

CLARENDON

RICHMOND

WINDSOR

WILBERFORCE

PITT TOWN



CONTACT US

HAWKESBURY VISITOR INFORMATION

Ham Common (opp. Richmond RAAF Base)
Hawkesbury Valley Way CLARENDON NSW 2756

w www.hawkesburytourism.com.au

T + 61 2 4578 0233 or 1300 362 874

E hawkesburytourism@pacific.net.au

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7 DAYS Saturday–Sunday 9am–4pm

Closed Good Friday, Christmas, Boxing
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www.131500.info for bus and rail timetables

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w hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/library

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E library@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au

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HAWKESBURY REGIONAL MUSEUM

8 Baker Street WINDSOR 2756

w www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au/museum

T + 61 2 4560 4655

E museum@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au

OPEN Wednesday–Monday 10am–4pm, Closed Tuesdays

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HAWKESBURY VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE. INFORMATION MAY BE
REPRODUCED FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE TOURING PUBLIC ON CONDITION
THAT HAWKESBURY CITY COUNCIL IS ACKNOWLEDGED.

Major-General Lachlan Macquarie was governor of NSW from January 1810 until December 1821. Part of Macquarie's brief was to take measures to prevent further losses of food stores, buildings and possessions caused by devastating floods which had plagued the Hawkesbury since settlement in 1794. He had been given the power to 'lay out Townships of a convenient size and extent'. Each town allotment was to be located within a convenient distance of the settler's farm.

Macquarie gave these instructions high priority and with planning foresight determined that the best solution was to establish the five townships of Windsor, Richmond, Wilberforce, Pitt Town and Castlereagh on the high ground in various parts of the district. The street layout of the district's main towns, the area's built heritage and character still reference the days that Macquarie spent on his tour of the district in the summer of 1810–1811.

This self drive tour, one of many options for exploring The Hawkesbury – through the eyes of Governor Macquarie, commences at the **Hawkesbury Visitor Information Centre**, Clarendon. Take time to explore the history and character of each township together with the range of opportunities they offer.



Elizabeth Macquarie and Lachlan Macquarie
c. 1819, watercolour on ivory miniatures
Richard Read snr.
(Ref. MIN 236, 237)
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

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CLARENDON

11.5 KM CLARENDON TO MOSES STREET
WINDSOR VIA RICHMOND

1

HAWKESBURY VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE
Hawkesbury Valley Way, opposite RAAF Base

On Monday 3 December 1810, Governor Macquarie began the task of marking out five new towns in the Hawkesbury, all to be located on the Common Lands set aside by Governor King in 1804. Accompanied by George Evans, Acting Surveyor James Meehan, Magistrate William Cox, the Rev. Robert Cartwright and members of his staff, Macquarie travelled across part of Ham Common (originally Richmond Hill Common) looking for an appropriate site for the new town of Richmond. The Richmond Hill Common once stretched from Yarramundi Lagoon to just east of the Windsor Road from Sydney.



>

Turn left from the VIC carpark & continue along Hawkesbury Valley Way, which becomes Windsor Street, into Richmond



RICHMOND PARK 2



BOWMAN COTTAGE 4

RICHMOND

'THE TOWNSHIP IN THE RICHMOND DISTRICT I HAVE NAMED RICHMOND, FROM ITS BEAUTIFUL SITUATION, AND AS CORRESPONDING WITH THAT OF ITS DISTRICT'

JOURNAL OF LACHLAN MACQUARIE, THURSDAY 6 DECEMBER, 1810

2

RICHMOND TOWN SQUARE (1811)

now known as Richmond Park
bounded by Windsor, East Market & March Streets
On Thursday 10 January 1811, The Governor and Mrs Macquarie, accompanied by 'the Surveyor, the Rev'd Mr. Cartwright, Mr. Cox, and several other Gentlemen' returned to Richmond by carriage to mark out the township having settled the location of Castlereagh earlier in the day. It was on this site in the new town of Richmond that Macquarie recorded in his diary that they marked out 'the great square in the centre of the township and the principal streets'.

