HISTORIC GLENELG

A self-guided walk

CITY OF
HOLDFAST BAY

Welcome to Glenelg. For thousands of years Pathawilyangga (Glenelg) was a place where the Kaurna people of the Adelaide Plains could seek refuge from summer heat; an area of abundant plant and animal resources, and a meeting place for celebration, ceremony and trade.

In October 1836, eight ships arrived in South Australia, landing first at Kangaroo Island, southwest of Adelaide. Among them was the HMS Rapid carrying Colonel William Light, and the HMS Cygnet. Their mission was to survey the South Australian coast in hope of seeking an ideal place for settlement.

Consequently, Light named the harbour with good anchorage, 'Holdfast Bay'. With its surrounding rich country and fresh water lagoons, the area appealed to Light as an ideal place for settlement. Following Light's decision, the remaining ships set sail for the mainland. By the time the HMS Buffalo arrived on 28 December 1836 - Proclamation Day - there was already a village of tents, huts and temporary shelters.

In 1839, the township was named 'Glenelg' in honour of Lord Glenelg, Secretary of State for the colonies.

Walk duration approximately 1 hour.
Refer to the map at the back of this brochure for assistance on your walk.

Begin your walk at the Glenelg Town Hall, Moseley Square.

Please respect the privacy of all homes along the way.

✳ Additional properties of interest

Cover Image: View of Glenelg from the jetty in 1905. SLSA B72442.
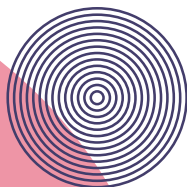
01
GLENELG TOWN HALL
1877 | MOSELEY SQUARE

Glenelg Town Hall prior to the cupola being added, circa 1882. PH-GL-0445.

Originally known as the Glenelg Institute, the building was designed by Edmund Wright, architect and former Mayor of Adelaide. The foundation stone was laid on 11 December 1875 by Sir Henry Ayers and the Institute formally opened in 1877. There was a grand main entrance on the western frontage and a tower to take in the panoramic view of the ocean and surrounds. A cupola (rounded dome atop the tower) was later added to house the clock donated by Mayor Thomas King in 1884. In 1887 the building became the Glenelg Town Hall. Wander through the Bay Discovery Centre museum, housed within the Town Hall, to learn more about the history of Holdfast Bay.
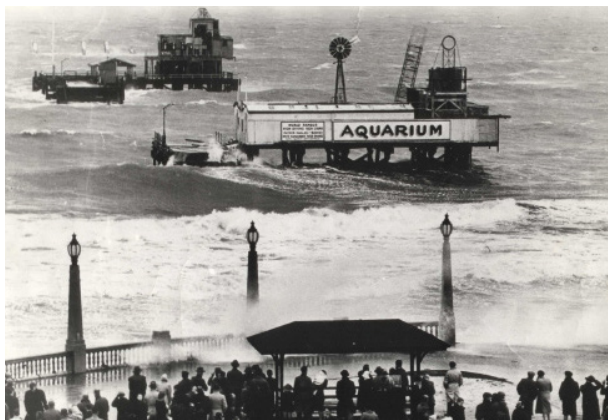
Continue west to the Glenelg Jetty.

02
GLENELG JETTY
1859, 1969 | MOSELEY SQUARE

The stranded Glenelg Pavilion and Aquarium after the 1948 storm. PH-GL-1023.

The first Glenelg Jetty was 381 metres long with a T-head and wooden lighthouse. This section was destroyed by fire in 1873. In 1906 a three-storey pavilion was added at the end of the jetty and railway tracks were laid along its length to service coastal shipping. An aquarium was built in 1929, showcasing fish, sea lions and sharks. In 1948 a major storm swept through Holdfast Bay, destroying the jetty and leaving just the pavilion and aquarium, which were later removed. In 1969 the current, much shorter jetty, was constructed.

Walk east toward the Pioneer Memorial.

03

PIONEER MEMORIAL
1936 | MOSELEY SQUARE

The Pioneer Memorial with the Glenelg Jetty in the background, 1936. PH-GL-0484.

Built to commemorate the centenary of the foundation of South Australia and to honour the first European settlers, the Pioneer memorial is topped by a sculpture of the HMS Buffalo that brought the state's first governor, John Hindmarsh, to South Australia. Look closely at the carvings to see representations of South Australia's earliest pioneers.

