

D. RICHMOND HERITAGE WALK-THE COLLEGE PRECINCT

2.5 kms walk 2 hours Map nos. 101 – 120

Unrestricted parking available in March Street near Moray Street

This tour commences in March Street and takes in the south eastern section of the town and includes dwellings dating from several periods of development of the town ranging from the 1840s to the 1880s. The precinct is named after the Hawkesbury Agricultural College (now University of Western Sydney – Hawkesbury) which was established in 1891.

Commencing at the corner of Moray Street and March Street walk along northern side of March Street to the corner with Bourke Street observing the cottages on both sides of the street]

Please note that this brochure includes many privately owned buildings which are not open for public inspection and may be viewed from the public street only

101. March Street Group - 9, 22, 20, 16 & 8 March Street

This group of modest worker's cottages date from the period 1850-1900 when many of the large original portions of land were subdivided into smaller suburban building lots. Many were purchased by local business people as investments. This end of the town was home to the working population of the town most of whom lived in rented houses and worked locally.

- **9 March Street** An early Victorian weatherboard cottage constructed in the 1850s-1860s with attic, high pitched gabled roof, shuttered windows, narrow front verandah and twelve pane sash windows.
- **22 March Street corner Moray Street** Modest cottage with a hipped iron roof, iron roofed verandah with timber posts and attractive scalloped valance to verandah. There are several skillion additions to the rear of the structure each having a successively lower ceiling height.
- **20 March Street** Small 1870s cottage with iron covered verandah continuous with the iron gable roof and four pane windows.
- 'Rona' 16 March Street Simple timber mid nineteenth century cottage with iron verandah continuous with the hipped iron roof and twelve pane sash windows.
- **8 March Street** dating from the period 1860-1880 and originally clad in weatherboards, this modest cottage has a gable iron roof, skillion iron verandah and shuttered French doors.

102. Station Master's Residence – 1 March Street

This two storey railway residence was built for Richmond Station Master, William Montgomery Lackey in about 1878. Mr Lackey was a popular member of the local community and residents expressed

sadness when he was farewelled in 1890 following a promotion to Burwood. The building was originally adorned with a bell cast iron verandah roof and elegant arched timber valance.

Carefully cross Bourke Street at the March Street corner and continue along Bourke Street past the Scout and Girl Guide Halls

103. East Richmond Railway Station

Although the railway line from Blacktown to Richmond opened in 1864, the south eastern portion of the town was not well served by shops and transport. As early as June 1893 residents petitioned the Office of Railway Commissioners for a platform to be erected at the level crossing in Bourke Street however East Richmond station was the last to be constructed along the branch line and was officially opened on 2 July 1939. The station was constructed to provide easier access to transport for the population of East Richmond as well as students of Hawkesbury Agricultural College. The original buildings included an office and small waiting room, no other facilities were provided for travellers until recently when the station platform and facilities were upgraded.

104. Richmond Golf Club

Established in 1897 the golf course holds the honour of being the oldest golf club in NSW still playing on the same grounds. The club was officially formed on 15 March 1899 when a public meeting was held in the Richmond School of Arts in West Market Street. Seventeen men and seven women were foundation members including C T Musson of Hawkesbury Agricultural College and Philip Charley of 'Belmont' North Richmond. The nine hole course was mostly part of Ham Common and was shared with grazing stock. The first clubhouse was an ex-army hut which was replaced and refurbished several times over the years. In 1959 a new eighteen hole course was opened. The Richmond Golf Club celebrated its 110th Birthday in 2007.

105. Pound Paddock

From the establishment of the town in 1810 straying cattle and horses were a constant problem due to insecure fencing of town allotments. Authorities established enclosures known as stock pounds for the confinement of impounded stock and owners of confiscated animals needed to pay a fee to release animals back into their care. The original stock pound for Richmond was located at the rear of the Court House in Windsor Street. In July 1899 this site on the edge of the town originally known as Rolly's Swamp comprising 104 acres was set aside for the purpose. Up until the late 1950s many families in Richmond ran chickens for eggs and meat and kept a milking cow or a pony in the backyard, so town stock pounds were still necessary and continued to be provided by municipal authorities.

