

Visit Historic



*The village amongst the vines
Est. 1847*

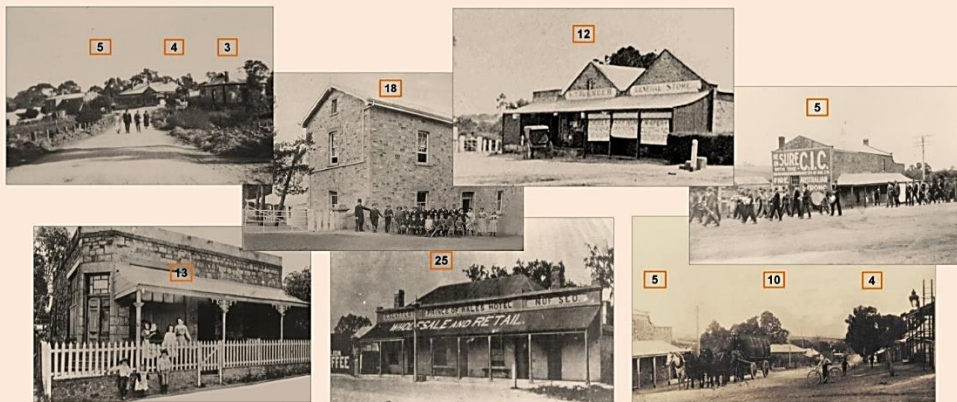
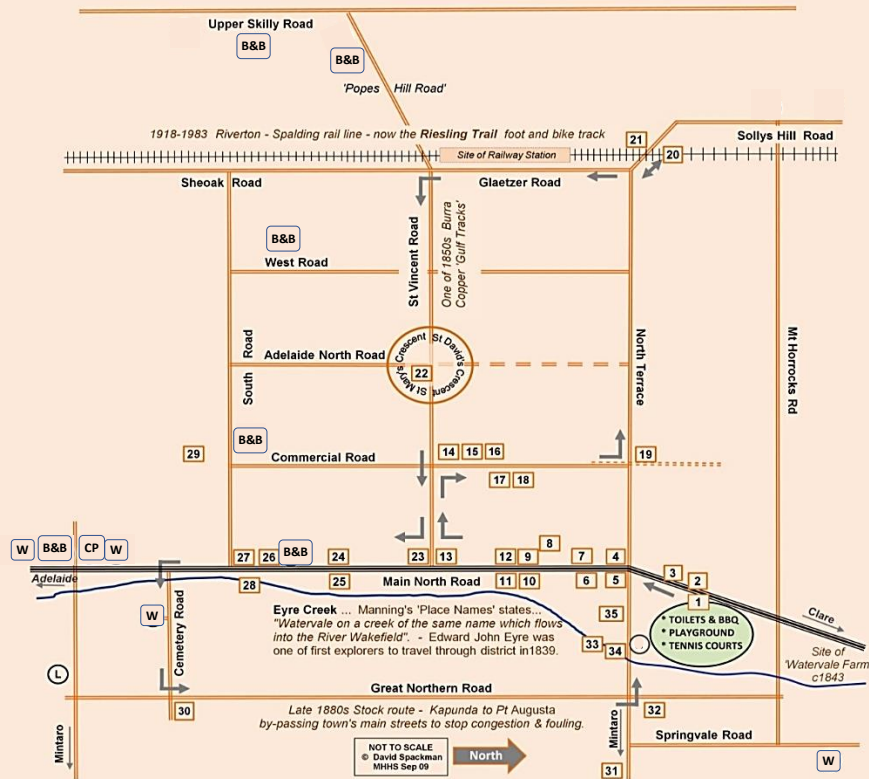
We believe Watervale was settled in the early 1840's. Squatters had followed the noted young explorer John Ainsworth Horrocks who in 1839 had settled Penwortham, 3 miles north, the first European settlement north of Gawler.

In 1845 the district grew with the discovery of copper at Burra as one of the copper 'Gulf Roads' passed through Watervale.

