

**HERITAGE SURVEY OF THE  
RIVER MURRAY**



HERITAGE INVESTIGATIONS

HERITAGE SURVEY OF THE MURRAY RIVER

(REGION 5 - SOUTH AUSTRALIA)

PART TWO

13. D.C. TRURO

ITEM IDENTIFICATION SHEETS

LIBRARY  
TRANSPORT SA  
PO BOX 1  
WALKERVILLE  
SA 5081

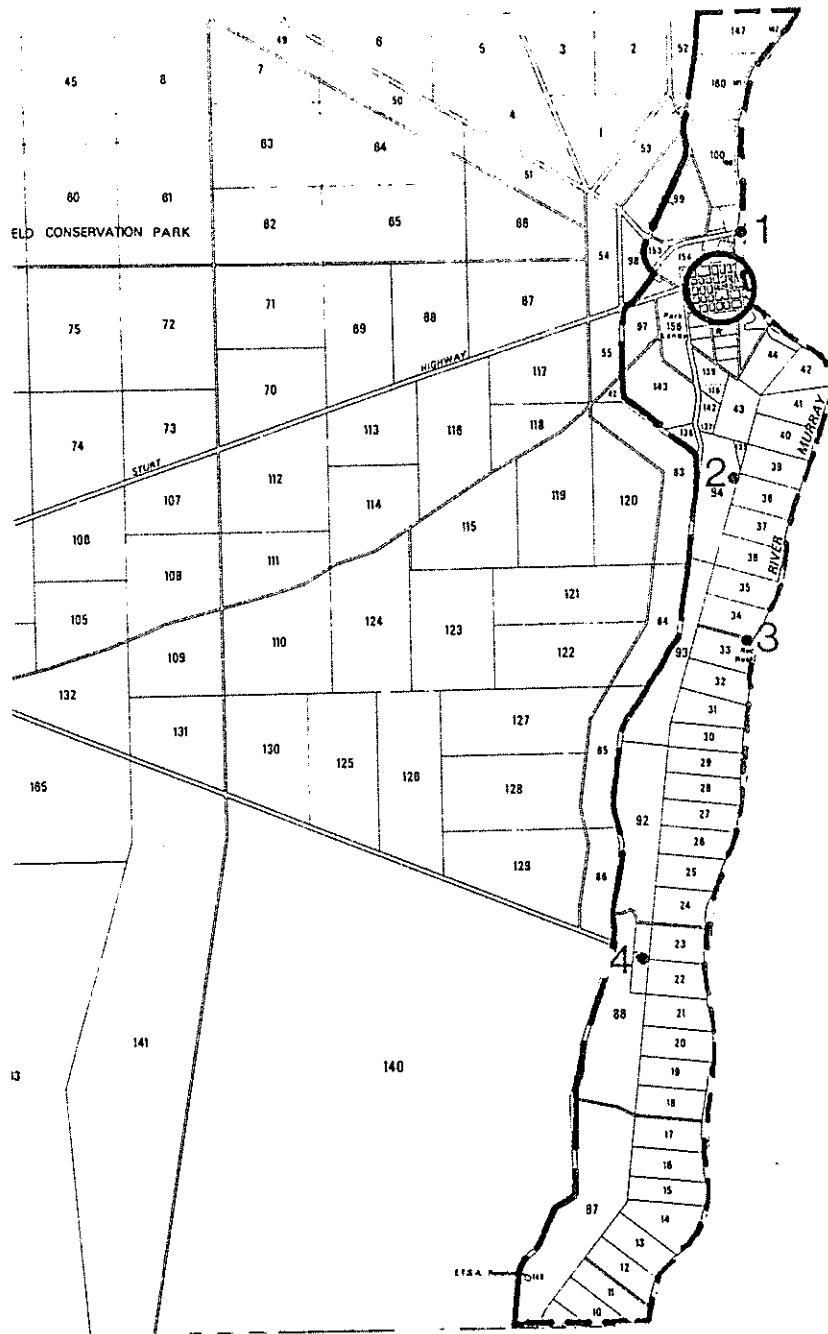
Prepared for the Heritage Conservation Branch of the Department of Environment and Planning by John Dallwitz and Susan Marsden of Heritage Investigations, assisted by Peter Donovan of Donovan and Associates. Adelaide 1984.

Funded under the National Estate Financial Assistance Programme.

DISTRICT COUNCIL OF TRURO

ITEM NO.	ITEM	SOURCE	SUBJECT	PERIOD	CURRENT STATUS	RECOMMENDATION
1	Blanchetown Bridge	#	4.7 4.10	1941-present	SAHD	A
2	Nott's Hut Ruin	LP	4.10	1881-1905		B
3	Moorundie Site and Ruins	#	1.1 1.4 3.4 3.5 4.1	1830-52		A
4	"Portee" Homestead Complex	#	4.1	1853-80		A

LP : L. Bert Power



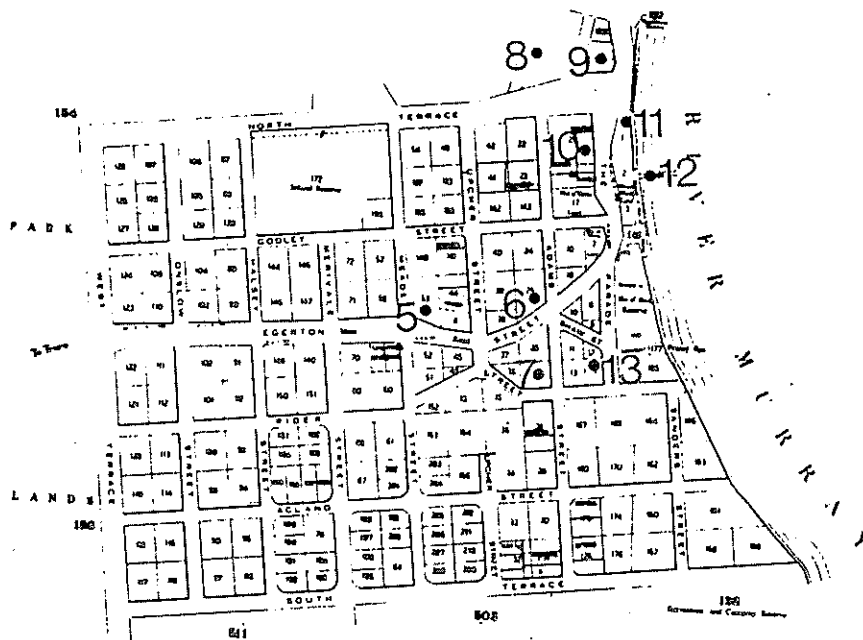
HERITAGE SURVEY REGION 5		D.C. TRURO
--- D.C. boundary	———— Region boundary	
○ Refer to town map	● Item location	
Scale 1:100,000	Heritage Investigations 1984	

