

This Heritage Walk of Penwortham is dedicated to the memory of

***Margaret Burscough***

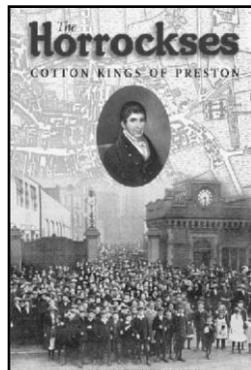
(22.02.1931 - 13.12.2006)



Margaret in 1953  
Wearing a 'Horrockses Cottons' dress

Margaret was a well known author and Historian who lived near Penwortham in Lancashire, England, the home of John Ainsworth Horrocks. Margaret was an authority on the Horrocks family and this in turn led to her writing a book entitled:

***“The Horrockses – Cotton Kings of Preston”***



Publisher: Carnegie Publishing, Lancaster, England

A copy of this book has pride of place in the Mt Horrocks Historical Society library at Watervale.

# Penwortham

## Heritage Walk



**John Horrocks Cottage, Penwortham. Built 1839**

(Cnr Horrocks Highway and Surrey Lane)

The picturesque village of Penwortham was founded in 1839 by John Ainsworth Horrocks. After arriving in Adelaide on his 21<sup>st</sup> birthday in March of that year, Horrocks ventured north on the advice of Edward John Eyre and finally settled at a fertile, well-watered spot which he named *Penwortham* after his home in Lancashire, England. Horrocks wasted no time in settling the village and building a 2-roomed stone cottage which still stands today. Upon Horrocks' untimely death in 1846 his plans for a thriving community died with him and today we are left with a quiet, charming village with a feel of days gone by. A walk around this historic village will reveal many places of interest and some surviving heritage buildings

Approximate time for the full walk at a leisurely pace is 1.5 hours.

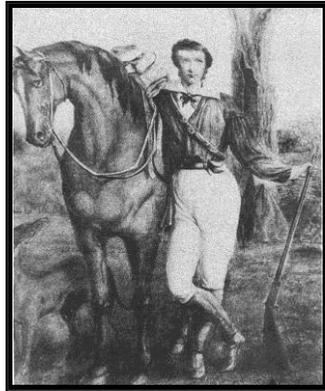
# THE FOUNDER OF PENWORTHAM

## John Ainsworth Horrocks

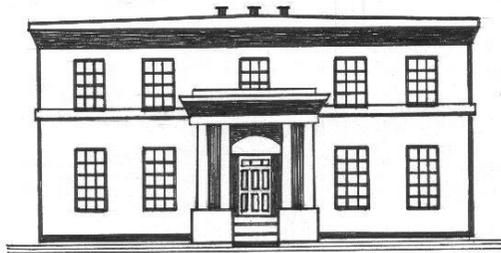
Born at Penwortham Hall,  
Penwortham in Lancashire,  
England on  
22<sup>nd</sup> March 1818.



Horrocks Family Crest



John was the eldest son of Peter and Clara Horrocks. His father purchased land in South Australia and in 1838 John and his younger brother Eustace left England bound for Adelaide with a view to establishing a sheep farm on their father's property. After settling the village of Penwortham in 1839, John decided to explore further north leaving in July 1846. Sadly on 1<sup>st</sup> September, he was mortally wounded on the shores of Lake Dutton (100 km north of Port Augusta). His companions brought him back to Penwortham where he died on 23<sup>rd</sup> September and is buried in St. Mark's churchyard.



**Penwortham Hall, Penwortham, Lancashire, England**

Built in 1801 by John Ainsworth Horrocks' grandfather  
and home to the Horrocks family until 1832

Penwortham Heritage Walk was prepared by the Mt Horrocks Historical Society for the enjoyment of visitors to the beautiful Clare Valley. The Society was formed in 1983 by a group of local people interested in preserving, recording and researching the history of the area.



The Society owns John Horrocks Cottage which is open to the public on the first Sunday of the month at 2 – 4 pm or by appointment, It also has premises in Watervale with a library, local history research facilities, and an extensive collection of old photographs and memorabilia. The Society has been responsible for publishing a range of local history books.

