

13. Coach Buildings (Southern Home Furniture)

This building was erected by Thatcher and Underhill in 1909 for Stephen Henry Pearce. There used to be Iceworks underneath at the rear which were owned by Horace Hayes during World War 2.



14. Chemist (Red Cross)

Mr Dawson West was a former British Guardsman and bought the "unimproved block" in Church St. in 1896. There he built what is now the Red Cross Rooms in 1897 as his chemist shop and residence upstairs. He traded until about 1924, when he moved to Sydney. He sold to another chemist, Mr. O. Ward who ceased business in about 1927 with the building remaining as the Estate of Dawson West until 1939. After being a private residence, the Red Cross Society bought the premises in the 1940s.

15. Cowdroy's Emporium (Centrelink)

The Emporium was owned by Henry O. T. Cowdroy and later incorporated into McNamara's Centennial Building, built in 1887. This building also included the first offices of Bega's Municipal Council. H.O.T. Cowdroy was also Mayor of Bega from 1888 to 1890.



16. Newspaper Store (Discount Decor)

The first newspaper produced in Bega was "The Bega Gazette", established by Robert Sharpe in 1864 and later owned by W.H. Braine, who sold to Smith and Tarlinton in 1900. Early papers sold for threepence a copy. The paper's name was changed to Southern Star and moved premises into the Bega Standard building (pictured). In 1923, 3

local papers amalgamated into the "Bega District News" still working from the same building. W.A. Smith was editor until he retired in 1946, when Mr "Curly" Annabel bought the paper. This building is the oldest two storey brick building on the northern side of Carp St. The "1868" at the top of the building refers to the establishment of the Bega Standard newspaper.

17. Saddlery (Bega Health Foods)

Mr Sturah started this business in the early 1890s, making leather horse and bullock gear, reins, saddles and bags.

Walk along Carp St., turn right into Auckland St. and proceed back to the Museum, where there are artefacts from various industries on display.

Other early industries in Bega included:

Soap factory- operated by Underhill and McNamara. Made good quality soap (sold at Sydney prices!) using beef fat from slaughter yards in Newtown Road.

Lion Boot factory-Owned by Mr Hughes in Church St. Closed down approx. 1911.

Tannery-owned by John Spence in Bega St. in early 1870s. Continued until 1960s and then site developed into a trucking firm, Spenco, which closed in 1980s.

Flour mill-Mr Kirkwood in 1860 built a steam flour mill beside the lagoon in East St., now the south east corner of the Bega Showground.

Blacksmithing- a number in Auckland St., Gipps St., Carp St.

Brewery- built by Sharpe Brothers in 1882 in Auckland St. on site of the Primary Producers building opposite the school. Produced beer until 1900.

Gasworks-1885. First municipal gas works in the colony. Names of Bega's Mayor and first aldermen are inscribed on marble tablets at the entrance gates. Two lamps for the gates were made in England at a cost of just over £44.

Cooperage- Mr Shegog in Auckland St., near school.

Rubberworks-Housed in the current Bega Health Foods, after the saddlery moved. Later became a bike shop.

Stafford's brickworks- William Stafford made bricks opposite the present brickyards at Kalaru late 19th C. Bricks were made on a contract basis on the owner's property. The kiln would be made out of green bricks and when the kiln was filled up, it would be fired. The fired bricks from inside were taken out and the green bricks on the outside would be turned to be fired on another side with the next firing. At the end of the job the bricks which made up the kiln were sold for a reduced price and often used for paths.

Electric Powerhouse - where the RSL Club now is. Replaced by the Brown Mountain Hydro Scheme.

Bakery-The site of the present day ANZ Bank was the town's first bakery.

Ziegler's Monumental Masons-Joseph Ziegler came to Bega from Moruya in 1894 and set up his business in Church St., with a quarry in behind Belmore St. and their last quarry in Tathra Road. His work can be seen in cemeteries throughout the Bega Valley.

Produced by Linda Albertson (BVSL) and Sandra Florance (BVHS), April 2006.

Sources: Smith, Leila. (1984). The story of Bega - 1883-1900. In *Tales of the Far South Coast* (Vol. 2, pp. 10-24). Bega: Southern Publishing.

Bayley, W.A. (1942). *The story of the settlement and development of Bega*. Bega: G.G. Monaghan.

Bega District News Oct./Nov. 1946.

Photographs kindly supplied by Bega Valley Historical Society Inc.

Bega Heritage Walk The Workings of our Town:



A walking tour of Bega's
industrial and
commercial heritage.



Bega Valley Shire Library



Bega Valley
Historical Society Inc.

1. Bega Pioneer's Museum (tour begins here).

Originally the Family Hotel and built in 1859. James Rixon was the first licensee. Henry and then Thomas Underhill purchased the freehold in 1866 and the Underhill family held the licence for nearly 60 years. The Federation extension was added in 1900 by Underhill and Thatcher (local builder and architect respectively). The Bega Valley Historical Society bought the building in 1975 and opened a museum there in 1977.

2. Coach house and stables

Owned by Mr McPhee, who was the coachman for the Family Hotel (see above). In the 1880s MrPhee's coaches ran between Tathra and Bega in 1 hour, 15 minutes.