3

BLACK HORSE INN (1819)

corner Windsor & Bosworth Streets

Almost entirely built over by commercial premises, the roof of the old Black Horse Inn can still be seen above street level. It was built in Macquarie's time and was first licenced to Paul Randall dispensing spirituous liquors until 1927. The original 1819 sign depicting a black charger in full gallop is conserved at Hawkesbury Regional Museum, Baker Street, Windsor.

4

BOWMAN COTTAGE (c.1815)

368 Windsor Street, between Bosworth & Chapel Streets

This cottage of brick-nog construction was the above flood-level abode of free settler James Blackman (as decreed by Governor Macquarie and required of all persons owning farms on the lowlands). After Blackman left the district in 1820 due to continuing financial difficulties, the cottage was sold to George Bowman who obtained a liquor licence under the sign of the Royal Arrow. Bowman lived in the cottage until his death in 1878. The building now houses the district office of the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service.

5 ST PETERS ANGLICAN CHURCH & CEMETERY (1810-41)

Windsor Street
between Chapel Street & Pughs Lagoon

On 3 Monday December 1810 Macquarie determined the location for Richmond's future church, school-house and burying ground, overlooking Pughs Lagoon. In his diary he described the scene very much as it appears today: *'a very beautiful elevated bank immediately above this fine basin of fresh water'*. When he returned on 10 January, 1811, the governor instructed the surveyor to mark out this location with strong posts to define the boundaries. The name Richmond was painted on a board and nailed to a high post *'immediately above and overlooking Pughs Lagoon ... where it is intended to erect the church of Richmond'*.

The church was not begun until c.1837 after Macquarie left the colony. Designed by the prominent architect Francis Clarke, it was consecrated by Bishop Broughton in 1841.

The burial ground (still operating today) was in use by July 1811. Many notable pioneers such as William Cox jnr of 'Hobartville' and Margaret Catchpole are buried here. The school-house completed in 1813 functioned as a school on weekdays, as a chapel for divine worship on Sundays and provided accommodation for the schoolmaster and his family on the building's lower floor. It was located near the corner of Francis and Chapel Streets and was demolished about 1890.

> Continue along Windsor Street, down the hill through the avenue of trees and turn right into Francis Street at Smith Park then continue along Francis Street



ST PETERS CEMETERY 5

6 'CLEAR OAKS' (PRE-1819)

143 Francis Street, opposite Bosworth Street

'Clear Oaks' has also been known as 'Onus Farm' and as 'Moxey's Farm' after two of the previous owners. The house is believed to have been built during Macquarie's Governorship by David Langley, a former sea-captain and whitesmith (maker of glass). Langley's wife, Ann, died in 1818 when she fell down the outside steps of the house. In 1819 the farm was sold to Joseph Onus, an emancipated convict. 'Clear Oaks' lacks the symmetry of a Georgian building, indicating that it was possibly built piece-meal, in sections over time.

It is now a private residence.

RICHMOND - WINDSOR CONNECTING DRIVE

> Continue along Francis Street & turn left into Jersey Street which becomes Dight Street & then Percival Street. Return to Windsor by turning left from Percival Street onto Hawkesbury Valley Way

7 SITE OF WILLIAM COX'S PROPERTY, 'CLARENDON' (1804)
Dight Street, on the sweeping bend before Cupitts Lane, RAAF Base on right

William Cox retired as paymaster of the NSW Corps, received this land grant in 1804 and was appointed Hawkesbury magistrate in 1810. He accompanied Macquarie around the district choosing the location of the towns. It was from 'Clarendon', extending from within what is now the RAAF Base to the lowlands, that supplies were sent for the working party of convicts building the first road across the Blue Mountains in 1814 under Cox's supervision. By 1828 'Clarendon' was being described as 'a small town' with about 100 workers. Nothing now remains of the homestead but the servant's quarters and some minor outbuildings still survive.

It is now a private residence.



CLARENDON 7

8 THE PROPERTY OF REV. ROBERT CARTWRIGHT
Percival Street

on the northern (left) side
mid-way between the RAAF Base entry gates
& the intersection with Hawkesbury Valley Way

Little is known of this property, but its location is identified on a panorama depicting Hawkesbury in the 1816 flood (copy on display at Hawkesbury Regional Museum, Windsor). Rev. Cartwright was appointed a minister of the Church of England at Hawkesbury in 1810. His church and the school-house he supervised were located at the northern end of George Street, Windsor. The present rectory in Moses Street was not commenced until after Macquarie had left the colony. Macquarie's diary recorded that on Sunday 13 January 1811 *'Mrs Macquarie and myself went to Church at Windsor, and had an excellent Sermon from the Revd Mr. Cartwright'*.

