

The first store & Bank in Junee, about 1882.



The first Railway Station at Junee, about 1880.



J.S. Taylor's original Carriage Works in Broadway, about 1908.

8. Solicitor's Chambers

Russell Chambers was built in the 1920's for Alphonse Crawley, son of C.W.Crawley, a solicitor, who commenced his practice in Junee in 1910. He continued to work until he was in his eighties. This charming small building features a tiled entry with wrought iron rail and gate and windows with leaded panes.

Continue down Broadway to:

9. Athenium Theatre

Built to a modified Art Nouveau/Arts & Crafts design by architects Kaberry & Chard, the Athenium opened on 10th October 1929.

It was built for the partnership of Nicholas Laurantus and Ben Cummins and was managed at first by George Laurantus. It remained a centre of Junee's social and entertainment life until television took its audience away and it closed in 1972.

While still largely intact, its interior decoration was destroyed by a subsequent unsympathetic coat of paint. It has been refurbished by the Junee Shire Council, assisted by a local committee. It is one of only three intact movie theatres to survive in country areas.

Look across Broadway to the other side to see the extensive facade of the town's largest former department store.



The Broadway Hotel in 1928, looking sad after a major flood swept through the town.

10. Broadway Stores

J.S.Taylor came to Junee in 1888 and set up a very successful Carriage Works on the site now occupied by the Broadway Stores building.

He was also an early and enthusiastic motorist, who foresaw that horse drawn vehicles would eventually become obsolete, so he branched out into a general store.

In 1917 he purchased the business of the Junee Providoring Co., plus the business and premises of Symington's Emporium (now Vinnies Store). He conducted the business in these premises until he had built a new store on the site of his old carriage works in Broadway.

By 1921 he was employing 36 people, but then disaster struck, the new store burned down in November 1921. He quickly re-built and the present building opened in 1923.

The Broadway Stores quickly became the town's leading emporium and traded successfully until about 1961, when the family sold the business. It eventually closed as a full department store in 1972. The original building has been remodelled and now houses a variety of businesses.

Continue down Broadway, taking care crossing Crawley Street, to a point adjacent to the Junee Ex-Services Club. Looking across Broadway, the facade of the former Broadway Hotel may be appreciated.

11. The Broadway Hotel

Originally called the Royal Hotel, established in 1885, it was a single storied structure with a verandah.

In 1914 the present building was constructed, the style having echoes of the Indian Raj with the striped facade and the false dome shape in the centre of the parapet. The decorative cast iron work was made at the local Pioneer Foundry.

In 1999 the licence was sold away and the building was donated to the local council, who refurbished it as a home for the Junee Historical Society and it now houses their museum.

This represents the end of the walking tour. You may decide to visit the Museum housed in the former hotel building, or to refresh yourself at one of the nearby coffee shops, or at the Club.

The West Side

Where it all began



Early Junee sketch

The Westside story is a tale of two very different men and two fortunes.

In 1876 Christopher Crawley selected land on both sides of the new railway line, the western part directly in front of the new Railway Station. In 1878 he opened his Railway Hotel and rapidly made a small fortune. As the settlement grew, many wished to buy land, but he was reluctant to part with any, selling only a few blocks at hugely inflated prices. He then sold his hotel and with the proceeds, plus the sale of land, was able to retire, build his grand 'Monte Cristo' homestead and lead the life of a gentleman farmer. His refusal to sell land led the town to develop in a most illogical way.

George Dobbys was a different type of person, energetic and civic minded. He started a store in 1876 on Crawley's land, which was an immediate success. He quickly added a bakery, post office and bank. However in 1880 he saw a chance to purchase land for development and bought 40 acres to the south of the official village. By 1881 he had it surveyed and put up for sale. The same year he sold his store and concentrated his business interest on the eastern side. Unlike Crawley, he was heavily involved in civic matters and was Mayor of the town on several occasions.

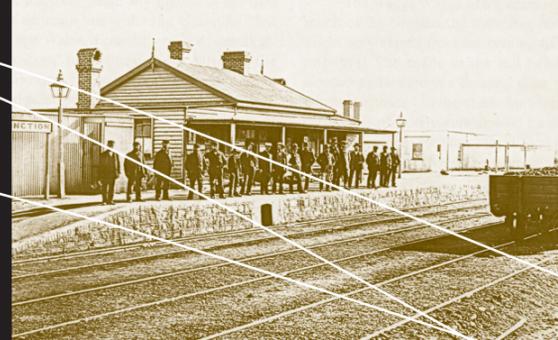
Begin your walk at the Visitor Information Booth in Dobbys Park. Opposite you will see the Hotel Junee, with a former general store alongside. This was the site of Crawley's Railway Hotel and Dobbys' General Store, the very beginning of settlement in Junee.

