

# State Heritage Areas of South Australia



## Burra State Heritage Area

### Religious Buildings

*State Heritage Places entered in the South Australian Heritage Register*

Of the numerous places within Burra that either are, or have been, used as places of worship, the following have special significance as State Heritage Places entered in the South Australian Heritage Register:

#### **former Masonic Hall (former Burra Primitive Methodist Church)**

**9 Thames Street, Burra**

**SAHR 10011 – confirmed as a State Heritage Place 8 November 1984**

The former Primitive Methodist Church is significant as one of Koorunga's earliest churches, and an important aspect of the religious and social life of the predominantly Cornish population of Burra.

The church was built in 1848, on land leased from the South Australian Mining Association for a 999-year term. By 1856 the building was too small for the expanding congregation and, following successful fundraising efforts, a rebuilt chapel was opened on 24 August. At this time the new chapel and the adjacent parsonage were prominent buildings in Koorunga. The front façade dates from 1879-80 when the building was substantially remodelled at a cost of £500.



*Masonic Hall, 1994*

The Primitive Methodist Church was one of three branches of Methodism established in Burra. In 1900 the Primitive Methodists, the Weslyans and the Bible Christian Methodists united to form the Methodist Church. At this time the allotment and the chapel were transferred to the Koorunga Masonic Lodge. The former chapel has since been used by various branches of the Masonic Lodge.

#### **Office – former Burra Bible Christian Chapel**

**Kingston Street, Burra**

**SAHR 10013 – confirmed as a State Heritage Place 8 November 1984**



*Office, Paxton Square Cottages, 2005*

When this chapel opened in December 1849, for Burra's Bible Christian Methodists, it was the first Bible Christian Chapel in the colony (and possibly in Australia). Methodism in England had undergone a series of changes during the early 1800s, including the appearance of Bible Christian Methodists, predominantly in the villages of East Cornwall and North Devon. It is not surprising then, that many of the Cornish miners who came to Burra were of this faith, and that Bible Christian work in South Australia began in Burra.

The stone chapel, claimed to seat 200 people, was erected on land set aside by the South Australian Mining Association for the Bible Christians. During the 1851-52 Victorian goldrush, barely a man was left in the congregation and funds were scarce, but by 1853 many miners had returned to the town and the chapel was free of debt.



In 1859, when the Rev. James Way was appointed Superintendent, a religious revival resulted in 300 converts and over 5000 children attending Sunday School. To accommodate this growth, a new church, seating up to 600 people, was built on a corner of Bridge Street (demolished 1909). The chapel continued to be used for Bible meetings.

In 1900 Burra's three branches of Methodism amalgamated to become the Methodist Church. In the 1930s the former chapel was used as a shop by a Chinese greengrocer, and later as a saddlery and mechanics shop. During the mid-1900s it was used as a storehouse for a greengrocery business. To increase storage space, a doorway was knocked through the back wall of the chapel, and a large iron shed was attached to the rear.



*Side view, former Chapel, 2005*

During the 1980s restoration of the [Paxton Square Cottages](#) the chapel was also renovated and is now the reception area for the cottages.

### **former Burra Salvation Army Citadel**

**11 Kingston Street, Burra**

**SAHR 10160 – confirmed as a State Heritage Place 8 November 1984**

This building was opened 16 April 1885 during Burra's post-mining period, when the town was developing as an important rural centre in the mid-north. The builder was Sara & Dunstan and the foundation stone had been laid by the Mayor, John Dunstan Jnr, on 11 February 1885. The austere stone building is a significant reminder of the Salvation Army's activities in country areas during the nineteenth century.



*Former Citadel, 2005*



*Salvation Army Citadel, 1983*



*Anglican Hall bell*

### **St Mary's Anglican Church**

**Market Street, Burra**

**SAHR 10018 – confirmed as a State Heritage Place 24 July 1980**

**&**

### **St Mary's Anglican Church Hall**

**Market Street, Burra**

**SAHR 10022 – confirmed as a State Heritage Place 8 November 1984**

Amongst Burra's population Anglicans were a minority, as most miners were Cornish and of a Methodist faith. The first Anglican services in Burra were held at the junction of Ware and Church Streets in 1849. The Church site was donated by the copper mining company (SAMA).

