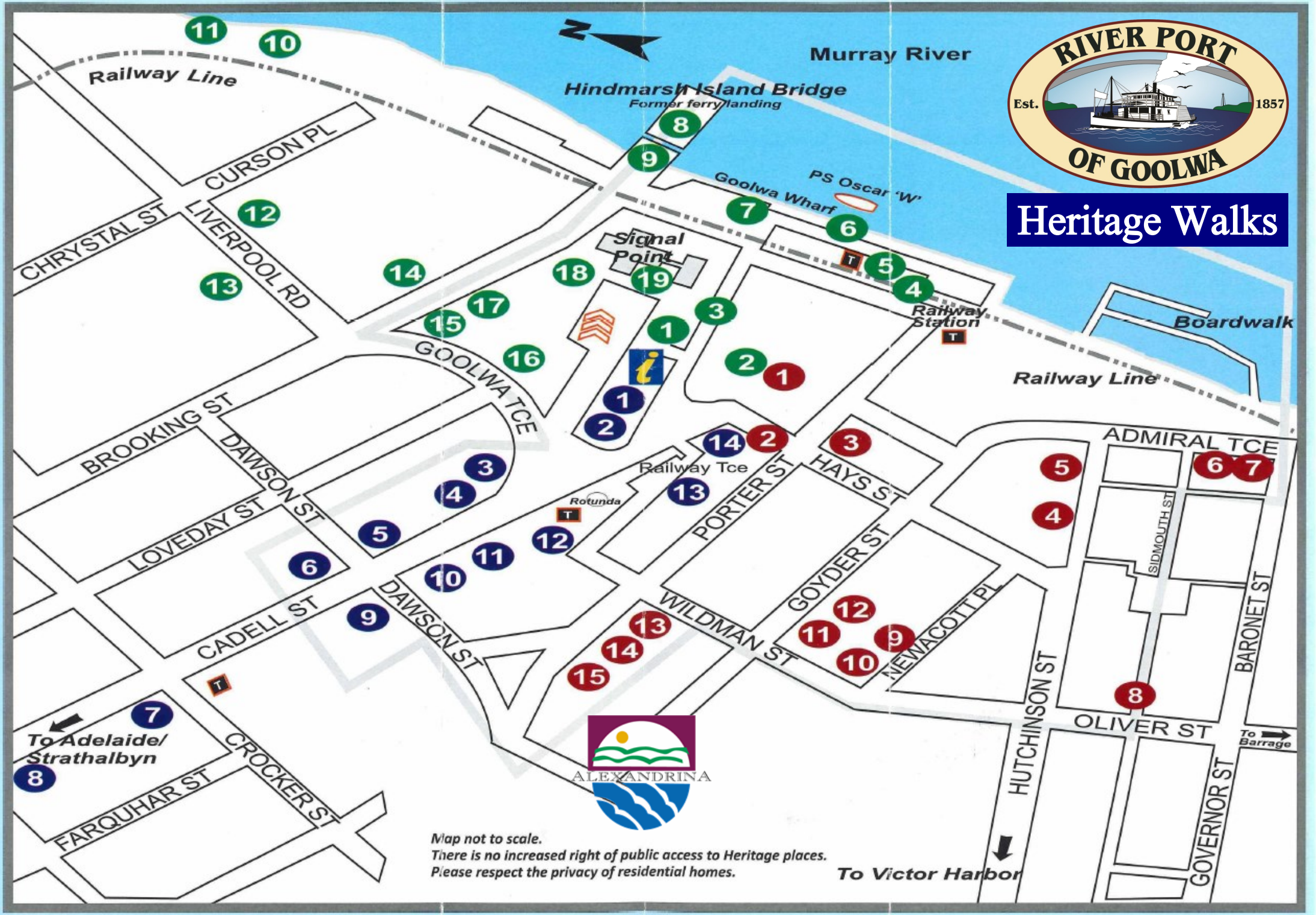
RIVER PORT OF GOOLWA
Est. 1857
Heritage Walks
Murray River
Hindmarsh Island Bridge
Former ferry landing
Railway Line
CURSON PL
CHRYSTAL ST
LIVERPOOL RD
BROOKING ST
DAWSON ST
LOVEDAY ST
CADELL ST
FARQUHAR ST
CROCKER ST
GOOLWA TCE
Signal Point
Goolwa Wharf
PS Oscar 'W'
Railway Station
Boardwalk
Railway Line
Railway Tce
Rotunda
PORTER ST
HAYS ST
ADMIRAL TCE
SIDMOUTH ST
BARONET ST
GOYDER ST
NEWACOTT PL
WILDMAN ST
HUTCHINSON ST
OLIVER ST
GOVERNOR ST
To Barrage
To Adelaide/ Strathalbyn
To Victor Harbor
ALEXANDRINA
Map not to scale.
There is no increased right of public access to Heritage places.
Please respect the privacy of residential homes.