Designed by architect Gordon Beaumont Smith, it is constructed of Kapunda marble on a base of Murray Bridge granite. The Latin phrase on the southern face reads; 'Si Monumentum Requiris Circumspice' which translates to; 'If you seek a memorial, look around you'.

04

STAMFORD GRAND HOTEL
1856, 1912, 1990 | MOSELEY SQUARE

Celebrations in Moseley Square during the Royal visit. Pier Hotel is pictured on left, 1901. PH-GL-0933.

In the south-west corner of Moseley Square, builder, hotelier, entrepreneur and Councillor Henry Moseley built the Pier Hotel. Moseley Square, the bustling heart of Glenelg, is aptly named after him. Some 50 years later, the original Pier Hotel was demolished and a three-storey building, with elegant balconies and verandahs, was erected.

To make way for the Stamford Grand Hotel, this second incarnation was also demolished. Today, the northern and western facades take inspiration from the Victorian architecture of the first hotel.

Continue east to the top of the stairs in Moseley Square. Stops 04 and 05 can be viewed here.

05
GLENELG TRAM TERMINUS
1873 | MOSELEY SQUARE

The first H-type tram enters Moseley Square to much fanfare in 1929. Jetty Road looking east. PH-GL-1216.

Glenelg has a long association with trains and trams, with the first rail service between Glenelg and Adelaide commencing in 1873. At the current location of Tram Stop 17 in Moseley Square, the Adelaide Glenelg and Suburban Railway opened, offering a service along the present-day tram tracks. A second company, Holdfast Bay Railway established a second service in 1890 which ran along Anzac Highway to St Leonards (now Glenelg North). Eventually, these two companies merged and serviced Glenelg until 1929 when the H-type Tram, affectionately known to locals as the 'Red-Rattlers', were introduced. They ran until 2007 when they were replaced by the trams you see today.

Continue to the north-east corner of Moseley Square.

06

POST OFFICE
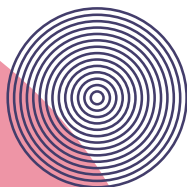### 1859, 1911 | 15 MOSELEY SQUARE

Glenelg Post Office, 1911. PH-GL-0383.

The State Heritage-listed old Glenelg Post Office occupies the site of the first telegraph station in Glenelg. To the west of the post office and retaining much of its original Victorian style facade is the postmaster's residence. Also note the old Victorian post box on the eastern side of the building.

Between the Glenelg Town Hall and the Post Office there have been many businesses and buildings which have come and gone. These include the old Glenelg Railway Station, Police Station, Court House, an open air theatre and the Rendezvous Cafe which had a dance floor and roller-skating rink.

Cross the pedestrian crossing to the corner of Colley Terrace and Jetty Road.
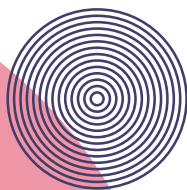
07

JETTY HOTEL
1869 | 28 JETTY ROAD

The corner of Jetty Road and Colley Terrace. The Jetty Hotel is pictured right, circa 1906. PH-GL-0334.

On the opposite side of Jetty Road to where you are standing, is the Jetty Hotel, a popular local watering hole first licensed by James Cornick. In the late 19th century the hotel offered 'superior accommodation' with 'every comfort and luxury'.

Between 1928 and 2000 it was known as the Hotel St Vincent. In the 1940s, the hotel marketed itself as being 'at the heart of things,' and the place to dine in Glenelg. Its ornate iron balconies are long gone, replaced with a modernised Art Deco frontage.
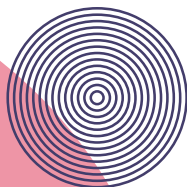
08

RYANS EMPORIUM
1914 | 46 JETTY ROAD

Ryans Emporium, 1939. PH-GL-1647.

In 1914, W.T. Ryan purchased number 46 from Mr. F. J. Summers, a stationer. Ryan renovated the premises, adding innovative shop fronts. Ryans Emporium quickly became a Glenelg institution and the largest of its kind outside of the city. The Emporium operated in this space for some 60 years, eventually taking over the premises at 42 Jetty Road. Look for the facade of the upper level of Ryans that is still intact, including the original marquee sign.

