



# Heritage Bicycle and Walking Route Greenhill Road

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B 19380

Park Terrace, Parkside, 1864 (SLSA, B 19380)

## **GREENHILL ROAD**

***(PARK TERRACE - the 'terrace front of Unley' from Keswick Bridge to Glen Osmond Road - it was re-named in 1963.)***

*For some years the stretch was considered 'an all-too-wide cattle track which has long been almost unused' for its original purpose; however, the red earth was to be beautified by council's tree planting across its width (Register, 10 November 1908, p3)*



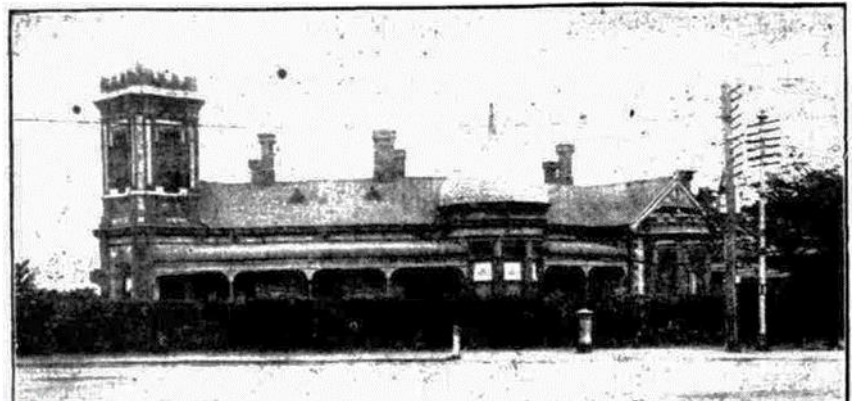
Park Terrace, Parkside, c. 1930 (SLSA B 20047)

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.

This brochure details some of the most important heritage sites, but of course there are many other buildings and streetscapes that you can enjoy as you cycle or walk through the City of Unley.

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

1. **191 Greenhill Road** (south-west corner of Glen Osmond Road and Park Terrace) Dr Herbert A Sweetapple's 12-room residence became Park Terrace Private Hospital<sup>1</sup>. Dr Sweetapple died in 1921 and the property was auctioned from his estate in 1923. In 1937 the home was bought by Dr Rupert L Naylor, probably with a hospital in mind as it was hoped to



'Real property', Register, 29 March 1923, p7

enlarge the surgical beds in the later 1940s, but the wartime Building Materials office had to give permission. (Dr Naylor left to take up a position in Melbourne on 30<sup>th</sup> November 1940)

Now Parkland Towers (apartments)

2. **189 Greenhill Road, Parkside**, corner of Jaffrey Street

For many years a vacant block, until the criminal lawyer Derrance Stevenson commissioned John Andrew to design a unique house, Tragically at just 44 years old, in 1979 Derrance was shot in the back of his head in and left in his freezer with the lid glued down. His house was demolished in 2008 and the site has been vacant since.



*'The house was built with large hexagonal windows, uncomfortable angles and a roofline that started high on the ends and dropped in the middle. It had thickly rendered walls, and white curtains that were always drawn ... It was as if the house had warped in a severe earthquake and had never been repaired. The fence, too, dipped and lifted obliquely'* (Stephen Orr, *The Cruel City*, [Sydney, Aust.], Allen & Unwin, 2011, p175)

<sup>1</sup> Bridget Jolly (researcher for this tour) was born in the building



3. **179 Greenhill Road - Former St Margaret's House / Carramar Clinic**

Originally the home of James Hay Gosse (1877-1952), the managing director of George Wills & Co, wholesale and importing ware-housemen, shipping agents, stock and grain dealers which was established in South Australia in the late 1840s. Sir James Gosse was a member and later one-time chairman of the Fauna and Flora Board that administered Flinders Chase on Kangaroo Island. He was Danish Consul for 30 years; chair of the Chamber of Commerce, 1936-38; and held other director positions.

A single-storey stone house possibly of 1854 was demolished in 1897 to build here a two-storey house with cellar. English & Soward were the architects. Extensions and additions were made on the eastern side in 1918, and further changes in 1933 and afterwards.