WALK 3
(allow 1.5 hour, distance 1400 metres)

Little Scotland

Commencing at the Goolwa Visitor Information Centre

In 1856 Mr Young Bingham Hutchinson had part of his land on the south side of Goolwa subdivided as **Goolwa Extension** which was locally known as Little Scotland. A number of people working in the river boat trade had come from Scotland and this sub-division contained features such as small allotments, small internal courts, carriageways and a network of walkways which followed a simple Scottish design. Early cottages were of simple design with symmetrical fronts with a central door way with two windows. Cottages were often a simple rectangle, sometimes with a lean-to at the rear.

Post and Telegraph Office
(now Goolwa Visitor Information Centre)

The Post Office was built in 1857. The spacious verandah was used as the town's railway station until 1872. Mr Thomas Goode was appointed Post Master in 1857 and in 1858 the magnetic telegraph was connected via Goolwa from Adelaide to Melbourne. The Goolwa Post Office relocated to the shopping centre in 2009 and Alexandrina Council purchased the building for the Goolwa Visitor Information Centre. Railway lines have been laid in front of the Post Office to remind us of the significance both of this building and the pivotal role played by Goolwa in the 19th century transport and communications. It is the oldest continuous operating Post Office building in South Australia.

cross Cutting Road and on your left you will see

1. Customs House

Built in 1859, the house served as a base for Customs Officers. Each State collected customs duties on goods leaving for another State. By 1878, the house was the residence of the manager of the railways.

stay on this side of the road and observe The Australasian on the opposite corner

2. The Australasian Hotel

Built in 1857, the first licence was granted to O.W. Willock in January 1858. The hotel traded from 1858 until 1934 with 11 licensees. After almost 70 years as a private residence, this significant building has been restored and is now boutique accommodation and a restaurant. Note the pretty Juliet balcony.

walking along Hays Street you will see on the corner

3. Former Congregational Church (Forester's Lodge)

This building was established in 1859 for services conducted by Reverent Newland. It was used by both the Church of Christ and the local Catholic community prior to the opening of their own buildings. The bell tower originally held the ship's bell from the PS Melbourne, which was wrecked at the Murray Mouth in 1859.

continue on Hays Street, turn left into Hutchinson Street, on your left is

4. Cockenzie Cottage (8 Hutchinson Street)

This attractive early limestone cottage (circa 1858) is of the Little Scotland style and is used as a residence.

also on the left hand side towards the end of the street is

5. Attached cottages (2 Hutchinson Street)

Two small attached cottages are built on the street frontage and have been rendered. (circa 1858)

walk further along Hutchinson Street and turn right into Admiral Terrace - on your right is

6. Younghusband's House (17 Admiral Terrace)

This substantial limestone house stands on large grounds with coach house and outbuildings to the rear. The house was built in 1858 for William Younghusband, who was the shipping agent for Captain Cadell and later became Chief Secretary. He died in 1863 and the property remained in his family until 1956.