Next door, to the east, is the Jackman building. Jackman & Treloar, 'Seaside and Suburban Real Estate Specialists', operated here from the 1940s onward. The company played a key role in the expansion of Adelaide.
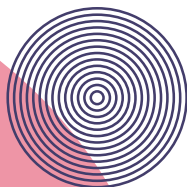
09
ST ANDREW'S BY THE SEA
1859, 1880 | 92 JETTY ROAD

View of Jetty Road looking west with the original Congregational Church pictured left, circa 1873. PH-GL-1090.

The original Congregational Church was constructed in the Gothic style with a steep roof and timbered ceiling. As the congregation grew, a larger church was needed. On 27 October 1879, the foundation stone of the present church, on the corner of Chapel Street and Jetty Road, was laid. National Heritage Listed, St Andrew's was designed by architect Daniel Garlick. The external front elevation was designed in the Italian style and the Corinthian order (one of three main classical orders of ancient Greek and Roman architecture). The church was completed and opened for services on Sunday 19 September 1880.

10
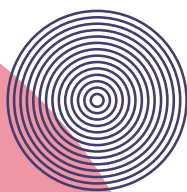## SAVINGS BANK OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA
1922 | 79 JETTY ROAD

Savings Bank of South Australia and the Australia and New Zealand Bank, 1975. PH-GL-0179.

In 1876, an agency of the Savings Bank of South Australia was opened in Glenelg. By 1922 the premises at number 79 had been constructed to the design of Cowell & Cowell Architects, in the style of the French Renaissance. The scale and ornateness of the bank reflects the prosperity of Glenelg during the early 1920s. In 1960, the bank moved next door and the property was sold to Taplin Real Estate who have occupied it ever since.

Turn around, stop 11 on the opposite side of Jetty Road can be viewed here.

11
THE STRAND
1922, 1929 | 108 JETTY ROAD

The Strand Theatre, circa 1939. Taken from Progressive Adelaide.

On the opposite side of the street is "The Strand", originally known as the Palais Picture Theatre. The Strand was the first suburban picture theatre to screen what was known as 'a talkie' or film with sound. Later the theatre became the Odeon and the Village Cinema, followed by the Bay View Shopping Arcade which housed a variety of specialty shops. Over the years the building has changed in purpose and architectural style, today reflecting a modern alteration inspired by the Art Deco style.

Retrace your steps west along Jetty Road. Turn right onto Nile Street and continue walking north.
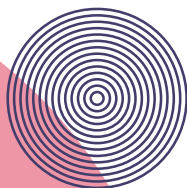
12
NILE STREET

Aerial view looking south-west of parts toward the original settlement including Nile Street, 1936. PH-GN-0495.

Glenelg was originally settled around the focal point of Torrens Square at the northern end of Nile Street. The square was bound by Colley Terrace, Jetty Road, Gordon Street and Anzac Highway, with an irregular section jutting north along the banks of the Patawalonga. Building within this area grew from the 1870s onward as the original larger allotments first laid out by Colonel William Light began to be subdivided.

Look for the remaining mid-Victorian houses and terraces on the western side of Nile Street, which are typical of houses built within the original settlement.

Also, turn back toward Jetty Road to view the northern elevation of the Congregational Church.
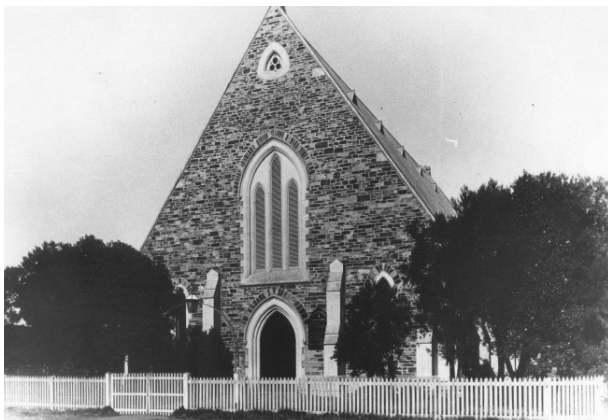
Continue north along Nile Street towards the church in Torrens Square.
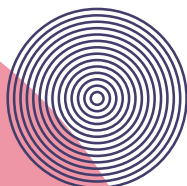
13
ST PETER'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
1851, 1883 | 1 TORRENS SQUARE

St Peter's Anglican Church, 1884. PH-GL-0198.

