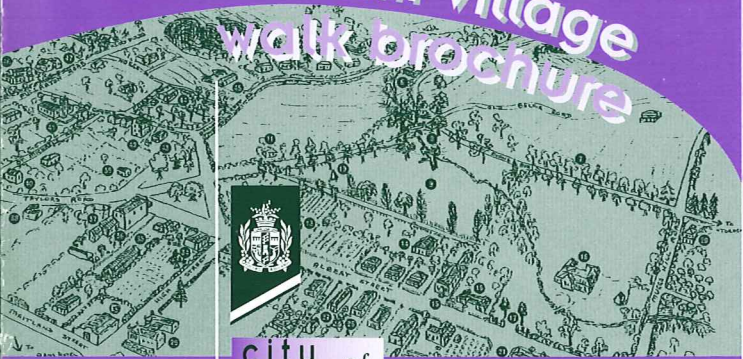


Mitcham Village walk brochure



city of

MITCHAM

- 1 HISTORIC
(CONSERVATION)
ZONE
- 2 UPPER MITCHAM
- 3 CEMETERIES

*"Delightful Sites for Villas"
... in the immediate neighbourhood of the town,
but which at the same time secure the advantages
of a country residence
Register 1840*

*Plan of the Township of
MITCHAM
on the River Hill Creek*

Mitcham Village

This brochure has been prepared to help visitors to enjoy pleasant walks whilst discovering the special features of the Mitcham Village Historic (Conservation) Zone and surrounding areas.

As well as the main walk (Walk 1), two others have also been included: Walk 2 is around St Michael's and Upper Mitcham, and walk 3 covers three Mitcham cemeteries on Blythewood Road.

A fold-out map on the reverse of this page covers all three walks.

Unless otherwise noted, the sketches in this brochure are by Pamela Oborn and have been reproduced with her permission from Mitcham Village Sketchbook published by Rigby Ltd, 1974.

Obviously the appearance of many of the buildings have changed over the past 25 years.

INFORMATION FOR WALK 1

Distance: approximately 2 km

Time: allow one to two hours

Access: walk begins at the Edinburgh Cellars at the corner of Albert and High Streets, Mitcham.
Both Mitcham buses - one via Unley Road and the other via Fullarton Road - terminate at the door.

Terrain: mostly flat ground. Suitable for wheelchairs.

FURTHER READING

Mitcham Village Sketchbook, C. Chinner and P. Oborn, Rigby, 1974

History of the City of Mitcham, W. A. Norman, Corporation of the City of Mitcham, 1954

More About Mitcham, A. Aeuckens, Corporation of the City of Mitcham, 1994

Catholics in Kingswood, D. Hilliard, Kingswood Catholic Parish Pastoral Council, 1994

Torrens Park Estate: a Social & Architectural History, K. Preiss and P. Oborn, the authors, 1991

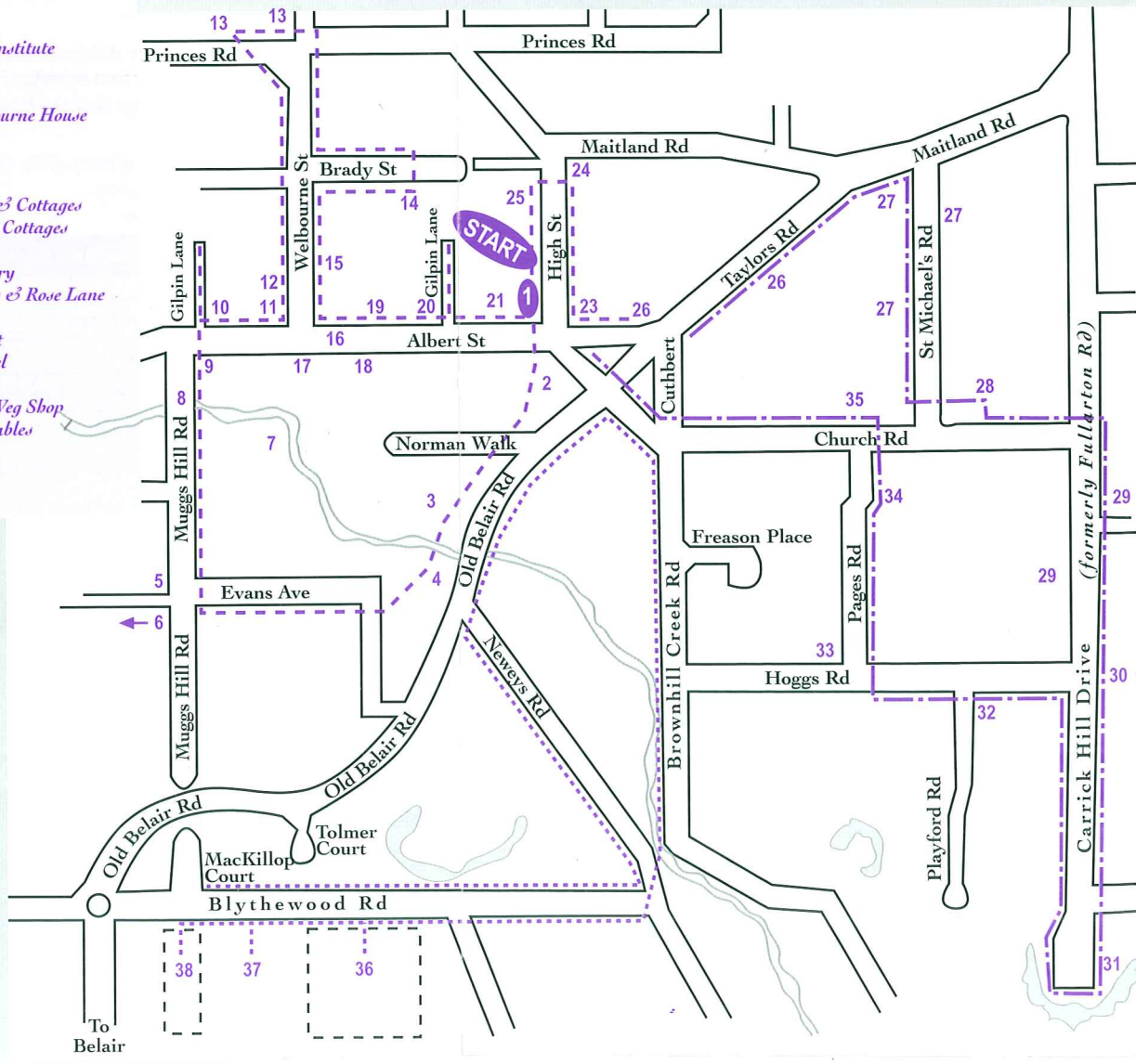
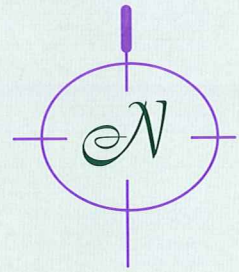
Also general information held in the City of Mitcham Local History Service, 242 Belair Rd, Lower Mitcham.