Why not join the Society and play your part in preserving a small piece of South Australian history for future generations?

Contact: The Secretary, Mt Horrocks Historical Society  
P.O. Box 38, Watervale, SA 5452.

Email: [mhhsinc@gmail.com](mailto:mhhsinc@gmail.com)

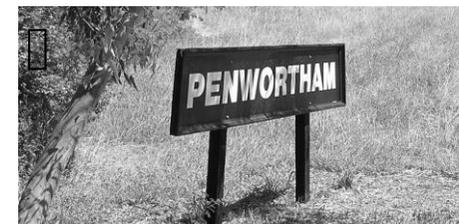
[www.communitywebs.org/MountHorrocksHistoricalSociety](http://www.communitywebs.org/MountHorrocksHistoricalSociety)

## Acknowledgements

Compiled by Janet & Jim Morran

Drawings by Graham Duerden

Map by David Spackman



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## 15. Site of Hope Farm

Having given over his stone cottage Horrocks had built a more substantial "Hope Farm", it is assumed he had in mind the motto "*industria et spe*" – "Work and Hope".



In 1843 Anne Jacob, who later married John's brother Arthur, wrote in her diary "we went through a nice garden to the house which contains three good front rooms built of stone and nicely plastered and whitened, surrounded by a veranda". Sadly, this house was demolished in 1915 to make way for the railway. The sketch of Hope Farm is a copy of one drawn by Horrocks in 1842. The garden is not shown.

## 16. Horrocks Tree (on private property)

This gnarled red gum, probably more than 400 years old was Horrocks' first camp at Penwortham. "On his arrival in the district in 1839, he lived in this hollow tree. On one side of its trunk he nailed up his cooking, washing and household utensils. He put up a small tarpaulin on four poles, sleeping under it at night wrapped up in blankets sometimes sleeping in the tree sometimes under his cart." (*Observer 16 Oct., 1920*)



The irises which bloom annually beneath this tree are from bulbs brought from England by John Horrocks. (The tree is ~150 metres from Morrison Rd)

## 17. Riesling Trail



Commencing at Auburn the Riesling Trail is a walking and cycling track which follows the old Riverton to Spalding Railway Line (built c.1915). There are interpretive signs along the route that tell stories of the region.

## 1. John Horrocks Cottage (formerly 'Greens' Cottage)

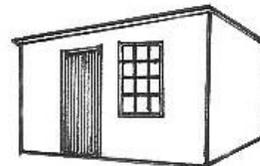
Built in 1839 from local stone and with a shingle roof this cottage has seen many uses after Horrocks handed it over to his shepherd the following year. These included home of the local post office for a number of years, a rental property and for storage. After falling into disrepair the cottage was purchased in 2001 by the Mount Horrocks Historical Society with grants from the State and Federal Governments and local fundraising. The building has been restored to as near its original state as possible and is open to the public on the first Sunday of the month or by appointment.

The cottage is State Heritage listed and on the Register of the National Estate.



## 2. Butchers Shop

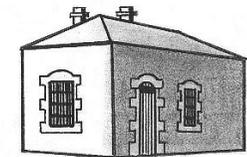
Not much is known about the building on the southern side of the cottage except that it was once a butchers shop and has been used as a garage.



It is now the Interpretive Centre for the Mount Horrocks Historical Society after considerable restoration including a new floor of Mintaro Slate and freshly rendered walls. The window c. 1885 is from Dr. Bain's house in Agnes Street, Clare.

## 3. Site of Elder Grove School

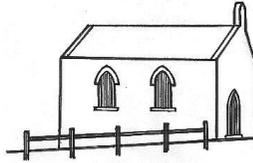
Closed as a school about 1900 after the school teacher, Mary Ann Roach retired. Students continued their schooling at the Government School halfway between Penwortham and Sevenhill. The school house was demolished in 1981 to make way for "Early Street Restaurant".