It is now a private property.

> Turn left from Percival Street onto Hawkesbury Valley Way & continue to Windsor. Then turn left at Moses Street, parking available adjacent to McQuade Park

3 KM MOSES STREET TO WINDSOR BRIDGE



VIEW FROM PERCIVAL STREET

'I GAVE THE NAME OF WINDSOR TO THE TOWN INTENDED TO BE ERECTED IN THE DISTRICT OF THE GREEN HILLS, IN CONTINUATION OF THE PRESENT VILLAGE, FROM THE SIMILARITY OF THIS SITUATION TO THAT OF THE SAME NAME IN ENGLAND'

JOURNAL OF LACHLAN MACQUARIE, THURSDAY 6 DECEMBER, 1810

WINDSOR

- 9 THE 'GREAT SQUARE' (1811)**
McQuade Park, bounded by Hawkesbury Valley Way, Moses, George & Tebbutt Streets

McQuade Park, at the centre of Macquarie's town plan for Windsor, is regarded as a powerful testimonial to the first stage of town-planning in NSW. On 12 January 1811, a board with the name Windsor was affixed to a post '*fronting the north face of the great square*' in the presence of many local citizens.

It was known as Windsor Square or Church Green until 1872 when it was controversially renamed after the then mayor, John McQuade who used his casting vote to ensure that the name was changed from Windsor Park to McQuade Park during his term of office.

- 10 ST MATTHEWS ANGLICAN CHURCH (1811-22)**
Moses Street

At the same time that Windsor's 'great square' was marked out, the lands to its north-west were designated the site of the future church, St Matthews. The masterpiece of convict architect Francis Greenway, it is one of Australia's iconic religious buildings.

Macquarie laid the corner stone in October 1817 and the church was consecrated in December 1822, with Rev. Samuel Marsden conducting the first service. It is on one of the highest points in Windsor and in the Great Flood of 1867 it was an important refuge.

Open for Sunday services
& occasionally at other times

- 11 ST MATTHEWS BURIAL GROUND (1810)**
Moses Street

Even older than the church is the graveyard which surrounds it. The earliest marked grave is that of Andrew Thompson (of Thompson Square), who was greatly admired by Macquarie and whose premature death in October 1810 was widely mourned. The grave is situated between the altar end (semi-circular) of the church and Greenway Crescent, and the memorial stone worded by Macquarie himself and placed in 1813 can still be seen. To the left of the church, near Moses Street, is the grave of William Cox snr, who built the church rectory, Windsor Courthouse, and the first road over the Blue Mountains in 1814.

- 12 STATUE OF GOVERNOR MACQUARIE (1994)**
McQuade Park

Moses Street, opposite Greenway Crescent
In the afternoon of 6 December 1810, Governor Macquarie walked across the lands that were to become Windsor. The site of the 'great square' was marked out, and Surveyor Meehan directed '*to measure and make out a plan of the whole [town]*'. In Macquarie's vision, Windsor was to be the largest of his Hawkesbury townships, comprising 45 rectangular blocks, connecting with and incorporating the existing village of Green Hills and extending to today's Ham Street in what is now South Windsor. This bronze statue of Macquarie by Frederick Chepeaux was unveiled by Mayor Councillor Dr Rex Stubbs as part of Windsor's bicentenary in 1994.

- > Turn right into Tebbutt Street after passing St Matthews Anglican Rectory on the left



ST MATTHEWS ANGLICAN CHURCH 10, 11

- 13 ST MATTHEWS CATHOLIC CHURCH (1821)**
Corner of Tebbutt Street & Little Church Street

In 1821, 11 years after Macquarie set up the town, he promised land for a burial ground and chapel to the Catholic population. It was the ninth burial ground in the district. The following year, Father Therry and William Cox selected an allotment in central Windsor diagonally opposite where Macquarie had planned and built the establishment (Anglican) church. Macquarie had indicated he would like to see a chapel built adjacent to the Catholic Burial Ground, but when the permanent building went up it was situated on the western side of the square (now Tebbutt Street), the foundation stone was laid in 1836 and the building opened by Bishop Bede Polding in October 1840.