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walk 1 Historic (Conservation) Zone
walk 2 Upper Mitcham
walk 3 Cemeteries

Old Quarry Sites

To Belair

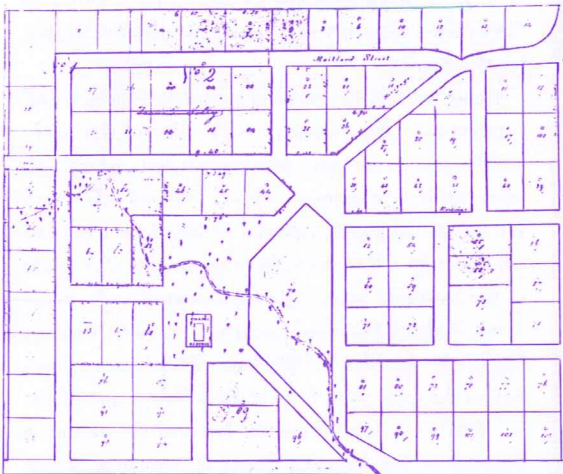
To the City

Carrick Hill Drive (formerly Fullarton Rd)

MITCHAM VILLAGE - A BRIEF HISTORY

Prior to the arrival of the first colonists in 1836 the Kurna aborigines called this area *Wirraparinga* (scrub-and-creek place). It was one of their favourite camping and corroboree sites.

The land was granted to the South Australian Company which employed shepherds to tend its flocks at the Brownhill Creek sheep run. In 1840 the Company laid out Section 248 as a village, naming it Mitcham after the manager's home town in Surrey, England, which is renowned for its cricketers and Old English lavender. The 134 acres (54ha) of foothills land was divided into 103 lots and offered for sale as "Delightful sites for villas". The boundaries extended from today's Carrick Hill Drive to west of Muggs Hill Road, and from Blythewood Road to Princes Road. An area of common land straddling Brownhill Creek was set aside as a village green. It is now the Mitcham Memorial Reserve.



Plan of the Township of
MITCHAM
on the Brownhill Creek

PLAN OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MITCHAM ON THE BROWN HILL CREEK, 1840. (OLD LANDS TITLES OFFICE)

It is hoped that you will enjoy your walk.

Around it developed a thriving commercial district and service centre with many shops, hotels, coaching stables, churches and schools. Most shopkeepers lived in dwellings attached to their premises, while labourers occupied simple two- or three-roomed bluestone cottages.

The gentry built gracious villas on the slopes around St Michael's Church, and rich pastoralists and government officials established huge mansions set in large estates in the foothills surrounding the Village.

Although the horse trams ushered in an era of enormous suburban expansion around Adelaide in the early 1880's, Mitcham retained its compact village identity until after World War I when the population explosion and resulting building boom of the 1920's saw the surrounding wheat fields and cow paddocks subdivided and the Village gradually absorbed into the greater-Adelaide suburban sprawl. Until the advent of large regional shopping centres in the 1950's and 1960's the Village remained the main commercial area for the district.

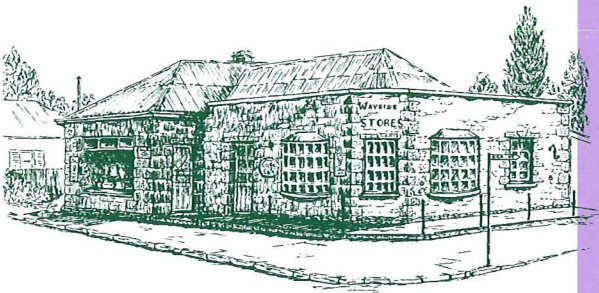
Today, even in the midst of suburbia, Mitcham still retains its village identity with most of the early buildings in its core area remaining intact - albeit with some infill development. Since 1975 its value as a microcosm of simple colonial architecture has been acknowledged by leading heritage bodies with many of the buildings being individually listed on National Trust, Federal, State and Local Government Heritage Registers. In March 1986 some 29 hectares (about half of the total area of the original Village as laid out in 1840) was placed on the Federal Government Register of the National Estate of Australia; and in April 1997 the core precinct (*the area covered by Walk 1 in this brochure*) was gazetted as an Historic (Conservation) Zone under the City of Mitcham Development Plan. This will ensure protection from unnecessary demolition and unsympathetic development in the future.

HISTORIC [conservation] ZONE

This walk begins at the corner of Albert Street and High Street where the two bus routes to Mitcham terminate - one via Unley Road and the other via Fullarton Road. The Unley Road route is the same one used since the horse trams began a regular service in 1879, followed by electric trams and then buses bringing residents and visitors to Mitcham Village.