South Australian Heritage Act 1978-82	Register of State Heritage Items ITEM EVALUATION SHEET Buildings and Structures	Ref. No. 6630-10013
	Item CHURCH - BIBLE CHRISTIAN CHAPEL, FORMER Cnr. Bridge and Kingston Sts.	Status None
Age 1850	Subject RELIGION	Style Vernacular

History

Architecture

Environment

Integrity

Context	Associated with the Cornish Miners of the Burra- Burra Copper Mines (1845-1877) one of three branches of Methodism in Burra, it illustrates the religious and social matrix of the lives of the miners.	E	VG	AG	FP	NA
Person/Group	Associated with the Bible Christian Methodists - being their first Chapel built in South Australia, probably in Australia.	X				
Event	No known event.					X
Architect/Builder	Not readily available.					X
Design	Simple one room hip roof building, symmetrical front, buttresses on one wall, attached C.I. Shed at rear.			X		
Construction	Coursed rubble stone, rough stone quoins, corrugated iron hip roof.			X		
Interior	White washed walls, ceiling removed, portions of timber floor remain, circular timber columns at rear.			X		
Representation	A very simple structure which although it is not scarce, is notable.			X		
Continuity	Sympathetic in scale, materials and age to the adjacent Paxton Square cottages. Its corner position increases its contribution.		X			
Local Character	As a simple building its contribution to Burra's character is supportive.			X		
Landmark	Its corner position adjacent Paxton Square is significant, but its visual qualities are minimal.			X		
Alterations	large opening in main facade, interior largely gutted, windows altered.				X	
Condition	Basically sound, some damp in walls, in need of maintenance			X		
Compatibility	Used for storage by a local business.				X	



South Australian Heritage Act 1978-82	Register of State Heritage Items ITEM EVALUATION SHEET Buildings and Structures	Ref. No. 6630-10013
	Item Bible Christian Chapel - Former Burra	Prepared By: IVAR & IRIS

### Supplementary Information

**Adaptation:** The basic form and early appearance of the building should be put back because of its important position adjacent Paxton Square. The shed at the rear should be removed, but a 'restoration' of the church interior should not be required, as it would be almost entirely conjectural.

**Interpretation:** The building is in an ideal position for an interpretative exercise, but this would not be mandatory. The theme for such an exercise would not have to be religion.

### History and Sources

The former Bible Christian Chapel, located on the south-west corner of Paxton Square, was built in 1850. It represents an important aspect in the lives of the predominantly Cornish miners who came to work in the copper mines of Burra Burra between 1845 and 1877, a period when South Australia's copper deposits were hailed as the eighth wonder of the world and helped retrieve the colony from the brink of bankruptcy.

Methodism had undergone a series of changes in England following the founding of the New Connection in 1799. Resentment of autocratic rule within the faith led to the rise of the primitive Methodists and William O'Bryan's Bible Christian Methodists in 1811 and 1815. (Semmel, 1973,143). The latter manifested itself mainly in the villages of East Cornwall and North Devon, and many of the miners who came to Burra were of the persuasion. Not surprisingly, Bible Christian work in South Australia began in Burra and Adelaide.

A stone chapel, claimed to seat 200 people, and mission house were built on land set aside by the Burra Burra mining company for the Bible Christians during 1850. In the same year, two missionaries by the name of James Way and James Rowe arrived in South Australia. Rowe proceeded to Burra, and found life difficult during the 1851-2 Victorian Gold Rush, when his congregation had barely a man left in it and flour sold for £10 per bag. As men returned from the gold-fields, matters improved. By 1853, the chapel and mission was freed of debt following the raising of £27/3/5 during an anniversary celebration of the church (Register, 23/8/1853;184).

