

South Australian
Heritage Act 1978-80:

HERITAGE SURVEY ITEM IDENTIFICATION SHEET

REGION 6 :
SOUTH EAST

Item No. : ROB:003
ITEM NAME: Nautical Museum
Former or other names: Customs House

LOCATION:

Address: Royal Circus,
Robe

Allotment:

Section : 19

Hundred : Waterhouse

County : Robe

L.G.A. : Robe

S.H.P. Region: 6

A.M.G., Ref. Z: 54 N: 5886200
E: 389100

TYPE OF ITEM:

Description: Customs House

Subject: 3.02

Period: 1860-1880

Date: 1863 Condition: Well Kept

Architect: Col. Arch. - William Hanson

Builder: Pearce and Savage

STATUS State Heritage List: Registered
National Estate : Listed
National Trust : Classified

HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

RECOMMENDATION: State

Description:

T-shaped building with parapet gabled roof and lean-to at rear. Walls of tuck-pointed coursed random rubble with brick quoins, corbelled copings to gable and corbelled brick chimney. Six-paned sash windows semi-circular arched fanlight over double doors, circular attic vent.

Used until 1888 as a Customs House and Office of the Harbourmaster and Receiver of Wrecks for the South Eastern Coast. Was then for 80 years the Office of the Robe District Council. Marked for demolition but saved by the National Trust.

Report Text:

REFERENCES: K. Bermingham "Second Eleven Tales of Robe" pp. 11, 12

Verbal:

PHOTOGRAPHS:

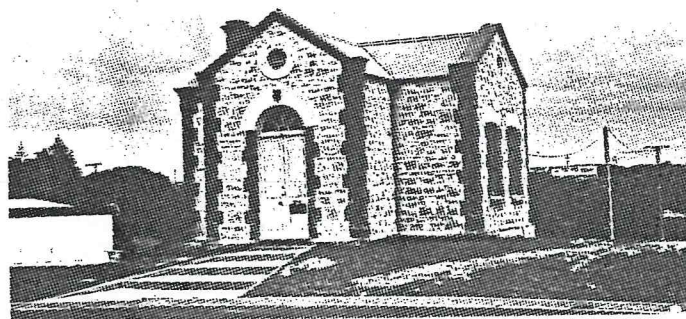
Slide No : 20/6

Film No : 22

Negative No: 12

Archival No:

DANVERS ARCHITECTS Date: 1983



6823-10261

ROBE - CUSTOM HOUSE

82/18/02

Ref. Colonial Architect Outgoing Correspondence

373/57 27/7/1857 to Commissioner of Works

Report of Works - Custom House & Boatshed at Robe
Drawings and specifications for this work are prepared and tenders about to be invited.

415/57 26/8/1857 to Commissioner of Public Works

Tenders advertised for building Custom House and Boat Shed at Pt. Robe (£500 provided in estimates) 4 tenders received, lowest £593. Proposed plan 1 room for an office, 4 rooms for the residence of the Custom House Officer. I understand some rooms are now being erected for the Military stationed at Guichen Bay and that if it is possible these may only be required for a short time, if this is the case I would respectfully suggest that when the Military are withdrawn the buildings in question might be used as a Custom House in which case it would only be necessary at present to build a Boat Shed. If this suggestion is not approved I beg to request instructions as to whether I shall after reducing the building by taking away one room.

429/57 8/9/1857 to C. Brewer

Instructed by the Hon. the Commissioner of Public Works that the building of the Custom House at Pt. Robe is to be postponed, to procure from some competent person at Guichen Bay a tender for building the Boat House only.

145/59 19/4/1859 Commissioner of Public Works

As you do not at present propose to build a new Custom Office at Robe Town it will be necessary to effect some improvements in the room at present occupied by the Deputy Harbour Master.

162/1862 3/5/1862 to Officer in Charge Telegraph Station Robe

Forwarding plan and specification for New Custom House at Robe. Please exhibit for contracts.

212/62 6/6/1862 to Messrs. Pearse & Savage

Tenders for additions to Telegraph Station at Robe Town £370, and building Custom House £364/18/0 accepted.