Unfortunately the venture proved unsuccessful and the Restaurant closed down almost as soon as it opened. The building is now a private residence. A painting of the school in 1873, painted by Miss Roach can be seen in the Interpretive Centre.

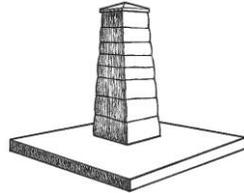
#### 4. Site of Chapel-on-the Hill. (steep climb)

Plans for a Wesleyan Chapel to be built on one acre of land donated by Thomas Magarey were drawn up in 1857. Although not in an ideal position being on very stony ground on a steep hill, the Wesleyans counted their blessings and made use of what they had.



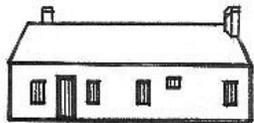
The Chapel was opened on 19<sup>th</sup> September 1858. A supper room was added in 1897 and was used for various community meetings. In 1958 a porch was added to mark the centenary of the building. The church was closed in 1968 and demolished in 1979. All that remains is a small cemetery and an obelisk donated by Miss E. P. Penna in 1981 which reads:

*This obelisk has been erected to honour our pioneers who built the Penwortham Methodist Church on this site in 1857 and in memory of all who worshipped here - 1857-1968*



#### 5. Site of Derby Arms Hotel

The Derby Arms was built in 1841 as a wayside inn to accommodate the many travellers passing through Penwortham. The first recorded publican was James Bleechmore who also acted as postmaster. It was first registered as a hotel in 1850 when a Mr. D. Stuart was licensee.



The hotel closed in 1890 when the publican was recorded as being J.P. Morgan. The building was later reopened as a bottle/general store and lunchroom during the time the railway was being built (1915). It was demolished for the main road to be widened and most of the stone was used on the roads.

#### 6. Pioneer Cottage/Apple House

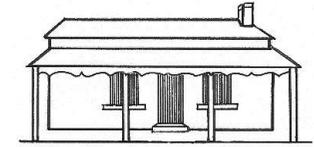
Built c.1850 as settler's cottage, it was later used as an apple packing house.

It was purchased by Jim Pearson who opened it as a Cellar Door for his wines in 1994.



#### 13. Pioneer Cottage (Private Residence)

In 1856 Clara Horrocks (living in England) leased 32 acres of land, left to her by John Horrocks, to her brother Arthur.

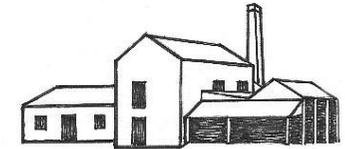


In 1869, 10 years after the town had been surveyed, this and the adjacent lot were purchased by George Young.

John Roach the miller purchased the lots in 1873. Initially the cottage consisted of two rooms with the later addition of two more at the rear. All extensions since have been in keeping with the original cottage while maintaining the initial dwelling.

#### 14. Site of Flour Mill (Private Residence)

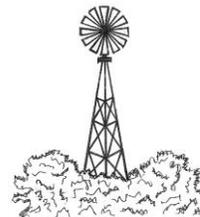
The foundations for the flour mill were laid as early as 1842 and it was operational in 1846. Horrocks had to increase his grinding price from "8 pence to one shilling a bushel" as the mill would not grind as much as he had expected, possibly due to the wrong equipment being sent out from England. The mill was not fully operational until 1855 when it was modified and operated by Mr. J. Berrv .



An opening celebration was held in the Derby Arms on 13<sup>th</sup> December 1855.

The steam-mill had an eight horsepower engine and the workings consisted of one pair of French stones with preparation for a second pair when required. This mill was the first to commence work in the north of the State. The mill was purchased by Mr. Roach in 1862 for £350.

