



Perth's powerful people and places in history



Welcome to the Icons of Influence trail

When John Septimus Roe first laid out the city of Perth in 1829, he envisioned a powerful city at the centre of a strong, progressive economy. St Georges Terrace was the focus of this design, a broad avenue running parallel to the shores of the majestic Swan River. Pre-eminent early settlers built their residences along the Terrace and many significant civic buildings were also erected here.

St Georges Terrace continues its central role as the city's powerhouse today. Follow this trail to investigate the history of the city through its iconic places of influence. As you walk along the trail, keep your eyes out for plaques placed in the pavement, in recognition of many people who have influenced the growth of Perth and Western Australia.

This self-guided trail will take up to two hours. You can join in or depart from the trail anywhere along the way.

The trail intercepts with the city's free CAT bus service accessing the foreshore, East Perth, Northbridge and West Perth (excluding public holidays).

Other City Walking Trails:

- Boom or Bust
- Convicts and Colonials
- The Secret of Point Zero children's trail
- Art City
- City Parks & Gardens

i-City Information and Police Kiosk
Murray Street Mall near Forrest Place, Perth 6000

City of Perth
Council House, 27 St Georges Terrace
Perth WA 6000

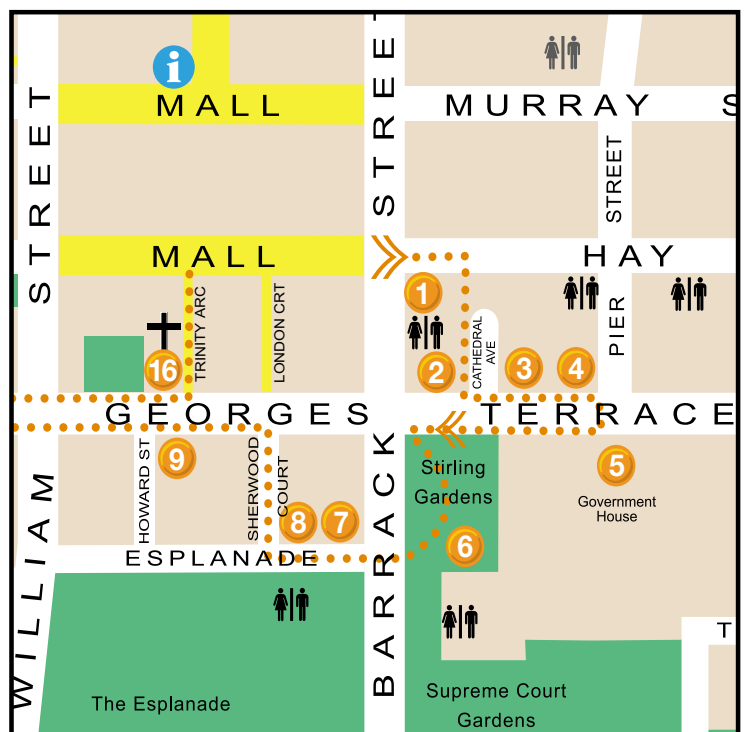
Trail prepared by Nichol Business Development and the City of Perth.

This information is available in alternative formats.

www.perth.wa.gov.au

1 Perth Town Hall Corner Hay and Barrack Streets

The Perth Town Hall was designed by Richard Roach Jewell and James Manning and built between 1867 and 1870 using convict labour. Jewell designed many other important Perth buildings including the Wesley Church and the Treasury building adjacent to the Town Hall. The Perth Town Hall was designed on a grand scale to reflect its important role in the administration of the colony,



as well as to serve a number of practical purposes. The undercroft of arches formed a covered marketplace, that operated for a few years before it was seen to be uneconomical. The space was later used to house the city's firefighting equipment, including a 12-man fire carriage. Aside from these practical uses, many important ceremonies and balls were held in the Perth Town Hall. The man who became known as 'Father of the Kimberley' was sworn in as Mayor of Perth at this venue in 1892 and 1897. This man also had extensive business interests in gold mines, newspapers, timber, retail, butchering and cattle - find out who he was later in the trail.

Guided tours of the Perth Town Hall are conducted by the i-City Volunteer Hosts. Telephone 9461 3444 for information.

