



INTRODUCTION TO GOULBURN

The land that Goulburn was settled on was first passed by Hamilton Hume and John Meehan in 1818.

Two years later Governor Macquarie declared the countryside fit for settlement under the name ‘Goulburn Plains’. The plans for the township were originally laid out closer to the property of Riversdale but were soon relocated to the current location in 1832-3. This was due to the previous locations’ low-lying land being prone to flooding.

After being settled, the city benefited from the wool industry, a short-lived nearby gold rush, and the development of the rail system. On 14th March 1863, Queen Victoria wrote her last royal letters patent and Goulburn was declared the first inland city in Australia. By the 1880s, Goulburn was the second biggest city in NSW, behind Sydney. Many of the buildings remaining from this time illustrate that Goulburn was a very wealthy city in its prime. This tour will give you a brief glance back to some of Goulburn’s fascinating history.

This concludes your self-guided Heritage Walk of Goulburn - we hope you enjoyed this brief step back in time. Some other areas in Goulburn with wonderful historic homes include Hurst Street, Bradley Street and Beppo Street, to name a few.

This is the site of Goulburn’s Old Baths (1892). Opening with a swimming and diving exhibition, the baths boasted modern luxuries including the availability of year-round swimming, gas lighting and a smokers’ room which was in the tower. In 1906 the building was sold and converted to become the Argyle Flour Mills and operated for over 60 years. A leisure centre with a skating rink and bowling alley, a furniture warehouse and other businesses have occupied the premises since. However, the swimming baths still exist under the floorboards of the building as they were never filled in.

The Traditional Joinery (c1840) was thought to have originally been an inn, built of random stone that has since been rendered. Stables could once be found to the rear of the building but have since been removed.

Number 25 is an 1840s Georgian style building. The block it stands on was sold for £100 to Thomas Moran. From 1861, for more than ten years, Moran was licensee of the Coach and Horses Inn on this site.

Number 51 was formerly known as Grafton House, originally owned by Robert Evans. This two-storey residence was turned into a saddler’s shop and kept by a man named Lamb - who later got into trouble for embezzlement and ended up in gaol. Around 1906, the building is also believed to have had a stint as an inn.



FOR MORE HISTORICAL INFORMATION:

Goulburn Mulwaree Library

Monday to Friday 10am - 6pm
Saturday 10am - 2pm
(Closed Sunday & Public Holidays)

184 -194 Bourke Street
Goulburn NSW 0000

02 4823 4435
library@goulburn.nsw.gov.au
gmlibrary.com.au

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Goulburn Visitor Information Centre

9am - 5pm weekdays
10am - 4pm weekends & public holidays
(Closed Christmas Day)

201 Sloane Street
(Locked Bag 22)
Goulburn NSW 2580

02 4823 4492 / 1800 353 646
info@goulburnnsw.com.au
goulburnnsw.com.au

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Number 69 was first owned by Joseph Collins, an early Jewish merchant. He was a dealer of gold, wool, tallow and sheepskins, a grocer money lender and alderman (member of the Council) in 1868.

Number 83 was built in 1852 by EH Dunn, a fellowinger (tanner). In 1857 the building became the Crimean Inn. Its owner, John Bagwill, was a former Sergeant of the Police. The hotel’s name was later changed to the Builder’s Arms when Henry Smith took over. A gentleman named Mir Beer ran a general store and tannery in the old stable at the rear of the inn; the strong odour of the tannery were a considerable annoyance to the neighbours.

Number 99 was first owned by a solicitor, Edward B. Kitson, who attended the first Circuit Court on 3 September 1847.

Lining Grafton Street’s median strip is the unique South American Peppercorn tree. Often found planted around homesteads, stockyards and other settlements, it is frost, drought and wind resistant. These trees were chosen as a tribute to back in the day when bullock teams were the primary users of Grafton Street. The bark and foliage of the peppercorn is bitter, and livestock don’t like the taste of it. It is rare for the species to be eaten (or ringbarked) so prove to be much harder than native trees.

Number 104 was once owned by Thomas Marsden, who also owned the Goulburn Evening Star Newspaper. He was the Director of the Goulburn Foundry and Engineering Co. Ltd. (1885). Samuel Davis was the first owner of number 104a-106. Samuel was a Jewish storekeeper of the Australian Stores (1837), in partnership with Isaac Levey of Sydney. Samuel was President of the Hebrew Association (1854) and encouraged the development of gold prospecting in Goulburn. He also originally owned the shop on the corner of Cove Street where you can still see the old Bushell’s advertisement on the side of the building. At this point cross to the other side and begin walking back along Grafton Street.