- > Continue along Tebbutt Street, then at the T-intersection turn left into George Street & right into Christie Street

- 14 CONVICT BARRACKS (1820)**
Macquarie Street

A brick barracks accommodation was completed in 1820 for the men of the three convict gangs stationed in Windsor. Designed by Lieutenant John Watts, the conversion to a hospital for prisoners was completed in 1823. In 1846 it was taken over by the Hawkesbury Benevolent Society as a facility for the poor, aged and infirm. The original building was substantially remodelled in 1911 when Macquarie's foundation stone was removed from the façade's central gable. The stone is now sited on the Deerubbin Centre side of the building. It continued to serve the district as a general hospital until 1996 when a new facility was opened on the other side of Macquarie Street. Some of the original walls are thought to be part of the downstairs section of the present building.
Now owned by Hawkesbury City Council

- 15 HAWKESBURY CENTRAL LIBRARY, DEERUBBIN CENTRE (2005)**
300 George Street, fronting Macquarie Street

The Library's Local Studies Collection includes local and family history and contemporary material.
Open 7 days a week (full details on back cover)



HAWKESBURY CENTRAL LIBRARY 15

> Turn left from Christie Street onto Macquarie Street, continue & then left into Kable Street, right at The Terrace & right at Baker Street – parking available in Kable Street, The Terrace or Baker Street

16 HAWKESBURY REGIONAL MUSEUM (2008)
8 Baker Street

Constructed in 2008 on land acquired by John Howe during Macquarie's time, the museum building incorporates remains of the 'Macquarie Wall', once part of the Macquarie Arms Hotel property. Also on site is a Georgian building named after John Howe who took over many businesses and public offices of Macquarie's friend and protégé, the emancipist Andrew Thompson. This is a unique place to learn about the Hawkesbury's first people and early colonists. Changing exhibitions and public programs reveal the distinctiveness of the Hawkesbury. Maps and tourist information available. Open 7 days a week (full details on back cover)



17 THOMPSON SQUARE (1815)

Originally stretching from the eastern side of Bridge Street to the buildings on today's western alignment, Thompson Square was named after Andrew Thompson, who arrived in NSW as a convict in 1792. He transformed from law-breaker to law-keeper, serving as a constable, coroner and magistrate. He was also highly successful in business, and from 1799 ran a store on leased land on part of the square. Macquarie said that he 'may justly be said to be the Father and Founder of the Village hitherto known by the name of the Green Hills' and when he died in 1810 from an illness contracted following heroic efforts to save victims of previous year's flood, he bequeathed a portion of his property to the governor.



HAWKESBURY REGIONAL MUSEUM 16

18 HOWE HOUSE (1811)
Thompson Square

This Georgian house and former inn was built on a town allotment acquired by John Howe in about 1811. Holding several prominent positions in early Windsor including Chief Constable and Coroner, Howe was responsible for many local building projects and led several expeditions to the Hunter region. In April 1837 Howe advertised the sale or lease of the house in the *Sydney Herald* describing the building as 'newly constructed, substantial and particularly adapted for an inn'. Later the building became the Daniel O'Connell Inn operated by Edward Coffey (1840s). In 1876 the building was sold to George Louis Asher Davies a printer who published *The Australian: Windsor, Richmond, and Hawkesbury Advertiser* newspaper from 1871 to 1889. It is now part of Hawkesbury Regional Museum.