Also on Pound Paddock Reserve the meeting halls for the local youth organisations Richmond Scout Troupe and Richmond Girl Guides are sited. These organisations were formed in Richmond in the early 1920s and met at various locations in the town until the halls were constructed in the early 1960s. The reserve has also been utilised by the community as a sports field for over seventy years. In the near future Pound Paddock will take on a new community role. In partnership with a number of local service clubs and Hawkesbury City Council, North West Disability Services will shortly open a purpose built facility known as Opal Cottage offering a range of services to the families of the Hawkesbury.

Cross Richmond Road at the pedestrian lights at the corner with Bourke Street and follow the concrete footpath to the UWS-Hawkesbury entrance gates

106. 35 Bourke Street

This comfortable home was built for Joseph Gunton and his family in about 1920. Gunton was a fine horseman and worked on the River Farm property operated by Hawkesbury Agricultural College for 36 years. The family once owned the whole frontage along Bourke Street from Teviot to Conrad Street on which they cultivated vegetables, kept a milking cow, stabled a horse and ran chickens. The house was constructed in a modest Federation style with iron roof and wide return verandah supported by decorative timber brackets, flush-jointed brickwork and surviving original features including window hoods and coloured glass windows and doors. Henry Gunton (brother of Joseph) was pound keeper for many years.

107. University Of Western Sydney - Hawkesbury (formerly Hawkesbury Agricultural College)

Framed by impressive entrance gates, this beautiful tree-lined avenue leads to the original buildings of The Hawkesbury Agricultural College (HAC) which was established in 1891 on about 4,000 acres (over 1,500 ha) of vacant land on Ham Common. The college was founded by the newly formed NSW Department of Agriculture to provide an agricultural education and practical training for enterprising youths of the state with an initial intake of twenty-six male students. The curriculum gradually expanded over the years to include a broad range of agricultural pursuits such as poultry farming, dairying, animal husbandry, apiary and horticulture and became an important agricultural research facility.

Prior to the erection of the permanent buildings on the site in 1895, the college rented premises for the accommodation of staff and students in the town (see Toxana – see Richmond Park Precinct No. 38 and Andrew Town House – see East Richmond Precinct No. 97). Several streets in the Hobartville subdivision of the 1960s were named after principals of the college such as Valder, Southee and Potts. HAC also played an important role in the provision of services to Richmond. From 1915 until 1934 electricity for the town was drawn from the power generator at the college. Water to supply the college, RAAF Base and the town was also pumped from the college's River Farm on the bank of Hawkesbury River.

The college became a College of Advanced Education in 1972 and a campus of the University of Western Sydney in 1989. Since that time the educational emphasis of the campus has changed however much of the history of the agricultural college including photographs and student records has been preserved in the university archives. Contact: http://www.uws.edu.au/rams/archives

For further information on the campus including a self-guided tour seehttp://www.hawkesburyharvest.com.au/imagesDB/member/UWS_Hawkesbury_Campus__TourV1%2 81%29.pdf

Cross College Street with care and walk to the corner of Teviot Street, cross with care and walk along Teviot Street to the corner of Moray Street, then turn right into Moray Street

108. Phipps' Corner - Moray Street corner Teviot Street

George Matcham Pitt first purchased this block at an auction sale of Crown Land in 1859 but this corner has been home to the Phipps family for over 80 years. The tidy weatherboard cottage on the corner with two pane double hung windows arranged in pairs was constructed in the early 1950s.

Building materials in this period were rationed following the Second World War and this home was constructed over time with materials as they became available. It replaced the small corrugated iron family home which was situated towards the back of the next door block. Many of the family's basic food needs were provided by keeping cows, chickens and cultivating a productive vegetable garden.

Cross Moray Street at the corner of Conrad Street and continue to view nos. 13 and 15 Conrad Street

In 1888 several of the small laneways in this part of Richmond were named by Richmond Borough Council. There was some disquiet in the community regarding the selection of names as they were all in honour of currently serving alderman. There was also an unusual choice of first names in preference to surnames including William (Mitchell), Richard (Clough) and Joseph (Onus) and a number of other names such as Holborow, Cameron, Bowman, Ducker or Guest were suggested. Conrad Street (named for local medical practitioner Conrad Jockel who died a short time later in May 1888) and Boughton (Samuel Boughton, building contactor) were deemed to be more fitting at the time.

