# TOODYAY

# LIVING HISTORY

## Be Active & Find 30

The Department of Health recommends a total of at least 30 minutes of physical activity, such as walking, on most days of the week.

30 minutes can be built up during the day, for example, 3 x 10 minute sessions.

# The Benefits of Walking

Walking is a great for your physical, mental and social wellbeing. A daily 30 minute walk can:

 Reduce stress
Decrease blood pressure
Improve sleep patterns
Help weight control
Help control cholestrol levels
Improve your fitness, muscle strength, balance and co-ordination
Help you make friends and meet new people

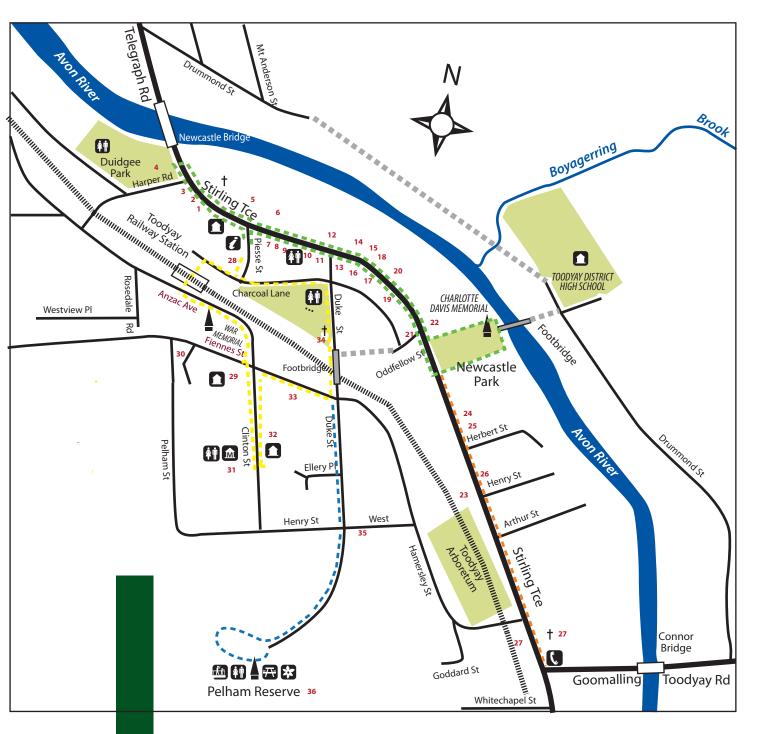


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NEWCASTLE

# WALKING TRAILS

# DISCOVER TOODYAY'S LIVING HISTORY





WALKING TRAILS

**GREEN TRAIL** - takes you past Connor's Mill, Butterly Cottage and through Duidgee Park before returning via the banks of the Avon River and St Stephen's Anglican Church and Stirling Terrace. Numbers 1-22.

**ORANGE TRAIL** - is an optional extension of the yellow trail along Stirling Terrace that takes you past numerous historic sites and to the Catholic Precinct. Numbers 23 - 27.

YELLOW TRAIL - takes you via the railway station and the Anzac Memorial Park to the Newcastle Gaol Museum, and returns to the Visitor Centre via Duke Street North and Charcoal Lane. This walk also has sections of moderately steep hills on Clinton Street. Numbers 28-34.

**BLUE TRAIL** - an optional extension of the yellow trail along Duke Street, past the old hospital up to an impressive lookout at Pelham Reserve. This walk will appeal to nature lovers. Please be advised that it includes steep hills and a moderate level of fitness is required. Numbers 35-36.

Please note the walking times indicated are approximate. Allow extra time to view and appreciate our heritage buildings and natural scenery.

#### **BEFORE YOU START**

Walking offers a great opportunity to experience Toodyay's unique natural and cultural heritage first hand, but before you commence your walk please be aware of the following:

- Toodyay can be very hot in summer. Always carry adequate water and ensure you slip, slop, slap.
- If you intend on walking through the bush, always let someone know where you are going and when you will be back.
- Wear sensible, comfortable shoes and keep an eye out for possible hazards.
- Report any footpath or road hazards to the Shire of Toodyay - please call 9574 2258.