19 MACQUARIE ARMS HOTEL (1815)
corner George Street & Thompson Square

Built in 1815 at Macquarie's behest, this is the oldest building in Thompson Square, and the oldest hotel building in Australia, although not under continuous license. In 1811 Macquarie wrote that he had given a Mr Fitzgerald (former convict Richard Fitzgerald) a large allotment to build 'immediately thereon a handsome commodious inn of brick or stone, and to be at least two storeys high'. The dormer windows, corner rooms and upper verandah are later additions and mask the original Georgian architecture. Original interior woodwork, staircase and fanlights are still intact. Open daily, hotel hours



HOWE HOUSE 18



REIBYCROFT FREEMANS REACH 21

> From Baker Street turn left into the centre lane of Macquarie Street, then right into Bridge Street at the traffic lights & then left into Court Street (opposite the Jolly Frog Hotel)

20 WINDSOR COURTHOUSE
corner Court & Pitt Streets

Designed by convict architect, Francis Greenway, under the direction of Governor Macquarie this building was completed in 1822 by builder William Cox snr using convict labour. Built of sandstock brick highlighted with sandstone lintels, in the 1870s it was lime-washed, and the small annex to the left, designed by the noted colonial architect Barnet, was added. During the early years of the settlement at Windsor, the building was used for many purposes including church services, political meetings, elections, concerts and other entertainments. Featuring cedar joinery throughout the courthouse is still in use today and is open for inspection when not in session. An 1820s portrait of Governor Macquarie hangs in the public gallery, having been moved from its original place above the magistrate's chair after a rowdy public meeting when it was damaged by an egg thrown at a speaker.

> From Court Street turn left into Arndell Street, left into George Street & right at the roundabout on Bridge Street

WINDSOR - FREEMANS REACH - WILBERFORCE
CONNECTING DRIVE

> Cross the Hawkesbury River over the Windsor Bridge, then immediately turn left onto Freemans Reach Road, follow for 4 kms & turn right at the roundabout into Gorricks Lane

10.5 KM WINDSOR BRIDGE TO WILBERFORCE
CROSS ROAD WITH PUTTY ROAD

21 'REIBYCROFT' (1825)
Blacktown Road, may be viewed on the hillside, right hand side of Gorricks Lane adjacent to the grain silo
This simple colonial Georgian farmhouse was built by emancipated convict, Mary Reiby (the woman on the \$20 note) as a wedding present for her daughter, Penelope. Mary prospered in the Macquarie years, taking control of diverse family businesses after the death of her husband in 1811. In 1817 she became one of the founders of the Bank of New South Wales (now Westpac). The cottage has a central hall and four rooms downstairs, an attic with two bedrooms and three dormer windows on each side. An original barn with huge, bush timber uprights and cross beams, a dairy and a well are also on the site. It is now a private residence.

- > Before the top of the hill turn right into Blacktown Road, road then veers round to the left & then the right, then turn right onto Kurmond Road, then proceed with care straight ahead after stopping at the crossroad with Putty Road at Wilberforce into Old Sackville Road.

WILBERFORCE

9.5 KM PUTTY ROAD THROUGH WILBERFORCE & BACK TO WINDSOR

'... ON THE NORTH OR LEFT BANK OF THE HAWKESBURY, I HAVE NAMED WILBERFORCE - IN HONOR OF AND OUT OF RESPECT TO THE GOOD AND VIRTUOUS WM. WILBERFORCE ESQR. M.P. - A TRUE PATRIOT AND THE REAL FRIEND OF MANKIND'

JOURNAL OF LACHLAN MACQUARIE, THURSDAY 6 DECEMBER, 1810

22 WILBERFORCE CEMETERY (1811) Old Sackville Road

Macquarie directed in 1811 that *'in future all settlers shall cease to bury their dead as heretofore within their several farms and shall in a decent and becoming manner inter them in the consecrated ground.'* This cemetery was consecrated by Rev. Samuel Marsden the same year. The first burials were that of James Hamilton and Joseph Ware on 12 December 1811. The oldest date of inscription is on the monument to Margaret Chaseling who died 4 January 1815. At least seven First Fleeters, 15 Second Fleeters and 12 Third Fleet arrivals are buried within this cemetery.

Gates open 7am-8pm daily

- > Continue along Old Sackville Road, turn next right into Church Road & next right into Macquarie Road



MACQUARIE SCHOOLHOUSE 23

23 MACQUARIE SCHOOLHOUSE (1819-20) Macquarie Road located behind St Johns Anglican Church

This schoolhouse was constructed by Macquarie in 1819 replacing an earlier structure and is the only one of its kind to remain in the Hawkesbury. The building served many purposes including accommodation for the schoolmaster as well as serving as a classroom on weekdays and a venue for church services on Sundays, until 1859 when St Johns Church was consecrated.

