

9. COURT HOUSE, POLICE STATION & LOCK UP

The Court House was built in 1861. A year later it was extended to house the Police Station. Quarters for the police were located behind the main building. Towards the back of the property there was also a small 'lock up' (jail) and stables. The Police Station is now situated in the Court House building.

10. WATCHMAKER'S SHOP AND RESIDENCE

This shop and residence was built for the watchmaker in the mid-1860s. The front of the shop is at an angle as this part of the street didn't exist when the shop and residence were built. It is now a private residence.

11. DRAPERY

This shop was called the London House drapery. London House drapery had stores in many early gold rush towns. The building was rebuilt in 1883 after a fire damaged the earlier building. The shop is now used as an art gallery displaying the works of local artists. You will also find information about Mitchell and the surrounding area in the gallery.

12. PHOENIX HOTEL

The Phoenix Hotel was built in 1866 from basalt rock. The verandah was added in 1900. Today it is a restaurant.

13. TIMBER HOME

This is a typical timber house built after the main mining period, probably around the 1920s.

14. PRINCE ALFRED PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Primary School, which is still in use, was built in 1875 and is typical of many schools designed by the State Education Department at that time. An older school was built in 1869 and is still standing at the back of the current school.

15. WESLEYAN CHURCH

The church was built in 1903 and it looks quite different from other churches in Mitchell. It is no longer used as a church and in 1997 was renovated and is now a private home.



16. MITCHELL RAILWAY STATION

Mitchell Railway Station was built in 1875. Trains were an important form of transport at this time and were used to cart goods. A train still stops here on the way to and from Mildren. Only a part of the building is still used by the railways. The other part, and the surrounding land, houses a nursery famous for local indigenous plants.

17. FIREHOUSE HOTEL

Named because of the firehouse opposite, it was built in the mid 1860s. It has been partially rebuilt a number of times as there were three bad fires in the hotel in the early years. It is now a cafe serving very good coffee.

18. DOCTOR'S HOUSE AND SURGERY

The Doctor's house was built in 1875 for the Medical Officer of the Borough. It is thought he used a room on the right front as his consulting room and office.



19. POST AND TELEGRAPH OFFICE

The Post and Telegraph Office was built in stages between 1860 and 1877. It is currently used as a newsagency which incorporates the post office.

20. SHOP AND RESIDENCE

This unusual shop and residence was built in 1862. Originally it was a drapery. It later became Crook's General Store and now houses a small supermarket which specialises in local produce.

21. BOOTMAKER'S HOUSE

This house was built in 1869 for the bootmaker, James Burdess.

22. BOOTMAKER'S SHOP

The bootmaker had his shop built next door to his house. The shop is now a coffee shop.

Mitchell: *a walk through history*

In the 1850s, Mitchell was a bustling town, full of gold and 30,000 people crowding its streets. They lived in tents and makeshift huts. Grog shops sprang up for the miners to spend new found wealth or drown their sorrows and fighting wasn't uncommon. By the 1880s the population had dropped to a few thousand and brick and timber buildings replaced the tents. A fire in 1869 saw many of the buildings destroyed or damaged. Today 500 people live in Mitchell, relishing its quiet, its quirky shops and the ghosts of long past. Take a walk around Mitchell and imagine yourself back in the streets in the 1850s.



1. BULL AND MOUTH HOTEL

The Bull and Mouth Hotel was originally built in 1862. At that time it was called the Town Hall Hotel. It was destroyed in the 1869 fire and rebuilt a year later. It currently operates as a B&B.

2. MITCHELL HALL

Mitchell Hall was built in the early 1860s and was bought by the Borough Council in 1865 and used as the Town Hall. The Council built a two storey front on the building for offices. The offices have been renovated and now house the library. The hall is still used for public events and can be hired out.

3. BANK OF AUSTRALASIA

The Bank of Australasia set up a branch in Mitchell in 1859 but this building was built in 1869 after a fire in Bridgwater Road and Lydia Street destroyed or damaged a number of buildings.



4. SUB-TREASURY

This building was used to receive gold which was then sent to Mildren. It was built in 1866 and is now a private home. In 1870 a coach laden with gold from the Mitchell Sub-Treasury was attacked by bush rangers who made off with all the gold they could carry. No one was hurt but armed guards accompanied the gold coach after that. When the train line was built, gold was then transported by train.

5. ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND

This church was built in 1870. It was used as a knitting mill at the start of the 1900s. In 1987 it was restored and is now the local museum.

6. COMMERCIAL HOTEL

The Commercial Hotel was one of many hotels in Mitchell. It was built in 1861 and is now one of the oldest buildings still standing. The hotel is large, which gives an indication of the importance of Mitchell in the 1860s when the town was the centre of gold mining. The Commercial Hotel still operates as a hotel. It was the scene of many a riotous night and has seen many fights. It is claimed a ghost walks the upstairs corridors.

7. PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHURCH

This church was built to replace an earlier wooden church but it was never finished.

8. LONDON CHARTERED BANK

This bank building was designed by a Melbourne architect and was built in 1866. A coach house and stables in Alice Boulevard were probably used by the bank manager.

