

Western Australian Museum

A trek through **TIME**

A historical journey between the
WA Maritime Museum and the
WA Shipwrecks Museum



Bathers Beach in the 1890s
Image courtesy of Fremantle Ports













WAM WA
MARITIME
MUSEUM



Navigate your way

Use the map to guide you to each stop. The numbered pins on each page tell you what stop you should be at.

-  1 Stand on the steps of the Maritime Museum. Explore the Welcome Walls and the harbour side of the Museum building.
-  2 Walk towards E-Shed, down the centre island of the Museum car park, until you reach the statue of C.Y. O'Connor.
-  3 Cross the road at the zebra crossing and stand near a statue of a man and a dingo.
-  4 Stay on the same side of the road, cross the railway and remain on the footpath until you see a small red brick building across the road. Look across the road to the corner of Phillimore and Cliff Street.
-  5 Cross Phillimore Street and walk down Cliff Street until you reach the corner of High Street. Cross Cliff Street and look at the buildings in this area.
-  6 Cross the railway and walk through the Round House tunnel.
-  7 Walk back through the tunnel to Cliff Street. Look down the street towards the Esplanade Park. A little further down Cliff Street find a building with the name 'Samson' on a metal plaque.
-  8 Keep walking down to the end of Cliff Street and stop at the limestone building on the right-hand side
-  9 Pass the limestone building at the end of Cliff Street, then turn right at the CAT stop and stand on the grass outside the Shipwrecks Museum.
-  10 Stay outside the Shipwrecks Museum and explore the outside of the building.



Western Australian Museum - A Trek Through Time

Stand on the steps of the
Maritime Museum

This Museum was opened in 2002.

How old is it now?