walk further along Admiral Terrace

7. Cockenzie House (13 Admiral Terrace)

Captain George Bain Johnston had a significant impact on Little Scotland. He purchased this allotment in 1857 and built this substantial house, named after his native village in Scotland. He acquired smaller allotments for houses in the area which became home to families of those working in the river trade, many of whom were of Scottish descent.

walk back along Admiral Terrace and turn left into Sidmouth Street, then left into Oliver Street - you will see

8. Old houses (to your left) of note

16 Oliver Street, Peppertree Cottage built in 1865.
18 Oliver Street and 18A were built in the early 1860s.
Jackling Cottage has been restored and operates as a B&B.

now cross back over Sidmouth Street - on your right is

20 Oliver Street - built in 1865, which was jointly owned by William Osborne and Samuel Shetliffe.

next door is

22 Oliver Street - Captain James Barclay's Cottage. The land was purchased and the cottage was built about 1869.

walk to Hutchinson Street and cross into Wildman Street and walk along to Newacott Place and turn right

9. Mariners Cottage (10 Newacott Place)

Built by Thomas Dowland in 1866, this limestone cottage was a typical design of many of the dwellings in Little Scotland.

on your left as you walk along Newacott Place are three more cottages of the same general design. Backtrack to Wildman Street and turn right - you will see on the corner

10. Cottages

Part of the building, now arranged as three dwellings, is thought to have been the Police Station and home of Constable Rickaby whilst alterations were made to the Police Station in Goolwa Terrace.

continue along to Goyder Street - on the corner your right is

11. Old Goolwa Maternity Hospital

Built circa 1853 of travertine limestone, this was formerly two limestone cottages joined at the rear and used as the hospital wards. It was used as a private hospital from the 1890s until the 1920s.

further along the street on the same side is

12. Highland's House

Thomas Highland, a farmer of Goolwa, purchased a block in Goyder Street and built the house in 1853. It has had 12 owners since the Highlands and is in reasonable condition today.

return to Wildman Street and turn right. At the next corner (Porter Street) turn left an on the corner you will see

13. Goolwa Church of Christ

The first meeting of the Church was held in Forester's Lodge (No. 3). In 1905, a carpenter's shop was converted into a limestone chapel. A group of people came from Milang and Point Sturt in a chartered steamer to the opening in 1905.

further along Porter Street is the

14. Goolwa History Centre and Museum

Originally a blacksmith shop in 1860, the shop was expanded to include coach building, general carpentry and funeral undertaking. In 1921 the building became the local power station, providing unreliable power! Mains power was connected to Goolwa in 1950. The building was purchased by the National Trust in 1971 and converted to a museum, housing an extensive collection of artefacts, including Australia's first mobile home.

next door is the

15. Former Print Room and Pay Office (now Art@Goolwa)

The front cottage is a late 1800s cottage which was relocated to this site. The rear re-located weatherboard cottage was previously used as a paymaster's house in connection with the building of the locks and barrages.

This completes Walk 3

All walks start from

Walk 1 Cadell Street

Walk 2 Goolwa Wharf Precinct

Walk 3 Little Scotland

T toilets

WALK 1
(allow 50 minutes, distance 900 metres)

Cadell Street

Commencing at the Goolwa Visitor Information Centre

Post and Telegraph Office (now Goolwa Visitor Information Centre)

The Post Office was built in 1857. The spacious verandah was used as the town's railway station until 1872. Mr. Thomas Goode was appointed Post Master in 1857 and in 1858 the magnetic telegraph was connected via Goolwa from Adelaide to Melbourne. The Goolwa Post Office relocated to the shopping centre in 2009 and Alexandrina Council purchased the building for the Goolwa Visitor Information Centre. Railway lines have been laid in front of the Post Office to remind us of the significance both of this building and the pivotal role played by Goolwa in the 19th century transport and communications. It is the oldest continuous operating Post Office building in South Australia.

