

HERITAGE WALK (allow 1 to 1½ hours at a leisurely pace)

1 WADLATA OUTBACK CENTRE, formerly St Joseph's Roman Catholic School. Two sisters of St Joseph, the order founded by Saint Mary McKillop in 1866, arrived in 1871 to establish a school in a shed near the seaward end of Commercial Road. Later they shared a cottage in Flinders Terrace, which doubled as a convent, school and church. In 1927 Dr Kilian opened this building as a memorial to Rev. John O'Reilly, the first Bishop of Port Augusta. A separate secondary school was built in 1971, and in 1983 the primary and secondary schools re-combined to form Caritas College at Port Augusta West. Wadlata was opened in 1988 and was extensively upgraded in 2009.

> Commence your walk by turning left from the entry to the Wadlata car park.

2 FOUNTAIN GALLERY, formerly St Joseph Convent was built in 1915, and was expanded several times before the Sisters were relocated to their new home in Jervis Street in 1987. Its function as a gallery was transferred to the new Cultural Precinct and it is now used as office space. The fountain was originally at Seafield Towers (previously known as the C. R. Holiday Flats) in Glenelg, which was built for Thomas Elder and Sir Henry Ayers.

3 ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH. If you proceed across the road bridge over the railway line you will see the Mural on the Hill artwork which was a community project in 1998 and depicts the history of Port Augusta in ceramic tiles. The church was built in the early 1970s when the original Roman Catholic Church was in the path of the realigned highway.

> Cross the road at the lights.

4 FLINDERS MEMORIAL ARCH was unveiled by Mayor L.G. Riches on April 28th 1948. Mr Riches was the longest serving Mayor of the town, and also an MP and Speaker in the House of Assembly. The arch recognises Matthew Flinders, who discovered, surveyed and named Spencer Gulf in 1802. Originally Mount Brown and Spencer Gulf could be seen through the arch, but trees now obscure the view.

PORT AUGUSTA SECONDARY SCHOOL is down on the left – it was built in 1951 and the two story block was opened in 1969. For nearly 40 years there was a second high school in Augusta Park, but they were re-amalgamated in 2012.

5 THE RAILWAY STATION was opened in 1917 by the Commonwealth Railways as part of the Trans-Australia Railway. All trains except the coal train from Leigh Creek pass through the station, and it is the terminal for the restored Pichi Richi Railway which runs between Quorn and Port Augusta as a tourist attraction. The building itself is not a functioning station any longer, and the Curdnatta Art Group recently relocated there with work and exhibition space in The Platform Gallery.

6 PORT AUGUSTA PRIMARY SCHOOL was Port Augusta's first government primary school, opened in 1878. It was also used as a secondary school until the high school was built, and for some years the School of the Air provided a unique radio education for students residing in the remote outback from this location. Many alterations and additions had been made over the years, but the only original building is now being preserved and used by the University of Adelaide.

7 POLICE STATION was opened in 1996, replacing a station which was on the now vacant block in Commercial Road. Opposite is the original South Australian Railway Station, built in 1878.

The first track travelled along Gibson Street to the Government jetty, where cargoes were transferred to and from ships. As there were no other means of transport, all the supplies for the town and outlying areas were shipped to Port Augusta.

8 COOINDA CLUB HALL AND RESTAURANT was built in the 1960s by the Commonwealth Railways Institute which was a very strong social and sporting group at a time when the railways was one of the town's major employers, with both administrative and maintenance functions centered in the town. The presence of the railways has declined steadily since privatisation in the 1990s, and Cooina has recently been closed.

COURTS COMPLEX. To the left along Flinders Terrace is the new Courts Complex which was opened in 2007, replacing the function of the old Court House.

9 COMMONWEALTH HOTEL, formerly known as the Railway Hotel, or the Railway Terminus Hotel, was modified from two previous shops in 1880. A well-known musically-inclined family, the Hackendorfs, was connected with this hotel, and during the time that they held the licence it was affectionately known as the Crazy Cottage.