1. EDINBURGH CELLARS

For 120 years this old shop, built c.1853, served the needs of the community as a general store selling groceries, sweets, crockery and all sorts of kitchen utensils. Like others in the Village, the shop consisted of one small room, with the rest of the building being used as a residence. During the 1950s some of the interior walls were removed and alterations made to the doors and windows.



In 1973 it was purchased by the adjoining Edinburgh Hotel and leased to the Mitcham Village Art & Crafts Association. This community-based organisation operated a Gallery and taught a range of art and craft subjects here until a disastrous arson attack in February 1991 reduced the building to a burnt-out shell. The new Gallery now adjoins the Mitcham Village Institute (*see No.15*).

The ruin having been rebuilt, opened the following December as the Hotel's bottle shop. A photographic display inside depicts its past history.

2. SUTTON GARDENS

This small park opposite the Edinburgh Cellars was named after a former mayor of Mitcham (*see plaque on northern wall*). It was originally the site of 'Jerusalem', a large stone house built in 1844 for the Revd Thomas Playford - namesake and forebear of two premiers of South Australia. Extensive gardens, a large well, stables, coach-house and a stone winery occupied the acre (0.4ha) block, while a horse paddock and vineyard extended westwards to the Baptist Church in Albert Street.

The dwarf walls near the western boundary were erected in 1988 to commemorate Australia's bicentenary. They bear a series of bronze plaques which give a brief history of the area and of some of its notable residents.

3. MITCHAM MEMORIAL RESERVE

This was the original village green, the centre of colonial life in the Village. A plaque on the monument records it as being the site of the Union Chapel and schoolhouse where Thomas Mugg in 1847 began the school which is now the Mitcham Primary School. It was also where the decision was taken in 1853 to form the District Council of Mitcham - the first local governing body outside of the City of Adelaide.

There have been several bandstands on the Reserve, the earliest dating from the latter part of the 19th century. The present rotunda, built in 1995, bears a plaque (*facing the creek*) explaining its relevance as a War Memorial.



4. KEYSTONE BRIDGE

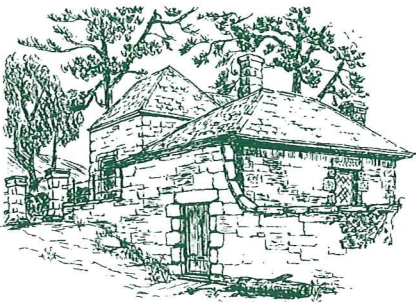
The Keystone Bridge over Brownhill Creek, probably the district's best-known landmark, was built in 1875 (*read the plaque on it for more details*). The bridge is on the State Heritage Register. Between it and the new bridge (built in 1988) is the original ford. The massive River Red Gums are indigenous to the water courses of the Adelaide Plains, and some are reputed to be over 400 years old.

On the southern side of the creek near the Keystone Bridge is an electric barbecue. A plaque on it commemorates the work of Inspector Alexander Tolmer who lived nearby (*see No.36*).

From the Reserve walk west along leafy Evans Avenue. The alternating pittosporum and plane trees were planted by Charles Evans after whom the street is named (*see below*).

5. EAST LODGE

At the end of Evans Avenue is the East Lodge on Muggs Hill Road. It was formerly the gatehouse leading to the vast 'Torrens Park Estate'. The northern rooms date from the 1860s and the others were added in the 1880s. Note the detail in the stonework, particularly around the windows.



The Lodge was traditionally the home of the head gardener, a position Charles Evans held for nearly 30 years from the early 1880s during the ownership of Robert Barr Smith.

The East Lodge is on the State Heritage Register.

6. SCOTCH COLLEGE

The lane at the side of the East Lodge was the original entrance and driveway to 'Torrens Park House' which was built in 1853 by R.R. Torrens. It was subsequently owned by Sir Walter Hughes and the Barr Smith family (*see No.38*). Scotch College bought the mansion and part of the grounds in 1920. It is private property and prior permission must be obtained before entering.

7. 'KALLAWAR'

Walk down Muggs Hill Road towards the ford. 'Kallawar', the large property on the eastern side of the road is a part of Scotch College Junior School Campus. The present house, built in 1908 for Lloyd Prince, occupies the site of a two-storey bluestone home built in 1849 for his father, George. George Prince was a wealthy man who established a large crockery business in Adelaide. His beautiful garden was much admired and featured aloes, an orangery and a huge vine-covered trellis through which family and friends could promenade and 'take tea'.

The various outbuildings were used as stables, laundry, dairy and wood shed.



*It is hoped that you
are enjoying your
walk.*

8. MUGGS HILL ROAD FORD

The street was named after Thomas Mugg, the first school teacher, who lived in a cottage which once stood at the top of the hill.

In the early days of the Colony this ford provided one of the few points where the Brownhill Creek could be crossed by travellers going up into the hills, particularly timber cutters with their cumbersome bullock teams. Flash floods have led to several people drowning whilst attempting to cross the ford following heavy rain in the catchment areas around Crafers. Note the sandstone piers on which the footbridge rests.

9. KALLAWAR' COACH-HOUSE

Having crossed Brownhill Creek turn right into Lochness Avenue, which was formerly known as Albert Street Extension.

The old building on the corner of Muggs Hill Road dates from the late 1840s, having been part of George Prince's large property.

10. GILPIN LANE

Opposite the coach-house, on the right-hand corner of Gilpin Lane, is one of the oldest cottages in the Village. The two front rooms and porch date from the mid-1840s. Exterior timber panels now hide the walls which are constructed of timber posts at 60mm intervals infilled with a single layer of red bricks. The back rooms are a later addition, and the junction between the two sections is clearly visible from the lane.

Another charming cottage further down the lane has been tastefully enlarged by the addition of a second storey at the rear. The end cottage was restored and enlarged during 1997-8.