One of the more unusual uses of the Perth Town Hall was as a camel stable! Explorer Ernest Giles used the undercroft as a resting place for his camels and party on his epic journey from South Australia in 1875, creating much excitement among Perth's residents.

In the gardens of the Perth Town Hall stands the statue of Captain James Stirling, the man responsible for colonising Western Australia on behalf of England and the colony's first governor. The bronze statue was originally unveiled by Prince Charles in 1979, a gift to the State from Channel 9 Television for the 150th anniversary celebrations. It was installed on this site in 2003.

Walk down the laneway from Hay Street to Cathedral Avenue to view the buildings on the western side of the avenue.

2 Central Government Offices Cathedral Avenue

The Central Government Offices or Treasury Group is a diverse group of buildings including the original General Post Office (1889), the Lands Department (1893) and the Titles Office (1897), which reflect the nineteenth century custom of keeping government departments centrally located. The Titles Office, designed by George Temple Poole, was built in 1897 and has been described as one of Australia's finest and most dramatic Free Classical buildings. Across the road, the original site of the legislative council (demolished in 1870) is marked by a plaque outside Council House.

Look at the plaque in the pavement at the corner of Cathedral Avenue and St Georges Terrace. This marks Point Zero, the point from which all measurements of distance from Perth are still taken. The children's trail "The Secret of Point Zero" allows children to discover the history of the city by solving a riddle - ask for it at the i-City Information Kiosk.

Walk up the steps to St George's Cathedral.

3 St George's Cathedral 2 Cathedral Avenue

You are invited to wander inside the striking St George's Cathedral, completed in 1888. Once the cathedral was established, many of Perth's prominent people worked and lived close by and worshipped here on Sundays. See if you can find memorials to people such as Edith



Cowan, who you will learn more about later in this trail. Next to the Cathedral is Burt Memorial Hall, a gift from the family in 1917 in memory of two sons of Septimus Burt killed in World War One. The Burt family played a prominent role in Perth's history - the first Chief Justice was Sir Archibald Burt and a hundred years later, his descendent Sir Francis Burt was also Chief Justice (see stop 6).

Tours of St George's Cathedral and Burt Memorial Hall can be arranged by contacting the Director, Cathedral Education Centre on 9325 5766.

In the initial layout drawn up for the City of Perth, land was set aside for the Anglican Cathedral at Victoria Square. However, the Anglican Church leaders did not want to have their key building located so far away from other centres of power such as Government House. Instead, St George's Cathedral was relocated to this present position and Victoria Square was given to the Catholic Church.

Walk down the steps on the southern side of the Cathedral to St Georges Terrace.

4 The Deanery Corner St Georges Terrace and Pier Street

This romantic style gothic house was built in 1859 by ticket-of-leave men for the colony's first Dean and housed the Anglican Deans of Perth until 1953. The Deanery was funded by Western



Australia's first Bishop, Bishop Hale, who also built the Cloisters (stop 15) and an impressive residence for himself (stop 12). Before the Deanery was built, public stocks and a whipping post were located here to deter the population from crime. Following this, it was the site for Perth's first gaol, which was replaced by the gaol that now forms part of the Western Australian Museum.

Midgegooroo, the leader of his tribe and the father of famous Nyoongah warrior Yagan, was executed by firing squad at this site in 1833. The Perth Gazette reported that "a great number of persons were assembled on the occasion ...[and] there was general satisfaction". The initial friendliness and cooperation between the original inhabitants of the Swan River region and the white settlers deteriorated as both groups felt their way of life threatened by the other. A statue of Yagan, who was killed by bounty hunters soon after his father's execution, can be seen on Heirisson Island.

Cross St Georges Terrace at the Pier Street traffic lights to view Government House. Please note that, as Government House is still the primary residence of Western Australia's Governor, there is no public admittance except on specified days.

5 Government House St Georges Terrace

You can imagine the excitement felt by the citizens of the fledgling Swan River Colony, when this magnificent building was completed in 1864. Built in the Jacobean style, the current building replaced the previous Government House completed in 1835, which almost immediately proved inadequate. The gardens of Government House are open to the public most Tuesdays 12-2pm. The Governor hosts open days at Government House three to four times a year, telephone 9429 9199 for information.



