

July 1992
Number 1



State Heritage

NEWSLETTER

Issues and information on heritage conservation in South Australia

about this newsletter

This is the first issue of the State Heritage Branch Newsletter. It is about increasing communication between owners of heritage listed places and the State Heritage Branch. We want to increase awareness of what the Branch does and what it means to be the owner of a heritage place.

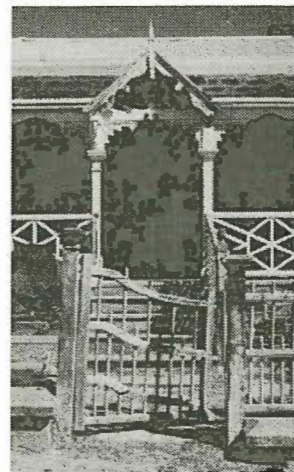
It is a newsletter for the people who own and manage our heritage places, and stories about them (with the owner's permission) will be featured regularly. Information on surveys, conferences, conservation, changes in legislation and anything that affects South Australia's heritage places will be included.

The State Heritage Branch was formed in 1978 to identify and conserve buildings, structures and areas of cultural significance. The Branch administers the legislation to protect these significant places, which are included on a list called the Register of State Heritage Items. If a place is on the heritage Register it means that it is an important feature of the heritage of South Australia. It means that we want to care for the place so it can be preserved for future generations.

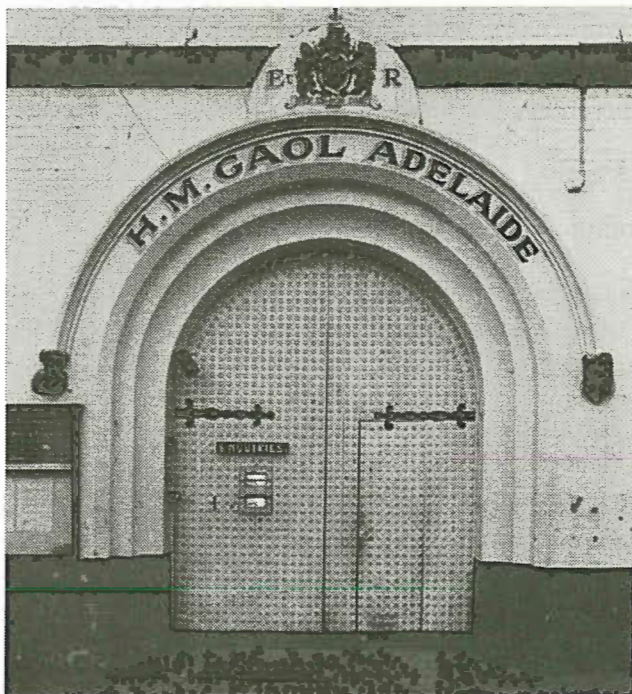
As well as protecting heritage on land the Branch has a team of maritime archaeologists who identify and conserve shipwrecks and other artefacts from South Australia's oceans, rivers and lakes.



Ruins of a detention cell block at Loveday Internment Camp near Barmera. Built in 1940, this camp housed civilian internees suspected of sympathising with enemy powers.



House at Burra (probably built in the 1890s). An example of unusually rich timber decoration.



Adelaide Gaol built c. 1841. A unique example of nineteenth century gaol architecture which housed remand and sentenced prisoners.



State Heritage Branch
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING

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Heritage is a word that is used in several different ways. It is often associated with a core of traditions and values passed from one generation to the next, for example our sporting heritage or our European heritage. The word heritage is also associated with buildings, crafts and landscapes so the terms our built heritage or cultural heritage are often used. The State Heritage Branch deals mostly with that heritage which is part of the built environment. Built environment is a broad term which includes not only buildings but items such as wells, monuments, minesites, shipwrecks and cemeteries. Significant geological areas such as Hallett Cove are also placed on the Register because they are of value for scientific reasons. There are also State Heritage Areas which have the same legislative protection as other heritage listed places. (see list below)

Heritage has different levels of meaning, therefore we can have local heritage which means something to those living in that locality or it can have a wider significance for the whole nation. For this reason there are a number of different lists of heritage places. A Heritage list exists for World Heritage, which includes places such as the Great Barrier Reef and Kakadu National Park. There is a National Estate Register (administered by the Australian Heritage Commission) which deals with culturally significant places within Australia as well as natural areas such as the Coorong National Park.

