

WALK INTO HISTORY AT

PORT ELLIOT

ENCOUNTER COAST
FLEURIEU PENINSULA



CULTURAL
TOURISM
SOUTH AUSTRALIA

PORT ELLIOT...

a brief history.

- * Declared a Port of the Province on the 29th of August, 1851.
- * Township surveyed in 1852 and named after Sir Charles Elliot.
- * Became the seaport for the River Murray Trade, the Murray Mouth being generally un-navigable.
- * The first ship arrived in 1851. The busiest year was in 1855 with 85 ships. The largest ship to use the port was the 'Altrevida' of 457 tons in 1861.
- * Connected to Goolwa by a horse-drawn railway, on the 18th of May 1854, the first to run in Australia on iron rails, with the terminus at the jetty.
- * The Port was closed in 1864 after seven shipwrecks and the railway was extended to Victor Harbor. Steam traction was introduced in 1885.
- * Cobb and Co. coaches provided transport from Adelaide: 7 ½ hrs, fare 14/6d (\$1.45) a single.
- * First reticulated water system in South Australia — 1853. Fresh water piped from Waterport in the foothills, to the jetty to supply shipping and the tramway horses as well as a Stand pipe for residences near the town.
- * The District Council of Port Elliot and Goolwa proclaimed in 1856 with the Council and District Registry Offices here until 1932. Port Elliot was a Corporation with a Mayor 1924-32.
- * Port Elliot became a popular tourist resort in the 1870's. At this time the Governor had a summer residence overlooking Horseshoe Bay.

THE
JEWEL TOWN
OF THE
SOUTH COAST

PORT ELLIOT

- * Unique Historical Coastal Town
- * Guided walks from the National Trust Historical Centre at the Railway Station or follow the marked walking trails around the town
- * Catch the "Steamranger" Cockle Train in season to Victor Harbor, Goolwa or make the round trip.
- * Inspect our Galleries, Craft, Antique and Memorabilia Shops. Good eateries.
- * Visit the swimming or surfing beaches, scenic walks and drives, whale watching or just relax.

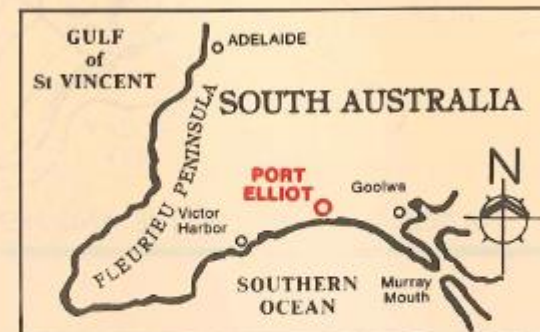
Acknowledgements:

Cover photo courtesy S.A. Archives.

Further reading:

SOUTH COAST STORY, John C. Tolley
ON THE WINGS OF THE FLYING FISH, Colin Sibly
ST. JUDES CHURCH OF ENGLAND, PORT ELLIOT
1854-1974

