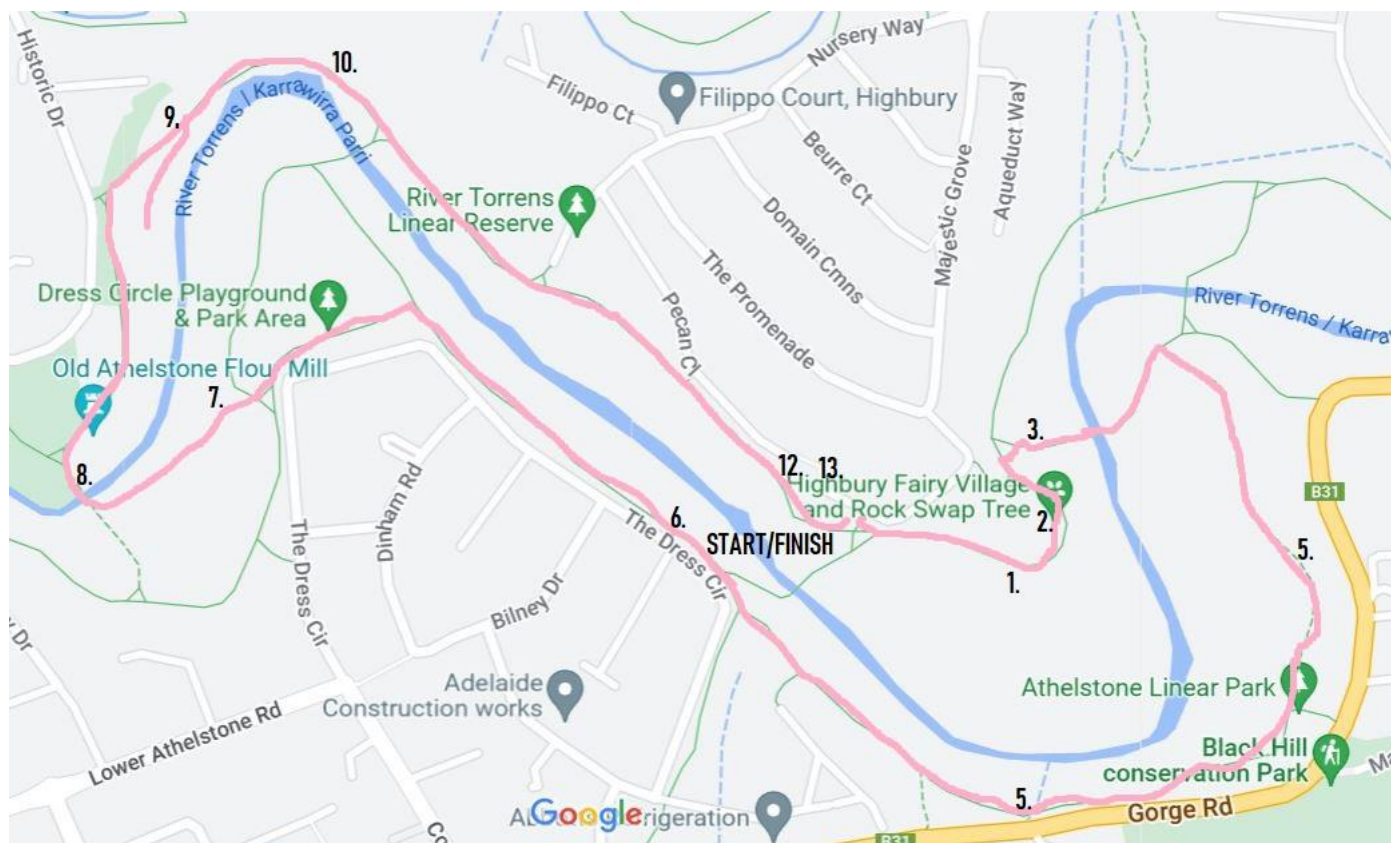


U3A Hills End of Linear Park Monday Stroll - directions and information (4km)