The South Australian Register of State Heritage Items is the list which is administered by the State Heritage Branch, and is concerned with places of cultural significance for the State. There is also a Register for the City of Adelaide, which is at present, the only council administering its heritage places.

Editor - Francesca Stropin

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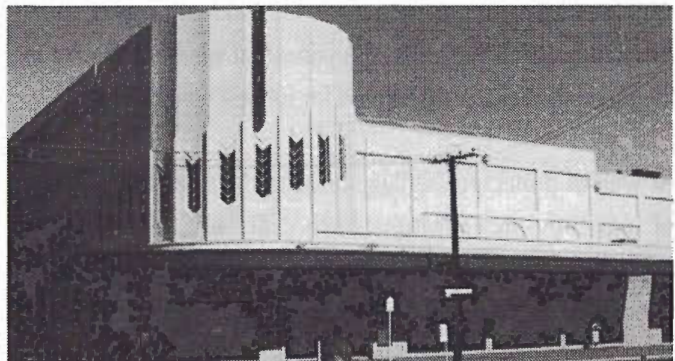
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State Heritage Areas

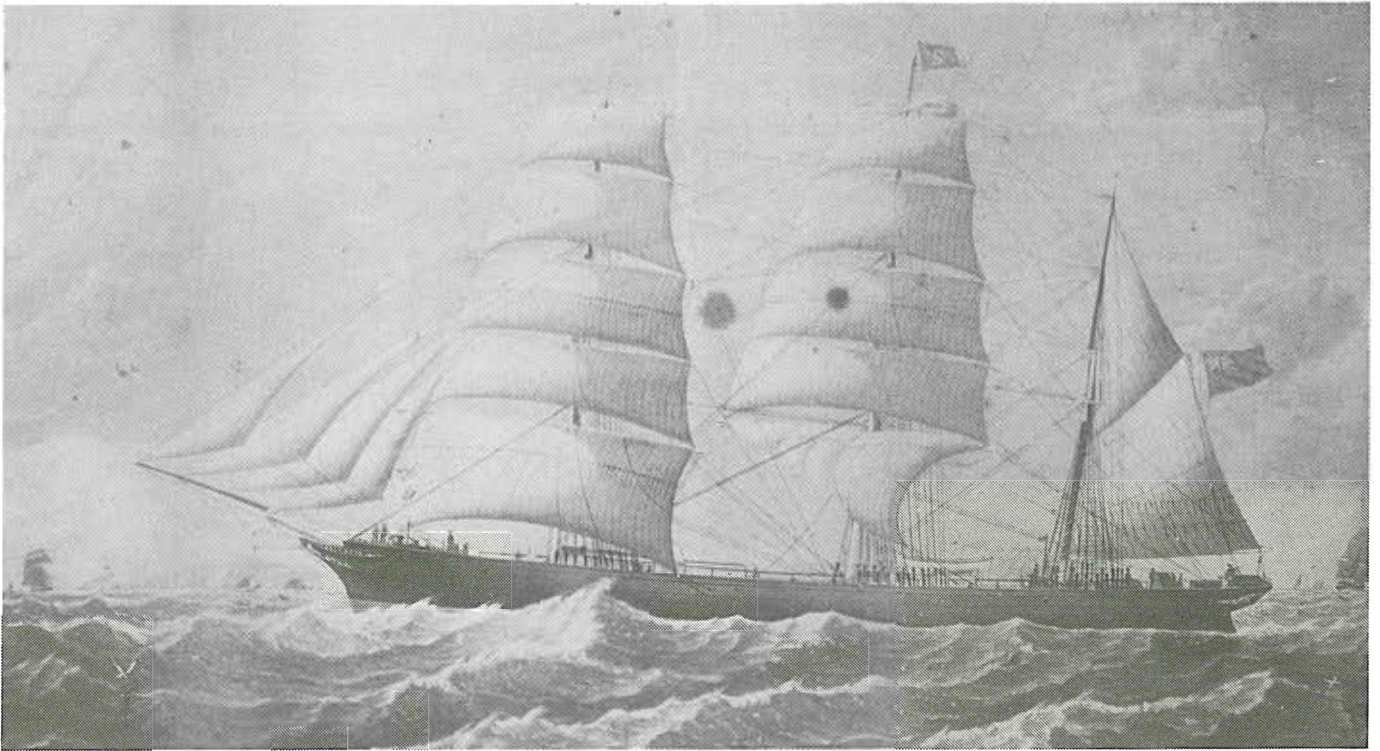
Arckaringa Hills
Belair Recreation Park
Beltana
Gawler Church Hill
Goolwa
Hahndorf

