

HERITAGE South Australia

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2003 • NUMBER 22

ISSUES AND INFORMATION ON HERITAGE CONSERVATION IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA



Heritage South Australia
Government of South Australia

MINISTER'S UPDATE

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Newsletter of Heritage South Australia

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Francesca Stropin

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Front Cover:

The people behind heritage. Covered in limewash, builder Gary Thomas was a key player in the restoration of Granny Banks cottage in Robe. This photo was taken immediately after manoeuvring a 'wet' ceiling into position. See article on p8

Welcome to 2003. In 2002 a number of policies and projects were established by the Government to enhance the level of awareness about heritage issues, and to create an integration of heritage, economic development and planning issues.



One of the Government's election policies was to 'establish a Heritage Advisory Committee consisting of representatives of relevant Government Authorities, Departments and key community organisations'. The Committee is an advisory body to me and its brief includes advising on strategies to coordinate and improve built heritage programs within the State and recommending strategies to develop a whole of government approach to non-indigenous heritage.

Its initial tasks include advising how to strengthen and simplify heritage protection, advising on the establishment of annual Celebrating Our Heritage Awards, and on appropriate strategies for encouraging local government to take all necessary steps to protect local heritage places.

The Committee is intended to supplement the work of the State Heritage Authority, which has sole

responsibility for heritage listing, maintenance of the State Heritage Register and advice on expenditure from the State Heritage Fund.

Further integration of heritage and planning programs was achieved by the successful heritage seminars organised by

Heritage SA at Naracoorte and Clare. The seminars provide advice to, and training for, local government and the community on heritage management.

A Heritage Cemeteries Fund was established to assist in the care of South Australia's heritage cemeteries and graves through appropriate conservation strategies. A call for applications was made at the end of last year and has attracted considerable interest.

The promotion of heritage, which underpins its protection, continued through 2002. I was pleased to launch two maritime projects: a new Jervois Basin Maritime Heritage Trail on the Port River was established, and ten mooring buoys were installed at historic shipwrecks and on sensitive marine environments around the coast of South Australia.

Hon. John Hill
Minister for Environment
and Conservation

STATE HERITAGE FUND

2003/04 Grants Program

Application kits for the 2003/04 Grants Program will be available from Monday 6 January 2003 by

- contacting Heritage SA on 8204 9261
- emailing heritage@saugov.sa.gov.au
- downloading from our website at www.heritage.sa.gov.au

The Grants Program is open to owners of places listed in the State Heritage Register or located within a State Heritage Area. Applications for grants of up to \$5 000 will be accepted from private owners (individuals or corporate), community groups and Local Government bodies.

The application kit will contain details of the types of projects to be given priority in the 2003/04 Grants Program. Grants to successful applicants will be made available on a dollar-for-dollar basis for projects that can be carried out between July 2003 and June 2004.

For further information contact Gillian Strickland on (08) 8204 9261.

PEOPLE ABOUT THE SOUTH EAST: Making a Difference

This issue of the Newsletter looks at the people behind heritage places in the South East. The following are just a few of the dedicated people keeping and protecting heritage properties for future generations.

One of the landmark properties in the South East is Yallum Park. Designed by Melbourne architect Edward Twentyman, this large Classical Revival limestone house was built for John Riddoch. Inside are original wallpapers, plaster cornices, marble mantelpieces and hand grained panelled doors. Set in extensive grounds this magnificent Victorian mansion was visited in the nineteenth century by a number of notable personalities, including Adam Lindsay Gordon. Glen Clifford, pictured, has lived here for 85 years and is well known in the district. His knowledge of the area and his willingness to share it with locals make Glen a popular person in the region.



Glen Clifford stands here in front of a portrait of his mother and himself as a baby.

Roger and John Andre have spent time, money and energy stabilising the ruins of Kangaroo Inn. The ruins are found midway between Robe and Penola. The former Inn was used by bullock drivers and other travellers. It was on one of the routes from Robe to the Victorian goldfields.



