

## WALK 2 - North West Maldon

Approximate distance: 3 km

Approximate time: 1 hr 30 mins

Please do not start until you have read the section "Precautions" at the end of this guide.

**This walk has been provided by Maldon Inc to give you some of the history of this town. If you commence this walk you and your party absolve Maldon Inc of any further responsibility for your actions, or for any event that may occur.**

The map outlines the path that you can take on the walk with the places of interest referenced by number. The directions assume that you are going in an anti-clockwise direction, but you should be able to start the walk at any point on the path.

Street numbers were not used in Maldon until the 1980s and most of the older homes are still referred to by their original names.

### Corner of High and Adair Streets

Walk back from the High Street corner east along Adair Street.

#### 1. Adair House, 36 Adair Street

The land was originally purchased by T Blenkiron in 1861 and the existing brick house built c1875

#### 2. Rule's House, 38 Adair Street

The land was purchased in 1861 and the large brick house constructed around 1897. The building appears to have been constructed by J Rule for his retirement. Rule was the part owner and legal manager of the South German Mine, the deepest, and one of the richest mines in Maldon.

#### 3. Laurel Cottage, 31 Adair Street

The weatherboard cottage was built around 1865 and the land purchased the following year. The building is a classic miner's cottage of that time and the additional rooms added to the original building have been creatively arranged. The front garden is notable as it retains the original classic cottage garden design.

### Corner of High and Adair Streets

Cross High Street and walk up the hill.

#### 4. Minilya, 39 Adair Street

The land was purchased in 1857 by S wilkinson and the existing house built around 1900. The construction is an ornate house in an imposing position and built of weatherboard on stone foundations. It was built by Charles Calder for his wife and soon to be born child. Charles was the son of Thomas Calder another of the wealthy traders of the town.

#### 5. Catherine Dabb's House, 18 Church Street

The land was purchased by W Hitchcock in 1854 and the existing weatherboard house was built c1890 for Catherine Dabb, the daughter of Samuel Dabb.

### Corner of Adair and Chapel Streets

Continue walking up the hill.

#### 6. Hospital, Chapel Street

The first weatherboard building was completed in 1859. The building was too small and a new hospital was designed by D R Drape with the brick male ward being constructed in 1860. The second brick female ward was constructed in 1862 on the right hand side and the two buildings were enclosed by verandahs. The central two story section was added at a later date. The verandahs were later removed, the front portico erected and the building was rendered.

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**7. St Brigid's Church, Chapel Street**

The Catholic church was first established in Maldon in 1854. In 1857 the decision was made to relocate to a more suitable site and land for the existing site was purchased in 1858. The construction of the new brick church was started in 1858 but was not completed until 1861. In 1881 the brick church was showing serious signs of decay and the existing 300 seat church was built in 1891. The adjacent school building was built in 1915.

**Corner of Adair, Lawrence and Hospital Streets**

**Optional and take care.** Continue up the unmade road, which leads to Mount Tarrangower. On the left is the large water tank that supplies the town's water. Just past the water tank follow the track that branches to the right until you reach the wire fence that encloses the old reservoir.

**8. Reservoir, Adair Street**

Lack of water was always a problem in Maldon and its goldfields. In its early years, water was provided by several local springs and by water carted from the Loddon. The town's first natural catchment reservoir was built in 1861 at a cost of £1,385 at the Western end of Adair Street. The first reservoir leaked badly and a second reservoir was constructed in 1876 at the end of Fountain Street. This second reservoir supplied Maldon's water until 1884 when water was piped in from Malmsbury. A pump was installed in 1896 in Long Gully to pump the water to a retaining basin above the town.

**Corner of Adair, Lawrence and Hospital Streets**

Return to this corner. Note the two houses on the unsealed section of Lawrence Street: Hillview and Kimba. Follow the sealed Hospital Street down the hill. As you reach the swimming pool you can see the Police Lock-up behind the pool. When you reach the front of the school the Lock-up can again be seen.

**9. Police Lock-up and Stables, Hospital Street**

The substantial brick lock-up was constructed by W H Smith in 1864 at a cost of £490 and is located in the Police Reserve. There is unusual use of brick with stone quoins and lintels. The heavy steel doors are in good condition. The wooden police stables adjacent to the lock-up have parts that date back to 1854.

**Corner of Hospital and High Streets**

Continue down to this corner and then turn right along High Street.

