



Ballarat Heritage Walking Trails





Ballarat and its historic villages offer a unique experience for the visitor on foot, so leave the car behind, and take a stroll through the pages of time.

Wherever you wander around the Ballarat region, you'll encounter stunning architecture, magnificent gardens and reminders of the Gold Rush days.

A rich history preserved and presented for you to enjoy in contemporary cafes, boutique shops and award winning restaurants.

In this brochure, you'll discover three unmissable walking trails that will have you strolling through the Ballarat region's history and heritage.

Central Ballarat Walking Trail

The enormous wealth generated by gold meant that by 1860, Ballarat boasted the finest collection of bluestone and brick buildings in the entire colony. A walk around the city's streets, rich with graceful and timeless architecture, will have you reliving Ballarat's golden past.

Lydiard Street Walking Trail

Situated in the heart of Ballarat, Lydiard Street is the jewel in the crown of Ballarat's celebrated heritage precinct. It's undoubtedly one of Australia's best-preserved heritage streets, packed with grand architecture and buildings that ooze of history. Enjoy a walk along this wonderful street and discover the secrets hidden in Ballarat's most impressive buildings.

Sturt Street Statue Walking Trail

Sturt Street, which was originally called Raglan Street, is Ballarat's main thoroughfare, running through the heart of the city. Fully sixty metres wide, the beauty of this grand boulevard is enhanced by a magnificent avenue of mature trees and a series of marble statues running down its centre.



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Central Ballarat Walking Trail



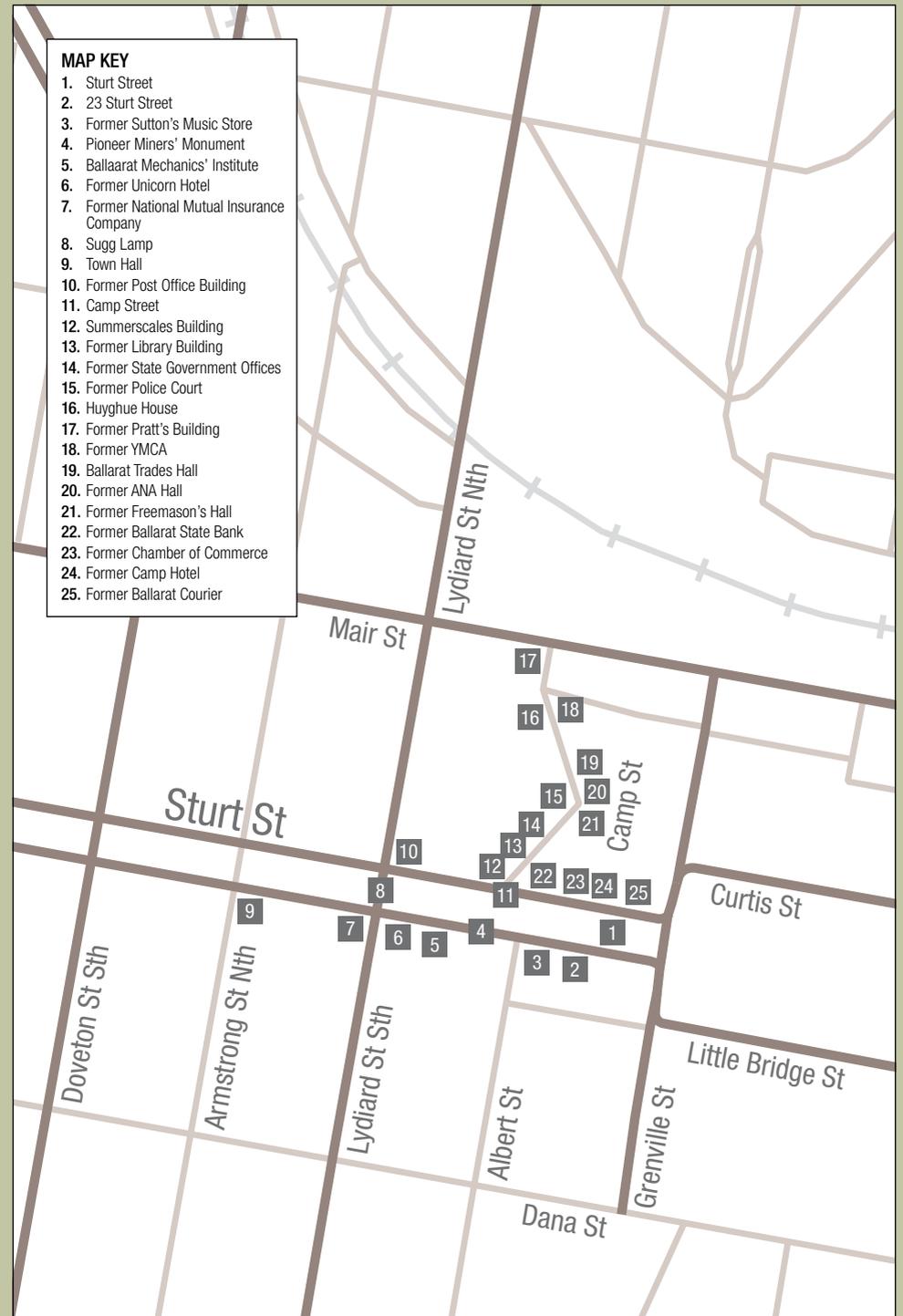
The biggest alluvial gold rush in the world began in 1851 when John Dunlop and James Regan panned a few ounces of gold at Canadian Creek in Ballarat. This chance finding marked the beginning of Ballarat's fascinating and turbulent history.

Enormous wealth was generated by gold in Ballarat in those early days. In today's figures, the region is said to have yielded about \$10 billion worth of gold, although the real figure is probably twice that, given many diggers kept their discoveries to themselves. But we do know that by 1860, Ballarat was home to the finest collection of bluestone and brick buildings in the colony.

Take a walk around the city, now rich in both culture and heritage, and take in the graceful and timeless architecture.

A short walk will bring the Eureka spirit alive and allow you to trace Ballarat's golden past.

The walk covers approximately one kilometre of the central business district, starting on the corner of Sturt and Grenville streets. It will take approximately one hour to complete.





1

1. Sturt Street:

Sturt Street is celebrated for being one of the widest and most picturesque thoroughfares in the country.

It was one of the first main streets in Ballarat and was designed according to W.H. Urquhart's 1851 survey. A substantial three chains width (60 metres) was set aside, which allowed for bullock turning.

Much of Sturt Street's original architectural character remains, with prime corner sites reserved for churches and public buildings.

The centre of Sturt Street was planted with blue gums in the 1860s, but 20 years later local shopkeepers complained that the trees were too tall and thick, making the street damp. A throng of locals who appreciated the beauty of the trees complained in vain, as council uprooted the magnificent trees under the cover of darkness.

Electric trams were introduced on either side of the central gardens in Sturt Street in 1905, creating six lanes of traffic. Given traffic conditions were already quite hazardous during this time, trams only added to the chaos. Clouds of dust and mud were stirred up every time a car or tram travelled along the street, but eventually new road rules were introduced and the road was sealed, relieving strained traffic conditions.

