

DRIVE AROUND **GOMERSAL** HISTORIC AREA

DISTANCE 18 KMS

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.

9. Fromm home built for Bert & Olga in 1928.

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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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
 - *southern 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

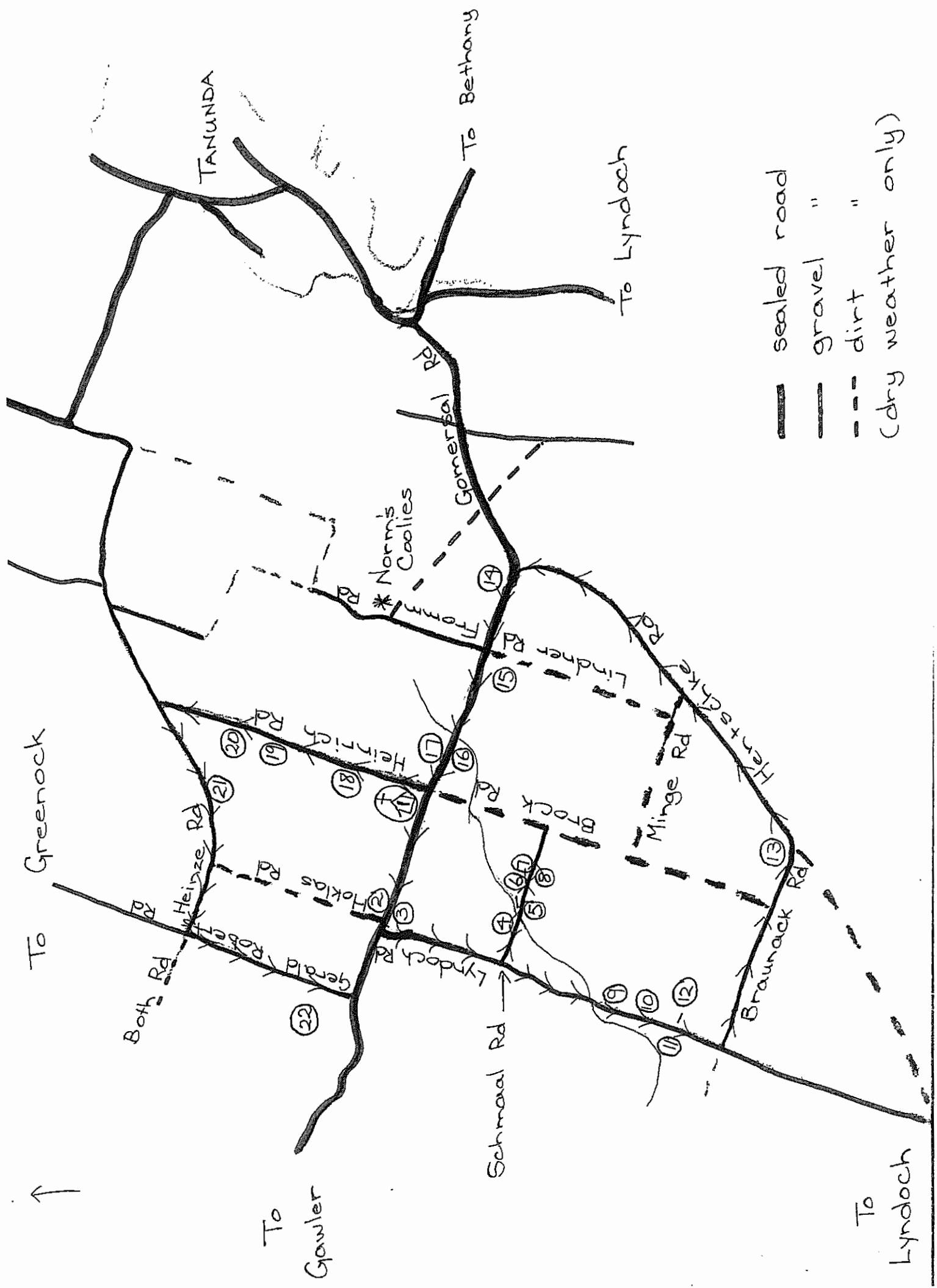
- *note unusual Dutch gables

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



- sealed road
- gravel "
- - - dirt "
- (dry weather only)