The first incarnation of St Peter's, designed by noted architect Edmund Wright, was replaced in 1883 to provide for the growing congregation. The present church is designed in the Gothic style, again by architect Edmund Wright and includes more than 30 stained glass windows. The adjoining chapel is named after the patron Saint of Soldiers, Saint Michael. It was built as a memorial to members of the congregation who lost their lives in WWI. The bell tower on the southern side of the church marks the centenary of the church's consecration.
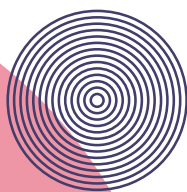
14
SUSSEX STREET

Terrace housing at 22-28 Sussex Street, circa 1843.
SLSA B 47794/187.

Sussex Street retains terraces and modest bluestone and limestone cottages owned by many of South Australia's first European settlers. If you have time, walk up and down the quaint street. Note the terraces at numbers 22-28, built in 1877 by Alfred George Chapman and James Simpson Scott, and Rothesay at 17 Sussex Street built in 1871 for Charles Bonney. At the Anzac Highway end of Sussex Street, is the cylindrical Atlantic Tower. This was part of a larger 1970s building development which never reached fruition.

15

THE ROTUNDA
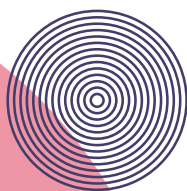### 1912, 1926 | COLLEY RESERVE

The Glenelg City Band during a performance for the Patriotic Carnival, 1917. PH-GL-0386.

The William Storrie Memorial Bandstand was erected on the foreshore near the Town Hall. It was built to provide a venue for the Glenelg City Band, whose origins date back to the late 1800s.

The current Rotunda, with its intricate iron lacework and stairs of Gawler marble, was designed by L. G. Golding in 1926.

**Remain in the Rotunda.
Stops 16, 17 and 18
can all be viewed here.**

16
COLLEY RESERVE
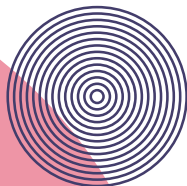1875 | COLLEY TERRACE

Colley Reserve looking north toward Side Show Alley, circa 1925. PH-GL-0892.

Named after Glenelg's first Mayor, Richard Colley, the reserve which surrounds the Rotunda was originally part of a complex sand hill system not included in Colonel William Light's original subdivision. The land was transferred to Council from the South Australian Government in a deal struck between the government and Colley.

The Bay Sheffield foot race has been held on the reserve on 28 December (Proclamation Day) since 1887. The first Bay Sheffield was won over 100 yards by H. Quinn. Thirty eight runners had nominated for the inaugural race and the first prize was £14.

Remain in the Rotunda.

17

LUNA PARK
1930 | 16–19 HOLDFAST PROMENADE

The Big Dipper at Luna Park, 1930. PH-GL-0360.

North-west of the Rotunda, which is now occupied by multi-storey Oaks Plaza Pier and Platinum Apartments, was Luna Park. The main attraction was the wooden Big Dipper. The ride was 800 metres long (2,600 ft.); lasted three minutes; could reach speeds of 84 kilometres per hour (52 mph) and when all three roller coaster trains were operating, could carry 72 people. Years later, after severe storms, safety concerns, the Great Depression and high rental prices, Luna Park closed. The Big Dipper was dismantled and taken to Sydney.

A hotchpotch of tin sheds and tents housed Side Show Alley in this space after the closure of Luna Park up until 1968.

Remain in the Rotunda.
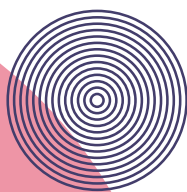
18
PUBLIC BATHS
1876

Glenelg Baths, 1896. PH-GL-0193.

Looking directly west toward the ocean from the Rotunda, and between the gap of the present day Beachouse and Oaks Plaza Pier and Platinum Apartments, was once a bathing space enclosed by stakes 4 inches apart, designed to protect swimmers from shark attacks.

There were 110 dressing cubicles, diving boards and refreshment rooms. The baths were accessed from a jetty extending from the beach in front of Colley Reserve. They were in use until 1920, when storm damage wreaked havoc and patronage began to dwindle.

Remain in the Rotunda.

19

BEACHOUSE
1982, 2006 | 4 COLLEY TERRACE

Crowds gathering at Glenelg Beach around Baxter's Merry-Go-Round with the baths in the background, 1912. SLSA PRG 280/1/9/6.