Kangaroo Inn ruins



National Bank, Penola

Debbie and Simon Cox have recently bought the National Bank in Penola, and have plans to adapt the building into a residence. They are currently researching the history of the house as the first step in its restoration. They see themselves as custodians of the Bank, looking after it for the community.



Simon and Debbie Cox in the lounge of the former National Bank, Penola



Robin and Caroline Weston are restoring this simple timber framed cottage (left photo) to be used as a B&B. Robin has been working on the cottage while helping many other owners with the restoration of their properties and gardens. Robin is dedicated to keeping the character of Penola intact.

HERITAGE ADVISER PROFILE

Richard Woods, Heritage Adviser to the South East: Ten years in the Bush

Established in September 1992 the South East Heritage Advisory service has taken Richard to many old haunts, familiar from his school days. Between 1963 and 1976 Richard lived at Mt Gambier and Tantanoola Forest Reserves. In those years heritage places were simply the backdrop to daily life – the Mt Gambier Gaol at the bottom of the school oval, swimming at the Valley Lake, exploring the Hanging Rocks Hotel at Tantanoola, summer holidays in Robe. Now the special value of these places is widely celebrated. Richard has revisited them all and many others to provide heritage advice and encouragement.

Richard has the privilege and pleasure of consulting in the South East for one week every month, a round that now includes all six Councils. Richard provides heritage advice to the owners of 74 State heritage places, and more recently the several hundred local heritage places in Mt Gambier and Robe. He works closely with Councils and community groups.

Richard has great respect for the commitment and care shown by the owners of heritage buildings. Returning often over many years to help owners with encouragement, incentives and advice on

materials and methods is one of the rewards of being a local heritage adviser.

Results in heritage conservation are never instant. Patience and perseverance have seen several South East heritage icons, at risk of total loss, eventually being restored after many years of decline. These places are now back in active use because the right building owner stepped forward in time.

Richard believes that it is largely the ability of heritage building owners to imagine and envision the outcome that has made these impossible restoration projects not only possible but practical.

First impressions of heritage places, and hearsay are not always sustained. Ongoing research coupled with forensic observation of the building fabric as it is restored invariably reveals a wealth of information. The South East has great local history resources, and local historians of the highest calibre who are invariably willing to share their knowledge and insight.

Richard believes that heritage success stories enrich not only the physical environment of the South East. Like the heritage buildings themselves, restoration

projects are a testament to the individuals involved, to the strength of community and to the social fabric of today.

The South East Heritage Advisory service provides free consultation and advice to owners of all historic places, regardless of heritage listing. To make an appointment during Richard's next visit, contact your local Council.



Richard Woods of Habitable Places Architects celebrates ten years as South East Heritage Adviser

BOOK NOTICES

R. Smith *Ghosts of the Garden* **Smithbooks 2002 \$9.95 limp**

Russell Smith is the author and publisher of the popular *Curiosities of South Australia* series (three so far), and his latest booklet, subtitled 'Yesteryear in the Adelaide Botanic Garden', maintains the standard of that series.

It ranges widely over past and present features of the Gardens and contains a good number of images, usually with a page or more of text, that reflects Smith's intimate knowledge of the Garden's history. He has made extensive use of primary source material, and brings to light much that will be new to Garden goers.

The Gardens were the home of the predecessor of the Adelaide Zoo, Adelaide's first public statuary, the Crimean War guns which until recently stood on Torrens Parade Ground, and one the Colony's earliest museums, the 'Rustic Temple'. Current attractions

include the Palm House, the Museum of Economic Botany and an Elvis Presley memorial.

With its presentation of information in bite-size sections and its judicious selection of historical information, it adds another dimension to the visitor experience. South Australia needs many more such guides to the rich and often forgotten histories of its major cultural sites.

M Thomson *Rare Trades: Making things by hand in the digital age* **Harper Collins Sydney \$ 24.95 limp.**

Author and photographer Mark Thomson is probably best known for *Blokes and Sheds, Stories from the Shed* and *Blokes and Barbies*. His latest book is about living heritage in the form of tradespeople and celebrates their work through an engaging text and a generous selection of photos.

