



1 Maiden's Punt Site

Corner Chanter Street & Victoria Street

James Maiden built a punt across the Murray near Perricoota in 1844. He soon replaced it with a larger punt in 1845, one mile east of present-day Moama to cope with the increased traffic across the river. This site was at the end of the main stock route from Deniliquin and the gentle slope allowed easy access for the stock to be loaded onto the punt.

2 Junction Inn

Corner Chanter Street & Victoria Street

In 1846 Maiden established the Junction Inn near his punt, providing accommodation, liquor and stabling for those waiting to cross the river. The simple wooden inn on high ground in Chanter Street, welcomed travellers and settlers alike to share a drink and a meal together.

Remains of the Junction Inn are still located at the site (which is now a bus stop). You will find an information sign in a fenced off area nearby.

3 Hollywood Actress - May Robson (born Mary Robison)

Corner Chanter Street & Victoria Street

Born in Moama in 1858, May Robson was a famous Hollywood actress whose career spanned 58 years. She was the first Australian to be nominated for an Oscar and appeared in many films including Hetty Green, Alice in Wonderland, A Star is Born, Bringing Up Baby, and Lady for a Day.

In August 1857 Robson's father, Henry Robison, bought James Maiden's Junction Inn, which is where May was born the year later. Robison named his inn, the Prince of Wales Hotel. It was also the premises of coach proprietors "Robison and Stevens", which operated between Bendigo, Moama and Deniliquin.

4 Long Paddock Site

60 Chanter Street / Blair Street

The Long Paddock is the colloquial term for the stock routes that cross Australia. It refers to open stretches of unfenced land that anyone can use to move stock or feed in times of drought. This 610km route follows the length of the Cobb Highway from Moama through to Wilcannia in the north and features public artworks and information boards along the way, bringing the history and heritage of this unforgettable drive to life.

5 Telegraph Station

60 Chanter Street

The Telegraph Station Cottage (Circa 1840s/50s) is one of Moama's oldest surviving buildings. The premises is built of brick, with shingle roof, and was used to link station owners along the route between Moama and Deniliquin to facilitate the sale of stock.

Murray Shire Council bought the building in 2002, planning to demolish it to undertake flood mitigation works. The community objected based on the building's heritage value, and it was later restored and converted to a museum.

6 River Captain's Cottage

Chanter Street

River Captain's Cottage (Circa 1870) has been home to many families, all working in connection with the hustle and bustle of the river trade near Maiden's stock crossing. It was most likely the residence of the riverboat captains during the middle of the 19th century.

In 1983, the cottage was used in the filming of the telemovie *All The Rivers Run*.

7 Old Police Station

10-12 Chanter Street

Moama's police station was first established prior to 1855. By the 1860s the police station was in the area of the telegraph station and was staffed by one mounted constable, and a senior sergeant and a constable both on foot. Following the 1870 flood, the station moved further west to higher ground, with the new building erected in 1876. It was complete with lock-up and horse stables in the back yard.

The police station later moved to Maiden Street, to a converted house originally built in the 1950s.

8 Old Post Office

2-4 Chanter Street

James Maiden was Moama's first postmaster, with the post office and telegraph station combined. After the 1870 record flood the post office was moved to higher ground further west in Chanter Street (built in 1882).

The government had proposed a site for the new post office on land next to Custom House near the wharf at Horseshoe Lagoon, but a meeting was called to urge the government to erect it on land more central to the town.

9 Moama Courthouse

Corner Francis Street & Maiden Street

Moama's courthouse has been associated with the provision of law and justice in the town for more than 140 years. It was designed by Colonial Architect James Barnet and officially opened in December 1879. In 1890 shrubs and ornamental trees were supplied by the Sydney Botanical Gardens to beautify the grounds.

10 St James Church

31 Maiden Street

St James Church was built in 1883 and is a significant part of Moama's religious, social and cultural history. It was where some of the most significant events in life of earlier generations of Moama and district residents took place. There were plans to demolish the church in 2008, however the community objected, calling for the church and bell tower to be preserved at all costs. The church was upgraded in 2012.

11 Border Inn

19 Meninya Street

John Williams was the first licensee of the Border Inn Hotel in 1868, however his proprietorship was short-lived as he lost his life when he was thrown from a horse in a tragic accident in 1869. John Field held the licence for many years following Williams' death.