Glenelg's long association with amusement parks and sideshows peaked with the construction of, ''Magic Mountain'' at what is now the Beachouse (located south-west of the Rotunda). The design of the fun park, which was meant to resemble a sand dune, was largely criticised as being aesthetically displeasing. Taking pride of place in the theme park were giant waterslides, said to be the largest in the southern hemisphere, and a Merry-Go-Round imported from England in 1902 by the Baxter family. Look for the now modernised Merry-Go-Round in the eastern side of the current complex.

Walk in a southerly direction through Holdfast Walk back to Moseley Square.
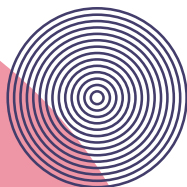
✱ FIRST LANDING
1836 | CHAPPELL DRIVE

A depiction of Europeans landing in Holdfast Bay in 1836 by J. D. Stone. PH-GL-0063.

At the western end of Chappell Drive looking north is the site of the first landing of European settlers on the South Australian mainland. The flag mast erected in Chappell Drive, replicates the original that was installed on top of a sand dune in 1836.

Along the banks of the Patawalonga around 200 of the first European settlers constructed makeshift huts and tents. Each settler would have been hoping for a better life on the other side of the world.

Over many long months, they braved the perils of the ocean, including some of the most treacherous seas in the world.
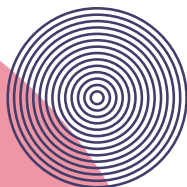
✳ OLD GUM TREE

1836 | OLD GUM TREE RESERVE
43 MACFARLANE STREET

*Glenelg's first Brass Band in front of the Old Gum Tree, 1887.
PH-GN-0314.*

The Old Gum Tree is the site chosen by the first Governor, John Hindmarsh, to read the Proclamation of the State of South Australia on 28 December 1836. About 200 settlers were present, among them the Colonial Secretary, Robert Gouger.

Kaurna Elders and community, state and local representatives and descendants of pioneers gather at this site on 28 December each year to hear the Proclamation re-read by the current Governor of South Australia.
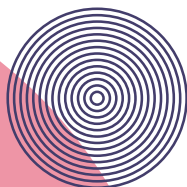
✳ GLENELG AIR-RAID SHELTER

1942 | RUGLESS TERRACE, GLENELG
(NEXT TO GLENELG OVAL)

Work commences on the Glenelg Air-Raid Shelter, 1942. PH-GE-0047.

Glenelg Air-Raid Control Shelter 1707 was built by the Engineering and Water Supply Department for the Civil Defence Authorities. Built when threat of invasion during WWII was at its highest, the shelter was one of seven that formed a communication network with headquarters in Adelaide. It was used to accommodate the local Air-Raid Precaution's Network comprising of volunteer telephonists, message clerks, liaison officers, messengers, casualty liaison officers and fire wardens. In the event of bombing raids or invasion, those on duty at the shelter would coordinate the evacuation of Holdfast Bay citizens and distribute emergency personnel to effected areas.
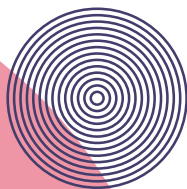
✱
PATAWALONGA RIVER
WIGLEY RESERVE

View of the Patawalonga mouth in 1956. PH-GN-0504.

