

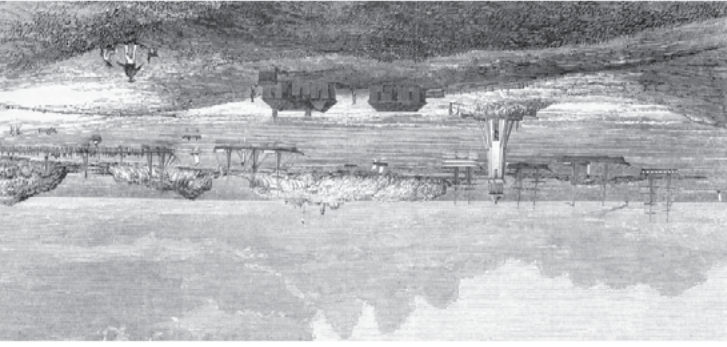
**Electoral structure review - Warrnambool City Council - Response Submission
Phil Carter (second submission) - Warrnambool - 24 July 2023, 10:09 am**

Further to my previous submission.

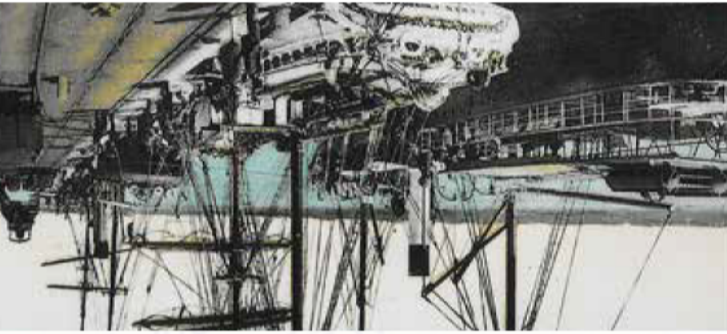
The attached brochure was produced to promote and publicise the area known as South Warrnambool. South Warrnambool has historically been a separate locality in Warrnambool with its own strong identity and this continues through to today.

Proposed models 1 and 2 draw a ward boundary through South Warrnambool. This would result in South Warrnambool's ward representative not truly representing South Warrnambool. It would also mean that the person representing East Warrnambool would have a piece of South Warrnambool in their area which wouldn't be the main focus of concern for them.

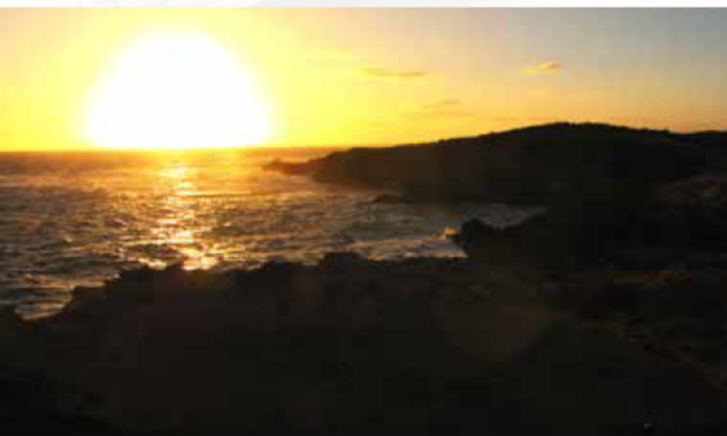
03 Stroll along the popular promenade walking/ cycling path past the Harbour Pavilion, Coast Guard and yacht club. The beach and waters of Worm Bay, as this part of the harbour is known, are often used to exercise racehorses in the morning. From 1860 to 1869 there was a lighthouse on the beach here.



02 The Port of Warrnambool operated until 1962 when it was closed in favour of Portland's deep-sea, all-weather harbour. At its peak in the 1880s, Warrnambool's port employed up to 300 men. Until 1853 all freight and passengers were landed by means of small boats called lighters. From the late 1880s, the opening of the railway and gradually improving road transport diminished port traffic. But regular ships, such as the Edina and Coramba, would travel between Melbourne and Warrnambool and it remained a hazardous journey well into the 20th century. Sadly, there were 14 wrecks and 12 strandings in Lady Bay.



19 Head south along Macdonald Street towards the coast. Past the trotting track was once a sandstone quarry. Turn right to Thunder Point - a spectacular vantage point to take in the coast, especially at sunset. Return via a clifftop track to nearby Pickering Point, which provides amazing views of the breakwater area, Middle Island, Lady Bay and the Merri River.



