



PROSPEROUS DAYS

Manilla's streets were mapped out by Surveyor Arthur Dewhurst in 1864, when George Veness' first Store and Wine shop was in its 11th year of trading on the riverbank at the junction of the Manilla & Namoi Rivers. George's main customers were the teamsters and bullockies following the first route northward with supplies for outlying towns and stations. Then during a devastating flash flood later that same year, Veness' store was swept down the river. He lost everything, but in time the business was re-established on higher ground at the northwest corner of Market & Namoi Streets. In 1876, M.C. Mackenzie came to Manilla and opened a store diagonally opposite Veness on the southeast corner. In 1882 Stephen Veness was granted a licence to set up The Junction Hotel midway along Manilla Street and within 2 years Royce & Co. was building an iron bridge over the Namoi River at the northern end of the street. Veness and Mackenzie both established new stores in Manilla Street around this time, and as Manilla's Wheat, Wool and Livestock industries grew, so did the range of goods and services available to the community. Advertisements in the Manilla Express tell us that in its heyday, Manilla boasted all one would expect of a major centre. During the best years one could find, among other essentials such as Dentists, Private Hospitals and Music Teachers, up to 5 Hairdressers, 4 Bakeries, several Butcheries, half-a-dozen Cafes ~ including an Oyster Bar ~ and no fewer than 9 General Stores! Competition was brisk to say the least and helped along in no small measure by vigorous twice-weekly advertising in the local paper.



MANILLA HERITAGE MUSEUM

Visitor Guides



Sourcing the Manilla Street Guide

Our awareness of Manilla's past is made possible through the preservation of artifacts, documents, photographs and the recollections of the Manilla Community, but our full understanding of the vitality of daily life in the Manilla of days long gone would not be possible without the wealth of recorded history and personal expression available to us through the collected editions of The Manilla Express, now in its 110th year of independent publication.



The Manilla Street Heritage Walk has been compiled from the more comprehensive District History "MANILLA'S PLACES & SPACES", which continues to grow through ongoing research by the Museum staff. We regularly update our documents and invite public input to ensure historical accuracy. If you have any additional information to add to the list, please contact us at manillahistorians@gmail.com

Enjoy your Walk!

Manilla Visitor Information Centre
197 Manilla Street MANILLA NSW 2346
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History Source : MANILLA COMMUNITY ARCHIVES - Writer: Diana Nichol MHS

MANILLA STREET HERITAGE WALK

Historical Manilla's PLACES & SPACES



Post Office Manilla with Mail Coach c.1895

MANILLA STREET

A brief survey of business activity in
Manilla's 'CBD' between
the late 1800s and the mid 20th Century

Find our History on the Internet at

<http://manillamuseum.org.au>

1. North to South—NAMOI BRIDGE to R.S.L.

NAMOI BRIDGE to MARKET STREET

[NAMOI RIVER BRIDGE - Royce and Co. 1886](#) Walkway c. 1923.

[East side of Bridge](#) BLUETT BLACKSMITH 1886-c1899, BLUETTS FOUNDRY Market St c.1900—thence to Tamworth

[Nº 230 . KEMPTONS AUTO BODY REPAIRS](#) - FRUIT & VEG 1940s-50s;

BILL WORTHINGTON's WORKSHOP C.1960s

[Nº 227. \(Private\)](#) - BURRELL'S BAZAAR 1901-11; RUDD's BUSY BAZAAR;

LOUIS HOY's SHOP 1940s; BUTCHER; The CO-OP.

MARKET STREET to STRAFFORD STREET

[S/E cnr. WOODS GARAGE](#) - COHEN & LEVY, Wheat Merchants 1902; CANSDELL'S General Store, 1903-11; ADIE'S Store to 1911-46; SWINTON'S 1946-'50s; J.WHEELER's WOOD'S GARAGE 1950s.

