

INTRODUCTION

TRURO was surveyed in 1848, but the township only began in early 1850. From 1840, a stock track traversed the area from the Murray River to Gawler. The township was surveyed on George Fife Angas' land and on the extreme northern boundary of the Barossa Survey, at a point where the track met a permanent water spring in the local creek.

This track at the time, went to Moorundie on the River Murray. In 1856 it connected to Blanchetown and was the main road from Adelaide to Sydney. In the 1850s Truro was the last postal town before Wentworth NSW.

The town was named after Truro in Cornwall, England. Moorundie Street, which is now part of the Sturt Highway, has 2 connections to the River Murray. Sturt explored the Murray from NSW in 1830 and in 1839 the government set up a town named Moorundie on the river (5km south of Blanchetown).

During 1850 the largest copper mine in the Barossa was established 1.5 km SE of Truro, named Wheal Barton. A separate town of Barton, now part of Truro, was formed nearby.

The land in the area was surveyed from 1841 over a 20 year period. The settlers of the town and farmers were mainly English, Irish and Scottish with some Prussian (Germans). The town experienced its most significant growth during the late 1860s-70s.

Many of the prominent buildings in the town date back to this period.

TOWN WALK

Indicates house number in street.

BEGIN IN THE PARKING BAY by the Information Board.

Care must be taken in Moorundie Street as it is part of the Sturt Highway.

1. **Parking Bay.** Former sale yard site 1931-71.
2. **Golden Grill.** Residence, right, 1870s. Shop is site of former General Store 1857-1964.
3. **Residence #37** opposite. Former Police Station 1867-1971. Cell and exercise yard walls can be seen further along on the right.
4. **Post Office.** After postal services were held in the store and a residence, this post and telegraph office was built in 1879.
5. **Town Hall.** The main hall was built as an Institute in 1875. The front rooms for a library and reading room were added in 1882. Extensions to the rear in 1956 were a Second World War Soldiers Memorial. Additional extensions to the left side were added in 1986 and the

new porch in front was built for the Bicentenary of Australia celebrations in 1988. The War Memorial commemorates the First World War and has the names of 3 men who gave their lives in World War II. The Roll of Honour listing World War I soldiers is in the front window of the hall.

6. **Craneford Winery** and vacant shops, opposite. Former site of butcher shop 1868-1979. Truro Supermarket 1982-99.
7. **House** on corner. Original portion of this home built 1850. A portion used for various shops—saddler, shoemaker and greengrocer.
8. **First high-walled home #32.** Built in 1850s as a shop, for most of the time a shoemaker. District Council Office 1879-85. Bank of Adelaide 1896-1910.
9. **House #30** built 1850s was also a shoemaker shop, telegraph station 1866-79 and post office 1877-79. These buildings and the next four homes are known locally as 'the high homes' and supposedly built by the Cornish Wheal Barton miners in the 1850s (photo on front)
10. **Barossa Olives store**, opposite. This building began as a building and painting contractors' workshop, office and storeroom in 1948. It replaced a former blacksmith shop. This shed was purchased by the Truro CFS (Country Fire Service) for their second fire station in 1975. Purchased by Craneford in 1998.
11. **Truro Agencies.** Original shop and residence on this site built in 1850s and was mostly a shoemaker shop, later greengrocer. Demolished 1964. Opened as SA Farmers Union agency in 1966.
12. **House #14.** The left portion of this building was a shop 1855-1941, mostly saddlery.
13. **House #21**, opposite. Built in 1897. Bank of Adelaide and ANZ 1911-82. Former Truro District Council Office 1983-2003.
14. **House #19**, opposite. House and shop built 1896 and was a saddlery, later an agency and hardware store until 1985, and has been a drapery and secondhand shop since.
15. **Truro Hotel**, opposite. Built in 1863 and is still practically in original condition. A typical old country hotel.
16. **Bottle Shop.** This building was built by the community as Truro's first fire station, in 1953. It was sold in 1975 and has been used as a variety of shops.
17. **House # 13**, opposite. Site of Truro Flour Mill 1893-1906 when it was burnt down and not rebuilt.
18. **Large shed.** Formerly Mertens' Blacksmith, coach build-

ing, carpentry and wheelwright business 1885-1941. The largest business in Truro at the time. Residence alongside was built in 1885.