12 Jubilee Memorial

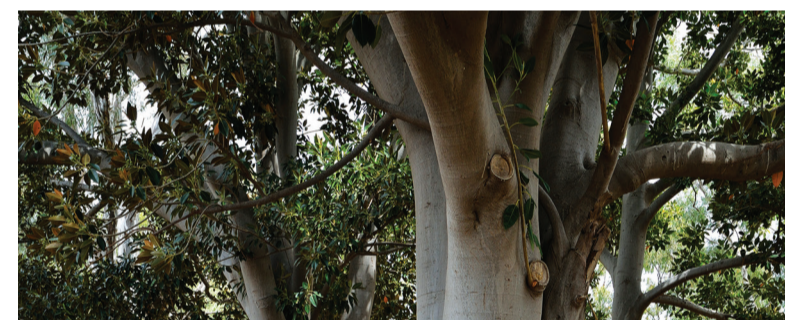
Shaw Street

The white obelisk located on the nature strip between Moama Bowling Club and the Kerrabee Soundshell Public Reserve commemorates the Diamond Jubilee of the reign of Queen Victoria. Originally a drinking fountain, the monument was unveiled on 22 June, 1897. Situated nearby is the watering trough - one of 400 donated to towns and cities across Australia by Annis and George Bills in the 1930s, to provide relief for working horses.

13 Ombu Tree (Bella Sombra)

Shaw Street

There are only a few known specimens of the Ombu tree in Australia, including this one, which is heritage listed and stands guard over the last relic of the Queen Victoria Diamond Jubilee near Moama's Kerrabee Soundshell Public Reserve. Native to South America, this beautiful shade tree with an umbrella shaped form and thick sappy trunk is thought to have been taken from cuttings from an avenue of trees on a property at Wakool and planted in the memorial garden around 1924.



14 Bank of NSW (Westpac)

11 Shaw Street

The Bank of NSW first operated out of an office built by George Redman in Shaw Street. In about 1890 it moved to this site in Meninya Street, adjacent to the railway lines. The bank later moved to the other side of the street further west before closing.

15 Scout Hall

Corner West Street & Berry Street

The first meeting of the Moama Scout Group was held in 1966. To help raise funds several farmers donated barley crops, and the cubs delivered wood. With the help of the Echuca Lions Club the hall was completed and officially opened in April 1969 and was used by both scouts and guides until 1983 when they combined with Echuca.

16 Historic Homes

Chanter Street / Simms Street / Berry Street

There are several lovely, historic homes dotted along Chanter Street, Simms Street and Berry Street in Moama, including Dr Gough's house ('Homeleigh' circa 1901) and Chanter's Folly (believed to be the former homestead of Moama's first mayor), both of which are now private residences.

17 Horseshoe Lagoon

Shaw Street

This reserve was once part of a large tribal area occupied for thousands of years by the Aboriginal people of southern NSW. The lagoon is strongly linked to the development of Moama township; two hotels and a cordial factory were built nearby, and a wharf was built on its northern bank in 1879 but was abandoned because riverboats could only access the wharf during high rivers.

A new wharf was built in 1891, but by then the riverboat trade was declining. This second wharf was rarely used but became a platform where generations of Moama children learnt to swim.

Management of the reserve was given to Murray Shire Council in 1976. A new wharf, boardwalk and signs were erected in 1988.

18 Aboriginal Culture

Shaw Street

Horseshoe Lagoon is part of the extensive floodplains along the Murray River that have great significance to Aboriginal people. Some Yorta Yorta elders describe the floodplains as 'our supermarkets' - as they provided everything required for a traditional lifestyle.

The survival of Aboriginal people depended on an intimate knowledge of their environment where they lived and travelled. They knew where and how plants grew, the seasonal changes, and what roots, leaves, berries, nuts, gums and nectars could be safely used eaten and drunk. They also knew which bark and timber could be used for fires and shelter, to make canoes, or used to make weapons and digging tools. Even grasses, reeds and rushes had uses for spears, food, baskets and bags.

