

NOARLUNGA HERITAGE STUDY
1991

243 O'Sullivan Beach Road
MORPHETT VALE SA 5162

Item No.: MV21

Statement of Cultural Significance

A charming house built for Charles William Wakefield to pursue his viticultural activities.

Relevant Criteria

Built probably in the early 1900's, this building is a link with the area's agricultural past.

Significant Interest

~~The building remained in the same family's possession until recently and has remained virtually unaltered.~~
Contacted by owners 09-04-92. The building has remained in the same family and remained virtually unaltered.

Recommendation

It is recommended that this item be included on the Register of State Heritage Items.

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Analysis of Significant Interest

Architectural

Homestead built of brick and stone before 1909. Originally surrounded by vines, almonds and fruit trees, the land has recently been subdivided. Pine trees hid the homestead from the road until they were removed recently.

Historical

Extract from: "The Cyclopedia of South Australia", 1909, Volume II

"CHARLES WILLIAM WAKEFIELD, vigneron, Morphett Vale, is the second son of the late Mr Salvatore Rosa Wakefield, of Aldgate, who was for many years associated with the great mercantile house of Elder, Smith, & Co., Limited.

Charles W. Wakefield was born at Glenelg in 1880. He received his education at St Peter's College, and at the close of his scholastic career joined his father in the agency business, with which he was connected for a short time. After the death of Mr Wakefield, sen., he proceeded to Reynella, where he studied viticulture and winemaking at Mr Walter Reynell's. Eighteen months later the gentleman under review purchased a section of eighty acres at Morphett Vale, sixty acres of which he has brought under cultivation of vines (with five acres devoted to the currant species), seven are planted with almond-trees, and a few acres with various kinds of fruits. These operations were begun in July, 1903, and rapid strides have been made since that time. The crop during the season 1907-8 was practically Mr Wakefield's first harvest, and the excellent results attained spoke volumes for the energy, enterprise, and skill which he has brought to bear in the inauguration of his operations. The homestead where he resides is most picturesquely situated on the hill between the township of Morphett Vale and the seabeach."

Extract from: "The Hutchinson Family 150 years 1839 - 1989"

"Alexander [Collins] worked for Charles Wakefield, who, on 80 acres of land, cultivated 60 acres of vines, 7 acres of almond trees and several acres of fruit trees. Alexander was a member of the Morphett Vale Hunt Club, based at Wakefield's, and prepared the horses for the riders. In the true English tradition, hunt club members would go out hunting foxes with hounds and horses. They would ride over land on which they had received permission to hunt. Special wooden rails were built on fences for the horses to jump over. The riders would then re-assemble back at the Wakefield home for afternoon tea."

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Site Record

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Location

243 O'Sullivan Beach Road, Morphett Vale

Mapsheet

AMG Reference

Description

Dwelling

Land Description

Lot 5, Part Section 608

LGA

Noarlunga

Owner

RJ & SJ Gale
243 O'Sullivan Beach Road
MORPHETT VALE SA 5162

Other Assessments

Heritage Status

References

Noarlunga Heritage Study 1979
Noarlunga Library Local Studies Collection
Cyclopedia of South Australia 1909 Volume II
The Hutchinson Family 150 years 1839-1989 by Ian Hutchinson

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Photo Record

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Map Record

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