Sturt Street, which is lined with several stunning memorials and statues, has also been the location for floral displays, including displays for the annual Ballarat Begonia Festival.



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2. 23 Sturt Street:

The boldly coloured building is one of the most distinctive in Ballarat, with its bright blue tiles and towering proportions. Built in 1891 for Ballarat man Thomas Belsom, the building features a rounded balcony and art nouveau interior. This is a truly striking example of Edwardian Flemish baroque architecture, of which there are no surviving comparative examples in Victoria.



3. Former Sutton's Music Store, 31-33 Sturt Street:

At 22 metres tall, this building was once Ballarat's loftiest commercial structure. It was constructed in 1891 to house Sutton's Music Store. At the time, it was decorated with five German-made leadlight windows, which featured celebrated musicians of the time. The last remaining window, which has a likeness to Mozart, can still be seen just above the verandah.

Henry Sutton made his mark as an inventor and is today considered one of Australia's greatest early inventors. Sutton built a hydraulic lift for his father's music store and invented more than 20 telephones, 16 of which were patented by others. Interestingly, the Scottish-born man who is commonly credited with inventing the telephone, Alexander Graham Bell, visited Ballarat to learn more about the Sutton telephone system in Ballarat.



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4. Pioneer Miners' Monument, 39 Sturt Street (cnr Albert Street):

This monument, located on the corner of Sturt and Albert streets, was lovingly constructed by members of the Ballarat Historical Society. It commemorates the discovery of gold at Poverty Point on 2 August 1851, and is dedicated to the memory of the pioneer miners of Ballarat.

The monument, constructed mostly from large lumps of quartz, features a miniature gold mine on the top. Mounted on the side is a replica of the Welcome Nugget, which was unearthed near the corner of Humffray and Mair Street in Ballarat on 9 June 1858. The Welcome Nugget was the largest mass of gold ever discovered (weighing 62.8kg) up until that time, and was purchased for £10,500 by the Wittkoski brothers and displayed in Ballarat. A tradition began whereby mothers who visited the mammoth nugget were allowed to seat their baby on top of the nugget for good luck. The nugget was eventually shipped to England and melted down into gold sovereigns. A second replica is on display at the Ballarat Gold Museum.



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5. Ballarat Mechanics' Institute, 117-119 Sturt Street:

Construction of the Mechanic's Institute began in 1859 to provide working men with the chance to improve their work skills and general education. It took dedicated locals another decade to complete the façade, and a further decade for the billiard room to take shape.

Listed on the Victorian Heritage Register, the institute houses an impressive collection of old local newspapers, old and new books, and other historic collections, and continues to operate as a library. Open 9.30am-4.30pm daily, and 9am-noon on Saturdays. Visitors welcome.



6. Former Unicorn Hotel, 127 Sturt Street:

This hotel, currently under re-furbishment, was the closest to the busy intersection of Sturt and Lydiard streets, known as "the Corner" – an informal outdoor stock exchange where share brokers gathered to trade in gold shares. This made the Unicorn one of the city's most prosperous early pubs.

The original Unicorn Hotel was constructed of timber in 1856 before being replaced by a brick structure in 1866. A unicorn statue once adorned the wide two-storied verandah of the hotel. This was one of the few buildings in Sturt Street allowed to retain its cast iron verandah during the 1960s.

The facade is listed on the Victorian Heritage Register.



7. Former National Mutual Insurance Company, 201 Sturt Street (cnr Lydiard Street South):

This fine example of Venetian Gothic architecture is a unique example of early heritage in Ballarat. Built in 1905, it once housed the National Mutual Insurance Company offices. The building was designed by architects J.J and J.E Clarke, who also designed the Queen Victoria Hospital and the City Baths in Melbourne. The octagonal roof structure was added to house a lift and originally featured a dome. The three top floors have been refurbished as residential apartments.

8. Town Hall, 225 Sturt Street:

This monumental structure with its impressive tower is one of Ballarat's most distinctive buildings, but few people realise there have been three town halls on the current site. The first was destroyed by fire in 1859, and the foundation stone for the second building was laid in August the following year. The original plans for this second building were deemed too expensive to finish, so work on the project ceased. Time passed, and the second building was finally incorporated into a third structure.

From the laneway at the side of the building, you can see the join between the front of the old Police Court, which formed part of the second structure, and the façade, which was added in 1870.

Ballarat is the only city in regional Victoria with two working sets of bells. The Alfred Bells are in the Town Hall and the second set in St Peter's Church further along in Sturt Street. The Alfred Bells were paid for by the people of Ballarat as a very public apology to Prince Alfred after a former Ballarat resident, mad Irishman Henry O'Farrell, took a pot shot at the royal visitor in Sydney in 1868. Ballarat residents were keen to avoid being associated with such an act of disloyalty and embraced a suggestion that they buy a set of bells for the Town Hall and inscribe them with an account of the assassination attempt. The bells were installed three years later.

When the Alfred Bells were rung for the first time in 1871, hundreds flocked to the main street in the early hours to hear them.

9. Sugg Lamp, corner Sturt and Lydiard streets:

This ornate lamp is a replica of the lamps built on many intersections in central business districts across the country and can be seen in early photographs of Ballarat.





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10. Former Post Office Building, 106 Sturt Street (cnr Lydiard Street North):

This former post office building was once a bustling mail house, and was the second largest post office in Victoria after the Melbourne GPO.

The towering Italianate palazzo-style building was designed by William Wardell, a renowned architect who also designed Government House in Melbourne, St Patrick's Church in East Melbourne, St Ignatius Church in Richmond and the ANZ building in Collins Street, Melbourne. It is listed on the Victorian Heritage Register.

Construction of the post office began in 1864 and the second section of the tower was added in 1885. The tower has five levels, and includes a stunning arched carriageway ground floor entrance. When mail operations began in Ballarat, letters were delivered on foot by poorly paid postmen who were forced to carry heavy bags of mail. Mailmen were frequently asked to read letters to illiterate locals. Later, when mailmen became government employees, posties wore red uniforms complete with long coat tails and peaked caps. Today, the building forms an integral part of the University of Ballarat's Arts Academy, including the Post Office Gallery.

11. Camp Street:

This historic thoroughfare gained its name because it was the site of the Government Camp in the 1850s, and was originally chosen for its clear view of the diggings below.

Government troopers began their march from the camp to the Eureka Stockade early in the morning on 3 December 1854. Anger over unjust mining license fees and the brutal administration that collected them had reached boiling point when police and miners clashed in a bloody battle at the Eureka Stockade that left more than 30 people dead.

Ballarat's population exploded from 50 to 50,000 in five years, with police records revealing there were 76 police and 28,000 miners living in Ballarat. At one stage the local police inspector was forced to dismiss more than a dozen constables for drunkenness and violence, making law enforcement an even more difficult task.

Take note of the magnificent buildings that line the street, including the former Masonic Hall, Police Station, YMCA and Trades Hall.



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12. Summerscales Building, 102 Sturt Street (cnr Camp Street):

This elegant building was constructed in 1895, when bookseller H.J Summerscales was given a lease of land alongside the Post Office. The shop he built incorporated parts of the former Mining Board Room. This was extended in 1901 to fill the corner, with the income from the shops supporting the Library, next door in Camp Street.