It features a series of cameos of tradespeople including a cooper, moulder, tinsmith, wheelwright, bookbinder, milliner, violin-maker, french-polisher and an eye-maker.

Owners of heritage buildings will be especially interested in the stonemason, plasterer, moulder and decorative painter. The trades are helpfully grouped – stone, timber, metal, marine, decorative, horse and leather and so on – and contact details for the featured tradespeople are provided.

The author is founder of the Australasian Institute of Backyard Studies, which can be visited at www.ibys.org.

Brian Samuels
Principal Heritage Officer

KALANGADOO HOUSE RESTORATION: Working with History

"You have to have a touch of madness to do something like this." This observation, coupled with a word of advice – patience – marks the labour of love undertaken by Ken and Antonia Batten when they bought historic Kalangadoo House. After almost twelve years of research, restoration and detailed decision-making the house opened recently as a Guest House. Those twelve years have been rewarding and difficult.

Fifteen minutes from Penola and twenty minutes from the famous Coonawarra wine region, midway between Melbourne and Adelaide, the two-storey country manor house was built of ashlar limestone blocks in the early 1870s, as a home for Thomas and Anne Morris, and their twelve children. It is protected by South Australian heritage legislation and is also on the Register of the National Estate.

Ken and Antonia's labour to restore the house began as an idea for new careers. After deciding on the establishment of a Guest House, they scoured the Real Estate pages and first viewed Kalangadoo House on the day of the auction in 1989. Fortune was with them when the house didn't sell on the day, and two weeks later, with two-year old daughter Pia in tow, they signed a contract to buy the property.

Antonia and Ken began researching the house's history immediately, finding records through the obvious channels of libraries, land titles records and heritage agencies. But much of the information came from people who'd lived in the house in the early twentieth century, and from locals who had some knowledge. Antonia and Ken talked to many people, including a Rear Admiral from England who was related to Thomas Morris. There was also a wealth of information left in the house, including photographs of the Morris family, and of the house. This research formed the basis of internal and external work.

At the end of the first two years, the Battens had completed their research, designed the interior, and sourced much of the material that was to be used. But at this stage they were forced to wait before they could begin the design work.

One major challenge they faced was rising damp in the stone walls, and dampness and cold throughout the house. Solutions for the causes of this damp had to be found, rather than a treatment for the symptoms.



above: Kitchen before restoration

below: Antonia Batten in the new kitchen where reclaimed Oregon timber from an old Sydney Wool Store was used.



Two major problems were identified: water, and non-existent under-floor ventilation. Downpipes were not going anywhere and discharged all the runoff at the base of the walls. Soil had accumulated far beyond the damp course, saturating the porous limestone and blocking under floor ventilation. A leak in the rainwater tank, discovered only after the earth had been cleared away, poured water under the house. A windowless addition to the rear of the house intensified the dampness. The original box gutter on the main house also allowed water to cause damage through the roof for over 100 years, causing internal damage to ceilings, walls and cornices.

The solutions were multiple, costly and time-consuming. Water was redirected away from the house; tonnes of soil removed from the grounds, and at least 200 tonnes of gravel poured around the house to keep garden beds away, and to help absorb the rain water. The addition to the house was removed and under-floor ventilation opened up.

As soon as these issues were rectified the house was no longer cold and the rising damp ceased. Once the solution to the problem had been found no expensive rising damp treatments were necessary. The stonework was in good condition so little of the stone needed to be replaced. While restoring their house, Antonia and Ken were guided by conservation theory.

One principle is to change only what is necessary. Where possible second hand material was used. The kitchen was made to order using reclaimed Oregon timber from an old Sydney Wool Store (making the timber even older than the house). Rather than being sanded to look new, the timber retains its original surface and patina. The pieces for the kitchen are not uniform, in keeping with the simplicity of a colonial country house, retaining the look and feel of the kitchen as it was 100 years ago. Old doors found in Mt Gambier were used where new doors were needed throughout the house.