Innaminka - Cooper's Creek
Mintaro
Moonta Mines
Mt Gambier volcanic complex
Mt Schank
Port Adelaide



Piccadilly Cinema, North Adelaide. Built in 1940, Piccadilly Cinema represents international architecture adapted to Australian ideas of modern design.

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The *Geltwood* from a painting by J. Witham. (Photo: G. Sprott)

Geltwood Shipwreck

Near Lake Bonney, in the South-East of South Australia, on Wednesday July 5 1876 a large quantity of wreckage was seen on the beach by Mr Kennedy, an overseer and Mr Hutton, a boundary rider. On a closer look they found the body of a man on a beach. They had discovered one of the crew from a ship called the *Geltwood*.

At Liverpool, on 23 March 1876 the *Geltwood* had set sail bound for Melbourne with a cargo of general goods including cottons, woollens, wrought iron, leather goods, china and iron nails. Sometime around 14 June 1876 the *Geltwood* was wrecked, with all lives lost including the Captain and his wife, 28 crew and one passenger.

On 21 February 1983 the site was declared an Historic Shipwreck. The *Geltwood* has much to offer as an archaeological site for future research, public education and interpretation. The material and information the shipwreck contains constitutes a major educational resource on international trade between Australia and England in the mid to late nineteenth century, as well as personal effects carried by the crew on such voyages.

European trade with Australia was largely dependent on making long ocean voyages. The *Geltwood* is but one example of a vessel engaged in this type of voyage.

Maritime archaeologists are interested in preserving those tangible links with the past; not only shipwrecks but other cultural remains, situated underwater or on land, associated with Australia's maritime history.

Riverine studies are also part of maritime archaeology and a survey of the River Murray is currently underway. Identification and documentation of historical wrecks, and indeed any item that can piece together what life was like back in the days of river trading is being researched.

What makes a place *culturally significant?*

Whether a place is significant enough to be put on the Register depends on what it means to the community. For instance does it give us historical, scientific, or social insight into the past? Can it help in education or research? The answers are not always clear cut. What holds meaning for one community may be different for another.

To complicate issues, societies necessarily change over time. For instance, in the nineteenth century only cathedrals and stately homes were of any importance as historical landmarks. In the twentieth century our values and attitudes have changed: workers' cottages, lighthouses, industrial and mining sites are also regarded as significant.

It is important to note that what is significant is never final and fixed; new interests and new insights are constantly incorporated into our existing notions of significance.

Given these differences of opinion we need to have a set of flexible criteria which act as guidelines to help in decision making. The current set of criteria used by the State Heritage Branch has evolved over a period of about fourteen years. To be placed on the Register a place should reflect one or more criteria.

A place may reflect important aspects of the evolution or pattern of past events. For example the importance of nineteenth century copper mining is represented through the Burra Mines.

If there is potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of the past, a place is culturally significant, for instance the impact of the typhoid epidemic in the 1860s is revealed through the children's graves in Moonta Cemetery.

