

History

The seaside town of Victor Harbor is located on South Australia's Fleurieu Peninsula, about 80 kilometres south of the Adelaide CBD. It is the largest population centre on the peninsula, and a favoured summer holiday destination. Traditionally, home of the Ramindjeri and Ngarrindjeri people, Encounter Bay, on which Victor Harbor sits, was discovered by British explorer Matthew Flinders in 1802. It was in these waters that the historic encounter occurred, a meeting of Flinders and French explorer Nicolas Baudin, resulting in the bay being named, Encounter Bay.

In 1837, the HMS Victor anchored off Granite Island mid-journey and its captain named the sheltered waters in the lee of the island Victor Harbor after his ship. It was around this same period that two whaling stations were established in the area, one at Rosetta Head (commonly known as The Bluff) and the other near the point opposite Granite Island. The whaling station was managed for some time by Captain John Hart, who later became Premier of South Australia.

It was 1863 when the town of Port Victor was laid out on the shores of Victor Harbor, following the extension of the horse drawn tramway from Goolwa.

The town's name was changed to Victor Harbor in 1921. Despite the fact that harbour is normally spelt with a 'u' in modern Australian English, the name of the city is spelt Victor Harbor. This spelling, found in a number of other geographical locations within South Australia, is said to be a result of spelling errors made by an early Surveyor General of South Australia.

Victor Harbor's built history tells a story of how the town has evolved. These stories are shared through the City of Victor Harbor's interpretive plaque project. These small blue plaques are placed on a number of buildings and structures around Victor Harbor, documenting the town's heritage.



city of
Victor Harbor



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Images used in this brochure are from State Library of SA, City of Victor Harbor and the National Trust.

Town Centre Heritage Trail

Victor Harbor



city of
Victor Harbor



Town Centre Heritage Trail *3km Walk*

Heritage Trail Key

START Start - Visitor Information Centre

38 Finish - No. 38 Shannons' Store

--- Trail Length - 3kms = 1.5 hours

 Plaques - The image left is an example of one of the plaques you will find on each of the buildings

 Toilets - Various toilets are located along the trail

Victor Harbor has a rich and diverse heritage that is highly valued by residents and visitors alike.

This self-guided heritage trail will take you on a journey to discover the stories of these significant buildings and how they have contributed to making Victor Harbor what it is today.

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| 1 Harbourmaster and Deputy Collector Customs' House | 20 Police Station and Courthouse |
| 2 Goods' Shed | 21 Photographic Studio |
| 3 Railway Station | 22 Police Station |
| 4 Post and Telegraph Station | 23 English, Scottish and Australia Bank |
| 5 Davies' Boot and Shoe Store | 24 Savings Bank of SA |
| 6 Shop and Residence | 25 Victor Harbor Times Office |
| 7 Bakers' Shop | 26 Victor Harbor Primary School |
| 8 Refreshment Rooms | 27 St Augustine's Anglican Church |
| 9 Shop and Residence | 28 Newland Memorial Uniting Church Hall |
| 10 Battye Store | 29 Newland Memorial Uniting Church |
| 11 Hairdresser's Shop | 30 Butchers' Shop |
| 12 Commercial Bank of Australia | 31 Gertymore |
| 13 Grosvenor Hotel | 32 Headmaster's House |
| 14 Bank of South Australia | 33 Town Hall |
| 15 Warringa | 34 The Institute |
| 16 Tennis Clubhouse | 35 Bell's Store |
| 17 Railway Cottage | 36 Ozone Theatre |
| 18 Emohruo | 37 Coffee Palace |
| 19 Carrickalinga | 38 Shannons' Store |





Town Centre Heritage Trail *3km Walk*

Since 2010, the City of Victor Harbor has identified many State and Local Heritage Listed Buildings and provided them with a blue heritage plaque. There are over 50 plaques, each one promoting and informing the community and visitors of our rich and diverse built heritage. Please enjoy your adventure in finding these plaques on our heritage trail and learning more about our town!



1 Harbourmaster and Deputy Collector of Customs' House 2-5 Flinders Parade

In 1866 Robert Redman constructed this building as an office and residence for the Harbourmaster of Pt Victor.



2 Goods' Shed 2 Railway Terrace

Built in 1864, this shed was used for the loading, unloading and storage of freight.



3 Railway Station Railway Terrace

The original station was a small weatherboard building between this station and the old Goods' Shed.



4 Post and Telegraph Station 2 Coral Street

In 1905 the town's first telephone service began operation from here.



5 Davies' Boot and Shoe Store 9 Railway Terrace

With over 110 years of trading, this store was one of the longest owned family businesses in SA.



