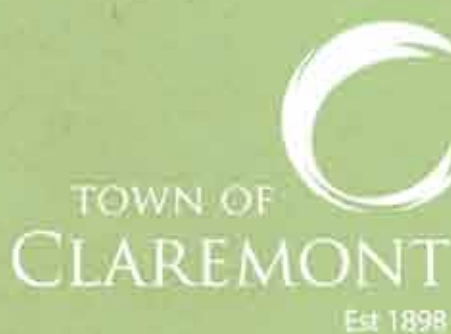
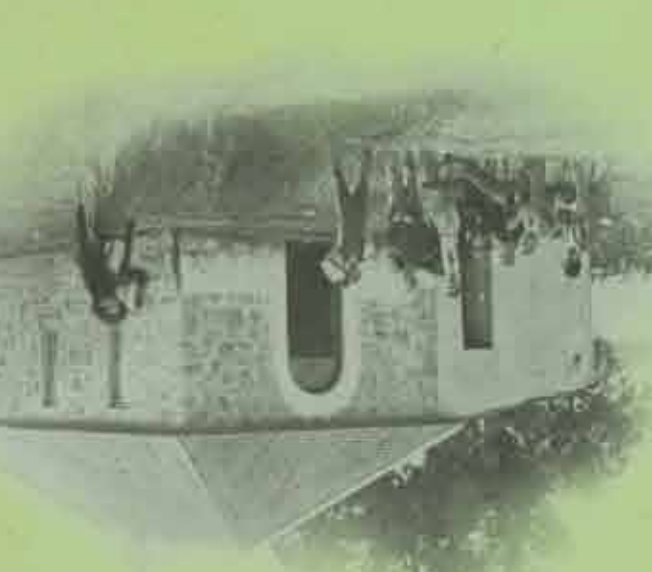


A self-guided walk trail  
Approx 1.5-2 hour duration  
5.3km

# CLAREMONT & CONVICTS CORBITERS



**Town of Claremont**  
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Website: [www.claremont.wa.gov.au](http://www.claremont.wa.gov.au)



Information and resources from Claremont Museum and local residents. Photographs courtesy of Claremont Museum Collection.

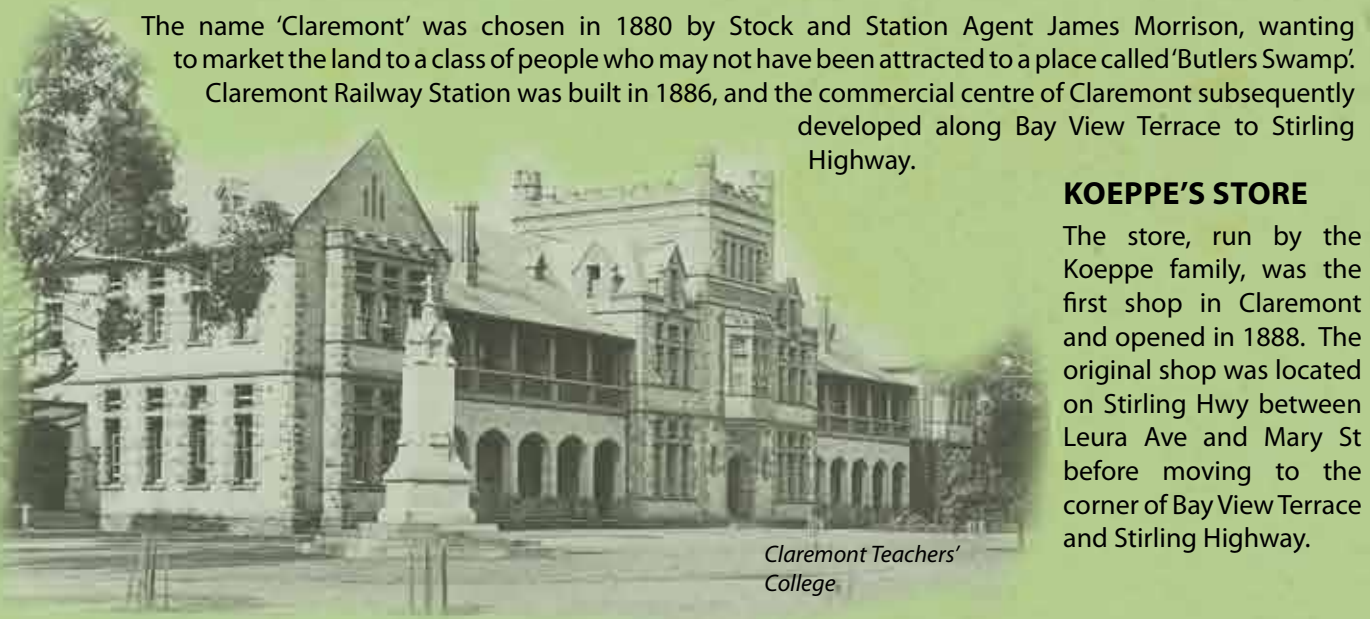
We gratefully acknowledge the donors of information and photographs used in the development of this map.