The Government House site has been in continuous occupation as the principal vice-regal residence in Western Australia since the city was

founded in 1829. The current building is a big improvement on the canvas tents occupied by Governor Stirling and his family from 1829 until 1832 and on the original Government House building, where Stirling drafted official correspondence under an umbrella due to the leaking roof!

Walk along St Georges Terrace to the entrance of Stirling Gardens at the corner of Barrack Street. As you walk, glance up St Georges Terrace and compare its appearance today to how it looked in 1870.

6 Stirling & Supreme Court Gardens and Francis Burt Law Education Centre

33 St Georges Terrace

As you enter Stirling Gardens, you are met by the statue of the 'Father of the Kimberley'. Alexander Forrest played many roles in the community, including that of Lord Mayor of the City of Perth. This statue was sculpted by a young Italian sculptor, Pietro Porcelli, to commemorate Alexander Forrest's life.

Stirling Gardens was first used by colonial botanist James Drummond as an acclimatisation garden in the 1830s, when plants including fruit trees were grown. The reserve then opened as a botanical garden in 1845, and was used by residents of the city for recreation, much in the way that it is used by city workers today. Stirling Gardens merges with the Supreme Court Gardens, together forming one of the most distinctive parkland areas in the city. The oldest building in the City of Perth is located in the Supreme Court Gardens. Now known as the Francis Burt Law Education Centre, this was the only building suitable for public meetings when it opened in 1837 and it functioned as a church, a law court and as the Perth Boy's School until 1850.

Exit Stirling Gardens at the vehicle gates on Barrack Street and cross to The Esplanade at the traffic lights.

7 Weld Club 3 Barrack Street

In 1892 this building was completed to house the Weld Club. Named after Governor Frederick Weld in 1871, the Club offered a place for Perth's influential men to gather in a social setting, play billiards and discuss the affairs of the day. Fifty foundation members, of whom two-thirds were government employees, made up the original membership of the club, which still operates today. The Working Men's Institute, for the less influential members of Perth society, was located in an insalubrious area near the Perth Gaol.

While you are here you may hear the sounds of the Swan Bells being played in the specially constructed tower by the river at Barrack Square. You can visit the Swan Bells any day of the week and enjoy bell ringing demonstrations on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays between 11.30am and 12.30pm. The Swan Bells tower provides a great view of the city and the Swan River from its observation deck.

Walk west along The Esplanade and take the first street on the right to Sherwood Court.



8 Karrakatta Club 4 **Sherwood Court**

This is the current home of Australia's oldest and first women's club. The wives of Perth's influential men founded the Karrakatta Club in 1894, with the purpose of allowing members to prepare papers and share information on matters of social and political importance. It must have succeeded in its mission, because in 1921 one of the founding members of this club became Australia's first female Parliamentarian.

Edith Dircksey Cowan was a most productive member of Perth society. An orphan by the time of her marriage at 18, Edith Cowan was an active member of fifty community groups and organisations throughout her lifetime, served as a Justice of the Peace and was elected to the Western Australian Parliament at the age of sixty. She was only the second woman in the British Empire to be elected as a Member of Parliament. A vocal campaigner for the rights of women and children with an underlying philosophy of community service, Edith Cowan donated her parliamentary salary to charity. The clock tower located at the entrance to Kings Park was erected in her memory in 1934, two years after her death. A university was also named after this influential campaigner.

Turn left from Sherwood Court onto St Georges Terrace.

9 The Western Australian Club

101 St Georges Terrace

A year after the Weld Club building was completed on Barrack Street another exclusive men's club, the Western Australian Club, was formed. The discovery of gold in Western Australia propelled the colony rapidly forward, creating an increasingly affluent and influential group of men who demanded more "networking" opportunities. Perth needed more than one club to meet this demand, although many of the new club's members were also members of the Weld Club! As a reflection of the changing role of women in Perth's commercial life, the Western Australian Club

began to allow women as associate members in 1970 and as full members in 1997.

Before you reach Perth Boys' School, keep your eyes down near the seats where the footpath meets the wall of the Perth Technical Institute for some cute public art - these critters might help you eat your lunch if you don't watch out!