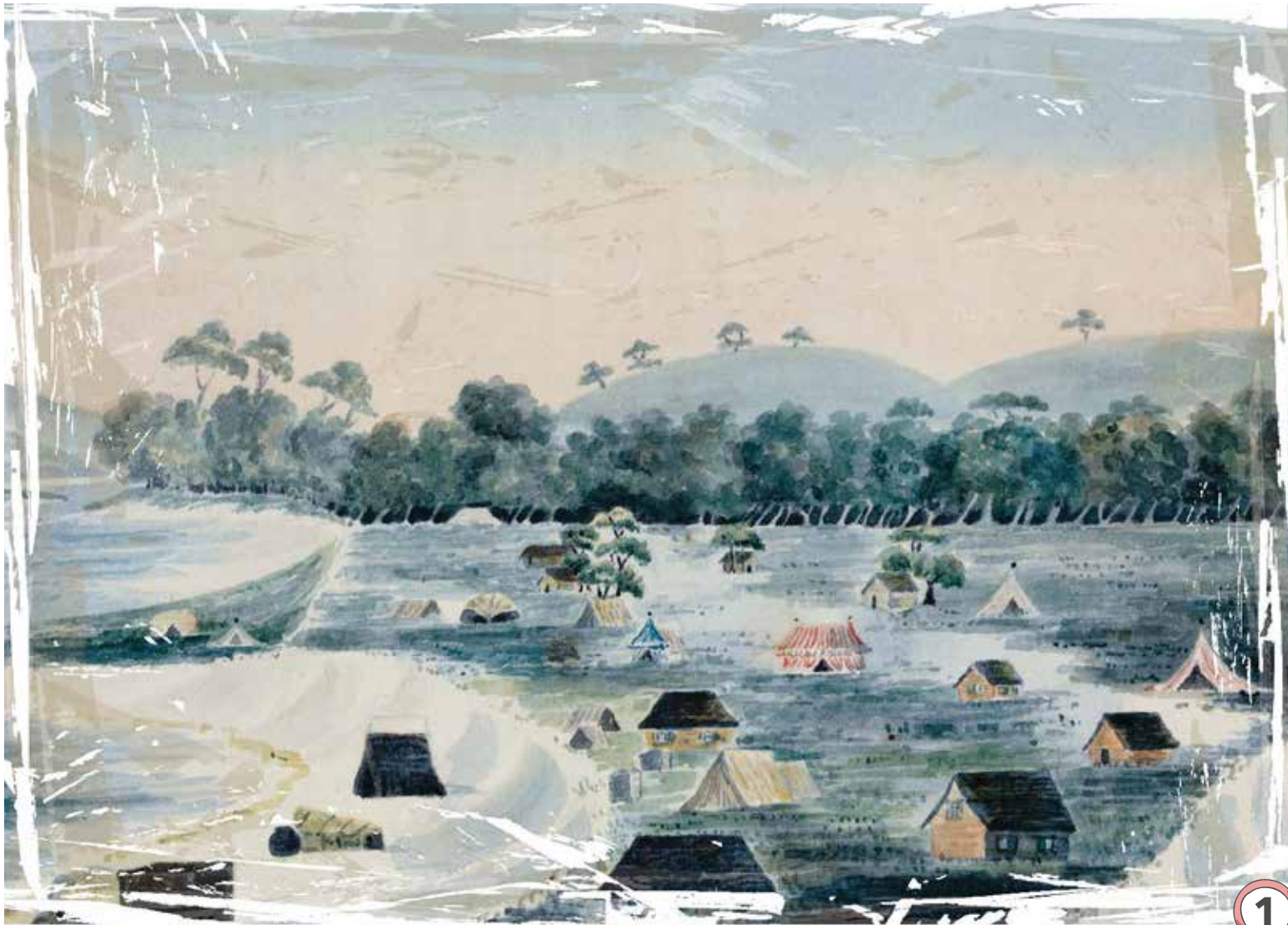


Image courtesy of State Library of Western Australia



Let's go back in time.

Imagine this space 200 years ago.

This is the traditional land of Whadjuk Nyoongar people.

The Whadjuk name for Fremantle area is Walyalup.

On the other side of the railway is Bathers Beach.

Called Manjaree by Whadjuk people, this area was an important meeting and trading place.

This area is also where Captain James Stirling's fleet landed in 1829, bringing people from England.

This picture of Fremantle was painted by a lady called Mary Ann Friend in 1830.

Over the years, more and more people arrived here.

Find the silver Welcome Walls. See the names of thousands of migrants who arrived in Fremantle by ship since 1829.

Can you guess where some of the people came from?

Think of some reasons why people migrated to Australia.

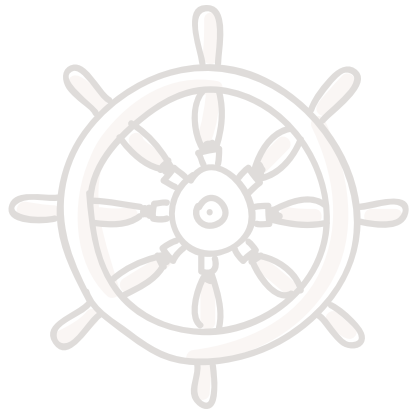


Image courtesy of
State Library of Western Australia



Walk around the harbour side of the Museum and find this mural.