10 PORT AUGUSTA MEAT STORE. A butchers' shop has been in this location since the 1890s, probably making it the oldest continuous business in the main street, apart from the hotels. It was purchased in 1903 by a member of the Fullerton family, and remained in family hands until 2008 when it was sold to Mr Surman. The head above the entrance is a plaster cast of a long-horn bull which the 1927 proprietor butchered.

11 SAINT AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH. The foundation stone was laid in 1868 and the first Divine Service conducted in July 1879. The existing church's foundation was laid in 1882, replacing an original smaller structure. The bell was purchased in 1871. The hall at the rear of the church was completed in 1878 and was originally the St Augustine's High School for Boys.

GIBSON STREET was named after Thomas McTurk Gibson, who was the first Mayor of Port Augusta when the town was proclaimed in 1875. The terrace houses to the left were built in 1890, and along with other cottages in this street are among our oldest residences.

12 GULF & RANGES OPTOMETRISTS. This building was originally built in 1874 as a residence for Francis Bignell, a store-keeper who commenced a small drapery in 1863. He joined with Young in 1867 and Bignell & Young became well-known as general store-keepers and shipping agents over a wide area, becoming Young & Gordon in 1881. Bignell only lived here for a matter of months before the Young family occupied the house and they only sold it in 1964. Bignell was also a partner in the ostrich farm about 13Km from Port Augusta which operated from 1883 until 1901, when drought brought about its closure.

13 4 GIBSON STREET is one of the more significant dwellings in Port Augusta and was built in 1864 by Alexander Drysdale Tassie, the first British settler in Port Augusta. When his pastoral interests failed it passed to his creditors in 1866 and became

home to a succession of GPs, the last being Dr John Thompson who acquired it in 1941 – the current owners bought it in 2009.

14 5 CHAPEL STREET was also owned by Bignell early on, but in 1874 was acquired by Dr William Markham, who became the first medical superintendent of the Port Augusta Hospital. It was owned from 1949 to 1991 by Mr Alan McLellan and after he died in 1968, his wife. Mr McLellan is well remembered for his keen interest in local history plus a vast array of other community activities.

15 UNITING CHURCH. This was the site of the first church of any denomination operating in Port Augusta: the Bible Christian Society, and the original structure's foundation stone was laid in 1867 by A.D. Tassie. The foundation stone for the existing two-storied frontage was laid in 1885 by Thomas Young. The Widow's Walk, the iron structure at the very top of the steeple, is the viewing platform said to be used by the wives of sailors who went to look for their husband's ship approaching. The Wesleyans had come to Port Augusta in 1878, and they united with the Bible Christians in 1897 to form the Methodist Church. In 1970 the Methodist, Congregational and some Presbyterian Churches combined to form the Uniting Church of Australia.

16 FLINDERS HOTEL, originally Mackay's Hotel and then Flinders Family Hotel. When built in 1878 by Alexander Mackay, it was said to be the largest and most commodious hotel of its kind at that time in South Australia. Mackay had built the first hotel in Port Augusta in 1855, and this was his fourth, each one more prosperous than the last. There were 12 hotels built in Port Augusta between 1878 and 1883, but evidently this was the finest!

17 THE COMMONWEALTH BANK recently celebrated 100 years in Port Augusta, this building having been built in 1928.

TARGET COUNTRY opposite, now occupies the former Young and Gordon store, which was erected in 1882 by Bignell & Young who owned it until 1987.

18 THE TASSIE was built in 2009, the first hotel built since 1883, replacing the Exchange Hotel, Great Northern Hotel and The Vault which was originally the second location of the National Bank.

19 AQUATIC AND OUTDOOR ADVENTURE CENTRE is operated from the old Yacht Club, which incorporated the much older Customs House, built around 1873, itself replacing an earlier wooden structure built in 1859. Moving towards the wharf you will see the new Yacht Club beyond, which was built in 1999, mostly on reclaimed land.

THE WHARF reminds us of when Port Augusta was indeed a thriving port – this ended in the early 1970s when the last Japanese ships carrying copper concentrate departed the port.

