

are original, however the wrought iron on the balcony has been removed.

**12. No. 27 Kinchela Street** was built in the late 1880s by William Calder. It was originally leased as a Post Office until 1920. William then opened it as a tailor's workshop. He leased a portion to a non-official Post and Telegraph Office until the present Post Office was erected in 1926 across the road.

**13. No. 23. Kinchela Street.** Jack Allen, as an adjunct to his hotel, built this shop with residence at rear in 1924 for William Slocombe. Its first use is believed to have been a saddlery, but later became a billiard room in conjunction with a barber shop and tobacconist. The exterior is corrugated iron and it is lined with mahogany planks.

**14. No. 21 Kinchela Street. Gladstone Hotel.** In 1873 Francis Walsh was the first publican of the Gladstone Inn. After 1878 it became the Gladstone Hotel. The first hotel publican was William Sinclair in 1884. It is one of two hotels built in Gladstone.

The anchor in the beer garden came from the ketch "Acielle", wrecked at Hat Head in 1929. It was taken to Gladstone in 1974 to reflect the maritime history of river transport in this area. The bell originated from Trial Bay Gaol, when the prison closed. It was used as a correct weight signal by the race club until the 1970s, when Jim Tedd brought it to his hotel.

**15. No. 19 Kinchela Street. Federal Store.** This store was built in 1897 by Thomas Cannane. Changed slightly over time the shop still retains French doors on the front.

**See Gladstone Public School.** A slab school with shingled roof was built in 1877 on this site. By

the 1890s the foundations had sunk unevenly and large cracks appeared in the walls. The present brick school was built with a stepped floor like a theatre. Other buildings have been added as the need arose.

**16. No. 11 Kinchela Street.** Erected in the 1890s by Fred Towers, this shop stood alone until a residence was added on the owner's marriage. It contained a barber's shop and tobacconist on the left and a confectionery shop on the right, run by Mrs. Towers. The shop windows still retain the original advertising signs.

**17. Gladstone School of Arts.** Completed and opened in 1898 the Hall was a culmination of years of agitation by the residents. The Hall underwent a major programme of renovation in later years

**18. Methodist (Uniting) Church.** Originally, a small slab chapel built in 1865 was on this site. A weatherboard church replaced it in 1883. In 1921 the church was sold to the Masonic Lodge, moved, and a new church erected. This church was originally roofed with tiles from Trial Bay Gaol.

*Continue around the corner into Darkwater Street.*

**19. St. Barnabas Church of England.** The first foundation stone was laid in 1919 on the corner behind the hotel in Macleay Street. War hindered the construction and a second stone was laid in 1921 at the present site. Note the Gothic architecture.

*We hope you have enjoyed your walk around historic Gladstone.*

HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.



step back in

*time*



Walks in History

# GLADSTONE

MACLEAY RIVER

*This is a footpath walk only.  
Except for public buildings, you do not  
have permission to enter private gardens  
or houses.*

*Leave your car in Kinchela Street near  
Gladstone Police Station.*

Gladstone township is a largely intact river town with close links to the development of the Macleay River valley. From its wharves, passengers and freight destined for Austral Eden, the Belmore River, Kinchela and Kinchela Creek, and other lower river areas were landed or despatched.

The land where Gladstone is situated was marked for a village reserve in 1859, however allotments were not sold until 1860. It was surveyed as a village in 1864 by Surveyor Ernst Herborn and was originally known as Darkwater.

In 1870 the village of Darkwater became known as Gladstone and Darkwater Creek as Belmore River to commemorate the visit of the Earl of Belmore, Governor of N.S.W. Gladstone was the maiden name of the Governor's wife.

**1. No. 2 Kinchela Street** is the present police residence. Manning and Morrison of Kempsey built it in 1898 for £1229. Note the cast iron frying pan used as a decoration on the front wall. The two brick cells still stand, separated from the police quarters by the prisoners' yard. This building is registered as part of the National Heritage.

**2. No. 4 Kinchela Street** Old Court House now Police Station. Colonial architect James Barnet prepared plans for the Court House. Built by John Gabriel for £1201, eight shillings and six pence, it was opened in 1885. The trial scene for the movie 'The Chant of Jimmy Blacksmith' was filmed here. This building is also registered as part of the National Heritage.

**3. No. 8 Kinchela Street** was originally a single storey building on the church site across the road. It was moved over on rollers in 1921. It was formerly the Masonic Lodge Temple (Loftus Lodge). A second storey was added and topped with roof tiles purchased from Trial Bay Gaol when it was dis-established as an internment camp in WW1. The cathedral-style windows on the lower floor were retained. Privately owned it is now the Old Lodge Gallery and Riverbank Café.

**4. No 10 Kinchela Street** — Gladstone Post Office. Darkwater Post Office was opened in 1864 and was renamed Gladstone Post Office in 1870. The premises were relocated here, where this Post Office building was built in 1926.

**5. No 18 Kinchela Street** is a triple gabled dwelling and has been in the same family for four generations. Built in 1878 it was the first lot sold in Gladstone after the township was proclaimed in 1860. William Anderson was a shipping agent who had his shipping office here.

**6. No. 20 Kinchela Street.** When built in 1911 it was the Gladstone branch of the Commercial Banking Company of Sydney with the Manager's residence attached. It is now a private residence.

**7. Gladstone Wharf.** Walk west to the riverbank. On January 15th 1873, the Department of Public Works selected Mr. J. Lawson as the successful tenderer for the erection of the wharf. The wharf where sailing ships and later steamships once plied their trade has now gone.

**See Gladstone War Memorial.** This memorial to WW1 fallen sons of the Gladstone area was unveiled on 6th August 1920. Each year Anzac Day



Anzac Day — Gladstone War Memorial.

Memorial services are held here. Annual regattas were held on the river here and carnivals in the park were filled with stalls and amusements.

*Walk north to the third house from the park*

**8. Double block, Lots 4 and 5 Kinchela Street.** This property has had several owners since it was first purchased in 1861, before being sold to William Rowe, a pioneer grazier in 1872. He built the timber buildings still standing and lived on the property with his wife Mary Ann Clegg, stepdaughter of colonial architect John Verge, who owned Austral Eden.

*Walk diagonally across Kinchela Street*

**9. No. 61 Kinchela Street.** Paddy Baulman constructed this federation-style dwelling in 1915 for his bride near the site of his old bakery. The bakery continued to operate for a while from a building rear of the residence. Beautifully preserved it is a classic example of federation splendour.

*Now turn south*

**10. No. 49 Kinchela Street** is a single gable residence with skillion. Built in 1883 the original owner is unknown.

*As you cross Memorial Avenue glance to your left and you will notice memorials to local boys who served in WWII and other wars, which line the Avenue.*

**11. No. 35. Kinchela Street.** H. W. T Lee built this two-storey timber building in the late 19th Century. From here he operated his business as an Insurance Broker, Stock and Station Agent and Auctioneer. French doors on both levels and the main entrance