Continue along Lochness Avenue past four attached cottages. These were renovated and faced with bluestone veneer in the late 1980s.

Turn the corner into Welbourne Street.

11. OLD POST OFFICE

On the corner of Lochness Avenue and Welbourne Street is the old Mitcham Post Office built in 1883 (now a private residence). Note that the side walls, as well as the facade, are of coursed bluestone rather than the usual rubble construction.

Welbourne Street does not appear on the 1840 map of Mitcham Village, but was put through some years later when Lot 1 comprising some 10 acres (4ha) was subdivided. It was named after the Welbourn(e) family who lived on the other side of the street just past the two-storey flats.

**12. STAMPS CAFE**

For over a hundred years the shop next to the old Post Office was the local drapery store where Thwaite's Menswear began business. Originally a single-fronted building, it was enlarged as can be seen from the different heights of the ceiling inside the restaurant. A residence adjoins the old shop.

Continuing north you will pass several other fine old bluestone homes, the first of which was once the manse for the Baptist Church in Albert Street.

Continue to the far end of Welbourne Street where you will find an important group of colonial buildings fronting Princes Road.

*where Thwaite's
Menswear began
business*

13. MITCHAM VILLAGE INSTITUTE

Built in 1870 as a joint venture between the Mitcham Institute Assn and the Mitcham School, this fine old building has had many other uses over the years. It served as the office of the District Council of Mitcham from 1880 to 1908, and as the local library until 1966. It has been the headquarters for the Mitcham Brass Band, Dramatic Club, and Mitcham Youth Centre; literary, choral and musical societies; a variety of sporting groups, a boxing ring and a gymnasium; St John's Ambulance, Mothers & Babies Health Clinic, District Nursing services; a military depot during World War 2 and as a kindergarten. It was the centre of the social life of the district with numerous balls, fetes, bridge parties, concerts, and patriotic celebrations. Many a romance blossomed during ballroom dancing classes in the Institute and at the Saturday night picture shows.



Money to maintain the Institute was always a problem and in 1960 it was finally transferred to the Mitcham Council. In spite of some unfortunate 'modern' additions made to the facade in 1966, the building continued to deteriorate until it reached a point where demolition was being seriously considered. Happily, the decision to restore rather than destroy was taken in 1993 and this fine old heritage building is now 'the jewel in the crown' of Mitcham Council.

Plaques adjacent to the entrance porch give further details.



DRAWN BY JEANETTE MCLEOD, 1994

Concurrent with the restoration of the Institute, a new purpose-built Gallery was constructed at the rear of the building for the Mitcham Village Art & Crafts Assn, which had been temporarily housed in the East Wing of the Institute following the arson attack on its Albert Street premises in 1991 (*see No.1*). The new Gallery, which is also the headquarters of the Mitcham Historical Society, is open daily except Sundays from 10 am to 4 pm.

In 1889 land on Princes Road adjoining the Institute was sold to the government to construct a police station. This is now the headquarters of the local State Emergency Service. A small holding cell is still in situ behind the old police station.

A few steps further west along Princes Road will bring you to the A-framed Uniting Church. The original bluestone Methodist Church behind it was built in 1882 and is now used as a hall. Both have foundation stones giving details.

Retrace your steps past the Institute and note the corner store with the date '1894' in the gable before returning along Welbourne Street.

*The Art & Crafts Gallery,
is open daily
except Sundays
from 10 am to 4 pm.*

14. BRADEY STREET

It is worth a small detour into Bradey Street. Several cottages on the right-hand side of the street are included in the Historic (Conservation) Zone.

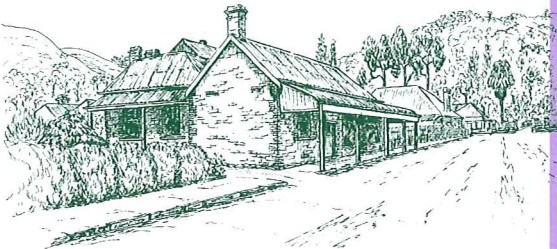
Returning to Welbourne Street, note the two shops and two houses built during the austerity period following World War 2. Most of this land between Bradey and Albert Street was subdivided in 1878, and these blocks were the site of a large fodder storage shed. The business was run in conjunction with the adjoining bakery and store.

15. OLD BAKERY / WELBOURNE HOUSE

While the shop served as a general store, a thriving bakery operated from the rear of these premises for over 60 years. Bread was delivered all over Adelaide, with contracts to supply many of the government instrumentalities such as the military barracks, the gaol and Adelaide Hospital. Remnants of the old brick ovens are still in situ.

In recent times doors and windows facing the street were bricked-in, the whole facade painted white and the verandah removed. During 1997-8 the old shop was restored to its former appearance and re-opened as 'Welbourne House Antiques and Collectables'.

The extra residential accommodation on the southern side of the shop was probably added early in the twentieth century.



Walk to the corner of Albert Street and read page 12 **before** continuing your walk, compare the present view with that shown in the photograph on the next page.

It was taken c.1881 by Captain Samuel Sweet.

16. ALBERT STREET

This, the main street of the Village, was named for Queen Victoria's consort, Prince Albert. They married in 1840, the year the Village was laid out.



In this one small street can be seen excellent examples of simple domestic building styles which typify South Australia's colonial architecture. They include two-roomed gabled cottages of the 1850s, symmetrical cottages with low-pitched hipped roofs and concave verandahs popular from the 1850s to the 1880s, and the later gable-fronted villas with steeper roof lines and bullnose verandahs.

Stonemasons took pride in their work, which is reflected in the attention to detail in dressed sandstone quoins and coursed bluestone walls. All the stone came from local quarries which dot the surrounding hillsides. These provided employment for many of the inhabitants of Mitcham Village.

