WALK WITH HISTORY

Penola is the oldest inland town in the Limestone Coast and has many attractions to offer the tourist. Widely recognised as an historic town, many of its buildings are listed on the State Heritage Register, with some owned and maintained by the Penola Branch of the National Trust of SA. Penola also offers visitors a wide variety of accommodation, art galleries, fine food and the internationally-renowned Coonawarra wine region.

Penola's original inhabitants were the Pinchunga (Pinejunga) Aboriginal people who expertly foraged and hunted in and around the district's ephemeral swamps and majestic red gums.

Prominent figures in Penola's past have moulded the town into what it is today. These include Highland Scot, Alexander [King] Cameron, the pioneering pastoralist who arrived in 1845 and founded the private township of Penola in 1850. Its name is thought to derive from 'pena-oorla' meaning 'wooden house', referring to Cameron's original Royal Oak Hotel. Another Scot, John Riddoch, arrived at Yallum, eight kilometres west of Penola, in 1861 and contributed to the district's prosperity for the ensuing forty years. He founded the Penola Fruit Colony in 1890, planted the first vines and laid the rich foundation for Coonawarra's quality wines. His gracious two-storey homestead was completed in 1880.

In 1869 the Penola Mechanics Institute and Public Library gave adults access to books, lectures and classes. Penola has a strong literary tradition as the birthplace of poet, John Shaw Neilson, and home to Adam Lindsay Gordon and Will Ogilvie, all of whom were inspired by its landscape and lifestyle. Their contribution is recognised at Poets' Corner situated on the corner of Church and Arthur streets.

Penola has also been home to many influential people, including priest and scientist, Father Julian Tenison Woods, and Australia's first saint, Mary MacKillop, who co-founded the Sisters of St Joseph here in 1866. Their lives and work are celebrated in displays at the Mary MacKillop Penola Centre, which includes the 1867 Schoolhouse and the re-erected 1848 Cameron home.

The Mechanics Institute which now houses the Wattle Range Council office, the Visitor Information Centre, the extensive Local History Collection, an excellent historical exhibition and the John Shaw Neilson Art Gallery.

Discover Penola's remarkable heritage with the Penola Walks Mobile App available for iPhone, iPad, and Android Services from the Google Play & Apple Stores. Download the app and take a self-guided tour at your own pace.

Other places to visit close by:

■ Yallum Park must not be missed. This 1880 two-storey Victorian Mansion 8kms west on the Millicent Road is one of the best preserved houses of its type in Australia. Group bookings by appointment. (08) 8737 2855

■ Admire the stained glass windows of the Catholic Church

■ Be intrigued by the unique trees growing around the township

■ John Riddoch's original winery and cellars, now known as Wynns Coonawarra Estate

■ Julian Tenison Woods tree and sculptures

■ Penola Commemorative Walk at the Town Square

■ Telephone Exchange Display at the Old Post Office

■ Speak to volunteers and do some research at the Local History Room in the John Riddoch Centre

Wattle Range COUNCIL

the **LIMESTONE COAST** unearth our treasures

SA HERITAGE

ADELAIDE
Murray Bridge
Keith
Bordertown
Kingston
Naracoorte Horsham
Robe Coonawarra
Beachport **PENOLA**
Southend
Millicent Mount Gambier Ballarat
Port MacDonnell Hamilton MELBOURNE
Nelson
Portland Warrnambool

PETTICOAT LANE
GAMMON COTTAGE
WILSON COTTAGE
SHARAM COTTAGES
DAVIDSON COTTAGE

penola. south australia

wattlerange.sa.gov.au

1. JOHN RIDDOCH CENTRE (I)
The former Penola Mechanics Institute and Public Library was built by George Gladstone in 1869. WT Gore was the architect.

2. ST ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (I) (H)
This church, designed by architect WT Gore, was built in 1870 by James and Joseph Riddoch, clansmen of John Riddoch who laid the foundation stone.

3. COOMBE COTTAGE (I)
Built as the second residence on this site that was originally purchased by William Britt in 1861, it is now part of Penola's Retirement Village, Tandara Lodge.

4. RENFREY HOME Private residence
Possibly built by John Hogg, it is known as Penola's first stone home. John Renfrey, nephew of Sarah Hogg, acquired the property in 1909 and it remained in the Renfrey family until 2015.

5. BOND STORE (I) (NT)
Built to hold Penola's liquor supplies and also interstate goods for which customs duty was payable pre 1901 Federation, it has been used as a residence and was donated to NTSA Penola Branch by Wattle Range Council in 2018.

6. FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (I)
A weatherboard building was erected on this site in 1845 and demolished in 1936.