turn right and walk towards the glass fronted display

1. Railway Carriage

This horse drawn passenger carriage is similar to those used on the railway which operated between Goolwa and Port Elliot from 1854. The horse drawn carriages were withdrawn with the advent of steam engines on the line in 1884.

proceed toward Cadell Street, the stone building on the corner is the

2. Former Council Chambers (now Cittaslow)

This building served as the Council Chambers from 1915 until 1958. It then became the town's circulating library from 1958 until 1987 and from 1987 until 1997 it was the Goolwa Tourist Information Centre.

proceed up the right hand side of Cadell Street - cross the road safely at the pedestrian crossing on Goolwa Terrace

3. Bow Fronted Shop

This shop was built in the 1850s for Mr Sumner, a baker, for use as a shop. The bakery built on the rear of the existing premises has long been demolished. The front wall of the building follows the curved allotment boundary giving it a bow fronted appearance. It has a cantilevered balcony with turned wooden posts.

next door is the

4. Former Bank Building (8 Cadell Street)

This substantial building was erected in 1871-72 as a branch of the Bank of South Australia. A bakery operated from the rear of the building during the boom years of Goolwa's growth.

continue along Cadell Street to

5. Centenary Hall

Built in 1930 by Percy Wells, one time Mayor of Goolwa Corporation. Percy wanted to turn the Town Hall (No. 9) into a theatre but Council refused, so he built his own theatre. This facility was renovated by the Alexandrina Council in 2012 and now hosts a range of performances and activities as part of the annual Just Add Water Arts and Culture programme.

continue along Cadell Street and on the corner with Dawson Street is the

6. Former Saddler's Shop

The shop was built around 1867-8 for Mr George Parkinson of Goolwa - boot and shoemaker - and William Rodgers of Goolwa - a saddler. It is built of limestone and brick with a bullnosed verandah.

after a short walk along Cadell Street, cross to the opposite corner of Croker Street which will bring you to

7. Holy Evangelist Anglican Church

The foundation stone was laid in 1867 and the church was built of limestone; a clock tower with a spire was built in 1905 and the clock installed in 1915. The bell was presented by Lieutenant Colonel Higgins in 1897. Lofty timber ceilings are a feature of the church and furnishings include a table from the Lady Augusta, the first paddle steamer to navigate the Murray in 1853.

stay on this side of Cadell Street and walk further along the street until you come to

8. Former School Master's House (now Rose Eden)

This two storey house was once a private residence, then a private school. Later it was the residence of Dr. Norman, one of the first physicians in the district and later served as the Goolwa public school master's residence. It was derelict for many years and then bought privately and renovated into luxury accommodation.

returning down this side of Cadell Street on the corner of Dawson Street is the

9. Town Hall and Council Chambers

The first Town Hall was erected in 1860. Additions were made in 1878 and 1907. Major redevelopment of this site began in 1987 to incorporate the Goolwa Library as part of the new Alexandrina Council office. The new facilities opened in 2004. The Alexandrina Council continues to use the chambers for its meetings.

crossing Dawson Street down Cadell Street one block past the corner you come to the

10. Goolwa Hotel

The original section was built in 1853 and the first licence was issued to John Varcoe jnr. The figurehead adorning the hotel front is a replica of that taken from the Irish sailing ship Mozambique which was wrecked on the Younghusband Peninsula in 1874. The original figurehead can be viewed in the hotel's dining room. The mast of the ship was used as a joist in the hotel's dining room and the ship's staircase is installed in the hotel. Cedar chairs rescued from the wreck still bear the teeth marks of the sailors who carried them in races aboard the fated vessel.

continue along Cadell Street until you come to

11. Former Thomas Goode's General Store (Chantilly Pl)

Thomas Goode and Co was established in Goolwa in 1852 and the Cadell Street store was built in 1853-4, but was destroyed by fire in 1884. The rebuilt premises opened for business in January 1885 and continued to trade under the original name until the business closed in 2004. The façade and display windows of the 19th Century store are of particular interest.