A second principle is, if creating additions, ensure they are easily identified as new material. A conservatory was added to the house in order to appreciate the outside. Made from timber and using a modern design, the addition is clearly different to the existing stone house. The conservatory is sympathetic to the original design and does not overpower it. Bathrooms, a necessary part of opening the house as a Guest House, were built to include the benefits of modern amenities in a traditional design.

While the internal spaces were being restored and repaired, much was achieved in the garden. The Battens are keenly aware that the heritage significance of Kalangadoo House lies not only in the house, but includes the landscape surrounding it. They put as much effort into the garden as they did to the house. A decision was made that a cottage garden was not the right type of garden for this simple, but grand two-storey house. After clearing an overgrown and unkempt jungle surrounding the house, design and planting work could begin. Pathways, paving, hedges and deciduous trees were placed strategically to be sympathetic to the proportions and style of the house. The outcome is a tranquil garden that not only complements Kalangadoo House, but also sits neatly against aging red gums on the fifty acre property.

Ken and Antonia did much of the work. Ken worked on the bathrooms and did all the tiling, but there were times when it was almost impossible for the Battens to repair the house. For instance, a cherry picker was necessary to paint the roof and verandah and to repair and paint eaves which had not been painted since it was built.

Tradespeople who had an affinity with heritage places were hard to come by, but when found they often became allies who would come and work with pleasure. John Millar, Master Painter from Melbourne, was one such person. Interior designer, Jackie Fedorowitz Robertson, whom they met by chance in Melbourne, was able to



above: The fully restored Drawing Room of Kalangadoo House.

below: The restored Drawing Room fireplace.



help with the period decoration: they have since become good friends. Another great support was Anastasia Rinaldi, who designed and built the kitchen furniture. Antonia says almost everyone who has helped with the house developed an affinity with it. It is the friendships that have been developed along the way, and the ease with which information and help seemed to fall into place, that have encouraged the Battens

Antonia and Ken admit that restoration can place unpredictable financial and personal burdens on families. They don't, however regret buying the place – they feel that finally its history and soul have returned. The Battens argue that they are just passing through another chapter in the life of this place, and that they helped to halt the deterioration and ultimate ruin of this building, bringing it back to life for future generations.



The Drawing Room fireplace before restoration.

By restoring and renovating Kalangadoo House, Ken, Antonia and Pia have contributed to sustainable development by restoring the house, and by reusing as much second hand material as possible.

The Battens have not only created a viable business for themselves but contributed a great deal to the South Australian community. Kalangadoo House can now be appreciated, and South Australians have been offered access to a part of their history for at least another 100 years. Ken and Antonia's patience has been rewarded. Individuals can make a difference.

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REVIVING GRANNY BANKS COTTAGE

John and Cicely Fenton created a miracle in the grazing area of Lanark, Victoria. Forty years ago Lanark was a ravaged treeless and waterless environment. Through diversification of traditional grazing and cropping with large scale farm forestry, and restoration of the natural habitat and wetlands, they succeeded in balancing farming enterprise with the natural environment. The same thoughtful intelligence that created this restoration of original wetlands shows in John's recent activities in the repair and restoration of Granny Banks' two semi-detached cottages in Robe.

The original 1846 timber cottage was sold to the Banks family and Sarah Banks, who became known as Granny Banks, lived here until her death in 1908.

When John and Cicely were looking for a place in Robe they wanted a place that was in context with Robe's history, and the small unassuming cottage was the answer. The cottages are of human proportions giving them a comfortable feel, which John argues the grandkids love.

John and Cicely bought the two cottages in 1981 and although able to use the older cottage built in 1852, the original cottage had deteriorated. In the last few years the Fentons have restored and repaired much of the original cottage, taking care to only use new material when absolutely necessary.

The original cottage was fragile, decrepit, and at risk. The family argued it was a "lost cause and beyond hope." The walls were leaning, the roof sagging, and the stone chimney was crumbling. But this did not deter John. The urge to keep as much of Robe's history as possible was a motivating factor.

