

1901 Commonwealth of Australia inaugurated, with colonies becoming States, Parliament opening at Exhibition Building, Melbourne the Federal capital until 1927
1910 First air flights in Victoria by Harry Houdini at Diggers Rest, and by a French team at Altona
1912 First Australian banknotes printed at Queen's Warehouse, now bars introduced, a measure not repeated for 50 years
1916 Six o'clock closing of hotel Sydney to Melbourne
1917 First aeroplane flight from Melbourne
1933 Population reaches one million people attended, on Armistice Day, 317,000 celebrations, includes opening of Plum Road
1934 Shrine of Remembrance dedicated, on Armistice Day, 317,000 people attended, on Armistice Day, 317,000
1935 Centenary of Melbourne Macpherson Hobartson bridge at
1947 First group of postwar migrants arrive at Station Pier, Port Melbourne. Burgeoning population and industrial expansion spurt 14 years of sustained growth
1948 First Australian-made Holden car produced at Fishermans Bend
1954 HM Queen Elizabeth II visits during Australian tour
1956 Melbourne hosted XIV Olympic. First Australian television station, HSV7, began transmission
1959 Opening of Sidney Myer Music Bowl
1960 City's population reaches 2m. Monash University opened
1966 Hotel bars permitted to stay open until 10pm. Decimal currency introduced
1967 Australian Prime Minister Harold Holt disappeared in surf, off Portsea. La Trobe University opens judicial execution
1975 Centenary Test Match won by Australia at Melbourne Cricket Ground. Victorian Football League opens completing Arts Centre complex
1997 Crown Casino opens at the west end of Southbank redevelopment
1998 New Melbourne Museum opens in Carlton Gardens
2002 Federation Square opens

MELBOURNE'S TIMELINE

Discover Melbourne's history at a glance

MELBOURNE'S HISTORY AT A GLANCE

The 1920s

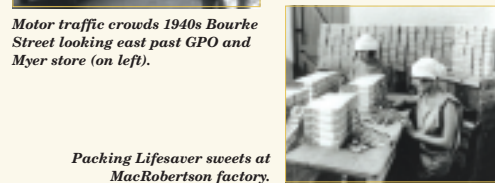
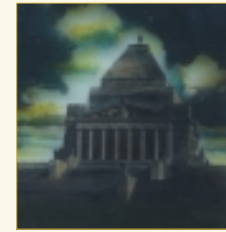
This was a period of recovery and expansion after World War I. With the loss of thousands of men, women took a larger place in the workforce – in factories rather than as domestics. Melbourne was changing with a new building boom and suburban expansion based on electric-powered trains and trams.



Victoria's young men leave Melbourne Docks for the WWI fields of Europe – many thousands never to return. They are commemorated in the Shrine of Remembrance, dedicated on Armistice Day 1934.



Motor traffic crowds 1940s Bourke Street looking east past GPO and Myer store (on left).



Packing Lifesaver sweets at MacRobertson factory.

The 1950s

Migrants from post war Europe arrived in great numbers, Victoria became the most industrialised state of the Commonwealth. Melbourne hosted the 1956 Olympics and was reborn as a great cosmopolitan city.



Migrants such as these Pelaco shirt machinists were pivotal in the manufacturing boom after WWII.

The Myer Emporium in Bourke Street, getting into the Olympic spirit in 1956.



Trams, buses, cars and people through the Swanston - Bourke Street intersection, as they still do half a century later.



The 1990s

During this decade Melbourne's cultural institutions were renewed and rehoused. The Yarra River became a new focus for social and cultural life with the creation near the Arts Centre of Southbank and Federation Square, and new Docklands precincts on the lower river.

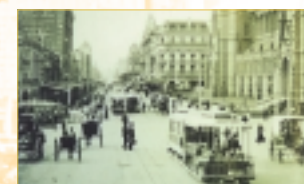


Federation Square has become a meeting place and a talking point for

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1803-4 A party led by NSW Surveyor General Charles Grimes travelled round Port Phillip, discovering the Yarra for its freshwater and convicts and free settlers abandoned near Sorrento, but seven months.