Welcome to Toodyay's *Living History Walking Trails*. These self guided walks through the historic townsite of Toodyay, set in the magnificent Avon Valley approximately 85 km north east of Perth, take you on a path of discovery of the town's rich history.

#### HOW IT BEGAN

Founded in 1831 by Ensign Dale and George Fletcher Moore, the original Toodyay settlement (now known as West Toodyay) was established on the banks of the Avon River some five kilometres west of the present townsite. However, due to severe flooding, the town was moved to its current location near the site of the convict depot established there in 1852.

Today Toodyay boasts some of the finest examples of 19th Century Western Australian history, with the architecture of the town reflecting the early convict era. Toodyay retains the charm and character of an early colonial settlement and has preserved a significant legacy of buildings with historic and architectural value.

#### 1. CONNOR'S MILL

Constructed in c1870 by George Hassell for Daniel Connor; this was the last of three flour mills to be built in Toodyay and became the most successful. Charles Marris purchased the Mill in 1902 after Connor's

death and converted it to a roller mill. Charles M. Lukin bought the building in 1917 and built an electric lighting plant behind the Mill which commenced supplying power to the town in 1920. The Toodyay Road Board purchased the power station in 1926 and continued to supply the power needs until 1955 when



the town was connected to the State power grid.

The building fell into disrepair until the early 1970s. The Shire Council restored the building and in 1975 it was openend as a museum and tourist office. Today with it's operating machinery it provides an insight into the development of agriculture in the region and reveals the stories of people associated with the building. The museum is open daily, with entry through the modernToodyay Visitor Centre, located on Piesse Street.

#### 2. CONNOR'S HOUSE

This cottage was built c1890 for Daniel Connor as a residence and small store. Connor arrived from Ireland as a convict in 1853, receiving his ticket of leave in 1854. He came to the district as a hawker, selling



small goods such as needles and cotton. His clever dealing in stock and business, including Connor's Mill, rapidly saw him become one of the wealthiest men in the district and he soon claimed himself to be a "gentleman".

#### 3. MONGER'S COTTAGE (BUTTERLY HOUSE)

Monger's Cottage or Butterly House is best known for its association with the Monger and Butterly families, two of the oldest European

families to settle in Toodyay.

A large six roomed Victorian Georgian style house with a timber verandah surround was built c.1870 for John H. Monger. Under the front section of the house there is a stone cellar not visible from the outside.



Between 1889-1897, the Western Australian Bank leased the building. The first bank manager was James Mitchell, who later became Western Australian Premier.

In 1910 it was bought by Mr and Mrs J.A.Butterly and they employed H.



Davey to conduct extensive renovations. The Butterly's named the cottage Derby House. Mrs Emma Butterly died in 1940.

4. MONGER'STORE (DUIDGEE PARK) It is generally accepted that the name Toodyay is a distortion of the Aboriginal word *duidgee* (meaning place of plenty).

The land that would later become Duidgee Park was Lot 1 Newcastle, bought by Mr John Henry Monger Jnr in 1861. He also bought the lot opposite to build his house, now known as Butterly Cottage.

Monger established a two storey warehouse, known simply as 'Monger's Store' and outbuildings on Lot 1. The store and mail depot were operated by his family and the stables located at the back housed horses for hire.

In the late 1800s, the top floor was used as a private school. In 1902, H. Davey Jnr purchased the store - by then known as Nottingham House - and converted the top floor to a residence. By the early 1950s, the building had been bought by industrial Extracts Ltd. for a boarding house for its employees. It was demolished in 1968 to make way for the new bridge.

Today the park is a popular picnic/BBQ spot for residents and visitors, with a miniature railway line and a playground suitable for all ages.



#### 5. ST STEPHEN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

This restrained gothic style Church was built by George Hasell, assisted by a Stonemason named Esau Wetherall and a shingle splitter, MacKnoe. Its red brick façade was complimented by the bush timber bell tower (still standing), and timber shingles on the roof. Built in 1862, it was one of the very first buildings constructed in Newcastle. Reverend Charles Harper had been Minister to the Anglican congregation since 1849 and received £25 upon his ordination to build a church in Toodyay. It was in May 1862 that Bishop Hale, Lord Bishop of the Diocese of Perth congregation, consecrated the Church and it opened for services. A Flooded Gum (Eucalyptus rudis) that is more than 375 years old towers over the Church. It is an icon of the town that has been threatened by development a number of times, but its historical significance is now well

recognised. The trimming of the upper branches of the tree was to prevent it striking overhead powerlines, which have since been run underground.