In 1859, when the Rev. James Way was appointed Superintendent a religious revival resulted in 300 converts and over 500 children attending Sunday School. To accommodate the growth, a new church to seat up to 600 people was built on the corner of Bridge Terrace and Bridge Street East at a cost of £2,217. (This was demolished in 1909). In 1862, Joseph Hancock, whose life typifies the simplicity and strength of the self-taught miner's faith, succeeded James Way. He continued to use the chapel and mission house for bible construction and meetings (Rev. W.F. James, 1914, 13) and, after a decline in Burra's population, when the Wallaroo-Moonta mines opened, shifted in 1865 to the Adelaide Circuit. Following amalgamation of the Bible Christian, Wesleyan and Primitive Methodists in 1900 the former chapel was used as a shop by a Chinese green-grocer called Luke Day. It has since been used as a saddlery and mechanic's shop. The present owner and past Mayor of the town, Mr. Boulderstone and his son use the chapel as a store-house for a greengrocery business, established during the 1930's depression. In order to increase storage space, a doorway was knocked through the

South Australian Heritage Act 1978-82	Register of State Heritage Items ITEM EVALUATION SHEET Buildings and Structures	Ref. No. 6630-10013
	Item  BIBLE CHRISTIAN CHAPEL 9 FORMER)	Prepared By:  IVAR/IRIS

### History and Sources

back wall of the chapel and a large iron shed added to the rear. The mission house which once adjoined the chapel has been demolished.

At a State and regional level, the former chapel is historically important in its representation of what is probably the first Bible Christian Chapel in Australia. In its association with the Cornish miners who worked the Burra mines, it illustrates an important aspect of their lives, while reflecting upon the diversity of religious freedom in colonial South Australia.

Sources: Ian Auhl & P. Finch: Burra In Colour Rigby, 1973.  
 Ian Auhl : Burra Conservation Study - March, 1978  
 W.F. James : Bible Christian Methodist Centenary Souvenir, Adel., 1915  
 W.F. James: Joseph Hancock - Monogenarian Methodist Minister, Adel, 1914.  
 B. Semmell The Methodist Revolution Heinemann 1973  
 Arnold D. Hunt. Bible Christians in Aust. - Address, Syd. 1980.  
 O. Pryor : Australia's Little Cornwall. Rigby, Adel., 1975  
 L.T.O. & G.R.O. Searches.  
 T. Shaw : The Bible Christians, Epworth, Lond. 1965.  
 Rev. Harry Alvey : Burra, Its Mines & Methodism, Adel., 1960.

## SOUTH AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE ACT, 1978

*Entry of Items on the Register of State Heritage Items*

There has been an increased community awareness of the need to protect those buildings and features of our State which reflect our cultural heritage. The South Australian Government has recognised that awareness by passing the South Australian Heritage Act, 1978, for which the Minister for Environment and Planning is responsible. In accordance with the provisions of the Act, the Register of State Heritage Items is being compiled.

Where the Minister considers that an item (defined as any land, building or structure) that is not on the Register is part of the physical, social or cultural heritage of the State and that the item is of significant aesthetic, architectural, historical or cultural interest, then the Minister may enter that item on the Register.

Pursuant to the provisions of the South Australian Heritage Act, 1978, I, Don Hopgood, Minister for Environment and Planning and Minister for the time being administering the said Act, hereby give notice that I have entered on the Register of State Heritage Items and the items described in The Schedule hereunder.

Items listed in The Schedule were previously placed on an Interim List in accordance with the provisions of Section 15 of the South Australian Heritage Act, 1978. Excepting items owned by the Crown and those within the area of the corporation of the city of Adelaide, the remaining items listed in The Schedule are subject to Part V of the Planning Act, 1982. That Act requires that no development, including demolition, conversion, alteration of, or addition to any item, is permitted without the written consent of the relevant Planning Authority. Items within the area of the corporation of the city of Adelaide are subject to the provisions of the City of Adelaide Development Control Act, 1976.