In about 1965 the State government bought St Margaret's to use for an initial hostel (Carramar Clinic) for ex-patients of mental hospitals. It was to be converted to house 25-30 patients for 3 months while they sought employment.

A new 9-story apartment building is being built at the rear

4. **176 Greenhill Road - the Hilton Motor Inn/Tiffins on the Park (demolished 2017).** This site which is currently empty was the home site of C L Abbott.

Sir Charles Arthur Hillas Lempriere Abbott was born 31 October 1889 at Wagga Wagga Hospital, the son of Doctor Charles Abbott and Susanna nee Beitsch. He died on 14 September 1960 at Queen Elizabeth Hospital Woodville, South Australia, aged 70. The Beitsch (Bitsch) family came to Sydney from Schriesheim Germany on the *Boomerang* (ship) and *Yarra Yarra* (ship) in 1855. Sir Charles was a judge of the Supreme Court and also Attorney General. He also held positions as Minister of Education, Minister of Employment and Minister of Industry between 1944 and 1946. He was also Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Freemasons of South Australia from 1950- 1959.

Two dwellings on this site were constructed in 1855-56. Later, the architect Thomas English, and then over 1891 to 1901 his descendants, held the property known as 'Rathbone'. It was sold to Mrs Emily Davey (who died in 1916). In 1931 Charles AHL Abbott



bought the property, then 10 Park Terrace, from the estate of T H Davey. In 1963 Unley Council

widened the George Street corner by acquiring some land from the property. In 1964, after the death of Lady Gladys R Abbott, Motor Inns bought the site for £13,750. Greenhill Road was re-numbered in 1964, the year the entire holding was demolished. The Hilton Motor Inn built a two-storey motel of 42 rooms (added to in 1967), a swimming pool, and also acquired land fronting Anglo Avenue, mainly for car-parking.



B 14646. Reproduction rights: State Library of South Australia

State Library of South Australia B 14646



5. **175 Greenhill Road - ECH Braested Retirement Village**

Built by Thomas English, architect, in 1860.

This was the home of Napier Kyffin Birks (1876–1953), son of the draper Charles Birks who founded his Adelaide department store, Charles Birks & Co., Ltd. Napier was employed in the firm as an office boy in 1893, made a partner in 1900 and proprietor in 1908 when Charles retired from active control. The business was acquired by David Jones Limited in 1954.



Birks was a motoring enthusiast, a vice-president and president of the Automobile Club of South Australia and imported at least one motorcar from England. It might have been the 15 hp Humber in which he drove to Broken Hill one Saturday in January 1908, arriving on Monday. Birks inspected country roads for their suitability for reliability trials. After his death, Motors Ltd and Kingsway Ltd donated £2,000 to the University of Adelaide for a memorial Napier Birks room for economics, commerce and statistics, in memory of his interest in these subjects and the conditions of retail employment.

Braested adjoined 'the white bungalow cottage', Southfield House (in George St). This had a ground floor conservatory, a wire-enclosed sleep-out with a view of the Glen Osmond hills, and a former billiard room that in 1926 was used as a museum (kind unspecified). At the sale in 1929, it was promoted as re-convertible to its original form of a separate residence. This probably was the school of Miss Niven, and hardly what we today describe as a bungalow.

In August 1929, Mrs Lapidge of 'Young House', Young Street, bought Braested. Braested became a reception house and flats in the 1930s.