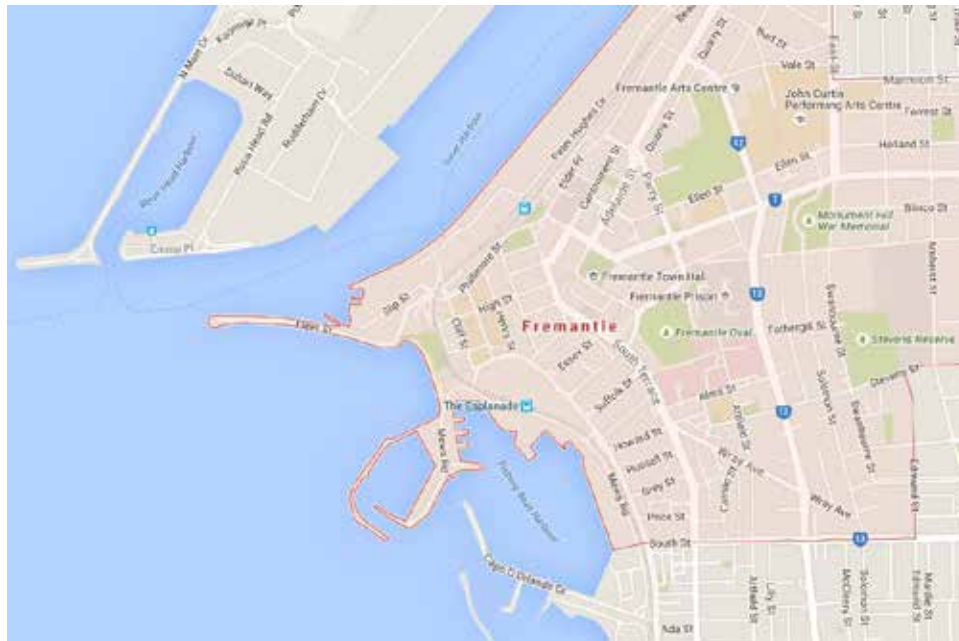
It shows the original Walyalup/ Fremantle coastline on top and the current coastline underneath.

Compare the two maps of Fremantle from 1887 and today.

Can you see where more land has been added?



Image courtesy of Map data
© 2015 Google



Continue around the harbour side of the Museum to the end of the wharf.

Stand so that you can see a rocky section just beneath the Museum building.

According to Nyoongar creation belief, the mouth of the Derbarl Yerrigan (Swan River) is the place where the Wagyl (a serpent creation being) fought a Crocodile Spirit.

The Wagyl used the crocodile's tail to separate the fresh water from salt water.

The 'tail' was a rocky sandbar which stretched across the river's mouth. This formed an estuary where there was plenty of fish to catch.

Being shallow, it was also a good crossing point.

You are standing near the area where this rocky sandbar once existed.





Image courtesy of State Library of Western Australia

Look out to the harbour.

When Chief Engineer C.Y. O'Connor designed Fremantle Harbour in the 1890s, explosives were used to blow up and remove the rocky sandbar to allow ships to enter.

Do you think that the changes that were made to Fremantle's coast line were negative or positive?

Now head back to the front of the Museum.

Walk towards E-Shed,
down the centre island of
the Museum car park, until
you reach the statue of C.Y.
O'Connor.

Read the plaque under the
statue to find out more about
his work.



Image courtesy of State Library of Western Australia



Image courtesy of State Library of Western Australia

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Cross the road at the zebra crossing and stand near a statue of a man and a dingo.

What is the tall white building across the road?

Well done if you knew it was the Fremantle Ports building! The signal station on top of the building tracks all the ships coming in and out of the harbour.

The historical photo shows the Harbour Trust building which was replaced by the Fremantle Ports building in the 1960s.



Stay on this side of the road, cross the railway and remain on the footpath as you look across to this small red brick building.

This weighbridge was first installed in 1897. A platform next to the building was used by horse-drawn wagons and small trucks to weigh their cargo.





Image courtesy of State Library of Western Australia

Look across the road to this building on the corner of Phillimore and Cliff Street.

Check out this old photo and compare it to what you see today.

Built in 1902, this impressive building was originally used as offices for Dalgety and Co, a very important company in Fremantle at that time.

Why do you think this heritage listed building has not changed much over the past 100 years?

What is 'heritage listing'?

Why is it important?



Cross Phillimore Street and walk down Cliff Street until you reach the corner of High Street.

Compare the buildings in the picture to what remains today.

This photo was taken in 1905 when Fremantle Municipal Tramways opened.

Find the Round House.

This historic building was built in 1830 as Fremantle's first prison.

Why is the Round House still standing today?



Image courtesy of State Library of Western Australia



Image courtesy of State Library of Western Australia

Cross the railway and walk through the Round House tunnel.