DISTRICT COUNCIL OF TRURO

TOWN OF BLANCHETOWN

ITEM NO.	ITEM	SOURCE	SUBJECT	PERIOD	CURRENT STATUS	RECOMMENDATION
5	Blanchetown Post Office	#	4.8	1853-80	NE SHR NT	A
6	Blanchetown Hotel	#	4.6	1853-80	NT	A
7	House (Culhane)	#	2.2	1853-80		B
8	Second Police Station	RM	3.5	1906-40		B
9	First Police Station	#	3.5	1853-80	NT	A
10	Former Jockey Arms Wine Saloon	#	4.6	1853-80		A
11	Ferry Keeper's House Ruin	RH	4.7	1881-1905		B
12	Lock No. 1	#	4.9 4.10	1906-40	SHR IE	A
13	Blanchetown Institute	RM	2.6	1906-40		B

RH : Rita Howson  
RM : Reg Munchenberg



HERITAGE SURVEY REGION 5

••• Proposed Heritage Area

• Item location

Scale 1:10,000

Heritage Investigations 1984

D.C. TRURO

TOWN OF BLANCHETOWN

South  
Australian  
Heritage  
Act  
1978-80

HERITAGE SURVEY  
ITEM IDENTIFICATION SHEET

PROJECT  
HERITAGE SURVEY REGION 5  
Item Ref. No. 1

ITEM NAME: Blanchetown Bridge  
Former or other

Office Use  
ITEM No.  
DOCKET No.

HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

This bridge is only the third road bridge to be built across the River Murray in South Australia. When completed it was the largest bridge ever constructed by the Highways Department. Planning for the bridge commenced in July 1958. Work commenced on site in March 1962 and the bridge was opened for traffic on 24 April 1964. The bridge is a notable engineering work; extending 440 metres with the decking being 13 metres wide. The piers are of reinforced concrete, with the decking being made of post-tensioned prestressed concrete girders. The bridge was designed by Donovan Lee and Partners of London and built by A.W. Baulderstone Ltd. of Adelaide. It is a notable example of modern engineering, and is significant because of this.

LOCATION  
Address Sturt Highway  
Blanchetown  
Town  
Postcode  
Section  
Hundred Skurray  
County  
L.G.A. Truro  
S.H.P. Region 5  
A.M.G. Ref. 6829-III  
54 37260 619840

SUBJECT  
4.7

PERIOD  
State

Study Area  
1941-present

REFERENCES

Highways Department The Official Opening of Blanchetown Bridge  
Highway July/August, 1963, Vol. 1, No. 2, pp. 2-3

Verbal  
Archival photographs

TYPE OF ITEM  
LAND Natural feature   
Historical site   
Historical Gdn.   
BUILDING   
STRUCTURE   
PHYSICAL CONDITION

PHOTOGRAPH Film No. 839 Negative No. 1  
Direction of view to E



STATUS  
Reg. of State Her. Items  
Reg.  Interim L.   
Nominated   
National Estate  
Reg.  Proposed L.   
National Trust  
CL  RL  File   
Other  
S.A. Highways Dept.

RECOMMENDATION  
(A) State  (B) Local

PREPARED BY  
HERITAGE INVESTIGATIONS  
Date: 1984

IIS/D4/25.11.81

South Australian Heritage Act 1978-80	<b>HERITAGE SURVEY</b>	PROJECT HERITAGE SURVEY REGION 5
	<b>ITEM IDENTIFICATION SHEET</b>	Item Ref. No. 3
	ITEM NAME: Moorundie Site and Ruins Former or other	Office Use ITEM No. DOCKET No.

**HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

Moorundie was one of the earliest government towns outside Adelaide. It was laid out on the Special Survey which was claimed by E.J. Eyre in July 1839. Eyre was appointed Protector of Aborigines in October 1841 and made Moorundie his base. Almost immediately the Government surveyed the area for a small village which was to be named Sturt, in which were to be stationed a small detachment of troops, and a detachment of mounted police. Because of the nature of Eyre's appointment, Moorundie became one of the early contact points between Europeans and Aborigines, where the latter received blankets and flour from the Government: it is significant also because of this. Though Eyre resigned his position of Protector in 1844 and left the colony, Moorundie remained an important town on the overland route to New South Wales until 1856 when Blanchetown was surveyed a little to the north. This site is of great significance because of its association with Eyre, and the fact that it was one of South Australia's earliest country towns.

Relics on site including building foundations appear consistent with the stone buildings shown in the archival photo, together with relics of Eyre's irrigation system - probably the first along the Murray. The site is also significant as the location of the sunken boat "Waterwitch".

**LOCATION**

Address  
Town Blanchetown  
Postcode  
Section 32, 33, 34  
Hundred Skurray  
County  
L.G.A. Truro  
S.H.P. Region 5  
A.M.G. Ref. 6829-III  
54 37260 619300

**SUBJECT**

1.1, 1.4, 3.4, 3.5, 4.1

**PERIOD**

State  
  
Study Area  
1830-1852

**REFERENCES**

South Australian Museum Ngaiawang Folk Province pp. 90-95  
J.C. Hawker Diary, PRG 208, S.A.A.  
J.W.R. White, Morgan Centenary 1878-1978, p. 87

Verbal L. Bert Power, 1984 (former owner)  
Archival photographs S.A. Archives, B15902; White, p.87

**TYPE OF ITEM**

LAND Natural feature   
Historical site   
Historical Gdn.   
BUILDING   
STRUCTURE   
PHYSICAL CONDITION

PHOTOGRAPH Film No. 671 Negative No. 11  
Direction of view



**STATUS**

Reg. of State Her. Items  
Reg.  Interim L.   
Nominated   
National Estate  
Reg.  Proposed L.   
National Trust  
CL  RL  File   
Other

**RECOMMENDATION**

(A) State  (B) Local

PREPARED BY  
HERITAGE INVESTIGATIONS

Date: 1984



South  
Australian  
Heritage  
Act  
1978-80

# HERITAGE SURVEY ITEM IDENTIFICATION SHEET

PROJECT  
HERITAGE SURVEY REGION 5  
Item Ref. No. 4

ITEM NAME: "Portee" Homestead Complex  
Former or other

Office Use  
ITEM No.  
DOCKET No.

### HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

The "Portee" run was originally part of the special survey taken up in 1839 by E.J. Eyre, who settled at "Moorundie" (I.D. sheet item no. 3) which is 4 kilometres north of the present "Portee" homestead. Besides this important connection, however, "Portee" is significant in its own right as a good typical example of the gradually more substantial station complexes which were built in the region in the period 1853-1880.

The first homestead was built on the river flat in about 1856 but it was flooded out. Eardley T.L. Heywood, who had bought the "Portee" area from Eyre, then built the present homestead in about 1870. Possibly this was in 1873 when he could first buy the Head Station site freehold as the site is above the river flat outside the special survey, and was not available for purchase until the proclamation of the hundred. The large rambling limestone house appears to incorporate an earlier building and the woolshed, implement shed and workmen's quarters ("Uncle Tom's Cabin") are also of earlier date, c.1860.