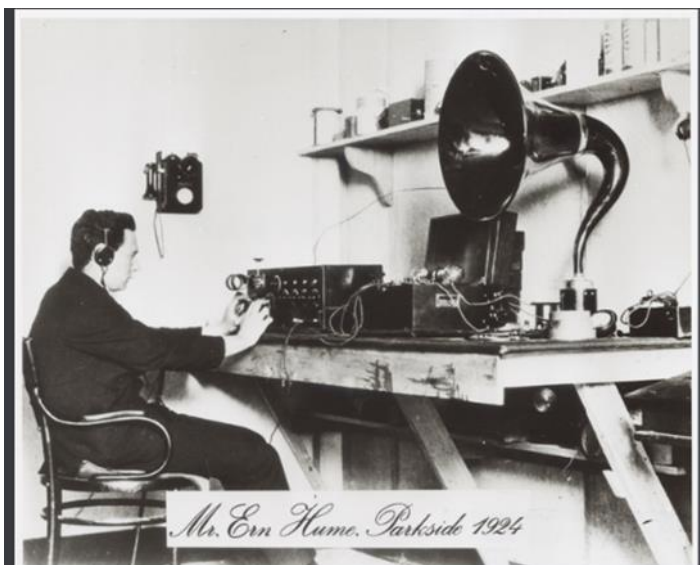
6. **168 Greenhill Road (15 Park Terrace) Parkside, Peltonga the Hume family mansion.** (Notice the memorial plaque)



Radio 5DN began operating as an experimental station, a hobby of industrialist Ernest James Hume. The transmitter and studios were set up in the Hume family mansion, Peltonga, in the Adelaide suburb of Parkside, and broadcasting was for only a few hours a day, several times a week. Hume installed landlines from Adelaide University, which enabled live broadcasts of lectures and concerts.

**"Peltonga,"** Park Terrace, Parkside, the residence of Mr. Clement F. V. Ransford, to be sold by public auction, at the subrooms, 14 Grenfell Street, by Messrs. Wilkinson, Sande, & Wyles on Tuesday, 8th April. This very desirable property, which is splendidly built and in thorough order, is admirably situated, facing the South Parklands and close to the car. Particulars appear in an auction advertisement in these columns.

The property known as Peltonga, Park Terrace ('Real estate', Mail, 22 March 1919, p9). E J Hume bought this house from Mrs C M Rainsford in 1919.



Ern Hume, 5Don N (later 5DN) Chief Engineer 1925 to 1941 and son of the station founder, Ernest James Hume, with early 5DN radio equipment at the station's first location, the Hume family home, Peltonga, Park Terrace, Parkside (SLA, B 38018)

Hume's family was extensively involved in the broadcasts. His wife Stella (an elocution teacher) was the first announcer on 5DN and the first female radio announcer in Australia. She appeared on 5DN as 'Miss Leonora Starr', elocutionist, and as 'Auntie Stella', a children's storyteller, and undertook many other roles including program producer and director. The Humes' son Jack was the first male announcer for 5DN.<sup>2</sup>

Hume died in 1929. In 1932 the reconstructed studio and transmitting station was moved to Savery's Building, Rundle Street Adelaide.

7. **163 Greenhill Road, Parkside**, The Australian Education Union (SA Branch), to corner of Parker Street (contrasting neo-Georgian and modern). Headquarters of the Union after its move in the 1960s from North Adelaide. The neo-Georgian house is currently in part used for union business, otherwise residential. The 1971 building, Raggatt House, is an outspoken example of Brutalist design, its off-form concrete announcing this aspect (see side street walls).
8. **154 Greenhill Road (and 2 Douglas Street) – Haigh's Chocolates Visitor Centre.**

Claude Alfred Haigh (1904-1980) was the son of the confectioner Alfred Ernest Haigh (1878-1933). Alfred had established his business at Mount Gambier; then in Unley in 1913, and in Adelaide in 1915. In 1917 the Douglas Street property was bought—two rooms and a basement—and manufacturing began at Parkside. In 1927 Haigh bought further property and built a two-storey cardboard box-making section next to the confectionery factory. In 1946 John Haigh, a grandson of Alfred, joined the firm, and after observing the Lindt factory in Switzerland, from 1950 he improved Haigh's chocolate-making operations. Haigh's substantially expanded the Parkside buildings in 1996

Claude Haigh was the owner of racehorses and of the Balcrest Stud at Balhannah. In the early 1950s the firm advertised consistently for smart boys, 14 to 16 years old, for general factory work for a five-day week; for a capable girl for high-class cardboard box-making; and for a 25-year old lad with some mechanical knowledge. The post-war labour shortage bit into this trade, as into others.