The schoolhouse is rarely open to the public & only by special arrangement with the minister.

24 TOWN SQUARE (1811) now Wilberforce Park bounded by Macquarie, Church, George & Duke Roads

Macquarie's diary, Friday 11 January 1811 *'Leaving Mrs. M. at Blighton I crossed the River in a Boat, and mounting my Horse rode through the Phillip District to survey the Scite [sic] for the Township intended for this part of the Country; and having finally fixed upon the proper Ground, and the Great Square, Burying Ground, and principal Sts being marked out by the Surveyor with Strong Posts, the name 'Wilberforce' being Painted on a Board was nailed on a high Post and erected in the middle of the large Square in presence of a great number of the most respectable Settlers in this District'*.

- > Continue along Macquarie Road, then turn left into Castlereagh Road & left into King Road

25 'NOWLAND'S COTTAGE' (c.1810-16) 87 King Road

'Nowland's Cottage' consists of two freestanding cottages and a slab barn. The oldest cottage at the rear is built of vertical adzed timber slabs. It contains three original rooms, wide floorboards and an attic door. The front cottage constructed of brick is larger and built at a later date. The slab barn, made of bush timbers is the oldest building on the site. The original buildings are thought to be have built by Michael Nowland, Chief Constable of Wilberforce who lived here with his family of nine children.

It is now a private residence.



WILBERFORCE PARK 24

- > Turn left into Church Street then left into George Road & continue along until reaching the Putty Road, turn left, continue & turn left into Rose Street

26 'ROSE COTTAGE' (EARLY 1810s) Rose Street

Built during Macquarie's governorship 'Rose Cottage' is Australia's oldest timber house still standing on its original site. It was built in the early 1810s by Thomas Rose, an early free settler from Dorset who arrived in 1793. It has lathe and mud-plaster walls whitewashed with pipe clay, a shingled roof and hessian ceiling. The cottage was continuously occupied by the Rose family until 1961.

Open 10am - 3pm Sundays
telephone 02 9144 1773/02 9877 5454/02 4735 2553

- > From Rose Street turn left onto the Putty Road & continue to Windsor

27 FLOODPLAINS both sides of the road between Wilberforce & Windsor

The floodplains of the Hawkesbury River were both the strength and weakness of the early settlement. The rich alluvial soil produced abundant crops to feed a starving colony, but also put the local community often at risk of flood. Note the abundance of seasonal fruit, vegetables and luxuriant turf still grown on these river flats.

9.5 KM PUTTY ROAD THROUGH WILBERFORCE & BACK TO WINDSOR BRIDGE

WILBERFORCE - PITT TOWN CONNECTING DRIVE

- > Return to Windsor, continue through the traffic lights at Macquarie Street to McGraths Hill & turn left at Pitt Town Road



NOWLANDS COTTAGE 25



ROSE COTTAGE 26

PITT TOWN

11.5 KM WINDSOR BRIDGE TO PITT TOWN (VIA PITT TOWN BOTTOMS)

'... THE TOWNSHIP OF THE NELSON DISTRICT I HAVE NAMED PITT-TOWN IN HONOR OF THE IMMORTAL MEMORY OF THE LATE GREAT WILLIAM PITT, THE MINISTER WHO ORIGINALLY PLANNED THIS COLONY'

JOURNAL OF LACHLAN MACQUARIE, THURSDAY 6 DECEMBER, 1810

Pitt Town is the only one of the five Macquarie towns that failed to develop on its surveyed site. In 1814 it appears that Macquarie agreed to move the location of Pitt Town closer to the farms, in spite of the lower ground, for a school was set up there on the lesser ridge, not in the planned town. The new survey conducted on the 10 November 1815 created just nine blocks around it, and so the town developed. Unable to have a rectangular grid pattern like the other towns due to the lack of suitable ground, it was laid out in a roughly triangular shape with the land for the proposed church (St James) at the opposite end to the school.

Today there is much modern development in the Pitt Town area, however if you take a tour of the side streets you will discover wonderful old buildings, appearing much as they did over 100 years ago. These include 'Strathmore' – 1826, The Bird in the Hand Inn (formerly known as the Maid of Australia Inn) – 1850s, St James Anglican Church – 1857, Scotts Church – 1862, Pitt Town Public School – 1878 and 'Bona Vista' – 1888.