228/62 18/6/1862 to Pearse & Davey, Robe

Mr. Dale appointed Clerk of Works at Robe - to commence Tele-

6823-10261
Former Customs
House - Robe

84/18/02
Collwell & Finch - 1973

CUSTOMS HOUSE, Robe

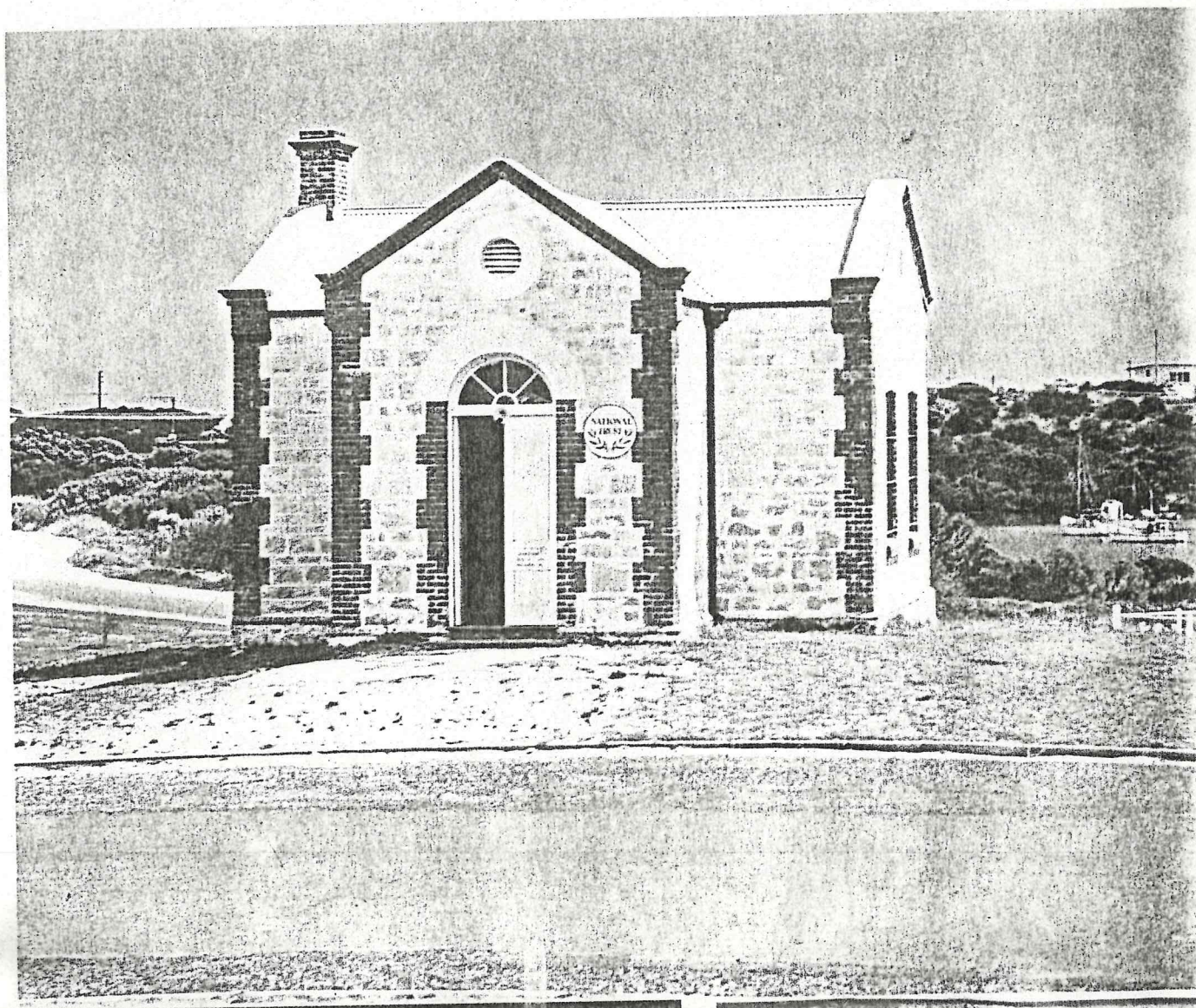
The Customs House at Robe, built of limestone with brick quoins, was erected in 1863 by Pearce and Savage.

During its twenty-five years of service it was also the office of the Harbour Master and Receiver of Wrecks for the south-eastern coast.

Those who laboured within its walls witnessed an invasion during the gold rush days, when thousands of Chinese landed at Robe to make their way on foot and by bullock waggon to the goldfields of Victoria.

From 1888 it was used by the District Council of Robe until the construction of new council offices.