7. GLENROWAN (I) Private residence
Probably built by the owner George Gladstone in 1861, it was purchased from CJ Valentine in 1866 by Benjamin Pickworth Hunt, Inspector of The South Australian Police Force. In 1901 it was sold to Jessie Balnaves and has since had a series of owners.

8. ULVA COTTAGE (I) (H) (NT)
One of the earliest cottages built in Penola, it was purchased in 1861 by storekeeper AC Coleman and in 1864 by Prince of Wales Hotel licensee AJ Edwards. Used mainly as a residence, with short periods as a B & B and offices, it was donated to NTSA Penola Branch by Wattle Range Council in 2018.

9. PENOLA WAR MEMORIAL PARK (I)
This site was used as livestock saleyards until the establishment of the park in 1935.

10. MARY MACKILLOP STABLE SCHOOL PARK (I)
In 1866 a stable on this site was converted to become Mary MacKillop's first St Joseph's school.

11. ST MARY'S ANGLICAN CHURCH (I)
Built in 1873 by Michael Harris and William Blight on land donated by Thomas Congdon, its foundation stone was laid by Richard McClure with Masonic Honours. The architect was Thomas Artaud.

12. PEAKE'S FOLLY (H) Private residence
From 1909 to 1959 this fine two-storey building was Penola's railway station, having replaced a smaller weatherboard structure on the same site which was built when the line was opened in 1887. It features Romanesque windows, tapered federation chimneys and cantilevered verandahs supported by Staffordshire wrought iron stays.

13. PENOLA TRUE VALUE HARDWARE STORE (I)
Andrew McAlpine built the South Australian Store on this site in 1860 and Andrew McKeand became the owner in 1865. Ex-Mounted Police Trooper, Daniel James Lynn, purchased the property in 1911 and his family traded as DJ Lynn & Co, as did two other much later owners until 2009.

14. PRINCE OF WALES HOTEL (I)
The original building was first licensed to John Bowden in 1860. The present building, named the Log Cabin Hotel Motel, was erected by the Basheer family c1964. There have been several owners since and the original name has now been restored.

15. LOCAL IMAGES (I)
Originally located across the road, Thomas Oswald Saddler's Shop has had various uses, latterly as an art gallery.

16. TOFFEE & TREATS OF PENOLA (I)
Erected in 1860 and used in 1863 by bootmaker, Christopher Sharam, this building has since been used as a men's barber shop and billiard saloon, pharmacy, ladies' fashions, florist, and antique shop.

17. BALNAVES STORE (I)
Built as a shop by Simon McKenzie, this building was purchased by the Balnaves family in 1891 and used by successive generations until the late 1970s.

18. PENOLA VETERINARY CLINIC (I)
The original 1882 Penola District Council Office was built here on land donated by William McPherson.

19. ROYAL OAK HOTEL (I) (H)
This two-storey hotel was built in 1873 to take the place of a slab building licensed in 1848. The architect was WT Gore.

20. BANK OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA (I) (H) Private residence
Built in 1885 as the Bank of South Australia, which failed during the 1890s Depression, it was later used as an office for Goldsbrough Mort.

21. JANE BALNAVES STORE (I) Private residence
Opened on this site in 1858, the store operated continuously until Jane's son Robert moved the business to Church Street.

22. NAOMI'S VILLA Private residence
Built by William Blight for his retirement, this residence was later owned by Government Stock Inspector Francis Redfern Temple, Jack & Marion Brodie, Charlotte Mary Webber and others. James and Anne Yates purchased, renovated and refurbished the building as a B & B that operated from 1992 to 2002.

23. PENOLA PRIMARY SCHOOL
This school opened in 1879 with James Greenlees as teacher.

24. PENOLA PRIMARY SCHOOL HALL (I)
Constructed in 1918 as an exhibition hall for the Penola Show Society, this building has been and still is, the venue for various community activities.

25. PENOLA FANTASY MODEL RAILWAY (I)
James McKay, and later his son Donald, conducted a blacksmith business on this site and others followed. Marion McKay donated the land for the McKay Memorial Kindergarten which later moved to the Primary School site.

26. NATIONAL AUSTRALIA BANK (I) (H) Private residence
Built in the mid-1860s with WT Gore as architect, this two-storey building was used continuously as a bank until 2008.

27. OLD POST OFFICE & RESIDENCE (I) (H) (NT)
The Telegraph Office/Residence and Post Office were constructed in 1860 and 1868 respectively. The adjacent new Post Office was built in 1960.

28. CLARKE'S SADDLERY (I)
Clarke's Saddlery & Simcoe's Temple of Fashion, built circa 1866 by Matthew Clarke, was replaced with an impressive two-storey stone building used later by the Blight family. This was demolished and replaced with the present building in the 1930s.