### LOCATION Address

Town nr. Blanchetown  
Postcode  
Section 22A  
Hundred Skurray  
County  
L.G.A. Truro  
S.H.P. Region 5  
A.M.G. Ref. 6829-III  
54 37130 618890

### SUBJECT

4.1

### PERIOD State

Study Area  
1853-80

### REFERENCES

S.A. Archives 1324/83

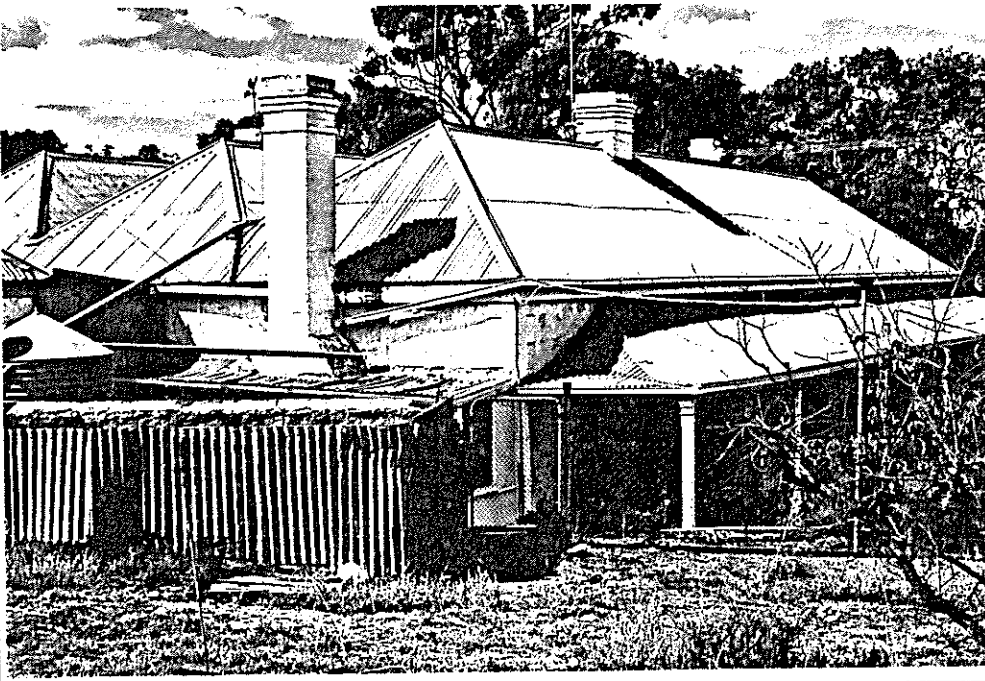
LIBRARY  
TRANSPORT SA  
PO BOX 1  
WALKERVILLE  
SA 5081

Verbal L. Bert Power, 1984 (former owner)  
Archival photographs

### TYPE OF ITEM

LAND Natural feature   
Historical site   
Historical Gdn.   
BUILDING   
STRUCTURE   
PHYSICAL CONDITION

PHOTOGRAPH Film No. 840 Negative No. 4  
Direction of view to NE



### STATUS

Reg. of State Her. Items  
Reg.  Interim L   
Nominated   
National Estate  
Reg.  Proposed L   
National Trust  
CL  RL  File   
Other