## 11TH LISTING OF THE REGISTER

<i>Name</i>	<i>Address</i>
<b>Corporation of the City of Adelaide</b>	
Adelaide Gaol.....	Adelaide 5000. Gaol Reserve, section 549, hundred of Adelaide.
John's Emporium.....	Corner Leigh and Hindley Streets, Adelaide 5000. PTA 76 comprised in LG registered in G.R.O. No. 239, book 1, hundred of Adelaide.
Commonwealth Bank.....	23 Currie Street, Adelaide 5000. CT. volume 1950, folio 183, PTA 139, hundred of Adelaide.
Elder House.....	27 Currie Street, Adelaide 5000. CT. volume 1686, folio 79, PTA 139, hundred of Adelaide.
Stables—Warehouse.....	22-26 Divett Place, Adelaide 5000. CT's. volume 4207, folios 638-641 inclusive, allotment 4 of PTA 299, hundred of Adelaide.
Adelaide Electric Supply Co. Converter Station—Former.....	East Terrace, Adelaide 5000. CT. volume 2161, folio 97, PTA 155, CT. volume 1833, folio 71, PTA 154, hundred of Adelaide.
Stock Exchange.....	55 Exchange Place, Adelaide 5000. CT. volume 732, folio 5, PTA 169, hundred of Adelaide.
Bertram House.....	73 Grenfell Street, Adelaide 5000. CT. volume 3142, folio 108, PTA 144, hundred of Adelaide.
Grenfell Street Mail Exchange—Former.....	101-107 Grenfell Street, Adelaide 5000. CT. volume 2148, folio 153, PTA 146, hundred of Adelaide.
Adelaide Electric Supply Co. Power Station—Former.....	243 Grenfell Street, Adelaide 5000. CT. volume 2161, folio 96, PTA 155, hundred of Adelaide.
YWCA Headquarters—Former.....	49 Hindmarsh Square, Adelaide 5000. CT. volume 4185, folio 893, PTA 147, hundred of Adelaide.
Cathedral Hotel.....	47 Kermode Street, North Adelaide 5006. CT. volume 3122, folio 49, PTA 714, hundred of Adelaide.
Bank of Adelaide—Former.....	81 King William Street, Adelaide 5000. CT. volume 1938, folio 191, PTA 140, hundred of Adelaide.
T & G Building.....	82 King William Street, Adelaide 5000. CT. volume 4038, folio 233, PTA 141, hundred of Adelaide.
National Mutual Building—Former.....	91 King William Street, Adelaide 5000. CT. volume 1938, folio 190, PTA 140, hundred of Adelaide.
Dwelling—'Nurney House'.....	Kingston Terrace, North Adelaide 5006. CT. volume 1568, folio 151. PTA's 1027 and 1028, hundred of Adelaide.
Freemason's Hall.....	254 North Terrace, Adelaide 5000. CT. volume 2042, folio 61, PTA 26, hundred of Adelaide.
Aquinas College.....	1 Palmer Place, North Adelaide 5006. CT. volume 167, folio 211, TA 748; CT. volume 727, folio 106, PTA 746; CT. volume 1526, folio 113, TA 747, hundred of Adelaide.
<b>District Council of Burra Burra</b>	
Royal Exchange Hotel.....	Bests Place, Burra 5417. CT. volume 4109, folio 784, part allotment 23 of part section 4, hundred of Koorunga.
Dwellings—Barker of Baldina Homes.....	Chapel Street, Burra 5417. Limited CT. volume B, folio 152, part section 1, hundred of Koorunga.
Dwellings—McBride Cottages.....	Corner Chapel and Bath Streets, Burra 5417. CT. volume 825, folio 140, part allotment J of portions of section 1, hundred of Koorunga.
Koorunga Hotel.....	Corner Kingston Street and Welsh Place, Burra 5417. CT. volume 4214, folio 428, allotment 301 of part section 1, hundred of Koorunga.
Bible Christian Chapel—Former.....	Corner Kingston and Bridge Streets, Burra 5417. CT. volume 2697, folio 64, part allotment 533 of part section 1, hundred of Koorunga.
National Bank.....	Corner Market Street and Mount Pleasant Road, Burra 5417. CT. volume 668, folio 52, part allotment 81 of part section 1, hundred of Koorunga.
Bon Accord Mine Historic Site.....	Corner Railway Terrace and West Street, Burra 5417. CT. volume 3745, folio 8, part allotment 12 of part section 4, hundred of Koorunga.
Stone Wall.....	Commercial Street, Burra 5417. CT. volume 1731, folio 121, part allotments 41 and 49 of portion of section 1, hundred of Koorunga.
Stone Wall.....	Commercial Street, Burra 5417. CT. volume 1363, folio 134, part allotment 75 and allotment 76, hundred of Koorunga.
Commercial Hotel.....	Commercial Street, Burra 5417. CT. volume 3903, folio 100, part allotment 26 of section 1, hundred of Koorunga.



