

E. MYLOR GENERAL STORE

This Store first opened as a Co-operative in 1895 by the local Blockers who wanted somewhere to sell their produce. Over the years it has had a variety of purposes - including an Opportunity Store and Haberdashery Store, but mostly it has been somewhere the locals and passing traffic could purchase just about anything they might need. In 1991 the Post Office was transferred here from Coopers Store.

F. MYLOR HALL

The original building on this site was built by the Blockers in 1896 and was known as the Cotton Memorial Institute in recognition of GW Cotton's contribution to the Mylor community. The Hall was replaced by the current stone structure by local builder Eusebius Wilson jnr and opened in 1923 as the Mylor Cotton Memorial Hall. In the late 1940's a projection room was added to the front of the Hall. In the 1970s a meeting room and kitchen were added. Today it is still used regularly for a wide range of community activities and private functions.

G. UNITING CHURCH

Built by Eusebius Wilson junior and opened in 1893 as a Wesleyan Church. Eusebius Wilson senior was the foundation minister, and preached there until 1929. A meeting room was added at the back in 1925 and the front porch during the 1970's.

H. STEVENSON'S BAKERY

Founded by William Stevenson, the bakery supplied bread to Longwood, Scott Creek, Bridgewater and Mylor. There were no fewer than four delivery vans and drivers would oblige by delivering mail, newspapers and chemist prescriptions as well as bread. Being on the main road to Melbourne, Stevensons was a convenient place for the Cobb & Co coaches to stop for morning tea. Their horses were tied up to the large gum tree shown in the front page photo. The tree was cut down in the 1980's. In the days of Saturday night movies in Mylor, Stevensons would remain open for refreshments in the interval. Once again a bakery is operating from the rear of the premises and a café at the front.

I. ROBERTS TEAROOMS

Opened in the late 1800s, now a private home. 'Peg leg' Roberts as he was known for his wooden leg, was reputedly able to predict the weather. He is said to have planted the row of street trees between his house and the school.

J. LAPIDGES STORE

Built in 1891 and reputed to be the first shop in Mylor. Mrs Mary Lapidge had a reputation for scrupulous honesty and fair dealing. Now a private residence.

K. MYLOR PRIMARY SCHOOL

Opened in 1894. One distinguished old scholar was Sir Mark Oliphant, eminent scientist and former Governor of South Australia.

L. LOCATION OF THE FIRST METHODIST SERVICE

The plaque is located immediately in front of the burnt out tree stump down from the School playground. This tree, burnt down in the Ash Wednesday fires, provided the shade for the very first outdoor Wesleyan church service in Mylor in 1892, which was taken by Eusebius Wilson senior.

M. WAR MEMORIAL

This Memorial was unveiled in 1922 to remember the eleven young men from the district who lost their lives in World War 1. Six more names were added after World War 2. In recent years the site has been extensively upgraded by the Community. Services are held on Anzac Day and Remembrance Day.

N. ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

The first Church on this site was of galvanized iron construction and was consecrated in December 1892. However in 1954 some workmen were renovating the church and accidently set fire to the building and, although quick thinking by locals saved the records and a few other things, it was completely destroyed. Some years later, after much hard work and fundraising, this brick structure was built on the same site.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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TWO WALKS IN AND AROUND

MYLOR



Stevenson's Bakery late 1930's

Mylor History Group
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THE VILLAGE OF MYLOR

Much of the countryside surrounding Mylor was settled under the scheme known as the Working Men's Blocks Scheme. This Scheme, established in 1885 by the Hon George Witherage Cotton MLC, was to encourage land settlement by the working classes. Later, in response to the needs of the Blockers, as the lessees were known, a township was proposed. Known colloquially as the 'Blockers Town', the township of Mylor was proclaimed in 1891 and named by the Acting Governor of South Australia, Sir James Boucaut, after his birthplace in Cornwall, England. The little village remains one of the most charming and peaceful townships in the Adelaide Hills.

WALK No. 1

Park your car in the Goyder Reserve on the banks of the picturesque Onkaparinga River.