20 Follow the path and boardwalk to cross the footbridge back to Viaduct Road. From here you can explore Stingray Bay, a popular place for bathers and social gatherings since Warrnambool's earliest days. On the opposite side of Viaduct Road was Miss Fisher's Tea Rooms, once popular with beachgoers.



01 The breakwater was one of the most important maritime engineering projects in Victoria in the late 19th century. Built to protect Lady Bay, it was not completed until 1890 - the same year as the arrival of the rail line from Melbourne. It is accessed via Viaduct Road, which was initially elevated on timber trestles under which the sea flowed into Lady Bay. An unexpected side effect of the breakwater was siltation of the harbour and after failed attempts to solve the problem, the viaduct was filled with basalt in the 1950s and '60s. It is estimated that two thirds of the original harbour has silted up, creating the land on which the Harbour Pavilion and Cafe, the car parks and yacht club now sit. The unusual concrete domes protruding from the breakwater carpark are the roofs of an underground aquarium that closed in 1996.



Stroll the streets and shores of South Warrnambool and you will walk in the footsteps of the earliest aboriginal inhabitants and subsequent white settlers. Warrnambool officially became a settlement in 1847 when the first land sales were held and South Warrnambool soon became a busy port and a thriving place for many industries. Most of its early history is no longer evident, but here and there glimpses of South Warrnambool's rich past remain - as does the sound of crashing waves, and the salty air.

21 Middle Island: In 1854 work began on a lighthouse and keeper's cottage on this rocky outcrop across from Stingray Bay, accessible only at low tide. However the light's position did not properly indicate the narrow harbour entrance so in 1871 the lighthouse and keeper's cottage were transferred to Flagstaff Hill. Today, Middle Island hosts a fairy penguin colony, protected from predatory foxes and dogs by Maremma guard dogs - the inspiration for the 2015 Australian movie "Oddball". There is no public access to Middle Island.

Follow Viaduct Road back to the breakwater.



The above information was compiled by the South Warrnambool Community Association with grateful thanks for funding from Warrnambool City Council and information from many residents, the Historical Society and other sources April 2018



Follow the trail with QR App AND FIND MORE INFORMATION AND PHOTOS



IDEALLY, YOU BEGIN AND END YOUR WALK AT THE BREAKWATER BUT YOU CAN JOIN AT ANY POINT ALONG THE TRAIL

A WALKING TRAIL TO DISCOVER THE HISTORY & SCENERY OF

SOUTH Warrnambool



Trail Total trail 5.4km
Walking time 1 hr (plus stops)

04 At the Worm Bay sign turn left and follow the road to the skate park and Lady Bay and Deep Blue resorts and geothermal pools. This is South Warrnambool's hotel precinct, where two hotels catering to sea passengers once sat almost adjacent to each other, plus a shop known as Dr Dan's. The Prince of Wales Hotel obtained a licence in 1874. Nearby was Jewell's Steam Packet Inn, which later became the Bay View Hotel, and later the Lady Bay Hotel, which became a thriving place for nightclub entertainment and live bands through the 1970s, '80s and '90s, hosting Cold Chisel, Skyhooks, Midnight Oil and The Angels. It was demolished in 2001 to build the current resort.



05 Pertobe Road, flanked by Norfolk Island pines, takes you past the birdlife haven and park of Lake Pertobe, which at one time was separated from the sea by only a narrow sand bar that at high tide was breached by the sea. In the 1970s, Lake Pertobe was drained and developed into picturesque lakes with adventure playgrounds, barbecue facilities and picnic areas. It boasts several walking tracks.

12 Follow the path into The Mill development and you will pass the former canteen, administration building and a war memorial honouring mill staff. As you reach the corner home on your right, parts of the original building and machinery are visible inside.

13 Turn left to the Harris Street entrance, cross the road to the viewing platform. Flanked by the rail trail is a flat, marshy section of the Merri River. More correctly it is part of the Merri River channel, the result of one of Warrnambool's earliest major engineering projects in the 1850s and '60s. The natural course of the river was diverted to keep it from flowing through coastal sand dunes, which were (wrongly) thought to be the source of siltation of Lady Bay. The banks of the Merri River were from the earliest days of settlement a popular place for industries, for which the river was a useful source of water and convenient drain for tanneries, rope and soap factories, fishing companies and other industries.