An old shop to the left of the horse tram was demolished in 1983 and two townhouses now occupy that site. However, the house on the corner had previously been built on land which was once part of its garden, and dates from the early 1950s. All the buildings shown on the right side of the photo will be seen as you walk along Albert Street.

'simple domestic building styles which typify South Australia's colonial architecture...'



17. 'KALLAWAR' GATES & COTTAGES

The focal point at the southern end of Welbourne Street is the imposing gateway, flanked by tall palms, which led into 'Kallawar' (*see No.7*). The superb workmanship in the pillars incorporates bluestone and quartzite, chamfered small red bricks and inserts of slate. They probably date from 1849 when the original house was built.

Between the gates and the Baptist Church are four attached cottages built by Prince for his servants. They, like the main house, are all now part of Scotch College Junior School Campus.

18. BAPTIST CHURCH & COTTAGES

Revd Thomas Playford (*see No.2*) donated the land on which a small church was built in 1858. This can clearly be seen in the old photo of Albert Street. The original structure is now hidden behind later additions. An attractive porch, part of a 1908 extension, was demolished in 1973 to make way for the present unsympathetic facade.

The simple bluestone cottage next door, presently used as the Church Office, is one of a row of three dating from the 1860s. The other two, which you will see further along Albert Street, are now part of the Scotch College Campus. Both have been substantially altered inside to provide larger areas for Junior School activities, and a multipurpose hall has been built behind them.

Opposite the Church are the townhouses built on the site of the old shop seen in the photo; then a typical late-Victorian bluestone villa, a pair of maisonettes and an old shop.

19. ALLISON'S APOTHECARY

Apart from the early addition of a verandah, the front of this shop with its attached dwelling has remained virtually unaltered since it was built about 1880. The owner was J. W. Allison, chemist and apothecary. Over the decades it has changed hands many times selling such diverse items as sweets, bicycles and fire works.

In 1996, under the supervision of a heritage architect, it was restored and some tacked-on skillion-roofed areas at the back were replaced by new rooms more in keeping with the front of the premises. The original dispensary is now a pharmacy museum, and the rest of the building is used as bed and breakfast accommodation.

**20. COBBLER'S COTTAGE & ROSE LANE**

The charming little cottage on the left-hand corner of Rose Lane also underwent extensive restoration under architectural supervision during 1996-7. Dubbed the Cobbler's Cottage after Mr Watters a bootmaker who occupied it in the early 1900s, it was probably built about 1850 when the land along Rose Lane was subdivided. The long narrow building, with its original casement windows facing Albert Street, is in marked contrast to the symmetrical style of most of the other cottages in the Village.

Many people bypass Rose Lane not realising that this quiet cul-de-sac is a public road. Two simple gable cottages along the western side also date from the 1850s.

The other buildings in Rose Lane were infill developments constructed during 1998-9. The Lane may have been named after Mrs Rose Stanley, one-time occupant of the far cottage, or for the many roses which once grew along the fences.

The cottage on the eastern corner of Rose Lane and Albert Street probably dates from the 1850s or early 1860s.

21. No.27 ALBERT STREET

This house is held in high regard architecturally and is on both the State Heritage Register and the National Estate Register. It was once the home of a local quarry owner and the work of skilled masons is evident in the detailing. Constructed entirely of sandstone, the quoins and surrounds are hammer-dressed, squared and chamfered. Original shutters still protect the windows, and the verandah is paved with large slabs of high quality slate.

22. OLD MITCHAM HOTEL

Continue past High Street to the top of Albert Street. Compare the scene with the photo on the next page. The original single-storey hotel, known as the Brownhill Creek Inn, was kept by Henry Taylor after whom nearby Taylors Road is named (*see No.26*). It was first licensed in 1850 but this lapsed when Taylor retired in 1864. By 1869 a new licence had been issued to the Mitcham Hotel, and ten years later a second floor was added to the front section of the building. The much later addition of columns and a stucco render now hide stonework of a superior quality. Some of this is visible on the upper level, where French doors open onto a balcony edged with iron lace panels.

By the end of the 19th century it had ceased trading as licensed premises and had become a 'Temperance Hotel'. Over the years it has been used as a betting shop, sweet shop, flats and is now a private residence.

HISTORIC [conservation] ZONE



ALBERT STREET LOOKING WEST C. 1910

On the right is the Temperance Hotel and next to it a shop which sold dairy produce (now demolished). Harris's fruit and vegetable shop is on the corner of High Street and beyond it, next to the horse tram, is the general store (now the site of the Edinburgh Cellars).

23. HARRIS'S FRUIT & VEGETABLE SHOP

Walk back to the kindergarten on the corner of High Street. Three generations of the Harris family lived and worked in this former greengrocery store. The door on the corner led into the small shop, while the door to the right was the entrance to the family's home.

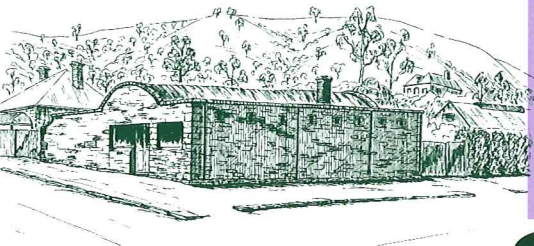
A threat of demolition led to the property being purchased by Mitcham Council in 1980. Having been renovated it was later leased to the Mitcham Village Kindergarten which relocated here from the East Wing of the Institute. Tasteful additions have since been made to accommodate the needs of this popular kindergarten and child-care centre.

The Harris family grew vegetables in a paddock at the rear of the shop. A tall olive hedge ran down the side of High Street, and remnants of this can still be seen as you head towards Maitland Street.

24. NEWEY'S COACH STABLES

The old building on the corner of Maitland and High Streets was constructed in 1872 for Thomas Newey who ran a regular coach service seven times a day between Mitcham and Adelaide. This building became superfluous in 1879 when the horse-tram service began. These were double-deckers and could not fit into Newey's Coach Stables, so a new depot was built to house them in Princes Road opposite the Uniting Church (*Elderly Citizens Homes now occupy the site*).