13. Former Library Building, Camp Street:

A free library service was established in Ballarat in 1887 after a dedicated committee struggled for many years to raise the funds for the project. The large site chosen for the library enabled the committee to build shops to rent, offsetting the cost of the library and creating a permanent income stream to sustain it.

In 1939 part of the classic façade was removed and the east wall set back at an angle to allow the nearby State Government Offices and courthouse a more commanding street frontage. The city's library was located here between 1901 and 1994. The building is now part of the University of Ballarat's Arts Academy.

14. Former State Government Offices, Camp Street:

This building was designed by chief government architect Percy Everett and opened in 1941 to house the local state government offices and courthouse. It is similar in design to the Russell Street Police Station in Melbourne, and a good example of the era.

It's curious that this beautiful building sits in Camp Street given its contrasting architectural style to the otherwise Victorian-influenced street. The building faces Sturt Street rather than Camp Street, and has been beautifully maintained.

The state government offices are now located in Mair Street, and the city's court house has moved to the corner of Albert and Dana streets. This building is now part of the University of Ballarat's Arts Academy



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15. Former Police Court, Camp Street:

This redbrick Federation-era courthouse was built as the New Police Court in 1904 and contained a two-storey courtroom with Clerks' and Magistrates' rooms. After 1941, when courtrooms were provided in the new state government offices, this building housed the Benevolent Asylum's Ladies Committee. It now houses the Arts Academy's music theatre studio.



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16. Huyghue House (Old Ballarat Police Station), Camp Street:

This Italianate building is celebrated for its unique use of decorative cast iron, which was usually reserved for residential buildings during this era. The police moved into Camp Street in 1852 and this building was built between 1884 and 1886. At this time, police would chain prisoners to a large tree close to the police camp, even after the tree was felled. Locals were outraged when the tree was felled, and many souvenired pieces of it.

A prison was eventually constructed, using parts of what was left of the tree.

The old police station, which is listed with the Victorian Heritage Register, was renamed after S. D. S. Huyghue, a Canadian-born novelist, poet and essayist who witnessed the events of the Eureka Stockade. The building now forms part of the Art Gallery of Ballarat, housing offices and meeting rooms.



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17. Former Pratt's Building, 101 Mair Street (cnr Camp Street):

This freestanding building was built in 1869 as McDowall and Gray's Warehouse. The structure has weathered the years extraordinarily well and features unique rough-faced stonework.

18. Former YMCA, 38 Camp Street (cnr Field Street):

This is a fine example of Edwardian-style architecture. The building features a pepper pot dome and an impressive sheer wall disappearing down Field Street. Built in 1908, the building was opened by Prime Minister Alfred Deakin as Ballarat's YMCA, and operated as such until 1994. The YMCA has since relocated to the Ballarat Aquatic Centre in Gillies Street.



18

19. Ballarat Trades Hall, 24 Camp Street:

This grand old building dominates the Camp Street skyline. It was constructed in 1887-88 and features a highly decorative baroque façade, while the interior features cantilevered bluestone stairs and timber-lined ceilings. Only Ballarat tradesmen were used in the construction of this building that is listed on the Victorian Heritage Register.



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20. Former ANA Hall, 22 Camp Street:

This hall, built in 1925, was the Ballarat home for the Australian Natives' Association (ANA) that was founded in 1871. Friendly societies were first established in Australia during the middle of the 19th century to provide some of the medical and other essential services that weren't provided by the Government at the time. By 1900, it had 17,000 members, mostly in Victoria.

The ANA was one of the bodies that advocated strongly for federation of the Australian colonies, and the wooden hall formerly on this site was the location for important meetings of the Federation movement.



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21. Former Freemason's Hall, 14 Camp Street:

This building in Greek revival style was Ballarat's first Freemasons' Hall, and originally featured an elaborate porch.

Erected between 1872 and 1874, its textured cement rendering has weathered over time, obscuring some of the building's finer details. The imposing building features huge columns on either side of the entrance and an original ornate fence that encircles the building. It has housed various organisations throughout the years. Early on it was purchased by the State Electricity Commission and became the social club premises for employees.



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22. Former Ballarat State Bank, 48 Sturt Street (cnr Camp Street):

Ballarat has some of the state's most beautiful bank buildings, including this elegant Renaissance revival building, which is the former State Savings Bank. The Ballarat State Bank was established in 1858 and its building was once a single storey structure which was replaced by this elegant two-storey building in 1872. The site remained with the State Bank until this branch closed in 1995. Today, it is tenanted by a number of state government departments.



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23. Former Chamber of Commerce, 42-46 Sturt Street:

This building was one of the first buildings constructed in the central business district, for the local Chamber of Commerce in 1859. Before walking beneath the verandah, note the unusual first floor window details, which are alternately triangular and curved.



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24. Former Camp Hotel, 38 Sturt Street:

This stunning example of an art nouveau-influenced building was constructed in 1907 and has spent its entire life as a pub. Formerly known as the Camp Hotel, it was built in 1861, and was converted into Irish Murphy's pub in 1998. The building features wrought iron lamp brackets on the top and from a distance, some consider the first floor of the building to resemble a face.

25. Former Ballarat Courier, 24 Sturt Street:

This building was a hive of activity when it was built in 1947 to house The Courier, Ballarat's daily newspaper. The towering brick building is a classic example of the new brick and glazed ceramic colours that became available in the mid-1940s. The newspaper has since relocated its offices to Creswick Road.



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Lydiard Street Walking Trail

Lydiard Street is the jewel in the crown of Ballarat's heritage precinct. Not surprisingly, this stunning thoroughfare is a popular location for commercials and films, including most recently, an adaptation of Ned Kelly.

Lydiard Street's history is as interesting as its bluestone and brick buildings.

Just three months after gold was discovered in Ballarat, grand plans to build an entire city began in earnest.

In 1851 government surveyor, W. H. Urquhart, was sent to the area to lay out the township that would be built on the enormous wealth generated by the rich gold discoveries.