Today, restored by the National Trust, it contains exhibits of nautical interest. They are reminders of the days when Robe was an important port for the south-eastern district of South Australia.





FILM 44
NO 3

FORMER CUSTOMS HOUSE, EAST WALL

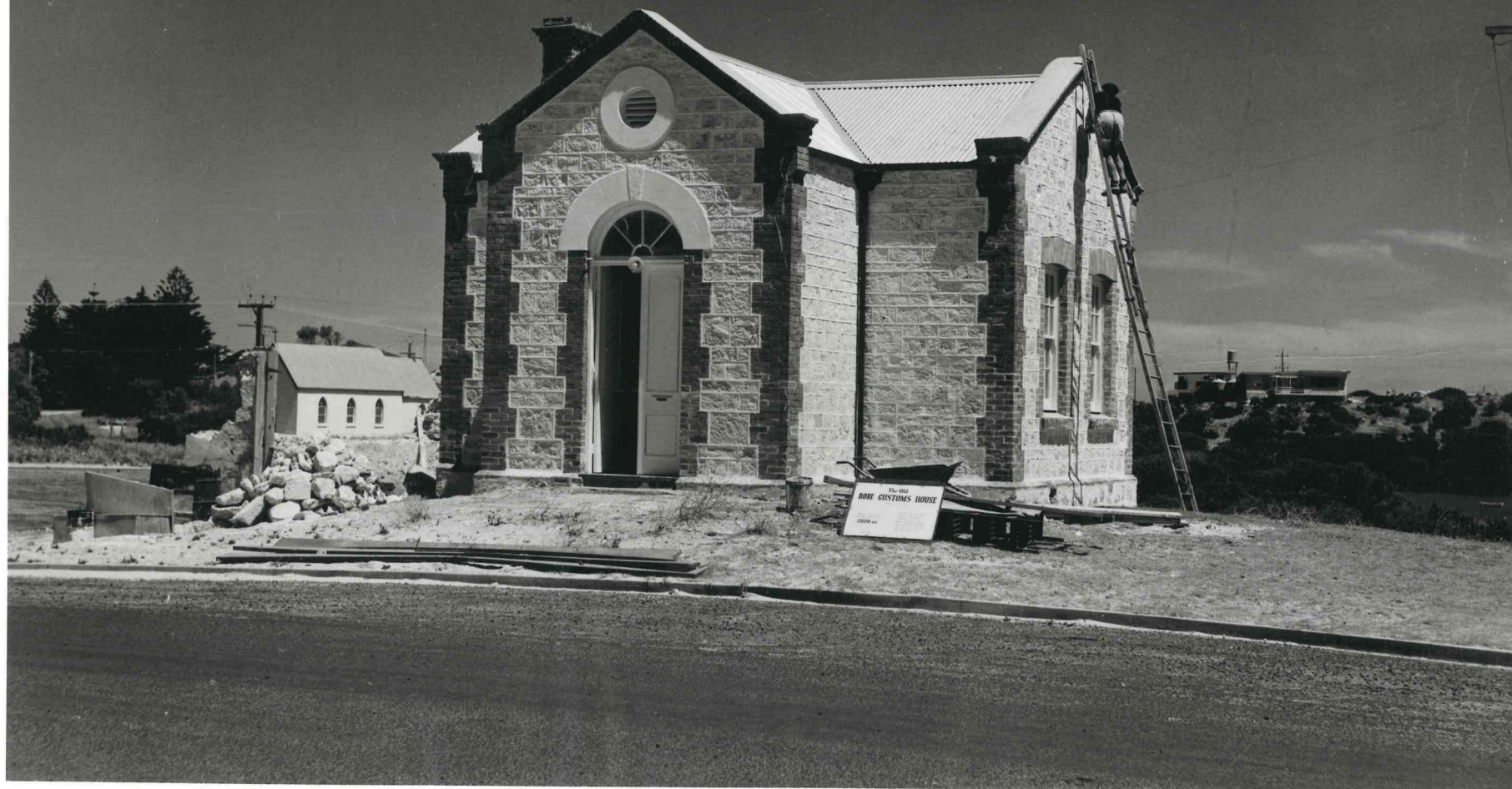
ROBE
19-2-79



FILM 44
NO 4

FORMER CUSTOMS HOUSE FROM NORTH

ROBE
19-2-79



6823-10261