Originally a tidal estuary, the Patawalonga, which takes its name from the Kaurna language and translates to 'place of the branches of the swamp gum', was seen as the ideal location for a boat harbour. Colonel William Light originally observed the river mouth when surveying the site for settlement. For hundreds of years prior, the Kaurna had used the Patawalonga and its surrounding environment as a hunting ground, a place to find shelter and a central point for celebration and trade.
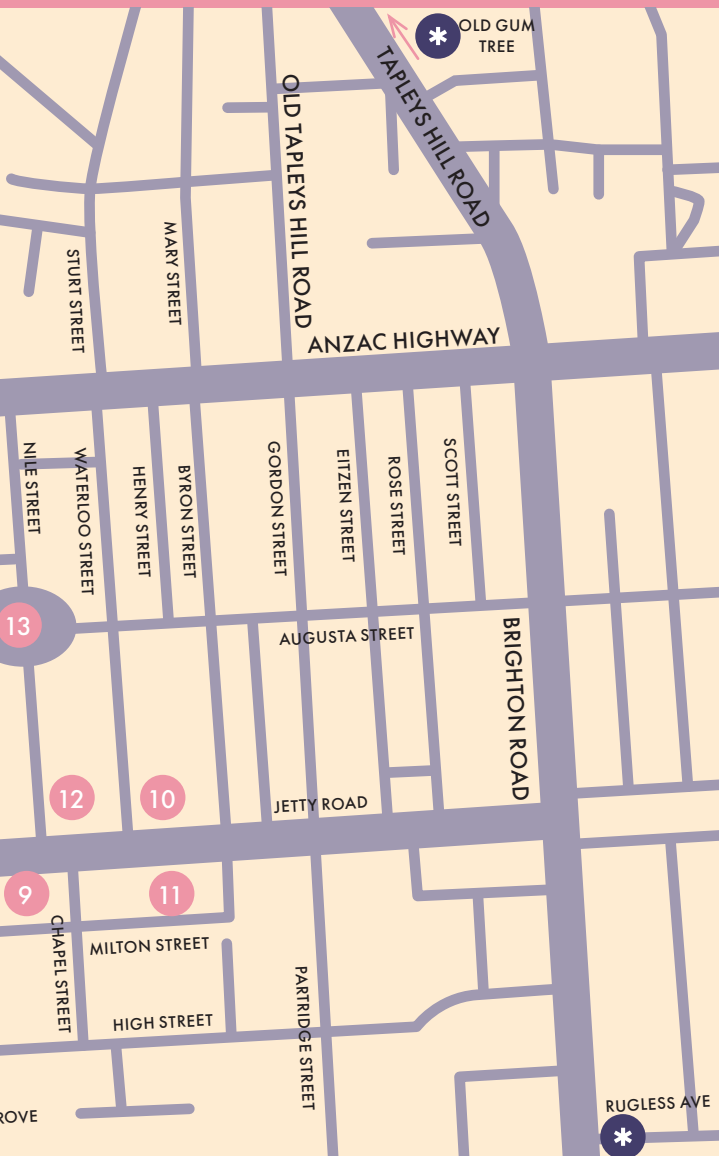
Post colonisation, the Patawalonga served as the first significant river port for the colony of South Australia. From 1870 onward there have been many attempts to secure safe moorings. The present weir and boat haven were completed in 1960 and updated in 2001.

PATAWALONGA

CHAPPELL DRIVE

COLLEY TERRACE

DURHAM STREET

SUSSEX STREET

15-19

14

MOSELEY SQUARE

1
6
3
4
5
2
7
8

ST JOHNS ROW

MOSELEY STREET

RAYMOND GR

1 GLENELG TOWN HALL Moseley Square	**7** JETTY HOTEL 28 Jetty Road
2 GLENELG JETTY Moseley Square	**8** RYANS EMPORIUM 46 Jetty Road
3 PIONEER MEMORIAL Moseley Square	**9** ST ANDREW'S BY THE SEA 92 Jetty Road
4 STAMFORD GRAND HOTEL Moseley Square	**10** SAVINGS BANK OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA 79 Jetty Road
5 GLENELG TRAM TERMINUS Moseley Square	**11** THE STRAND 108 Jetty Road
6 POST OFFICE 15 Moseley Square	**12** NILE STREET

OLD GUM
TREE

OLD TAPLEYS HILL ROAD

TAPLEYS HILL ROAD

STURT STREET

MARY STREET

ANZAC HIGHWAY

NILE STREET

WATERLOO STREET

HENRY STREET

BYRON STREET

GORDON STREET

EITZEN STREET

ROSE STREET

SCOTT STREET

AUGUSTA STREET

BRIGHTON ROAD

13

12

10

JETTY ROAD

9

11

CHAPEL STREET

MILTON STREET

HIGH STREET

PARTRIDGE STREET

GROVE

RUGLESS AVE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE HISTORY OF HOLDFAST BAY?

Visit the Bay Discovery Centre
Glenelg Town Hall, Moseley Square, Glenelg
Open daily 10am – 4pm
8179 9599 | holdfast.sa.gov.au/BDC

Visit the Holdfast Bay History Centre
14 Jetty Road, Brighton
Open Thursdays 10am – 4pm and by appointment
8229 9916 | history@holdfast.sa.gov.au
holdfast.sa.gov.au/historycentre

Visit the Glenelg Air-Raid Shelter
Rugless Terrace, Glenelg
Third Sunday of each month, 1pm–3pm, Sept-May
8229 9916 | holdfast.sa.gov.au/air-raid

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