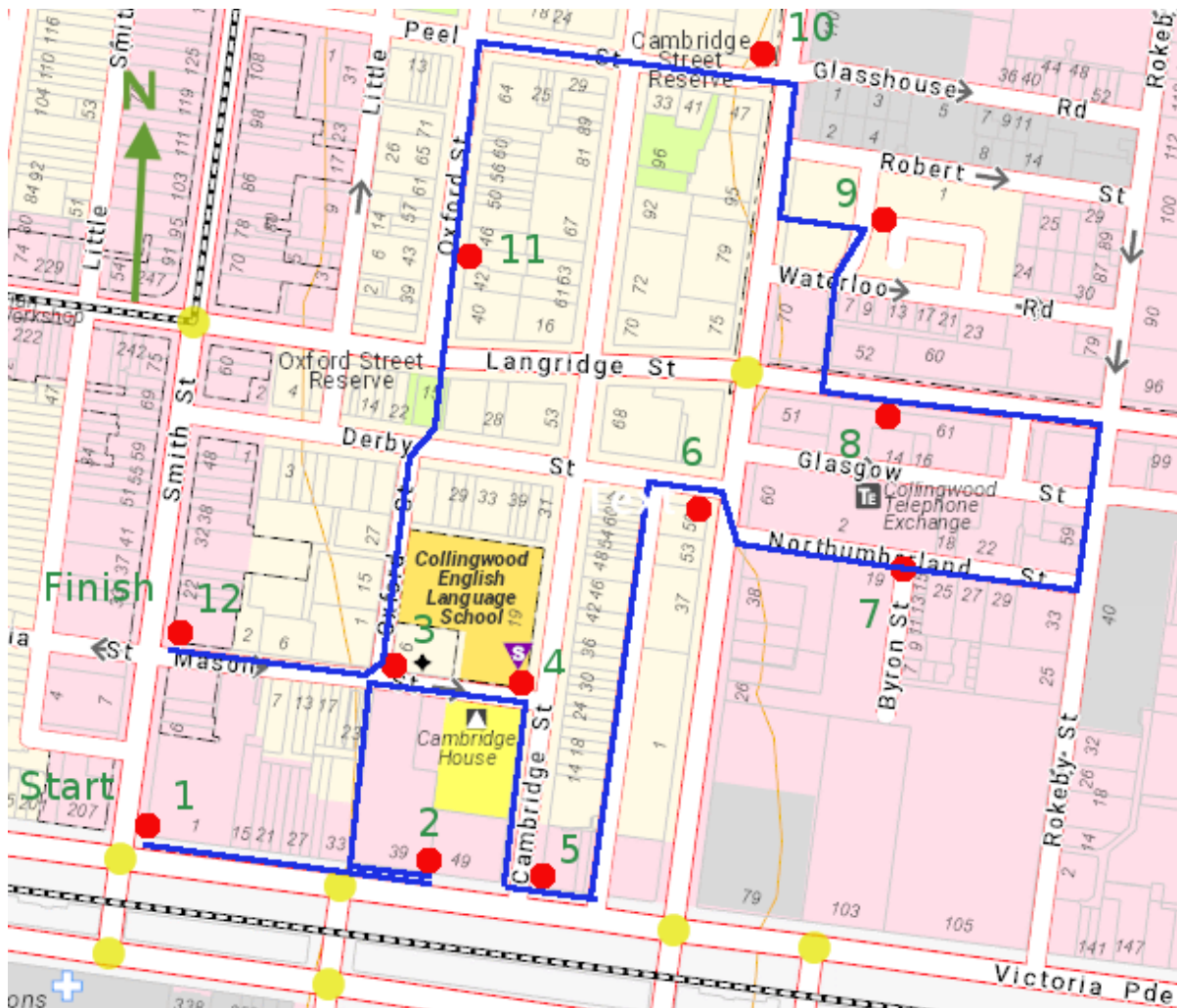


We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Wurundjeri people

Collingwood Historical Society Annual Walk

Victoria and Wellington: Collingwood's disappearing landmarks November 2020

This self-guided walk can be printed as a 5-page guide or used online. It includes links to further information on the Collingwood Historical Society website <https://collingwoodhs.org.au>.



