



# Heritage Bicycle and Walking Route Black Forest and Clarence Park

---



*An 'ancient and dense woodland'*

*[The Black Forest/Clarence Park area was covered in an] "ancient and dense wood" that spread from the foothills of the Adelaide Hills from Burnside to Mitcham across as far as Mile End and St. Marys, ending at about the Sturt River in Marion. Some writers from the time describe the densest parts of the forest being around South Plympton, Glandore and Unley Park, and "the forest was so dark that the sun could not be seen at midday" (Black Forest Century, Issue 1). Grey Box (Eucalyptus macrocarpa – see photo for examples) was the dominant species but most of the forest was cleared by the 1840s and the remaining tress strands cleared by the 1860s.*

*In the 1840s it was favoured by cattle thieves as a place to take stolen cattle where they were slaughtered, butchered for salting and the hides tanned (Black Forest Century Issue 1).*

Unley BUG acknowledge that the areas covered in this tour are traditional lands of the Kurna people and we respect the ongoing spiritual relationship of Kurna people with this country.



This heritage walking and cycling route has been compiled to help promote cycling and walking and to support the City of Unley Walking and Cycling Plan.

While the sites described are some of the most important heritage sites in the area there are many other buildings and streetscapes to enjoy as your cycle or walk by.

If cycling - cycle safely, obey the road rules, use footpaths as appropriate for safety particularly on busy roads and use pedestrian crossings as appropriate.

### **Land division**

Sections of present day 'Black Forest' and 'Clarence Park' were farming lands and were subdivided at the turn of the century. McDougall and Vines write of subdivision of parts of these areas into Workman's Blocks in the 1890s-1910s. The southern part of Black Forest (part of Section 49) was subdivided for housing in 1912 as the Black Forest Estate and the northern part was subdivided between 1913 – 1919. Fifty-two (52) acres of Section 49 (highlighted in yellow) were set aside as Section 2039 (highlighted in yellow) to be used as an Aboriginal reserve. This section wasn't located near creeks and water and it is unclear whether it was ever made available to or used by aboriginal people. Clarence Park subdivision (DP2694) was laid out in 1920 as part of Goodwood South (DP590) and mortgaged to the Australian mutual Providential Society. Subdivision was centred on Avondale Street and north side of Francis Street.

### **Housing styles still in the area**

**Victorian (1870s – 1890s)** solid masonry houses (contrast with rubble walls of early Victorian) of a range of scales. Substantial villas of bluestone and sandstone. Side and rear walls often of rubble or brick. Detail is derived from classical Italianate sources. Included single fronted, symmetrically fronted (central front door with windows either side) and asymmetrical frontage possibly with bay projections. Single or double storey. Usually had verandahs.

**Edwardian/Federation (1900-1920s)** – 'Turn of the Century double fronted cottages' or 'Turn of the Century return verandah villas'. Shift from symmetrical to more picturesque approach. Included Queen Anne, Arts & Crafts, and Art Nouveau styles. Included Bullnose verandahs, 'rock face' sandstone (or freestone). Unglazed roof tiles or corrugated iron.

**Interwar years - Californian Bungalows and Tudor Revival.** Bungalows have a broad sprawling roof and veranda while Revivals have steep roofs with half timber gable ends.

**Post-war housing styles.** Main styles in the area were Old English (referencing Elizabethan and Tudor details) and Georgian/ Mediterranean revival.



1. **No 1A Newman Street, Forestville**

Shop on corner of Newman Street and Aroha Terrace with attached residence. Currently being renovated.



2. **East Avenue, corner of Aroha Terrace.**

Commanding residence. Probably 1900.

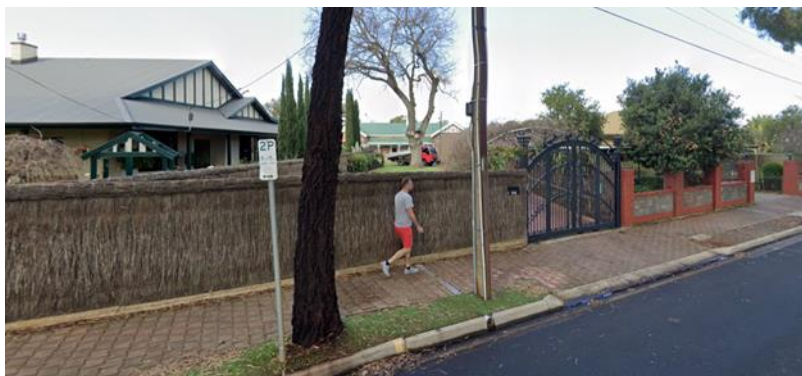


3. **8 Aroha Terrace, Dwelling, State Heritage Place**

Circa 1890. Listed for its External form, materials and detailing. Victorian era substantial villas of bluestone and sandstone. Side and rear walls often of rubble or brick. Detail is derived from classical Italianate sources.

Register Information – reason for listing

- displays historical, economic or social themes that are of importance to the local area
- displays aesthetic merit, design characteristics or construction techniques of significance to the local area



4. **No 14 Aroha Terrace, Dwelling, State Heritage Place**

Built in 1913. Listed for its External form, materials and detailing. Edwardian/ Federation era with return verandah and bay window frontage.