#### 6. STIRLING HOUSE

When Stirling Terrace was less

developed than it is today, this building was very prominent and well known to most of the men folk of Toodyay. From 1908 when it was constructed until December 1976, it operated as the Toodyay Club, an exclusive club that "shall exist and be maintained for social purposes

and shall consist of the present members and such other members as shall be elected from time to time" (from the Toodyay Gentlemen's Club Rule Book). In 1976 the Shire of Toodyay purchased the building and the Toodyay Club merged with the Bowling Club and relocated to new clubrooms on the site



of the old railway stockyards. Stirling House has since been used as a medical centre, youth hostel, art gallery, shops and eateries.

#### 7. FREEMASONS' HOTEL

Constructed as a single-storey building in 1861, the first hotel to be established in Newcastle was originally licensed as the Newcastle Hotel. In 1862, J.T. Monger opened a second hotel at the southern end of Stirling Terrace, also naming it the Newcastle Hotel (now the Toodyay Tavern). The second owner, Thomas Mead was then forced to bestow the name 'Freemasons' Tavern and Newcastle Hotel' on the older public house.

### - TOODYAY -

When the town well ran dry in 1869 the lessees allowed people to use the Hotel well to draw drinking water.

In 1890 builder H. Davey Jnr purchased the hotel. He re-roofed and redecorated the premises and added a billiard room. In 1904, proprietor E.J.

Myers extended the front to the street line and added a second story. Before being incorporated into the hotel, the adjoining single-storey shop built by Davey in 1899, was utilised as a hairdressing saloon, tobacconist, newsagency, chemist photographer's establishment and SP betting shop. The building's Federation Filigree facade was restored in 1994.

#### 8. URWIN'S STORE

Built in 1898 by H. Davey Jnr, this was originally Robert Urwin's Drapery Store and continued as a drapery until at least the 1940s. The upstairs

room was the first meeting place of the Toodyay Masonic Lodge (1899-1925). The Toodyay Buffaloes (RAOB) lodge then met there until the 1950s. The ground floor shop has been a bakery, on and off, since the 1950s. The name Unwin was applied in error in a 20th century refurbishment. The verandah

#### was a more recent addition for an upstairs restaurant.

#### 9. ELLERY'S ARCADE

The six shops making up this arcade were built at various times.

The first three shops were built over the period 1882 to 1891 by Jane Donegan, one of which she ran as a boarding house "Mont View". After Jane's death in 1902, Charles G. Ellery purchased the shops, filled in the gaps with another 3 shops by

1907, which then became known as Ellery's Buildings. The butcher shop has always been so, but the other shops have had a variety of businesses: saddlers, cafe, pharmacy, tailors, printers and grocers.









#### 10. MEMORIAL HALL

The front of the building was built in 1899 as municipal chambers following lobbying by Newcastle residents who had hoped for a Town Hall. It wasn't until 1897, after the construction of York's Old Municipal

Chambers that funds were granted to Newcastle. Prior to this, Road Board meetings were held in the Mechanics Institute and hotels. The Town Hall was added to the rear of the building in 1910 after the previously used Oddfellows Lodge Hall was converted into stores. In 1927 the Road Board moved its



meetings back to the Mechanics Institute (the present day library). The Town Hall was also used as a commercial theatre from the time of its opening through to the 1970s. Then it was used as a community cinema in the late 1990s. In 1991-1992 renovations returned the hall to its present appearance.

#### 11. POST OFFICE

The first Post Office in Newcastle was opened in 1863, on the corner of Fiennes Street and Anzac Avenue, opposite the current Shire Offices. This second post office and residence was opened in 1897, designed by government architect George Temple Poole, and built by Herbert Parker. Over 100 post offices were built to standard design during

the late 1890s, of which the Toodyay Post Office is one of the few remaining examples. In 2001 the postal business moved to new premises.