<i>Name</i>	<i>Address</i>
Dwelling and Coach House .....	2 Kangaroo Street, Burra 5417. CT's volume 1731, folio 122 and volume 731, folio 121, part allotment 41 of part section 1; part allotment 49 of part section 1, hundred of Koorunga.
<b>Salvation Army Citadel—Former</b> .....	Kingston Street, Burra 5417. CT. volume 2198, folio 98, allotment 386 of part section 1, hundred of Koorunga.
Burra Hotel .....	Market Square, Burra 5417. CT. volume 4211, folio 961, allotment 3 of part section 1, hundred of Koorunga.
Church—Church of England—St Mary's—Hall ...	Market Street, Burra 5417. Limited CT. volume E, folio 74, part section 1 and part block 14, hundred of Koorunga.
Town Hall .....	Market Street, Burra 5417. CT. volume 2411, folio 192, part allotment 83 of part section 1, hundred of Koorunga.
Smelters Home Hotel—Former .....	Market Street, Burra 5417. CT. volume 2268, folio 144, allotment 3 of part section 1, hundred of Koorunga.
Dwelling—Doctor's Residence .....	3 Market Street, Burra 5417. CT. volume 2003 folio 159. Part allotment 82 of section 1, hundred of Koorunga.
Burra Mines Historic Site .....	Off Market Street, Burra 5417. CT's volume 1687 folio 160, volume 1694 folio 109, volume 1798 folio 19, volume 3761 folio 115 and volume 4108 folio 991, portion of section 1; allotments A and portions of allotment B of portions of section 1 and allotment 1 of block 1 and portions of allotment 430; portion of section 1 and part block 14; allotment 2 of part section 1, hundred of Koorunga.
Burra Smelts Historic Site .....	Off Smelts Road, Burra 5417. CT's volume 997 folio 9, volume 1798 folio 19, volume 1228 folios 24, 25 and 26 and volume 1258 folio 125. Block 11s of section 1; allotments A and portions of allotment B of portions of section 1 and allotment 1 of block 1 and portions of allotment 430; part section 1, hundred of Koorunga.
Cemetery .....	Off Spring Street, Burra 5417. CT's volume 2328 folio 127 and volume 2386 folio 192. Cemetery and reserve of part section 1; part section 1 and part allotment 204 of part section 1, hundred of Koorunga.
Wall and Former Brewery Cellars .....	Paxton Terrace and Tomkinson Street, Burra 5417. CT's volume 4065 folio 458 and volume 4113 folio 47, part section 1; allotment 2 of portion of section 1, hundred of Koorunga.
Railway Station .....	Railway Terrace, Burra 5417, part section 4, hundred of Koorunga.
Former Smelts Managers Residence and Stone Wall .....	9 St Just Street, Burra 5417. CT. volume 1455 folio 48, part allotment 25 in L.T.R.O. plan 3554, hundred of Koorunga.
Masonic Hall—Former Methodist Church .....	Upper Thames Street, Burra 5417. CT. volume 2602 folio 183, part allotment 84 of section 1, hundred of Koorunga.
Dwelling—'Heathmont' .....	Vineyard Terrace, Burra 5417. CT. volume 2276 folio 184, part section 1, hundred of Koorunga.