10 Perth Boys School 139 St Georges Terrace

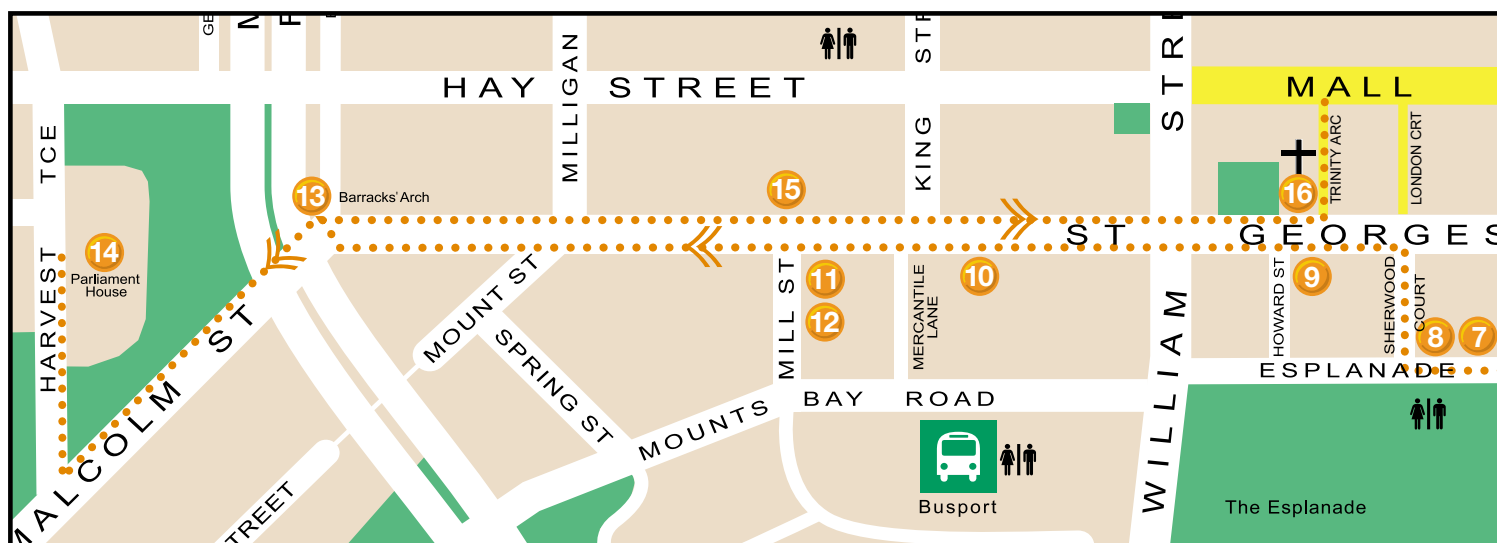
Perth Boys' School was the city's first purpose built school, constructed by convicts in 1854. The building was built in the gothic style to look like a church, in order to impose a sense of duty, attentiveness and obedience on its pupils. Enrolments in the Government-run school became so numerous during the gold boom from the 1880s to 1890s that the building could no longer accommodate the school, at which point it shifted to James Street, into the building which is now the home of the Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts.



A lack of educational facilities in the early years of the colony led to warnings in the newspapers that Western Australia was in danger of becoming a "degraded society". In the end, the threat posed by the increasing popularity of Roman Catholic schools from 1846 led the Anglican Church to agitate the Government to establish this school, whose curriculum was based on the teachings of the Anglican Church.

11 Forrest House replica Forrest Centre, 221 St Georges Terrace (behind 219)

A replica of Forrest House, the home purchased by Alexander Forrest on St Georges Terrace in 1895, has



been created in the Forrest Centre and houses a popular bar, Rigby's. When Perth was originally laid out, the price of a block of land on St Georges Terrace was £200 - double the price of any blocks on the streets behind. Alexander's neighbours on the Terrace included many of Perth's influential people such as Lionel Samson, George Shenton and Walter Padbury.

Another statue dedicated to Alexander Forrest is found in the Forrest Centre. Notice the difference between this statue, completed in 1999, and the statue you saw earlier on in the trail, completed in 1902.