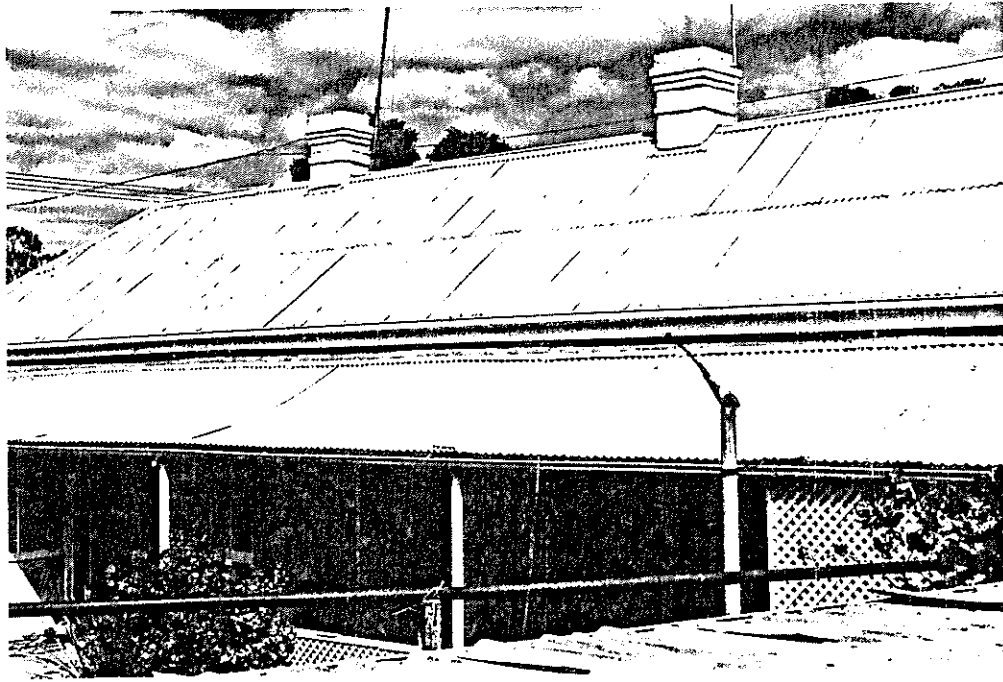
### RECOMMENDATION

(A) State  (B) Local

PREPARED BY  
HERITAGE INVESTIGATIONS

Date: 1984

IIS/D4/25.11.81



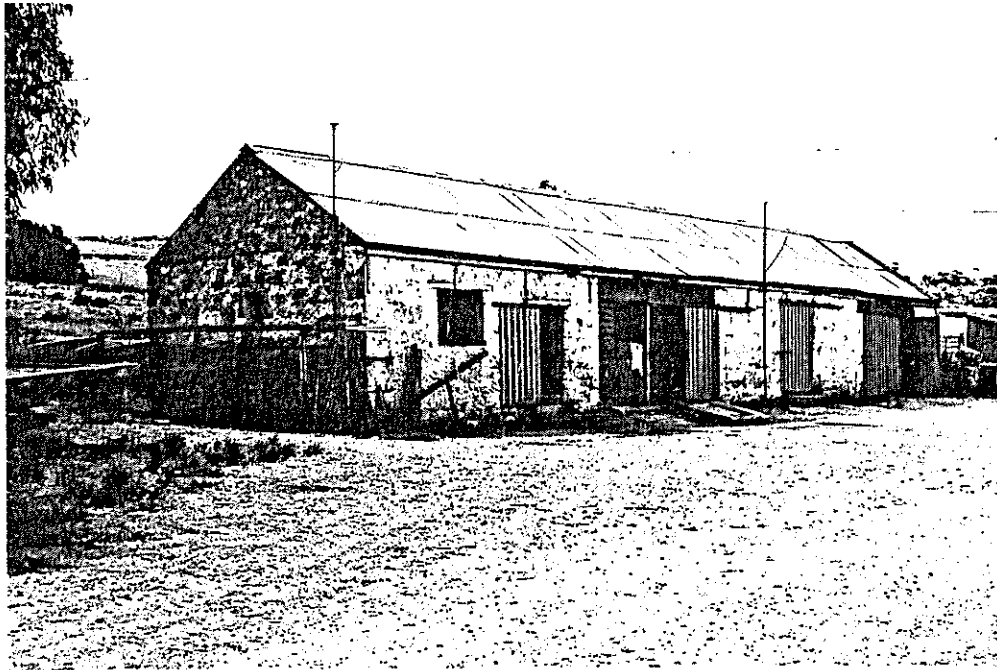
PROJECT  
HERITAGE SURVEY REGION 5

Item Ref. No. 4a

L.G.A.

Truro

Film No. 840  
Negative No. 3  
Direction of view to SE



Film No. 840  
Negative No. 5  
Direction of view to NW



Film No. 840  
Negative No. 6  
Direction of view to S

South  
Australian  
Heritage  
Act  
1978-80

HERITAGE SURVEY  
ITEM IDENTIFICATION SHEET

HERITAGE SURVEY REGION 5  
Item Ref. No. 5

ITEM NAME: Blanchetown Post Office  
Former or other

Office Use  
ITEM No.  
DOCKET No.

HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

Blanchetown was surveyed as a government town in 1855, succeeding Moorundie about five kilometres south. It was better sited as a port, and provided better access to the river. The town prospered, and became an important staging point on the overland route between the settled regions of South Australia and New South Wales. By 1860 the road from Truro to Blanchetown was declared a main road, part of the new overland route to Wentworth in New South Wales. Because of its important location Blanchetown was also astride the overland telegraph route between Adelaide and Sydney. This Post Office was built in 1866 by Tylor and Ridgway. It remains largely original in appearance, and its solid construction and appearance testify to the early importance of Blanchetown. It is significant because of this, and its significance is enhanced by its undoubted architectural merit. It is particularly notable for the arched colonnades forming a shelter for the interior of the building. It is constructed of stone with white rendered quoins.

LOCATION  
Address Egerton St.  
Town Blanchetown  
Postcode  
Section  
Hundred Skurray  
County  
L.G.A. Truro  
S.H.P. Region 5  
A.M.G. Ref. 6829-III  
54 37230 619780

SUBJECT  
4.8

PERIOD  
State

Study Area  
1853-80

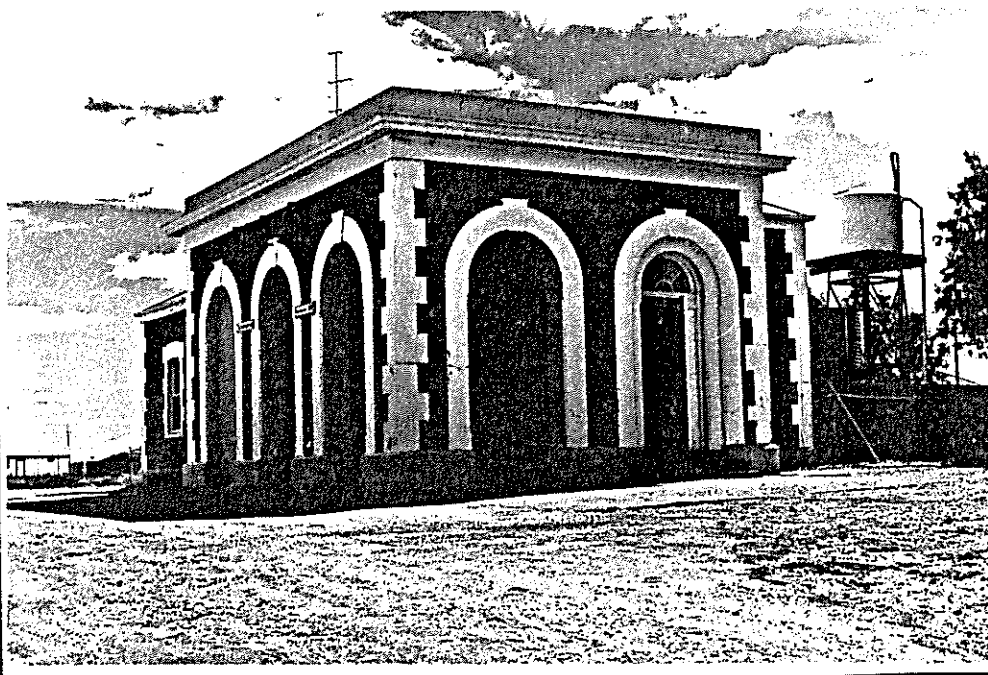
REFERENCES

National Trust 1925  
South Australian Museum, Ngaiawang Folk Province,  
pp 162-168

Verbal  
Archival photographs

TYPE OF ITEM  
LAND Natural feature   
Historical site   
Historical Gdn.   
BUILDING   
STRUCTURE   
PHYSICAL CONDITION

PHOTOGRAPH Film No. 839 Negative No. 13  
Direction of view to W




STATUS  
Reg. of State Her. Items  
Reg.  Interim L   
Nominated   
National Estate  
Reg.  Proposed L   
National Trust  
CL  RL  File   
Other