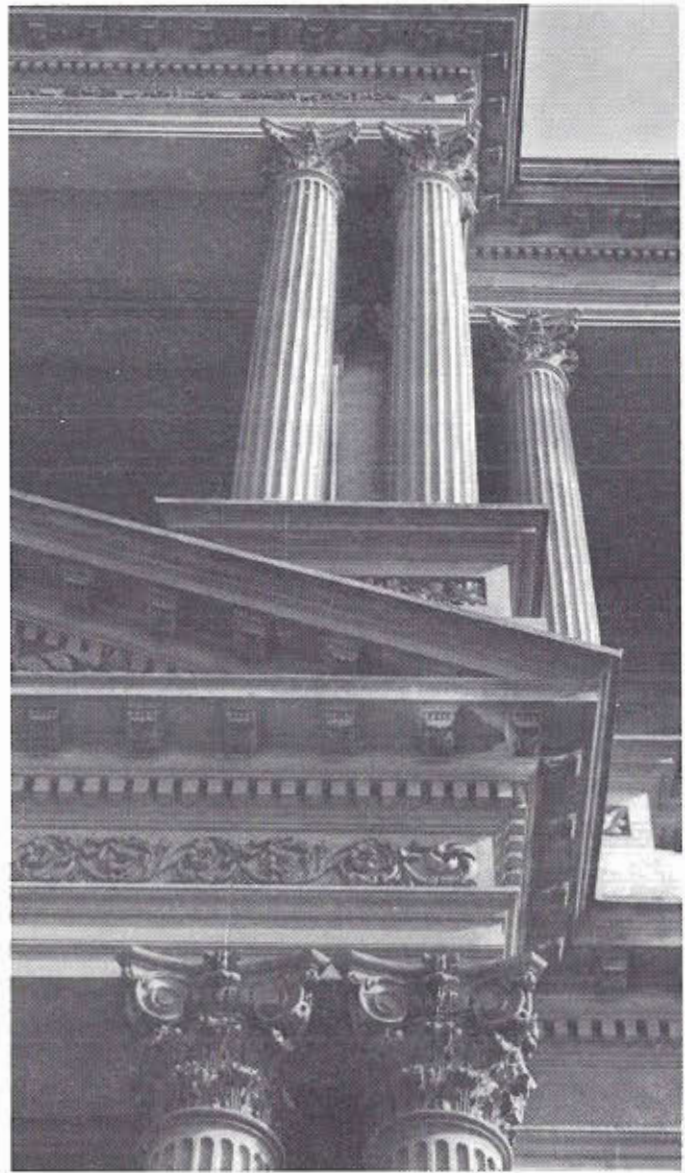
A place is of significance if it is a good representation of a broader class of places that are culturally significant, or where a high degree of creative, aesthetic or technical accomplishment is achieved. Hindmarsh River Bridge near Victor Harbor is Australia's first reinforced concrete girder bridge, and is an example of significant technical accomplishment.

Rare uncommon or endangered places such as the Ostrich farm near Port Augusta and the arsenic labyrinth at Wheel Ellen are also culturally important places.

If a place has a strong cultural, social or spiritual association for a community it is culturally significant. For example the War Memorial in North Terrace is the focus of community remembrance of those killed in wars.

Where a place has special associations with the life or work of a significant person or organisation of the past it becomes an important feature of South Australia's heritage. Edmund Wright House in King William Street was designed by prominent architects Edmund Wright and Lloyd Taylor, and is also notable as the former head office of the Bank of South Australia.

Places will not be put on the Register if they are: commonplace, or frequently repeated throughout the State; associated with events of interest to only a small number of people or with events which have no substantial contribution to history; only reputed to have been the scene of an event but lack substantial evidence to support the claim; and those that have had distinguishing aspects altered or diminished to the point where their value is significantly compromised.



Detail of Edmund Wright House, King William Street, Adelaide. Built between 1875 – 1878 by notable architects Edmund Wright and Lloyd Taylor.



Hindmarsh River Bridge near Victor Harbor is Australia's first reinforced concrete girder bridge. The bridge was built between 1905-1907 and reflects the prosperity of the Victor Harbor region in the early twentieth century.

This Church is an important landmark identifying the old town of Noarlunga. It is a place of worship and an important link with the past for many of the congregation who regularly worship there. The restoration of this Church is applauded by the community in and around Old Noarlunga.

The community is represented by a group of enthusiastic people known as the Restoration and Maintenance Committee. The members include: Colin Griffen, Philippa Gamlin, Jim Blazeby, Mary Blagrove, Wallace Mausolf and John Spier.

With assistance from the State Heritage Branch the committee has undertaken an extensive program of restoration. Cracking in the bell tower is being repaired, all the tower stone capping and sills are being replaced, and some interior walls are being re-rendered. The inside of the tower has been repointed.