**10. Primary School, High Street**

Prior to the opening of the school, education was provided by a number of private schools and churches. The first State Public School was housed in the Denominational School on Church Street. The building's construction is brick on a base of local ragstone and was completed in 1875. The school was designed to accommodate 750 pupils but the largest number of students attending the school was 640 in the 1890's.

**11. Robinson's House, 105 High Street**

The land was purchased in 1859 and the house constructed prior to 1865. The gothic form of construction is unique in Maldon. The unusual gables, the timber barge boards and window trims are an unusual feature.

**12. Clare House, 99 High Street**

A brick house with a large circular drive.

**13. Athenaeum Library, High Street**

The original Library was a weatherboard building constructed in 1863 at a cost of £49 to house reading material for the British members of the community. By 1878 it housed 538 books, a large number of magazines and a mining museum. A fire demolished the building and its contents in 1933 and the existing building was constructed in 1934.

**14. Post Office, High Street**

The first Post Office was opened in 1854 in a tent, this moved to a store in Long gully road in 1855 and then a store in Main street in 1857. Branch offices were opened at Eaglehawk and Porcupine Flat in 1861. The existing Post Office was completed in 1870 with alterations being made in 1908 to house the new telephone exchange. In 1880 Mary Richardson was appointed as Maldon's first postmistress. Her daughter Ethel later became famous as the writer Henry Handel Richardson.

**Corner of High and Francis Streets**

Turn right at the corner

**15. Croquet green, Francis Street**

The land was purchased in 1857 and was gazetted as Public Gardens Reserve. This was the original site of the Bowling Club and the small existing weatherboard building was erected for the Bowling Club in the early 1890s. The green is now the home of the Croquet Club.

**Football ground**

A gateway into the football ground gives access to the Courthouse building, located past the club house..

**16. Court House, Francis Street**

A timber courthouse was constructed in 1857 but when it was completed the timber fittings were found to be too large for the building and did not leave room for the public. A new brick courthouse was designed by Kawerau and was completed in 1861 at a cost of £2,016. Problems with the quality of the construction included changing the bricks used from Castlemaine bricks to ones produced by Maldon's Wagners Brick Works. The courthouse was closed in 1968.

**Return along Francis Street**

At the barbeque shelter, which used to be the Poultry Shed when the area was used as the Maldon Show grounds, turn right and walk through the gardens to Fountain Street. On the left is the Shire Hall and the Fire Station

**17. Shire Hall, Fountain Street**

The erection of the Market Hall in 1859 was one of the earliest projects of the Borough Council. The building was designed by Hartley and was built in red brick. The Market closed in 1860 and the building was then used as the Shire Hall until 1964. Since its original construction, a porch has been added, hammer beamed arches were used to tie the walls together and internal walls were added. The Hall is now used as the Maldon Museum.

**18. Fire Station, Fountain Street**

The brick building was constructed c1870 and was used as the fire station when the brigade was formed by the Council in 1873. The brigade was registered with the Country Fire Brigades Board on their establishment in 1891. The brigade used this building until 1957 when the new station was built in High Street.

**19. Wesleyan Church and Parsonage, Fountain Street**

The property contains the original Methodist church halls, 1855 and 1861, parsonage, 1858, and the Methodist church, 1863. The church hall was the earliest church building constructed in Maldon and is not square to Fountain Street as its construction preceded the survey of the town. The church was designed by Crouch and Wilson and is said to be modelled on their design for a Methodist church in Emerald Hill. The church halls functioned as a school and the surrounding grounds were used as a cemetery prior to the opening of the Maldon Cemetery. Bill Maldon Woodfull, Australian Test Cricket Captain in the 1930s, was born in the manse during the time of his father's ministry.

**Fountain Street**

**Optional.** Turn right up Fountain Street, and on the right hand side past the tennis courts is the fenced reservoir.

**20. Reservoir**

The last reservoir constructed for Maldon in 1876. See the comments in 8.

**Corner of Fountain and Chapel Street South**

**Optional.** Return to this corner and turn right down Chapel Street South. 200 m down follow the laneway that is on your right.

**21. Grave of Elisabeth Anset and son**

The isolated grave in Chapel Street South is that of Elizabeth Anset (nee Burton), a relative of Sir Reg Ansett, aged 27 and her 14 day old son, who died on 19 July 1854. Before the Maldon Cemetery was established the area around the grave site was the location of the Wesleyan Church graveyard. The headstones in this graveyard were later moved to the Campbells Creek Cemetery but it is believed that the coffins remained.