Illustrator: Mary Yates

This map is printed on recycled paper

## GENERAL INFORMATION ON CLAREMONT

Prior to European settlement the district of Claremont was associated with Aboriginal people of the Whudjuck Nyungar group. The Swan River Colony was established in 1829 and in the 1850s land was subdivided in the Claremont area to provide accommodation and land for the Pensioner Guards who had accompanied convicts to the Colony. From 1875 onwards large tracts of land were acquired by speculators and in the 1880s and 1890s these lots were further subdivided for housing lots. Initially the people who took up these lots were the moderately wealthy and the merchants of the day. In 1881 the Perth to Fremantle railway line was opened and this was the catalyst for growth and development in the Claremont area.



Claremont Teachers' College

The name 'Claremont' was chosen in 1880 by Stock and Station Agent James Morrison, wanting to market the land to a class of people who may not have been attracted to a place called 'Butlers Swamp'. Claremont Railway Station was built in 1886, and the commercial centre of Claremont subsequently developed along Bay View Terrace to Stirling Highway.

### KOEPPE'S STORE

The store, run by the Koepe family, was the first shop in Claremont and opened in 1888. The original shop was located on Stirling Hwy between Leura Ave and Mary St before moving to the corner of Bay View Terrace and Stirling Highway.

### HAMMOND ROAD (REF. 6)

Hammond Road was first subdivided in the late 1890's however, unlike other Claremont Streets, it remained underdeveloped for a significant period of time. During the 1930s there were still large vacant lots, one of which was a paddock with grazing horses. During the 1960s sheep could still be seen grazing in a vacant lot during Royal Show week.

At number 2A & 2B stood a small wooden church built around 1915. The Church of Christ, apparently built in a day, was a home away from home for many residents of Claremont and Dalkeith with 120-150 children attending Sunday School there in the early years. The church was demolished in the 1960s.

### PENSIONER GUARDS

Pensioner Guards were military pensioners who were paid by the British Government to serve as guards on convict ships. Many had served in the military for more than fifteen years and had been decorated in battle, while some had been retired early from service because of wounds or illness. In 1850 the first contingent of convicts arrived in Western Australia, accompanied by Enrolled Pensioner Guards, who were allocated land at Freshwater Bay and South Perth. The land at Freshwater Bay consisted of blocks of nine and a half acres around Butler's Swamp and half an acre along the Swan River on Pensioners Row (now Victoria Ave).

### CLAREMONT JETTY (REF. 13)

The Claremont Jetty was constructed in 1898 near the foot of Bay View Terrace.

On hot nights it was a place to promenade in hope of catching the breeze across the bay and to check on the catch of those using it to crab and fish. Soon an attached boatshed had boats for hire and bait for sale.