For many years Mr Newey's old stables housed the Harris family's carts and wagons, and was later used as a second-hand mart. Since 1955 it has been owned by the 1st Torrens Park Scout Group (*see plaque on the wall*).



25. EDINBURGH HOTEL

This well-known pub has had a continuous licence since 1869 when it began life as a simple hipped-roof structure similar in appearance to a symmetrical cottage. This is now the central portion of the Hotel - although there is nothing 'central' about it! The impressive parapet and pediment above it, together with the southern wing, were added sometime during the next ten years, and the mirror-image northern wing added in 1914. The ornamental plaster mouldings, vermiculated stones and urns are similar in design to those on the Treasury Building in Victoria Square, Adelaide.

Reprieved from the threat of demolition in 1974, the Hotel has since been extensively renovated and enlarged. The improvements have included a side verandah overlooking the landscaped out-door eating area and, more recently, a large glass-enclosed informal restaurant and new kitchen facilities at the rear of the old hotel.

The Edinburgh Hotel is on the State Heritage Register and the National Estate Register.

The provision of gas street lights and brick paving along the western side of High Street, together with the sympathetic rebuilding of the Edinburgh Cellars, has done much to enhance the historic character of the Village.



*'are you ready for
another walk?*

MORE OF MITCHAM

If you have enjoyed your walk around the Historic (Conservation) Zone - which highlighted the commercial life of the area - you may like to explore further afield on two other walks.

The first will take you up to Carrick Hill Drive in the SE corner of the original Village. This area was generally known as Upper Mitcham. Although this indicated it was on higher ground, it could equally well have referred to the 'upper class' of people - the gentry - who built large homes in the area around St Michael's Church.

The other walk explores the heritage-listed cemeteries on Blythewood Road where the history is recorded in the tombstones.

The numbers, which continue on from Walk 1, are all shown on the one fold-out map.

WALK 2

UPPER MITCHAM

- Distance:** approximately 2 km
- Time:** allow 45 mins. However, if you plan to tour Carrick Hill you will need an extra 2 hours.
- Terrain:** some steep hill

26. TAYLORS ROAD

The walk begins at the Edinburgh Cellars and continues to the top of Albert Street before turning left into Taylors Road. On your right you will pass a substantial bluestone and sandstone villa, then a group of Tudor-style homes built (c.1924) on deep blocks behind their tennis courts.

Taylors Road was named after Henry Taylor, one of the early settlers in Mitcham Village. As well as being a publican and store keeper (*see No.22*), he took a prominent part in the affairs of the district, including the formation of the District Council in 1853 and the building of St Michael's Church where he served as a warden for 14 years. He is buried in the Mitcham Anglican Cemetery.

UPPER MITCHAM

27. ST MICHAEL'S ROAD

Turn into St Michael's Road and note a two-storey 'waterfall-style' house on the eastern side. When built in 1937, it was considered very modern and innovative. It is on the State Heritage Register.

Now turn your attention back to the house on the western corner of Taylors Road and St Michael's Road. This was once the site of a small Roman Catholic church called Our Lady of Dolours. It was opened in May 1870 and as well as being used for religious services was also used as a school which was run by the Sisters of St Joseph (*see also No.38*). The building was sold after a new church opened in Tutt Avenue, Kingswood, in 1914.

Between 1870 and 1872 the Sisters also ran a Catholic Female Refuge and Laundry in a large rented house adjoining the church in St Michael's Road. The exact location is not known. It housed prostitutes, former prisoners and young women who were seen to be "in moral danger". Not the type of neighbours the gentry would welcome into Upper Mitcham!

Also on the western side of St Michael's Road is a gracious sandstone home called 'Barcroft' surrounded by beautifully-kept gardens. When built in 1899 it was the home of Henry Douglas who named it 'The Olives'. It is possible that it replaced the house used as the Female Refuge. Douglas owned a large parcel of land west of St Michael's Road, and following his death in 1903 his daughter Rachel sold the house and most of the land. On the balance she built two houses facing Church Road (*see No.55*), and two cottages in Cuthbert Avenue which was named after her husband, Cuthbert Carruthers.

28. ST MICHAEL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

The church stands on an acre (0.4ha) of land. Although the foundation stone was laid in September 1848, it was another 4 years before the building could be used. When the first service was held on 17 October 1852 it was still unfinished being "...neither ceiled nor plastered, with temporary doors and calico windows".

By 1863 the church was not large enough to house the growing congregation and the southern nave was added, thus creating a square space. Other additions have included the priest's vestry at the rear (1871), the narthex adjoining the tower (built as a choir vestry in 1899), the Centenary Terrace (1955 - see the plaque as you walk up the steps) and the Parish Hall, Cloisters and lychgate in 1980.

The present rectory was built in 1958.



Today the interior of the church is dominated by beautiful stained-glass windows. The superb Morris & Company window over the altar was donated by Robert and Joanna Barr Smith in 1901. (*see Nov. 6 e³ 38*). Modern windows are by Adelaide artist Cedar Prest.

The organ by Bishop's of London was installed in 1878, and was one of three sent to Adelaide at that time. The altar is carved from English oak, as are the screens on either side which were "A Thank Offering for Peace after the Great War, 1919". Since 1982 panels of Australian oak have gradually been installed around the walls as memorials to past parishioners and clergy.

St Michael's is on the National Estate Register.

29. CARRICK HILL DRIVE

After leaving the church walk up to Carrick Hill Drive (formerly Fullarton Road). Almost opposite Church Road are the gates leading into 'Coreega' (now hidden from view by houses built in its former garden). This was the childhood home of Nobel Prize winner Lord Florey, the co-discoverer of penicillin.