Committee member Mary Blagrove's grandfather was a Church Warden for St Phillip & St James at the turn of the century. She and others in the community are grateful for the assistance given in restoring this Church that is part of the community's history.

Colin Griffen of the Restoration Committee is full of praise for the many people who are involved in the process of restoration.

'We are grateful, indeed, to the many people and organisations who have made possible the progress we have made so far, particularly the Heritage Branch and their architect, Mr John Hoysted. John has planned and directed the work and has made himself available to us whenever we have needed his advice or help.'

'The cost of this restoration will be slightly in excess of \$26 000. The State Heritage Branch has provided \$20 000. There is immense gratitude from the community.'

'Thanks must go to the Noarlunga Council for the quite

St Phillip & St James Church to be restored

By 1850 the erection of St Phillip and St James Church at Old Noarlunga had begun: 142 years later this historic Church is in the process of restoration with the involvement of some dedicated people.



St Phillip & St James Church in the process of restoration.



Restoration Committee members with John Hoysted and Father Doncaster. From left to right: Jim Blazeby, Colin Griffen, John Hoysted, Mary Blagrove, Father Doncaster and Philippa Gamlin.

considerable task of repairing the weather-vane from the tower and to the Noarlunga Branch of the National Trust who contributed \$590 for the replastering of the porch.'

'The dedication of the builder Hedley Blaess was a bonus to the process of restoration, as was Joe Griffiths the electrician who worked many hours in his own time, and with good humour.'

For Colin this building can tell us more about history than books.

'The building gave some status to a growing community in the 1850s. We should recall that as a new colony this Church would have probably been built among huts, tents and modest 2 roomed cottages made of timber or stone.'

'To have a solid structure such as this not only reflects the wealth of Old Noarlunga in the 1840s and 1850s but that the community was stabilising itself.'

For Father Ted Doncaster, Minister of St Phillip & St James the success of the restoration has been due to a process of 'honest and frank' discussion between the Heritage Branch and the Restoration Committee.

'The Heritage Branch has helped with long term maintenance of the Church. Previously maintenance had been achieved through well intentioned people with little experience in restoration.'

John Hoysted, architect for the Heritage Branch stated,

'As a small congregation in need of help, and given the historic importance of the Church not only to the community but to the State the financial help given for the Church's restoration was well deserved.'

'The community's response to fund-raising for the restoration is tremendous.'

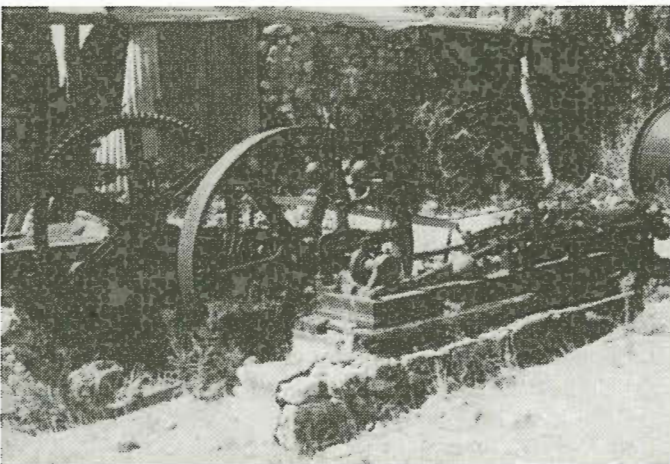
'Philippa Gamlin a member of the Committee has helped to raise funds of up to \$6 000 by various measures; measures which show the imagination and energy of a persistent group of people. Those measures include auctions, book stalls, repairing broken necklaces, soup mornings and the musical comedies of Gilbert and Sullivan'.

\$1.68 million boost for historic buildings

Forty one historic buildings in South Australia have been chosen for conservation work with \$1.68 million from the Federal Government's 'One Nation' economic package. Twenty million dollars was allocated for the preservation and enhancement of historic buildings for all States and Territories. More than 200 buildings will be restored throughout Australia.