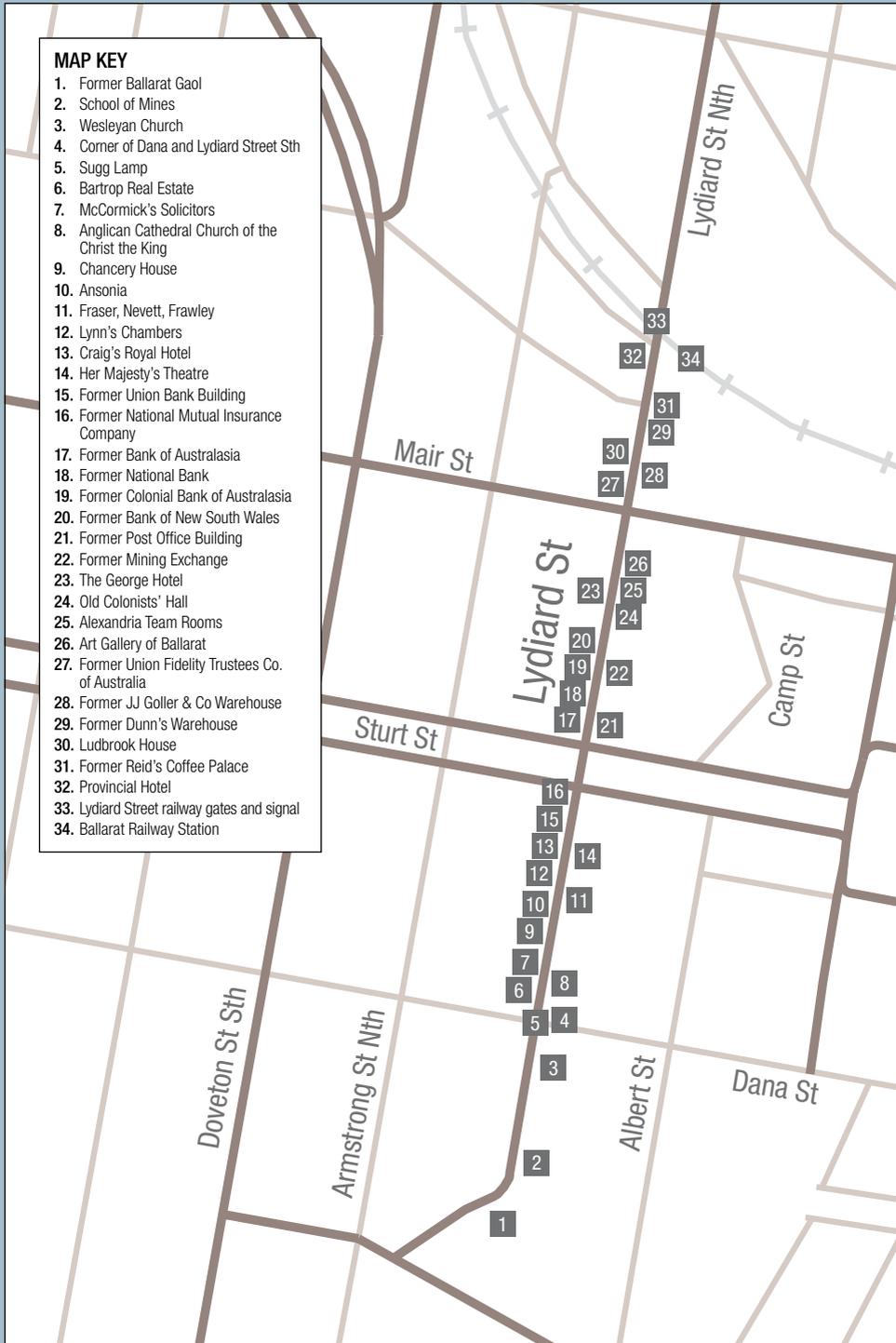
By 1860, Ballarat boasted the finest collection of bluestone and brick buildings in the colony – including the treasures that remain along Lydiard Street.

Other streets built during this turbulent and exciting time in Ballarat's history were Doveton



Street, Armstrong Street, Mair Street and Dana Street, which were named after gold commissioners, local policemen or soldiers.

This trail commences in Lydiard Street South at the University of Ballarat's SMB Campus.



MAP KEY

1. Former Ballarat Gaol
2. School of Mines
3. Wesleyan Church
4. Corner of Dana and Lydiard Street Sth
5. Sugg Lamp
6. Bartrop Real Estate
7. McCormick's Solicitors
8. Anglican Cathedral Church of the Christ the King
9. Chancery House
10. Ansonia
11. Fraser, Nevett, Frawley
12. Lynn's Chambers
13. Craig's Royal Hotel
14. Her Majesty's Theatre
15. Former Union Bank Building
16. Former National Mutual Insurance Company
17. Former Bank of Australasia
18. Former National Bank
19. Former Colonial Bank of Australasia
20. Former Bank of New South Wales
21. Former Post Office Building
22. Former Mining Exchange
23. The George Hotel
24. Old Colonists' Hall
25. Alexandria Team Rooms
26. Art Gallery of Ballarat
27. Former Union Fidelity Trustees Co. of Australia
28. Former JJ Goller & Co Warehouse
29. Former Dunn's Warehouse
30. Ludbrook House
31. Former Reid's Coffee Palace
32. Provincial Hotel
33. Lydiard Street railway gates and signal
34. Ballarat Railway Station

1. Former Ballarat Gaol (Ballarat SMB):

This circa-1857 Ballarat gaol housed prisoners until 1965. One of the most famous offenders to spend time there was bushranger Andrew Scott (Captain Moonlight), who escaped by scaling the lofty walls you see today. Born in Ireland, Scott was found guilty of theft in 1869 near Gordon, where he worked as a lay preacher. He was sentenced to 10 years behind bars by Sir Redmond Barry, but soon escaped. Scott was recaptured two months later and re-secured in the gaol before earning an early release for good behaviour.

During its 105-year history, at least a dozen men were executed at the old gaol. Today, the remaining buildings are used by the University of Ballarat.

2. School of Mines:

The city's School of Mines, situated at the southern end of Lydiard Street, is the third oldest tertiary institution in the country, after the universities of Sydney and Melbourne. Listed on the Victorian Heritage Register, the School of Mines was constructed in 1870 to provide a scientific and practical education in mining and related fields. The School of Mines became especially famous for its science, engineering, metallurgy, chemistry and geology courses. It merged with the University of Ballarat in 1998 and is now known as the SMB Campus.

3. Wesleyan Church, corner of Lydiard and Dana streets:

This stunning Gothic Revival church, listed on the Victorian Heritage Register, is perched high on the hill on the corner of Dana Street. Constructed in 1883, the elaborate structure of polychromatic brickwork with geometric tracery around the windows includes stunning amphitheatre-style seating. Ballarat pioneer, Eureka supporter and staunch Wesleyan Methodist, James Oddie, who was also a civic leader, helped finance the construction of the church, where he was Sunday School superintendent.





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4. Corner of Dana Street and Lydiard Street South:

Looking down the hill you can see the sites of some of Ballarat's earliest goldfields. With its gravel-lined creeks and gullies, the valley was the first to give up its golden riches. In the distance you can see the picturesque Mt Warrenheip.

In Ballarat's earliest days deep lead mining under the escarpment at the corner of Lydiard and Dana streets was the scene of subterranean warfare. When one mining company encroached on another's claim, stink bombs of burning sulphur were hurled into rival tunnels.

Looking from the west of the corner you can see the Ballarat Club at 203 Dana Street, which was built in 1888 at a cost of £4500 for use by graziers and professional gentlemen.



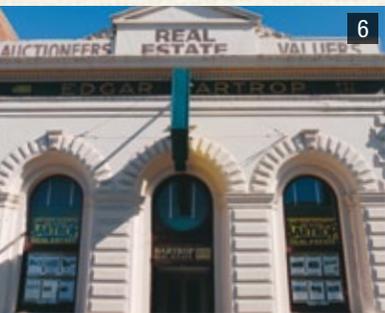
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5. Sugg Lamp, corner Dana Street and Lydiard Street South:

The huge ornate lamp is a replica of the lamps built on many intersections in central business districts across the country, and can be seen in early photographs of Ballarat.