[Nº 213-209 \(Vacant\)](#) - WHITING's Wool Brands; MANDELL's Gen. Store 1890s; MANILLA Fish & Oyster Saloon/PETERS & Co. 1906. CAFÉ NAMOI. [PIONEER PARK](#)—A.C.VENESS Stock/Station/Ins. Agent 1900-20s Ford Dealership; BURGESS' GARAGE.

[Nº197. MANILLA HERITAGE MUSEUM/TOURISM MANILLA](#)

ROYCES HOUSE - built 1884 for bridge contractor; BALMORAL HOUSE 1890s, DOCTOR's 1900s; IXL BAKERY 1908; BAKERY operation to 1960s; Restored by MSC/MHS 1970s ROYCE COTTAGE MUSEUM. (Federal Grant)

[Nº 195. MANILLA MEATS](#) - COMMERCIAL BANKING COMPANY of SYDNEY 1890-98; SUTTON's SHOE SHOP 1930s; WINSHUTTLE, Tobacconist.

[TOWN HALL COMPLEX](#) - SCHOOL of ARTS 1885; MECHANICS INSTITUTE & SMALL HALL 1900; MANILLA & DISTRICT SOLDIERS MEMORIAL HALL 1923.

[SUPERMARKET](#) - MACKENZIES 3rd STORE 1927. Rebuild after fire.

[Nº 163-165. BUDDENS HARDWARE & CLOTHING](#), MACKENZIES 2nd STORE 1886 (through to 1982 with 1927 reconstruction).

[Nº161 MaAHONEY's PHARMACY](#) POST OFFICE 1870s-1890; BANK OF NSW 1900-11.

[Nº159. FUNERAL DIRECTOR](#) - GABRIEL Chemist/Dentist 1906; AGENT.

[Nº157. SHEARING SHED](#). WHITEHEAD HAIRDRESSER Tobacconist 1900s; T.SMITH / G. NOLAN, BARBERS 1950s.

[Nº155. ROYAL HOTEL 1891](#), MACKENZIE built, sold OLIPHANT; Dally-MESSENGER, License 1917; Highest license fee Hotel in Northwest NSW 1921.

[CENTRE GARDENS & TARRING of MANILLA STREET 1930s](#);

[TOWN CLOCK](#) (Angus & Coote) *installed 1938*

STRAFFORD STREET to COURT STREET

[S/E cnr. WESTPAC AGENCY](#)—J.T.SMITH, SADDLER & Harness Maker 1890; FEDERAL BAKERY 1908-10. BANK OF NSW 1911-2002. Adjacent: WHITEHEADS JEWELLERS HALL c.1905-1910

[Nº135. DENTIST](#). CLIVE WILSHIRE, Stock/Station Agent 1950s.

[Nº133. \(Vacant\)](#) BARNES Fruit & Veg. 1960s

[Nº131. \(Vacant\)](#) DALES Chemist 1950s.

[Nº 125. \(Private\)](#) A.BAILEY'S Coach Factory 1893-1920; C.B.C. 3rd site 1922. National Australia Bank to 2001. Continuous Bank operation 1890-2001.

2.

[Nº121. \(Private\)](#) COMMERCIAL BANKING Co. of Sydney 1898 -1922; V.J. BYRNES, Stock/Property/Real Estate Agent 1920s-1958.

[Nº113-115. MANILLA MART; MEDICAL CNTR.](#) F. JACOBS STORE 1900s; MARSH & BLEVIN's Café 1930s; GHYS' READY MONEY STORE 1940s.

[Nº107. MANILLA EXPRESS](#) Relocated from 116 opposite Early 20c.

Former office of 'The Field' Newspaper (10 years operation) , early 20c.

[Nº105. HAIRDRESSER](#). Ladies Hairdressing premises since 1900s.

[Nº 103 \(Vacant\)](#). COOREYS Clothing Store from 1900s.

[Nº 101 \(Vacant\)](#) Entertainment Ground; DENGATES Hardware & Sporting Goods to 1960s.