1835 John Pascoe Fawkner, son of founding party from Launceston in land claimed by John Phillip Association's vicinity of the present settlement on Museum (former Immigration office, named, with William Lonsdale as

1837 Governor Richard Bourke Hoddle's survey and plan for Melbourne, named for Robert Minister. First land sales.

1839 Last floods. Charles Joseph La Trobe arrived as Superintendent, lived at Jolimont and became Lieutenant Governor in 1851.

1842 Melbourne incorporated as a Town; first mayor Henry Condell, Scottish brewer

1848 Melbourne becomes a City Anglican bishop installed as installed as Roman Catholic bishop.

1851 Black Thursday bushfires under a governor, an appointed Executive and a Legislative Council discovered in September. Gold central Victoria.

1852 Influx of gold immigrants starts.

1854 Telegraph link with Sandridge (Port Melbourne) railway opened, both firsts for Australia newspaper first published.

1856 First Legislative Assembly Spring St. building. Public Library, now State Library, opens in Swanston St.

1860 Burke and Wills expedition to Gulf of Carpentaria left Royal Park, commemorated by memorial (now in Swanston St)

1880 International Exhibition in Exhibition building. Women admitted to University of Melbourne. Telephone Exchange Melbourne named at Melbourne Gaol.

1881 Population 283,000 at start of RMIT Working Men's College, now completed as part of Melbourne Port extension into the Yarra.

1888 Centennial Exhibition in Exhibition Building. Present Princes Bridge opened.

1891 Population 491,000. Start of building society collapses devastating Yarra flood.

1893 Bank collapses signal start of depression. Victoria Dock (now Harbour) opened.

MELBOURNE'S HISTORY AT A GLANCE

Early Melbourne

Woiwurrung and Bunwurrung people of the Kulin nation are the original owners of the area around Port Phillip now occupied by Greater Melbourne with the Yarra and Maribyrnong Rivers at the city's core.

From the time of first European settlement in 1835, until the discovery of gold in 1851, Melbourne was a pastoral port centre. The first settlers came from Tasmania, from other parts of New South Wales (NSW) and from Britain and Europe. The area, called the Port Phillip District from 1837, separated from NSW to become the Colony of Victoria in 1851.



A depiction of Melbourne in 1838 from the south bank near the original falls looking towards the western hill near William Street.



Melbourne's organised grid of streets is evident in this early painting of the city in 1838.



Looking from the south bank of the Yarra - circa 1850.



Bourke St Post Office 1857, soon to be rebuilt as GPO.



Swanston Street circa 1849 from St. Paul's Church under construction.

The Gold Rush of the 1850s

The discovery of gold in central Victoria brought intense change to Melbourne, which was soon overrun with hopeful gold seekers from all over the world. Many came from the Californian gold fields, from Britain and Europe, and a considerable number from China. Melbourne's became Australia's largest and most important city.

Hustle and bustle of Cotes Wharf, 1850s.



Bourke Street - 1862, full of cabs and other horse drawn traffic.



People out and about in Collins Street - 1870s.

Marvellous Melbourne - the 1880s

A period of great financial and cultural growth, when many finely designed buildings were constructed. Melbourne's population reached 500,000 just 50 years after its establishment. Collins Street was the social and financial centre, and cable tram routes linked the city with its expanding suburbs. The Heidelberg school of artists - *The City Bushmen* - such as Tom Roberts, Arthur Streeton, Charles Conder, Frederick McCubbin, Clara Southern and Jean Sutherland explored Melbourne's rural outskirts.



Stylish people and buildings in Collins Street.



Chinese children in Little Bourke Street.



Swanston Street with the new St. Paul's Cathedral circa 1890.