Introduction

The names Victoria, Wellington, Collingwood point to historic British links of the area's early settlement: Queen Victoria who came to the throne in 1837, the Duke of Wellington, military leader and Prime Minister in the 1830s, and Admiral Lord Collingwood famous in the Napoleonic wars.

The walk provides glimpses of buildings from the 1850s and 1860s, the following industrial developments and now the current frenzy of high-rise development.

One of the focuses of the walk is the disappearance of views of heritage landmarks as a result of rapid development. These include the Victoria Distillery, the Yorkshire Brew Tower and the Shot Tower. This raises the question of when and how views to landmarks should be protected.

1 *Start at the corner of Smith Street and Victoria Parade*

We start at the rather unprepossessing south west corner of Collingwood where it meets the grand boulevard of Victoria Parade. East of Smith St large early Victorian houses have been replaced with MacDonald's.

Victoria Parade Heritage Overlay Precinct (HO336) includes the area along and adjoining Victoria Parade. It is significant:

- *As a substantially intact collection of middle class late nineteenth century residential building stock, supported by key commercial, institutional and religious buildings, demonstrating, as a group, the functions of nineteenth century daily life, and representing the second generation of building development having replaced mainly small timber, buildings dating from the first urban settlement of Collingwood in the 1850s;*
- *For the Victoria Parade frontage to the area, as an important and elegant boulevard entrance to central Melbourne, containing an impressive collection of predominantly two storey Victorian-era residences, hotels and shops; and*
- *For the early street layouts, together with some original bluestone kerbs and guttering and mature planes and elms, providing an appropriate setting for this important collection of buildings.*

2 *Walk east along Victoria Parade passing the following buildings*

15-17 Victoria Parade: *Portia*, a substantial villa, built for Smith St hairdresser James Yates

19-23 Victoria Parade: Irwell Terrace 1868

27 to 37 Victoria Parade: Group of 6 two-storey shop/dwellings. A few years ago, numbers 33 to 37 were ruined when a large development was added to the rear and the interiors were gutted behind the upstairs windows. A magnificent gum tree in a rear garden was also removed in the process.

39 Victoria Parade: *Floraston*, built for [Isaac Barnett](#) in 1875, designed by Terry and Oakden and built by local firm James Nation and Co.

Stop at

45 Victoria Parade: Cambridge Apartments. This was originally the site of Walmer House, built for Captain Hutton who subdivided the surrounding locality, and later the residence of [Isaac Hart](#). In the 1920s it was demolished and the After Care Hospital was built under the auspices of the Melbourne District Nursing Service. [Royal District Nursing Service](#) More recently it has been converted to residences.

3 *Slip up the narrow laneway between 37 and 39 Victoria Parade (end of Oxford St) to Mason St*

Corner Oxford St and Mason St, Former St Saviour's Church: the bluestone St Saviour's Church was built in 1874-1875, and the first minister was [Charles Yelland](#). Later a Russian Orthodox Church, now a residence. Note the bell tower. Architect [Leonard Terry](#)

4 *Walk east on Mason St to the corner of Cambridge St*

Cambridge Street School: the large polychrome brick building was built 1877, following the Education Act of December 1872 which made education free, compulsory and secular and instigated the building of such large government-owned schools.

Looking across and along Cambridge St note the fronts of the two storey Victorian terrace houses (we will soon look at their rears)

5 *Walk south on Cambridge St back to Victoria Parade*

61 Victoria Parade: Originally named the New Bendigo Hotel, the hotel was built in 1872 and renamed the [Baden Powell Hotel](#) in 1900.

77 Victoria Pde: on the corner of Wellington St, the former **Sir John Franklin Hotel** is currently boarded up as part of the large Victoria & Vine development.

Other buildings of interest further east on Victoria Parade include

135 Victoria Pde: the [Prince Patrick Hotel](#)

159 Victoria Parade: the former Ebenezer Particular Baptist Chapel,

6 *Walk north up the lane that runs between Cambridge and Wellington Sts to Derby St (Or walk up Wellington St depending on the state of the building site)*

Observe the vast building site of the Gurner Victoria & Vine development (1-57 Wellington St - currently a huge hole in the ground - where you can glimpse it behind the site hoarding) and the backs of the Victorian era Cambridge St houses and brick factories.

Vine Hotel, corner of Wellington and Derby St: [Vine Hotel](#) (HO140) built 1868 rebuilt early 20th century

Note the view across Wellington St to chimneys and tower of the former Victoria Distillery in Northumberland St and the silos. This view will disappear with the 15 storey buildings proposed in 36-52 Wellington St where the Brewers Grain building is now.

