Mill Cottage Museum

Address
Flinders Park
20 Flinders Highway
Port Lincoln SA 5606

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Mill Cottage Museum

Opening Hours
Wednesday 10am to 2pm
Sunday 2pm to 4pm
Closed June—August
(group bookings all year by prior arrangement)

Admission
Adults $5.00
Concession $4.00
Children $0.50

A visit to this yesteryear homestead is an enjoyable, nostalgic step into the past.

City of Port Lincoln
Level One, Civic Centre, 60 Tasman Terrace
PO Box 1787, Port Lincoln
South Australia 5606
T: 08 8621 2300 F: 08 8621 2399
E: plcc@plcc.sa.gov.au
www.portlincoln.sa.gov.au

Museum Curators
Port Lincoln History Group Inc.
portlincolnhistory@gmail.com
PO Box 2882
PORT LINCOLN SA 5606

0429 676 661 (Jackie)

The City of Port Lincoln Council owns and maintains Mill Cottage, the Museum Collection & Flinders Park

In the beautiful setting of Port Lincoln’s attractive Flinders Park, an old Pioneer Home built in 1866 for Joseph K Bishop
The sailing ship “Dorset”, under the command of Captain John Bishop arrived in Port Lincoln March 1839 bringing some of the first white settlers to the district. Captain Bishop gave up the sea and established a General store and his home, ‘Overcourt’, on the site of the current Port Lincoln Hotel.

Mill Cottage was built in 1866 for one of John’s sons, Joseph Bishop, at a cost of £65. ‘The Old Mill’, located in Dorset Place, was originally on the same property, hence the name “Mill Cottage”. For its entire life as a home, “Mill Cottage” was owned by the Bishop family.

Initially just 4 rooms, the cottage grew along with the family. Six children were born and bred in “Mill Cottage”.

When Joseph Bishop died in 1937, aged 71 years, the cottage and adjacent land passed to his unmarried daughter Amy, who continued to live there until her death in 1963 aged 86.

Prior to her passing, Amy subdivided the land to the north of her house. Gloucester Tce, Stroud Tce, Brockworth Rd and Penshurst Rd pay tribute to the families English origins. Dorset Place - with ‘The Old Mill’ in its centre, was the name of the ship her grandfather, Captain Bishop sailed from Liverpool. The ‘Abeona’ was the name of the first ship to arrive in Port Lincoln, a few days before the ‘Dorset’, hence Abeona Tce. Kemp Avenue and Bishop Streets pay tribute to her grandparents, while Nigel St......you will just have to visit the cottage to find out! You may well be surprised!!

After Miss Bishop’s death, there was a fear that the cottage would be demolished and the land subdivided. Fortunately the Port Lincoln City Council purchased the property for the purpose of establishing a city park and thus preserved one of Port Lincoln’s few remaining early buildings.

Today Mill Cottage Museum houses many Bishop family artefacts, some of which were brought with them from England on the ‘Dorset’. Also on display are numerous watercolours by Miss Amy Bishop. A prolific painter throughout her life, she truthfully captured the stunning scenery of the Lower Eyre Peninsula.