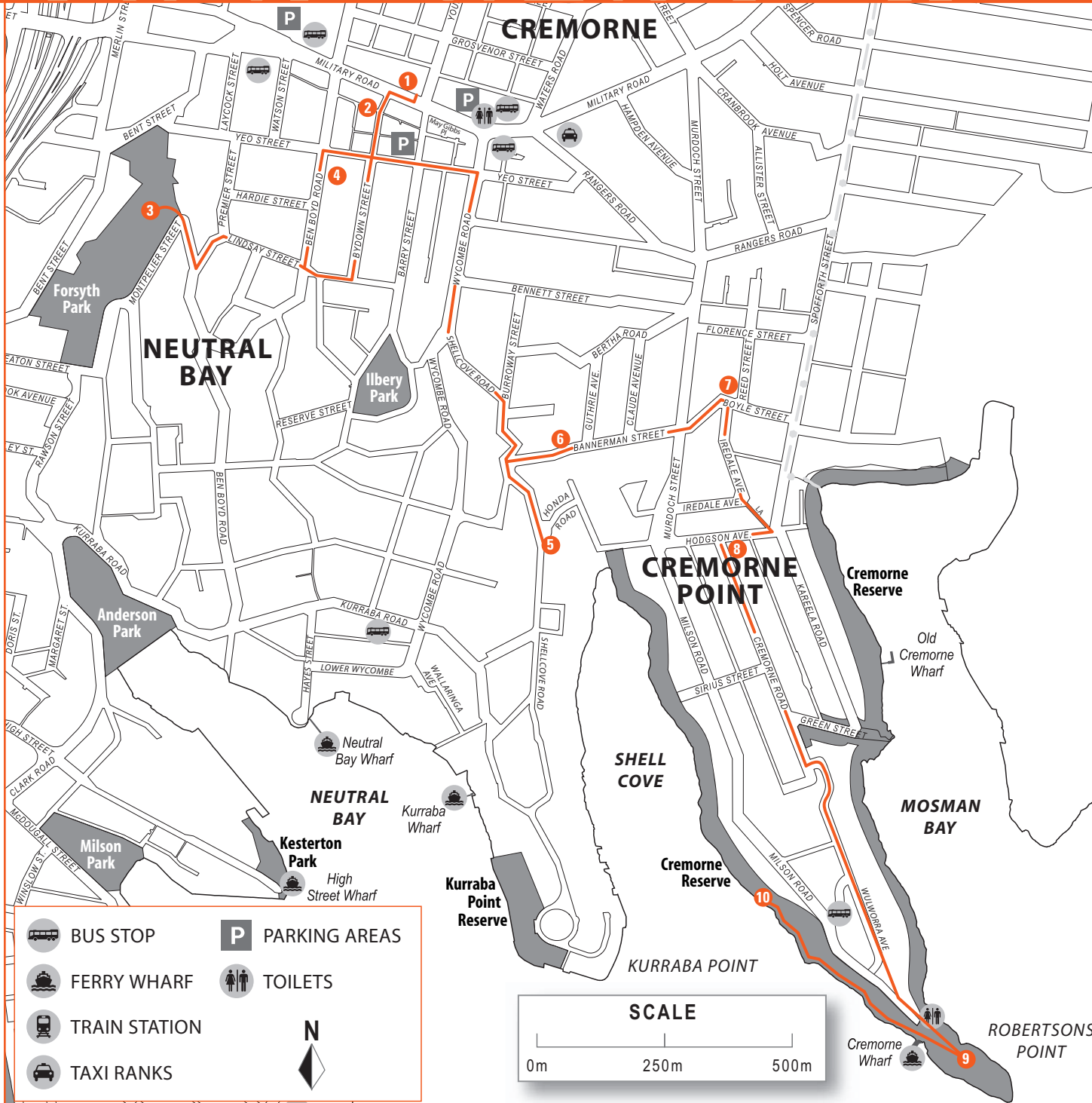


Historic Plaques Walk

4



MILITARY ROAD TO CREMORNE POINT (APPROX 4.3KM)

Plaque checklist

- 1 'East Lynne' Apartments
- 2 Village Blacksmith's shop
- 3 World War Two oil tanks
- 4 Dame Mary Gilmore
- 5 'Honda'
- 6 'Dalkeith'
- 7 'Hazelhurst'/Howard Hinton
- 8 NSW Gov't Diamond Drill 1893
- 9 James Robertson
- 10 MacCallum Pool



PLAQUES WALK 4 – MILITARY ROAD TO CREMORNE POINT (APPROX 4.3KM)

(APPROX 4.3 KMS ALLOW AT LEAST 2.5 HOURS – STEEP GRADES. HERITAGE LEAFLET NO. 29 GIVES A USEFUL ACCOMPANYING ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY TO SOME OF THE STREETS COVERED IN THIS WALK)