Park at the end of The Promenade (there are a few parking spots at the end of the street)

Meet under the trees on the lawn opposite 45 The Promenade, Highbury

A NEW point of interest: Reconciliation-river-walk (annotation no 12) can be added to the stroll

START

1. Turn left into an asphalt path that goes slightly up. Stop at a bench overlooking the fields below; this used to be **Market Gardens *1**
2. Continue on the path and shortly on your left you will see the **Fairy Village *2**
3. Follow the path and take the first turn right. Soon on your right you will see a **Bee hotel *3**
4. Cross the bridge and turn right into the asphalt path. Continue on the path. There will be a public toilet on your left
5. The path goes up and near the top you will see a **P. W. Richards Force Pump *4** on your right
6. Ignore the sharp right turn leading to a bridge (an escape route if anyone wants to cut the walk short) and continue on the path. Soon there will be an information board on your left about **Lomman's Pumphole *5**

7. Take a left turn, there will be a playground on your right. When you get to the T-intersection go straight ahead on the grass towards the old stone building on the other side of the creek, **the Mill *6**
8. Cross the bridge and turn right on the asphalt path that takes you at the back of the Mill and towards **Athelstone House *7**
9. Continue on the path and take right turn to go down. There will be a flat reserve on your right. There is an optional detour to look at the **Wall for canvas aqueduct *8**
10. Continue on the path but when the lake on your right ends (there is a utility box there) look on your left for **the caves *9**. Go along the grass (with the reeds on your right) to look for recent use of the caves in the hill
11. Turn after the reeds to return to the path and then turn left into the asphalt path.
12. Follow the path. On your left (after the cul a sac of Pecan Close ends) look at the **Cold Store and pump *10**
13. Go around the Cold Store to the site of **Boord Family Home *11**

FINISH

Annotations

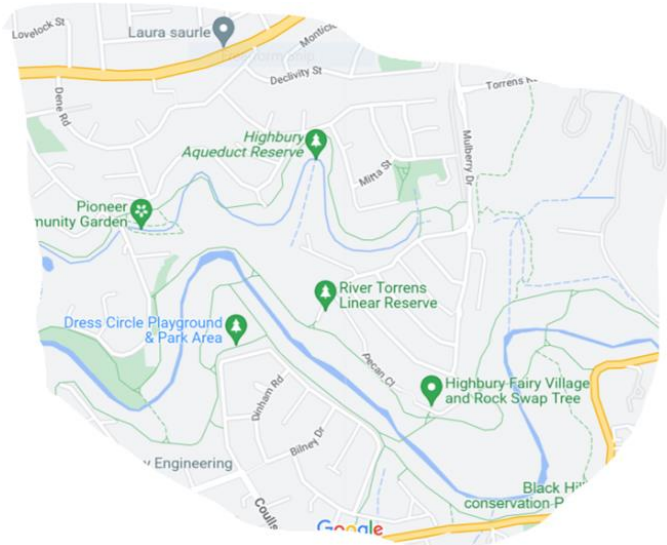
*1 Market Gardens – Vegetables, Fruit and Nuts

The Fry and Wicks families grew their produce around here



This area is well known historically for being market gardens. Celery fields and vegetables were grown by the Fry family (pictures above). Strawberry fields were on the other side of the river.

In 1919 Leonard John Wicks bought 186 acres of scrubland for £3700 and gradually developed it to be a nursery, growing and selling fruit and nut trees. The land transformed into an orchard of pears, peaches, apricots, plums, oranges, figs, loquats, walnuts pistachios and pecans.



The Wicks family's original land holding

Remnants of the old fruit and nut orchard remain with trees still producing.