A jockey, Des Coleman, reminisced:

*"I also rode horses owned by ... Claude Haigh, who owned Haigh's Chocolates. Mr Haigh would often bring a tray of chocolates to the jockeys and we'd put them in the shade until he'd left for the day and then we all fought for them. They had a beautiful flavour, but some jockeys couldn't eat too many (Times [Victor Harbor], 27 May 1999, p9.)*

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.samemory.sa.gov.au/site/page.cfm?u=61&c=1530>



9. **North-West corner of Unley Road and Greenhill Road - 'Chance's Corner' site of 'Chance's bluestone jam and sauce factory and store'**

Early in a March morning of 1884 a fire reduced Chance's bluestone jam and sauce factory and store on the corner of Unley Road and North parade (now Greenhill Road). The packing room had 800 cases of jam ready to dispatch. There was such a large crowd assembled that the mounted police from the North Terrace barracks was sent to keep order, and both the Norwood and Unley 'fire reels' came to fight the fire.<sup>3</sup> Destruction of the factory led to the Unley Council calling for a local fire brigade to be established.

In 1884 or '85 Corris, Craig & Co Ltd, Melbourne-based boot manufacturers and importers, which operated from Gresham Street, Adelaide, took over the Jam factory site. During the 1885 boot-makers' strike, 61 men left the firm's employ. By 1893, probably as a result of the colony's financial depression, Corris, Craig was defunct. At this time Murray moved into the factory. In 1908 Murray built a new factory on the corner of Salisbury Street.



Louisa Ann Rawlins (c1817-1896) married William Chance. SLSA, B 19985/27P. She arrived in South Australia in March 1839 on board the ship Katherine Stewart Forbes. Louisa worked as a sauce, jam and preserve manufacturer,

10. **The Whistle and Flute restaurant**, Greenhill Road. Formerly D & W Murray's Adelaide Boot Factory.



Former Adelaide Boot Factory of D & W Murray Ltd (*Daily Herald*, 21 January 1911, p3).. The former Penny's Knitting Mill with a saw-tooth roof is on the right, on the corner of Salisbury Street.

In 1898, the factory employed over 130 men. The firm took a patent for comfortable boots without seams, two pairs of which were given to the Southern Cross Charity Carnival. These possibly were the Eklipsall brand Murray exhibited in trade displays (for example at the 1905 Chamber of Manufactures exhibition) and proudly advertised. In 1910 the firm produced 250 000 pairs of footwear, but even so this was inadequate for SA's needs.

Murray employed 100 'girls' (whose dining room was separate from the men's), and some 300-400 men at top capacity over 1910-12. The 'factory system' produced 7000 pairs per week (which went to Perth, Townsville, and Tasmania).

Penny's Knitting Mills (at 84 Park Terrace), was started in Unley by Harrold George Penny, at a difficult post-war period. The firm was begun in 1927, with Harrold and Grace Penny, who lived in Parkside, two officers of the firm that operated in Adelaide city. Penny's produced 'Firm Knit' outerwear (such as cardigans and jumpers), swimsuits, scarves and gloves etc. Record wool prices in 1950 sharply increased the cost of manufactured woollen goods.

<sup>3</sup> Beth Robertson has made wonderful researches into the old colonists' photographs held by the State Library of SA. She wrote about Louisa Chance, her family and its land holdings in Unley in 'Meet the old colonists: Businesswoman Louisa Ann Chance', *HistorySA*, March 2019, pp8-15

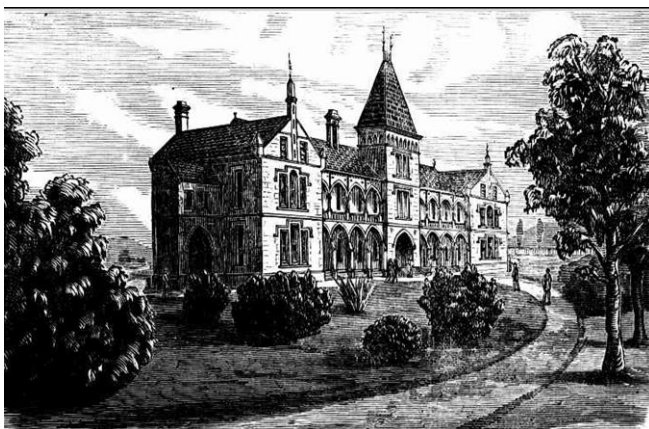


Former Penny's Knitting Mills, Greenhill Road, Parkside (SLSA, B 20040)