As with most restoration projects time is the key. John says, "Most people want a new structure built quickly, but the downside is that the structure is not as good."

John's advice to anyone beginning restoration is to plan carefully. Heritage planning was vital to the success of the future conservation. A heritage conservation plan, funded by Heritage SA in 1991 was an invaluable tool for understanding the history and the construction of the cottages. The support of heritage professionals such as the local Heritage Adviser, Richard Woods, was crucial to the success of the project.

The restoration has been slow, but John believes that trust between himself, Richard, Peter Wells from Heritage SA and the Council has worked both ways. Flexibility in applying building codes was needed.

Such is John's passion for conservation and the environment that he used as much of the original building fabric as possible. Western red cedar frames for the windows are the only completely new material in the cottage.

Flat iron tiles were salvaged from the original roof and carefully numbered and removed. Those sheets that were still usable were retained and replaced on the street side of the house – new sheets were used on the other side. The roof structure needed to be marginally straightened, but retains its distinctive sway back.

One of the problems John had was with the replacement of the ceiling. There was evidence that the original ceiling had been made of calico or sailcloth and it was difficult to know how to put the new hessian in place. It was necessary to have a lightweight ceiling as the roof structure would not have supported a rigid ceiling. Local builder and heritage enthusiast, Gary Thomas who was working on the house found a recipe on the Internet and with the permission of John tried it out. The recipe called for hessian to be soaked in lime, salt and alum.

After a few sloppy attempts at putting up the soaking hessian the Robe Constructions team managed to manoeuvre the 'wet' ceiling into position and to keep it up fixed with timber perimeter battens. At this stage the ceiling was still soaking and it was uncertain whether it would stay up. After two weeks the hessian dried. As it dried the hessian shrunk tightly to provide a serviceable new ceiling with all the character of the original.

The roof repairs helped to stabilize the structure, and before the ceiling went up the walls and the floors were repaired and replaced. John carefully salvaged every serviceable original timber from the house. As the walls were opened up the original framing, including a ship's spar, was revealed and respectfully retained. It is well known that the beaches of Robe were scoured for building materials after shipwrecks and storms.

The sub-floor was replaced with treated pine. New flooring and weatherboards were especially sawn, air-dried and milled from farm grown Monterey Cypress to closely match the original Baltic pine profile. To replicate the original floor the new boards lacked the usual tongue and groove joints. The kitchen joinery in the side room was made from red gum. While the walls in the kitchen were constructed to the original true profile, they were distinctly visible as new material. This approach underpins conservation

John Fenton and Steven Clements in front of the square of internal wall left unlined to reveal the original laths.



philosophy of making the new and old structures visibly distinguishable so that the history of the place can be read for future generations.

The original ledge and brace front door found in the remains of the wall cavity, was restored and replaced in its original position. A square of an internal wall was left unlined to reveal the original laths.

It was also important for John to have a builder who was sympathetic to heritage places. He found it difficult to get tradespeople to work on the place as the amount of money was not as lucrative as working on new houses. In Steven Clements he found a willing soul who listened and understood the concerns with keeping original fabric and character intact. John also found allies in companies. When he was looking for a colour which would be suitable for the cottage the Managing Director of Porters Paints suggested simply that he didn't paint it but used a light lime mixed with local sand.

With the careful conservation of Granny Banks cottage the Fenton family has made the impossible possible.

John has an understanding that a place carries the souls of the people of the past. He says, "Aboriginal history has a soul and so does Anglo-Saxon history – let's protect, nurture and respect that past."

Even though he will probably return to the place where he was born, in Victoria, John hopes Granny Banks cottage will stay in the family as a base of repose and reflection.



top: Kitchen before restoration

centre: New kitchen using timber for the joinery, milled from an old red gum lying on a family's property. The kitchen, as with the rest of the house, is of a comfortable human scale.

below: Bedroom of the original cottage before and after restoration.



WHAT'S NEW IN THE STATE HERITAGE REGISTER

The entries of the following places in the State Heritage Register were confirmed in the latter half of 2002.

