



Proston Heritage Trail

1. Boondooma Private Hospital opened in mid 1930s; Dr Rundle was first doctor, followed by Dr Terry Ellecoate. During the war years 1939 to 1945 was a boys home, later converting to a boarding house, then a motel, currently is a private residence.
2. Heritage listed, St Peter's Anglican Church was built 1936 with the generous bequest of Mr Charles Shepherd, owner of cattle property "Ashton", Dedicated by Archbishop Wand 4 July 1938. First Vicar was Rev. Dence. The Tingoorra Anglican Church was moved to Proston 1969 to become the Anglican Hall.
3. Bakery, original building was erected by the McGovern Bros of Abbeywood 1935. During 1969 the building became the BP Service Station and in Dec 2001 was destroyed by fire.
4. Golf Club was formed in 1936, first President Desmond O'Rourke, then owner of "Old Proston". The golf course was previously a racetrack and used for camp-drafts.
5. Jim Reidy's Truck Shed is now Ardrey's Proston Bus depot.
6. John Ciezeolka Blacksmith, previously operated on the site of the old clinic (later moved to behind the butter factory).
7. Bob Burns soft drink and cordial factory, also saddlery.
8. Plumber/plumbing supplies, Harry Duffy. The building is now a poultry pavilion at the show grounds.
9. Doctors residence and Surgery
10. Terminus Hotel, a grand building built 1924, comprising two storeys. The Clinic, Dentist and the Bank New South Wales operated in this building. The Hotel was destroyed by fire in 1966, and replaced by the current Golden Spurs Hotel.
11. Railway Fettle's Cottage. Built 1925 approx.
12. Railway Stationmaster's residence, Built 1922.
13. First Post Office, built 1924. Post Office was transferred to present location in Collingwood St. 1935.
14. Proston Tea Rooms were built 1922 by G.T.M. Boynton, commencing the Township of Proston, in readiness for the commencement of rail services to Proston in Feb 1923.
15. School of Arts, (public hall) was constructed 1924, pictures were regularly shown here until approx 1960, building was sold to Fred Heit, and removed to the Heit farm.
16. Thorne & Walker Emporium, together with Commercial Bank (first manager Reg Watts). Approx 1923
17. Drapery, building erected by Hughie Welch in 1922, and operated by Mrs Nairne who also supervised the first allowance post office agency. Later became Mrs Reids Café.
18. Doug Smith's Grocery Shop (later moved to Blake St). Fred Doesell then opened a bicycle and radio shop. Building burnt down during the 1970s.
19. Butcher, Mr Jim French (first opened in Blake St 1923, moving to this location 1926)
20. Mr Neilson bakery, 1923.
21. Proston Railway Station – Large crowd welcomed the first train 24th Feb 1923, Mrs Lily Slinger cut the ribbon to allow train into the station. First station mistress was Mrs Beatrice Tooth (grandmother of Mrs Dorrie Hedges). The Commercial Bank of Sydney operated a savings bank in the same building for a short time. Three trains per week were operating by mid/late 30s, (Tues/Thurs/Sat carrying out the cream) plus special trains for extra loadings such as pigs, cattle and later timber. The railway into Proston was instrumental in the settlement of areas west of Proston.
22. South Burnett Dairy was constructed in 1934 and commenced manufacturing butter from 1935 (the butter winning many awards for excellence) until its closure 1966. A piggery opened in 1935, on the other side of the golf course, for disposal of the Dairy's unwanted dairy by-products. First manager of the Dairy was Mr Jack Ferguson. 1967 the building was converted to an animal feed mill, supplying daily many tons of feed to local piggeries/cattle properties.
23. Bowls Club, formed and was operating 1946, first President, Claude Murphy.
24. QCWA rooms were built in 1926 opening in 12 April 1928. First members included Mesdames Alice Blanch, Chesterton, Lindley, Perkins, Slinger, Wardill, and others, all original pioneers.
25. Catholic Church, Built 1935.
26. Proston State School opened 24-7-24; First Head Teacher was Mr Jack Moore.
27. Cattle/pig rail loading yards.
28. Railway sleeper mill.
29. First police station, first police officer Terry Sweeney. Now private residence.
30. Police residence.
31. John Ciezeolka, Blacksmith operated here until moving to Rodney St. The Proston Outpatients Clinic was built in 1959/60. During late 90s became a residence when the clinic was relocated next to Proston Ambulance Station.
32. Doug Smith's Cash & Carry (later purchased by Perrin & Day).
33. Tennis Courts, 1930s (later moved to Wondai Rd).
34. Drapery and Agency, 1934 Jack Azar.
35. Olympia Café, 1934, Bert Cahill.
36. Butcher, 1934/35 Levitt & Smith (Alf Smith, Father of well known cattleman Robert Smith).
37. Kewpie Pictures, 1926, Tim Boynton built the hall initially to show movies, then boxing matches and for a short time was used for skating. The building was converted to an office and garage, where he conducted a Ford & Essex Agency. The building was eventually demolished making way for the new brick Commercial Bank of Australia; it later became West Pac Bank until the Bank withdrew it's services from Proston. Wondai Shire Council acquired the building for use as the Proston Public Library.
38. Arthur Dauth, blacksmith operated on this site prior to 1937. The current Town Hall was built by Albert Reinke in 1937 as a picture theatre at the rear with retail shops in the front, which included hardware store, billiards saloon, and a sport shop.
39. Mrs Milham's Drapery.
40. Billiard Saloon.
41. Mr Nickol the Chemist.
42. Ladies & Gents Hairdresser (with separate entrances).
43. Newsagency.
44. National Bank & Dentist, Steve Gom.
45. Dressmaker 1937, Mrs Audrey Postlethwaite
46. Fuel Storage shed, until 1948 when John Slinger & Tom Bartlett converted it to a garage.
47. First School residence, 1924. Now a private residence.
48. Methodist Church 1934. First church built in Proston, and later became the Uniting Church.