



The Friends of Archer Park Rail Museum, Rockhampton Queensland

Restored Purrey Steam Tram

Rockhampton was the only Australian city to use Purrey Steam Trams, built in Bourdeaux, France. Nine trams and six trailers were used on the municipal transport system from 1909 to 1939, and others were used by Queensland Government Railways for their local operations.

None of the trams were preserved, but Rockhampton City Council found the remains of one and decided on a reconstruction project in August 1982.

In June 1984 the project was endorsed as a Bicentennial project, reconstruction was completed by December 1987 and the restored tram had its inaugural run down Dennison Street during the Bicentennial year (June 1988).

The tram, fired on coke and coal, is fully operational is the only operational Purrey Steam Tram in the world and runs on most Sundays over 1.1 kilometres of track paralleling QR's Northern Line.



The restored Purrey Steam Tram stopped at the end of the Archer Park station platform during Centennial celebrations of the tram systems opening, Sunday 7 June 2009. The tram can only operate on the Dennison Street track when there are no trains scheduled to pass on QR's nearby North Coast line, thus the wait. [lz 4074]