From 1838, the tunnel under the Round House was used in Fremantle's whaling industry.

Captured whales were dragged up onto the shore of Bathers Beach.

On the beach, their blubber was carved off and boiled in pots. It was very smelly!

The whale products were then hauled through the tunnel to get to the streets of Fremantle.



Image courtesy of State Library of Western Australia



Walk back through the tunnel to Cliff Street. Look down the street towards the Esplanade Park.

This photo was taken during a 1922 flood.

Compare this photo with the present view.

Can you see the Norfolk Pine trees in this picture?

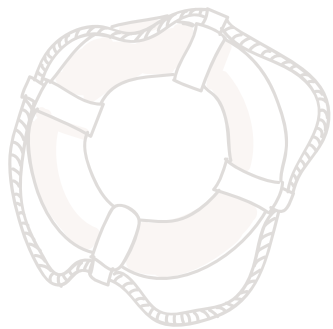


Image courtesy of State Library of Western Australia



A little further down Cliff Street, find a building with the name 'Samson' on a metal plaque.



Lionel Samson and his brother William arrived in Fremantle in 1829. They began a business trading beer, wine and spirits with England.

Find a date on the plaque that shows the year this business began.

Look up!

The spikes above the door are to stop birds from roosting and pooping on the building!



Image courtesy of State Library of Western Australia



Keep walking down Cliff Street.

This used to be one of the main streets in Fremantle. It was the path between the ocean and the Swan River.

The limestone building on the right-hand side of this photo was once a customs house and a post office.

Can you see any evidence of the building's history?





Image courtesy of State Library of Western Australia



Pass the limestone building at the end of Cliff Street, then turn right at the CAT stop and stand on the grass outside the Shipwrecks Museum.

Find a place where you can get a good view of the Esplanade Park.

This picture shows what the park looked like in 1905.

The Norfolk Pine trees in the park were planted in 1908.

How old are they now?

Stay outside the Shipwrecks Museum and find this line of bricks.

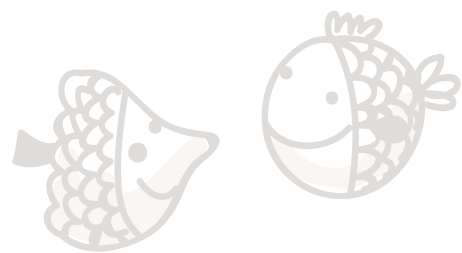
What is it showing us?

The bricks show us where the old shore line once was.

When the first English people arrived, Esplanade Park across the road did not exist - it was all water!

Over time, people replaced the water with land.

You may remember seeing evidence of this on the mural and maps you looked at earlier.





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Now let's investigate the Museum building a little closer...

How old do you think it is?