14 Proceed south along Harris, cross the river and pause at the roundabout, where at nos. 4-8 Elliott Street (north-east corner) a police station operated from 1936 to 1948. A little way south, on Macdonald Street, is the small, historic (built 1906) South Presbyterian Church. Almost opposite once stood a small Methodist Church, where the first school lessons were held from 1877. Macdonald Street retains some interesting examples of early residential architecture. Particularly look for numbers 17, 18, 24, 26 & 37. No. 26 housed ships' captains.

06 At the Pertobe Road roundabout, take the Rail Trail walking track. Behind the wire fence to the right is the Warrnambool depot of the 8th/7th Battalion, The Royal Victoria Regiment. Originally a World War II dehydration factory, it employed many women on three shifts dehydrating onions, potatoes and cabbages for the war effort. Further along are a Caravan Park and lawn tennis courts, once the site of a saw mill and from 1912 to 1921 a box factory and nail works. A siding from the wharf railway ran into the factory, which burnt down in the 1920s.

07 The wide, shallow stretch of the Merri River to your left is today popular with anglers and canoeists. It was also where the 'Henley on the Merri' festival was held from 1914 into the 1930s. It featured oar powered boats, swimming races and novelty events such as floating boxing and tug of war contests in boats.

08 To the right as you approach the rear of the old woollen mill is Jetty Flat. Now revegetated and home to a cricket ground, BMX track and other leisure facilities, this was once a wide expanse of level land that hosted Warrnambool's first horse races, visiting circuses, football and cricket matches, jousting, hurling and polo. The first polo match played in Victoria took place at Jetty Flat! In the early 20th century it made an ideal landing field for visiting biplanes, which always drew large crowds.



15 Stanley Street has several homes of interest so take a stroll to Edwards Bridge and back. Several lightermen's cottages were constructed in the early 1860s, such as that of well-known lighterman John Brass (sketch above). Built on the north-west corner with Stephens Street in 1868, Stephens Street was originally named Brass Street, but after its namesake drowned in the river after visiting several local hotels, it was changed to honour a former mayor. Detour 150m up Stephens Street hidden behind a flourishing garden and Norfolk Island pines, is the South Warrnambool State School, 1881 1994, now a residence. The school building was used for 50 dances on Saturdays. On Sundays Sisters of Mercy came by horse and cart to teach Sunday School.



09 Before taking the rail trail which runs between the river and the Mill housing development, glance at the two walking paths to the right. The lower one was the route of the 1858 horse-drawn tramway which operated from Merri Street down to the jetty until 1899. The tramway used trucks drawn by teams of up to 12 horses. It was superseded by the railway branch line (the upper path) built in 1890 and operated until the late 1970s. The platform's remains can be seen at the rear of the Mill.



10 The Mill residential development on your right occupies the site of the once-famous Warrnambool Woollen Mill. It was initially where the "bully soup" meat preserving plant (est. 1869) once stood. It later became a successful woollen mill. Destroyed by fire in 1882, it took until 1909 for a new woollen mill to be established, incorporating some of the original buildings. It was owned primarily by local shareholders and provided employment for generations of locals. The factory's loud steam whistle could be heard all over town. It closed in 2000.

11 The small footbridge over the Merri River was built in 1922 to provide access for local mill workers, replacing an earlier bridge built before 1872. A weir across the river was constructed near here but later demolished in 1909.

16 Among the notable buildings in Stanley Street is no. 32, once the Mission to Seamen - an Anglican welfare charity established in 1856. The first police station operated at no 30 from 1884 to 1934. Charles Kane Memorial Park is named after a woollen mill worker (1903 1973) who is remembered fondly for his local activism and gentle kindness. His humble cottage at the rear of 7 Pertobe Lane still stands.

17 At no. 17, now the backpacker hostel, John Mitchell ran a grocery store for 60 years, while no. 31 was the last milk bar in South Warrnambool, ceasing operation after the closure of the woollen mill and state school. Originally Hartley's produce store, it later included a post office, dry cleaners and other services. Mr Hartley delivered goods on a cart to surrounding streets always taking a small bag of broken biscuits to hand out to children.



18 The simple, symmetrical architecture of the cottages at nos. 35 & 37 is appealing. The stone cottage at no. 37 was built in 1862 and owned by Robert Irvine, a lighterman.