In South Australia these projects include:

- | | |
|---|--|
| The Palm House, Botanic Gardens, Adelaide | Railway Station, Kapunda |
| Railway Roundhouse, Peterborough | Railway Station, Strathalbyn |
| Woolshed, Cordillo Downs | Railway Station, Riverton |
| Flinders Monument, Port Lincoln | Railway Station, Moonta |
| Council Office, Naracoorte | Police Station, Port Wakefield |
| St. Peter's Cathedral, Adelaide | Clayton Farm, Bordertown |
| Kingsmead, North Adelaide | Matta Matta House, Kadina |
| Palm House, St Peters | Courthouse, Willunga |
| St. Andrew's Church, Naracoorte | Cape Jaffa Lighthouse, Kingston |
| Woods McKillop Hall, Penola | Lighthouse, Point Malcolm |
| Whaling Site, Thistle Island | Telegraph Station, Gawler |
| Wests Coffee Palace, Adelaide | Beaumont House, Beaumont |
| Shops, Port Road, Hindmarsh | Railway Superintendent's Cottage, Goolwa |
| Tivers Row Cottages, Burra | Highercombe Hotel, Tea Tree Gully |
| Mission to Seamen, Outer Harbor | Collingrove, Angaston |
| Herbig Homestead, Springton | Courthouse, Strathalbyn |
| Nildottie Well, Bakara | Barrier Chambers, Pt Pirie |
| Academy, Hahndorf | Police Station, Melrose |
| Institute, Manoora | Customs House, Robe |
| | Temperance Hotel, Aldinga |
| | The Marines, Grange |
| | Incinerator, Hindmarsh |



Steam engine at Nildottie Well, Bakara. Built in about 1860 this steam engine is a rare example of a steam operated pumping system, and is part of Nildottie Well which will be restored with funds from the Federal Government's 'One Nation' economic package.

Regional Heritage Survey Program

by Hamish Angas

The State Heritage Branch will eventually know something about every individual place of heritage significance in South Australia; already more than half the State has been surveyed.

The Regional Heritage Survey Program in South Australia has its foundation in Susan Marsden's *Historical Guidelines* (1980). This document divided South Australia into fourteen regions based in part on Local Government Boundaries as well as on popular regional perceptions. Those heritage survey regions are:

Region 1	City of Adelaide
Region 2	Metropolitan Adelaide
Region 3	Mount Lofty Ranges and Eastern Plain
Region 4	Fleurieu Peninsula
Region 5	Murray Riverlands
Region 6	South East
Region 7	Murray Mallee
Region 8	Lower North
Region 9	Upper North
Region 10	Yorke Peninsula
Region 11	Flinders Ranges
Region 12	Eyre Peninsula and Far West Coast
Region 13	Far North and Far West
Region 14	Kangaroo Island

Since 1980 the Branch has administered the Program by commissioning consultants, experienced in identifying places of heritage significance, to undertake the surveys of the various regions. At present regional heritage surveys have been completed in seven of the fourteen regions (Nos. 1, 4, 5, 6, 8, 12 & 14) and it is anticipated that the next region to have a heritage survey will be the Flinders Ranges (Region 11).

As part of their brief, the consultants are asked to make nominations for the Register of State Heritage Items and as well as for State Heritage Areas. In addition they are asked to identify other places of local heritage character to be Historic (Conservation) Zones, (local heritage areas administered and protected by the local council) which can then be protected through Supplementary Development Plans.

Apart from the Regional Heritage Survey Program, various local councils have also undertaken surveys to identify their heritage assets. There will be no regional heritage surveys of either Metropolitan Adelaide (Region 2) or the Mount Lofty Ranges and Eastern Plain (Region 3). The identification of the heritage resources of these regions is going to be achieved by assembling the recommendations of the various local council heritage surveys within those regions.

Also the logistics of undertaking a regional heritage survey of Far North and Far West (Region 13) are impossible due to the large size of the region, so it is intended to 'survey' the region by processing individual nominations.

State Heritage Branch wants to complete the Regional Heritage Survey Program by the year 2000, so that a comprehensive inventory of South Australia's heritage resources can be compiled. The popular understanding of what constitutes our State's heritage will inevitably change and therefore places may be added to or deleted from the inventory as those new perceptions develop.