Also note the two storey 1895 brick factory at 64 Wellington St, the former Peatt's Boot factory.



7 *Cross Wellington St to Northumberland St and walk past the towering new buildings to the entrance lane to*

21 Northumberland St, the former Victoria Distillery: (HO116) was opened on this site in 1862 by Thomas Aitkin (with additions in 1880). By 1868 its output was said to be 7,000 gallons of whisky and 13,000 of gin per week. In the 1990s both the old distillery buildings and the silos were redeveloped into apartments, one of Collingwood's better industrial re-adaptions.

8 *Walk east down Northumberland St, turn north up Rokeby St to Langridge St and turn west on Langridge St.*

The Clifton Hill Shot Tower: look north up Rokeby St to this distant but imposing landmark.

Observe views across Langridge St to the decorative Yorkshire brew tower, a long time Collingwood landmark, which will disappear from this viewpoint with new high-rise developments approved at 60-88 Langridge St.

55 Langridge St, former [William Peatt Boot Factory](#) (HO109), the 1906 extension of the factory at 64 Wellington St.

9 *Cross Langridge to Mansard Lane and follow the lane to the Yorkshire Brew Tower*

Former Yorkshire Brewery: (HO141) The Yorkshire Brewery is on the Victorian Heritage Register. The Brewery was established about 1861 and the brew tower built in 1876 has been a key Collingwood landmark. In the late 20th century the site became derelict as various redevelopments were proposed. The current high-rise development was completed in 2015. It included the restoration of the iconic tower but at the same time hid the landmark from many viewpoints. Note the plaque and other heritage signage and walk through the site to see the remains of the former stables opening onto Waterloo St.



10 *Walk up the lane opposite the Brew Tower to Wellington St, north up Wellington to the corner of Peel St*

125 Wellington St Sir Robert Peel Hotel: [Sir Robert Peel Hotel](#) (HO142) dates from 1858 but was re-built 1911-12

Observe views of Yorkshire Brew Tower [Walk further north up Wellington St to Stanley St and note how the views of the tower will disappear if the proposed high-rise development on the corner of Gipps St at 128-144 Wellington St goes ahead]

11 *Walk up Peel St to Oxford St and turn south.*

Foy and Gibson's imposing factory buildings along Wellington, Oxford, Cambridge and Stanley Streets were built in the 1890s and early 1900s.

This block of Oxford Street gives us an opportunity to visualise the Collingwood Slope in the mid-nineteenth century. Here we can see the few remaining little old houses (many others were demolished to make way for the large Foy & Gibson factories north of Peel St).

On the east side

58-62 Oxford St 1858. Bluestone cottages built by three Scottish settlers

52 Oxford St 1864? Owned by William Randle

50 Oxford St 1877? Owned by William Randle

44 Oxford St Former Dyason's cordial factory: Dyason's was built 1888-89 with a second frontage in Cambridge St. Now part demolished for a high-rise development. [John Dyason](#)

On the west side of the street

57-63 Oxford St 1870s Bi-chrome brick built by [Richard Kefford](#)

51-55 Oxford St Bi-chrome brick Date uncertain

39-41 Oxford St pre-1858 – a very rare survivor from the 1850s, single story with recent addition

12 Walk along Oxford St across the pocket park to Mason St, turn west to Smith St.

Note the little Victorian cottages.

14-18 Smith St Former [British Crown Hotel](#) : the hotel dates from 1860 and was later extended. An 8-storey development is proposed on this site

Walk south along Smith St to return to Victoria Pde

END OF WALK

For further information on heritage and planned developments [City of Yarra website](#)

Photos of Victoria Parade:

https://www.picturevictoria.vic.gov.au/site/yarra_melbourne/Collingwood/9468.html

http://www.picturevictoria.vic.gov.au/site/yarra_melbourne/Collingwood/9236.html

http://www.picturevictoria.vic.gov.au/site/yarra_melbourne/Collingwood/9203.html

<http://handle.slv.vic.gov.au/10381/81104>



This aerial photo dates from about 2016 or 2017, when the Yorkshire Brewery development had been constructed (Waterloo Rd) but the high-rise Wellington St/Langridge St developments had not been commenced.