RECOMMENDATION  
(A) State  (B) Local

PREPARED BY  
HERITAGE INVESTIGATIONS  
Date: 1984

IIS/D4/25.11.81

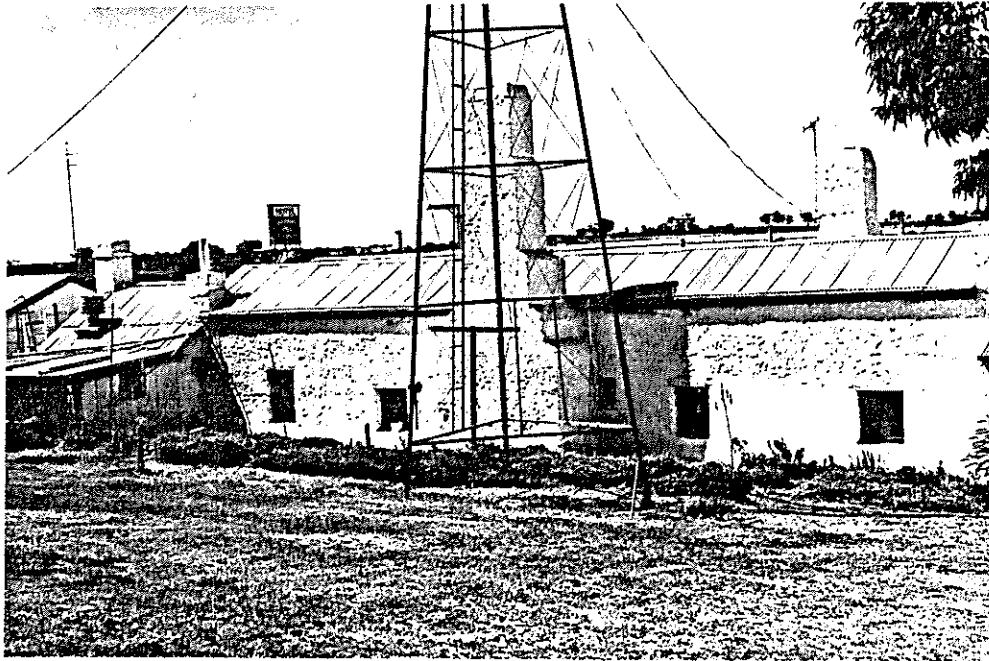
South Australian Heritage Act 1978-80	<b>HERITAGE SURVEY</b> <b>ITEM IDENTIFICATION SHEET</b>	PROJECT HERITAGE SURVEY REGION 5 Item Ref. No. 6
	ITEM NAME: Blanchetown Hotel Former or other	Office Use ITEM No. DOCKET No.
<b>HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE</b> <p>The Hotel is one of the landmark buildings of Blanchetown. The town itself was surveyed in 1855, because of the need to provide easy access to the river and an easy crossing, and also to provide for a port. The town became an important staging point for travellers to and from New South Wales, and also an important shipping port, being the closest river town to Truro and Gawler. In 1860 the road between Truro and Blanchetown was declared a main road, and the town became part of the main route from Adelaide to Wentworth. The importance of Blanchetown as a staging point was emphasised by the building of the Hotel there in 1856 by G. Green. Its first licensee was T.W. Harvey, from 1858.</p> <p>The hotel is a significant heritage item because of this and because it must have been one of the first buildings in the new town. It has been substantially upgraded, but sufficient of the original form remains to testify to its age, and its early associations.</p>		<b>LOCATION</b> Address Adams St. Town Blanchetown Postcode Section Hundred Skurray County L.G.A. Truro S.H.P. Region 5 A.M.G. Ref. 6829-III 54 37240 619780
<b>REFERENCES</b> National Trust 508 Royal Geographical Society S.A. <u>Proceedings</u> vol. XVIII, 1916-17, p.56 South Australian Museum, <u>Ngaiawang Folk Province</u> , pp 164-166		<b>TYPE OF ITEM</b> LAND Natural feature <input type="checkbox"/> Historical site <input type="checkbox"/> Historical Gdn. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>BUILDING</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>STRUCTURE</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>PHYSICAL CONDITION</b>
<b>PHOTOGRAPH</b> Film No. 839 Negative No. 10 Direction of view to N 		<b>STATUS</b> Reg. of State Her. Items Reg. <input type="checkbox"/> Interim L. <input type="checkbox"/> Nominated <input type="checkbox"/> National Estate Reg. <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed L. <input type="checkbox"/> National Trust CL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RL <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> Other
		<b>RECOMMENDATION</b> (A) State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (B) Local <input type="checkbox"/> <b>PREPARED BY</b> HERITAGE INVESTIGATIONS Date: 1984

IIS/D4/25.11.81

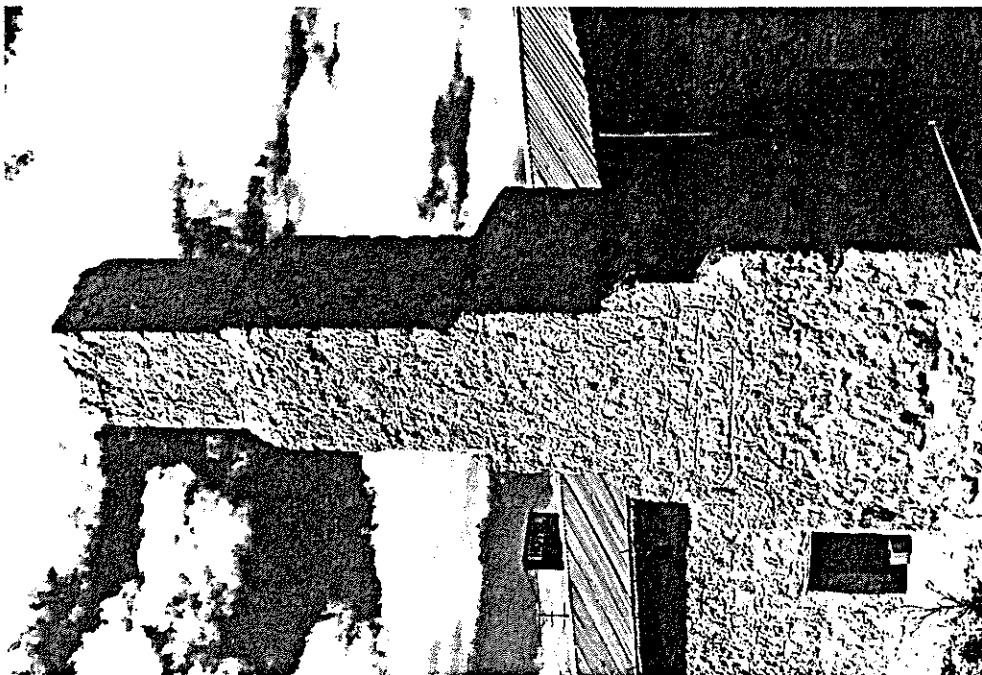
PROJECT  
HERITAGE SURVEY REGION 5  
Item Ref. No. 6a

L.G.A.  
Truro

Film No. 839  
Negative No. 9  
Direction of view to NE



Film No. 839  
Negative No. 11  
Direction of view to NW



Film No. 839  
Negative No. 12  
Direction of view to NE

South  
Australian  
Heritage  
Act  
1978-80

HERITAGE SURVEY  
ITEM IDENTIFICATION SHEET

PROJECT  
HERITAGE SURVEY REGION 5  
Item Ref. No. 9

ITEM NAME: First Police Station  
Former or other

Office Use  
ITEM No.  
DOCKET No.

HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

The police were invariably in the van of European settlement in South Australia. Blanchetown was surveyed as early as 1855 as a new government town and post to supersede Moorundie, and this police station was built in 1859. The early presence of the police in Blanchetown was required because of the fact that the town became an important staging point on the new overland route to Wentworth in New South Wales. The police station highlights the early significance of the town. New cells were built at the station in 1875.