Register Information – Reason for listing



- displays historical, economic or social themes that are of importance to the local area
- displays aesthetic merit, design characteristics or construction techniques of significance to the local area



5. **No 17 Aroha Terrace.** Now a large apartment block, Miss W R Tuck lived on this site, and during the 1930s was Commissioner for Extensions of the Girl Guides' Association. Her father, Bernard Tuck, was one-time city surveyor for Unley and grew camellias at the home (he died in about 1943). He was to be remembered by the naming of a street after him, but his daughter, Miss Tuck, objected: 'As there is a railway on one side and a woodyard on the other, and the street can never have a house in it ... it is not worthy of father's memory', so please remove the name. (Reported in the Advertiser, 11 October 1950, p1). This gives some insight into the locality in the early 1900s.

6. **Black Forest Primary School, South Road**

Following subdivision for the Black Forest Estate and growth in the population, by 1914 residents started lobbying for a school (Black Forest Century, Issue 1). The school was established in 1919.



7. **Black Forest Methodist Church, Forest Avenue,**

Foundation stone laid October 1927. Black Forest Public School opened February 1919 and was where services were held until the church was complete.

(of note on the way past, 25 Forest Avenue, Dwelling constructed in 1908 – Edwardian/Federation)

8. **5/5a Forest Ave, Dwelling, State Heritage Place**

Built 1927. Interwar, Californian Bungalow style duplex.

Register Information – reasons for listing

- displays historical, economic or social themes that are of importance to the local area
- displays aesthetic merit, design characteristics or construction techniques of significance to the local area

(option - cycle along East Avenue and note State Heritage Places)

(22 East Avenue, Dwelling constructed in 1896)

(44 East Avenue, Church constructed in 1927 – former Church of Christ)



9. **7A Princess Margaret Playground Arbour**, (Byron Road), State Heritage Place

Built 1930, Concrete and Timber Arbour – (Heritage register indicates low level of confidence in the information available about the arbour)

External form, materials and detailing of the 1930 concrete and timber arbour.

Additional Information

- displays historical, economic or social themes that are of importance to the local area
- it has played an important part in the lives of local residents
- it displays aesthetic merit, design characteristics or construction techniques of significance to the local area

10. **Marino Rocks Bikeway**

The 15km long route extends from the Adelaide Parklands to the Coast to Vines Trail at Marino Rocks.

11. **Clarence Park Institute**, State Heritage Place

Built 1933

Check out the Biodiversity Garden and herb wall

Register Information – reasons for listing

- displays historical, economic or social themes that are of importance to the local area
- it has played an important part in the lives of local residents
- it displays aesthetic merit, design characteristics or construction techniques of significance to the local area

(note 86 Mills Street, Shop and Dwelling, Built 1922-23, State Heritage Place – played an important role in lives of locals)

12. **16 Frederick Street**, Dwelling, State Heritage Place

Built 1908. Edwardian dwelling, incorporating the verandah form and the predominant roof form associated with the dwelling style.

Register Information – reasons for listing

- displays historical, economic or social themes that are of importance to the local area
- displays aesthetic merit, design characteristics or construction techniques of significance to the local area

13. **11 Dixon Street**, Dwelling, State Heritage Place

Built 1895. late Victorian asymmetrically fronted dwelling.

Register Information – reasons for listing

- displays historical, economic or social themes that are of importance to the local area
- displays aesthetic merit, design characteristics or construction techniques of significance to the local area

14. **Church of the Trinity**. 318 Goodwood Road, Clarence Park.

Foundation stone laid in January 1925.

Contemporary uses: Church, Op Shop and Live Music Venue. Trinity Sessions is the name given to the concert series established in 2002 by Roger and Yvonne Freeman. The excellent acoustics of the old church make this a perfect space for focusing on the music. Roger and Yvonne continue to organise the program.





## **Acknowledgements**

- Funding for the research for this tour was funded by a City of Unley Community Grant jointly awarded to the Unley Bicycle User Group and FOCUS (Friends of the City of Unley).
- Unley Museum
- Historical research by Bridget Jolly.
- Compiled (and additional research) by Jennifer Bonham for The Unley Bicycle User Group.
- The following was heavily quoted:  
“UNLEY HERITAGE RESEARCH STUDY FOR THE CITY OF UNLEY Volumes 1 and 2” 2005-2006  
McDougall & Vines Conservation and Heritage Consultants
- Black Forest Century Series available at <https://blackforestps.sa.edu.au/centenary/>

## **Want To Know More?**

- **About the History of Unley**  
Visit the Unley Museum [www.unley.sa.gov.au/museum](http://www.unley.sa.gov.au/museum)  
80 Edmund Ave Unley
- **About Cycling and Walking in Unley**  
Contact the Unley Bicycle Users Group [unleybug1.wixsite.com/ubug](http://unleybug1.wixsite.com/ubug)

# Black Forest and Clarence Park

## Points of Interest

- 1 1A Newman St
  - 2 2 East Ave
  - 3 8 Aroha Terrace
  - 4 14 Aroha Terrace
  - 5 17 Aroha Terrace
  - 6 Black Forest Primary School
  - 7
- Black Forest Methodist Church
- 8 5-5A Forest Ave
  - 9
- Princess Margaret Playground  
Arbour
- 10 Marino Rocks Bikeway
  - 11 Clarence Park Institute
  - 12 16 Frederick St
  - 13 11 Dixon St
  - 14 Church of the Trinity