6. Bartrop Real Estate, 52-54 Lydiard Street South:

The façade of this impressive building has changed very little since one-time Mayor of Ballarat, William Little, ran his real estate business there from 1876.



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7. McCormick's Solicitors, 50 Lydiard Street South:

This richly ornate building, erected in 1859, is a unique construction, complete with ornate decorative motifs.



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8. Anglican Cathedral Church of the Christ the King, 49 Lydiard Street South:

This is believed to be one of the city's earliest stone buildings. The foundation stone for this towering English Gothic-style structure was laid in 1854 – the same year as the Eureka Stockade.

The church was completed by contractors Messers Blackhouse and Reynolds in 1857 at a cost of more than £2000. The sanctuary and transepts were added in 1868. Walk around the corner and turn down Dana Street, where you can see the basement level of a cathedral that was never actually completed.



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9. Chancery House, 38 Lydiard Street South:

This handsome Renaissance Revival building was erected in 1880. The building features stunning original floor, chimney, roof, Doric columns and frieze.



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10. Ansonia, 32 Lydiard Street South:

Formerly Furnival Chambers, the building was built as an office building in the mid 1800s and converted to a boutique hotel late last century.



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11. Fraser, Nevett, Frawley, 41 Lydiard Street South:

This building was originally constructed as a bank, but the two-storey Renaissance revival building, with arched windows, has been used as solicitors' offices since 1911.



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12. Lynn's Chambers, 26 Lydiard Street South:

Lynn's Chambers was once the workplace of the first solicitor to practice on the Ballarat goldfields, Adam Loftus Lynn. Irish-born Lynn, who originally mined from a tent in the goldfields, appeared for the Scobie family at the inquest of James Scobie's murder, which was an important event in the lead-up to the Eureka Stockade. The chambers were constructed in 1870.



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13. Craig's Royal Hotel, 10 Lydiard Street South:

This towering Italianate gem was built on the site of Bath's Hotel, which was Ballarat's first official licensed pub. Thomas Bath originally constructed a simple timber pub in 1853, which became the site of the Royal Commission into the Eureka Stockade uprising. Walter Craig bought the hotel in 1857 and built a far grander pub and hotel. The elaborate corner tower and three-storey western section were added in 1890, and the portico built in 1891. Craig's was one of the first buildings in Ballarat to be lit by a Sugg Lamp.

Craig's has been the scene of glittering social events such as the Shenandoah Ball, which saw a group of US Civil War officers from the Confederate warship Shenandoah dance in the richly decorated ballroom in 1865.

Craig's has been a goldfields icon since Prince Alfred, Queen Victoria's second son, slept there in 1867 during an official visit to Ballarat. American writer Mark Twain also stayed in the 1890s, and celebrated soprano Dame Nellie Melba famously sang from its balcony in 1908.

Recently renovated, the hotel features 41 elegant suites and rooms. Craig's Royal Hotel is listed on the Victorian Heritage Register.

14. Her Majesty's Theatre, 17 Lydiard Street South:

This beautiful theatre, the pride and joy of Ballarat, opened as the Academy of Music in 1875, named to avoid the negative moral connotations attached to theatres at the time. It was constructed of timber over a mineshaft. This is Australia's oldest continuously operating purpose-built theatre, and has been home to the Royal South Street Society and Grand National Eisteddfod of Australia since 1896.

Today, concerts and live shows are still held on the stage where Dame Nellie Melba once performed. Her Majesty's is listed on the Victorian Heritage Register.



15. Former Union Bank Building, 4 Lydiard Street South:

Constructed in 1864, this beautiful Renaissance revival building is considered one of architect Leonard Terry's finest works. Terry (1825-1884), incorporated a lower colonnade of Doric columns at ground level, and a colonnade of Corinthian columns and hooded windows on the first floor. The building is listed on the Victorian Heritage Register.

16. Former National Mutual Insurance Company, 201 Sturt Street (cnr Lydiard Street South):

This perfectly restored example of Venetian Gothic architecture is a unique example of early heritage in Ballarat. Built in 1905, it once housed the former National Mutual Insurance Company offices. The building was designed by architects J.J and J.E Clarke, who also designed the Queen Victoria Hospital and the City Baths in Melbourne. The octagonal roof structure was added to house a lift and originally featured a dome. The three top floors have been refurbished as residential apartments.

17. Former Bank of Australasia, Lydiard Street North (cnr Sturt Street):

Architect Leonard Terry won a competition for the design of the London Bank's Melbourne office and later went on to design at least 50 other banks, including this imposing Italian Palazzo-style building, which was constructed in 1863. Note the elaborate ceiling, distinctive balustrades and decorative arch windows.

18. Former National Bank, 5 Lydiard Street North:

This striking three-storey building, again designed by architect Leonard Terry, was originally constructed as the National Bank of Australasia in 1862. This two-storey building is the office of the Federal Member for Ballarat Catherine King and the building's top two floors are spacious offices and residential accommodation. In the large rear yard is an historic two-storey brick building that once housed a gold smelter.





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19. Former Colonial Bank of Australasia, 9 Lydiard Street North:

This former bank, constructed in 1860 to a Leonard Terry design, is now home to Baird and McGregor solicitors. Established in 1898, the company is one of the city's oldest established law firms.



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20. Former Bank of New South Wales, 13-15 Lydiard Street North:

This building, listed on the Victorian Heritage Register, is an imposing Renaissance revival building designed by architect Leonard Terry and constructed in 1862. The one-time bank was also home to the Australian Trust for Conservation Volunteers, founded in Ballarat in 1982, which has grown into Australia's largest practical conservation organisation.

21. Former Post Office Building, 106 Sturt Street (cnr Lydiard Street North):

This former post office building was once a bustling mail house, and was the second largest post office in Victoria after the Melbourne GPO.

The towering Italianate palazzo-style building was designed by William Wardell, a renowned architect who also designed Government House in Melbourne, St Patrick's Church in East Melbourne, St Ignatius Church in Richmond and the ANZ building in Collins Street, Melbourne. It is listed on the Victorian Heritage Register.

Construction of the post office began in 1864 and the second section of the tower was added in 1885. The tower has five levels, and includes a stunning arched carriageway ground floor entrance. When mail operations began in Ballarat, letters were delivered on foot by poorly paid postmen who were forced to carry heavy bags of mail. Mailmen were frequently asked to read letters to illiterate locals. Later, when mailmen became government employees, posties wore red uniforms complete with long coat tails and peaked caps. Today, the building forms an integral part of the University of Ballarat's Arts Academy, including the Post Office Gallery.