In the late 1850s a large section of Crown Land bounded by Paget, March, Bourke and what is now College Street was released for sale by auction. Many portions were purchased by members of the Bowman, Cornwell, Onus, Pitt and Magick families. Simple cottages were constructed on the blocks from 1860s-1870s which were then rented to local workers and their families.

109. Worker's Cottages - 13 & 15 Conrad Street

This portion of land was purchased by John Ezzey at an auction sale in 1858 as an investment and these simple worker's cottages were probably constructed as a pair a short time after. They are typical of the period with iron roofs and small twelve pane sash windows.

Retrace steps back to the corner of Conrad Street and Moray Street and turn right, walk to Teviot Street, turn right and cross into Teviot Street

110. Cottage - 34 Teviot Street

The first owner of this block was William John Magick who purchased a total of five blocks along this street in June 1860. This Victorian weatherboard worker's cottage dating from this early period was originally constructed with twelve pane sash windows and hipped iron roof.

111. Cottage - 40 Teviot Street

As well as this portion, Joseph Onus made a substantial investment in this street purchasing a total of ten blocks in 1860. This small weatherboard cottage with iron roof and bullnose verandah was constructed between 1870 and 1890.

112. Cottage - 46 Teviot Street

A mid nineteenth century weatherboard cottage with steeply pitched hipped iron roof, a verandah continuous with the main roof and narrow twelve pane sash windows. The cottage appears to have retained the detached kitchen at the rear of the building.

View 59 Paget Street from the corner of Teviot Street, then walk along Paget Street to the corner of Lennox Street

113. Cottage – 59 Paget Street

This block of over 2 acres was first granted to James Vincent in 1837. During the period 1880-1900 this brick cottage was constructed with an iron roof, skillion verandah, cast iron verandah posts and iron lacework. The original four pane sash windows were replaced with modern alternatives some years ago. The spacious property was owned by Frederick Strachan during the 1940s who kept a poultry farm on this site with his son Frederick Bayley. Many prizes at local and regional shows were won by the Strachan family for fancy poultry breeds during the period.

Cross Paget Street at the pedestrian lights at the corner of Lennox Street

114. Cottage – 56 Lennox Street corner Paget Street

This late nineteenth century weatherboard cottage was built to take advantage of the corner position and retains its period joinery including turned timber spindles, decorative verandah brackets, window hoods, finials and decorative bargeboards.

115. May's Farmhouse - 58 Lennox Street

This unassuming little cottage has an intriguing history. The May family farmed the fertile banks of the Hawkesbury River at Pitt Town Bottoms for over a hundred years. In 1938 this cottage was constructed for Bernard May and his wife Rita on part of the family's river front farm. Their home was repeatedly battered by flood waters and the couple often braved dangerous conditions to move their family and possessions to higher ground. Following the disastrous flood of 1964 it was time to move to higher ground and they decided to move the entire house from Pitt Town Bottoms to this site in Richmond.

The structure was cut in half and it was hoped that the two sections would be narrow enough to cross the several bridges between Pitt Town Bottoms and Richmond. After many difficulties and setbacks, the two parts were finally reunited on the block in Lennox Street several days later. It would have been much easier to construct a new house but the cottage was their home and was considered 'good as new' when it was put back together, patched and painted. The couple spent many happy years together in their 'new' old home in Richmond.

116. Cottage – 72 Lennox Street corner Gibson Street

This colonial Georgian cottage was built around the 1840s-1850s with a verandah continuous with main iron roof, octagonal verandah posts, hipped iron roof and it appears to have retained the original joinery.

117. Cottage 74 Lennox Street

A pair with 72 Lennox Street, this brick cottage with return verandah also dates from the earlier period of township development. Over the years this home has had little alteration and has retained its original twelve pane sash windows.

Retrace steps back to the corner of Paget Street and cross Lennox Street to the Richmond Marketplace corner

118. Richmond Marketplace Group

A number of timber buildings facing Lennox and March Streets were retained during the construction of the Richmond Marketplace Shopping Centre in 1996. The two cottages in Lennox Street formerly numbers 63 and 67 are modest timber structures with hipped roofs featuring the rising sun motif on the apex and bull nose iron verandahs. Number 67 was the home of the Biddle family for many years.