In summer the jetty was frequently thronged with happy groups waiting to board a river ferry for their annual school or staff picnic and, for a shilling (10c) adults and sixpence (5c) children, families could take the 'River Queen' to the popular picnic spot of Point Walter.

At night the bigger 'Emerald' or 'Zephyr' might berth with lights blazing and dance band playing. After a suitable stay, repeated blasts of their whistle could be heard throughout the district as they summoned their revellers back from the nearby Hotel Continental.

By the late 1980s the jetty had deteriorated. In 1991 the structure was totally removed and a new jetty constructed of same width and length and wooden decking. At the official re-opening, a piano at the end of the jetty was played by a member of the family which had operated the boatshed for many years.



Christ Church c1893

### CLAREMONT PRIMARY (REF.16)

In 1893 the Claremont Government School was established on this present site with 40 children enrolled. Since its establishment the school has developed from a single roomed school to a larger complex over a number of development stages.

### THE MEWS BOATSHED (REF. 11)

The Mews Boatshed is the last remaining historic boat building shed on the river. It was originally built by George Cooper around 1906 and used for his boat building business. He also ran the boat hire at Claremont Jetty. In 1943 the boatshed and house were bought by the Mews family who had been involved in boat/ship building in Western Australia since the 1830s. The boatshed and its contents were moved to Claremont Museum in 1996.

There are approximately 700 artefacts associated with the Mews Boatshed, representative of boat building and boating on the Swan river from the early 1900s. It also has connections to the Broome Pearling Industry as pearling luggers were built in the Mews Boatshed.

### CHRIST CHURCH (REF. 20)

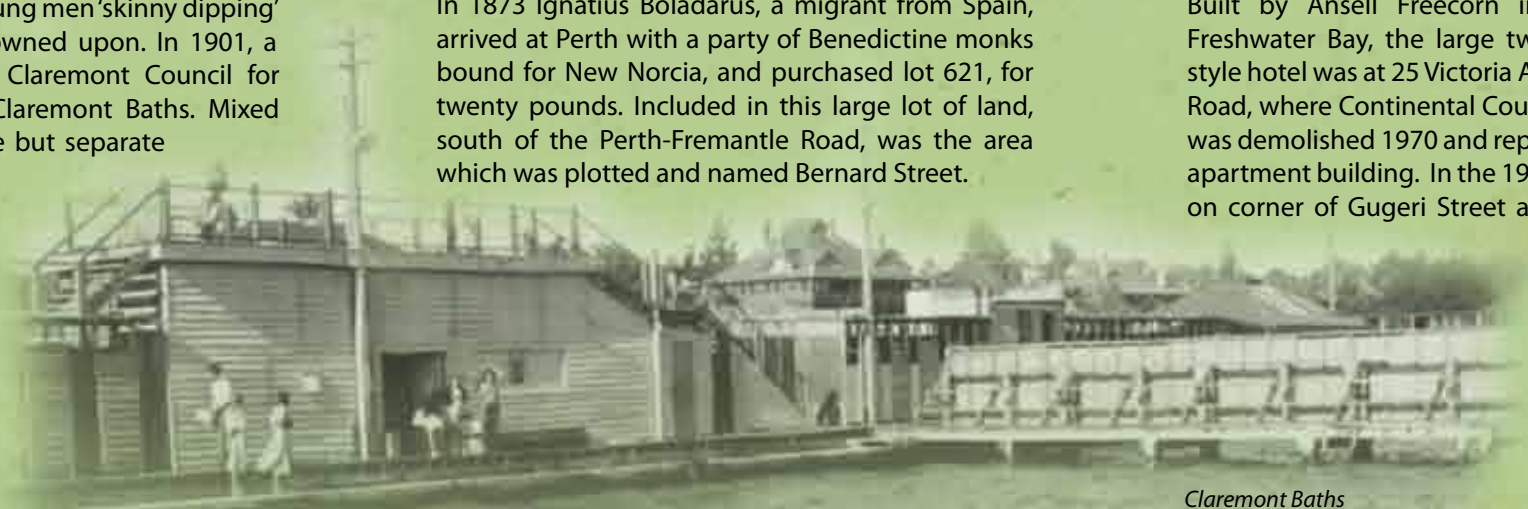
This church, dating from 1893, was the first church to be built in Claremont and is an example of a parish Church in the Victorian Gothic revival style. The strong religious theme engendered by its design and the quality of its fittings invokes an emotional response which makes it extremely popular for baptisms, weddings and other religious gatherings.