[Nº 93 BARGAIN CENTRE](#). PIGGOTT & Co. Merchants c.1900;

J.T. ROBERTSON'S Produce Store 1906-65.

[Nº 91 \(vacant\)](#) NORTHEY'S Dry Cleaners 1950; COULTON's Gifts/Books.

[Nº 89.\(vacant\)](#) ROBERT's CLOTHING; NOEL SIMPSON Chemist.

[Nº85. \(Private\)](#). COURT HOUSE HOTEL 1900-2002. Façade rebuilt 1930s.

[Nº 83](#). MACDONALD Hairdresser, Tobacco, 1908; ABBERFIELD, Barber.

[Nº 77-73 N/E cnr. LANDMARK](#) - HARRINGTON'S Garden & Orchard

1870-1894; TRELOAR & Co. 1901; STODDART & Co. 1903;

STODDART & HAYWARD 1927; J.T.ROBERTSON.

[MANILLA .R.S.L](#) 1st EXPRESS PRINT; STODDART'S Furniture & Machinery Showrooms 1900s; WHITEWAY Garage 1920s/30s; JACKSON'S Skin Shop.

South-North—COURT HOUSE to BRIDGE

COURT STREET to STRAFFORD STREET

[S/W cnr. MANILLA COURT HOUSE, 1885](#) Adjacent sites, POLICEMAN'S LODGE & Lockup 1875; Residence for OFFICER IN CHARGE of POLICE 1909; CLERK of PETTY SESSIONS Office ; POLICE STATION; LOCKUP & and POLICE STABLES; LOCKUP KEEPER's Residence.

[N/W cnr. ROTARY PARK](#) STOCKYARD 1800's; BAKER'S Coach & Wagon Factory 1902; BAKER's FOUNDRY. H.BAKER GENERAL ENGINEERS; The FOUNDRY SERVICE STATION to 1942; Manilla Shire LAND purchase; ROTARY PARK established 1960s.

[Nº94. L. NIXON, ACCOUNTANT](#) ATWOOD, Solicitor, c.1920-30s;

G.F.B.GRILL, Accountant, 1936-60s.

[Nº98. \(Vacant\)](#) PALAIS Picture Theatre 1928-70s.

[Nº102 \(Vacant\)](#) RED CROSS Shop & Tea Room 1940s;

[Nº104 \(Vacant\)](#) MAC'S CAFÉ 1950s/60s. Likely RYAN'S SADDLERY / C.R.NOTT, GREENGROCER shared premises c.1930s/40s.

[Nº106 \(Vacant\)](#) WEATHERALL's SHOE REPAIRS, c 1946-1948.

[Nº108 BULLY'S BUTCHERY](#) Likely HALL'S PREMIER BUTCHERY 1900s. COCKINGS PREMIER BUTCHERY.

[Nº110 \(Vacant\)](#) Likely Chas. HILDER'S Stationers Hall 1900s; C.N. SCOTT, STATIONER 1913; SCOTT'S NEWSAGENCY 1917-72.

[Nº112 GARRY KIRK Real Estate](#). Likely O'BRIENS MODEL BAKERY & TEA-ROOMs 1908.

[Nº114. ANGLICAN FAMILY CARE](#) Likely HALL's RECORD REIGN BUTCHERY 1900s; DARKE & BIGNALL BUTCHERS 1940s.

[Nº116 \(Vacant\)](#) LORENZ's MODEL REFRESHMENT ROOMS to 1908; MANILLA EXPRESS 1908. Likely Manilla Field Newspaper, date unknown.

3.

[Nº118-122 – SOUNDYS/ NRMA](#) H. MAUNDER GARAGE 1919; A. MAUNDER, ENGINEER to 1930; CLIFTONS GARAGE 1930-50s.

[Nº124-126 SKYLIGHT RESTAURANT](#). Likely O'BRIEN's FEDERAL BAKERY 1911; Cake Shops—LANCASTER's ; GAUNT's; BILSBOROUGH's.