continuing along Cadell Street you will come to the Soldiers Memorial Gardens which was the site of

12. Goolwa's Original Railway Station site

In 1872 a station was built to replace the post office verandah (see item 21) facility. Standing on the reserve you can see where the railway ran from the wharf toward Port Elliot. The original line traversed Cadell Street at this point and continued down Cutting Road, alongside the present Goolwa Visitor Information Centre, to the Wharf. Trains entered the town using a spur line to the west and then traversed back to connect with the main line.

looking to your right you will see

13. Corio Hotel

The Corio was built in 1857 with the first licence granted in 1858 to William Ray. At one time the building contained a barber shop and tobacconist. A feature from that time is the Yankee Doodle tobacco poster on the ceiling of the dining room.

the next building on the corner is the

14. The Australasian Hotel

Built in 1857 the first licence was granted to O.W. Willcock in January 1858. The hotel traded from 1858 until 1934 with 11 licensees. After almost 70 years as a private residence, this significant building has been restored and is now boutique accommodation and a restaurant. Note the pretty Juliet balcony.

All walks start from

Walk 1 Cadell Street

Walk 2 Goolwa Wharf Precinct

Walk 3 Little Scotland

T toilets

WALK 2
(allow 1 hour, distance 1300 metres)

Goolwa Wharf Precinct

Commencing at the Goolwa Visitor Information Centre

The Goolwa Wharf and Railway Precinct predates the establishment of Goolwa as we know it today. The original survey of 'Town on the Goolwa' in 1839 positioned the town to the north of the present railway line; however, this was not suitable for the establishment of a port as the water was too shallow close to the river bank. With the navigation of the Murray River accomplished in 1851, an immediate start was made to the construction of a railway to link this river port to Port Elliot, which was completed in 1854 and extended to Victor Harbor in 1864.

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go out into Cutting Road and turn left

1. Former Horse Stables (now RSL Clubrooms)

The stables were built in 1863 to replace the original stables and housed the horses used to draw wagons on the railway until 1885. In 1946 the building was purchased by the Goolwa RSL as clubrooms.

the building on the opposite side of Cutting Road is

2. Customs House

Built in 1859, the house served as a base for Customs Officers. Each State collected customs duties on goods leaving for another state. By 1878 the house was the residence of the manager of the railways.

from here walk towards the wharf

3. Cutting Road

The cutting, which is 170 metres long and depth of 5 metres, was created to allow the passage of the original Goolwa-Port Elliot railway line, which commenced in 1852. The material excavated was used as ballast for the railway line.

4. The Railway Station

The present alignment of the railway was completed in 1914 and the present railway station was built here at that time. The railway from Adelaide reached Goolwa in 1884 and passenger services continued until 1984. In 1986 SteamRanger took over the operation as a tourist railway between Goolwa and Victor Harbor.

cross the railway line safely at the crossing and you will see

5. Railway Goods Shed (now Fleurieu Distillery)

This large corrugated iron shed was built in 1879 and sited with the railway track running through the centre. When the railway was realigned in 1914, the shed was rebuilt on its present site, with the railway running through one side.

walk towards the river and the next building is

6. Wharf Shed & PS Oscar W

This shed was built in 1877-78 and remained virtually unchanged in its appearance until the 1990s. It is now used as The Goolwa Riverboat Centre as an exhibition space and booking office for the PS Oscar W. The PS Oscar W is a unique wood fired heritage paddle steamer built in 1908. You may board the PS Oscar W when the Goolwa Riverboat Centre is open.