During normal business hours you can walk past Rigby's through the glass doors and along the walkway at the perimeter of St Georges Square to look over the Parterre Gardens to Bishop's House. If you are walking this trail on the weekend, walk back out to St Georges Terrace and proceed to Stop 12 on this trail. Please note that Bishop's House is a private residence with no public access.

12 Bishop's House rear 225 St Georges Terrace

Bishop Hale was the first Anglican Archbishop of WA and arrived in 1858. He was the son of a wealthy English landowner, who had left him an impressive legacy. By the time the 'Good Bishop' left the colony in 1875, he had built a number of grand buildings along St Georges Terrace which are still in use today, including this private residence for his family.

Continue up the Terrace and cross the road at Mill Street. Continue up the hill to Barracks Arch.



13 Barracks' Arch 266 St Georges Terrace

You are now standing at the "top end" of the Terrace under Barracks' Arch, all that remains of the Pensioner Barracks. The Barracks were constructed in 1863 to house the Pensioner Guards, ex-soldiers employed to guard the convicts. Although convict transportation ceased in 1868, some

Pensioner Guards remained in the Barracks until it was taken over by the Public Works Department. Public outcry stopped the Barracks from being demolished in 1902 to clear the view for the parliamentarians at the new Parliament House, but the accommodation wings were eventually removed to make way for the Kwinana Freeway in 1966, with the Arch preserved as a compromise to the public.

From here you can choose to follow the trail up to Parliament House and Kings Park, or catch a bus back down to stop 15. Please note that all buses within the city are free.

14 Parliament House 4 Harvest Terrace

Located at the "top end of town", Parliament House was designed to be the head of an imposing vista. The foundation stone was laid in 1902 and the building opened in 1904. Although a national competition was held for the design of the parliament, it was never completed to specifications because it was too expensive. When construction of the western façade cost £16,000 more than estimated, no more work took place to complete the eastern façade until 1958. This resulted in two distinctly different façades, built in the styles of their time.

Tours of Parliament House are conducted on



Mondays and Thursdays at 10.30am. The viewing platform next to the car park allows a superb view back down St Georges Terrace.

The nearby Constitutional Centre of Western Australia, on the corner of Havelock Street and Parliament Place, gives an insight into how the Australian political system works. The only centre of this kind in Australia, the Constitutional Centre is located in the former Hale School building and is open to visitors 8.30am to 4.30pm weekdays, telephone: 9222 6922.

Catch any bus back down the Terrace to stop 15.

15 The Cloisters 200 St Georges Terrace

The Cloisters were designed by Richard Roach Jewell to house Bishop Hale's School. The "Good Bishop" financed and built this school in 1858, and was responsible for educating many sons of the colonial elite, including Alexander and John Forrest. The graduates from this school formed the nucleus of the governing group in Western Australia to the turn of the century and beyond, reinforcing the ties between the Anglican Church and the powerful residents of St Georges Terrace. The school closed at this site in 1872, moving to a number of different city locations

until 1961, when it moved to its current campus in the suburb of Wembley Downs. Today, the school is known as Hale School.

Proceed back along St Georges Terrace to stop 16.

16 Trinity Church and Trinity Congregational Chapel 72 St Georges Terrace

Two buildings of the Trinity Church are found at this location. Richard Roach Jewell designed the first building, now known as the Trinity Congregational Chapel, in 1865. The chapel is now obscured from St Georges Terrace by the newer Trinity Church (1893), built in a more ornate style to reflect the new found prosperity brought by the gold boom. The Trinity Church housed the Congregationalist denomination - many of whom were 'small business people' - artisans, shopkeepers and other members of the skilled working class. The chapel was a popular venue. Its uses included operating as a Sunday School and Hall - the Karrakatta Club held its first meeting there in 1894. Trinity Arcade, built in 1923, connects St Georges Terrace to the Hay Street Mall.

Walk back to St Georges Terrace and compare the diverse scene around you to the city that the early residents of Perth would have been accustomed to.



increasingly secular and multicultural nature of society becoming important themes into the twenty-first century. What icons will come to signify the sites of influence in the city of the future and how will St Georges Terrace look in 100 years time?



Throughout this trail, many icons of influence in the City of Perth have been revealed. The Church, explorers, settlers and politicians all played an important role in influencing the development of Perth into the city it is today.

Many changes have taken place since these early days, with the role of women and the