#### **12. VICTORIA HOTEL**

The Hotel was originally built as a store

by George Hasell for James T. Woods. The current name was first used in 1886. Many changes have been made to the building, including the addition of a second storey in 1904, and later extensions in 1908. The





long room of the hotel was regularly rented out for dances and social meetings. Prior to WW1 the hotel was also used as a rendezvous for the Light Horse Brigade. The adjoining Billiard Saloon was constructed in 1899. The Billiard Saloon building was originally two shops with the

saloon at the rear. At one time a barber's shop operated here and during



the 1930s there was a betting shop. It is one of the few remaining biliard saloons in the state.

#### 13. JAGER STORES formerly ODDFELLOWS HALL

The original site was part of Pensioner Guard Lot S. 5, granted to William and Margaret Woolhouse. The land was later sold and the cottage on site demolished to make way for the Oddfellows Hall, built in 1897. W.A. Demasson, who came to Newcastle in 1875.



was instrumental in establishing the Newcastle branch of the Manchester Unity Independent Order of Oddfellows in 1887 and remained as Secretary until it disbanded in 1919.

The Oddfellows Hall became a popular place for theatre, opera and travelling shows, as well as a meeting Hall for the

Municipal Council and venue for the Anglican Church's annual Bazaar. The building was purchased by William Padbury in 1908 and converted to a branch of his Colonial Stores. Later owners included Alfred James (1917) and Otto Jager (1939).

#### 14. WENDOUREE TEAROOMS

It is believed Daniel Connor built a shop and house on this site in the

late 1860s. Alterations over the years to both sides of the building now completely conceal whatever may remain of the original construction. In 1900, Mr and Mrs Oliver Whitfield lived in the left-hand portion of the building and ran a general produce store next door. From 1903, the store was operated as a bakery. In 1925,



baker George Haymes turned the bakery into his living quarters and had a modern bakery and cafe constructed on the cleared left-hand site. The Wendouree Refreshment or Tea Rooms have continued operating to this day, with only the occasional name change. The old cottage on the right was demolished in 2003 to make way for the chemists' shop.



#### 15. BANK

The first bank to operate in Newcastle was in 1889 and was located within Monger's Cottage (Map Ref. 1). This was under agreement with the Western Australian Bank Board who leased the property for £50 annually. As the townsite grew it became evident



that a proper bank building would need to be established and during 1897-98, the building at 108 Stirling Terrace was constructed. It was originally the offices for a branch of the Western Australian Bank and the residence for the bank manager and family. The building has seen many changes in occupancy over the years, but has always remained a bank. The Toodyay Shire bought the property in 1999.

#### **RESIDENCES, DWELLINGS & SHOPS**

A number of historic buildings along Stirling Terrace were once, and many remain, as residences and dwellings.

A number of these were built by local builder George Hasell. Hasell arrived in Fremantle in 1852 aboard the "Marion" as a convict. In 1849 he had been sentenced to seven years imprisonment for stealing cattle, but was granted his ticket of leave after only one day in the colony.

As a ticket of leave prisoner he was required to work on the Convict Hiring Depot in Toodyay, after which he chose to stay on and establish his business. His work is recognisable in buildings such as St Stephen's Church, Connor's Mill and Newcastle Gaol.

Another notable builder was H Davey, who assisted in the construction of the Victoria Hotel and Billiards Saloon, Stirling House, parts of Ellery Arcade, as well as additions to the Freemasons Hotel, which he bought in the early 1890s.

#### 16. FIRE STATION

With the establishment of the Convict Depot in 1851, "Ticket of Leave" and Aboriginal men were recruited as firemen. But the fire brigade had little support from the local magistrates and patrolling police forces took over



the brigade with assistance of convicts from the Depot. This building opened as a fire station in 1938, the volunteer fire brigade relocating from premises next to the Toodyay Club (now Stirling House) where they had been since 1913. The art deco inspired building was designed by Perth architect K.G. Duncan and built by Harry E. Harders of Toodyay. In

2002 the fire brigade moved to new premises and the building became an art gallery.

#### 17. DEMASSON'S STORE

The original shop was built around 1872 for Daniel Connor. A few years later, Demasson, a carpenter wheelwright from Guildford added a dwelling with a connecting door to the store which was run by his wife, and in 1886 he purchased the shop from Connor.

