

Rising up the slopes of a hill to the south of town are a number of reserves totalling more than 50 HA, known collectively as Pelham Reserve. The majority of this Reserve is York Gum Jam Woodland with Wandoo Woodland in the southern corner.

The Reserve includes areas that have been used for water supply for over a century; starting with a 1901 reservoir complete with spillway, moving on to a 1908 tank supplied from the Goldfields Water Supply Scheme pipeline and then on to the 1966 500,000 gal. water reservoir currently in use. This was supplemented by a further 3 megalitre tank in 2008 and if you have any interest in geology a walk along the rock cut for this tank is well worth your while.

A rifle range dating back to the early 1900's is also present in the Reserve with the butts and firing points in close proximity to the western sections of the Pelham Walk Trail and Rifle Range Loop.

More surprisingly WWII earthworks are also present at two locations within Pelham Reserve. While these sites are still being investigated and developed it would appear that a complex consisting of four underground rooms connected by "tunnels" was built at the south eastern corner of the reserve to house a signal unit, while an "Officer's Quarters" was built inside a revetment to the north of the spillway on Pelham Street. While the buildings were removed for their materials at the end of the war, the earthworks are still evident.

The Lookout at the top of Duke Street provides views across the town and valley as well as a chance to visit the Drummond Memorial Garden, first developed by the Toodyay Naturalists' Club in 1969.

Of course one of the main features of Pelham Reserve are the walking tracks, the majority of which double as firebreaks. These trails allow walkers to visit the many features within the reserve, have a look at nature or with over 6 km of signposted walking tracks get some serious exercise.

Walkers are advised that these tracks are steep in places and may have a gravel surface, so please wear appropriate footwear and exercise due care. In summer make sure you carry adequate water.

While walking in Pelham Reserve you are likely to see Kangaroos, Euros and other wildlife. This may include snakes. Please note these are not tame animals and should be treated with respect. Please keep dogs on a leash at all times.

This area is a work in progress, come back again to see further improvements.



PELHAM RESERVE TOODYAY

For further information contact:

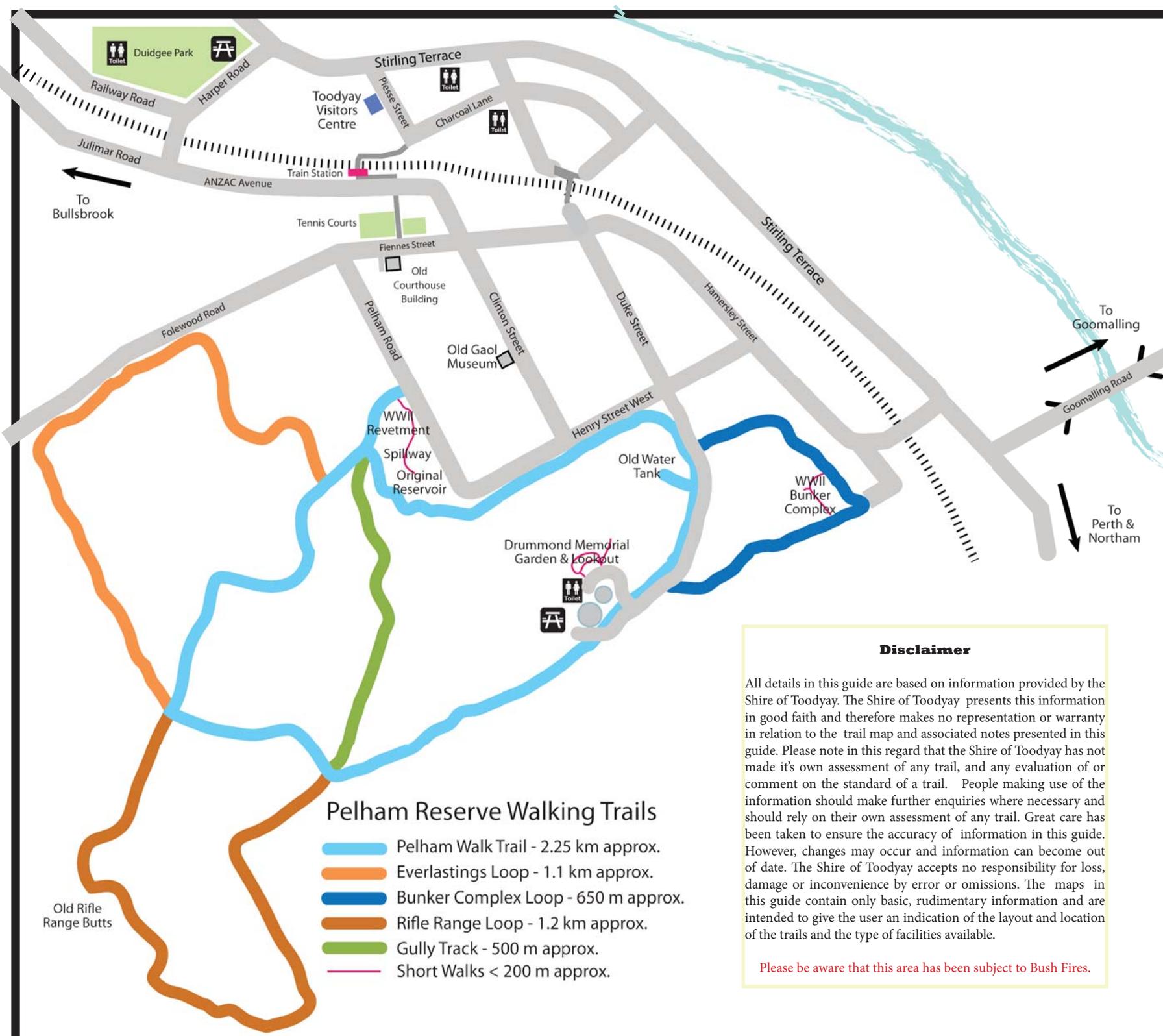


Old Reservoir Water Tank c.1920
from the Faust Collection



Paperbark at Lookout

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Pelham Reserve Walking Trails

- Pelham Walk Trail - 2.25 km approx.
- Everlastings Loop - 1.1 km approx.
- Bunker Complex Loop - 650 m approx.
- Rifle Range Loop - 1.2 km approx.
- Gully Track - 500 m approx.
- Short Walks < 200 m approx.

Disclaimer

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Please be aware that this area has been subject to Bush Fires.

Pelham Reserve Walk Trails