

20. Elders Building

Built in 1903 by James I. Robinson, this was a general store, which was occasionally used for Council meetings, and in later years used by Elders-Goldsborough Mort.

21. Crooked Billet

Built in 1845 by James Shakes, it was licensed as an inn until 1860. The assembly room was used for Council meetings and to discuss plans for the future of Nairne. It was here that Sir R. Torrens gave the first country address on his proposed system of land title registrations, now known as the 'Torrens Title System'. The Crooked Billet is on the State Heritage List.

22. Millers Arms Hotel

Circa 1850. Original licence issued to James Shakes in 1851.

23. Nairne School

Built in 1876 by the Education Department and originally used as a school. Nairne received its public school status at this time, instructing 112 students in its inaugural year, peaking at 174 students in 1884.

24. The Soldiers' Memorial Hall

Built in 1880 by the Oddfellows Lodge. Purchased in 1921 by the Nairne Soldiers Memorial fund, it became the town's public meeting place. Extensive alterations were carried out in the 1960's.

25. Nairne Cemetery

Established on land set aside by Matthew Smillie and containing his family vault (note broken monument which means 'Life Cut Short'). Many names here are associated with Nairne's development and history.

26. Church Street

Over many years referred to as 'Lovers Lane', this quaint lane bordered by pink hawthorn is reminiscent of years gone by. It originally provided access to Nairne's first flour mill of 1847.

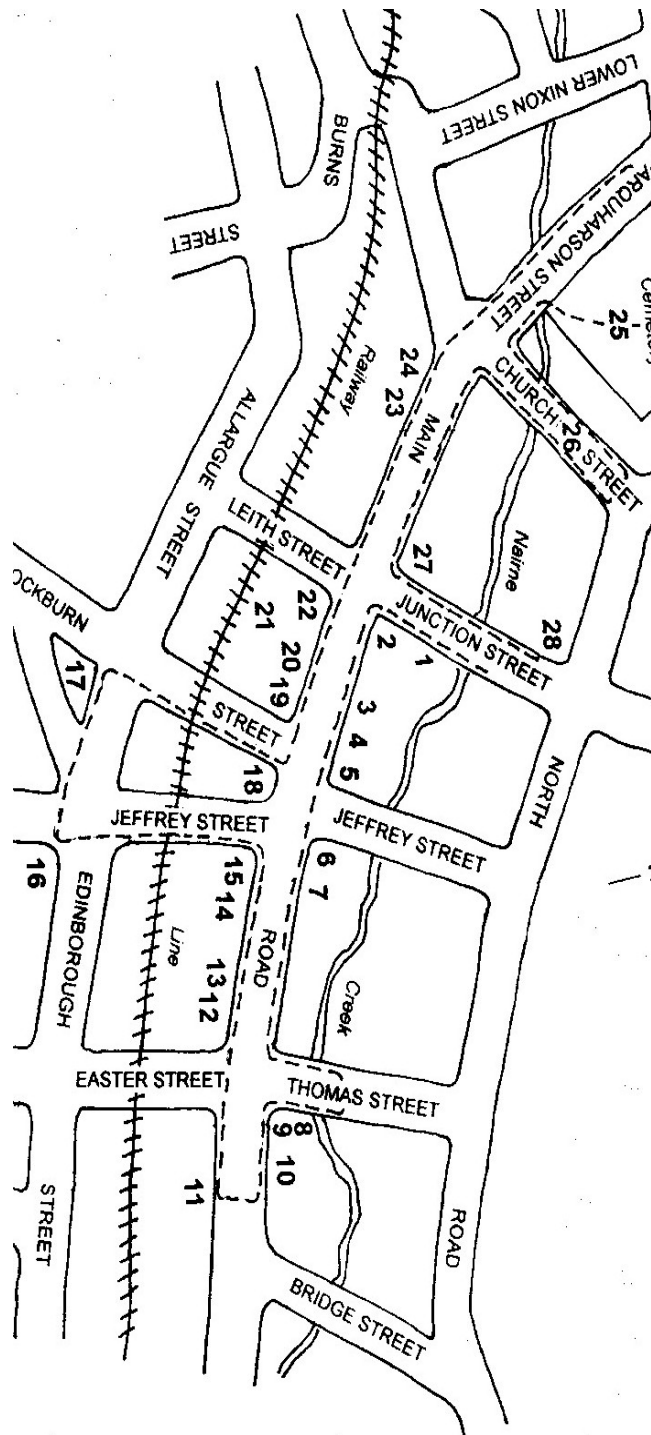
27. The Stables

Built in 1851 to stable horses and coaches owned by patrons of the Millers Arms, its construction is typical of the colonial style.

28. Pioneer Cottage

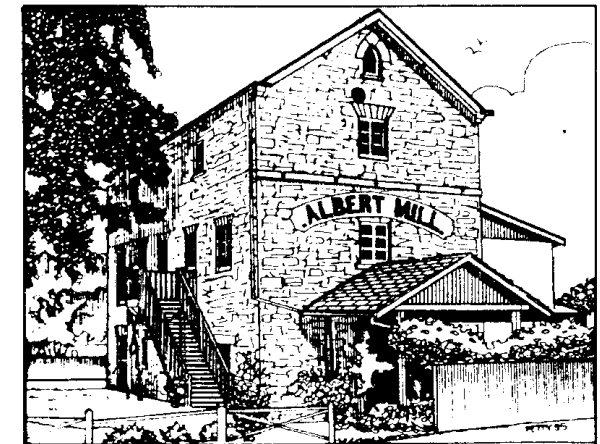
The original section of this cottage was built in 1852 for William Smillie, on land given to him as a wedding gift by his father Matthew Smillie, Nairne's founder. William later returned to live in Scotland.