In 1945 the Toodyay Road Board purchased the dwelling and it housed a number of tenants. In 1963 Dr O'Reilly moved in when his house and surgery were demolished to make way for the Standard Gauge Railway. After Dr O'Reilly's death in 1977, his wife was



given life time occupancy. The building is still commonly known as Mrs O'Reilly's cottage.

#### 18. SHOEMAKER'S HOUSE

Constructed in the 1870s, this is a unique building with two shops linked by the dwelling, which is slightly set back. This was one of Daniel Connor's first commercial developments in the region and he intended to lease it from



the very beginning. It was later owned by Charles Ellery. Some of the original uses included a confectionery shop and a butcher shop.

#### 19. TOODYAY GARAGE

Construction of the garage was completed in 1927, with later additions made in the 1940s. It is one of the very few Art-Deco buildings in Toodyay and has always operated as a garage, despite having had



various owners over the years and being closed for the duration of WWII.

The Prince Brothers re-opened the service shortly after World War II was over, offering a range of the usual mechanical services and a daily passenger service to Perth in a parlour car.



#### 20. TOODYAY LIBRARY formerly MECHANICS' INSTITUTE

Mechanics' Institutes were established as libraries of instructive literature for the working man and were generally funded by local industrialists and town leaders who recognised that such an institution would benefit the community.

The Newcastle Mechanics Institute was formed in 1866, but it took a while to raise the funds for the construction of this building in 1874. The Toodyay Young Men's Reading Club amalgamated with the institute that year, thereby increasing the size of the institute's library. The first

librarian and caretaker was Mrs James Betts. The building also served as a meeting room, town hall, theatre, Council Chambers and social centre of the town. In 1893 the local press noted it was "in constant public use". However by 1921 public tastes had changed and the Toodyay Mechanic's



Institute and Library were closed, due to reduced use by members and outstanding debts. In 1927, the Toodyay Road Board installed its offices into the building and remained there until 1959. After the Road Board moved out the Mechanics Institute opened as the Toodyay Public Library. Extensive renovations and extensions were undertaken in 2008/2009.

#### 21. MARTIN'S COTTAGE

James Martin was one of three blacksmiths in Newcastle during the 1860s. His cottage was originally a four roomed construction that; unlike most others in the street, was not built by convicts and was not on Pensioner Guard land. Martin's family lived on the property for many generations and it has since been an antiques shop and residence.

#### 22. LEEDER'S HOUSE

Built in the early 1870s, the original building was a double story brick construction with a shingle roof. Extensions to the front of the building at the floor level of the upper storey took place in 1884. The building was owned by W.G. Leeder, who managed the Freemasons Hotel and later leased, then purchased the Newcastle Hotel. Leeder was a



member of the Road Board and Mayor of Newcastle, member of the WA Turf Club and Justice of the Peace. The property was purchased by the Sisters of Mercy in 1889, and they used the building as a Catholic School until 1903.

## TOODYAY -



#### 23. STATIONMASTER'S HOUSE

The original railhead from Clackline stopped short of the townsite, directly opposite the Catholic Precinct. There was an established siding with water tank and stand and locomotion shed and a "miserable shanty that which does duty as a railway station". The Stationsmaster's House was completed in 1895.

In 1896 the new railway station was established opposite the Newcastle Hotel.

The following year extensive improvements were carried out including a weighbridge and a large verandah across the front of the station.

The station remained at this location when the railway was extended to Bolgart in 1908-1909.

Stockvards were located on nearby land now occupied by the the



Toodyay Club and bowling greens.

#### 24. TOODYAY TAVERN formerly NEWCASTLE HOTEL

The Newcastle Hotel, was constructed as a single story building for Joseph Monger in 1862. A steam mill was also built on the same site but by 1883 had ceased operations. The mill's remains were probably incorporated into the hotel's structural expansions by 1895 when historical records document a second storey. Renovations continued in

1904 and in 1910 a roller-skating rink was installed upstairs. Further major restoration work was undertaken in 1921 and 1947.

The Newcastle Hotel was infamous for hosting the exclusive Assembly Balls, as it was the only building with rooms large enough for this annual event.



