

Torquay History Walking Trail

Occupying the Torquay region for thousands of years before European settlement, the Wadawurrung people are the traditional owners of the land you are standing on. Torquay was originally named 'Spring Creek' when developed as a European settlement in the 1840s. By the late 1880s, Spring Creek was well known as a farming and fishing community. By 1900, the area became a popular tourist destination with sea bathing becoming popular for medicinal purposes.

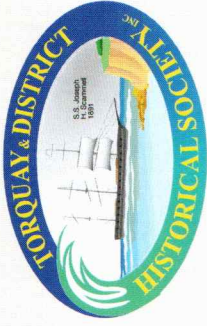
In 1892, the owner of the Palace Hotel, James Follett, organised a referendum to change the name of the settlement from Spring Creek to Torquay. James Follett was from Torquay in England. The name change was successful.

In 1945, the Torquay Surf Life Saving Club was established and was the first Surf Life Saving Club in Victoria. Many surfers began riding surf boards and surf skis at Torquay's back beach. The more adventurous went further to the west to surf the now world famous Bells Beach.

In 1969, the surfing companies of Rip Curl and Quiksilver were established by local surfers and it soon followed that Torquay became known as 'the surfing capital of Australia'.

As you walk along this History Trail, you will come across 28 historic sites, all with signs detailing our settler history, with photographs communicating the stories and significance of those sites. The signs will give you an excellent insight into the way Torquay looked from the late 1880s to the early 1900s. Many of the original properties still stand today.

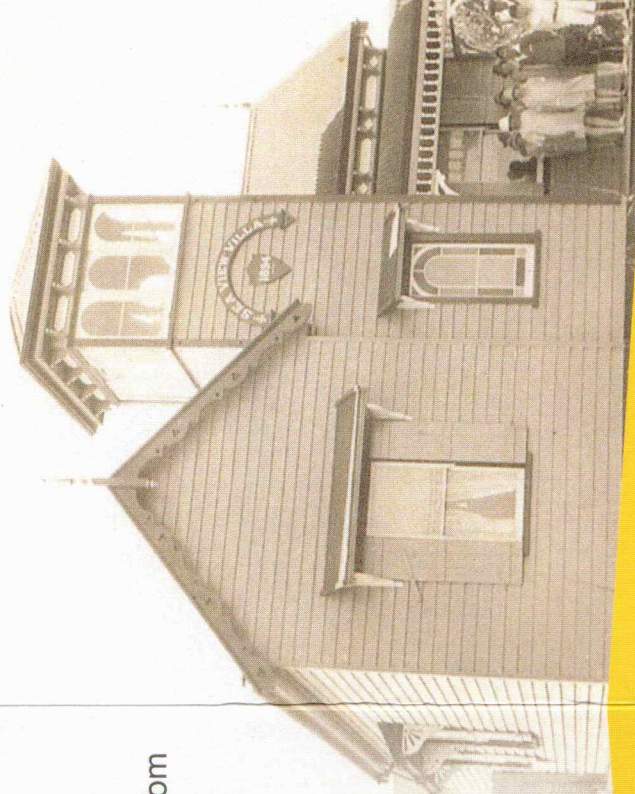
Enjoy your walk and we welcome your feedback.



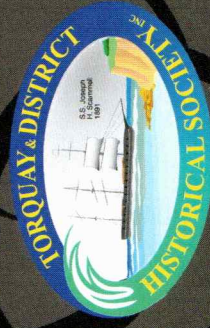
Torquay & District Historical Society
18 Price Street, Torquay

Secretary: Carollyn Williams
P. 0400 911 664 E. tdhsociety@bigpond.com
www.torquayhistoricalsociety.com.au

This community project was supported by



Take a stroll around Torquay, visiting
28 historic markers and discover
the rich history of this iconic
Victorian town.



1. **"Bromsgrove" original holiday house of Colonel Price**
2 Charles Lane
2. **Torquay Hotel Circa 1888**
36 Bell Street
3. **Original Torquay Golf Club**
Surf Beach Drive
4. **Hot water depot**
Surf Beach Drive
5. **Kim-Barne Wadawurrung Tabayi**
Welcome to Wadawurrung Country
6. **Torquay Surf Life Saving Club**
Surf Beach Drive
7. **S.S. Joseph H. Scammell**
Point Danger
8. **Torquay Royal Life Saving Club**
The Esplanade
9. **Bathing Boxes**
Front Beach, Torquay
10. **Front Beach and gardens 1938**
The Esplanade
11. **Two Bays Guest House**
20 The Esplanade
12. **"Doc" Hughes' General Store**
24 The Esplanade
13. **St Heliers Guest House**
Corner Pride and Price Streets
14. **The old Torquay Police Station**
18 Price Street
15. **Torquay Improvement Association**
10-12 Price Street
16. **The Old Butcher's Shop**
19 Anderson Street, corner Munday Street
17. **"Scammell House"**
24 Pride Street
18. **Quiksilver's first office location**
29 Pride Street
19. **Seaview Villa**
4 Anderson Street
20. **Original building for Rip Curl - Mayson's Bakery**
5 Boston Road
21. **Nairn's Dairy**
Corner Pearl Street and Boston Road
22. **Aerial photo of Gilbert street**
Corner Gilbert Street and The Esplanade
23. **Original Torquay Post Office**
Pearl Street, at end of Gilbert Street
24. **Original Torquay Primary School**
39-59 Bristol Road
25. **Payne's Garage**
18 Bristol Road
26. **Taylor Park with gates**
Corner of The Esplanade and Zeally Bay Road
27. **Fishermans Beach in the early 1900s**
28. **Fishing boat hand winch at Fishermans Beach**