20 SWIMMERS' MEMORIAL. This walled Memorial Garden was built by the Swimming Club, to honour its members who had made the supreme sacrifice in WWII. As part of the foreshore re-development, the garden was up-graded and a re-dedication memorial service was held in February 2004.

21 MILL JETTY is the sole remaining jetty of the eight which were erected between 1854 and 1879, prior to the wharf being built in the mid 1880s. Dunn & Co established this jetty in the 1880s for their flour mill, which was supposedly fire-proof but was destroyed by fire in 1926.

22 GREAT WESTERN BRIDGE was built in 1927. The new Port Augusta Bridge was opened in 1972, and renamed the Joy Baluch AM Bridge in 2013.

23 THE OLD BARGE was brought here by the E&WS for use in the widening of the bridge in 1944. It was abandoned after the work was completed because, it is said, it would not fit back under the bridge.

24 SEAVIEW HOUSE was constructed in 1881 at a cost of £4,500 (\$9,000) by the Bank of S.A. The Union Bank took it over in 1892 but closed its doors in 1894. In later years it became the Seaview Hostel, a boarding house for railway employees, and now it houses the Department of Primary Industry.

MARRYATT STREET probably recognizes Lady Augusta Young's maiden name.

25 POST OFFICE. There had been a telegraph service to Adelaide, run by James Fabian Phillips, as early as 1856, but it probably operated from the Customs House, where Hiram Mildred looked after the postal service, among his many duties. In 1866 a telegraph station was built on this site, and the Telegraph and Post Office were amalgamated in 1870. The Overland Telegraph began from Port Augusta in 1870. The present building was constructed in 1962. There had been earlier local experiments with telephone, for example in 1884 when Dr Markham's house was connected with the hospital, but the first telephone exchange was established in 1911.

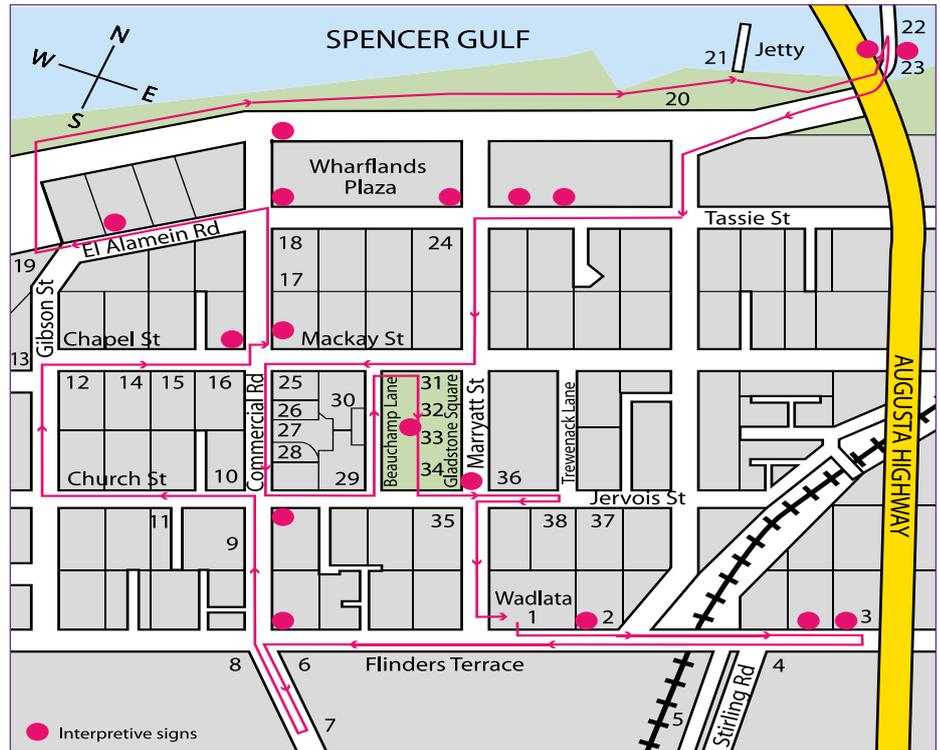
26 INSTITUTE THEATRE was originally the Institute erected by subscription from members of the town and opened in 1876. The building was used variously as a council office, Road Board Office, church, school, library and reading rooms, billiard club, entertainment area, youth club. It was refurbished in 2008 as part of the State Government's Regional Centre of Culture program for use as a theatre.

