History

* original inhabitants were Ngadjuri aboriginals
* explored by Colonel William Light in 1837
* 1852 to 1855 great influx of mostly German immigrants
* 2 settlements: Schoenborn and Neu Mecklenburg
* Government changed name to Gomersal during the first world war
* land holdings much larger today than when first settled
* broadacre vineyards have replaced the original small vineyard on each farm
* rural ambience was replaced with the traffic noise following the sealing of Gomersal Rd in 2002
* community spirit remains strong
* produce from this bountiful area includes cereals, canola, legumes, grapes and wine, prime lambs, wool, olives and olive oil.

1. Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Schoenborn 1927
   * bluestone quarried locally
   * stained glass windows typical of era
   * weekly worship services—see notice board near gate

2. Former Giersch’s Blacksmith
   * blacksmith shop was on eastern side of house
   * burned down.

3. Former Dreyer’s store circa 1855
   * closed as a store in 1879 and now a private residence
   * sold crockery, drapery and fresh produce

4. Schmaal home circa 1910
   * area post office until 1991

5. Redbanks Cottage circa 1870
   * John & Isabella Brock raised 11 children here
   * note room to south with cellar below, former stable with loft, Moreton Bay fig and carob tree
   * keystones for future extensions on north-western corner
6. Original Schoenborn church/school 1855
   * hub of original community
   * church on Sunday, school during the week
   * Education Department administered the school from 1892 until it closed in 1952
   * congregation moved to church on Gomersal Rd in 1927
   * now private residence

7. Schoenborn cemetery state heritage listed
   * burials from 1858 to present

8. Clydesdale horses may be seen in the paddock opposite the cemetery, or pulling a trolley on the road.
   * reminders of a long gone slower lifestyle.


10. Gomersal/Wonganella Winery
    * founded by Gottlob Fromm & son Wilhelm in 1890
    * gravity fed stone tanks (1891) & early white stone building with circular windows visible from northern approach
    * old vinegar factory peaked roof partly visible from southern approach
    * sold to Walter Lehmann and name changed to Chateau Rosevale in 1964
    * in more recent times has been a motor museum and engineering business
    * renovated and opened as Gomersal Wines in 2005
    * open for wine tasting & sales, platters, coffee & cake daily, 10am – 5pm
    www.gomersalwines.com.au

11. Former Hoffmann cottage circa 1860
    * housed family of 11
    * water bucketed from creek

12. Former Schlatow Farm circa 1850
    * present home 1918

13. Braunack home, cottage and smokehouse
    * smokehouse circa 1852
    * original home destroyed by fire
    * present home built in 1908
    * site of first well in area
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9. **Fromm home** built for Bert & Olga in 1928.

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14. **Lehmann Vineyard**
    - some of oldest vines in area
    - shiraz vines more than 100 years old are still producing top quality fruit
    - barn circa 1860 near vineyard

15. **Ruins**
    - originally 2 rooms with thatched roof
    - bake oven on western side
    - underground cellarette on eastern side

16. **Former Hentschke Homestead/ Woodbridge 1866**
    - first home a dug out in the creek bank
    - eastern portion of adjacent cottage in original form
    - now site of Woodbridge White Suffolk stud, s/c bed & breakfast accommodation and Henry Holmes Wines
    - www.woodbridgefarm.com

17. **Former Hentschke Chaff House and Barn circa 1866**
    - elaborate brick quoining
    - early meetings of Lone Pine Ag Bureau on this site
    - now private home and Lion and Lamb Christian retreat and prayer centre

18. **Original Schmaal Farm ~house, bakehouse and stable circa 1855**

19. **Heinrich/Christian home / Pepper Tree Farm circa 1854**
    - note unusual Dutch gables

20. **Former Hannemann home and winery circa 1860**

21. **Good vantage point looking south across Gomersal**

22. **Hoklas barn with cellar circa 1860**
    - walls 2 feet (30cm) thick
    - home of Hoklas Family Wines