

Central Market Historic Pub-crawl



The Metropolitan Hotel on Grote Street, opposite the Central Market, c.1930 [SLSA : B 9592]

1 Langham Hotel (1880–1968)

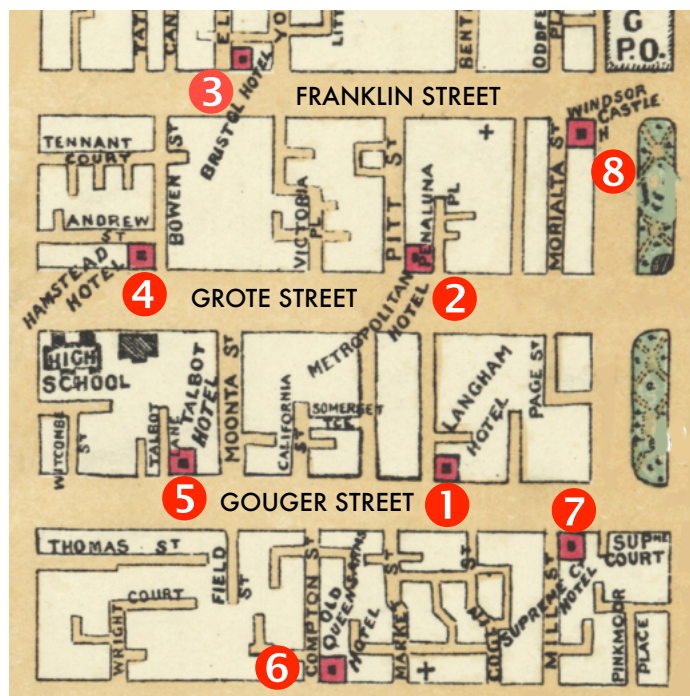
The City Market Hotel was founded by brewers, Haussens/Bucknall & Botting, in 1880, renamed in the same year to the Langham Hotel. It was given an 'art deco' makeover in the late-1930s but succumbed to development of the Market Arcade in 1968.



Langham Hotel being remodelled in about 1939 [SLSA B-8750]



Hotel Langham in May 1940 [SLSA B-9568]



2 Metropolitan Hotel (1858–)

The Metropolitan Hotel was originally built on a neighbouring property (see below) in 1858 by John Penaluna, mason/builder and likely ex-transportee. A completely new pub was built on the current site and the license transferred in 1884. The original pub was demolished in 1909.

The new hotel was extended and modernised in 1908–09, 1912–13 and 1928–29 incorporating electrical lighting, modern plumbing, a separate oyster bar, a "bottle department" and boasting the then longest front bar (over 20m) in Adelaide. Located opposite the popular Central Market, in 1925 "The Met" was described as "one of the best known hotels in Adelaide".



Metropolitan Hotel, c.1892 [SLSA BRG-400-1-76]



The original location of the Metropolitan Hotel, on the north-western corner of Grote Street and Penaluna Lane, c.1880 [Adelaide City Council: "Smith's Survey"]



Detail from Duryea's panorama of Adelaide showing the early Central Market and the Metropolitan Hotel on its original site, c.1870 [SLSA B 16004/7]

3 Bristol Tavern/Hotel Franklin (1855-)

The Bristol Tavern was founded by George Hulbert Sr in March 1855. In 1883 it was extended to include South Australia's first 'Trades Hall' and in 1910-11 the original Bristol Tavern was rebuilt in the same style as the extension. A balcony was added in 1912. From about 1875 the Bristol Tavern was closely associated with the Eight-Hours [Labour] Association and on 31 January 1884 the inaugural meeting of the Trades and Labor Council [of South Australia] was held in the pub's 'big room' [SLSA SRG 1/1/1]. The Bristol Tavern/Hotel was renamed the Hotel Franklin in 1940.



4 Hampshire (1856-2018?)

Possibly first known as the Coach House Tavern, the pub was licensed in December 1856 as the Hampshire House, in 1869 renamed the Hampshire Hotel. Owned by Blades and Chambers' Dragon Brewery, in 1911 the pub was rebuilt to an 'Arts & Crafts' design by prominent architect F. Kenneth Milne. The pub has traded only intermittently after 2000 and is now (2025) closed.



5 Robin Hood Inn/Talbot Inn (1848-)

The Robin Hood Inn was licensed in September 1848 by Joseph Fisher Cowley but relicensed as the Talbot Inn in March 1850 by George Davenport. It was partially rebuilt and enlarged in 1879-80 (the architect was James Cumming) and again in 1883 (Cumming & Davies).



6 Old Queen's Arms (1851-2016)

Probably licensed as The Star in June 1850, the pub opened as the Old Queen's Arms in March 1851. In 1882-3 it was rebuilt to a design by R C Richardson. The name was changed to the Hotel Wright in 2011 but the pub closed in 2016 with unrealised plans for it to be integrated into a new development.



7 Supreme Court (1853-1970)

Licensed as the Rainbow Tavern in 1853, the pub was rebuilt in 1872. In 1874 its name was changed to the Supreme Court Hotel and it was rebuilt on the adjoining block to a design by English and Soward in 1881. The pub closed in 1970 and the building repurposed as the Jeffcott Chambers in 1985.



8 Windsor Castle (1850-1954)

The Windsor Castle Inn was built by Edward Edwards for Thomas Chalk Sr. From 1878-95 it was leased to Blades and Chambers' Dragon Brewery and effectively rebuilt in the neo-classical style in about 1879. Verandahs were added in May 1910. The pub was demolished in 1954 and replaced by the MLC glass-tower.