Adelaide:

Statue of Captain Matthew Flinders
Union Building Group, The University of
Adelaide

Bethany:

Bethany Pioneer Cemetery

Mongolata:

Mongolata Gold Battery, remains of
Cyanide Works, Eating House and
Dugouts and former Blyes' Mine

North Adelaide:

St Cyprian's Church Hall (Former St
Cyprian's Day School)

O'Halloran Hill:

Former 'Lizard Lodge' Coachhouse,
Smokehouse, Underground Tank and
Cellar and Former Army Remount Depot
Ammunition Magazines, former
Glenthorne CSIRO Field Station

Springton:

Friedensberg Cemetery



The cast iron monument to Bethany's first resident pastor, Pastor HAE Meyer.

Bethany Pioneer Cemetery

The entry of the Bethany Pioneer Cemetery was confirmed in the State Heritage Register on 14 November 2002.

Sponsored by George Fife Angas, Germans migrated to the Barossa Valley

in the 1840s and subsequent decades. The migration to Bethany was the beginning of the establishment of German settlement in the Barossa Valley.

The presence of the Germans, who brought with them the Lutheran religion, shows a basic tenet of settlement in South Australia: religious tolerance and freedom.

Dating from the 1840s, Bethany Pioneer Cemetery is the oldest cemetery in the Barossa Valley. Most of the existing headstones are constructed in marble, and are good examples of the work of monumental masons. A notable feature of this cemetery is the cast iron monument to Bethany's first resident pastor, Pastor HAE Meyer.

A section on the eastern side of the Cemetery was reserved for children, reflecting the high child mortality rate in the settlement's early years.

These graves are important not only in revealing settlement and ethnic composition, but are of particular significance for the German community, providing strong cultural associations with their past.

RIVERLAND HERITAGE AND THE 2003 STATE HISTORY CONFERENCE

Heritage SA will be sponsoring one of the plenary sessions at this year's State History Conference, to be held at Renmark 24-25 May with the theme of History, Community and the Environment. Our session will highlight the built heritage of the Upper Murray, the maritime heritage of the river, and our expanding heritage education and interpretation programs. Some examples of places entered in the State Heritage Register follow.

Pumping station remains at Waikerie and Gillen are memorials to the ill-fated communal 'Village Settlements' of the 1890s. They were a response to the high numbers of urban unemployed during the depression which gripped the colony from the mid-1880s.

Olivewood in Renmark was built for Charles Chaffey and his family and is associated with the beginnings of Renmark as an irrigation colony in the 1880s, as are the Renmark Irrigation Trust Offices.

The Paringa Bridge (1927) was the second bridge across the River Murray in South Australia, and is one of only two opening bridges in the State, while the Distillery Bridge (1960) in Renmark is notable for being the first pre-stressed concrete bridge constructed in the State.

The most interesting engineering relics are the two Humphrey Pumps (1925) at the former Cobdogla Pumping Station, now the Cobdogla Irrigation Museum. Only ten

of these internal combustion pumps, invented by English chemist and gas engineer Alfred Humphrey about 1906, were successfully installed world-wide. One was recommissioned in 1986 and will be fired up for the Conference.

World War Two is represented by the Loveday Internment Camp Site, while the conference venue will be the Renmark Hotel, said to be the first community-run hotel in the British Empire.

Reflecting on these places, it can be seen that there are some rich histories to explore. For details on the Conference contact the History Trust of SA on (08) 8226 8555 or www.history.sa.gov.au

Brian Samuels
Principal Heritage Officer

Burra State Heritage Area brochure launched

Heritage SA in conjunction with Goyder Council, has produced a walking tour brochure of Burra.

The *Burra State Heritage Area* brochure was launched in November 2002 at the National Trust's *Heritage and the Outback* Conference, held in Burra.