> Turn left at Pitt Town Bottoms Road



BIRD IN THE HAND INN

28

LOCATION OF EARLY LAND GRANTS FROM 1794

The first settlers took up their land grants on the riverbank beside the Hawkesbury in the Pitt Town area in 1794. The township was laid out in 1811 by Lachlan Macquarie and upon his return to the area the following year he marked out the sites of the burial ground (Old Pitt Town Road near Airstrip Road) and the streets of the township. Observing, in his opinion, that the ground was of poor quality the Governor noted in his journal that *'the ground is not so good or so conveniently situated for the settlers in general as might be wished, it being not less than 3 1/2 miles from some of the few of the front farms; but no better is to be had and therefore there is no alternative left but to place the town on these heights ... the great square, burying ground, and the principal streets being all marked by strong posts ... and the post, with the name of the town nailed to it, has been erected in the centre of the great square.'*

> Turn left from Pitt Town Bottoms Road onto Bathurst Street, then right into Hall Street

29

'BLIGHTON'

Hall Street

Governor Macquarie wished to explore the river and the farms along its banks, so with *'Mrs Macquarie, Mrs Cartwright, Mr Cartwright, Mr Cox, Mr Hassall and his party'*, they set out early on 4 December 1810 in the late Andrew Thompson's barge. After almost 10 kilometres they alighted near present-day Pitt Town at 'Blighton' in the vicinity of Hall Street, the controversial model farm established by Governor William Bligh and run by Andrew Thompson. In his diary, Macquarie described it as *'Governor Bligh's Farm situated about 6 miles from Green Hills on the right (south) bank of the river'*. Bligh had built a house, brick barn and outhouses, a dairy and six stock yards on his farm. It was said that Bligh's daughter Mary Putland planted English Oak trees here in 1807, however, in 1947 they were removed to make way for an orchard. At the end of Punt Street a hand-drawn punt connected Pitt Town with Wilberforce from about 1821 and continued in service until the 1920s.



PITT TOWN BOTTOMS ROAD

>

Turn right from Hall Street into Hawkesbury Street, right into Johnston Street & left into Bathurst Street

30

RESITED TOWNSHIP

between Bathurst & Buckingham Streets

The township was moved to its present location in 1815. The original site for Pitt Town nearer to the present locality of Cattai was found to be too distant from the settler's farms on Pitt Town Bottoms. Governor Lachlan Macquarie decided that the farm belonging to James Richards would be purchased at government expense for the new site of Pitt Town. The farm was one mile from the Hawkesbury River and adjoined the Bardonarang Lagoon. This new location was to be marked out in allotments by the government surveyor before settlers could proceed to build their houses.

31

BLIGHTON ARMS INN (c.1818) & MULGRAVE PLACE 104 Bathurst Street

Built during the governorship of Macquarie by Henry Fleming the inn was known as the 'Macquarie Arms' until the 1840s when the licence lapsed. The gable of the structure facing the street is an early example of the jerkin-head roof in common with other colonial buildings of the Macquarie period. The adjacent house known as Mulgrave Place was constructed by the early 1820s with a later wing constructed in about 1913 facing the street. It is now a private residence.

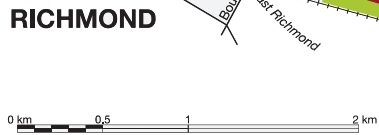
>

Return to Windsor Road along Pitt Town Road

6.5 KM PITT TOWN TO WINDSOR



BLIGHTON ARMS INN 31



© Land & Property Management Authority and Koala Cartography
Panorama Avenue, Bathurst NSW 2795
www.lpm.nsw.gov.au

Note - Not all roads are shown on this map
LEGEND

- Macquarie Road
- Sealed road
- Information
- Hawkesbury Regional Museum
- Hawkesbury Central Library
- Hawkesbury Regional Gallery
- Playground
- Picnic area
- 1 Place of interest
- P Parking
- Public toilets
- Disabled access
- BBQ
- Cafe
- Food & Beverages
- Wireless Access

MACQUARIE TRAIL