DISCOVER HERITAGE

Thank you to David Walster of Junee who has provided his time and knowledge to compile this walking tour. Text by David and photos from the Walster Family Archive



For More Information
Junee Visitor Information Centre
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Junee

west side walk

west of the tracks

2. Solicitor's Office

The double storied building on the left, with its charming cantilevered balcony and arched openings to the ground floor was constructed in 1885, by T.C.Humphrys, then owner of the store next door. He leased the building to the Union Bank for 20 years. After that period, it became the office for F.A.Commins, his son-in-law, who was a solicitor. The building is still owned by his descendants and the firm only vacated the premises in 2009.

3. General Store Building

Next door is a former general store, the building is a fine and intact example of a small Victorian Emporium, built in 1885. Internally, a large clerestory lantern, running the full length of the shop, floods the interior with natural light. The Italianate facade, with its verandah and decorative brackets complements the building to its left.

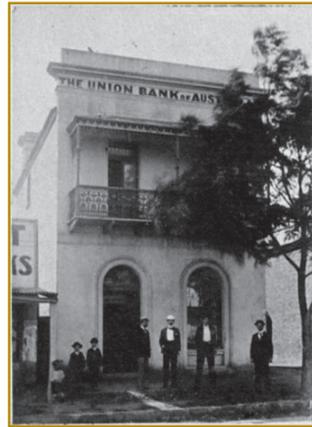
4. Hotel Junee

The present Hotel Junee was formerly the Railway Hotel. When C.W.Crawley opened his doors in 1878, he was just in time to service the thirsty workers who were constructing the new rail line from Goulburn to Albury. With such a captive clientele, it was an immediate success. A report of the time stated that Crawley had paid a Wagga brewer as much as four thousand pounds (\$8000.00) for one month's supply of beer and lemonade, not taking into consideration wine and spirits. The two Wagga breweries could not keep up the supply of beer to Junee. This is at a time when two pounds (\$4.00) was a good weekly wage.

However it needs to be realised that the town had no water supply, relying only on tanks and wells.

Crawley sold the hotel in 1884. In 1911 the owner of the time commissioned Wagga architect William Monks to design a new larger modern hotel. He chose to design in the fashionable Art Nouveau manner. The building was constructed in two stages, the right hand half first, so that part of the old hotel could continue trading, then the left hand half. It was completed in 1912. The specially designed cast iron decoration imitates wrought iron. It was made at Cohoe & Walster's local Pioneer Foundry.

Taking care, cross Seignior Street to the Hotel Junee and proceed to the building across the laneway.



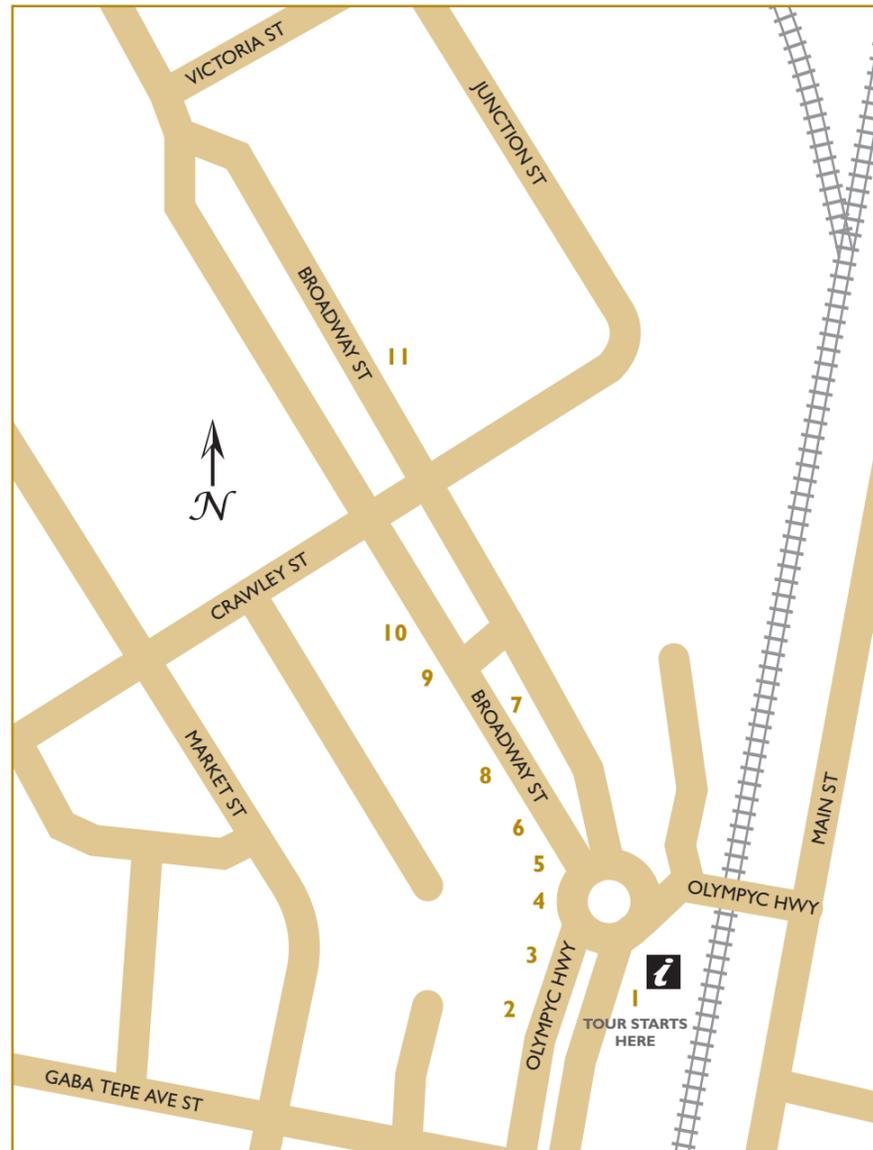
The Union Bank of Australia in 1896.



