

Where is Annie Doolan's Cottage?



***45b George St
Marion***

***behind St Ann's Church
on Finnis St Marion
(no post box)***

Annie Doolan's Cottage has architectural value. The Cottage was built of random, un-coursed stone and mortar façades with red brick quoins on corners and chimneys.

The Cottage is Victorian Georgian with symmetrical and rectangular shape with multi-paned sashed windows. It is presumed that the back kitchen and bedroom were added to the front two rooms to house the Doolan family in the early 1900s.

*For tours of the Cottage by appointment or other enquiries
contact the Friends of Annie Doolan's Cottage*

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Who's Annie?

- Annie Doolan became the caretaker and cleaner of St Ann's Church. Annie, her mother Catherine and brother Martin, received accommodation in the Cottage.
- Annie herself was very fond of going to horse races at Morphetville with her friends.
- In her old age Annie looked after the Church and trained the altar boys. To a small altar server, Annie was a very strict person.
- Annie tended the Cottage garden that was surrounded by a picket fence, cooked and warmed herself with an open fireplace, drew water for washing in a basin from the well and used an outhouse in the back yard.

Before Annie lived in the Cottage behind St Ann's Chapel

Marion's first school, a school for the children of Irish settlers, was opened in 1869 and later had up to 80 children.

Two Sisters from the fledging Order of the Sisters of St. Joseph (which had been founded by Mary MacKillop in 1866) came to teach at St. Ann's.

The students used slates to write on with slate pencils and later the teachers used a blackboard.

The market gardening community that Annie lived in

Market gardens were irrigated with water pumped from the Sturt River, and when it dried up in summer, from wells that tapped the underground water.

Besides homes, glasshouses and rows of vines and almond orchards, the model clearly shows the original meanderings of the Sturt River.

The sites of the brickworks, with pugholes where clay was mined, are also evident.

The Annie Doolan's Cottage kitchen of the 1950s reminds us that cooking equipment has changed a great deal.



This Model of the Marion Village was taken from a photograph and prepared by model maker Peter Murray. Ratebooks were used to identify every family who lived in the homes depicted at that time of horticulture.



A Marion Historic Village Guided Heritage Walk in History Month is a popular way to walk from Annie Doolan's Cottage, past other building of historical significance, to the Marion Display Centre. The Devonshire tea is a time to swap the Village stories.