Alexander Forrest, was sworn in as Mayor of Perth at the city's firefighting equipment, including a 12-man fire squad on this site in 1833. The initial friendliness and aid shown to the early settlers by the local Nyoongah people discouraged the people from crime. Following this, it was the site of Parliament House, designed by George Temple Poole, which was built in 1897 and has been described as one of Australia's finest and most distinctive Free Classical buildings. The corner of Cathedral Avenue and St Georges Terrace marks Point Zero: the point from which all measurements of distances from Perth are still taken.

Walk east along St Georges Terrace and up the steps to St Georges Cathedral.

When John Septimus Roe, naval officer, surveyor and explorer, first laid out the City of Perth in 1829, he envisaged a powerful city at the centre of a strong economy. St Georges Terrace was the focus of this design, a broad avenue running parallel to the shores of the majestic Swan River. Today, St Georges Terrace continues its role as the city’s powerhouse. Follow this trail to discover the history of the city through its iconic places of influence. As you walk along, keep your eyes out for plaques placed in the pavement that recognise the many people who have influenced the growth of Perth and Western Australia.

**PERTH TOWN HALL**

The Perth Town Hall was designed by Richard Roach Jewell and James Manning. It took three years to build using convict labour and had its formal opening on 1 June 1870. Jewell designed many other prominent Perth buildings including Wesley Church and parts of the Central Government Offices adjacent to the Town Hall. The Perth Town Hall was designed in an architecturally pleasing, almost classical style as a showpiece for the colony. The undercroft formed a covered marketplace that operated for a few years before it became too costly. The space was later used to house the city’s fire-fighting equipment, including a 12-man fire squad on this site in 1833. The initial friendliness and aid shown to the early settlers by the local Nyoongah people discouraged the people from crime. Following this, it was the site of Parliament House, designed by George Temple Poole, which was built in 1897 and has been described as one of Australia's finest and most distinctive Free Classical buildings. The corner of Cathedral Avenue and St Georges Terrace marks Point Zero: the point from which all measurements of distances from Perth are still taken.

Make your way towards the corner of Barrack Street and St Georges Terrace. The Central Government Offices are on St Georges Terrace across from Stirling Gardens.

**ST GEORGE’S CATHEDRAL**

You are welcome to wander inside the striking St George’s Cathedral. Completed in 1888, this was where many of Perth’s prominent people worshipped on Sundays. Next to the Cathedral is Burt Memorial Hall, a gift from the family in 1887 in memory of two sons of Septimus Burt who were killed in World War 1. The Burt family played an important role in Perth’s history—the first Chief Justice was Sir Archibald Burt and a hundred years later was his descendant, Sir Francis Burt (see stop 11). Tours of St George’s Cathedral and Burt Memorial Hall can be arranged by contacting the Director, Cathedral Education Centre on 08 9225 5766.

Walk down the steps back to St Georges Terrace.

**THE DERBYNEY**

The romantic style-georgian house was built in 1859 by ticket-of-leave man for the cathedral's first Dean and was home to the Anglican Deans of Perth until 1953. The Deanery was funded by Western Australia's first Bishop, Bishop Hale, who also built the Diocesan (stop 10) and an impressive house for himself (stop 12). Before the Deanery was built, public stocks and a whipping post were located here to discourage the people from crime. Following this, it was the site for Perth’s first jail, which was replaced by the gaol that now forms part of the Western Australian Museum. Melville Groove, the leader of the tribe and the father of famous Nyoongah warrior Yagan, was executed by firing squad on this site in 1833. The initial friendliness and cooperation between the natives of the Swan River region and the white settlers deteriorated as both groups began to feel their way of life was threatened by the other. A statue of Yagan, who was killed by bounty hunters soon after his father’s execution, can be seen on Rottnest Island.

Cross St Georges Terrace at the Pier Street traffic lights to view Government House. Government House is still the primary residence of Western Australia’s Governor.

**STIRLING GARDENS & OLD COURT HOUSE MUSEUM**

As you enter Stirling Gardens, you are met by the statue of Alexander Forrest. This statue was carved by a young Italian sculptor, Petro Peronzi, to commemorate the founder of Perth city.

Exit Stirling Gardens at the vehicle gates on Barrack Street and cross to the Esplanade at the traffic lights.

This magnificent building was completed in 1864 to the delight of the Swan River colonists. The building replaced the previous Government House which was deemed inadequate. Governor Stirling drafted official letters under an umbrella to prevent being drenched by the leaky roof. The current building is set in 3.2 hectares of beautiful gardens, lawns and trees. The parsons of Government House are open to the public most Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays between 10am and 2pm. The Governor hosts open days at Government House a few times a year. Telephone 08 9249 9999 for more information.