Lorraine M. C. Pomery
THE SHIPWRECKS OF PORT ELLIOT 1853-1864,
John Perkins

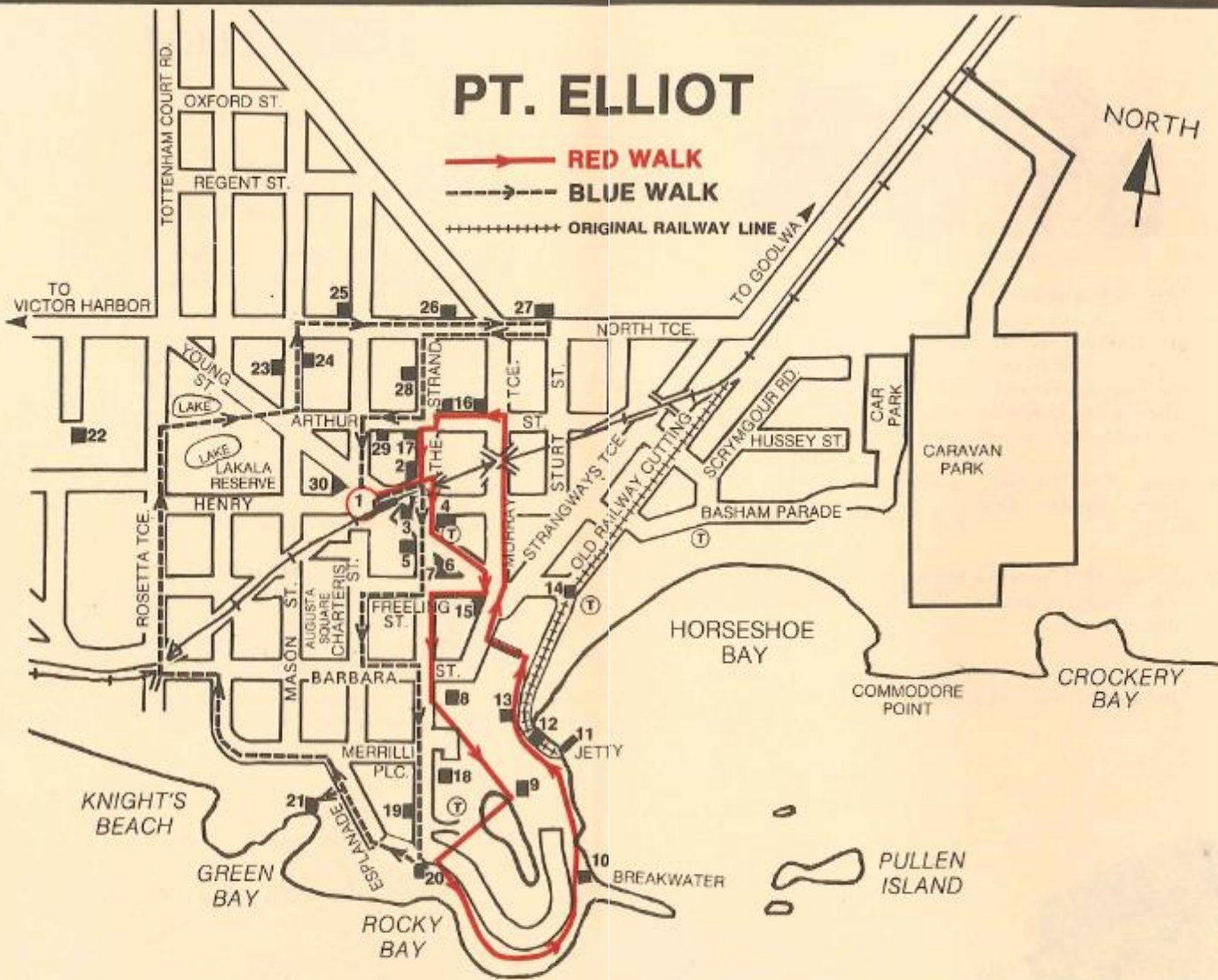


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PT. ELLIOT

-  **RED WALK**
-  **BLUE WALK**
-  **ORIGINAL RAILWAY LINE**



NATIONAL TRUST CENTRE AND HERITAGE WALKS AT PORT ELLIOT RAILWAY STATION

RED WALK

- 1 Railway Ticket Office, second on the site, built 1911. Line extended to Victor Harbor 1864, first platform 1866, extended during World War II.
- 2 Hotel Elliot, formerly Railway Hotel, built 1868 of limestone with balconies on south and east sides. Sample room at rear built 1870.

- 3 Council Chambers built 1879, and monument erected c.1920 District Council originally formed 1856 with an office in present coffee shop, The Strand, opposite St. Judes Church.



- 4 Library built 1880 and Institute Hall 1882.

- 5 First General Store built 1853 by J.S. Harding. Extensions 1879. Completely stocked for every need, saddles to soap. Blacksmith and woodyard at rear.
- 6 Police Station Complex. Two rooms and lockup built 1853, first Courthouse 1855, stables 1855, cells 1856, New Courthouse 1866.
- 7 Walls of first Government Post Office 1856 and Telegraph Office 1858. Flagpole erected 1855 outside store of Mr. J.P. Tripp opposite, flag to signal arrival of mails.
- 8 Harbor Master's Reserve. Site of the Harbor Master's cottage built c. 1852/3 with limestone walls and a shingle roof. Demolished 3rd of May 1970.
- 9 Obelisk, built 25th January, 1853 at a cost of £50. Erected as a landmark for shipping. See plaque. Seaward about 15 miles to the south east of Freeman's Nob. Flinders on the Investigator and Baudin on Le Geographe met and named Encounter Bay.



- 10 Breakwater, commenced 1851, completed 1855 and Ladies' Only Beach - Granny's Pool. Council By-law 1870 for men only to bathe in Horseshoe Bay wearing suitable bathing costumes, policeman on duty.
- 11 Jetty, commenced 1851, completed 1852, 100 feet in length. As depth of water only about six feet moorings in bay used. Note plaque indicating terminus of first horse drawn tramway with iron rails in Australia, from Goolwa to Port Elliot.
- 12 Site of three story stone Government store built 1853, demolished 1896.
- 13 Gun Shed built 1926 to house two German hand-held machine guns captured at the Battle of the Somme in World War I.
- 14 Route of horse drawn tramway 1854-1864.
- 15 Lifeplan Holiday Complex. Site of Globe Hotel, 1854 later Cliff House Guest House. Demolished 1971.
- 16 St. Judes Hall, built 1895: St. Judes Church 1854, and opposite the Rectory built 1853.
- 17 Post Office built 1910.



BLUE WALK

- 18 The croquet lawn, formerly Obelisk Croquet Club, and the Continental Park.
- 19 "San Anton" formerly "Cove Cottage" built early 1880's, reputed to be where Simpson Newland wrote "PAVING THE WAY". 1893.



- 20 The Centenary Steps, leading down to the bluestone cliff path and Rocky Bay. Built in 1936 as a town project to celebrate the State Centenary.
- 21 Green Bay. Note the three types of granite and glacial markings on granite bedrock 280 million years old. Granite 500 million years old.
- 22 Stone cottage built in 1855, the original occupant the Rev. J. Watson, first incumbent of St. Judes Church.
- 23 Jamieson's cottage, first Methodist services held here. Cordial maker.
- 24 Old mulberry tree, the site of the first Public school until 1880.



- 25 Hotham Memorial Church, 1901. Hall built 1948 incorporating materials from the first Independent Chapel.
- 26 The Royal Family Hotel, built in 1880 for Mr. Basham. The Norfolk Island pine in the rear of the hotel is said to have been planted in 1863 by Henry Green to celebrate the 3rd birthday of his twin children, Elizabeth and Charles.



- 27 "Arnella", originally the Port Elliot Inn built in 1852 by Mr. J. Dodd. It was the closest house to the seaport when built and was also the first stone building commenced in the town. It was then on the main cross roads. Adjoining was the Assembly Room built 1866, now "Lisaberta". Originally where many concerts, fetes and dinners were held until the building of the Institute Hall.
- 28 Shop of Arthur Rich, saddler. It was used as the first library, Registry Office and original Council Room until 1879.
- 29 Cottage 1853 (note the brass date below the doorstep) of John Trigg, bootmaker. Opposite is a wooden hitching post.
30. The Stationmaster's house built about the 1920's, the Railway Worker's cottages opposite.



Original Railway Station c. 1900