Walk to the corner of Paget Street and March Street and turn left to view the following properties

Along March Street several cottages and a shop have been restored and made available to commercial tenants. Formerly numbered 64 and 66 March Street there is a small timber cottage and an adjacent shop. The cottage has an interesting projecting portico with a unique shingled gable and attractive scalloped bargeboard. The nearby shop frontage extends over the footpath and the interior still retains the original ripple iron ceiling.

The 1920s weatherboard cottage (70 March Street) located next to the old shop has coloured casement windows shaded by an original awning supported by attractive radiating timber fretwork. The rising sun motif is also represented on the front gable of the building. Richmond Fire Station (see below No. 119) once stood on the site now occupied by the carpark entrance driveway.

Adjacent to this driveway stands a typical 1880s timber cottage built with twelve pane double hung windows and a separate verandah roof. The next two cottages (formerly 80 and 82 March Street) were also owned by the Biddle family for many years. Number 80 was constructed about 1910 and contrasts with the very simple 1880s cottage next door. This building has very little clearance above ground level and the verandah is continuous with the main roof.

119. Richmond Fire Station - 43 March Street

In the days before official town brigades, fire fighting was poorly organised and outbreaks were usually fought by volunteers with very little equipment or training. In December 1894 a public meeting was held in Richmond with the intention of forming a more organised and disciplined company. The brigade held its first training session in a weatherboard building in Francis Street in January 1895 under the leadership of George Woodhill.

Land at 76 March Street was purchased by the NSW government in 1907 and the station moved to this site in 1908. By 1910, the fire brigade which received an annual contribution to running costs of £32 from Richmond Council consisted of ten volunteer fire fighters with James Donahue as captain. Equipment at this time was still manually operated and drawn to the scene of the fire by horse power. In 1925 the volunteers were paid a small allowance per month and received an extra sum to attend each fire. In 1965 a more substantial brick building replaced the old structure and continued to be in use until 1997.

The Richmond Marketplace development in 1996 included the building of a new fire station which was officially opened in July 1997 replacing the old headquarters on the other side of March Street which was resumed for the construction of the shopping centre.

Retrace steps to the corner of March Street and cross Paget Street carefully to the view the final part of this tour

120. Cottage and former shop - 56 March Street corner Paget Street

This colonial cottage was constructed in the 1840s with later additions and alterations. The brick render is scribed to simulate stone and retains some original features such as the front window, shutters and verandah posts and the gable iron roof with single central chimney The adjoining shop was constructed in the early 1930s and until the 1970s was operated by George Reid. George's wife Bessie (Lines) grew up in Currency Creek (now Glossodia). For many years Reid's Grocery Store offered a home delivery service utilising a yellow van which would bring supplies of fresh provisions including butter, cheese and bacon to households in the Richmond to Kurrajong districts.

OTHER RICHMOND HERITAGE WALKS

A. St Peters Precinct nos. 1 – 31

Richmond was one of five new towns proclaimed by Governor Lachlan Macquarie on 6 December 1810 and surveyed by Meehan in 1811. This walk commences at St Peter's Anglican Church and Cemetery at the western end of Windsor Street and includes many buildings constructed during the first hundred years of European settlement.

2.5 km walk, 2.5 hours.

B. Richmond Park Precinct nos. 32 – 74

This walk takes in the features of Richmond Park including the Pavilion, Fountain and War Memorial and includes nearby residential areas and the original commercial heart of the town which grew up along Windsor Street during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

2.5 km walk, 2.5 hours.

C. East Richmond Precinct nos. 75 – 100

This tour commences in Paget Street and takes in the eastern section of the town including Francis, Jersey, Bowman and Pitt Streets and returning along Windsor Street to Paget Street. Formerly Crown Land much of this part of Richmond was released for sale in 1893 with additional portions in this area being made available in the 1920s. Gradually as houses were constructed and gardens established the area became known as East Richmond.

2.5 km walk, 2.5 hours.

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For further information call the Hawkesbury Visitor Information Centre (02) 4560 4620 or 1300 362 874. Or visit www.hawkesburytourism.com.au

The Centre is at Ham Common (opposite Richmond RAAF Base), Hawkesbury Valley Way, CLARENDON NSW 2756. Open 7 days. Managed by Hawkesbury City Council