At one time the hotel was also used as a picture theatre, with the operator, Palace Picture Shows, bringing his own electric lighting plant.





#### PENSIONER GUARD LOTS

The first forty convicts arrived in Toodyay in late 1851 after a gruelling two day walk over the hills under the supervision of thirteen Pensioner Guards. Pensioner Guards were retired army or police officers that were given pay and benefits to accompany convicts on the transportation ships from England, and upon arrival, most of them continued to serve the Convict Establishment as guards. There was no accommodation for the convicts or officers and their families, so the first "houses" for the officers were straw huts. These huts, which were used for several years, consisted of a thatched roof set on the ground with only a door and a mud chimney.

Thirteen Pensioner Lots were subsequently marked out in 5km away Newcastle, far from the then main settlement of Toodyay now known as West Toodyay. Over time a series of two roomed brick cottages were constructed for the Pensioner Guards around the convict hiring depot, which earned it the name of Pensioners' Village.

Pensioner Lots were eventually subdivided as the town grew and most of the original lots and cottages have been demolished or reconfigured. However some of the cottages still exist, thoughhighly modified in appearance.

#### 25. HACKETT'S PENSIONER COTTAGE

This cottage was built by convicts for Owen Hackett in 1855. It was originally a two roomed brick cottage with a shingle roof that is still intact underneath the newer corrugated iron roofing. Hackett had arrived from Ireland in 1853 with his wife and two children with five more children born whilst they lived here.

In 1862 Hackett sold the cottage to Joseph Monger, who developed the Newcastle Hotel on the land, but kept the cottage onsite. When Hackett died shortly after selling the property, his eldest, 11 year old son earned his keep as a shepherd and hut keeper.



#### 26. KIRK'S PENSIONER COTTAGE



The cottage was built 1852-1856 by convict labour for Francis Kirk, a Pensioner Guard. After closure of the hiring depots in 1857, Warder Kirk was in charge of a party of road menders ("Flying parties") in the Toodyay area. In 1874 Mrs Kirk was the first school teacher at the unofficial Catholic school being conducted at the rear of the Catholic Church. At that time Kirk ran a "smithy".

#### 27. CATHOLIC CHURCH PRECINCT

This precinct comprises of a number of different buildings, including the St Aloysius Convent of Mercy classrooms and dormitories; Catholic Presbytery; Dr Growse's House and the St John the Baptist Church

former Dr Growse's House, also known as "The Ship", was constructed in the early 1860's. Dr Growse was the Medical Officer from 1856 -1872 and again from 1876 until his death in 1877. In 1902 the Sisters of Mercy purchased the place and established a convent school in the building.



The construction of the St Aloysius Convent of Mercy was almost



pysius Convent of Mercy was almost entirely funded by Daniel Connor, who was a very devout Catholic.

The two storey brick building, now linked to the new Church of the St John the Baptist by a walkway, was built in 1903 as a residence for the Sisters and girl boarders. The adjacent two storey building (with verandah) was

constructed c. 1921 for school rooms and boys' dormitories upstairs.

The former St John the Baptist Church is across the road from the other buildings and was also constructed in the 1860s. It remained as a church until the 1960s, when it was deconsecrated and the new Church was built in the Catholic Precinct grounds.



#### 28. CONNOR'S COTTAGE

This cottage, built c1870, is one of numerous cottages and shops that Connor built and rented out. Whilst originally built as a dwelling, the building has also been used as a bakery and restaurant, and a number of extensions have taken place over the years.



#### 29. COURTHOUSE

The Courthouse was completed in March 1897 on the site of the convict hiring depot. It replaced the original 1867 courthouse on the site built to the design of Richard Roach Jewell. In 1903, however, the last Resident Magistrate was withdrawn and the building was either vacated or used much less frequently. Adjoining convict depot buildings were progressively demolished as they became derelict, such as the Warders' Quarters in 1921. In 1958 when the Toodyay Road Board renovated the Courthouse building for

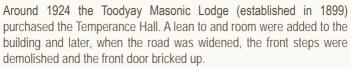


its own use the Depot Infirmary was knocked down. In 1985 additions were made to the east of the building which continues to house the Shire of Toodyay Administrative offices.