Burra was declared a State Heritage Area in 1993, and is one of 17 State Heritage Areas in South Australia. Legislation for State Heritage Areas protects whole areas of cultural landscape, rather than individual buildings. Burra is of great significance in the development of South Australia being one of Australia's earliest and most significant historic mining towns. It has many buildings and structures that date from the nineteenth century, when it had one of the world's great copper mines, which helped to boost the colony's flagging economy. The designation of Burra as a State Heritage Area helps to maintain its heritage value, while allowing for development for future generations.



L-R. Maureen Wright who was a key player in the production of the Burra brochure, Professor Roslynn Haynes keynote speaker who explored the images of the outback from pre-European days to the present, Lew Owens, President, National Trust SA.

The launch of the brochure was a celebration of the partnership between the local council, the community and State Government.

The Burra Heritage Advisory Committee initiated the brochure and prepared the text. Maureen Wright, a member of the Burra Committee was a key player in the production of the brochure. Douglas Alexander, Heritage Adviser to the area, and John Brak from Goyder Council, helped to see it through to publication. The sketches in the brochure were produced exclusively by local Burra artist Len Bence. Heritage SA funded and coordinated its development.

The *Burra State Heritage Area* brochure gives a brief history of the area, a brief synopsis of various places, and a map outlining places to visit. Copies of the brochure are available at The Environment Shop, 77 Grenfell Street, Adelaide. Phone (08) 8204 1911

Mooring sites established around the coast of South Australia

On 30 October 2002, the Minister for Environment and Conservation, John Hill, launched the South Australian Moorings Program to Protect Sensitive Marine Sites.

The aim of the Moorings Program is to provide mooring buoys for vessels in areas of sensitive or fragile marine environments, rather than boats dropping their anchors and damaging this environment. The South Australian project is based around ten shipwreck sites which contain sensitive marine environments, as well as significant historic attributes.

Ten mooring buoys have been installed at historic shipwrecks around the coast of South Australia: five around Wardang Island in Spencer Gulf, (*Australian*, *Songvaar*, *Investigator*, *MacIntyre* and *Moorara*); one off the north-west coast of Kangaroo Island (*Portland Maru*); and four in Gulf St Vincent (*Star of Greece* off Port Willunga, *Norma* off Semaphore, and *Zanoni* and a barge off Ardrossan).

Heritage SA is the lead agency involved in the installation and development of this project, with funding from Environment Australia's National Moorings Program, and with volunteer support from divers who assisted with the installation of the mooring buoys.

Interpretation signs have also been installed at Ardrossan, Port Victoria, North Haven and Port Willunga.

For further information contact Terry Arnott on (08) 8204 9245.



Mooring buoy at Star of Greece wrecksite, Port Willunga.

Heritage SA Conservation Seminar: Stained Glass Conservation in South Australia

Many of the country's most valuable and diverse examples of decorative windows can be found in South Australia. Stained, painted and coloured glass windows form part of our history, giving expression to the social attitudes and aspirations of succeeding generations of South Australians. A wealth of churches, private houses and public buildings have been adorned with their rich beauty, ranging from the simple expression of the craftsman to works of great artistic merit.

The decorative glass window embodies artistic and aesthetic value, but must also perform as a functional component of the building to keep the elements at bay. Over the decades, the effects of weathering, gravity, vandalism and pollution take their toll.

To assist owners, curators and practitioners in the complex task of maintaining the cultural value and the

continued over

continued

physical integrity of decorative windows, Heritage SA is presenting a seminar in which local and interstate experts including historians, practitioners and conservators will share their knowledge of the history, care and conservation of stained glass and leadlight. There will be opportunities to see some of our most important windows 'in the flesh' and to learn from the experts about their history and conservation.

The seminar will be held at the Art Gallery of SA Auditorium on 11 April 2003 and will be of value to professionals, tradespeople and property owners alike.

For further information contact:
Peter Wells on (08) 8204 9249 or
wells.peter@saugov.sa.gov.au

New Heritage Advisory Service in the Flinders

A Heritage Advisory Service to promote and assist the conservation of historic properties and sites in Port Augusta, Quorn, Hawker and the Central and Northern Flinders Ranges has commenced following the appointment of Adelaide architectural firm David Dawson Architects to provide the service.