**Corner of Fountain and Chapel Street South**

Back track to Fountain Street and then continue down the hill to High Street.

**22. Shire Gardens**

The land was purchased in 1857 and was gazetted as Public Gardens Reserve. Two trees are of significance in the

Gardens: a pine tree sown from seed from Lone Pine on Gallipoli; and an Oak tree, raised from an acorn from Windsor Park, planted in 1863 to commemorate the marriage of Edward, Prince of Wales and Princess Alexandra.

### **23. Kangaroo Hotel, High Street**

A license was granted in 1856 and the site was leased on the condition that a building to the value of £200 was built on the site. The constructed timber building included the largest room in Maldon built to hold concerts and balls. In 1860 a building to house a butcher's shop was built on the south wall and in 1866 the existing brick corner building was constructed. The southern brick section was built c1905 and the parapets added. The hotel was also used as a changing station for Cobb & Co from the 1860's.

### **Corner of High and Fountain Streets**

Turn left and return up High Street. At the corner of Francis Street cross to the other side of High Street.

### **24. Motor Garage, High Street**

The land was purchased in 1857 by C and M Edwards who owned the adjacent Edward's Crushing Plant. The existing building was constructed around 1900.

### **25. Vivian's House, 48 High Street**

The land was purchased in 1857 and the brick house and shop were constructed around 1862. It appears as if the unusual brickwork around the windows and door were introduced when the building was altered to a residence in 1868. The building was owned by Thomas Vivian who carried out his grocery business in the property to the rear of the house. This property was originally Edward's Crushing Plant.

### **26. Holy Trinity Church, High Street**

The original church hall was built in Church Street in 1856 but was partly destroyed in a storm. This site was purchased in 1860 and the existing church, designed by D R Drape, was built in 1861, it is the largest building of local stone. The principal material is blue ragstone and has dressings of grey granite and was constructed by stonemasons W Bowe and Sons. The roof is of scissor trussed rafters and colonial timber, thought to be the only one of its kind in Australia. The hand worked kneeling cushions are worked with designs to match the stained glass windows. The western stained glass window was made in 1864, one of the first ones made in Victoria. The organ was made in 1893 and fully restored in 1991. The iron fence replaced the original picket fence some time between 1884 and 1897.

### **27. Tresidder's Cottage, 54 High Street**

The land was purchased in 1857 and the brick cottage constructed in 1859. This building acted as a landmark in the earlier descriptions of locations as street numbers are only a recent addition to Maldon.

### **28. Lisle's Cottage, 58 High Street**

The land was first purchased in 1857 and the brick house was constructed in 1857. The house was built for Dr Lisle, a co-owner of the short-lived but rich Lisle's Reef mine. Dr Lisle left soon after and died penniless in Melbourne. The house was then occupied by doctors for most of its history.

### **29. Carn Brae, 62 High Street**

A weatherboard cottage that was the residence for the headmasters at the Primary School

### **30. Dr Hardy's House, 113 High Street**

The land was purchased by C H Hardy in 1857 and the weatherboard and brick house was built in the same year. Dr Hardy had his practice on the site until he sold the property in 1861.

### **31. School Cottage, 115 High Street**

The land was purchased in 1857 and the weatherboard cottage was built around 1860. The cottage has two wings at the rear, one of which housed *Miss Farley's Private School*.

### **32. Ethandune, High Street**

The house was constructed around 1870 of rendered brick. It was occupied from about 1890 by R D Oswald Jnr, the son of Robert Dent Oswald who owned the North British Mine. Oswald Jnr returned from a Bank Manager's position in Queensland to take over his business interests. The original circular driveway leads from the gate to the front porch.

Note the restored weatherboard cottage, Heatherlie

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### 33. House, 74 High Street

The land was originally purchased by B Cohen and the weatherboard house constructed c1880. The house has a verandah on two sides and french doors, unusual for Maldon.

### Corner of High and Adair Streets

#### Precautions

Please remember that Maldon is an historic mining town located in a rural setting and on your walk you should take this into account, specifically:

- Most roads will not have footpaths, if you walk on the road, keep to the right and take care
- The sunny conditions on most days require you to take care that during your walk you protect yourself against excessive exposure to the sun
- That you drink sufficient liquid to replace fluid loss
- The old mine shafts and diggings that are in the area are unlikely to be marked or fenced and you should not leave roads or defined paths
- During the warmer weather you should avoid long grass and other places where snakes may be encountered.