- Our walk begins at 156 Military Rd at the 'East Lynne' Apartments ① the former site of the famous Music Hall Theatre Restaurant.
- Cross the road at the traffic lights and proceed to the corner of Bydown St and Military Rd where a plaque marks the Village Blacksmith's shop ② which operated 1907-1957 when the site was taken over by a motor repair business. Walk along Bydown to Lindsay St and turn right. Cross Ben Boyd Rd and make your way along a steep incline down Premier and Montpelier Sts to Forsyth Park where a plaque near the entrance marks the two huge World War Two oil tanks ③ beneath the park.
- Return back up to Ben Boyd Rd, turn left and proceed to Neutral Bay Public School. On the wall inside the fence on Ben Boyd Rd a plaque notes Dame Mary Gilmore ④ taught there in 1890.
- Turn right into Yeo St, proceed to Wycombe Rd and turn right. Walk downhill past 19th and early 20th century villas and head to 55 Shellcove Rd to 'Honda', ⑤ home from 1864-89 of William Bennett, NSW Commissioner for Roads and one of the earliest subdivisions on the huge Thrupp Estate that took up most of Neutral Bay.
- Turn back up to Bannerman St and turn right. At 8 Bannerman St 'Dalkeith' ⑥ was a Norwegian Seamen's Church from the 1950s to 1978.
- Proceed along Bannerman St, cross Murdoch St at the roundabout and continue through the small park on the other side. Set in a high brick wall on the corner of Reed and Boyle Sts is a plaque marking the site of the rooming house 'Hazelhurst', where arts patron Howard Hinton ⑦ resided from around 1900 to 1928. Living frugally, Hinton amassed an extraordinary collection of late 19th and early 20th century Australian art which is now held at the New England Regional Art Museum in Armidale, NSW.
- Turn around and proceed down Iredale Ave, one of the prettiest streets in Cremorne Point and largely unchanged architecturally since Hinton lived at Reed St. Continue down Iredale Lane to Hodgson Ave. Turn right and continue along to the corner of Hodgson Ave and Cremorne Rd where a plaque marks the site of the NSW Gov't Diamond Drill 1893 ⑧ which extracted samples from the Cremorne Coal Seam below.

The outcry that halted mining here was an important early example of public defence of natural beauty.

- Proceed down Cremorne Rd which, like Milsons Rd, has several good examples of the large Arts and Crafts style houses built in this beautiful and desirable location in the early 20th century. (*Heritage Leaflet No. 29 gives an excellent outline of the architectural and cultural history of this area*). At the end is Wulworra Ave, on the left, which will take you into Cremorne Reserve. You will pass excellent examples of inter-war flats buildings. An interpretative sign at the entrance to the reserve outlines some of its history. Proceed along the path which takes you to Robertsons Pt and set into a rock on the left is a plaque commemorating James Robertson, ⑨ landholder and curator of Governor Brisbane's astronomical instruments. A short distance along is one of several Cremorne Point Reserve signs outlining the history of Cremorne Gardens after which the Point was named. *These signs provide interpretation all around Cremorne Point Reserve.*
- Head back along Wulworra Ave and down to the western side of Cremorne Point Reserve. Walk about 300 metres to the second of two paths off to the left which will take you down to MacCallum Pool ⑩ a picturesque harbourside bathing facility established in the 1920s. Plaques set into rock near the entrance commemorate the dedication of the pool in 1933 and restoration work in 1985.
- Ferries back at Cremorne Wharf will take you to other harbour locations. Buses will take you back to Military Road.

WHY HISTORICAL PLAQUES?

North Sydney Council's Historical Plaque Program commemorates people, places and events that have contributed to the area's history and heritage. Historical plaques provide an interpretation of the local landscape and history of the built environment.

These self-guided walks are like historical orienteering. Your hunt for the historical plaque will take you along harbour foreshores, through bustling business districts and tranquil parks and gardens. Along the way you can discover North Sydney's many layers of history while taking in its wonderful views.

The North Shore Historical Society is an invaluable partner in North Sydney Council's Historical Plaque Program. The Society contributes financially and assists with research and plaque wording. New plaques are continually being installed.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Most plaques are bronze plates. Some are pictorial panels.

Plaques in the vicinity, but not included on the walk route, are sometimes marked on the map.

Public transport stops and toilets are marked.

Wear comfortable shoes and take a hat, sunglasses, sunblock and water.

All walks have uphill and downhill sections – a varied topography is one of North Sydney's key features.

Allow time for this, as well as rest and drink stops.

Note: Walks 1, 2 & 3 have steps.

Walks can be done in reverse. Plan your walk to finish back at your car or public transport facility.

A database containing North Sydney's plaques can be viewed at www.photosau.com/StantonHeritage

For further information on North Sydney Plaques, contact Historical Services on 9936 8400.

Further historical information and walks can be downloaded from the North Sydney Council website www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au Click on Library and then North Sydney Heritage Centre. Walk North Sydney maps and other information for walkers are also available from the Council website.

If you are interested in learning more about the history of North Sydney, visit the North Sydney Heritage Centre, Level 1, Stanton Library, 234 Miller Street, Mon-Sat 1-5pm.