6 Shop and Residence 5 Railway Terrace

To cater for the growing town and surrounding farming district, several small businesses were built in Railway Terrace in the early 1900s.



7 Bakers' Shop 7 Railway Terrace

This building was opened in 1905 by William Smith, a baker and confectioner.



8 Refreshment Rooms 6 Railway Terrace

In the early 1900s people would frequent the rooms to enjoy tea and cakes.



9 Shop and Residence 8 Railway Terrace

This building was constructed in the early 1900's from local limestone.



10 Battye Store 8-16 Ocean Street

Battyes' Store was built in two stages, the lower storey dating from the 1800s using West Island Granite for quoins and the second storey was built in 1894.



11 Hairdresser's Shop 24 Ocean Street

Dating from the late 1800s, this shop originally had a cast iron, enclosed balcony with a concave roofed verandah.



12 Commercial Bank of Australia 26 Ocean Street

Operations began in Victor Harbor in 1928 and by September 1930 the opening of this building was announced.



13 The Grosvenor Hotel 40-44 Ocean Street

Built for proprietors John and Hannah Humberstone, it was completed in time for the 1897-98 summer holiday season.



14 Bank of South Australia 1 Coral Street

This building was constructed in 1865 and was part of the busy commercial hub of old Pt Victor.



15 Warringa 21 Flinders Parade

Built as a guest house in the early 1900s, now known as the Anchorage.



16 Tennis Clubhouse Bridge Terrace

In 1923 four tennis courts were built and a year later this tennis clubhouse opened.



17 Railway Cottage Cnr of Bridge and Eyre Terrace

This limestone cottage was used for accommodation by railway crews.



18 Emohruo 29-32 McKinlay Street

Once called Emohruo, which is 'Our Home' spelt backwards, this building was constructed in the first decade of the 1900s.



19 Carrickalinga 17-19 Torrens Street

Erected in 1915 as a residence this building was named Carrickalinga after a farm near Normanville.



20 Police Station and Courthouse 22 Torrens Street

This red brick building, designed in the Art Moderne style, was opened in November 1941.



21 Photographic Studio 69-73 Ocean Street

Completed around 1912, this building was erected as a photographic studio, shop and residence for Charles Bliss.



22 Police Station 20-22 Torrens Street (building frontage to Ocean Street)

Constructed to replace the original station located on Warland Reserve.



23 English, Scottish and Australia Bank 57 Ocean Street

This building was completed in 1927 by local builder, Ray Milton.



24 Savings Bank of South Australia 45 Ocean Street

In 1928 this two storey building opened as the Savings Bank of South Australia.



25 Victor Harbor Times Office 13 Coral Street

The original site for the Times office was in Railway Tce but moved to this site after Peter Milnes purchased the business.



26 Victor Harbor Primary School 21 Torrens Street

It became compulsory for children aged from 7 to 13 to attend school in 1875.



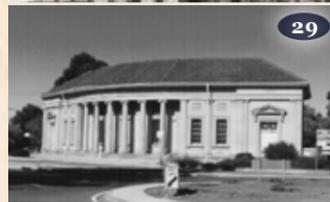
27 St Augustine's Anglican Church 14 Burke Street

The original section of this church was built in 1869.



28 Newland Memorial Uniting Church Hall 30 Victoria Street

This church was built by Robert Veitch and Ephraim Weymouth using local bluestone and slate for roofing.



29 Newland Memorial Uniting Church 20-28 Victoria Street

To cater for the increasing size of the congregation, this very distinctive church was built to seat 500 people.



30 Butchers' Shop 23-25 Albert Place

This building was built by Hugh J Bird who carted in local stone for the construction.



31 Gertymore 16 Crozier Road

Built in 1876 this building served as both a guest house and a boarding house for permanent lodgers.



32 Headmasters' House 7 Stuart Street

In 1912 it was sold to the Education Department and was used as a residence.



33 Town Hall 8 Coral Street

Completed in 1905, the Town Hall has hosted community events for over 100 years.



34 The Institute 8 Coral Street

Established as a place for educational advancement for adults.



35 Bell's Store 43 Ocean Street

This building was built in 1868 by Ephraim Weymouth for William Heggaton and John Dufty to sell general merchandise.



36 Ozone Theatre 37-41 Ocean Street

The Griffin family built the Victor Theatre in 1923.



37 Coffee Palace 31-35 Ocean Street

Constructed by George Weymouth using local limestone, it was opened in 1886 as a boarding house.



38 Shannons' Store 23 Ocean Street

Built during the economic boom that followed World War 1, this store is a good example of a 1920s shop front.