<b>Corporation of the City of Campbelltown</b>	
Dwelling—'Lochend' .....	Brentyn Court, Campbelltown 5074. LG. volume 4218 folio 403, section 744, hundred of Adelaide.
<b>Corporation of the Town of Gawler</b>	
Ice Works and Office .....	Calton Road, Gawler 5118. CT's volume 2117 folio 31, volume 2117 folio 32, volume 2429 folio 157, volume 3287 folio 73, volume 3287 folio 74 and volume 3512 folio 48, allotment 231 of section 4; part allotment 232 and 233 of section 4; allotment 230 of part section 4; allotments 226-228 inclusive of section 4; allotment 229 of section 4; part allotments 232 and 233 of section 4, hundred of Nuriootpa.
Kingsford Hotel .....	30-32 Murray Street, Gawler 5118. CT. volume 3420 folio 70, part allotments 11, 12 and 13 of section 24, hundred of Mudla Wirra.
Telegraph Station .....	59 Murray Street, Gawler 5118, allotment 195. National Trust Reserve. <i>Government Gazette</i> 19.1.67, hundred of Nuriootpa.
Primary School .....	Nixon Terrace, Gawler 5118. CT. volume 4170 folio 81, allotment 2 of part section 24, hundred of Mulda Wirra.
Wheat Store—Former .....	Twenty Third Street, Gawler 5118. CT's volume 151 folio 71 and volume 1575 folio 193, allotment 11 of section 8, hundred of Munno Para; allotment 12 of section 3246 and part section 8, hundreds of Munno Para and Mudla Wirra.
<b>Corporation of the City of Happy Valley</b>	
Dwelling—'The Braes' .....	Braes Close, Reynella 5161. CT. volume 4176 folio 472, allotment 2 of part section 511, hundred of Noarlunga.
Dwelling .....	Luke Street, Clarendon 5157. CT. volume 4102 folio 427, allotment 1 of part section 801, hundred of Noarlunga.
Hall—Former Bible Christian Church .....	Main Road, Clarendon 5157. CT. volume 1114 folio 107, allotment 622 in F.P. No. 5463, hundred of Noarlunga.
Happy Valley Reservoir—Dam Walls and Towers	Off Chandlers Hill Road, Happy Valley 5159, Happy Valley Reservoir, hundred of Noarlunga.
Farm Building .....	Off Hicks Hill Road, Cherry Gardens via Blackwood 5051. CT. volume 3662 folio 124, part sections 782 and 1080, hundred of Noarlunga.
Clarendon Weir .....	Onkaparinga River, Clarendon 5157. CT. volume 574 folio 2, allotment 32 in F.P. No. 5967, hundreds of Kuitpo and Noarlunga.
Dwelling and Slab Hut .....	Scenic Road, near Clarendon 5157. CT's volume 4161 folio 166 and volume 4161 folio 167, part section 757; section 756 and portions of section 757, hundred of Kuitpo.
<b>District Council of Kanyaka/Quorn</b>	
Shops—Quorn Pottery .....	Railway Terrace, Quorn 5433. CT. volume 4199 folio 184, portion of part allotment 17, hundred of Pichi Richi.
National Bank .....	Railway Terrace, Quorn 5433. CT. volume 1412 folio 172, section 11 and part section 70, hundred of Pichi Richi.
Austral Hotel .....	Railway Terrace, Quorn 5433. CT. volume 3339 folio 18, portion of allotment 16, hundred of Pichi Richi.





