

### 1 Johnstone & Wilmot Store\*

On the corner of St John and Cimiteri Streets stands the old Johnstone and Wilmot Store and Counting House, from 1842. Considered architecturally unique in Australia, you will notice its unusual style. It is now 1842, a fine handcrafted furniture and decorative arts gallery.

Patriotism ran high in the ranks of the volunteers. What they lacked in numbers they made up for in enthusiasm. Pictured here are the long service medal men of the Launceston Artillery, circa 1890.



### 2 Paterson Barracks

This convict built Georgian building was originally the Commissariat Store. In 1860, the Launceston Volunteers were formed. At times, their numbers were less than 25 but at their height reached 100 members. Their presence was particularly important after the withdrawal of British troops in 1870 and the scare of war with Russia in 1878.



### 3 Custom House

The scale and grandeur of the Custom House, completed in 1888, gives an idea of the riches coming into Launceston during the mineral boom of the 1870s and 1880s. Restored by the Federal Government, and now privately owned, the Custom House remains as a magnificent reminder of the grand old days of sail and steam.

### 4 Tasmanian Flour Mills



The old store fronting the Esplanade, built in the mid 1800s, was purchased by Thomas Monds as a store for his Carrick flour mill. He had the four storey mill built next to the stores. In 1918 Monds amalgamated with Thomas Affleck, owner of the Crown Mill in Cameron Street, to become Monds and Affleck.



### 5 Shields Street

This area between the wharves has been occupied by many grain and wool stores, tin smelters and hotels. On the left is part of the Boag's Brewery complex. On the right is the former penitentiary, the earliest buildings dating from the 1830s. In 1859 it was converted by the government to a Custom House and Bonding Warehouse and the impressive colonnades were added at this time. Dozens of nail holes can be seen in one of the doors, left from decades of notices that were nailed there for the community to read.



### 6 Brewery Oast House

The Esk Brewery was established in 1881, and was purchased in 1883 by James Boag and his son. According to the 1900 edition of the Cyclopaedia of Tasmania, fame came quickly, their beer being "generally admitted to be infinitely superior to anything produced in Australia (sic). After his father retired in 1887, James the younger managed the firm, and lived on the site. If you walk around the block you will see the old oast house, where the hops were dried, and many other buildings that date from this period. Brewery tours are available.

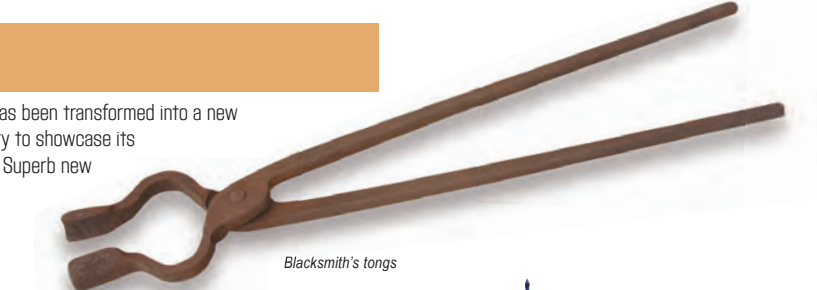


### 7 Prince Albert Inn

Originally built as the Dorset Hotel in the 1850s, this building was initially a restrained Georgian style. In 1867 the hotel changed hands and was extensively renovated in the fashionable Italianate style. On account of its proximity to the wharves and the rail terminus, its name was changed to the Terminus Hotel.

### 8 Queen Victoria Museum & Art Gallery

This extraordinary industrial heritage site, the former Launceston Railway Workshops, has been transformed into a new cultural precinct for Launceston. Here the QVMAG has established a magnificent Art Gallery to showcase its renowned fine art and decorative art and craft collections, from colonial to contemporary. Superb new galleries feature Tasmanian Aboriginal shell necklaces, youth arts, the stories of migration to Tasmania and the history of the state's railways. The former life of this unique workplace is also revealed. Star attraction is the Blacksmith Shop, an intact relic of the state's industrial past.



Dating from 1861 this rare concert organ is still in use today and provides a magnificent backdrop to the stage of the Albert Hall. It is operated by water which drives a pump compressing air into bellows, which in turn blows the organ pipes as the keys are played. It was moved to the Albert Hall in 1891.



### 10 Batman Fawkner Inn

This famous hotel was originally built in 1824 by John Pascoe Fawkner. It was on this site in 1835 that Fawkner and Batman planned their separate expeditions to cross Bass Strait and create a settlement at Port Phillip Bay (in what would become the State of Victoria). Another important meeting held in the Cornwall Hotel was in August 1850, when the Anti-Transportation League was launched, passing a resolution which spelt the end of convict transportation.