### 46 PRINCESS ROAD (REF. 14)

This little shop with attached residence was built in 1898 and has serviced the community continuously since then. Initially it was a grocery shop and the grocer kept a horse, which he used to make his deliveries, on a vacant lot next door. The place has recently been beautifully restored in a way that retains and reveals the early fabric of the building.

### BENEDICTINE MONKS

In 1873 Ignatius Boladarus, a migrant from Spain, arrived at Perth with a party of Benedictine monks bound for New Norcia, and purchased lot 621, for twenty pounds. Included in this large lot of land, south of the Perth-Fremantle Road, was the area which was plotted and named Bernard Street.



Claremont Baths

### 50 VICTORIA AVENUE - COLWYN HOUSE (REF. 12)

Colwyn House, built by Bunning Bros. Ltd for Arthur and Evelyn Bunning in 1911, illustrates the highest quality of building and accommodation erected in Claremont during the Federation period. It is a visible reminder of the Federation period residences which formerly graced the river front at Freshwater Bay.

### CLAREMONT TEACHERS COLLEGE (REF. 9)

The former Claremont Teachers College was built in 1902 and was Western Australia's first Teachers College. The building has architectural and social significance as an example of the Federation Free Medieval style of architecture and arising out of the expansion of services in the gold boom period.

### BERNARD STREET (REF. 5)

Bernard Street is one of Claremont's oldest residential streets and has one of Claremont's most intact heritage streetscapes. Edwin Summerhayes, a prominent Perth architect lived on Bernard Street and is responsible for designing and building several houses on the Street.

### CLAREMONT COUNCIL OFFICES (REF. 2)

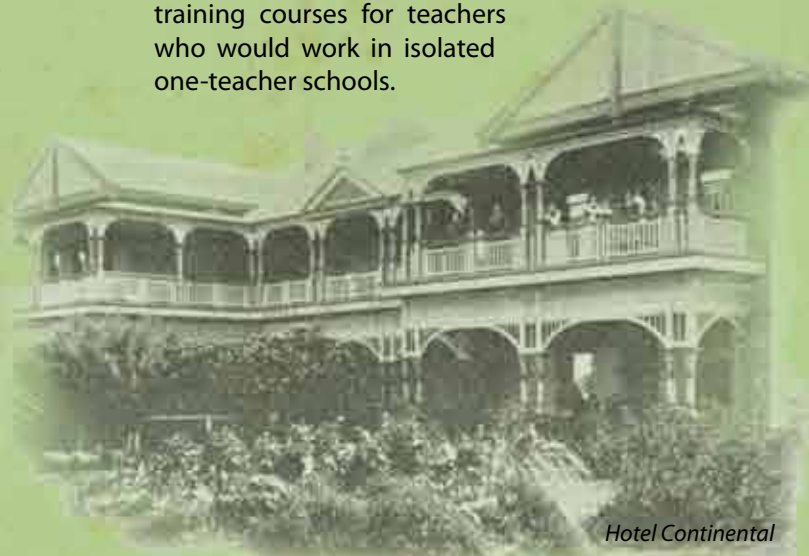
The Claremont Council Offices and surroundings have been the civic heart of the Town since Claremont became a municipality in 1898. The building has evolved over time and a number of prominent Western Australian architects were involved in the various stages of design and construction.