19. **Business**, opposite. Former site of blacksmith, motor garage and water tank making business of Linke and Schneiders from 1870.
20. **House #4.** This former shop began in 1857 as a stonemason's business, later a general store, butcher and agent until 1930.
21. **Memorial.** Captain Charles Sturt and his party passed through this area in 1844 on their way to Moorundie to set out for exploration in the north east of SA. The Royal Geographic Society of Australia erected this cairn in 1944.

Return along same side of street to Cross Street, cross Moorundie Street and walk along Cross Street.

22. **Wall** on corner—built to build up footpath in 1890.
23. **Heroes Park.** *Walk through trees to bridge.* Original water reserve for the town before the residents dug wells. In 1915 was dedicated as a World War I Heroes Park. Many trees were planted by school children, some honouring soldiers. Over the years the park deteriorated. In 1986 the creek was cleaned out, an island, picnic area, bridge and memorial plaques installed. This was the town's project for the SA Jubilee 150.

Walk up hill to left.

24. **School.** Built in 1878 replacing an earlier school and church of 1850 on the same site. Major alterations to the front windows were done in 1961.

Walk across school yard to church.

25. **Uniting Church.** Building opened in Oct 1860 as a Congregational Church. The building has unusual decorative style arched brickwork. The porch on the front was added in 1876 and the larger back stone portion of the church in 1879. The large Morton Bay Fig tree over 100 years old is a feature of the church property
26. **House** (alongside church). Church manse built 1867. Served as Minister's residence until 1955.

Return to Burr Street via school ground, walk along Burr Street to James Street West to walkway.

27. **Walkway.** This walkway is known as the Possum Track, opened in 1882 for walkers to connect to the church and school from the main street.

Walk along James Street East to the first house on the left.

28. **Cottage #12**, unrestored, built 1875. Note large chimneys on this small house.

Return to Possum Track, walk to Moorundie Street, across street turn right and walk past parking bay.

29. **Vacant allotment** alongside bakery, opposite. Site of Truro's first General Store which operated between 1851 and 1968.

30. **Weighbridge Restaurant/Motel**, opposite. Former Crown Inn Hotel 1850-1998. Building modernized in 1960.

31. **Corner of street**. Vacant land (part of Mobil) former site of Blacksmith, wheat store, service station and café 1885-1992.

32. **House #58** on corner. This building built about 1869 was premises for carpenter, wheelwright, butcher, shoe maker and building contractor until 1983. From 1884-95 it was used as the Salvation Army Hall.

33. **House #60**. This residence was built in 1875 and was the National Bank until 1894, doctor's surgery 1910-16, SA Farmers' Union Agency, Council Office 1966-83 and secondhand shop.