At number 80 you will come to a set of three terraces, once owned by James Downes who was the keeper of the lock-up in 1841. The next four terraces from number 90 to 96 were owned by a man named Goodhew and have been here almost as long as Grafton Street has been established.

Next door, house number 62 has a plaque that details Mr J. Grealy as the first landholder here and the Marwick family occupying the home. Behind the house was Brown’s paddock, where the Circus would perform.



A SELF-GUIDED HERITAGE TOUR GOULBURN·NSW

The elegant red bell-type Letter Box is made of cast iron. It was one of two installed in Goulburn in 1859 and has been in continuous use ever since. Up close you will notice that the mail slot is particularly high, it was designed this way to enable people to post their letters without dismounting their horse.

Number 32 Grafton Street was originally owned by James Marsden, an early pound keeper, who was also the treasurer of the inaugural committee of the Mechanics Institute and supported the manufacture of clothes in Goulburn.

The land that houses 12-18 sit on was first owned by Thomas Bray in 1849. In 1878 the property was sold to Thomas Gale, who kept the houses until 1918 before selling to Arthur Moriarty. Moriarty was the last owner of all four houses before they were sold off individually.

Grafton Street is named after the third Duke of Grafton, Augustus Henry Fitzroy, who was the Prime Minister of England from 1767-1770. His grandson was the Governor of NSW when Grafton Street was established. Grafton Street is one of the oldest streets in Goulburn and was once the town’s main street. Take notice of the width of the street, designed to permit horse and cart to easily turn around.

The Exchange was opened by Duncan Campbell in 1882. Highlanders in kilts from all over the state would come to Goulburn for the annual Highland Gathering, and Campbell’s Exchange would host these pipers and dancers.

St Clair was built by James Sinclair, designer of many other buildings throughout Goulburn. His family lived here until 1852. The villa has 18 rooms and 3 levels and has been a home for many important Goulburn families, a doctor’s surgery, an etiquette, music and drawing school as well as home to Goulburn and District Historical Society and their historical records. Significant restoration works have recently been carried out to the building.

R.J. Sidney Craig Undertakers was established in 1837 and is now Australia’s longest continuously operating undertakers - still run by the same family. The building they currently operate from was built in 1858 as the Rock of Cashel Hotel. Both its original cellar and attic remain.

Goulburn’s current Police Station was originally built as a hospital for convicts, before becoming a general hospital. In the 1970s the police moved into this building from the Argyle Emporium. From the early 1830s, there were approximately 17 serving Police positions in Goulburn. Many of their day-to-day duties included: ‘summons-serving’, ‘loitering around hotels’, ‘impounding goats’ and ‘tagging drunkards to watch houses’.

HISTORIC HOMES
APPROXIMATELY 2.5KM, ALLOW 45 MINUTES.

HISTORIC CITY CENTRE

Approximately 2km. Allow an hour
beginning at number 160 Sloane Street.

- 1

Mandelson’s of Goulburn was built in 1839; originally as the Goulburn Hotel, it was later renamed after its owner Nathan Mandelson. Mandelson’s Hotel was once regarded as the best accommodation outside of Sydney. It was in Mandelson’s Ballroom where local businessmen met to establish the Sydney Railway Co. The building was home to the first Telegraph Station, as well as the first to be lit by gas in Goulburn.
- 2

Built by James Clifford in 1869 the **Southern Railway Hotel** (1869) is one of the original 73 inns in Goulburn that has maintained much of its old-world charm. The balcony over the footpath is also one of the few original verandas still remaining in the city.
- 3

The railways were of enormous importance to Goulburn. They provided employment to our early residents and a safe, comfortable option for transportation to Sydney. The foundation stone of the **Railway Station** was laid on 12 May 1868 and the line was officially opened just over a year later. Since then, only minimal alterations have been made to the building.
- 4

The **Alpine Heritage Motel** survives as the old accommodation wing of the **Goulburn Coffee Palace**, a hotel that did not serve alcohol. Coffee Palaces were built across the country as part of the temperance movement, encouraging people to abstain from alcohol.
- 5

The building that houses the **Argyle Emporium** was **Goulburn’s old Police Station**. Inside, the original gaol cells remain. Due to Goulburn’s rapid growth in the 1870s, this building proved inadequate, so the third and **current courthouse** was built.