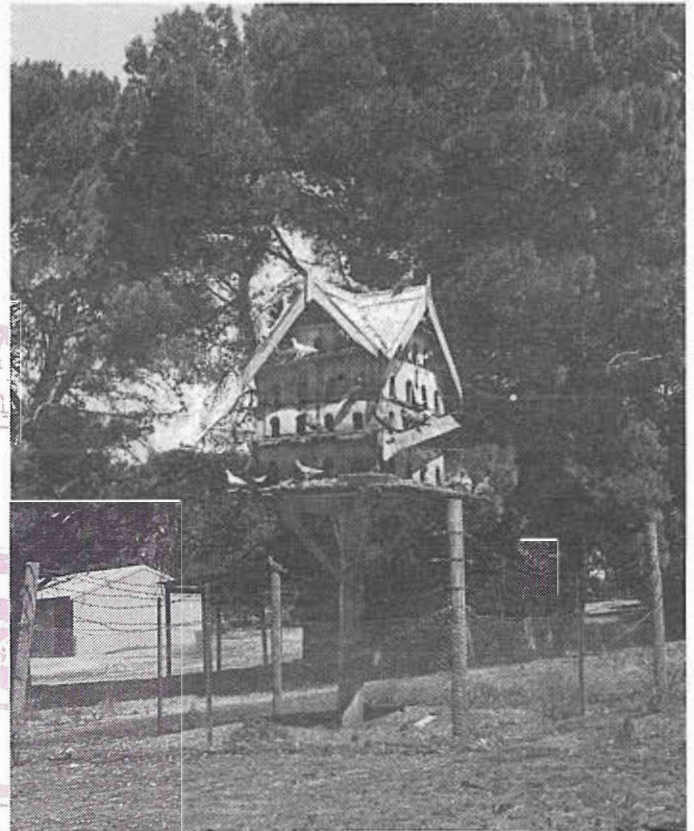
Information on heritage surveys will be featured regularly in the Branch's newsletter.

What does it mean to be the owner of a heritage listed place?

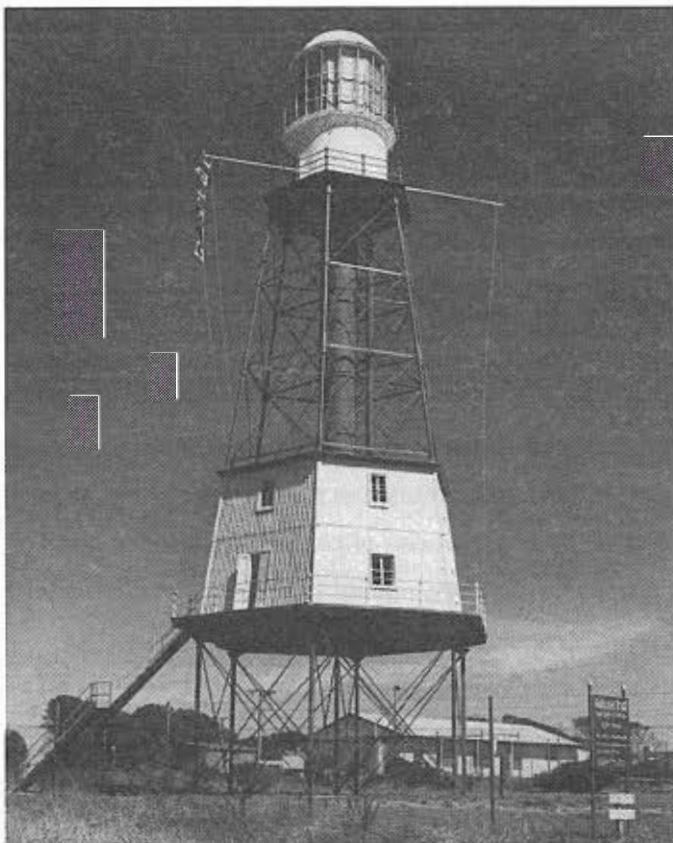
It is important to realise that any property placed on the State Register remains the property of the owner. The public does not gain any right of access to the property. Being on a heritage list does not necessarily devalue property, in many instances value is increased.

The State Heritage Branch provides advice about the care of heritage places. There is a formal process where owners apply for planning approval when they want to make changes to their place. It is always useful to talk to the conservation architects at the Branch or with the local heritage advisers about planning applications. The nature of the work may mean that a planning application is not necessary.