The group consists of several limestone buildings: a house (the station), with a raised verandah; the cells and the stables. The group has a commanding view of the river at the original crossing point.

LOCATION  
Address

Town Blanchetown  
Postcode  
Section  
Hundred Skurray  
County  
L.G.A. Truro  
S.H.P. Region 5  
A.M.G. Ref. 6829-III  
54 37240 619810

SUBJECT

3.5

PERIOD  
State

Study Area  
1853-80

REFERENCES

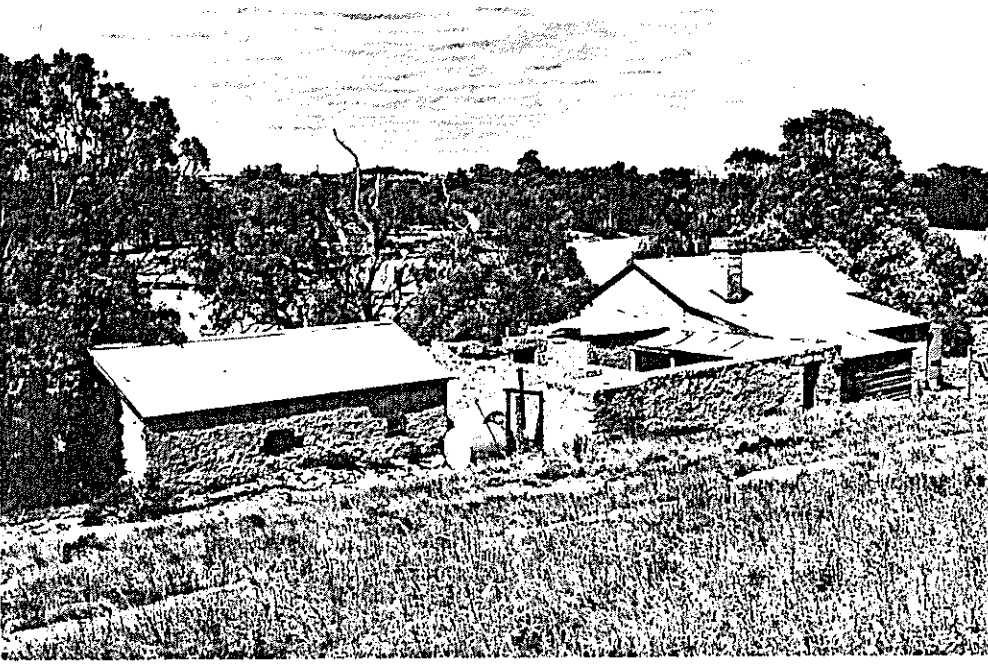
National Trust 1853  
South Australian Museum, Ngaiawang Folk Province, pp 162-168

TYPE OF ITEM

LAND Natural feature   
Historical site   
Historical Gdn.   
BUILDING   
STRUCTURE   
PHYSICAL CONDITION

Verbal  
Archival photographs

PHOTOGRAPH Film No. 839 Negative No. 6  
Direction of view to SE



STATUS

Reg. of State Her. Items  
Reg.  Interim L.   
Nominated   
National Estate  
Reg.  Proposed L.   
National Trust  
CL  RL  File   
Other

RECOMMENDATION

(A) State  (B) Local

PREPARED BY

HERITAGE INVESTIGATIONS

Date: 1984



PROJECT  
HERITAGE SURVEY REGION 5

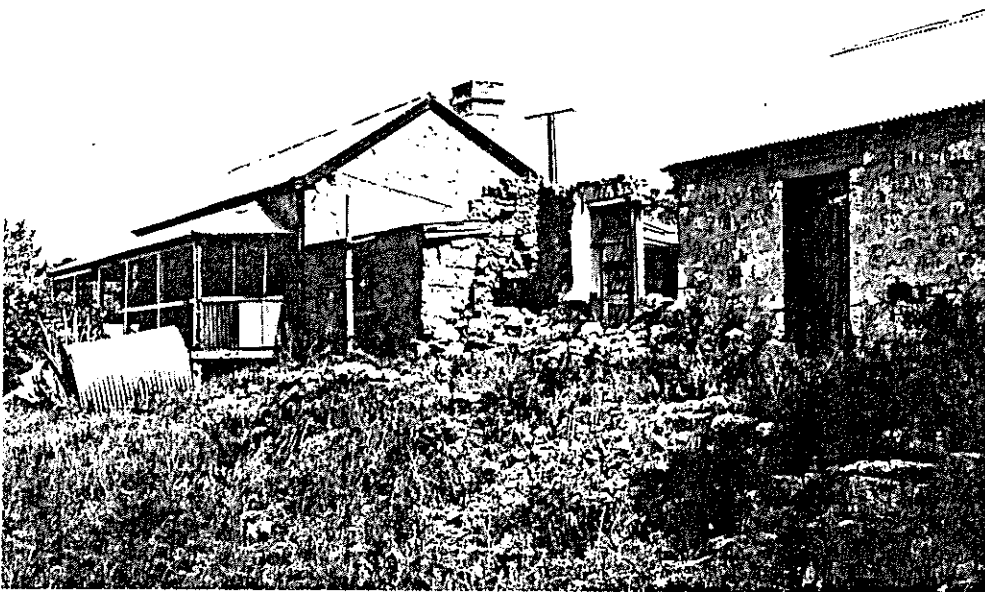
Item Ref. No. 9a

L.G.A.

Truro



Film No. 839  
Negative No. 3  
Direction of view to N



Film No. 839  
Negative No. 4  
Direction of view to SW



Film No. 839  
Negative No. 5  
Direction of view to SW

South Australian Heritage Act 1978-80	<b>HERITAGE SURVEY</b>	PROJECT HERITAGE SURVEY REGION 5
	<b>ITEM IDENTIFICATION SHEET</b>	Item Ref. No. 10
	ITEM NAME: Former Jockey Arms Wine Saloon Former or other	Office Use ITEM No. DOCKET No.

**HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

This substantial limestone house was once a wine saloon, its name no doubt an indication of its popularity during the once-renowned Blanchetown races. The building appears to date from the 1860s, the same period the Blanchetown races started to be held. They were a major country feature, often visited by the Governor and several hundred people from Adelaide. The race ball was attended by about 500. The racecourse itself was situated at the top of the hill not far from the post office. The races continued until c.1890 when drought and economic depression caused its closure.

The building is in good condition and has been little changed, although used as a residence for many years. It is sited opposite the first police station and near the access road of the former Blanchetown ferry crossing, and thus marks a now-bypassed but formerly significant part of the town.