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22. Former Mining Exchange, Lydiard Street North:

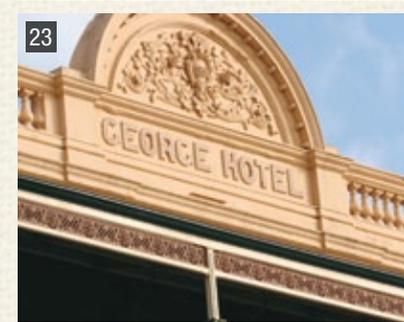
This classical building with wide elliptical entrance was erected between 1887 and 1889. Designed by architect Charles Figgis, it is lined with 40 offices that were once bustling with share brokers and mining agents selling shares in goldmines. The Mining Exchange recorded 98 members when it opened and when gold mining declined, the elaborate building was used as a garage, bus depot and craft market. The ornate verandah you see today was reconstructed from old photographs, and was replaced in 1987. This stunning building is listed on the Victorian Heritage Register.



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23. The George Hotel, 27 Lydiard Street North:

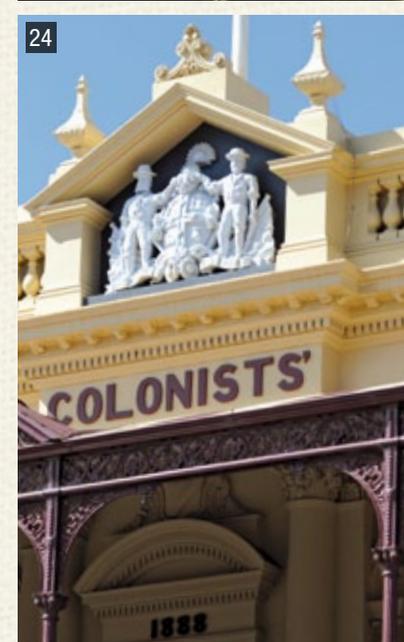
No less than three 'Georges' have occupied this central site since 1853. The George Inn, Ballarat's second officially licensed hotel, was built on a grassy mound here. The second George was a double storey building with verandah columns, and was known as House's George Commercial Hotel from the late 1870s until the turn of last century. The present three-storey federation classical brick building, with its three-level iron lace verandahs, is unique to Victoria. This current version was designed and constructed in 1902 by E. and B. Smith.



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24. Old Colonists' Hall, 20 Lydiard Street North:

The Old Colonists' Association was formed in Ballarat in 1883. This stunning Victorian renaissance revival hall was constructed in 1888 on the site of the former gold escort barracks and stables, and was a popular spot for early pioneers to gather for a natter. Designed by A.G. Leggie, the building's façade features beautiful balustrades and the relief letters and coat of arms can be seen in the centre pediment. The stone mask of the man with the stern face and Quaker-style beard above the entrance is recognisable as John Murray, who was the president of the Old Colonists' when the building was constructed. The building is listed on the Victorian Heritage Register.



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25. Alexandria Tea Rooms, 26-34 Lydiard Street North:

This Victorian Renaissance revival building with its intricate two-storey cast iron verandah became a fashionable place for tea in the last century. Upstairs is Alexandria on Lydiard, an up market reception venue, which retains gracious period features including the grand sweeping staircase in the entrance. The building is listed on the Victorian Heritage Register.



26. Art Gallery of Ballarat, 40 Lydiard Street North:

Built in 1884, this is Australia's first provincial gallery and is also the largest regional gallery in Australia. Its collection of art, spanning early colonial works through to a contemporary collection, includes works from the Heidelberg School, and prints dating back from Captain Cook's voyages. A special goldfields collection includes works by Eugene Von Guerard, who painted the local goldfields in the early 1850s. It is also home to the original Eureka flag, which was hand stitched by a group of women loyal to the digger's cause. The Gallery, which is listed on the Victorian Heritage Register, is open daily from 9am-5pm.

27. Former Union Fidelity Trustees Co. of Australia, 101 Lydiard Street North:

Check out the front steps into the stately building and you will see Ballarat Palace Hotel written in faded red paint. This was once the scene of many glamorous Ballarat events held in its elegant rooms, which feature marble fireplaces. The building, erected in 1887, replaced a wooden hotel that was destroyed by fire in 1887. De-registered as a hotel in 1918, the building later became known as the Union Fidelity Trustees. It was purchased by Cuthbert's, one of Victoria's longest running law firms, in 1983. The building retains its fine stone detailing with cement render, and elegant pilasters and decorative lintels above the windows on the upper floor.



28. Former JJ Goller & Co Warehouse, 114 Lydiard Street North:

This wonderful two-storey warehouse was built in 1862 from bluestone carted to Ballarat from the Barrabool Hills and other quarries near Geelong. From 1876 it housed Goller's Wholesale Wine and Spirit Merchants. The building was later tenanted by the Ballarat Orphanage and the Ballarat Community Corrections Centre.



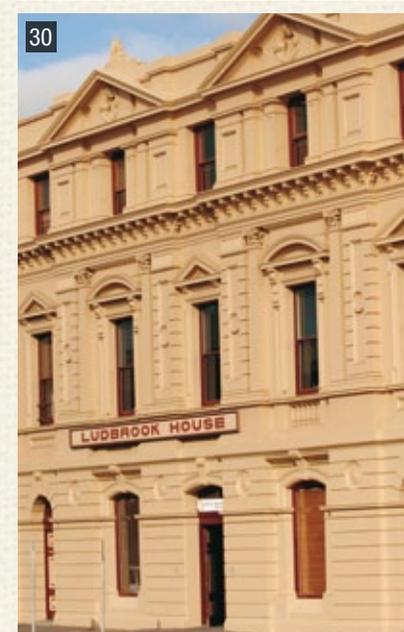
29. Former Dunn's Warehouse, 120 Lydiard Street North:

Constructed between 1861 and 1862, the exterior of this building was painted, and copper awnings added when it was converted into a restaurant. It remains a unique example of a Renaissance revival style warehouse. Today it is the Bended Elbow Hotel.



30. Ludbrook House, 115 Lydiard Street North:

Prince Alfred laid the foundation stone of this stunning Roman Renaissance building during his visit to the city in 1867. The building, once considered for a Temperance Hall, was never built and in 1913 the foundation stone was re-inscribed and re-laid. Known as Irwin's Buildings, it was used as a hostel and canteen for thousands of servicemen during World War II and became St Paul's School in 1949. Today it is the office of Ballarat's Child and Family Services.



31. Former Reid's Coffee Palace, 128 Lydiard Street North:

Built in 1886, this Victorian classical building was once home to Reid's New York Bakery. The verandah was added to this two-storey building 10 years later. It was barely altered for more than a century until it was overhauled in the 1970s. One saving grace was that the grand façade, Edwardian balcony, hand-painted ceiling and stunning entrance arch were saved. The building continues to operate as a guest-house.





32

32. Provincial Hotel, 123 Lydiard Street North:

Built in 1909, this Edwardian baroque-style building is a rare, intact example from this era. Built on the site of two earlier buildings, the Irwin and Sovereign hotels, this towering structure includes flamboyant design pavilions, dome towers and balconies. It was designed by P.S. Richards and is listed on the Victorian Heritage Register.



33

33. Lydiard Street railway gates and signal boxes:

These beautiful old gates were installed back in 1885 when hand-operations by a signalman were common. The signalman wound a large wheel in the historic signal box to open and close the gates when a train approached. The signal boxes are an example of 19th century safe working practices. Today, Ballarat retains the largest surviving interlocked installation in the state. These are rare today.