Any alterations should be sympathetic to the original structure as far as possible. The State Heritage Branch has conservation architects who are keen to help with any advice on conservation matters. This service is free to owners of properties on the Register or within a State Heritage Area. In addition heritage advisory services exist in areas including Goolwa, Port Adelaide, Mintaro, Gawler, Burra, Unley, Happy Valley and Mitcham.



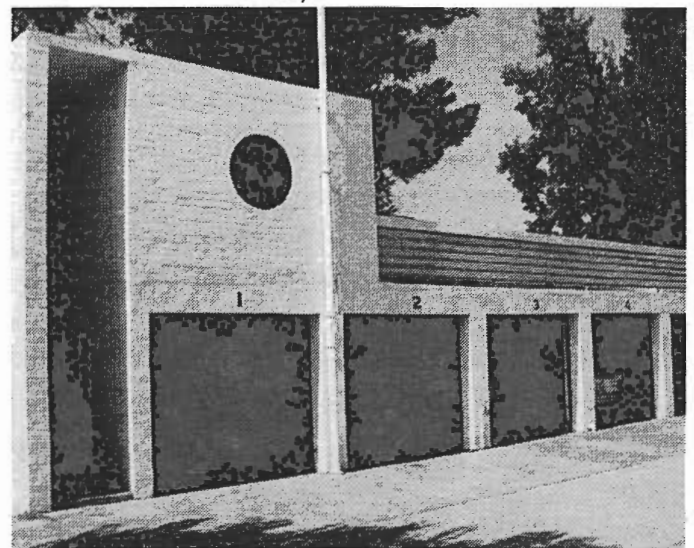
Dovecote at Hardy's Winery, Reynella. Built in 1857 this Victorian dovecote stands in the homestead of John Reynell who in the late 1830s and early 1840s established South Australia's first winery vineyards.



Cape Jaffa Lighthouse at Kingston. Built in 1872 a rare example of a prefabricated iron lighthouse on screwpile foundations.

Financial Help

Every year the Department of Environment and Planning distributes funds from the State Heritage Fund, through either grants or loans to help with the care of places which are on the State Register. There are only limited funds available and as with our feature story, we try to see that those funds are used wisely.



Garages at Deep Acres, North Adelaide built in 1941-2. A complex of one and two bedroom flats. Designed by young modernist architect Jack McConnell, it represents one of the first examples of the Modern Movement in South Australia; a movement that radically challenged existing ideas of architecture and design.

ORDER FORM

All publications free-of-charge unless otherwise indicated

GENERAL

- 1.0 Introduction
- 1.1 Some useful definitions
- 1.2 The South Australian Heritage Act 1978
- 1.3 Heritage provisions in the Planning Act 1982
- 1.4 Heritage provisions in the City of Adelaide Development Control Act 1976
- 1.5 Heritage provisions in the City of Adelaide Plan 1987-91
- 1.6 Standards for the conservation of properties on the Register of State Heritage Items and in State Heritage Areas
- 1.7 Preparation of conservation plans
- 1.8 Heritage listing of religious properties
- 1.9 Heritage funding in South Australia
- 1.10 Criteria for the inclusion of places on the South Australian Register of State Heritage Items

Tick box

GUIDELINES

- 2.1 Model brief for the preparation of conservation plans

TECHNICAL

- 3.1 An owner's guide to the maintenance of historic buildings \$4.00 + \$1.50 p/h
- 3.2 Check it! Or how to prepare a logbook for the maintenance and housekeeping of historic places \$4.00 + \$1.50 p/h
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Conservation Practice Notes

In order to create a high standard of conservation work the Branch has designed a set of Conservation Practice Notes which can be purchased. This is an invaluable compilation of information on heritage issues and practice notes in loose leaf sheets and booklet format. It includes information such as the Heritage Act, criteria for assessment of heritage items, detailed technical notes on the maintenance and conservation of old buildings, and a model brief for the preparation of conservation plans. These notes are constantly added to and recent additions include practical information on old bricks; removal of paint from masonry and cleaning of masonry.



"I suppose you know you're doing that all wrong."

The next Branch newsletter will be available in January 1993 and will include information on the new heritage legislation (currently in the process of change). Information about maritime archaeology, regional surveys, conservation hints and heritage advisors will also be featured.

Queries and comments may be sent to:

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