**LOCATION**  
Address The Parade  
Town Blanchetown  
Postcode  
Section  
Hundred Skurray  
County  
L.G.A. Truro  
S.H.P. Region 5  
A.M.G. Ref. 6829-III  
54 37250 619800

**SUBJECT**  
4.6

**PERIOD**  
State  
  
Study Area  
1853-80

**REFERENCES**

Murray Pioneer 14 December 1939

Verbal Mr. N. Strang (owner), Rob Edson, 1984  
Archival photographs

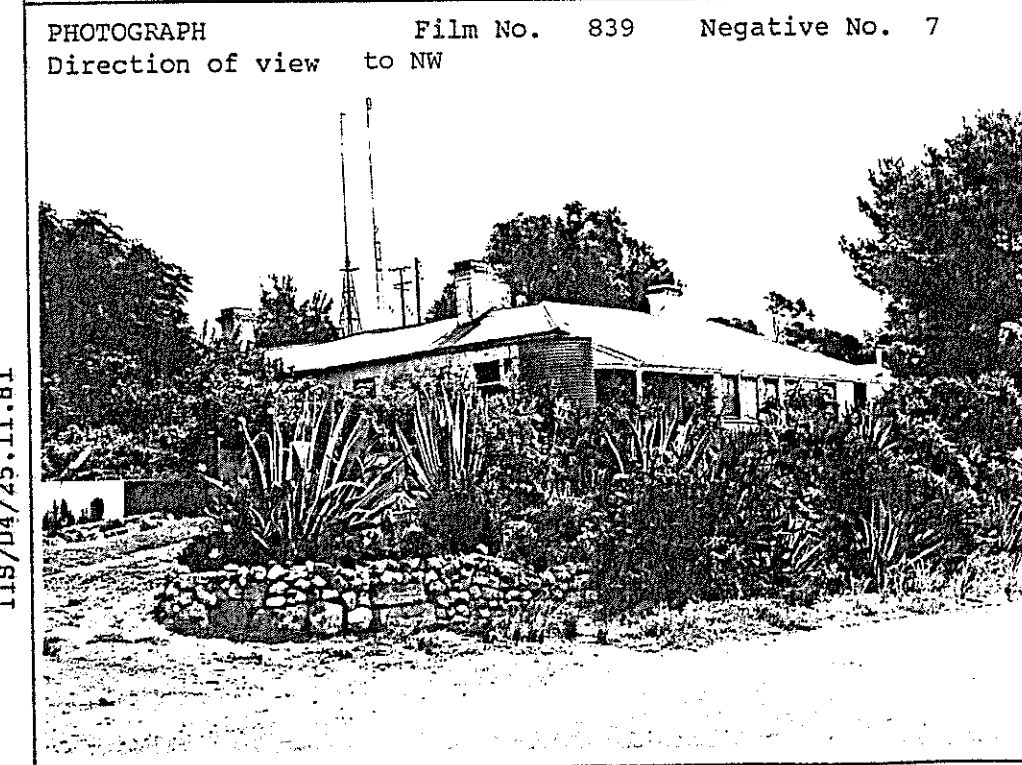
**TYPE OF ITEM**

LAND Natural feature   
Historical site   
Historical Gdn.

**BUILDING**

**STRUCTURE**

**PHYSICAL CONDITION**



**STATUS**

Reg. of State Her. Items  
Reg.  Interim L.   
Nominated

National Estate  
Reg.  Proposed L.

National Trust  
CL  RL  File

Other

**RECOMMENDATION**  
(A) State  (B) Local

PREPARED BY  
HERITAGE INVESTIGATIONS  
Date: 1984

IIS/D4/25.11.81



South  
Australian  
Heritage  
Act  
1978-80

# HERITAGE SURVEY ITEM IDENTIFICATION SHEET

PROJECT  
HERITAGE SURVEY REGION 5  
Item Ref. No. 12

ITEM NAME: Lock No. 1  
Former or other W.R. Randell Lock

Office Use  
ITEM No.  
DOCKET No.

## HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

The W.R. Randell Lock and Weir were the first works to be built as a result of the historic River Murray agreement of 1915. This agreement was the result of years of negotiations between the Commonwealth and three State Governments who were concerned to husband their scarce water resources. Construction began almost immediately after the ratification of the agreement and after delays caused by the war and floods was finally completed in 1922. It was the first of a number of locks and barrages which were built as part of the grand scheme to harness the Murray. This has had a major impact on the environment of the Murray. This item is particularly significant because it was the first of the mighty river works to be commenced and completed.

## LOCATION Address

Town Blanchetown  
Postcode  
Section  
Hundred Skurray  
County  
L.G.A. Truro  
S.H.P. Region 5  
A.M.G. Ref. 6829-III  
54 37260 619800

## SUBJECT

4.9  
4.10

## PERIOD State

Study Area  
1906-40

## REFERENCES

Australian Heritage Engineering Record S693  
Heritage Conservation Branch no. 6829-10095

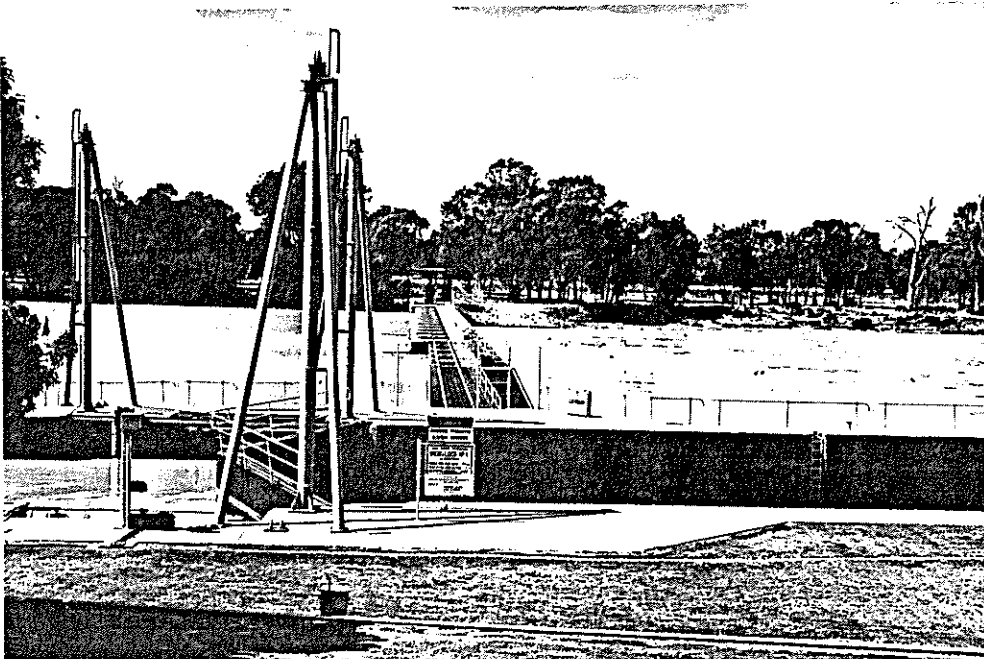
## TYPE OF ITEM

LAND Natural feature   
Historical site   
Historical Gdn.   
BUILDING   
STRUCTURE   
PHYSICAL CONDITION

