As a sequel to its first brochure, which introduced Longford’s historic precinct, the Norfolk Plains Group of the National Trust of Australia (Tasmania) welcomes you to a walk through the village of Perth.

Perth’s history began in 1821 when Governor Macquarie, on a visit from Sydney, stayed with David Gibson of ‘Pleasant Banks’ across the river, and selected the site for a township, naming it after his host’s native town in Scotland. In 1816 the site had been granted to Thomas Massey, for a time Chief Constable of early Launceston and described by Lt. Governor Sorrell as a ‘turbulent and troublesome man’, but Massey moved to land at Ellerslie near Ben Lomond, and so made way for the growth of the new settlement.

By 1834 there were two hotels and eight houses in the village. There were also two flour mills nearby, a punt across the river, a through road of sorts between Hobart and Launceston, and the first school was under construction.

The three kilometre walk this brochure details passes twenty nine places Classified and fifteen places recorded by the National Trust as of significant historical and architectural interest. It travels the fascinating precinct fronting Scone street where cottages dating from very early occupancy by the mounted police force still stand. It leads to Punt Lane, so named as the embarkation and discharge point for travellers and freight crossing the river by punt before the bridge was built. It passes along the Reserve Esplanade with it lovely tree-framed vistas of the South Esk River and Forestry plantations on the south bank, where once stood quarters for the 73rd Regiment and a convict station from which labour was drawn for building the first bridge. Completed in 1839, the beautiful stone bridge with its impressive arches survived a number of minor disasters until finally swept away by the record floods of 1929. It goes on to Perth’s first cemetery, where the old St. Augustine’s Church once stood, and where lie many of the district’s early pioneers.

Near the end of the walk along Frederick Street there is a small street to the right still known locally as ‘Bloodshed Lane’, scene of many a fight and scrimmage when Perth was young.

It is, indeed, a walk along the Path of History.

The Norfolk Plains Group of the National Trust would like to thank the following for their generous donations towards the cost of the brochure.

- Perth Newsagency
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The English Convent was located in the heart of the village.

The church of St. Andrew's, which was built in 1825, is a fine example of the Gothic Revival style.

The town was founded in 1777 by the Loyalists, who had fled from the American Revolution.

The Queen's Head Hotel was built in 1832 and remains a popular landmark.

21. 3, Telfair Street, Portsmith.

22. 62, Clarence Street, Old Rendered Brick Cottage.

23. Bathurst House, designed by George Trenchard, was completed in 1889.

24. Clanefield Hall, built in 1853, is a fine example of the Victorian Gothic style.

25. Bathurst House, designed by George Trenchard, was completed in 1889.


27. The Throw, built in 1883.


The church of St. Andrew's, which was built in 1825, is a fine example of the Gothic Revival style.
The Gibson family in 1943 was in a hospital. In the 1950s, the hospital was built by the variation, round and brick residence. The Georgia style building was built around 1860.

On the main road, there were two storey red brick houses. In 1860, the Georgia style cottages were replaced by red brick cottages. In 1860, the Georgia style was replaced by red brick cottages. Red brick cottages were built around 1860, and the Georgia style was built around 1860.

On the first floor, the Georgia style cottages were replaced by red brick cottages. In 1860, the Georgia style was replaced by red brick cottages. Red brick cottages were built around 1860, and the Georgia style was built around 1860.

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