aberdare Road, in the City of Nedlands. The two sections of the City of Subiaco are joined by a narrow strip along the eastern boundary of the hospital grounds.



Turn right into Aberdare Road, cross the entrance to Violet Grove and turn into Hilda Street. A short distance along Hilda Street turn left into the quiet tree-lined precinct of Cuthbert Street where you will see a number of beautifully preserved workers' cottages, built of timber and iron.

At the western end of Cuthbert Street turn right into Herbert Road and continue to the intersection with Onslow Road. The Shenton Park Community Centre occupies the north-eastern corner.

9 Shenton Park Community Centre – 1983

The Community Centre provides activities and facilities for Shenton Park residents. In 1983 this extensive purpose-built centre replaced the Progress Hall at 308 Onslow Road, built in 1913. The Progress Hall is well remembered for its 'Good Companions' social club.



As you walk along Onslow Road in a westerly direction, cross the entrance to Yilgarn Street and turn left into Murchison Street. The former West Subiaco Scout Hall is a short distance along the street on your left. It was the meeting place of a very active boy scout group. The Army held dances in the hall during the Second World War resulting in the replacement of the floor in 1955.



West Subiaco Scout Hall – 1929

10

Funds were raised locally and volunteers assisted in the building of a hall for the 18th Group West Subiaco Boy Scouts, later known as the Shenton Park Boy Scouts. The finished building, opened in 1931, consisted of the main hall, a stage and four additional rooms. In 1993 the group went into recess and in 1996 the hall was redeveloped as apartments.

Returning to Onslow Road, continue to No. 345, the house built by Albert Grundmann on the corner of Smyth and Onslow Roads. Albert and his father Wilhelm Grundmann built many houses in Shenton Park during the early twentieth century. A population increase and consequent housing shortage occurred at this time due to the development of business and industry and the continuing effects of the discovery of gold in Western Australia.

The Grundmann House – c1925

11

The Grundmann family home which reflects aspects of European Chalet architecture was designed and built by Albert Emil Paul Grundmann over a number of years. It has been continuously occupied by the family through four generations.

Nearby in Smyth Road you will see several timber cottages thought to be examples of the Whittakers pre-cut Settlers Cottage, a forerunner of the modern 'kit home'. Six different plans were available in the early twentieth century.





Return eastwards along Onslow Road and turn left into Fortune Street. Walk northwards along Fortune Street then turn right into Morgan Street where you will note a variety of housing styles. Lake Jualbup is visible at the end of the street. As you near the lake and cross Herbert Road you are following the path of tortoises which leave the lake and cross the road to lay their eggs in neighbouring gardens. The City of Subiaco has placed signs where tortoises are known to cross, asking motorists to take care.

Skirting around the southern side of the lake, you will see that the eastern end has been replanted with reeds and other vegetation similar to the natural flora of the area before European settlement.

The Jualbup Painting – 1996

12

A painting by Aboriginal artist Shane Pickett stands near the lake on the eastern side. This public artwork depicts the natural flora and fauna of the wetlands. It was installed beside the lake in 1996 on the occasion of the restoration of the name Jualbup to this area.

We trust you have enjoyed exploring Shenton Park, a suburb within the City of Subiaco, Perth, Western Australia.



References

Nyungah Circle of Elders, Guildford, Western Australia 2002.

Ken Spillman, *Identity Prized: a History of Subiaco*, University of Western Australia Press, 1985.



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SUBIACO MUSEUM

239 Rokeby Road SUBIACO WA 6008

Open Tuesday - Sunday 2pm - 5pm

Enquiries to the Curator on 9237 9227

Shenton Park is easily reached by train or bus
from Perth and Fremantle.

Persons following the route suggested in this self-guided walk
do so at their own risk