### 13 Town Hall

Designed by the prolific Launceston architect Peter Mills in the 18th Century, the Town Hall was built in 1864 in a bold Italianate style that apparently offended the local newspaper. "The Town Hall is a bastard... the designer appears to have studied how far he could outrage good taste and set delicacy by obtruding as many points and angles upon the eye as it was possible..." - The Examiner 23rd February 1867. Another objection was that the columns were so close together that a lady dressed in one of the full sized crinolines of the day would practically fill the space! In the 1930s the Town Hall was skillfully doubled in size, extending the initial four columns to nine.



### 14 Macquarie House

Standing four storeys high, this beautiful example of a Georgian brick and stone warehouse was built for Henry Reed, a prominent Launceston merchant in 1830. The expeditions of Batman and Fawkner which established the settlement of Melbourne, was supplied with provisions from this warehouse.



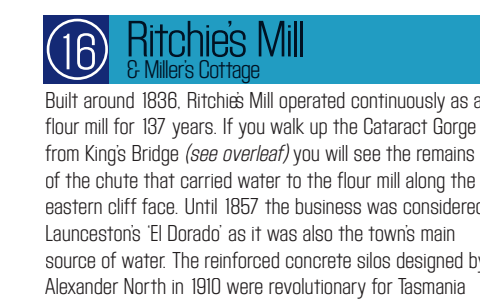
### 15 Queen Victoria Museum

In this superb Victorian heritage building built in 1891, you can find a wealth of information about Tasmania's natural history from its unique wildlife including the Tasmanian Tiger, Tasmanian Devil and venomous Tasmanian snakes, to the state's mineral wealth. Families will particularly enjoy Discovery Plus, an interactive space dedicated to the young at heart. Royal Park is also home of the Launceston Planetarium and a unique Chinese Temple.



### 17 Kings Bridge

Dating from 1884, Kings Bridge links to the accessible paths of the magnificent Cataract Gorge Reserve. See overleaf for more detailed map.



### 16 Ritchie's Mill

Built around 1836, Ritchie's Mill operated continuously as a flour mill for 137 years. If you walk up the Cataract Gorge from Kings Bridge (see overleaf) you will see the remains of the chute that carried water to the flour mill along the eastern cliff face. Until 1857 the business was considered Launceston's 'El Dorado' as it was also the town's main source of water. The reinforced concrete silos designed by Alexander North in 1910 were revolutionary for Tasmania and remain a Launceston landmark.



### 11 Diana, Venus & Fortuna

The statue in the niche is Diana (see overleaf), the Roman Goddess of hunting and nature, and is one of three that adorn the Italianate style building (11) on the corner of George and Cameron Streets. The other two statues that can be seen are Venus, the Goddess of love and Beauty, and Fortuna, the Goddess of fortune. Now business premises, the building was constructed in 1882 by the prolific architect/builder Peter Mills as a store, showrooms and dwelling. According to his obituary, Peter Mills was famous for being the first to "deviate from the ancient style of square [Georgian] unornamental brick buildings in Launceston." - The Telegraph, 9th July 1886.

### 9 Albert Hall

The Albert Hall took two years to build in time for the great Tasmanian International Exhibition of 1891 - 1892. It was recognised at the time as the world's eleventh largest public hall. For over 100 years the hall has been the scene of meetings, concerts, celebrations, social and sporting events. It has been used to farewell troops to the war front, as a temporary hospital during the major influenza epidemic of 1918, and to provide shelter to those left homeless after the great floods of 1929. Whilst you can enjoy the Albert Hall from the outside, the building is only opened for functions and events. The Albert Hall is located adjacent to City Park (see overleaf).



### 12 Post Office

The Post Office is a Launceston landmark. It was built between 1886 and 1889 in the decorative Queen Anne architectural style, considered by some at the time to be too decorative, and a "fad". The tower was added by public subscription in 1903 and was known as the pepper pot due to its squat appearance. Not until 1906 was it completed, with installation of the clock in time to celebrate the centenary of the founding of Launceston. The locally famous Launceston pottery firm, Campbells supplied the ornamental terracotta panels.



### 18 Old Umbrella Shop

Built in the 1860s as a grocery shop with a two storey residence above. In 1918 it was refitted using Tasmanian Blackwood by the Shott family and operated by three generations supplying umbrellas and blackwood souvenirs until the National Trust purchased it in 1979. Today you can see its wonderful display of umbrellas from last century with new umbrellas and a good range of giftware and Tasmanian souvenirs on sale.



### 19 Old Brisbane Hotel

Along Brisbane Street you will find the Old Brisbane Hotel. The facade is the only remaining part of the old building, the interior having been redeveloped as a multi-level shopping arcade. Beginning life as the Kings Head in the 1840s, it was substantially remodelled in 1888. Considered the leading hotel in Launceston, it was commonly known as "the Government House of the north" because of its popularity with royalty, governors, famous and important people.