In 1847 David Davies was granted Sections 145-146 and laid out his town.

Watervale was then a private township, the squatters were required to negotiate purchase of their selection or pay rent!

Welcome to Historic Watervale Visit some of our many attractions and taste the History



Historic Sites Circuit

- 1 **START OF CIRCUIT:** Watervale Soldiers Memorial Park dedicated to the memory of the fallen WW1 soldiers, opened 1919. Pavilion built 1929. Home of basketball, cricket, football, hockey, softball and tennis over the years.
- 2 St Mary's Church of England built 1907 of local stone and material salvaged from Leasingham Chapel.
- 3 Creamery burnt down, 1915 rebuilt as an Institute, 1921 War Memorial Obelisk erected.
- 4 Stanley Arms Hotel first licensed 1847, the first telegraph station 1866 operated from one of its rooms. 1866 renamed Watervale Hotel, 1912 burnt down and rebuilt. 1868 a lock-up built at rear of hotel.
- 5 Flour Mill and house 1868-1923, chimney remained until 1928.
- 6 Coachbuilder opened late 1860s, now site of Telstra exchange.
- 7 Blacksmith Shop opened late 1850s by Peter Shearer, inventor of farm implements.
- 8 Stone Stables with hay-loft c1863, now a private residence.
- 9 Mounting Steps (H) both sides of road - aids for boarding coaches and mounting horses.
- 10 Telegraph Station c1882, Post Office opened 1885-1967, now a private residence.
- 11 Grain & General Store c1851 part demolished, now part of a private residence.
- 12 General Store c1851 now General Store and Post Office.
- 13 Saddler Shop c1872 later a Bicycle, Barber's Shop c1890, now a private business.
- 14 Methodist Manse c1869 now B&B.
- 15 Methodist Church c1866 now the Uniting Church.
- 16 Bible Christian Chapel c1854 Joseph Stear Carlyon Cole first used it as a day school before building Stanley Grammar School, now Uniting Church hall.
- 17 Village School funds raised 1858, built 1860, opened 1861.
- 18 Stanley Grammar School (H) 1857-1904, highly respected J S Carlyon Cole taught some of the State's high achievers. now a boutique B&B
- 19 Watervale Cellars c1849, originally 2 rooms and cellar, now Crabtree Winery.
- 20 Riverton-Spalding railway line 1918-1983, now the Riesling Trail foot and bike track
- 21 Horse stable/blacksmith shop 1880s transformed to Stephen John's winery.
- 22 Village Well & Pump c1886 sunk and established in Village Common time of drought.
- 23 Library c1860s later a Delicatessen, now private residence.
- 24 Foresters Hall (H) 1872-1966 Court of Bushman's Home Ancient Order of Foresters, now a private residence.
- 25 Prince of Wales Hotel c1849, burnt down, rebuilt 1915 as a Mothers Nursing Home 1916 -1927, now a private residence.
- 26 1800s Blacksmith Shop burnt down, new garage built on southern side 1922.
- 27 Brewery c1850 was short lived strong brew exploded and brewery burnt down!
- 28 Squatters Cottage & Milking Shed (H) c1847, now private residence
- 29 Rosenberg Cellars & Still (H) c1870, now private residence.
- 30 Watervale Cemetery 1890 land donated by Francis Treloar and first to be buried there.
- 31 Watervale Rifle c1881 & Golf Club c1921 on J Castine's land 3-4 km east of town - now closed.
- 32 Quelltaler Winery (H) Francis Treloar's first planted vines 1854 - selling flagons of wine for 1-2 shillings a flagon
- 33 Eyre Creek, previously known as Watervale Creek.
- 34 'The Killing Tree' an old Red Gum's low limb used early 1900s to hang dressed stock.
- 35 Butcher's Shop c1850-1976 - now private residence.

H = Heritage Listed

W Winery

B&B Accommodation

Revised May 2019