3. Cordial Factory and Plumb Motors

Covers an area which included many early businesses, including a baker, plasterer, a music store and a cordial factory, which was where Auckland Plaza now is and was set up by W.R. Emley in 1879. He sold to T.H. Notley, who sold to John Jackson, who later sold to John Otton. They proudly advertised royal patronage when the Duke of Gloucester visited and had a drink of Otton's Cordials. The plasterer was situated where the tractor on a pole is.

John J. Plumb was employed by Balmains as a youth and established his business in 1940. The petrol bowsers are remnants from that time. This photo shows Auckland Street in approx. 1910.



4. Balmain Brothers (Betta Electrical)

A motor service, founded by William and Arthur Balmain in 1909 in competition with the stage coach. In 1910 they bought the Lyceum Hall and converted it into a workshop and garage. The original walls and roof of the hall constructed in 1882 remain (where Carpet Court now is). Balmain Bros. ran the first motor mail and passenger service from Bega to Tathra and also ran to Cooma. Sold Fiats & Fords before 1926 then took the General Motors franchise. In 1935 the Auckland St. workshop was erected and the round tower was built as a masthead for the company pennant and to complement the round tower of the Art Deco styled Grand Hotel over Carp St. The business was sold and moved to Gipps St. as Bega Valley Motors in 1995.

As a point of interest the Lyceum Hall was where Sir Henry Parkes made his well known "railway speech" in 1888, promising a railway service for the area.



5. Bega Co-operative Store (Fisk and Nagle)

Business began in March 1920, selling groceries, produce and hardware and later extending to drapery, clothing and footwear. Moved into the Gowing building in 1922. In 1940 had a turnover of £100,900.



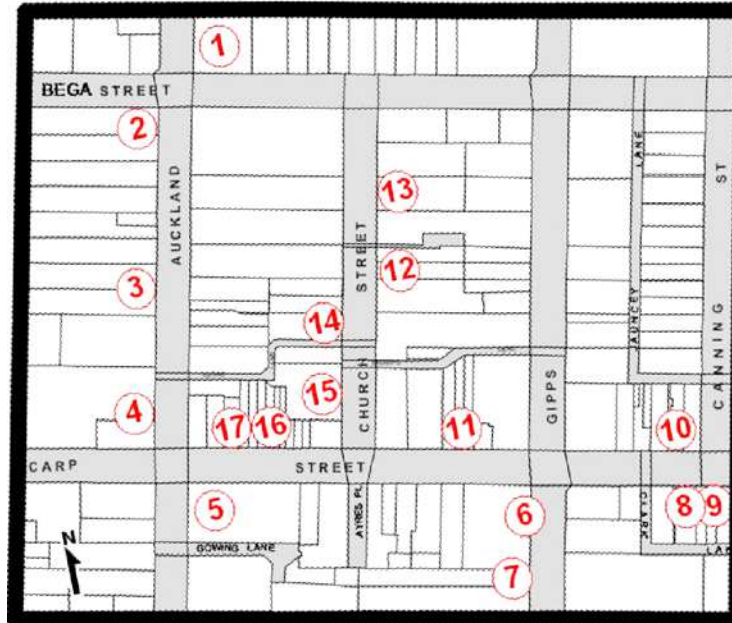
6. Cobblestones and guttering

A quarry in Belmore Street was used for cutting the granite for curbing and guttering around town, of which these cobblestones are an example. They were laid in the 1880s. You can also see original kerb and guttering outside the Museum and in Auckland St., Bega St., and Church St.

7. Bank (Tourist Information Centre)

Originally built in 1875 to house the Bank of NSW and managed by 24 year old William Allworth. In 1884 the Bank moved to the corner of Gipps and Carp Streets, where the Bega District News now is. Solicitors then took over the old Bank building. In the late 1960s it was a temporary police station and later became one of the sites for the Bega

Map of tour



8. Walker Building (Welcome Inn, Rainbow Art & Craft)

Built by Mr Chidgey in 1885 for Mr H. Walker as a terrace of 4 shops with accommodation. Known as "Victoria House" and one of the first two storey brick buildings in Carp Street.

9. King's Theatre

Opened on 25 November 1935 and seated 900 people. The building was erected by Bardsley for £12,000 and is an example of Art Deco style. Inside there are Aztec motive decorations. The Theatre was the centre of entertainment in the town before television and the Bega Band played in front of the theatre every Wednesday night.



10. Mortons Photography (Noble Art)

Harold Morton worked first in Church St., then moved into Carp St., building the two storey building on the corner of Canning and Carp Streets as a photographic studio and house. The building later became a butcher shop and the basement contained glass plate negatives which were given to the Bega Museum.

11. Jeweller (Look'n Good)

Built by John Marshall Black for his son-in-law, Mr Mueller, jeweller. In 1904 the building was rebuilt into the building you see today. In 1910 taken over by Rosevear and Hall Jewellers. Originally, it was a single storey with the upper storey added in 1940. You can still see the original curved windows. There used to be wrought iron grill fences erected each night across the doorstep for security.

12. Butcher (Candelo Bulk Whole Foods)

Henry Miller of Denmark was Bega's first butcher in the 1860s with his house and shop in Church St., next door to the Bank Hotel. Henry Underhill exchanged his farm at Stoney Creek for the butcher shop in 1870 delivering meat around the district.



Percy Beresford was also a butcher with his shop (pictured) across the lane from what is now Candelo Bulk Whole Foods.