### CONVICT DEPOT (REF. 4)

This was once the site of a convict depot. The depot was established in 1853 to house convict work parties during the clearing and construction of the Perth-Fremantle Road. Initially it consisted of 5 wooden buildings and a well. In 1862 two stone buildings were added which may have replaced some of the earlier wooden structures. In 1875 it stopped functioning as a convict depot. The stone buildings were occupied by the 'Freshwater Bay School' from 1882 until 1893 when the school moved to its current location on Bay View Terrace.

### EAST CLAREMONT PRAC (REF. 8)

East Claremont Practising School was established in 1905 for the purpose of training the students at the Claremont Teachers College. A Rural School was established in one of the rooms of the Practising School in 1908. It provided short training courses for teachers who would work in isolated one-teacher schools.



Hotel Continental

### HOTEL CONTINENTAL

Built by Ansell Freecorn in 1896 overlooking Freshwater Bay, the large two storied federation style hotel was at 25 Victoria Avenue opposite Jetty Road, where Continental Court units now stand. It was demolished 1970 and replaced by the high rise apartment building. In the 1990s, Claremont Hotel, on corner of Gugerl Street and Bay View Terrace, assumed this name causing confusion for future researchers!

### CLAREMONT MUSEUM (REF. 10)

Claremont Museum is housed in a heritage listed building that contains within it connections to some of the most enduring historical threads that have shaped contemporary Claremont.

It was built with stone quarried by convicts as Freshwater Bay School and church in 1862. Subsequently it has functioned as a boarding house for young men, Freshwater Bay Police Station and a police quarters.

The Town of Claremont took over management of the site when the Police Department relinquished the building in 1973. Since opening in 1975, Claremont Museum has grown to include an administration building, a collection storage area, an education centre and the relocated, intact Mews boatshed.

Claremont Museum is the custodian of approximately 11,000 artefacts, relating to the history of Claremont. It holds domestic equipment, household items, materials associated with the businesses of Claremont and artefacts important to the railway history of the state.

## REFERENCE NUMBERS

You will find our walk trail numbered 1 through to 20. Use the reference below for information on the numbers. Search around the map for further facts and trivia. On the back of the map you will find more detailed information.

From the Council Administration Building take the pathway on your left and follow it through the park. The Convict Depot stone and plaque will be on your left. Continue along this path towards the play equipment which will lead you to Bernard Street. Turn to the map and follow the trail from here.

For more information, contact the Claremont Museum.

1. Town of Claremont War Memorial
2. Council Administration Building
3. Claremont Park
4. Once Convict Depot
5. Bernard Street
6. Hammond Road
7. Bay Road Pantry
8. East Claremont Prac
9. Teachers College
10. Museum
11. Mrs Herberts Park & Boat Shed
12. 50 Victoria Avenue - Colwyn House
13. Claremont Baths & Claremont Jetty
14. 46 Princess Road
15. St Aidan's Church
16. Claremont Primary
17. Bethesda Hospital
18. Christ Church Grammar School
19. Stone Pine
20. Christ Church

Toilets and drinking fountains can be found at reference number one (1) - the Town of Claremont Administration Building; and at number eleven (11) - Mrs Herberts Park.

Persons following the route suggested on this map do so at their own risk. The Town advises walkers to be sun smart and to carry a water bottle when walking the trail.

This map is available in alternative formats from the Town of Claremont Administration Building, 308 Stirling Highway, Claremont.