FILM NO.

6630-10013  
BIBUS CHRISTIAN CHAPEL

MAY 83



FILM NO.

6630-10013  
BIBUS CHRISTIAN CHAPEL

A PICTORIAL HISTORY  
OF BURRA





FILM NO.

6630 -  
BIBLE CHRISTIAN CHAPEL

JUN 83



FILM 22  
NO 10

FORMER BIBLE CHRISTIAN CHAPEL,  
PAXTON SQUARE

BURRA  
15-12-78



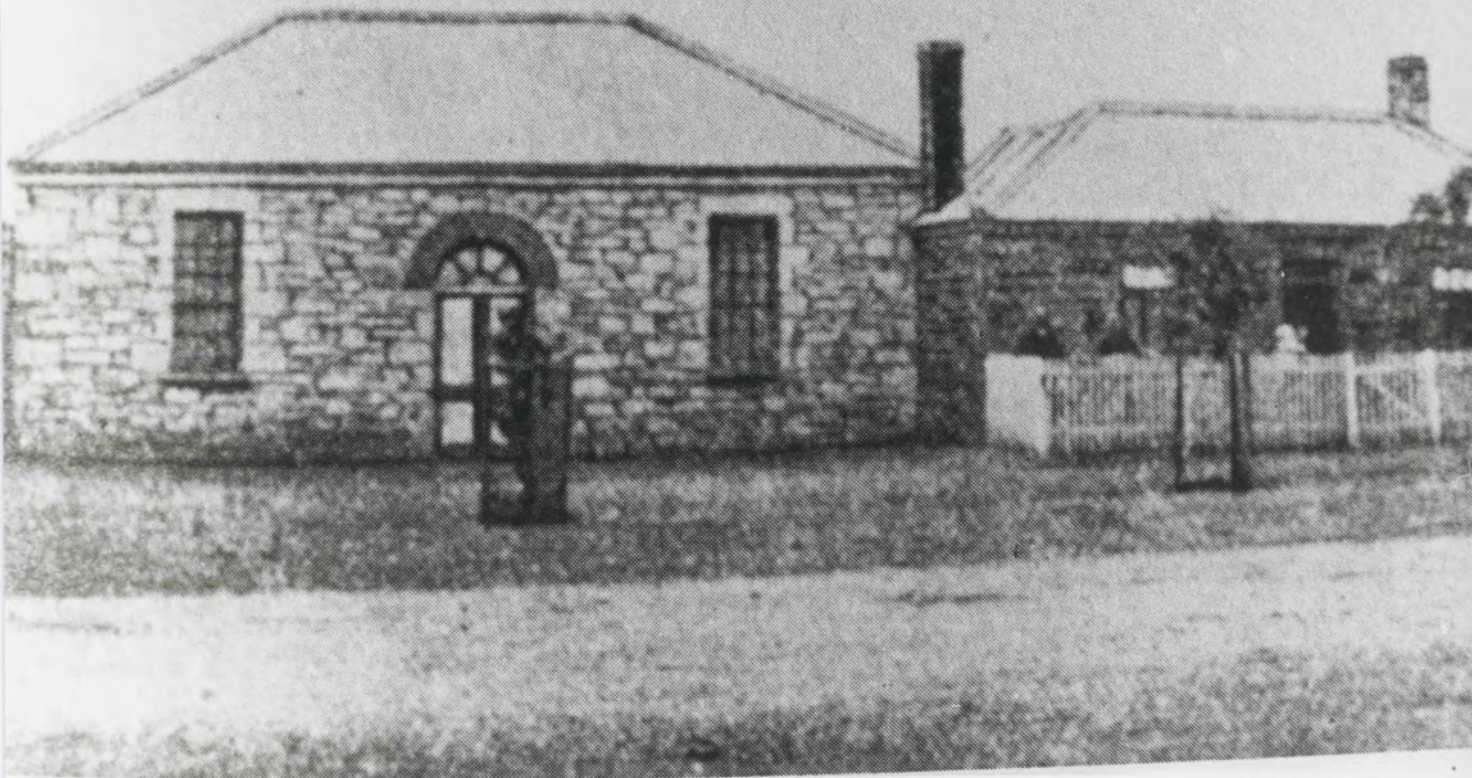
FILM 23  
NO 2

INTERIOR, FORMER BIBLE CHRISTIAN CHAPEL

BUKRA  
15-12-78







FILM NO.

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BIBLE CHRISTIAN CHAPEL

A PICTORIAL  
HISTORY OF BURAN