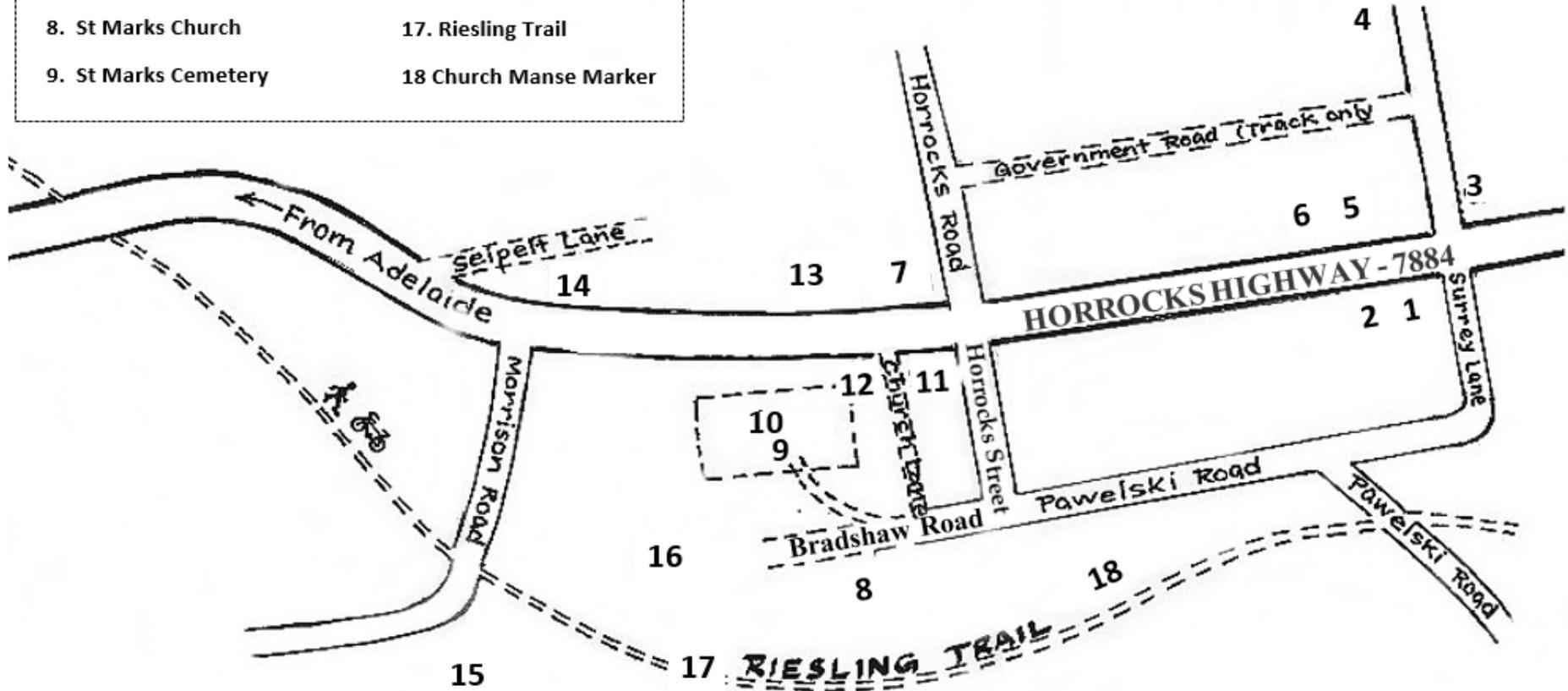
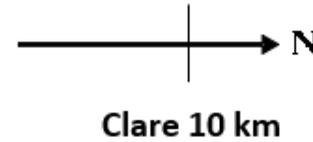
Sadly the mill was destroyed by fire c.1870; however the site is marked by a windmill.



