

8. Coominya Community Hall

The Coominya Community Hall has been in continuous use since 29 January 1921 when it provided the venue for a public meeting to discuss the Coominya Recreation Grounds. Since then it has seen Cinderella Dances, Dances to raise funds for Ipswich Hospital and the local Basketball Club and is still used by the community for social gatherings and community meetings.



9. St Francis Xavier Catholic Church

Archbishop Duhig of Brisbane opened and blessed this church on 6 March 1921. Much of the funding for this church was raised by the soldier settlers.



10. Railway Station and Brisbane Valley Rail Trail

In 1886 Bellevue Railway Station was established as a siding on the railway line that extended from Lowood to Esk to service Bellevue Pastoral Station and which opened on August 9, 1886. The Railway Station became a receiving office for mail in 1888 with a Telegraph Office opening at the station in 1905. The railway station was later moved west on to more level ground where it stands today. Because of confusion between the two Bellevue Stations, Mr. Charles Lumley Hill of Bellevue Station recommended that the Railway Station be renamed "Coominya" in 1905. The old railway buildings remain with the main station restored and renamed "Coominya Railway Community Centre" and this is the location of the Coominya trailhead on the Brisbane Valley Rail Trail.



For more information:

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ph: 07 4163 0633

Esk Visitor Information Centre
82 Ipswich Street Esk
ph: 07 5424 2923

Fernvale Futures and Visitor Information Centre
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**South Burnett Energy and
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Henry Street Nanango ph: 07 4171 0100

Brisbane Valley Heritage Trails
www.brisbanevalleyheritage.info

Brisbane Valley Rail Trail
www.brisbanevalleyrailtrail.org.au



Brisbane Valley Heritage Trails

COOMINYA



Enjoy and explore the diverse heritage of the Brisbane Valley.

Brisbane Valley Heritage Trails Inc is committed to recording the history of the Brisbane Valley featuring the routes forged through the Valley by the pioneers. These include the stock routes, mail and coach routes, rail trails, timber trails, heritage buildings' tour and the wine trails.

Follow the paths of the early pioneers supplying Brisbane with cattle and timber and relive the experiences of early settlers.

Coominya - A brief history

Coominya came into being in 1886 as a siding on the railway line to serve the beef cattle property "Bellevue Station" and was originally known as Bellevue. Later the name was changed to Coominya, taken from the Aboriginal dialect Yagarabul which was spoken in the area and believed to mean "Where is water?".

Timber was the mainstay of the area that eventually saw the development of three local sawmills, one adjacent to the original location of Bellevue Homestead.

The district is famous for its grapes and watermelons. Grape growing in the area forged an industry in wine making with Coominya having some of the greatest vineyards.

During the late 1800s and early 1900s small businesses were established including saddlers and blacksmiths as well as a sweets shop, teashop, hotel, post office and pie shop.

In 1917 Discharged Soldiers Land Settlement Act selected the Coominya area as one of its settlements. There was also a Bush Nursing

Association established which brought improved health to the smaller communities in the area.

The historic homestead of Bellevue (once a National Trust property and now in private hands) is one of the few examples of an intact cattle station building cluster surviving from the first generation of European settlement in the Brisbane Valley. It is open to the public and offers visitors guided tours of the homestead buildings.

When the railway was established at Coominya it became a rail centre for livestock. Saleyards were built where the Coominya Hall now stands. Today, the old railway line has been removed and is now a walking, riding and cycling track and part of the Brisbane Valley Rail Trail.

Coominya Township offers good public conveniences for visitors including the picnic facilities at Edith Maud Park, opposite the railway station, which is named after Mrs Lumley Hill.



1. Bellevue Historical Homestead

This earliest sections of the homestead date from the 1870's. Bellevue was moved to its present location in Coominya between 1975 and 1980 by the National Trust. Bellevue's original site on the banks of the Brisbane River was flooded as the new lake formed behind Wivenhoe Dam.



2. Presbyterian Church

The church was first proposed in 1919 and built in 1920 and is a fine example of a Queensland country church.



3. Bellevue Hotel

This building was originally known as "The Hotel" and built in 1903 some seventeen years after the railway came to Coominya. Bellevue Hotel has since been changed by closing in the front veranda to form part of the main interior of the hotel.



4. General Store

The original shop was built in 1908 and burned down in 1912. A second shop was built in 1913 and was known as "The Blue Teapot Café". Later additions were made to incorporate a butcher and saddler's shop.



5. Post Office

The Post Office is one of the oldest institutions in Coominya. In 1907 an official Post Office with banking facilities was opened at the railway station. In 1921 a portion of the building from "Norman Vineyard" at Atkinson Dam was transferred to the present site. A manual telephone exchange operated by the postal office served the district until an automatic exchange was installed in 1951. A mail run operated from the Receiving Office at the railway station to Bellevue Station three days per week from 1887 which was later incorporated into a larger run to Buaraba via Mt. Tarampa.



6. Coominya State School

The school was officially built and opened in 1912 with the first teacher Miss Constance Flanagan. In 1923 it was extended and converted into a sectional type school. A further extension was added in 1961 to form another two classrooms. More extensions and other buildings have since been added. The school will celebrate its centenary in 2012.



7. St Martins Church of England

This church was dedicated by the Bishop Coadjutor of Brisbane the Right Reverend Le Fanu on 24 June 1922. Nurse Smith of the Bush Nursing Service was Superintendent of the first Sunday school.