Walk around the corner, turning left
at Montague Street.

- 6

The **Courthouse** was designed by James Barnet and opened in 1887 at a cost of £24,593 (around \$5.5m today). The Victorian Italianate styled building was touted as one of the most beautiful buildings in “all of Her Majesty’s dominions” by the Chief of Justice of the Colonies. The building is still very much in use today, holding sessions of Local, District and Supreme Court.

- 7

The building where Cafe 5911 is located was originally built as the **Technical School** building of the Mechanics Institute. It opened in 1889, behind the City’s **Library** which is now occupied by NAB bank. The Library (1860) also had a museum, conducted lectures, classes, held debating discussions, exhibitions and later technical classes for its subscribers who paid just a shilling a month.

- 8

Across Auburn Street you will see the **Rogers Building** (1853), now home to Goulburn Best Buys and Harvey Norman. It was built as a large country emporium, for Jones & Co. They later became Furner & Jones and carried out extensive refurbishment before selling in 1901 to Rogers & Sons.

Use the cross walk at the traffic lights
to cross the road here, then turn left to
continue towards the Post Office down
Auburn Street.

- 9

The **Post Office** (1880) built by Mr F. Horn, is also a design by James Barnet. The original arch in the centre of the building features the head of Queen Victoria and was once used by coach and horse to access the yard behind. The 30-metre-high Clock Tower was added, by public demand, a year after the building’s completion and was originally illuminated at night by gas. More recently, the bell in the clock tower had not rung for more than 20 years. Fortunately, in 2010, a clock enthusiast passing through inquired why it did not ring; he was allowed to look at the mechanism and managed to get the chimes to, once again, toll on the hour.

- 10

Next door is the **Town Hall** (1887), a design by EC Manfred built by William Wilkie for £3,425 (approximately \$760K today), opened in 1889. The classical revival building housed the City’s Local Government offices for 99 years. In 2022 it was reopened as the Goulburn Performing Arts Centre after extensive restoration and the addition of a 403-seat theatre at the back of the original building.

- 11

The **Hibernian Hotel** was one of Goulburn’s original hotels, first licensed on 6 July 1850. In 1871 Dr William Foxley Hayley took over the building to use it as his dispensary for a short time. It was reopened as the Hibernian Hotel in 1880 and has been in continuous operation since.

- 12

On the corner of Auburn and Verner Streets is the site of the former **Commercial Banking Co. of Sydney** building, the first bank in Goulburn (1837). After being closed in 1844, along with all country branches, the Goulburn Branch reopened a decade later, and six years after that the building on the present site was built. It originally had verandas and balconies but was remodelled in 1919. The granite pillars at the main entrance came from a Marulan quarry.

Turn right up Verner Street, towards the Old Cathedral.

- 13

At the end of the street, you will come to the **Catholic Church Presbytery** and, next door, the **old cathedral**. The current **Catholic Church of Saints Peter & Paul** (1890) was built around the original brick church, which was then demolished inside and taken out through the doors. It is believed to be the only greenstone cathedral in the world, with the Diorite Porphyrite stone being sourced from a local quarry. The cathedral received a large restoration grant which has led to the creation of the magnificent mosaic window honouring Caroline Chisholm, and the installation of the 10-metre, 9 tonne spire in 2014; as per the cathedral’s original design. In 2022, extensive restoration works were completed at the cathedral including the restored stations of the cross, parquetry floor, stained-glass windows, Hill Organ and more. The cathedral has also applied to become Australia’s sixth minor basilica.