34

The signal gantries were installed after the 1888 additions. They were similar to gantries at the Bendigo Station and Flinders Street Station in Melbourne, now demolished. This entire area is of huge historical value to Victoria, and the gantries are the last surviving installations of their type in the state.

34. Ballarat Railway Station:

Thousands of commuters bustle through the city's historic railway station every week, but it's worth taking a closer look. The station was constructed when the railway line first began servicing the city in 1862. The prominent tower section was constructed 26 years later, and is one of the grandest buildings in Ballarat. This wonderful example of Ballarat's early architecture is a prime illustration of late 19th century railway systems built to the best of British standards and construction.

The railway station acted as a catalyst for the development of Lydiard Street North throughout the 19th century. Given the area's importance as a thoroughfare founded on wealth produced by gold mining activity, the station plays a crucial role in the interpretation of the entire street. The station is listed on the Victorian Heritage Register.

Sturt Street Statue Walking Trail

Sixty metres in width, Sturt Street was named after a police magistrate who was the brother of explorer Charles Sturt.

In the 1860s, the centre of this grand thoroughfare was planted with blue gums along a central pathway; while at the turn of

the century electric trams were introduced, flanking the central gardens. The last tram ran in 1971 but the architectural splendour of Sturt Street remains.

Today, the central gardens feature a magnificent stand of mature trees. Beneath the canopy, you can stroll along the gardens, admire the architecture to either side of Sturt Street, and discover features along the way including a vast array of statues, memorials, fountains and bandstands. There's history in each one.

Indeed, a walk along Sturt Street is a great way to get a sense of the story of Ballarat and its Historic Villages. And good food and coffee can be found all the way along.

The area covers approximately 1 km of Sturt Street, starting at the intersection of Drummond and Sturt streets, and will take approximately 45 minutes to complete.





MAP KEY

1. Petersen Fountain
2. Mother Earth
3. Gordon Memorial
4. Cenotaph
5. Eternal Flame
6. Peter Lalor
7. Korean, Borneo, Malayan Vietnam Memorial
8. Sir Albert Coates
9. Queen Alexandra Bandstand
10. Harold 'Pompey' Elliott
11. William Dunstan Victoria Cross Memorial
12. King George V Monument
13. Hebe
14. Ruth
15. Thomas Moore
16. Queen Victoria
17. Queen Victoria Fountain
18. Boer War Memorial
19. Burke & Wills Fountain
20. Robert Burns
21. Titanic Memorial Bandstand
22. Point to the Sky
23. Perseus
24. Pioneer Miners' Monument
25. James Galloway Monument

1. Petersen Fountain

This fountain was presented to the city by Danish man C. Petersen, who lived in Ballarat in the early 1900s. Unveiled in 1922, the fountain is carved in marble and is surrounded by bronze frogs and a bird, and features a granite circular base. This beautiful fountain also features a pair of marble drinking fountains nearby.



2. Mother Earth

This statue depicting Mother Earth was sculpted in 1952 by George Allen from freestone and granite from Hawkesbury, near Sydney. It was commissioned after a generous bequest from local man Frank Pinkerton. The plaque on the statue reads: 'symbolising central figure earth emerging from relief figures representing the industries of mining and agriculture'.

3. Gordon Memorial

At the western side of the Sturt and Lyons streets crossroads there is magnificent bronze statue of a horse mounted on a stone plinth.

In front, by the gutter, is a hitching post with a plaque inscribed 'A. L. GORDON, AUSTRALIAN POET, 1833-1870.'

Adam Lindsay Gordon was a celebrated poet and horseman who set a record at Flemington when he won 3 steeplechases in an afternoon. At Mount Gambier in South Australia he performed an amazing feat on his horse at a place immortalised as 'Gordon's Leap'.

The beautiful statue of a horse is a memorial to the 958,600 horses and mules killed in the First World War. It was sculpted in 1969 by Raymond Ewers and is constructed from cast bronze and granite.



4. Cenotaph

Ballarat's cenotaph, designed by John Shimmin, was constructed from stone hauled from a quarry on the Hawkesbury River near Sydney.

The poignant memorial to those left behind during wartime was constructed after money was raised from generous donations from locals. Fundraising efforts were significantly bolstered after a public plea on local radio station 3BA on Anzac Day, 1948. The Cenotaph cost £2064 and is constructed of massive sandstone blocks set on a granite base. It was officially unveiled on 24 November 1949 by the then Governor of Victoria, General Sir Dallas Brooks, and carries the inscription 'Our Glorious Dead'.

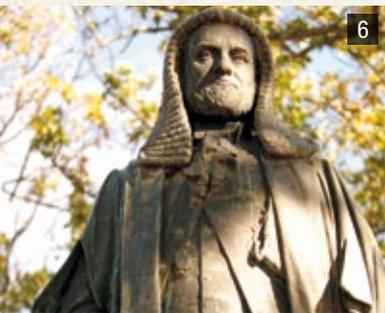




5

5. Eternal Flame

World War II 1939-1945 Memorial. This human-size metal sculpture, in the shape of a flame, is green on three sides and gold on the face to the setting sun. The lettering is set in stone on the ground. The memorial was erected in 1995 by the Ballarat Returned Servicemen's League to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II. The Memorial was designed and constructed by Ballarat sculptor Peter Blizzard and is set on sawn bluestone flags. In-ground lighting ensures the memorial can be seen after dark.



6

6. Peter Lalor

This impressive bronze statue honours the hero of Eureka, Peter Lalor. The statue, sculpted by Nelson McLean in 1892, records Lalor's achievements that are still remembered in Ballarat today. Bronze reliefs at the granite pedestal base depict the Eureka Stockade, events in Lalor's life and the names of those killed at the Eureka Stockade, which occurred on 3 December 1854.

The statue, which cost £2400, was paid for by a personal friend of Lalor, James Oddie.



7

7. Korean, Borneo, Malaya & Vietnam Memorial

This moving South East Asian War Memorial was dedicated by Michael Ronaldson MHR in November, 2000 to commemorate the wars in Korea, Borneo, Malaya and Vietnam. It is in the shape of a cross, and is constructed in sawn bluestone. It is framed by formal planting of rosemary and box.



8

8. Sir Albert Coates

This memorial tells the tale of Sir Albert Coates, and provides an excellent example of contemporary statuary.

Coates was born in 1895 in modest circumstances, but after leaving school at an early age, he undertook night study and excelled as a medical student. He enlisted during the first world war and served as a medical orderly from 1914, and upon returning to Australia continued to study medicine.

During the next decade he established himself as a leading surgeon and academic. Short and nuggetty, Coates was courageous, honourable and unpretentious. He was renowned for his dedication, skill and wisdom. He died in 1977.

9. Queen Alexandra Bandstand

This bandstand, which is listed on the Victorian Heritage Register, was constructed in 1908 during the heyday of the band movement and named in honour of the then Queen. The structure incorporates fine wrought iron detail and includes musical motifs.



9

10. Harold 'Pompey' Elliott

Unveiled in May 2011, the bronze statue by Louis Laumen, marks Elliott's contribution to Australia's military history.