In it's heyday in the 1950s the orchard employed over 20 people. 90% of the walnuts in California originally came from the walnut trees grown on the black soil near the river. Leonard lived in the old homestead which still there on The Promenade. Leonard and his wife Annie had six children. After Leonard's death their second son, Frank, took over the running of the property. In the 1980s Leonard's grandson John moved into the old homestead on the Promenade and took over operations of the orchard south of the channel. In the 1990s the remaining orchard area was subdivided and became Wicks Estate.



The Wicks Homestead sold on 24 Jun 2020 for \$1,422,000

***2 Fairy Village**



***3 Bee hotel**



The hotel provides nesting sites for masked, resin, blue banded and leaf cutter native bees. A variety of food plants for native bees were planted. Native bees are active during the warmer months, typically from October to March, so they are expected to be using the bee hotel in spring.

***4 P. W. Richards Force Pump**

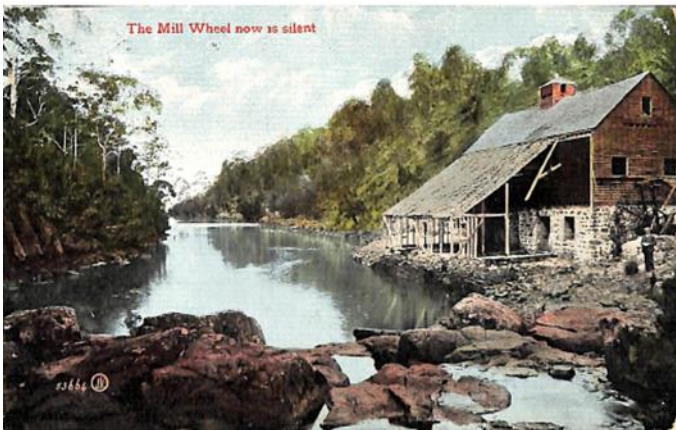


Force pumps can be seen dotted along the river. They were used to irrigate the crops in the market gardens.

*5 Lomman's Pumphole



*6 The Mill



The Dinham brother's Old Mill was built in 1843-1845 from local stone. The Wind and Water Mill was used to grind wheat into flour. Water was dammed upstream then led by aqueduct to the water wheel. The mill was originally 3 storeys high.

It started operation in 1844, grinding crops from the Athelstone area, and from as far away as Golden Grove and Gumeracha. John Coulls bought the mill in 1845 and converted it for grape crushing but operations ceased within a decade.

*7 Athelstone House



The original owner of the land was William Williams, who sold the land to Charles Dinham, who brought it for 250 pounds. Charles with his Brother William, built the house between 1843-1845 from stone quarried from the river banks. The Dinham brothers were wheat farmers and they grew a considerable area of wheat here. In 1855 Athelstone House was sold to Blacksmith and coachbuilder, John Green Coulls, who extended the house to 11 rooms

Athelstone House and Mill were confirmed in 1982 as a State Heritage Place in the SA Heritage Register. The house (3 bedrooms 1 bathroom) was sold on January 2008 for well over \$1,000,000.

***8 Wall for canvas aqueduct**



The river was diverted around a canvas aqueduct laid on a stone wall which is still visible. Aqueducts move water through gravity alone, being constructed along a slight downward gradient within conduits of stone, brick or concrete.

***9 Caves**



The river provided a great resource for the Aboriginal people who lived here. They used the river for washing and a food source (fish, water birds). Large trees that grew around rivers created homes for possums (possum skins were used for clothing). Wood was used to make tools. Caves may have provided shelter for groups of people who lived near the river.

***10 Cold Store and pump**



Owned by the Wick's family, the cold store was used to store locally grown fruit and vegetables until they were ready for sale. The pump, which was used as a part of the refrigeration process, was the largest of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere until the late 1940's.

***11 Boord Family Home** (situated behind the Council shed)



The Boord family home with a thatched roof was built in the 1840's from stone taken from the river. The original cottage had (?) main rooms. Two remain. The Boord family had lived in South Africa prior to coming to Australia and were amongst the early farmers of this area.