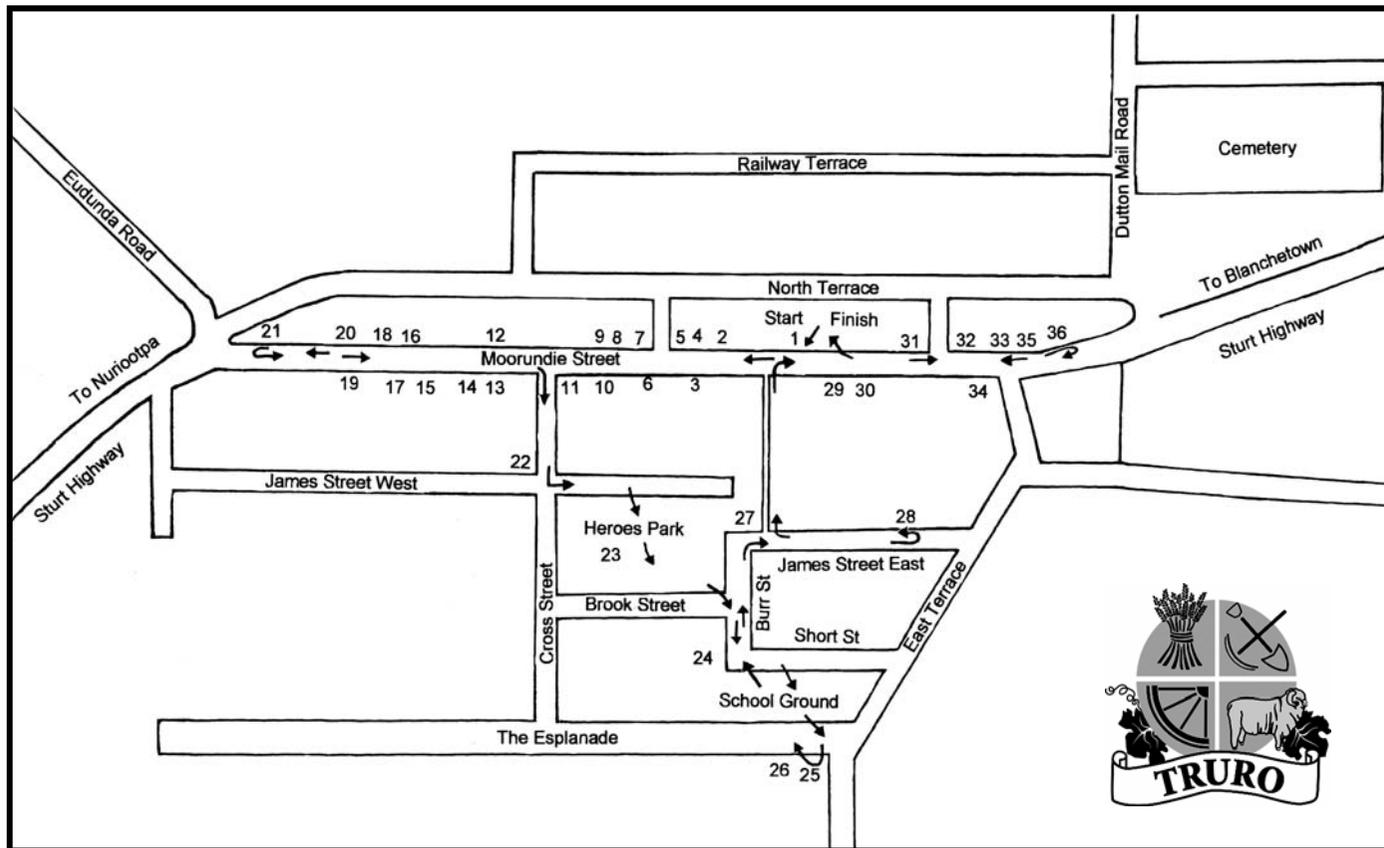
34. **House #55** on corner, opposite. Former Truro Baker shop 1882-1969.

35. **Small building**. First Truro District Council Office built 1885 and served as the office until 1966.

36. **Lutheran Church**. Opened in 1955.

Walk completed, return to Parking Bay.

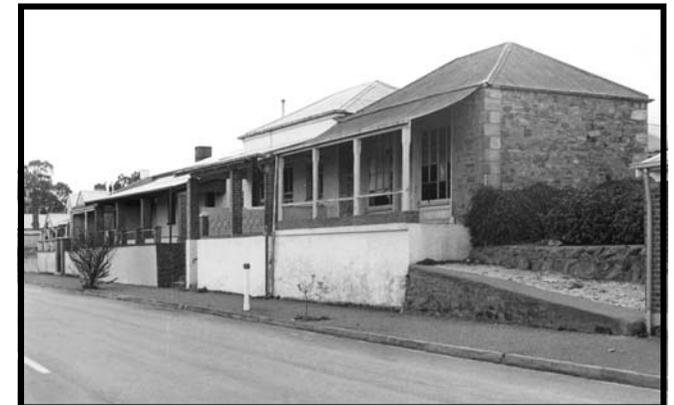
To walk to cemetery continue to the end of the church property, up the hill (Dutton Mail Road) to opposite Railway Terrace.



Truro Walk

Major buildings and sites of interest

Approx Time: 45 minutes



"High Homes", Moorundie Street, built c. 1850's (Photo 1976)

Further information available in the book:
"Truro The Travellers Rest" by Reg Munchenberg
Telephone 8564 0344

Truro and District Community Association Inc