Seignior's store as rebuilt in 1885. Shown here when it was the Junee Providoring Co. about 1906.



The Railway Hotel, later the Hotel Junee, just before its demolition & rebuilding in 1911/12



1. The walk begins from the Visitor Information Booth in Dobbys Park, Seignior Street.

2. Solicitor's Office

3. General Store Building

4. Hotel Junee

5. Former Assembly Hall

6. ANZ Bank Building

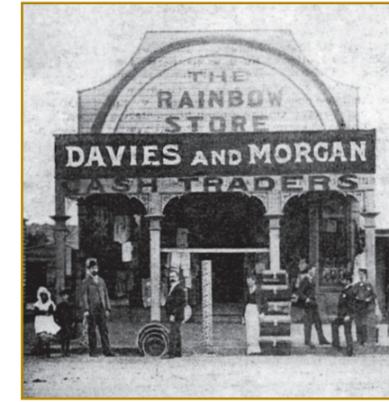
7. War Memorial & Garden Plots

8. Solicitor's Chambers

9. Athenium Theatre

10. Broadway Stores

11. The Broadway Hotel



Crawley's Assembly Hall in 1896, then being used as the Rainbow Store.



The new Union Bank of Australia seen here about 1908.



The 1900 Cohoe & Walster Memorial Cannon for the Boer War seen here in 1917.

5. Former Assembly Hall

Across a laneway from the hotel stands one of the town's oldest buildings. Built in 1884 by C.W.Crawley as an Assembly Hall, it has had many uses in its time, as a theatre, a drill hall and several varieties of shop. Built of locally milled cypress pine and corrugated iron, it acquired a new brick front in the 1920s. Its first major use was a grand ball to celebrate the opening of the new Roman Catholic church, St.Joseph's, in 1884, soon after the hall was built. 120 people crammed the hall and the supper was held in relays on the stage.

Turn into Broadway and continue to the ANZ Bank.

6. ANZ Bank Building

The Union Bank of Australia, later the ANZ Bank, had outgrown its site in Seignior Street by the early 1900s. As the lease was to expire in 1905, the bank commissioned leading Melbourne architect Walter Butler to design a new banking chamber and residence. Butler had trained in London and was Melbourne's leading exponent of the Arts & Crafts Style. This sophisticated building combines fashionable Art Nouveau decoration with the solid comfort and style of Arts & Crafts. Completed in 1905, with some modification, it remains faithful to Butler's vision.

Turn to face across the street to see the Memorial Clock.

7. War Memorial & Garden Plots

After the 1914-18 World War, money was raised locally and this memorial in the form of a clock tower, designed in the Neo-Georgian style, was built in the 1920s. At the same time, the Junee Council constructed Garden Plots in both Seignior Street & Broadway. The palms planted then are now in magnificent maturity. The memorial replaces an earlier one for the Boer War, consisting of a cannon, made locally at Cohoe & Walster's Pioneer Foundry. It was presented to the town in 1900 and was erected on a stone plinth on this spot.

Continue down Broadway to:

