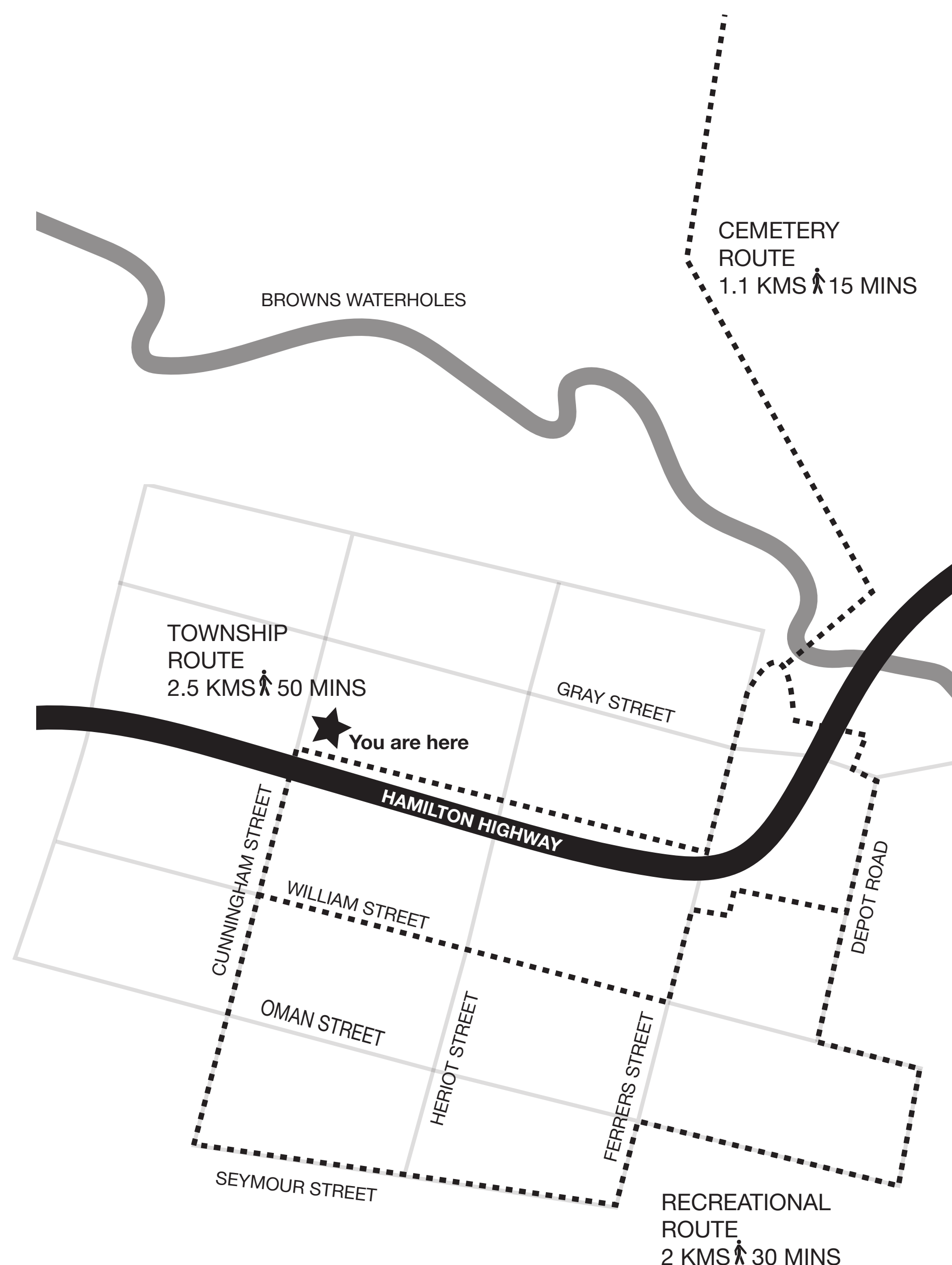


LISMORE DISCOVERY TRAIL

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PRESBYTERIAN BLUESTONE CHURCH

Lismore Presbyterian Church, opened in 1864, the church's solid structure and early existence reflects the preponderance of lowland Scots among the early station owners. Robertson at 'Struan' (Gnarput), Currie at Larra, Wilson at Gala, Logan at Elephant Run, and Mack at Berrybank, along with many of the early townspeople were from the same general area of lowland Scotland and were strong Presbyterians. Hamilton & Co., Mortlake were the original architects and G. H. Botterill of Skipton builder. The stone was cut from a quarry in the south-east portion of the township. Described as being of bluestone surmounted by a belfry of cut stone and lighted by six Gothic windows with leadlight. The entrance is by a neat porch, the roof opened and lined.

The foundation stone was laid on June 8, 1864 by Henrietta Lang, eldest child of J. L. Currie of "Larra"; the position of the original stone is unknown. In 1934 a stone similarly inscribed was counter-sunk into the wall near the entrance. Enlargements and repairs have taken place over the years; the Apse and Vestry added in 1951. A picket fence replaced the rail fence in 1907 with a bluestone wall erected in 1947; a memorial to Mary Helen Gibson and Grace Gibson.

A virginia creeper once covered the church, since removed, as the aerial roots invaded the mortar. The church community celebrated the 150th anniversary in 2014.