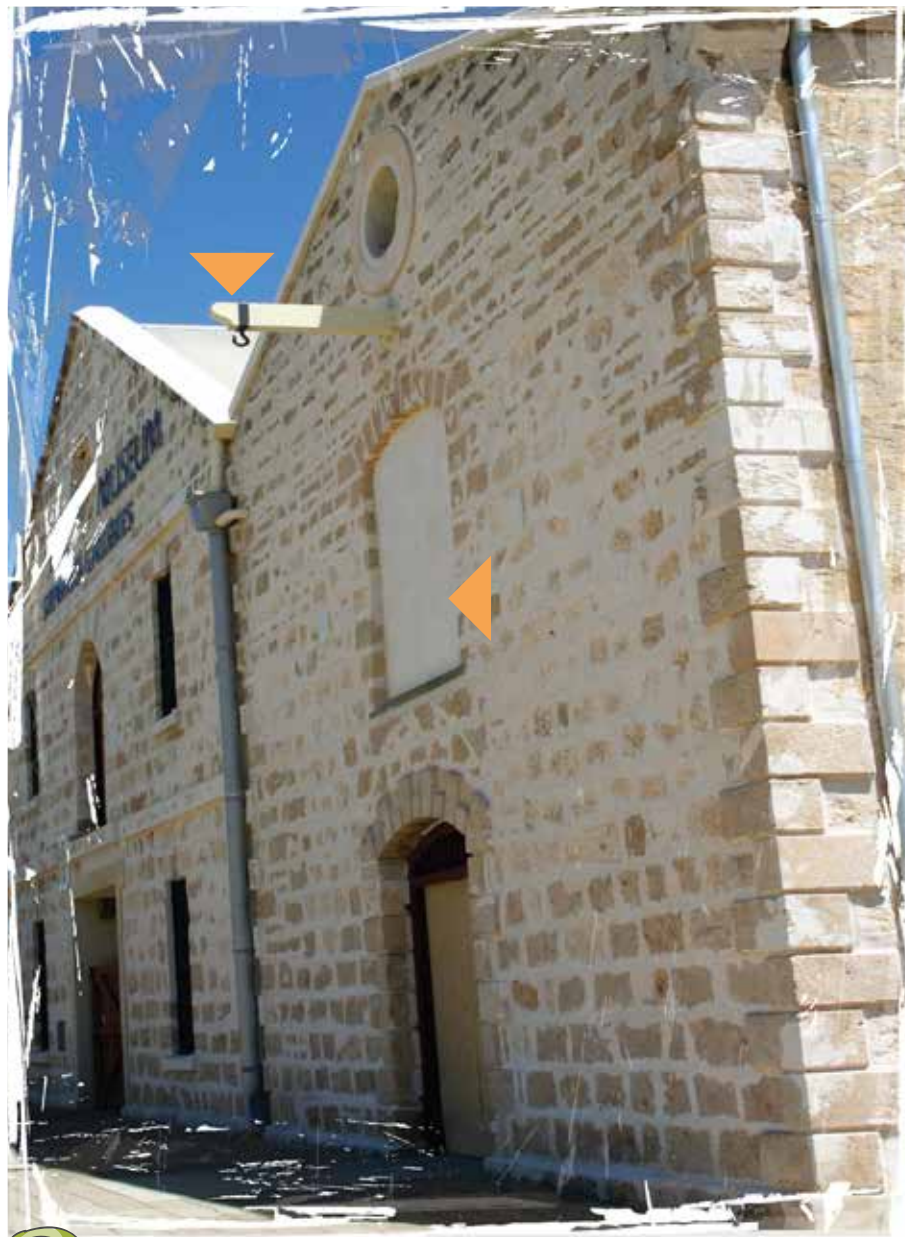
It was built in the 1850s by convicts.

Touch a limestone block and imagine the cracked, worn hands of a convict lifting this block into place.

Do you know any other buildings in Fremantle that were built by convicts?

Over 9700 convicts were sent to the Swan River Colony between 1850 and 1868 to build roads, bridges and buildings.





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Look up!

Can you guess what this building was first used for?

The building was called a *commissariat*. It was a warehouse used to store goods that were being exported and imported.

Check out the arrows on the photo.

◀ The hooks were used to lift heavy objects up to the second floor, through the big, wide doors.

Look closely and find some symbols hidden on the window bars.



The *broad arrow* was stamped onto many British government-owned objects and buildings.

Find a plaque that tells you when this building became a Museum.

How does it compare to the Maritime Museum?

Now that you have explored the streets of Fremantle, see what it looked like just a few years after European arrival, through the eyes of a female colonist.

This painting was done by Eliza Jane Currie in 1832.



Image courtesy of State Library of Western Australia

1 Can you spot this shipwreck?

The Marquis of Anglesea ran aground at Bathers Beach in 1829. The wrecked ship was still in good condition so it was used as an office, a post office and a prison!

2 What is this lady doing?

3 Do you recognize this building?

4 What can you see out to sea?

5 Is this swamp still here today?

6 What kind of plants are these?

**7 Why was this land cleared?
What might the fencing (those tiny brown posts) be for?**



WAM

WA
SHIPWRECKS
MUSEUM