7. Goolwa Wharf

The first wharf was built here in 1852 on the recommendation of Governor Sir Henry Fox Young. The rail tracks from Port Elliot entered the Wharf at right angles to it and turntables on the wharf were used to swing the wagons parallel to the moored steamers and barges. The wharf was extended in 1866 and demolished then rebuilt in 1874 and extended again 1878. The years 1878 to 1884 saw the peak use of the wharf for cargo handling. Further re-development began in 2002.

continue along the Goolwa Wharf towards the Bridge

8. Hindmarsh Island Bridge (former ferry landing)

The first regular ferry service to Hindmarsh Island began in 1858. This service was de-commissioned in 2001 when the Hindmarsh Island Bridge was opened. The Bridge was built in 497 days, has a span of 319 metres and is 14 metres high. The mural, designed and painted by local artist Gary Duncan, depicts marine, bird and animal life in the area.

9. The Barge, 'Dart' is situated below the Bridge. This vessel was built in Goolwa in 1914 and was used for lock building in the early part of the 20th Century. It has a river red gum hull with iron top sides and framework.

walk along the river beyond Amelia Park and on your left you will come to the

10. The Chart Room

The Chart room was part of Abraham Graham's Patent Slip and Iron Works and was used for storage of charts. It is an attractive building of limestone over two levels.

11. Goolwa Slipway (now Captain Sturt Marina)

This was the site of the first slipway in Goolwa and also the first Australian river port location to build vessels. Between 1853 and 1914, more than sixty paddle steamers or barges were built in Goolwa.

proceed along the walkway/bikeway track to Liverpool Road and turn left, cross the railway line - on your left is

12. Hector's Shed (241 Liverpool Road)

This shed was owned by river boat identity and fisherman Hector Semaschko. He used it for storage of fishing nets and boating equipment.

look on the opposite side of the road for

13. Curson's Cottage (246 Liverpool Road)

This attractive, travertine limestone residence with slate tile roofing was built for Mr G.F. Curzon, who was manager of Goolwa Slipway from 1867.

proceed along Liverpool Road and turn left into Brooking Street. The house on the left with the cannon is

14. Captain Richie's Cottage

This cottage was originally built by Captain Adam Johnston from timber and later clad in limestone. The house was occupied for many years by Captain Richie, an early river boat captain, and named 'Port Seton' after the town near Cockenzie, Scotland where he originally lived. The cannon on the roof was put there by Captain John Dodd in 1917. It was dredged from the Port River where it had been dumped as ballast.

cross the road into Goolwa Terrace - in front of you is

15. Jekejere Park

This tranquil park is significant to the local Ngarrindjeri people and has information plaques throughout the Park.

16. Former Police Station & Courthouse (now SCRAC)

The first part of the building was erected in 1859 at a cost of £752. It was designed by the colonial architect E.A. Hamilton. Substantial alterations and additions were made in 1867 and 1874. The station had its own well, prisoner cells and stables. Today the building functions as the South Coast Regional Arts Centre.

follow the path through Jekejere Park to a small building on your left and you will see

17. The Morgue

The contract for the erection of the morgue was let in June 1883 following public outcry that such a facility was essential in the fast growing river town. Before then, the deceased, often victims of drowning or accidents, were laid out in the cellars of the town's hotels. The morgue was in use from 1891 until 1956.

walk to BF Laurie Lane, turn left and walk towards the

18. Railway Superintendent's Cottage

An unusual house built of limestone with a distinctive curved corrugated iron roof. Construction on the cottage commenced in 1852 and was occupied by Buxton Forbes Laurie, the first Superintendent of the Goolwa-Port Elliot Railway in 1854.

continue along the Lane to

19. Signal Point

This complex was built in 1988 and opened by Prince Charles and Princess Diana. Signal Point is built on a site of historic significance. The Centre was so named because a Signal Mast stood here. It had a platform 13 metres above the ground. From here signal flags could be seen on a mast adjacent to the Murray Mouth which advised paddle steamers moored at Goolwa whether or not the Murray Mouth was suitable for navigation. The building now houses a gallery / function centre and wine bar.

This completes Walk 2