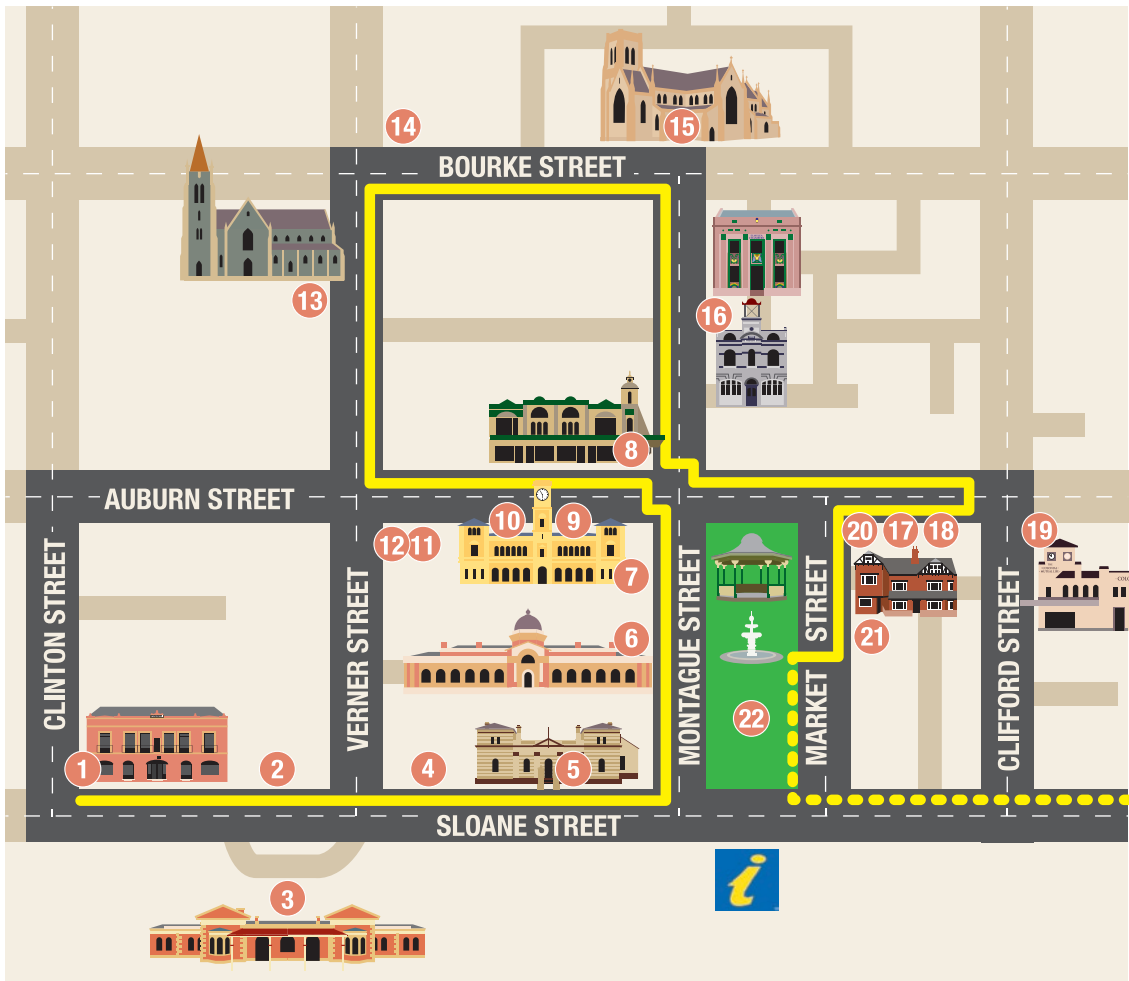
- 14

The current Hume Conservatorium building was built as the **Technical College**, completed in 1901 at a cost of £6,789 (\$1.6M today). From 1913 to 1927 the building was used as Goulburn High School, one of Australia’s first.

Continue the tour, turning right at Bourke Street,
walking towards Saint Saviour’s Cathedral.

- 15

Saint Saviour’s Anglican Cathedral is one of the most important buildings in Goulburn. This is because towns used to be named cities based on whether or not they had a cathedral; a cathedral at the time was any church with diocese (a district with a Bishop). On 14th March 1863, Queen Victoria wrote her last ever “Royal Letters Patent”. establishing the Diocese of Goulburn - making Goulburn Australia’s first inland city. Eight years later, plans were made for this Gothic Revival Cathedral which is now considered one of the most beautiful in Australia. It was built in line with the original city, so each wall corresponds with north, south, east and west. A century after the Cathedral was built, the bell tower was added (spot the different coloured stone). The bell tower was part of the original design, as was an additional 60 metre spire which is



still being planned. Inside is the only 12 bell country peal in the Southern Hemisphere, with the largest bell (named Sirius) weighing in at just over one tonne, as well as 23 stained glass windows and the pipe organ with 2,253 pipes.

Turn right down Montague Street, walking on the right-hand
side for the best view.