There is no increased right of public access to heritage places. The buildings in Nairne are all occupied and cared for, and the occupants' right to enjoy privacy should be respected.



Nairne

An Historic Walking Tour



Nairne, one of the hills oldest towns was founded in 1839 by Matthew Smillie, the first sheep farmer east of the Mount Lofty Ranges. The town was named by Matthew Smillie after the maiden name of his wife, Elizabeth Corse Nairne who he had married in Scotland. Matthew and his family built their home "The Valleys" in 1844 where he lived until his death in 1847. He is buried in the Nairne Cemetery.

Nairne was built on a foundation of firsts. John Dunn built SA's first flour mill in 1841 at Hay Valley, along the Nairne-Woodside Road. Amos Howard discovered subterranean clover, later to become Australia's premier stock feed, at the base of a slope near Bald Hills Road in 1889. The hills first agricultural show was held in Nairne in March 1847. It was transferred to Mount Barker the following year, where it has since remained.

Initially an agricultural area and a renowned wheat district, Nairne was transformed by the railway line in the early 1880's along with Chapman's factory and other ventures such as a tannery, saw mills, mining and smelting works, hotels, butchers, carriers, etc.

Bypassed by the freeway, Nairne has retained its stone village charm and attracts both permanent residents and a wide range of visitors.

1. The Albert Mill

Built in 1857 by Thomas Stoddart, it was sold to John Dunn in 1864 for 1,500 pounds and operated as a steam driven grain mill until 1906. In later years the mill was used for as a hardware, grain storage and a community centre during WW2. It is on the State Heritage List and the Register of the National Estate.

2. The Old Gum Stump

This massive gum once stretched across the Main Street to the Millers Arms Hotel. Used not only as a meeting place for picnics and celebrations, prisoners were chained to its base during the change of guard.

3. Murphy's Deli (previously Centenary Tearooms)

Circa 1850, this building still remains with its original slate roof. Owned and used as a General Store by local identity Mick Murphy for many years.

4. District Hotel



A two storey, solid stone hotel, built in 1851 by Andrew Trewartha, replacing an earlier public house which dated from 1840. The existing basement housed the original policeman's quarters and jail for the district. It is on the State Heritage List and the Register of the National Estate.

5. The Carpenters and Undertakers Premises

As in many small villages the local carpenter had many skills including wheelwright, blacksmith and undertaker. The large basement area of this building was used as the local mortuary. When manufacturing the large cartwheels, the rims were rolled down into the creek to cool.

6. Jackson's Butcher Shop

Opened by Henry Jackson as a butcher shop; two generations succeeded him as butchers. The stone rooms used for hanging meat are still visible from the lane-way, as are the hand made iron brackets each side of the corner entrance.

7. Stables and Hayloft for Butcher's Shop

This two storey stone building was used by the adjoining butcher as a stable and hayloft.

8. Tannery

Operated by Henry Timmins from 1851 - 1877. The building was later converted to a bacon factory by George Chapman. It was subsequently operated by Walter Jacobs and finally by the brothers Henry and James Timmins (children of the founder) until it finally ceased operating in 1919.

9. Henry Timmins house (now Upstairs Downstairs)



Built in 1870, this two storey home and shop was constructed for Henry Timmins, by the Spence Brothers, of locally quarried stone. The house was constructed with a similar character as the houses Timmins had known in Cornwall. The shop was originally built for displaying and selling leather from the tannery, which is located at the rear of the property. Upstairs Downstairs is on the State Heritage List.

10. Bigmore Cottage

Circa 1850. This stone cottage is typical of the style of small simple homes of this era. Built of locally quarried pink sandstone the home basically had two rooms, one with a fireplace.

11. Attached Housing

Circa 1850. This simple colonial stone construction is only one room in depth with a corrugated iron hipped roof.

12. Dove Cottage

Dating from 1856, this cottage was built by John Jenkin Treloar. It was used as a shop for many years before the windows were altered and the front rooms returned to residential.

13. Nurse Thomas's Hospital

Originally built as J.W King's Bootshop, in later years it was used as Nurse Thomas's first hospital. Upon her marriage she resided in the neighbouring cottage.

14. Old Police Station

Built in 1883 by David Chapman, this freestone building, originally of 6 rooms, was used as a Police Station until 1978. The original cellblocks and stables are still evident at the rear of the building.

15. Post Office

The original Post Office was built in 1889, and is now the postmaster's residence. Business was conducted through one of the narrow front windows. The first postmistress was Miss A. Parsons.

16. Wesleyan Chapel

This chapel was built in 1854 on land donated by Mr T. May, and from 1884 was used as a Sunday school.

17. Uniting Church

Originally a small, stone, primitive Methodist Church, circa 1854, the Uniting Church as now seen was erected in 1884.

18. Market Square Plaque

This land was set aside by Matthew Smillie for public and social gatherings. The bronze plaque honouring Nairne's founder was unveiled during the town's centenary celebrations in 1939.

19. Nairne Institute



Built in 1904, this coursed stone building has played an important part in the lives of the local residents. Its uses have ranged from library, polling booth, bank agency and for civic and social gatherings.