Three doors further south is a large bluestone home originally named 'The Currugh'. In 1910 it was purchased by the Orphan Home, Adelaide, Inc., which had been founded in 1860 by Mrs Julia Farr and other ladies under the auspices of the Church of England. For over 70 years 'Farr House' was 'home' for up to 30 girls who were either orphans or from broken homes. In 1979 the 2-storey barn in the back garden was converted to extra accommodation for some of the older girls. Both it and the main house are now private residences. Another new home has also been built along the southern boundary.

Adjoining them are the original gates leading into 'Carrick Hill'. (The entrance has now been relocated further south.)

On the opposite side of the road is another charming old colonial home, 'Gable Ends', believed to have been built in the 1850s.

Continue up the hill to the new entrance into Carrick Hill.

30. 'CARRICK HILL'

If you are planning to tour Carrick Hill, you should allow an extra 2 hours. The house, set in 100 acres (40ha) of gardens and bushland, is open from 10am to 5pm Wed - Sun and on public holidays. Details of admission times and prices are displayed on the board by the entrance. Light meals are also available. 'Carrick Hill' is usually closed during July for repairs and maintenance.

This beautiful home, modelled on a grand Tudor manor house, was built in the late 1930s for Sir Edward Hayward and his first wife, the former Ursula Barr Smith. They were great collectors and

patrons of the arts, and following their deaths the property, together with its priceless art and sculpture collection, was bequeathed to the people of South Australia.

It is on the State Heritage Register.



THE WATERLOO STAIRCASE IN THE GREAT HALL AT 'CARRICK HILL'. IT WAS ORIGINALLY INSTALLED IN 'BEAU DESERT' (A STately HOME IN STAFFORDSHIRE) FOLLOWING THE BATTLE OF WATERLOO IN WHICH THE OWNER, THE EARL OF UXBRIDGE, LOST ONE LEG.

31. McELLIGOTT'S QUARRY RESERVE

From this vantage point at the top of Carrick Hill Drive magnificent views can be obtained over the city and suburbs.

The area between here and the Brownhill Creek in the valley below was one of the major quarry sites in the district. Like most of the others around the foothills it ceased production in the early 1930s, and was later used as a rubbish dump by Mitcham Council.

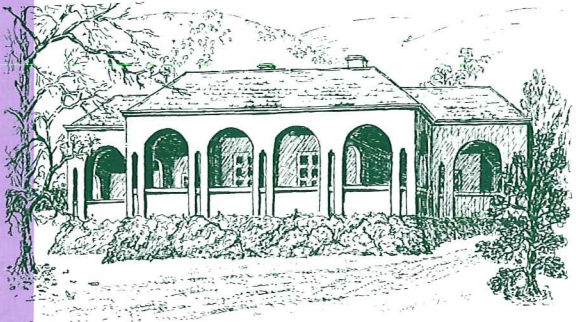
Work began in 1990 to reclaim and beautify the area, which has since been landscaped and had picnic facilities installed. A 'Geological Trail' has been established by the Department of Mines and Energy featuring a series of signs which interpret geological features along the remaining quarry face.

32. 'HAVERHILL'

Walk back to Hoggs Road and head down the hill. On the corner of Playford Road is 'Haverhill', a substantial bluestone home built in 1849 for Benjamin Hogg, after whom the road was named.

33. 'RUST HALL'

Further down the hill on the corner of Pages Road is 'Rust Hall'. This large single-storey house of stucco-finished brick and stone has a slate roof and is built in the Italian style. The loggia has single-centred arches springing from pierced piers which are devoid of any moulding, creating a clean, fresh appearance. It was designed c.1847 by the eminent colonial architect G.S. Kingston for Sir Arthur Blyth, who was three times premier of South Australia. Originally called 'The Hall', it was renamed 'White Hall' by the next owner James Page. The name 'Rust Hall' was adopted in 1922.



The house was surrounded by 6 acres (2.4ha) of gardens and orchards that occupied the whole block. There have been two major subdivisions of the estate: the first in 1923 when 6 building blocks were sold fronting Church Road, and the second in 1985 when 11 allotments were sold creating a cul-de-sac named Frearson Place off Brownhill Creek Road. Other blocks fronting Hoggs Road and Pages Road have also been sold leaving 'Rust Hall' on a much-depleted area of land.

'Rust Hall' is on the State Heritage Register and the National Estate Register.

34. No.1 PAGES ROAD

When James Page's daughter Alice married Joseph Hornabrook, he gave them a block of land on the eastern side of Pages Road. The bluestone villa built there c.1881 was almost certainly designed by Hornabrook, who was an architect.

An earlier cottage dating from about 1860 is at the back of the house. Alice used this as a small schoolroom where she taught various nephews and nieces and friends' children.



SALES BROCHURE, MAY 1982

BAILLIEU & BULLOCK WILKINSON PTY LTD

35. CHURCH ROAD

On reaching Church Road note several interesting buildings on the far side. The two mellow sandstone houses nearest St Michael's were the ones built by Rachel Carruthers c.1903 (*see No.27*).

Two other large old homes are passed as you walk to the bottom of the hill where, on your right facing the triangle, you will find Cuthbert Avenue which was named after Rachel's husband.

*You have now come
full circle. From this
point you can start
Walk 3.*

THE MITCHAM CEMETERIES



Distance: approximately 1.5 km

Time: as long as you like

Terrain: steep hill to climb; rough paths

From the Edinburgh Cellars cross over Old Belair Road and go south along Brownhill Creek Road keeping the W.A. Norman Reserve/Sturt Baseball Club grounds on your right. At the first bend in the road you will find a small footbridge over Brownhill Creek which will lead you through to the bottom of Blythewood Road. From here it is a steep climb to the top of the hill where you will find, not one, but three cemeteries - the Anglican, the General and the Josephite.