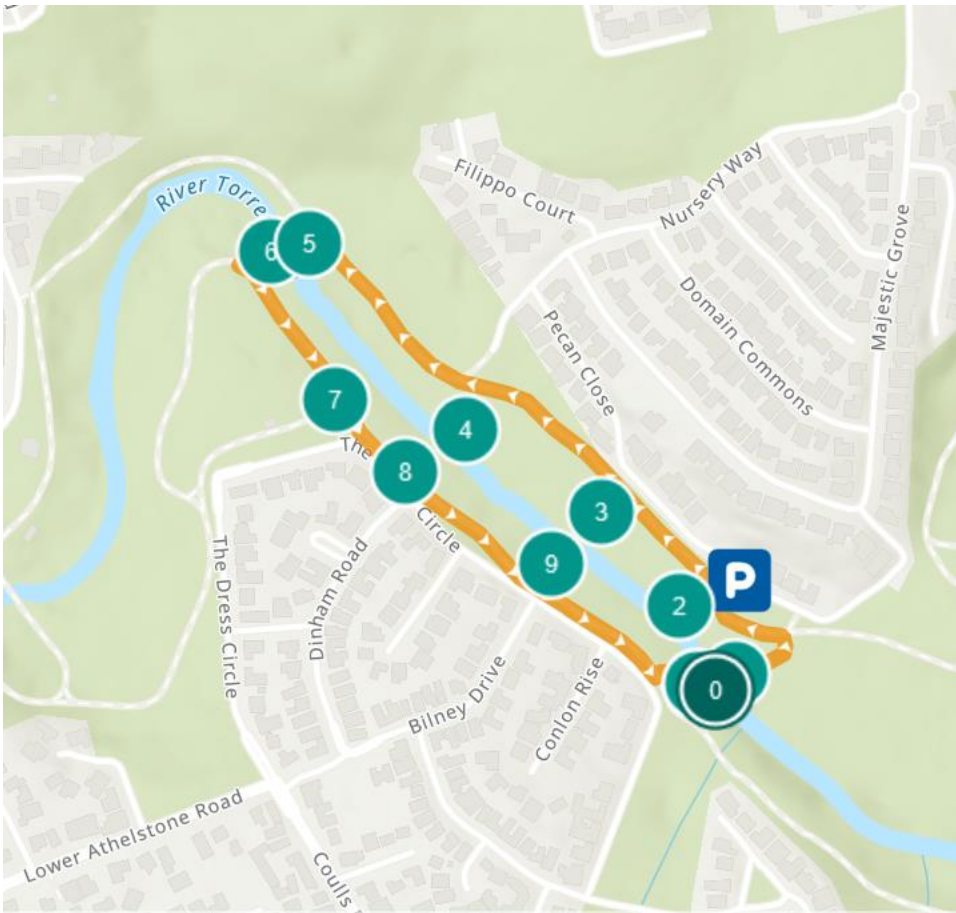
Locals believe that rifle slits in the walls were built by the original owners who had feared the first Australians based on their experiences with the Zulus. More recently archaeologists have cast doubt on the rifle slits, believing the slits to have been unworkable for that purpose.

***12 Reconciliation River Walk**

If the group members can afford the extra time the following stops are on route of the stroll: 9, 8, 5, 4, 3 and 2

An interactive story map can be found here:

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/2376d0c65f9749298e3ee02baa688e4a>



Reconciliation River Walk is a 1.2km loop track on Karra Wirra Parri / River Torrens Linear Park and connect to Kaurna Country. The trail begins at the bridge – enter from the path going down to the River across from 60 The Dress Circle, Athelstone. The main sign has the first and last QR codes followed by 9 wooden markers along the track. Each marker has a QR code that links to a video by a Kaurna Elder sharing knowledge of Kaurna Country at the specific location.

Karra Wirra Parri / River Torrens Linear Park remains an important place for the Kaurna people/Meyunna as it traditionally provided food, shelter, resources, connection to country and recreation.