- 16

Montague Street contains several different architectural styles of buildings, many of which were built as offices for Solicitors from back in the days when people flocked to the city for their christenings, marriages and funerals in our two cathedrals (also known as being “hatched, matched and dispatched”). The beautiful **Elmslea Chambers** (1933-6) was built for a pastoralist Frank Leahy. The colourful facade pays homage to the flamboyant personality of this rich pastoralist and his once extensive stock and station holdings across Southern NSW. The **old Fire Station** (1890) still has the original bell tower, but the bell is on loan to St Nicholas’ Church in North Goulburn. The fire bell weighs 750 pounds and was cast in England - originally planned for two churches in Australia which both, ironically, burnt down before the bell ended up at the fire station. **Number 9** Montague Street was built in 1902 for AM Betts Solicitors, once NSW’s oldest living and practising solicitor in his late 80’s. **Number 5-7** was built in 1915 in an Academic Revival Style.

At the traffic lights, use the cross walk to cross the road.
Then, continue the tour along Auburn Street.

- 17

The **AMP Building** (1928) was designed by Wright and Apple by Architects. The building is an example of neoclassical Italianate, commercial architecture. Three solid cedar doors and thin Flemish-bond brickwork give this building an interesting facade. The Goddess of Peace and Plenty adorns the top of the building and is by WP McIntosh. The Latin inscription means “a certain friend in uncertainty”.

- 18

The **Goulburn Post** building (now housing Ray White Goulburn) has been restored to the original 1935 look from an old photograph. The Goulburn Herald was one of Australia’s first country newspapers, later incorporated into the ‘Goulburn Evening Penny Post’. It was then renamed to the Goulburn Evening Post during the war when the cost rose higher than a penny. The last afternoon print was in October 1977. Today the paper is still published, as the Goulburn Post.

- 19

In 1875 on the corner of Clifford and Auburn Streets a building once stood owned by Mr T.N. Jacob, a saddler. Mr Jacob installed a life-size wooden white horse on top of his saddlery to increase his sales. After closing down, the building was licensed to Tom Jacob, establishing the White Horse Hotel (1885). Unfortunately, in 1910 it was among a number of hotels de-licensed as a result of the “reduction” vote in the liquor referendum and was closed a year later. The premises was renovated to be occupied by various banks until the 1930s when it was demolished. The **Colonial Mutual Life Building** (1933), designed by architects Hennessy & Hennessy, was built in its place. Colonial Mutual Life operated here until the office closed in 1979. The site then enjoyed a stint as a local radio station’s studio.

Use the crosswalk at the traffic lights to cross Auburn Street
and walk back in the direction you have just come, towards
Belmore Park. Use this opportunity to observe the building
styles on the opposite side of the street, above the first-floor
frontage.

- 20

On the corner of Auburn and Market Street is the site where **Knowlman’s Department Store** once stood. It was opened in 1888 as a branch of its London-based company, with 18-year-old John Knowlman at the helm. Knowlman’s Store was the go-to store at the time for imported goods, with direct instructions from the London factories to send out new goods to the Goulburn store the moment fashions were created. John Knowlman was Mayor from 1899-1900

while the business continued under the direction of his son, John Edward Knowlman. Knowlman’s ceased trading in 1982. The building itself remained: leased first to Donohue’s Hardware, then to Clint’s Crazy Bargains, both of which adjoined Bryant’s Bakery. Just down the road you will see the Fireside Inn (1934), built by J.E. Knowlman, reminiscent of his travels through England. Unfortunately, the Knowlman’s Store building burnt down in 1999 due to a fire in the bakery. Today, of the original buildings, only the Fireside Inn remains.

- 21

Next door is a **Victorian terrace** townhouse with an attic, built for a local merchant during the 1860s. Neighbouring, is the Goulburn Club (1848), which was once the Medical Hall. It was here that Dr Waugh invented and manufactured his famous baking powder. In 2003 the veranda was built to the original plans drawn by EC Manfred (c.1904). To the right of the Goulburn Club is a **Stone Archway** which once led to the Bull & Woodward stores and warehouses at the rear. The memory of the early storekeepers is kept alive with their initials ‘B & W’ decorated in the keystone.

Use the cross walk in the middle of
Market Street to cross the road into
the centre of Belmore Park.

- 22

Belmore Park was originally the town’s Market Square. It was once surrounded by a white picket fence, and here residents could sell their livestock, farm produce and merchandise. The park became a botanical garden, and for 16 years it had a small zoo with emus, deer, peacocks and kangaroos. The park was named Belmore after Lord and Lady Belmore, who planted the oak tree in the centre of the park in honour of the Railway opening in Goulburn in 1869.

You can finish your walk here or keep exploring with the
Historic Homes Walk. Fold the page up to continue along
Grafton Street.

*A range of further self-guided tours are available from the
Goulburn Visitor Information Centre.

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