- |                                |                         |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. John Horrocks Cottage       | 10. John Horrocks Grave |
| 2. Butcher Shop                | 11. The Two-up Tree     |
| 3. Site of Elder Grove School  | 12. Horrocks Cairn      |
| 4. Site of Chapel-on-the-Hill  | 13. Pioneer Cottage     |
| 5. Site of Derby Arms Hotel    | 14. Site of Flour Mill  |
| 6. Pioneer Cottage/Apple House | 15. Site of Hope Farm   |
| 7. Old General Store           | 16. Horrocks Tree       |
| 8. St Marks Church             | 17. Riesling Trail      |
| 9. St Marks Cemetery           | 18. Church Manse Marker |

## PENWORTHAM TOWNSHIP

### HISTORIC SITES

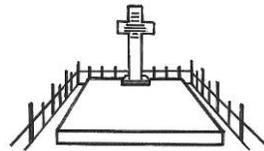


## **9. St. Marks Cemetery**

There are three burial places in the cemetery as all denominations were interred here. The General Section is nearest the main road and is where John Horrocks is buried as well as his faithful servant John Green who accompanied him in 1839. The Anglican area is to the south of the church, containing the graves of members of the Duncan family, descendants of Sir Walter Watson Hughes. The Methodist area is just inside the gate. On 18<sup>th</sup> September 1862 the cemetery was bought by Augustus Short, the Bishop of Adelaide, for 10 shillings.

## **10. John Horrocks Grave**

Sadly, John Horrocks never saw the church built as he died at Penwortham on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 1846 from an accidental gunshot wound he received whilst exploring the North Western region of the State. Just before he died he asked his friend John Theakstone, who was a sculptor and stone mason, to brick in his grave and carve his name on a stone. The original wrought iron railings were stolen in 1984 and later replaced by the National Trust. It is interesting to note that Horrocks grave lies north to south as are all explorers.



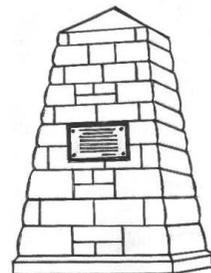
## **11. The Two up Tree**



John Horrocks held prayer meetings beneath this tree and it was also used by the local men as a meeting place on Sundays; their one day off in the week. Here they would catch up on the local news. Eventually card games were introduced and later the game of “two-up”, hence the name “The Two-up Tree”.

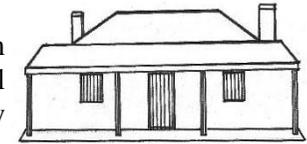
## **12. Horrocks Cairn**

The cairn was erected by the Royal Geographical Society in 1946 to commemorate the Centenary anniversary of the death of John Ainsworth Horrocks in 1846.



## **7. Old General Store**

One of the oldest cottages in Penwortham thought to have been built c.1845 as a general store, but could well have been built as early as 1841-42.



The General Store also housed the local Post Office, but ceased to serve these purposes c.1903 when it was purchased by Bernie Kanopka. In earlier times the Post Office was located in a 2-roomed stone cottage on the south side of the store, where a cool room and packing shed were later built

Mr. Kanopka named the property “*Linga Longa*”. It was later sold to Mr. Pawelski, and then to Frank Nayda. A roadside stall was operated on the north side of the house in 1958 by Eric Mathys and his mother. This eventually grew into a mini-market selling a large range of goods. At a later date the property was renamed “*Cairn Gardens*” and the name “*Walnut Cottage*” was given to the building in 1994 when it was operated as tea rooms.

## **8. St. Marks Anglican Church**

Building of the church was commenced in 1851 with funds acquired by John Horrocks on a visit to England 1842 and it was officially opened on 30<sup>th</sup> November 1851. When the church was originally opened there were only 6 seats and calico covered the window apertures. Glass windows were finally installed in 1854 at a cost of £48. In 1855 a bell turret and porch were added.



The Horrocks family has always kept an interest in the church over the years. In 1878 a Miss Horrocks donated the altar rails. In 1908 the church was completely renovated. The old vestry was demolished and a new one built. The year 1939 saw the Christening of Peter Horrocks, the great-grand nephew of John Ainsworth Horrocks. In 1951 Mr. & Mrs. A. Horrocks donated an altar cloth and in 1984 Mrs. Mary Horrocks donated a white runner for the altar. In 2006 Katherine nee Horrocks, a descendant of Arthur Horrocks was married at St Marks Church.

Regular Sunday Services are still held at St. Marks as well as baptisms, weddings and funerals.