This project is supported by:





# MAPHINTS! YOU WILL FIND OUR WALK TRAIL

ARROWED AND NUMBERED 1-20  
FURTHER FACTS & TRIVIA MATCHING  
THESE NUMBERS ARE  
DOTTED AROUND  
THE MAP, WITH  
MORE DETAILS  
ON THE  
REVERSE FOR  
YOU TO  
DISCOVER!  
MAP NOT TO SCALE

# CLAREMONT MEANDERS - GLIMPING THE PAST

### CONVICT DAILY RATIONS: 'COBBLERS & CONVICTS'

- Breakfast: 10 oz bread ½ oz treacle (if avail) 1 pt sugared tea
- Lunch: 14 oz meat 12 oz potatoes 4 oz bread
- Supper: Same as breakfast but less bread
- Plus: 2x week - lime juice & vegetable soup

There are two old, red mailboxes in Claremont of Victorian era



1868

1876

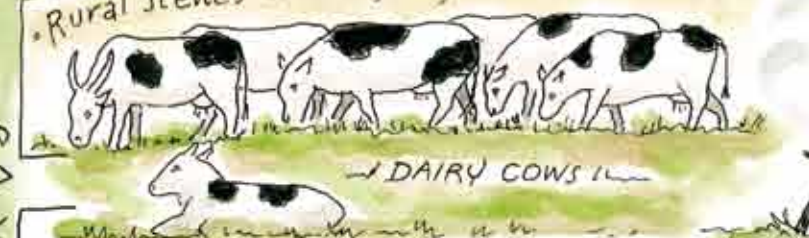
1892 GOLD discovered in Coolgardie brings wealth to Claremont

LETTERS

1899 PROPERTY FOR SALE in Goldsworthy - Road - IRON HOUSE WITH WATER TANK only £45



HUNGRY CONVICTS steal & roast heifer



HOMELESS 'JIM' GIVEN USE OF RAINWATER TANK IN BYGONE DAYS... IN BERNARD STREET

GREIG'S SAVE-WAY STORE



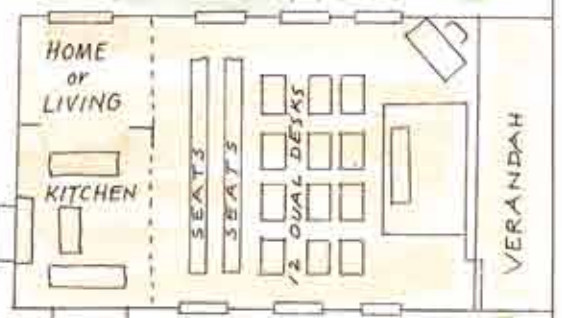
The original Teachers Training College was opened in 1902



PENSIONER GUARD UNIFORM



'EAST CLAREMONT PRIMARY' 'PRAC' RURAL SCHOOL TRAINING CLASSROOM PLAN



FRENCH IMMERSION BILINGUAL CLASSES

Blaremont LAW & ORDER with 'HECTOR' his horse  
CONST. ERNEST HUXTABLE  
1896



1897 CYCLE RACE NORTH FREMANTLE - CLAREMONT RETURN 14 COMPETITORS



1900 ARBOR DAY 50 TREES PLANTED but WHERE? 46 locals living under hessian calico and canvas in 1901



PARROTS CAUGHT AND SOLD TO CREWS IN FREMANTLE



VERANDAH BRACKETS



PERTH TO FREMANTLE ROAD BUILT BY CONVICTS



COBBLERS live in seagrass on river floor - next in burrows



Tom Briggs (8) walks goat to Perth for payment - 2/6d



ART DECO CLOCK



CLAREMONT MUNICIPAL CHAMBERS



CHRIST CHURCH 1892 at cost £810.5 3d



OUR WAR MEMORIAL was designed by Edwin Summerhayes. It was built of Donnybrook limestone in 1922



She lived here



'CLIFFS' - Small beach - FRESH WATER SEEPAGE BELOW CLIFFS



WW2 CATALINA FLYING BOATS land on river



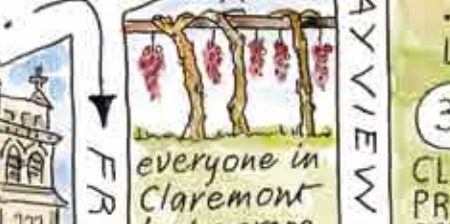
1944 CHRIST purchase 'LUCKNOW' and establish BETHESDA HOSPITAL