### 20 The Quadrant Mall

Pedestrianised in 1979, The Quadrant with its curved building facades provides an interesting and picturesque Victorian streetscape. The street was named when the block of land was subdivided by architect William Henry Clayton in 1856. During the construction of the mall, the well at the northern end was uncovered on the land granted to Dicky White, a former highwayman. Transported to New South Wales as a convict, he arrived in Launceston in 1814 and later built the nearby Launceston Hotel.

### 21 Old Bank

This grand building on the corner of St John and Brisbane Streets was built in 1884-5. It was formerly the head office of the Bank of Australasia, which had been established in Launceston in 1836 and was later to become the ANZ. While in the early days the bank maintained a collection of blunderbusses for security, the nature of bank safes apparently improved. In the early 1890s, the manager Mr Thompson, accidentally locked himself in the bank's safe. Fearing either suffocation or starvation, Mr Thompson naturally became very excited. Fortunately someone heard him, but it reportedly took his staff 19 hours to free him!



### 22 Synagogue

Begun in 1844, the unusual Egyptian Revival synagogue in one of the oldest surviving in Australia. The sizeable Launceston Hebrew Congregation borrowed £500 to purchase the land and it was constructed by builders Barton and Bennell. Falling into disrepair in 1913, Sim Crawcour and Harry Joseph were instrumental in its renovation.



### 23 St John's Church

Opposite the north-eastern corner of Princes Square you will find St John's Church. Governor Arthur laid the foundation stone in 1824 and services were held in the incomplete church the following year. Until a chapel was built at the prison, the convicts would sit upstairs in the gallery, with the free people paying to rent one of the pews below. In 1837 the first face of the clock was installed, looking north to the town. The fine rectory was built for Reverend Marcus Browning in 1879 and at the turn of the century Launceston architect Alexander North was commissioned to design a new church. Begun by builders Charles Adam and Sons in 1902, North's incomplete vision today merges with the original convict built church.



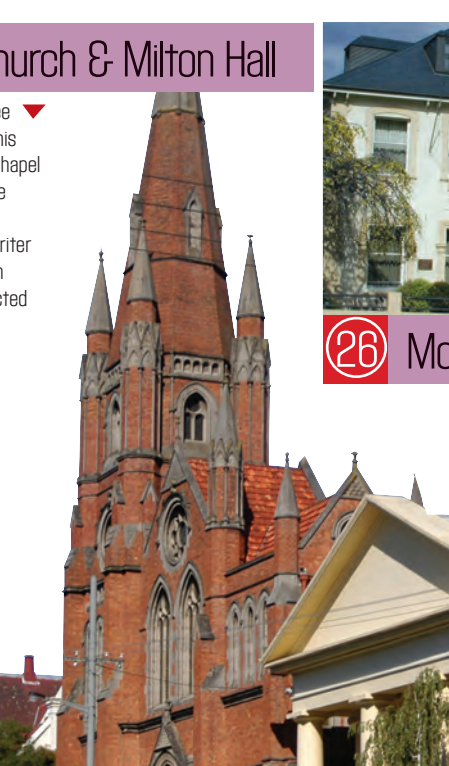
### 24 Princes Square

Originally known as St John's Square, the clay for St John's church bricks were excavated from this site (see 23). Used by residents as a rubbish dump, in 1843 it was formed into a parade ground for the military. The site was used by youths playing cricket for rowdy political meetings and celebrations for the ending of convict transportation. The Square was fenced and planted in 1859 and the bronze fountain, first exhibited at the Paris Industrial Exhibition of 1855, was ordered from Barbezat & Co in France. Commemorating the completion of the St Patrick's River water scheme, Launceston's first permanent water supply, the Square was opened in November 1859. In 1868 the Square was renamed Princes Square to celebrate the visit of His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh.



### 25 Chalmer's, Christ Church & Milton Hall

On the southern side of Princes Square are three imposing buildings. Milton Hall, (on the right in this picture) was built in 1842 as St John's Square Chapel in Greek Revival style. It was constructed by the congregation under the Reverend John West, a courageous Anti-transportation Reformer and writer of 'The History of Tasmania' 1852. Christ Church (centre), a Gothic Revival building, was constructed in 1853-85 when the congregation out-grew Milton Hall. It has a profusion of fine stained glass. Chalmer's Church (on the left) is a unique building in what is called a Florida Gothic style. Opened for worship in 1860 it is a good architectural example of the Free Church of Scotland in Tasmania.



### 26 Morton House

Opposite the south-western corner of Princes Square is Morton House. Originally built in a Georgian style it was St John's Hospital when in 1847 Dr Pugh (pictured left), used the first general anaesthetic in Australia during two successful operations. The building is named in honour of Dr Pugh's American mentor Dr Morton, who had pioneered the science of anaesthetics in America.



### Then & Now

Around the city you will find information bollards that will help you get your bearings and also give you some idea of what the city looked like more than 100 years ago.

