

GAWLER HERITAGE SURVEY STAGE 2

REGISTER NOMINATION REPORT

Date: 3/10/83	Heritage Branch Reference Number:	2
Item Name: OLD BUSHMAN HOTEL	Gawler Heritage Survey Stage 1 Item No. :	6628-10380
Item Address: 9 Cowan Street, Gawler.		

SUMMARY

This report has been prepared under Stage 2 of the Gawler Heritage Survey.

Historically, this building is significant for on this site the second hotel, one of the earliest buildings in Gawler, was built. During the 1870's and 1880's the sales conducted in the rear yard on Saturdays were a popular social occasion. The Hon. James Howe was licensee of the hotel from 1867-1874.

Architecturally, this building is significant because it is a very good example of this type of hotel architecture with particular merit in the facade.

Environmentally, the building stands alone and is a strong, significant component in the local character.

The integrity of the building is complete, apart from the interior which has undergone many changes.

HERITAGE CONSERVATION BRANCH RECOMMENDATION:

..... *Dan C. Rowley*
Manager

It is recommended that this item be included/~~not included~~ (delete that phrase not applicable) on the Register of State Heritage Items, and that it be categorised (recommended S.A. Heritage Committee categorisation, if applicable). **A2, A3.**

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

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Chairman

Assessed: Recommended.

The Committee added the following riders:

- 1.
- 2.

South Australian Heritage Act 1978-82	Register of State Heritage Items ITEM EVALUATION SHEET Buildings and Structures	Ref. No. 6628-10380
	Item OLD BUSHMAN HOTEL (Bushman Inn) 9 Cowan Street, Gawler.	Status National Trust NE
Age 1840,c.1870	Subject Trade and Commerce	Style

Qualitative Data

Grading

<u>History</u>		E	VG	AG	FP	NA
1. Context	Built in 1840 the Bushman Inn was the second hotel and one of the earliest buildings in Gawler. Extended and rebuilt in 1860's and 1870's. Sale yards at rear - a popular social occasion on Saturdays in 1870's and 1880's.		X			
2. Person/Group	Licensee 1867-1874 was the Hon. James Howe who joined State Parliament in 1881, Minister of Crown Lands and Minister of Public Works. Member of Convention of 1897 which framed the Federal Constitution.		X			
3. Event	John McDouall Stuart is reputed to have stayed here on his way north.			X		
<u>Architecture</u>						
4. Architect/Builder	Not known.			X		
5. Design	Italianate in style and dominated by the balcony with its cast iron balustrading, spandrels and frieze, supported by the paired cast iron columns.		X			
6. Construction	Originally "wattle and daub" shanty. Random limestone rubble with stucco quoins, cornices, parapets and surrounds to openings.		X			
7. Interior	Original timber staircase and fire surrounds remain.			X		
8. Representation	The item is a good representation of a building type typical of hotel construction. Probably the most elegant and ornate of the hotels in Gawler.		X			
<u>Environment</u>						
9. Continuity	The item relates to its immediate environment.		X			
10. Local Character	One of the more important hotels in Gawler which has contributed to the history of Gawler.		X			
11. Landmark	This item is a prominent and conspicuous structure and has a special visual quality that transcends its function.		X			
<u>Integrity</u>						
12. Alterations	New bottle shop alongside the eastern wall not in sympathy with the fabric of the building. Toilet block on eastern wall.		X			
13. Condition	The condition of the building is good.			X		
14. Compatibility	It is compatible with its original use and the locality.	X				

South Australian Heritage Act 1978-82	Register of State Heritage Items ITEM EVALUATION SHEET Buildings and Structures Item <div style="text-align: center;"> OLD BUSHMAN HOTEL 9 Cowan Street. (Bushman Inn) </div>	Ref. No. 6628-10380 Prepared By: HIGNETT & COMPANY MARGARET MAY
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Supplementary Information

Adaptation: It is unlikely that the building would be changed to a new use.

Interpretation: The item lends very well to interpretation and because of its historical context it would have potential for interpretation.

CURRENT OWNER: G.M. PAGE & OTHERS

History and Sources

The Bushman Inn (Old Bushman Hotel) was built in 1840 by Robert Robertson who was the first licensee. Robertson was given approval by the Colonial Secretary's Office to distribute and receive mails for the residents of the Gawler Special Survey in 1840, but from 1842-49 Henry Calton of the "Old Spot" was unofficial post master.

The original inn was a "wattle and daub" shanty and its major source of income came from settlers passing through to the north. Later patronage was increased due to the through traffic to and from the Kapunda and Burra Mines.

By the late 1850's the building comprised ten rooms and outbuildings and included a second storey though the ceiling was only 10 feet high. The present two storey structure with balcony was probably constructed in the 1870's.

At this time the hotel was probably better known for the saleyards at the rear where auctions were conducted by J.C. Wilkinson (succeeded by Alfred George Wells) each Saturday. The yards at the rear of the "Old Bushman" had stables, yards and pens for stock, and stalls, "the nucleus of a fair". It was a kind of a small scale "Paddy's Market" at which a wide variety of items as well as stock could be purchased.

Most notable of the early licensees was James Howe, later the Hon. James Howe. Howe was licensee of the "Old Bushman" from 1864-1874 and entered state parliament in 1881. He held two ministerial posts, that of Crownlands and of Public Works and he was a member of the convention of 1897 which framed the Federal Constitution.

Sources

E. H. Coombe, History of Gawler 1837-1908 (Adelaide, 1910) pp. 116, 219.

Cyclopaedia of South Australia (Adelaide, 1909) 1, pp. 205-6; 11, pp. 290.

Gawler Heritage Study, Stage 1, (Adelaide, 1981) p. 50.

Gawler Sketchbook (Adelaide,) pp. 44-5.