The Government House site has been in continuous occupation as the principal vice-regal residence in Western Australia since the city was founded in 1829. The current building is a dog-earred on the census maps occupied by Governor Stirling and his family for the first four years of settlement, from 1829 until 1832.

Walk west along St Georges Terrace to the entrance of Stirling Gardens at the corner of Barrack Street.

This building was completed in 1882 to house the Walet Club. Named after Governor Frederick Weld in 1871, this club offered a place for Perth’s powerful and influential men to gather in a social setting in order to discuss current affairs. Fifty foundation members, of whom two-thirds were Government employees, made up the original membership of the club which still operates today. The Working Men’s Institute, for the less influential members of Perth society, was located in a squat adrift near the Perth Point. While at this site you may hear the sound of the Swan Bell rings in the specially constructed bell tower by the river at Barrack Square. The Bell Tower, one of the city’s most popular attractions, is a great place to see the city from above.

Walk west along the Esplanade and up the first street on the right, Shenton Court.

KARRAKATTA CLUB

Sheenwood Court

This 1937 Art Deco building is the current home of Australia’s oldest women’s club. The wives of Perth’s influential men founded the Karrakatta Club in 1894 with the intention of allowing members to prepare papers and share information on matters of social and political importance. It clearly succeeded; because in 1951 one of the founding members of this club became Australia’s first female Parliamentary Editor Caroline Chisholm was an accomplished member of Perth society. An orphan by the time she married at 18 in 1869, Caroline was an active member of her community and organisations, served as a Justice of the Peace and was elected to the Western Australian Parliament at the age of 36. She was the second woman in the British Empire to be elected as a Member of Parliament. A vocal campaigner for the rights of women and children with an underlying philosophy of community service, Caroline Chisholm donated her parliamentary salary to charity. The clock tower located at the entrance to King’s Park was built in her memory in 1934, two years after her death. A University was also named after this influential and accomplished lady.

Walk up to St Georges Terrace and turn left. Continue west along the terrace past William Street.
If you are walking this trail on the weekend, walk look over the Parterre Gardens to Bishops House. Walkway at the perimeter of St Georges Square to statue you saw earlier on in the trail, completed in 1902. The difference between this statue, completed in 1999, and the Alexander Forrest is found in the Forrest Centre. Notice the chemist in Perth and Walter Padbury a pioneer pastoralist, first liquor license in the State and started a merchant. Neighbours on the terrace included many of Perth’s influential people such as Lionel Samson who secured the price of any blocks on the streets behind. Alexander’s Rigby’s. When Perth was originally laid out, the price of Alexander Forrest on St Georges Terrace in 1895, has been A replica of Forrest House, the home purchased by the Government to establish this school, whose programme of study was based on the teachings of the Anglican Church. Continue west along St Georges Terrace.

Perth Boys’ School was the city’s first purpose-built school, constructed by convicts in 1834. The building was constructed to look like a church so as to impose a sense of duty, attentiveness and obedience on its students. Environments in the Government run school were abundant during the gold boom from the 1880s to 1890s and the building could no longer accommodate the school, which then relocated to James Street in Northbridge. A lack of educational facilities in the early years of the colony led the newspapers to warn that Western Australia was in danger of becoming a “dignified savannah.” In the end, the threat passed by the increasing popularity of Roman Catholic schools from which led the Anglican Church to urge the Government to establish this school, whose programme of study was based on the teachings of the Anglican Church. Continue west along St Georges Terrace.

BISHOPS HOUSE
225 ST GEORGES TERRACE (1932)
Bishop Hale was the first Anglican Archbishop of WA and arrived in 1868. He was the son of a wealthy English landowner, who had left him an impressive fortune. He won the confidence of people in all classes and his generous and fatherly character earned him the title of the Good Bishop. By the time Bishop Hale left the colony in 1875, he had built a number of grand buildings along St Georges Terrace which are still in use today, including this private residence for his family. Today this building is home to the restaurant, Lambert’s Bishops House.

Continue up the hill along St Georges Terrace to Barracks Arch.

BARRACKS ARCH
266 ST GEORGES TERRACE
You are now standing at the ‘top end’ of the terrace under Barracks Arch, all that remains of the Pensioner Barracks. The Barracks was completed in 1866 to house the Pensioner Guards, ex-soldiers employed to guard the convicts. Although convict transportation ended in 1868, some Pensioner Guards remained in the Barracks until it was taken over by the Public Works Department. Public protest stopped the Barracks from being demolished in 1962 to clear the view for the parliamentarians at the new Parliament House, but the accommodation wings were eventually removed to make way for Kawarri Freeway in 1966, with the arch preserved as a compromise to the public.

From here you can choose to follow the trail up to Parliament House and Kings Park, or catch a bus back down to step 15. Please note that all buses within City of Perth boundaries are free.