Elliott went to Ballarat College in 1895. He served with distinction with the 4th Imperial Contingent in the Boer War in South Africa, joined the militia on return and by the start of the Great War was a militia battalion commander.

He fought at Gallipoli and in 1916 became the Commander of the 15th Brigade, a position he held for the rest of the war. Post war, Elliott returned to his legal practice and became a Senator for Victoria.

The sculptor worked from photographs, including those held by the Australian War Memorial Canberra to create the finely detailed statue and spent at least two weeks perfecting the detail on the bronze, including the texture of Elliott's military decorations and the buttons on his tunic.



10

11. William Dunstan Victoria Cross Memorial

This memorial to William Dunstan, Ballarat's Victoria Cross winner, was constructed in 1995 as part of the federally funded 'Australia Remembers' project that marked the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II. It is a pink marble and greystone pillar with the Australian Imperial Force crest on the east and a metal plaque on the western side that tells the story. Born in 1895, Dunstan was awarded the Victoria Cross after the Battle of Lone Pine at Gallipoli. Following the war, he became the manager and director of newspaper group the Herald & Weekly Times. He died in 1957.



11



12

12. King George V Monument

This bronze statue memorial to King George V was constructed in 1938 by talented sculptor Victor Greenhalgh to commemorate the King's Silver Jubilee of 25 years on the throne. The monument is set on a granite backdrop and features a stunning bluestone base.



13

13. Hebe

This marble statue of Hebe was constructed in 1899 and forms a pair with the statue of Ruth. The statue was donated to the city by wealthy local gentleman John Permewan in 1899, who owned local carrier firm Permewan & Wright and was a well-known investor.



14

14. Ruth

This statue was a gift to the people of Ballarat and takes pride of place in Sturt Street. The white marble statue stands on a granite base. It was sculpted in 1899 by Charles Summers.



15

15. Thomas Moore

This statue was designed by Ballarat sculptor George Grant in 1889. The base features striking alternate cream and red square tiling. Fencing once bordered this memorial but has since been removed, allowing closer inspection.



16

16. Queen Victoria

This statue commemorates the reign of Queen Victoria, and incorporates four bronze scenes from her life. These are the accession to the throne in 1837, the coronation in 1838, the diamond jubilee in 1897 and the signing of the Constitution of the Australian Commonwealth in 1900. It is the work of Sir Bertram MacKenna.

17. Queen Victoria Fountain

This Queen Victoria Memorial Fountain is the second memorial to Queen Victoria in Ballarat. It was presented to the citizens of Ballarat by the Women's Christian Temperance Union in 1902 and included a drinking fountain. It incorporates a marble statue of two children on a polished granite column set on a circular granite path. The fountain was restored in 1976.



17

18. Boer War Memorial

This poignant memorial by sculptor James White commemorates the soldiers who took part in the Boer War in South Africa between 1899 and 1902. The construction of this bronze statue was approved in 1900 and the foundation stone laid a year later. The statue was relocated to the present site and unveiled by Governor General Baron Northcote on 1 November 1906.



18

19. Burke & Wills Fountain

The Burke and Wills Fountain is the centrepiece of the streetscape at the Sturt and Lydiard streets intersection. The fountain was constructed in 1863 in memory of Robert O'Hara Burke and William John Wills, the famous explorers who perished while crossing Australia in 1861. Wills had been a resident of Ballarat, and his father a physician in Humffray Street. The plan for a memorial caused a showdown among locals – rival municipal councils, Ballarat East and Ballarat West, couldn't agree on a site and appropriate design for the fountain, delaying construction for two years.

The monument was finally completed in 1867 and lit by gas in 1868. The fountain became known as 'the grandest candlestick', and was stocked with gold fish and a pair of tortoises.

Locals were outraged when local youths smashed three of the four lamps with slingshots just three weeks after its lamps were lit. The fountain remained unlit for 40 years.

The memorial, which was restored in 1994, lists the names of key people who assisted the explorers in their final expedition.



19



20

20. Robert Burns

This statue was erected to commemorate Scottish poet Robert Burns by Ballarat's local Scottish community.

Burns was born in Scotland in 1759 and was a popular farmer and poet. Many of his poems were written to be sung to old Scottish folk tunes.

The statue of Burns and his dog, which cost £1000, is believed to be the first statue constructed to honour a poet anywhere in Australia.

Once the project was under way, passionate locals engaged in heated debates before an appropriate site was selected for the statue.

It was finally erected on the site where a large willow tree known as the 'Loafers Tree' used to grow, named for the 'loafers' who used to sit under it.

The memorial was commissioned by local Scot Thomas Stoddart in 1884 and carved from Italian marble by sculptor John Undy in Italy. It was unveiled in Ballarat 13 years later and inscribed with quotes from Burns.

Take a close look at the patterned tiles around the base.

21. Titanic Memorial Bandstand

This beautiful Edwardian bandstand, erected in 1913, is dedicated to the bandsmen who lost their lives aboard the Titanic in 1912, when it sank on its maiden voyage en route from England to the United States of America.

Legend states that the bandsmen continued to play for terrified guests as the mammoth ship sunk.

Perched on top of the elaborate terracotta roof of the octagonal bandstand is a silhouette of the Titanic, which acts as a weather vane.

This memorial, constructed in 1915, is listed on the Victorian Heritage Register and was paid for after generous donations from locals, including £150 from the Victorian Band Association.

There are only two memorials to the bandsmen of the Titanic in Australia – the second one is in Broken Hill, New South Wales.



21

22. Point to the Sky

This statue focuses on the spirit of human endeavour, drawing on Ballarat's history to symbolise the link between past and the future. Created by sculptor, Akio Makigawa in 2002.

23. Perseus

This marble statue of the ancient Greek hero was donated to Ballarat by the National Gallery of Victoria in 1943. It is the work of sculptor J. Cranari and dates from the 1880s.

24. Pioneer Miners' Monument

This monument, located on the corner of Sturt and Albert Street, was lovingly constructed by members of the Ballarat Historical Society. It commemorates the discovery of gold at Poverty Point on 2 August 1851, and is dedicated to the memory of the pioneer miners of Ballarat.

The monument, constructed mostly out of large lumps of quartz, features a miniature gold mine on the top. Mounted on the side is a replica of the Welcome Nugget, which was unearthed near the corner of Humffray and Mair streets in Ballarat on 9 June, 1858. The Welcome Nugget was the largest mass of gold ever discovered (weighing 62.8kg) up until that time, and was purchased for £10,500 by the Wittkoski brothers and displayed in Ballarat. A tradition began whereby mothers who visited the mammoth nugget were allowed to seat their baby on top of the nugget for good luck. The nugget was eventually shipped to England and melted down into gold sovereigns. A second replica is on display at the Ballarat Gold Museum.

25. James Galloway Monument

This Eight Hour Labour Day Memorial was constructed in 1880 to honour James Galloway, who founded the eight hour system of work in Victoria. This monument was restored in 2001 and unveiled by then-Premier of Victoria Steve Bracks on 11 July 2001. The monument is constructed of quartz and bluestone and incorporates cast-iron lion heads.



22



23



24



25



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