CLAREMONT STATION



IDEA: COME BY TRAIN AND WALK TO THE START



MARKS SITE OF ORIGINAL WELL



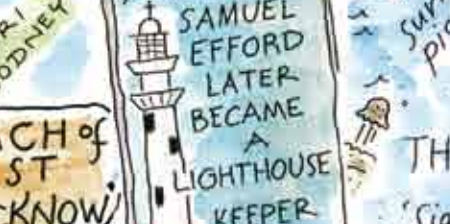
Almost everyone in Claremont had a grape vine



Children taught to swim in BATHS - kept afloat by strings of corks!



FRESH WATER SEEPAGE BELOW CLIFFS



PENS GUARD SAMUEL EFFORD LATER BECAME LIGHTHOUSE KEEPER



50 VICTORIA AVE 'COLWYN' CLAREMONT 1911



CLAREMONT COUNCIL BUILDING



CONVICT DEPOT HERE



CIRCUS IN TIME THE BIG TOP



CLAREMONT PRIMARY SCHOOL EST 1893



ST AIDAN'S HAS FIRST ORGAN BUILT IN W.A.



HOTEL CONTINENTAL CLAREMONT YACHTSMEN and MOTORBOATMEN Should put into our favourite hotel, excel lent cuisine



ENTRANCE FEE 1d (increased - 3d)



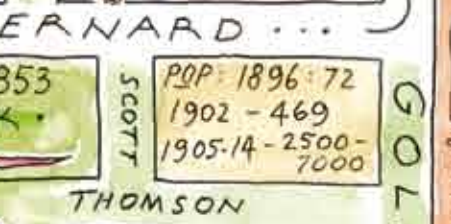
ICE 6d BLOCK



VISIBLE: 2 KM 30 M HIGH 1 1/2 M WIDE FAMOUS LANDMARK 'HALF-WAY TREE'



SPANISH BENEDICTINE MONKS purchase land in Bernard St for £20 - 1873



POP. 1896: 72 1902: 469 1905-14: 2500-7000



SCHOOLING FREE for CHILDREN aged 6-14 YEARS



PRINCESS



AGETT



AGETT



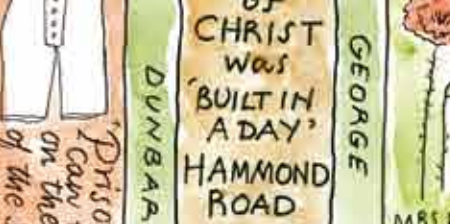
AGETT



STIRLING HIGHWAY - NAMED IN 1931



READ ALL ABOUT (West AUSTRALIAN) \* front page news Alredale catches bus to go... FISHING!



CHURCH of CHRIST was BUILT IN A DAY HAMMOND ROAD C1915



PRINCESS



PRINCESS



PRINCESS



PRINCESS



PRINCESS



HAMMOND



HAMMOND



HAMMOND



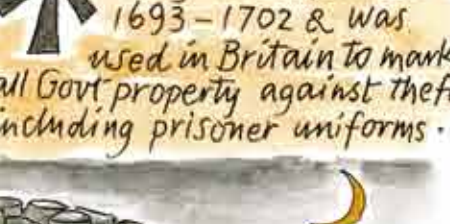
HAMMOND



HAMMOND



HAMMOND



HAMMOND



HAMMOND



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HAMMOND



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HAMMOND



HAMMOND



HAMMOND



HAMMOND



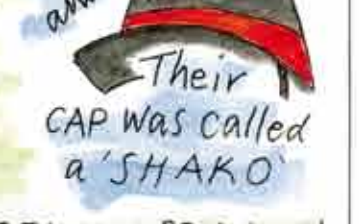
HAMMOND



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HAMMOND