

CBD HERITAGE WALK

THE HIGHLIGHTS TOUR

If you only have a short time and would like to capture a snapshot of Rockhampton's history, visit one of Queensland's premier heritage streetscapes - Quay Street. Starting at the wharves that were the gateway into Rockhampton, and continuing through most of the early CBD, this tour is approximately 2km one way up Quay, or you can extend your history lesson, complete with shopping and a cuppa, with a return trip down Bolsover and East Streets.

1. HARBOUR BOARD BUILDING

288 Quay Street
The Rockhampton Harbour Board building was constructed in 1896. The Architect was J. W. Wilson and it was designed in the Neo Classic Revival Style. The Harbour Board was established in 1895 to take over the administration of the Rockhampton port which at the time was busier than the Brisbane port. The board remained in this building until 1977.

2. WALTER REID

260 Quay Street / 203 East Street
Walter Reid buildings occupy the block from the corner of Quay Street and Derby Street to East Street, 260 Quay Street and 203 East Street. These were originally a warehouse and office of Walter Reid Company Ltd.

3. AVONLEIGH CHAMBERS

248 Quay Street
Avonleigh was built as a private residence for Mr Frederick Morgan, one of the Morgan brothers who founded Mount Morgan Mining

Company. He was also Mayor of Rockhampton from 1891 until his death in 1894, aged 57. The building was bought by Dr. O'Brien, who extended it and converted it into a private hospital in 1908.

4. GOLDSBOROUGH MORT BUILDING / WALTER AND ELIZA HALL BUILDING

238 Quay Street
This late Victorian classical style single-story cement render and brick building was built for Walter and Eliza Hall in 1899.

5. MOUNT MORGAN GOLD MINING COMPANY

236 Quay Street
A very important building in Rockhampton's history this was built in 1897 in the neo-Classical revival style as the head office of the Mt Morgan Mining Company. The rear courtyard had high walls topped with broken glass and was the entry point for trooper-escorted coaches which delivered consignments of gold bars from the Mt Morgan smelter.

6. HERITAGE HOTEL

230 Quay Street
The Heritage Tavern, formerly the Old Colonial Hotel, and originally the Commercial Hotel and Chambers, was erected in 1898 for Leah Johnson. Designed by prominent Rockhampton architect John W Wilson, the three-storey, concrete-rendered brick building featuring decorative iron-lace verandah balustrading was constructed by J. K. Evans at a cost of £6,500.

7. CUSTOMS HOUSE

208 Quay Street
Rockhampton's Custom House is an example of the Classic Revival period architecture which was all the rage in Rockhampton around the turn of the century. Built between 1898 and 1901 of Stanwell sandstone the building has a huge copper dome and an elaborate semi-circular portico with a Corinthian colonnade.

The building is a powerful reminder of the importance that Rockhampton enjoyed as the major central coast port around that time.

8. EVANS AND HEARN

206 Quay Street
The former Archer Chambers building at 206 Quay Street was erected in the 1870s for the pioneer Archer family.

9. ROYAL BANK OF QUEENSLAND

194 Quay Street
Built in 1889 as the Royal Bank of Queensland, this was one of the many banks attracted to the city by the wealth of the Canoona and Mt Morgan gold strikes

10. QUEENSLAND NATIONAL BANK BUILDING

186 Quay Street
The former Queensland National Bank is an imposing two-storeyed rendered brickwork building situated on the corner of Quay and Denham Streets in Rockhampton. It was erected in 1880 for the Queensland National Bank for £8000 in 1872 and by 1880, (the year of the construction of the Rockhampton branch) the bank held 40 per cent of the total deposits and advances in Queensland.

11. TRUSTEE CHAMBERS

known historically as the River Chambers | 170 Quay Street
Trustee Chambers built in 1877 is significant for its association with the life and work of Dr William Callaghan resident of Rockhampton from 1861 until his death in 1912. It was the private residence of the Callaghan family from 1877 until 1919. It is also an important example of the work of Rockhampton architect John W. Wilson , which includes four other buildings along Quay Street. Built in the Classic Colonial style.

12. CRITERION HOTEL

150 Quay Street
The Criterion Hotel is a three storey masonry building situated on the corner of Quay and Fitzroy Streets. It has formed an integral and vital part of the social and cultural life of the town and City of Rockhampton since 1891.

13. ROCKHAMPTON POST OFFICE

80 East Street
This grand two-storeyed brick post office with sandstone facing was erected in 1892 for the Queensland Post and Telegraph Department.

14. SCHOOL OF ARTS

230 Bolsover Street
The Rockhampton School of Arts building was constructed in 1894 and is an important element of the streetscape of Bolsover Street. The building is a fine example of late nineteenth century Victorian Classical architecture. It has formed a major part of the cultural, social and civic life of Rockhampton since 1894, and has associations with a previous School of Arts building that existed on the site from 1865.

The former School of Arts building has been the beneficiary of a conservation plan prepared in 1994. The School of Arts is a continuing link with the social, educational and recreational aspirations of the people of Rockhampton and central Queensland.

15. CITY HALL

232 Bolsover Street
Rockhampton emerged as an important Queensland regional centre during the 1850s and 1860s. Despite this building expansion into the 1900s, Rockhampton never achieved a purpose built Town Hall until 1941.



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