1. GOYDER RESERVE

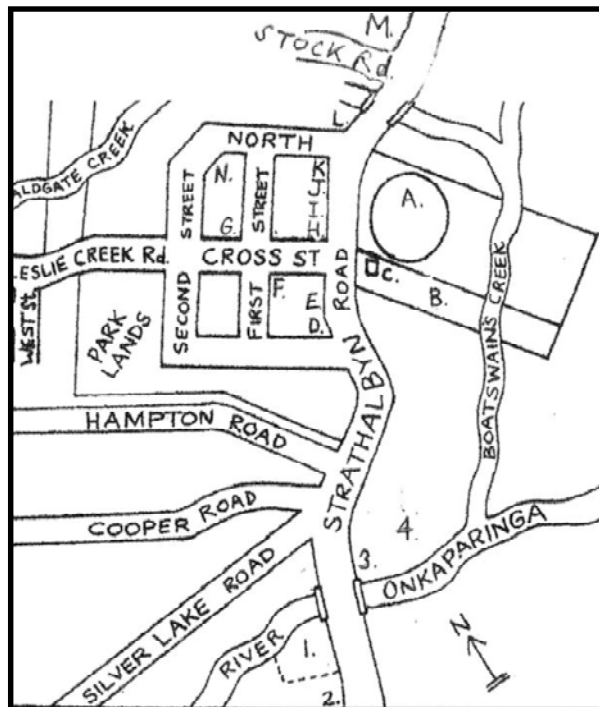
Named after George Woodroffe Goyder, of Goyder's Line fame. Born in England in 1824, Goyder was for 33 years Surveyor General of the Colony of South Australia (which included the Northern Territory at that time). During his tenure 166 towns in South Australia and the Northern Territory were surveyed, including Mylor. He resided at Warrakilla (see below).

Now either drive or walk up the hill to Warrakilla, about a kilometre from the Reserve.

2. WARRAKILLA

(Aboriginal word meaning place of changing winds) Originally the 'Wheatshaf Inn', built in 1841 by William Warland, a pioneer of the Echunga district. In 1879 Warrakilla became Goyder's residence. Here he set up a large orchard and lived in the homestead in grand style entertaining celebrities from all over the world. George Goyder died in 1898.

In 1983 Warrakilla was gutted by the Ash Wednesday bushfires, but subsequent owners have restored this fine old house. It is now a private residence.



Now walk or drive back to the reserve and cross the Onkaparinga river on the Hack Bridge.

3. HACK BRIDGE

Named after John Barton Hack, pioneer farmer of Echunga. This is the fifth structure built across the river in this general area, having been completed in 1965. Its predecessors were wooden causeways laid down c.1843 and 1848 further south from the present site. More substantial bridges were constructed in 1850 and 1873. The bridge built in 1873 may still be seen a short distance north of the present structure.

4. ROCKFORD

A large house situated on a nearby hill (the gate house is adjacent to the road), Rockford can be viewed from the road towards Mylor. This was the home of pioneer merchant and politician, the Hon David Murray. He lived at Rockford in the style of an English squire, surrounded by a magnificent garden tended by an English gardener, John Wright. A keen fisherman, Murray stocked the nearby Onkaparinga with trout. In addition to conducting a farm at Rockford, he also planted a hop garden. A dedicated townsman, David Murray

was responsible for establishing an oval and a school at Gum Flat nearby. He lived from 1829 to 1907.

Recently this private residence has been extensively renovated and extended by the current owners

Now return to your car and drive into the township of Mylor, parking in or near the picturesque Mylor Oval.

WALK No. 2

A. MYLOR OVAL

Backed by the tree-fringed Boatswain's Creek (Aldgate Creek), which joins the Onkaparinga River near Rockford, Mylor Oval was opened to the public on 21 January 1905. The ceremony was performed by Sir Langdon Bonython. The pine trees planted on either side of the gates still remain. The work of timber clearing for the oval area was carried out at a working bee of local blockers and other residents. During the 1960's locals diverted the creek to create more space for the Oval.

B. SHERRY PARK

Named after the Sherry family who owned the land from 1947 to 1973. Now the location of a popular playground and the Old Bootmaker's Shop.

C. OLD BOOTMAKER'S SHOP

This one roomed building is constructed in a 'rubble masonry' style mixing lime with mud, stone and gravel most likely sourced from a small quarry in the bank of the nearby creek to the east. It was built c.1904 by John Joseph Staples, a 51 year old bootmaker, who had previously lived in Adelaide. A widower, John Staples lived and worked at his trade in this small structure. He was an active and well-liked member of Mylor's community until his death in 1919. The Shop is currently being restored.

D. COOPERS STORE

In 1892 Charles Cooper moved his business here from near Rockford. His family has served Mylor and surrounding districts ever since. Until the late 1940s, it was boasted that Coopers could supply everything needed to set up house. Today Coopers is run by fourth and fifth generation Coopers and still supplies a wide range of hardware and rural products.