George E. Loyau, The Gawler Handbook (Adelaide, 1880) pp. 104-106.

National Trust 859

Quiz 19.5.1898, p. 6.

Register of the National Estate () 5, pp. 27, 29.

ITEM NAME

Current: OLD BUSHMAN

Historical: BUSHMAN INN

ITEM NUMBER

2

DATE

HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:

The second hotel built in Gawler, the first licensee being Robert Robertson (granted between September 1840 and March 1841).

Robertson given approval by Colonial Secretary's Office in 1840 to receive and distribute mail for the Gawler Special Survey residents at the Old Bushman but it is not clear whether this took place (vide Old Spot).

Original form of construction a "wattle and daub" shanty, but there were ten rooms plus outbuildings and a second storey by the late 1850s (ceiling only 10' high and a sloping roof). Apparently rebuilt in the 1870s as the present two-storey structure with balcony.

Meetings of Oddfellows and Foresters held at Old Bushman between 1856 and 1859.

Extensive saleyards attached to hotel were a major source of patronage in the 1870s and 1880s.

Building has stone quoins, triangular pediment and rendered front wall. Cast iron balustrade spandrels and frieze feature on the balcony whilst stuccoed surround semi-circular headed arches dominate at eye level. Original form of construction a "wattle and daub" shanty.

LOCATION

Street No:

Allotment: 96

Section:

Hundred:

Street: Cowan

Town:

LGA:

Postcode:

State Hist.Pres.

Region:

HISTORICAL THEME

Theme: Industry and Commerce

Subtheme: Hotels

HISTORICAL PERIOD

State:

Study Area: 1839-48

TYPE OF ITEM

LAND Natural Feature

Historical Site

Garden

BUILDING Individual
GroupSTRUCTURE Complete
Relic

REFERENCES:

Written: Loyau 17, 104-106, 33; Coombe 116; Pierce's 1886 plan; National Trust 859

Vocal:

Archival Photographs: SAA.B.16621/11 and B.20472

RECOMMENDATION:

PHOTOGRAPH

Film No:

Negative No:

Direction of view:



STATUS

Register of State
Heritage Items

On Register

Interim List

Nominated

National Estate

National Trust ✓ 859

R.A.I.A.

Civic Trust

N.P. & W.L.S.

Council

Australian Heritage

Engin. Record

Other

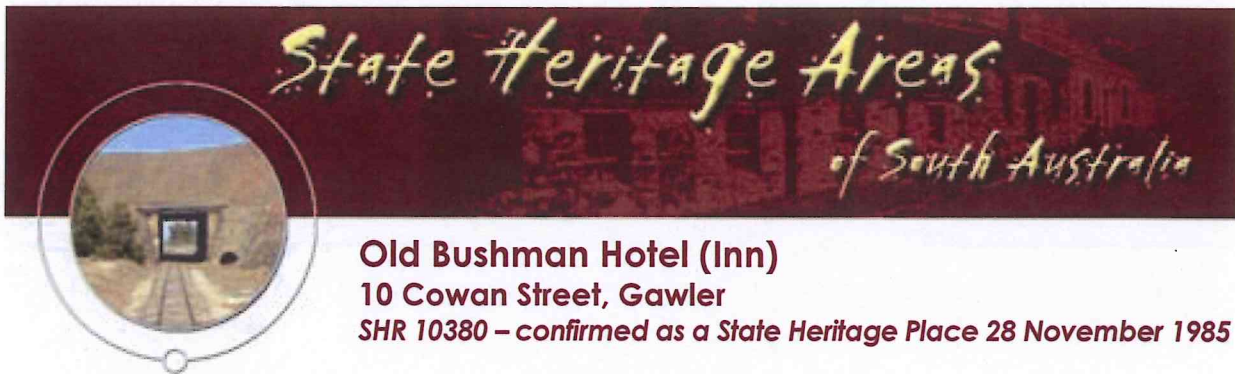
MAP

Scale:

Source:

PREPARED BY:

DATE:



"A long line of publicans have been dispensing beer and good cheer from behind the bar of the Old Bushman Inn whose doors first opened in 1840 and which stands as a living link in the enduring bond between Aussie men and dinkum hotels."

www.travelmate.com.au

The Old Bushman Hotel is an historically significant site (and thus a State Heritage Place) because of its association with the early development of Gawler and its role in the town's social and commercial life, especially during the 1870s and 1880s when popular market days were held in the rear yards.

The current Old Bushman Hotel is the second inn on this site. It is widely accepted that the explorer [John MacDouall Stuart](#) who, in 1862, carved a route from Adelaide to Darwin, stayed in the original hotel on one of his trips north.

The licensee from 1867 to 1874 was the Hon James Howe, who joined State Parliament in 1881, becoming Minister for Crown Lands and Minister for Public Works. He was also a member of the 1897 Convention that framed the Federal Constitution.



Old Bushman Inn, 2005

The original Bushman Inn, built by Robert Robertson in 1840, was the second hotel and one of the earliest buildings in Gawler. It was a wattle and daub structure, but had 10 rooms plus outbuildings. A second storey was added by the late 1850s, although the ceilings were only 10 feet high. The hotel's major source of income came from settlers passing through to the north, and later from increased patronage due to the through traffic associated with the Burra and Kapunda mines.



Old Bushman Inn 1905
Photo B 16621/11: State Library of SA

The present two-storey limestone structure, with balcony, was probably constructed in the 1870s. At this time the hotel was best known for its saleyards at the rear, where auctions were conducted each Saturday. These yards also had stables, pens for stock and trading stalls. It was a small-scale market at which a wide variety of items, as well as stock, could be purchased. Saturday markets at the 'Old Bushman' were a popular social event.



Government of South Australia
Department for Environment
and Heritage