The Myer Emporium bulk store occupied the site after Penny's mill, then the architects, Woods Bagot, became tenants of the new owner, Peacock Richard. The renovation for the architects' offices won an architectural Award of Merit. In the 1980s, Greenhill Road Enterprise House Nominees took over the building as offices with their existing property at 136 and 137 Greenhill Road.

The eastern part of the site is the headquarters of Business SA (the former South Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, established—not here—in 1839, the second oldest Chamber of Commerce in Australia). This was the re-modelled Australian Institute of Business Management that was up in its rectilinear glory by 1971.

### 11. Methodist Ladies College, Wayville



THE ADELAIDE EYE INFIRMARY  
Dr Joyce's Adelaide Eye Infirmary, later Way College, later Methodist Ladies' College (Annesley College) (*Frearsons Monthly Illustrated Adelaide News*, 1 December 1880, p5)

A Ladies' College was established in Malvern in 1902 and in February 1904 moved to the more commodious former Way College at Wayville (Greenhill Road and Rose Terrace). Since 1977 it has been named Annesley College after Susanna Annesley, the mother of Methodist Church founder John Wesley.

The main building on Greenhill Road, Wayville was built in 1881-late 1882 as Dr John Fuller Joyce's Adelaide Eye Infirmary (He died in Victoria in 1910). Joyce was a medical officer for the volunteer defence forces. The architects' donated half their commission to its building; Joyce promised that if public subscribers gave £3,000 he would raise the required balance. A 'donor, or anyone he may send,

can receive benefits to the amount of his subscription' (which seems an early private insurance scheme). The hospital received both 'indoors' and 'outdoors' patients. It was estimated to cost £8-10,000. When the money became available, the foundation stone was laid by the Mayor of Unley on 20 August 1881.

### 12. 41 Greenhill Road, Wayville St Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church.

The first Russian Orthodox Church services in Adelaide were held at a cottage in Byron Place, Adelaide, in late 1949. In 1950 the Russian parish moved to a hall in Whitmore Square.

In the mid-1950s the parish purchased a double block of land on Greenhill Road. The Russian Orthodox Church of Saint Nicholas was built there almost entirely through voluntary labour and was opened in 1969. The Russian Orthodox Church of Saint Nicholas is in the traditional style of Russian church architecture.

In 1990 and 1991 a trained iconographer, Antonina Ganin, painted most of the interior of the church with representations of Christ, the Virgin and the Saints. Solemn, stately and beautiful, the holy personages are depicted against a gold background, giving the icons the appearance of glittering Byzantine mosaics. Festival services are announced by tolling of the church bells. (*Extracted from* <http://adelaide.sa.gov.au/subjects/russians-in-south-australia>)