[Nº130-134. CANBERRA CAFÉ](#) 1918 JACK SMILES. Current Owner 1950s.

[Nº136](#) Likely HERB HINDLE Electrical.

[Nº138 V.J.FLETT](#) Thos. ELLIOT SADDLER & NOTT's FRUIT SHOP.

[Nº140V.J.FLETT](#). HAIRDRESSER 1900s; E. GREEN; Charlie GRANT.

[S/W cnr. POST OFFICE HOTEL](#) THE JUNCTION HOTEL 1882 (S.VENESS). 2nd storey 1906; name change 1913; H.GRADY 1915-46; J. GRADY 1946-74 *Junction Hotel noted as meeting place 1870s.*

STRAFFORD STREET to MARKET STREET

[Nº 164-166 POST OFFICE 1890](#). Additions 1898/1908. Reconstructed 1923. [TELSTRA & NECU block](#) WILSHIRE & GARLING Agents/Auctioneers, 1900s, W.T.LANGWORTHY 1900s to c.1920s

[Nº168. NEW ENGLAND CREDIT UNION](#) - Govt. SAVINGS BANK 1914-32; COMMONWEALTH BANK to 1990s.

[Nº170. MANILLA NEWSAGENCY](#). Relocated from Nº106—1970s; MACKENZIES Variety Store; MACKENZIES Holden Showroom 1950s.

[Nº174. MACKENZIE CHAMBERS—DAVIS builders 1930s](#). LYONS BAR-NETT KENNEDY SOLICITORS; SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE.

[Nº176. MANILLA BAKERY](#) - FEROS's YORK CAFÉ 1918

[Nº180. LEYDEN LEGAL](#)—WOOD'S Jeweller; RUSS GILLIES Jewl. 1950s-70s.

[Nº157 \(Private\)](#) AUSTIN KELLY, Dentist 1929-70s

[Nº188-192. AMANDA'S/BURRELL'S BAZAAR](#) SUTTON's BOOT & SHOE EMPORIUM 1906; MANILLA MOTORS 1930s; ROWE & DOUGLAS, Furniture.

[Nº196 \(1902\) \(Private\)](#) ROBERT'S Tea Rooms 1920s-30s; HUGHES Cake & Pie Shop c.1930s; MILLS & DOUGLAS, Green Grocer 1940s/50s; GEORGIE WUW'S Chinese Café 1950s/60s.

[Nº200 \(1899\) SPLIT ROCK VIDEO](#). 2 shops. Likely W.A.Haydon's COMMONWEALTH BUTCHERY 1906; MASSEY-HARRIS Agent; A.R. MACLEOD, MASSEY-HARRIS Co.; WOOD's GAARAGE to mid 1950.

[Nº204. FLORACCINOS](#)—SIMPSON'S PHARMACY 1900; DOCTOR 1950s.

[Nº210 TAMWORTH REGIONAL COUNCIL](#) - Creagh & Kennedy, 1901;

J.D.Kennedy & Son Solicitors to 1930s / AC Veness, Agent.

[Nº222. \(Private\)](#) SWEENEY's Hairdresser & Fruit Shop c.1899-1914. BARBER shop to mid 20c.

[Adjacent IMPERIAL HOTEL](#). 2 shops, likely HARRY WYNNE, Barber; Jeweller Shop.

[S/W cnr. IMPERIAL HOTEL 1900 -](#) Built for J.M.OLIPHANT

MARKET STREET cnr

[N/W cnr. MANILLA MOTORS](#) - G. VENESS' 3rd STORE 1886 to 1895; SMITH & CO to 1902; THE BRIDGE STORES to 1913; GILROY'S GARAGE c.1940s-50s.

[WESTERN SIDE OF THE BRIDGE](#) MANILLA TENNIS COURTS 1930s.

North-west side of NAMOI RIVER BRIDGE—site of Thomas Connor's **AUSTRALIAN ARMS INN 1861.**