#### 30. TOODYAY LODGE formerly TEMPERANCE HALL

This Hall was constructed in 1879 on land assigned by Governor

Robinson as a Public Reserve for the use of the Good Templars, an organisation promoting abstinence from alcohol. One of the leading local temperance workers of the time was Charles Marris who trained a brass band that played at public functions. The building was also used for Methodist Church services until 1898.



#### **31. NEWCASTLE GAOL**

Newcastle Gaol was actually the third lock-up of its kind to serve the Toodyay/ Newcastle community. The first gaol in Old Toodyay was completed by the end of 1852. A second small lock-up was probably constructed between 1852 and





1856 as a part of the original development of the Convict Depot two miles upstream. Three cells in the Depot barracks became the only means of detention in the district when the Toodyay Gaol closed in July 1861. The following month notorious bushranger Joseph Bolitho Johns (Moondyne Joe) escaped from the Depot lock-up prompting the

construction in 1863-64 of the new, more substantial building which remains today. It operated as a gaol until the early 1900s when a new lock-up opened across the road behind the police stables. The gaol was utilized as a private residence in the 1930s by the Dorizzi family. Tragically



threee of the sons were killed in the Sandakan Death March in Borneo during WW II. It is now a museum that presents Toodyay's history amongst the cells and living quarters.

#### 32. POLICE STABLES

Toodyay boasts the history of one of the oldest regional police forces in Western Australia, with timber stables first erected on this site in 1854. The current stables were erected in the 1891 and remained in use until 1955. Restoration was undertaken in 1977 and the stables are open to the public as part of the Newcastle Gaol Museum.

#### 33. WHITFIELD HOUSE

Originally a four roomed stone cottage with shingle roof, it was built for John Acton Wroth c1863. From 1871 Mrs G Whitfield used the site for a private school. In 1887, Augustus Frederick Lee Steere purchased the house and added two rooms on the east end. He bequeathed the place to the Anglican Church on his death in 1903. A commemorative plaque on the building notes that it was renovated in 1949, through the generosity of Sir Ernest and Lady Lee Steere. It is now in private hands.

#### 34. NEWCASTLE SCHOOL

In 1865 the original government school building in old Toodyay was closed due to repeated flooding. From 1872 until 1887 a government



school operated in the back part of the Depot Barracks in Newcastle a few miles upstream. In late 1885 William Amed Demasson signed a contract to build the new Newcastle Government School on Duke Street. The building was designed by Government architect

George Temple Poole. It opened on 11 April 1887 and an extra classroom

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was added in 1899. An accident on 6 August 1931 devastated the school and community when a school bus collided with a train and five children were killed. The school continued in this building until 1954. After the demolition of the Methodist church in 1962 to make way for the Standard Gauge Railway the church used this former school building to hold its services. It is now privately owned.

#### 35. NEWCASTLE HOSPITAL

This building housed the second hospital in Newcastle and was completed in 1895. In 1854 an infirmary was built in the Convict Depot near the barracks. In 1872 the infirmary became the first Newcastle Hospital and continued to be used until the more modern building



opened. In 1902 the President of the Central Board of Health ordered the new hospital be closed. He found it was costing too much to run and was being under-utilised. Seriously ill patients were usually taken to the better equipped hospital only 17 miles away. The hospital was re-opened in 1905. A diphtheria epidemic in 1907 justified its continuing existence and in 1910 the Newcastle Municipal Council took over its management from the Government. The hospital finally closed in 1940.

#### 36. PELHAM RESERVE

Pelham Reserve is a large nature reserve with the lookout on top of Duke Street offering stunning views of the town site, surrounds and Mt. Anderson. Public toilets are located at the lookout. Here is a memorial, erected in 1973, to honour James Drummond. Drummond was a botanist and explorer who arrived in Western Australia in 1829 with his wife and six children. In 1836 he was in the first group of colonial settlers to set off from Guildford for the Toodyay valley under the guidance of indigenous tracker



Babbing. Drummond later received an honorarium from the Queen's Bounty for his services to botanical science and has several plant species named in his honour. A separate leaflet on Pelham Reserve is available with information on walking trails, military earthworks and the water tanks.