The Northern Regional Development Board (NRDB) and The Flinders Ranges Council initiated the service, which was established through the collaborative efforts of the City of Port Augusta, The Flinders Ranges Council, the Outback Areas Community Development Trust, the South Australian Tourism Commission, Heritage SA and the NRDB.

The service will provide the opportunity for the owners of historic properties and places to obtain free expert advice on conservation issues, including the adaptation of properties for new or expanded uses.

Architects David Dawson and Simon Tohill from David Dawson Architects will visit the region on a regular basis and appointments with the Heritage Advisory Service can be made by phoning the City of Port Augusta on 8641 9100 or The Flinders Ranges Council on 8648 6031.

Presentation of the Keith Michell painting of the Queen's Theatre

During his recent stay in Adelaide the noted Australian/English actor and artist Keith Michell presented his painting of the historic Queen's Theatre to the people of South Australia. At a function at the Theatre on Wednesday 13 November 2002 Mr Michell presented the painting to the Hon John Hill MP, Minister for Environment and Conservation, and Minister assisting the Premier in the Arts.

The Queen's Theatre is of national heritage significance as the oldest purpose-built theatre on mainland Australia - the Theatre Royal in Hobart pre-dates it by a few years.

Whilst performing in Melbourne in 1993 Keith Michell was invited to Adelaide by the then Lord Mayor Henry Ninio and shown the Theatre. Mr Michell returned to London where he painted his image of the Gilles Arcade entrance of the Theatre prior to its conservation in 1995. To quote Mr Michell:

I am quite fond of it as it reminds me of Adelaide and a lot of things to do with the theatre there ... I shall miss it sitting up in the studio but it seems a bit strange not to share it.

The function at the Queen's Theatre was also the opportunity for Minister Hill to announce the Keith Michell Performance Award Program, a \$2,000 award for graduate actors and dancers, which will be offered through the joint efforts of the



Keith and painting outside the Queen's Theatre.
Photo courtesy The Advertiser

Helpmann Academy and STARS - the Southern Theatre and Arts Supporters.

Heritage & The Outback Conference

The National Trust of South Australia held a very successful Heritage & The Outback Conference in Burra between Friday 8 and Sunday 10 November 2002. Over 120 delegates from around Australia attended.

On Friday evening the delegates attended the opening of an exhibition of photographs entitled *Images of the Interior* at the Burra Regional Art Gallery, curated by Dr Philip Jones of the South Australian Museum, and the launch of the *Burra State Heritage Area* walking tour brochure. This was followed by a barbecue on the banks of Burra Creek.

The official conference proceedings opened on Saturday morning with a Keynote Address by Professor Roslynn

Haynes who presented a fascinating insight into images of the Outback as expressed in art, literature and film. Professor Haynes is the author of *Seeking The Centre - the Australian Desert in Literature, Art and Film*.

In the first general session of the conference the speakers explored the heritage resources of the Outback from its pre-history and hydrology to the heritage of the Oodnadatta, Birdsville and Strzelecki Tracks. After lunch, in the session entitled *Contemporary Life & Issues*, residents of various regions described their experiences of living in the Outback from a range of viewpoints, from being a Senior National Parks ranger at Innamincka to living on a pastoral property or operating a roadhouse in Oodnadatta. The final session of the day looked at heritage issues such as managing the Outback's mining heritage and its cultural tourism. Professor David

Dolan, Director of the Research Institute for Cultural Heritage at Curtin University, then eloquently summed up the day's proceedings and highlighted a number of issues.

The delegates reassembled on Sunday morning to discuss and decide on a number of recommendations for actions by the Australian Council of National Trusts. Topics of discussion included the fragility of the Outback's natural and cultural resources, attitudes of visitors to the Outback and the need to better educate those visitors about these non-renewable resources.

For further information concerning the recommended actions for promoting the sustainable management of the rich resources of the Australian Outback, contact the Adelaide office of the National Trust of South Australia on (08) 8212 1133.