27 TOWN HALL. The original town hall was completed in 1887, and was a remarkable symbol of progress. The stone was carried from quarries at Quorn. In 1944 it was largely destroyed by fire, but was rebuilt around the Corinthian frontage and dome which survived, and reopened in 1946. The building has not been well maintained since it was vacated by the Council in 1983, and its future is uncertain.

28 OLD FIRE STATION was built in 1880 to house the offices of the Board of Main Roads, and was later home to the fire brigade until the new fire station was built in the 1970s.

29 OLD COURT HOUSE. This fine building was built from Saltia Creek stone in 1884. Earlier court proceedings were conducted in the Customs House, then a Court House was erected in 1866, along with a police station, on the now vacant corner. The police took over both parts of that building and in 1966 a new police station was built. This was demolished in 1996, when the new station was built.

30 TROOPERS' BARRACKS. This area was used as the Troopers' Barracks from 1860 to 1882. The residence was built in 1881, and was converted to a waterworks and store in 1882. The Blacksmith's Shop was converted to a library and the Courts Department used the offices until 2006. In 2008 the buildings were converted into two galleries, "Yarta Purtili", and administration offices, and together with the Institute Theatre they make up the Cultural Precinct.



GLADSTONE SQUARE was named after the Prime Minister of England in 1883 – across the road, where the Civic Centre now stands, was originally Disraeli Square. Disraeli was the other PM in England that year. Looking around you will see the statue of former long-serving late Mayor Joy Baluch AM, the Cross of Sacrifice and honour rolls, the 1914 Krupp field gun, "Reflection Rose" garden memorial and the "Olympic Rose Garden", wheelchair friendly Liberty Swing, and furnishings donated by various individuals and organizations.

31 A.D. TASSIE MEMORIAL was originally located on the corner of Commercial Road and Church Street, but was relocated here in 1881 and eventually remounted on the masonry pedestal.

32 ROTUNDA. The Rotunda was built in 1890. In 1923 it was dedicated as a Soldiers' Memorial. It was extensively restored in 2010.

33 DRINKING FOUNTAIN was located at the wharf end of Commercial Road before being relocated to Gladstone Square in the 1930s. It is a tribute to the memory of James Beaton, postmaster of Port Augusta from 1882 until his death in 1905.

34 THOMAS YOUNG MEMORIAL was erected in 1913 in memory of "The Father of Port Augusta". He served for many years as a councillor and was the fourth mayor, and served the community in many other roles. This has also been relocated from its original position, somewhere on the far side of Disraeli Square (Civic Centre).

35 NORTHERN GATEWAY SHOPPING CENTRE, was formerly a brewery, much later a licensed hotel, entertainment and accommodation complex known as the Northern Gateway Inn until 1989. A small stone brewery was on the site from the late 1860s, and was substantially extended in 1879 but was abandoned in 1897 due the difficulty in obtaining suitable water. A cordial factory was there for a time,

but fire in 1943 caused considerable damage – the chimney and front archway remain to this day.

36 PORT AUGUSTA BOWLING CLUB celebrated 100 years in 2009, having been in the same location for that whole period of time, although the club house was originally at the opposite end of the green.

37 PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH. The foundation stone for the manse and church was laid in 1885, after several earlier attempts to establish a congregation in Port Augusta, the first appointment being Rev. Alexander Law in 1862. Having decided not to join the Uniting Church in 1977, this remains the only Presbyterian congregation outside the metropolitan area in northern half of the state.

38 QUINN FUNERALS CHAPEL, was formerly the Salvation Army Citadel, opened in 1919 by a Corps which was founded in 1883. Quinn Funerals purchased the building in 2009.

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