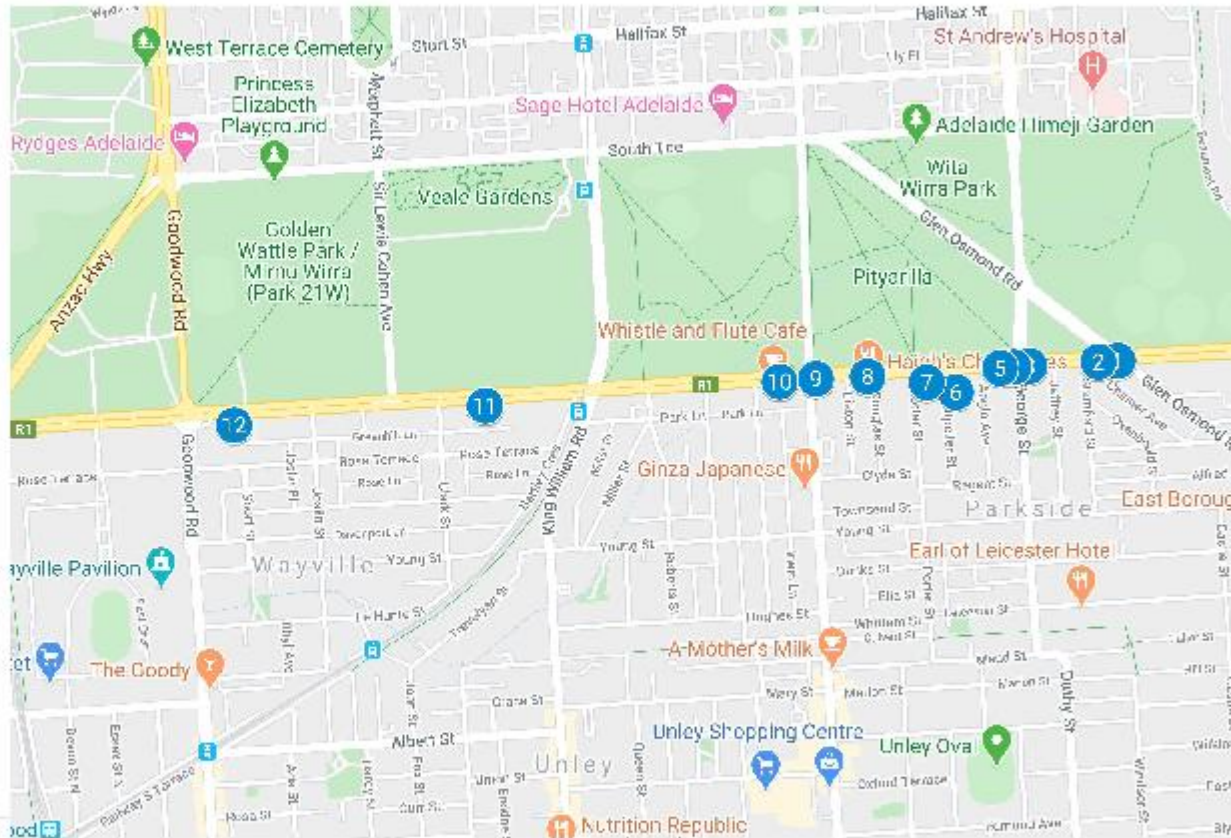
The main entrance faces west, the altar end faces east. The cupolas of such churches may number up to thirteen. Here the blue dome with gold stars signifies a Mother of God church, gold symbolising celestial glory. The polygonal green belltower (with a 'tent' roof) has a small golden dome atop and stands for the natural world. Both therefore represent the dualism of spiritual and worldly life.



# Greenhill Road

## Untitled layer

- 1 191 Greenhill Rd
- 2 189 Greenhill Rd
- 3
- 4 179 Greenhill Rd Carramar Clinic
- 5 176 Greenhill Rd
- 6 175 Greenhill Rd Braested
- 7 168 Greenhill Rd Peltonga
- 8
- 9 163 Greenhill Rd The Australian Education Union
- 10
- 11 Haigh's Chocolates Visitor Centre
- 12
- 13 North-West corner of Unley Road and Greenhill Road
- 14 137 Greenhill Rd
- 15 Annesley College
- 16
- 17 Russian Orthodox Church of St Nicholas Inc







## Acknowledgements

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- Historical research by Bridget Jolly.
- Compiled (and additional research) by David Sutton for The Unley Bicycle Users Group.

## 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 <https://unleybug1.wixsite.com/ubug>



B 10654

#### State Library of South Australia B 10654 (c1872)

[On back of photograph] 'Residence of John Gordon, 50 Park Terrace, Parkside / 1872-1886' (180 Greenhill Road)

[General description] Seen from the street, this two storey house is set in a formal garden with a stone front wall topped with decorative iron lace. The house has a wide front veranda and balcony also featuring iron lace. A conservatory is seen on the right side of the house next to a structure which looks like a shadehouse.