36. MITCHAM ANGLICAN CEMETERY

In 1854 four acres (1.6ha) of stony hillside land adjoining the southern boundary of Mitcham Village were set aside as cemeteries. Half was allocated for the burial of members of the 'Established United Church of England and Ireland' with the Bishop as trustee; the other half was granted to trustees for the burial of persons of other denominations, ie the General Cemetery.

Although the General Cemetery has been greatly enlarged over the years, the Church of England Cemetery (now known as the Anglican Cemetery) still occupies its original 2-acre site. The entrance is through a pair of handsome wrought-iron gates, and hedges still form 3 of the 4 boundaries. Stately old pine and cypress trees - the traditional trees of mourning - are landmarks in the district and were probably planted in the 1880s.

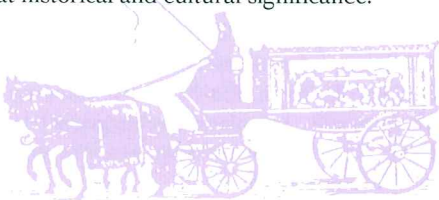
Virtually square in shape, the ground-plan is set out on a simple grid pattern of concentric squares around a central turning circle. Most of the broad carriageways have since been infilled with extra plots, but these are easy to identify as they generally run north/south, instead of east/west.

THE MITCHAM CEMETERIES

The first burial, that of Mary Oldham aged 32 years, took place in September 1853 (some months before the area was gazetted). The grave is in the top left-hand corner by an opening in the hedge. Another grave of considerable interest is that of Inspector Alexander Tolmer, the Police Commissioner, who escorted gold from the Victorian gold fields to Adelaide in the 1850s in order to save the colony from bankruptcy. His work is commemorated on a plaque attached to a barbecue near the Keystone Bridge in the Reserve (*see No.4*). He lived on the opposite side of Blythewood Road where houses in Tolmer Court now stand.

Many of the pioneering families who helped establish South Australia are buried in the Anglican Cemetery. They include men like Sir Thomas Elder, Robert Barr Smith and Peter Waite who were responsible for opening up the vast outback pastoral lands. With the profits they gave generously to establish and endow many of this State's important learning and research institutions, such as the University of Adelaide and the Waite Agricultural Research Institute. All were born in Scotland and all are buried beneath imposing Celtic crosses made of granite.

Since 1947 the Cemetery has been administered by the Anglican Church Office in Adelaide, and any queries regarding burials should be directed to the curator. A group known as The Friends of Mitcham Anglican Cemetery Inc. was formed in 1991 to liaise with the curator in trying to trace descendants of people buried here and to encourage them to maintain and reuse family plots. The Friends also assist with the upkeep of the Cemetery which is of great historical and cultural significance.



THE MITCHAM CEMETERIES

37. MITCHAM GENERAL CEMETERY

On the western side of the Anglican Cemetery is the Old Section of the Mitcham General Cemetery. In 1854 the original 2 acres (0.8h) were granted to Thomas Playford, George Prince and William Finlayson as trustees. Since then it has been greatly expanded and now extends well up the hillside and westward to the Old Belair Road roundabout.



For many years new trustees were appointed by the Baptist Church, but the Cemetery is now administered by Mitcham Council. Any enquiries regarding burials should be directed to the curator at Mitcham Council Depot.

Many of Mitcham's early settlers - including the original trustees - are buried in the Old Section which fronts Blythewood Road. Although the area is the same shape and size as the adjoining Anglican section, half of it was laid out in a semicircular design rather than on a grid pattern.

Perhaps the most famous person buried in the General Cemetery is Sir Sidney Kidman, the 'Cattle King' whose vast pastoral lands spread over much of Western Australia, the Northern Territory and South Australia. His black-marble grave is on the southern side of the main drive near the entrance from Old Belair Road.

38. JOSEPHITE BURIAL GROUND

Also facing Blythewood Road is the third cemetery, the burial ground for the Sisters of St Joseph. This small grassed block, no larger than a standard house block, was the site of a small Roman Catholic convent. It was built in 1882 by Mother Mary MacKillop with financial help from her friends Robert and Joanna Barr Smith who lived nearby at 'Torrens Park House' (see No.6). The earliest burial occurred soon after the convent opened, and the grave can be found in the back left-hand corner.

The sisters walked from their convent to the small church school in St Michael's Road (see No.27) until it moved to Kingswood in 1914. The convent was also closed at that time, and the building was demolished about 1926.

The work of Mother Mary, who is set to become Australia's first saint, is commemorated in the naming of MacKillop Court, a small cul-de-sac facing the burial ground.

Retrace your steps down to the bottom of Blythewood Road noting an old dairy on your left. Return to the Edinburgh Cellars via Neweys Road which was named after Thomas Newey who lived here for many years (see No.24).



A walk up the Brownhill Creek Valley following the Wirraparinga Trail can be started from this point. It is described in another brochure published by Mitcham Council.



We hope you have enjoyed your walks around historic Mitcham Village and that you have gained an insight into its heritage and how the early settlers lived and worked.

MITCHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Society was formed in 1977 as a sub-group within the Mitcham Village Art & Craft Assn Inc., which began in 1974 with the dual purposes of making Mitcham Village a centre of excellence for the arts and crafts, and of creating an interest in local history.

The objects and aims are:

- to preserve and maintain the character of Mitcham Village.
- to foster, create, and maintain public awareness of the Mitcham Village and its history.
- to arouse interest in and to promote the study and discussion of local and South Australian history.
- to promote the collection, preservation and classification of source material of all kinds relating to local and State history.

It was through the initiatives of the Society that the City of Mitcham Local History Service was established in 1986.

Further information can be obtained from the Mitcham Village Art & Craft Assn, 1 Torrens Street, Mitcham, 5062. Telephone (08) 8272 4504

This brochure is proudly provided by the

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*'Proud of our
history and
committed to
our future'*

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