29. PIPERS OF PENOLA RESTAURANT (I)
Constructed as a Methodist Church in 1908, the building was owned by the Penola RSL from 1920 to 1928, followed by the Independent Order of Oddfellows Manchester Unity Friendly Society until 1940. It was then repurchased by the RSL who sold it to the Penola Caledonian Society in 1958.

30. GLADSTONE'S STORE (I) (H)
Built by George Gladstone in 1854 it became the Penola Cheese and Butter Manufacturing Company in 1889. It was purchased by the Penola National Trust in 1978 and named Cobb & Co Booking Office. First used as tea rooms and restaurant in 1984 by Mistress Kate, it was followed by others until purchased by S & D Cox in 1997, V & M Musolino purchased the building in 2012.

31. DONALD MCDONALD'S HOME (I) Private residence
Donald McDonald was licensee of the Royal Oak Hotel from 1864 to 1880. Leonard Peake, District Clerk of the Penola District Council purchased the property in 1888 and named it St Helier. In 1930 it became a private hospital run by Matron Margaret 'Daisy' McKay. Since the new hospital was built in 1955 it has been used as a residence, at one stage for immigrants.

32. ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH (I)
The first church on the site was built in 1859 whilst Father Julian Tenison Woods was parish priest.

33. WOODS-MACKILLOP SCHOOLHOUSE (I) (H)
Mary MacKillop's first purpose-built St Joseph's school was commissioned by Father Julian Tenison Woods in 1866 and opened in 1867. It has national and state heritage recognition.

34. PETTICOAT LANE HERITAGE AREA (I) (H)
This carefully conserved area of Penola, with its original cottages dating from 1850, was declared a State Heritage Area on 11 December 1997.

35. GAMMON COTTAGE (I) (NT)
Owned by Andrew Adams in the 1860s, this cottage was purchased from C Smith in 1879 by William Gammon. The detached kitchen was then a common feature due to possible problems with open fires. The pressed metal roof tiles were used briefly prior to the introduction of corrugated iron.

36. WILSON COTTAGE (I) (NT)
Home of market gardener and orchardist, William Wilson and his wife Agnes, the cottage is currently used as a Retro Fashion and Bric-a-Brac shop.

37. KIRKGATE (I) (NT)
This was the site of Margaret (née Wilson) and William Neilson's home. William was Penola-born poet John Shaw Neilson's uncle.

38. DAVIDSON COTTAGE (I) (NT)
Peter Davidson and his son built this cottage in 1861 and leased it for the use of Church of England rectors from 1889 to 1895. Restored by National Trust SA Penola Branch in the 1980s, it is currently used as a B&B.

39. SHARAM COTTAGES (I) (H) (NT)
Built in 1850, the slab cottage was the first home of bootmaker Christopher Sharam and his wife Ellen. The second cottage was built c1864.

40. MURRELL BLOCK (I) (NT)
Previously owned by Christopher Sharam, this block was purchased in 1952 by Henry and Olive Murrell. The Penola Branch of the National Trust of SA purchased it in 2008.

41. AIR'S COTTAGE Private residence
Henry Roden, who built this cottage in c1861, left it to boarding-house keeper, Elizabeth Air, in 1866.

42. MISS MAGGIE THOMPSON'S COTTAGE (I) & TEMPERANCE HALL
This 1860s cottage, constructed in several stages, was acquired by William Thompson in 1952 and remains a private residence. The Temperance Hall, constructed diagonally across the road in 1864, was used for a wide variety of community purposes. It was demolished in the 1960s.

43. MCELROY HOME (I) Private residence
Built by Stephen McElroy in 1855, this home was one of the earliest in Penola. Stephen's wife Margaret played her part in early Penola by taking in and caring for Irish immigrant girls until they found employment.

44. FORESTERS' HALL (I) Retail outlet
Built in 1873 by stonemasons Harris and Blight and carpenters J & J Riddoch, this hall has been used by the Mothers and Babies Health Association, a dentist, the Lutheran Church, a tyre and battery service, a brewery and a retail outlet.

45. OSWALD COTTAGE Private residence
This building backs onto the rear of Local Images where you will find more information.

(I) Information on plaque at the site

(H) State Heritage listed

(NT) National Trust owned

Map labels:
6+7, 3+4, 10, Bowden Street, 9, 5+8, 43, 42, 41, 1+2, 11, 13, 14, Arthur Street, 44, Queen Street, 12, 15+45, Alfred Street, Portland Street, Ralston Street, 18, 16+17, 35-38, Church Street, 24, Young Street, 19-20, 33+34, Petticoat Lane, 39+40, 21, 31, 32, Clarke Street, 22-23, Riddoch Street, 25, 26, 27+28, 29+30