19 Moama Beach

Blair Street

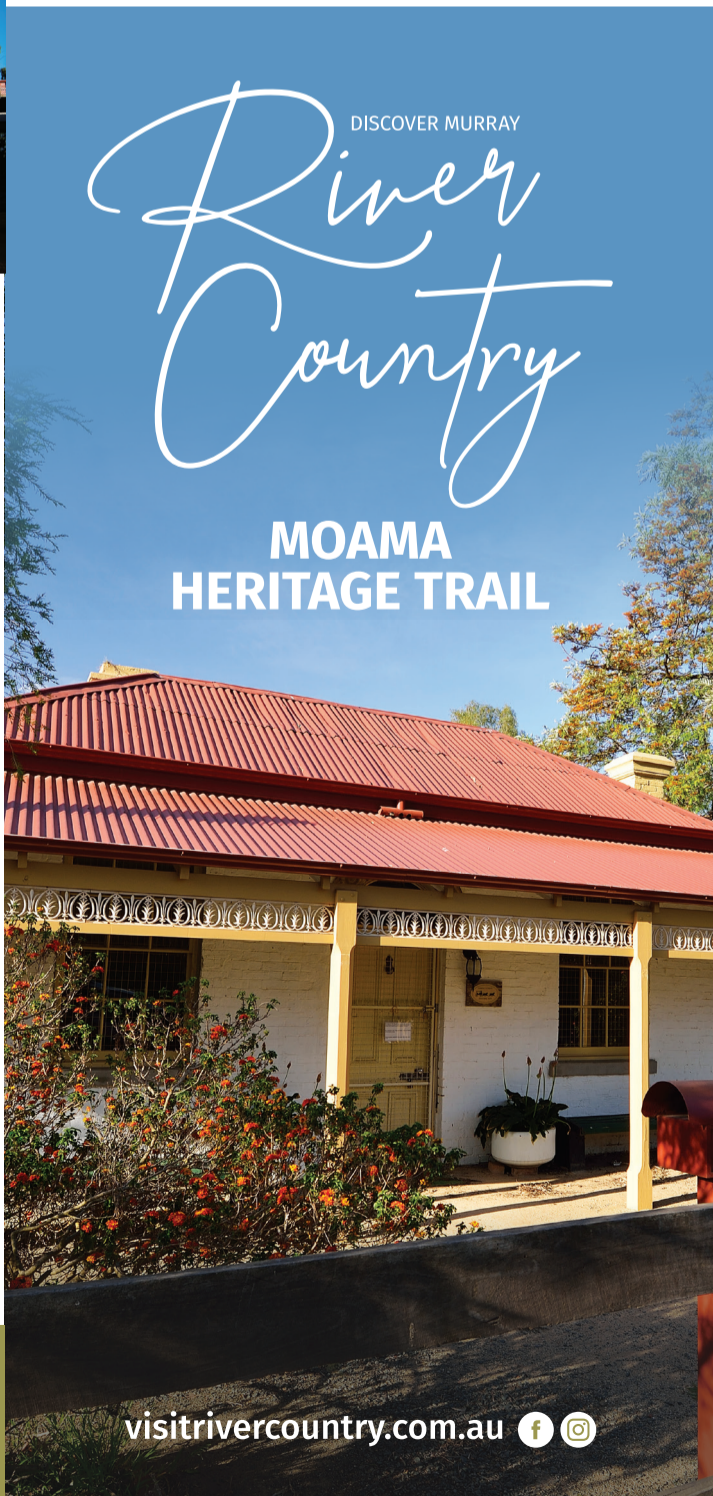
Once the site of Chinese market gardens, shanty houses and a sawmill, Moama Beach now offers a shady, idyllic location for swimming, kayaking, fishing, or just relaxing on the sand. The beach sits just below the iconic bridge that links NSW and Victoria, and is the perfect place to soak up the region's history as you take in views of Echuca Wharf.

20 Echuca Moama Bridge

Construction of the existing iron bridge over the Murray at Echuca Moama began in 1877. On Monday April 17, 1877, six men working on the platform of a travelling crane at the bridge site were thrown from a height of about 50ft into a mass of iron, stone and timber below and were badly injured. Tragically only one survived. Legend has it that another man is still trapped inside a pylon. The bridge was completed in 1878.

21 Fig Tree Berry Street

22 Police Station Maiden Street



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Heritage Buildings

Moama was established in 1845 by British-born James Maiden – an ex-convict, punt owner, station manager, stock dealer, publican and postmaster.

Originally named Maiden's Punt, the town was the busiest stock market in Australia for a time, providing meat for miners at the Bendigo diggings. In 1851 the village was renamed Moama, but its prosperity was short-lived when the gold ran out and the big flood of 1870 submerged it. Relocated to higher ground, it rallied again with the arrival of the Denilquin and Moama railway in 1876 and the opening of the iron bridge across the Murray in to Echuca two years later.

We invite you to take a gentle wander back in time through 'Old Moama' to discover the fascinating stories of some of our most historical landmarks.