## Verbal

Archival photographs Film 837 Negs. 11-14 (Dept. Marine & Harbours)

PHOTOGRAPH Film No. 839 Negative No. 2  
Direction of view to E



## STATUS

Reg. of State Her. Items  
Reg.  Interim L.   
Nominated   
National Estate  
Reg.  Proposed L.   
National Trust  
CL  RL  File   
Other  
Australian Heritage  
Eng. Record X

## RECOMMENDATION

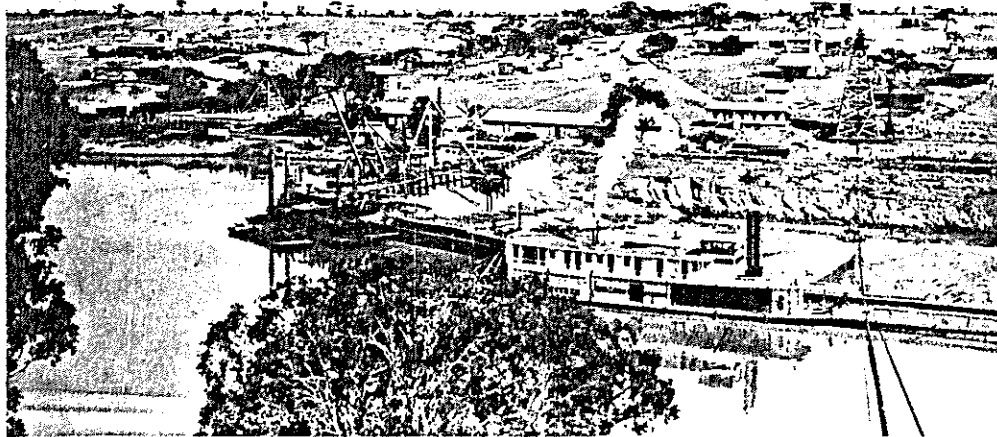
(A) State  (B) Local

## PREPARED BY

HERITAGE INVESTIGATIONS

Date: 1984

IIS/D4/25.11.81

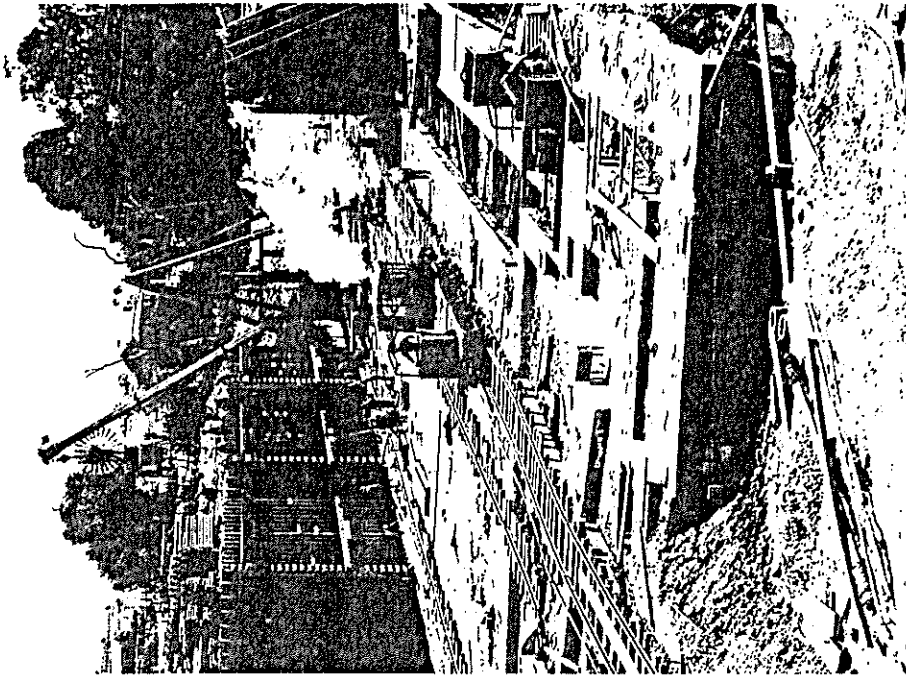


PROJECT  
HERITAGE SURVEY REGION 5  
Item Ref. No. 12a

L.G.A.  
Truro

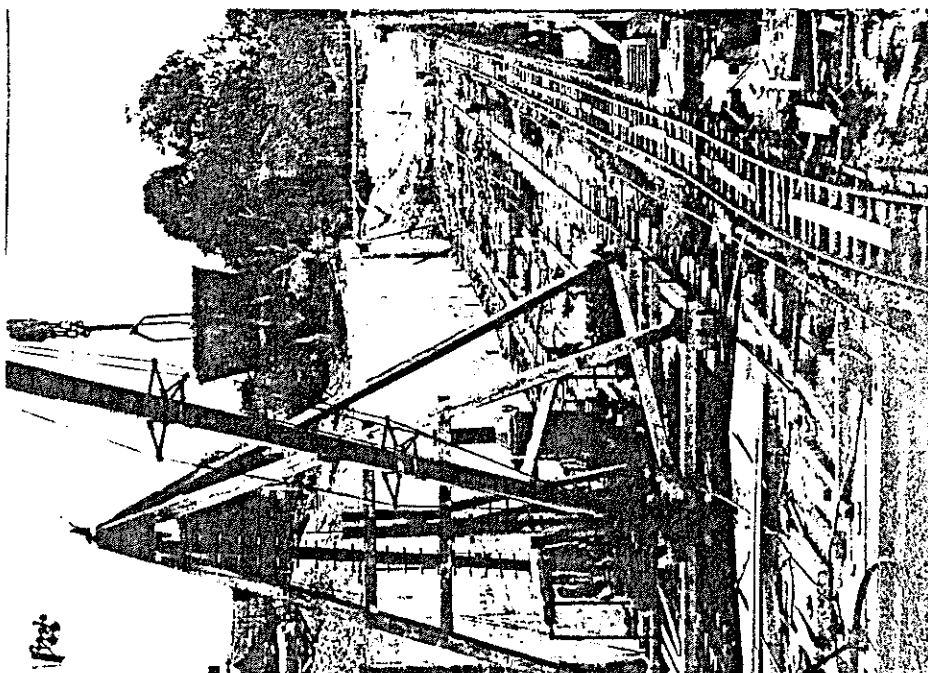
Construction of Lock 1  
(Marine and Harbors  
Collection)

Film No. 837  
Negative No. 11  
Direction of view



Construction of Lock 1  
(Marine and Harbors  
Collection)

Film No. 837  
Negative No. 13  
Direction of view



LIBRARY  
TRANSPORT SA  
PO BOX 1  
WALKERVILLE  
SA 5081

Construction of Lock 1  
(Marine and Harbors  
Collection)

Film No. 837  
Negative No. 14  
Direction of view