

State Heritage Areas of South Australia



Burra State Heritage Area Bridges & Stone Walls

State Heritage Places entered in the South Australian Heritage Register

Engineering works and stone constructions (especially by Cornish masons) are prevalent within the Burra State Heritage Area. Three bridges and two stone walls have particular significance as State Heritage Places entered in the South Australian Heritage Register.

Mine Bridge

Market Street, Burra (opposite Peacock's Chimney & the Burra Mine Site entrance)

SAHR 10021 – confirmed as a State Heritage Place 8 November 1984

This single-arch stone bridge was completed in 1868, during Burra's prosperous mining period, and provided a link between the townships of Koorunga and Redruth. It also helped to channel the water produced by the copper mining operations, which entered Burra Creek via Mine Creek.

Mine Bridge was built under contract for the Central Road Board by Messrs Tiver and Woollcott. On 8 May 1868 the Register reported that the "bridge is progressing favourably and the work certainly does great credit to the contractors" This followed an observation that

The Burra Mine will soon wear a livelier aspect as the engine house to the new shaft is to be at once erected. From the fact that so expensive a piece of work has been ordered we infer that the mine will shortly resume underground operation.

Earlier, in December 1867, the local correspondent had complained that the Central Road Board had "not kept their promise to complete the road near the Mine Store and making the bridge. It was left off very abruptly and is in a very dangerous condition for anyone passing in a cart on a dark night."

With the widening of the main road, sections of Mine Bridge have been removed at various times and the creek bed has been backfilled on the western side. Only the eastern parapet and arch detailing now survive, with a concrete pipe channelling water from the mine site to the west.



Eastern parapet, Market Street, 2005



Eastern arch and parapet, 1994



Creekbed and surviving stone arch, 2005

ASSESSMENT OF HERITAGE VALUE

Mine bridge, Burra Mines

DESCRIPTION OF THE PLACE

The significant fabric of the single-arch bridge comprises parapet, tunnel and abutments constructed of coursed blocks of local stone. Arched opening has stone voussoirs and is flanked by projecting pilasters with projecting moulded coursing above arch, and projecting dressed-stone capping above parapet, including pyramidal caps above pilasters and to ends. [Only one side of bridge survives, with a concrete pipe having been added to hill-side].

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE VALUE

The surviving wall, parapet and tunnel of the single-arch stone bridge at Burra mines is an important example of an 1860s bridge which has close associations with the development of the significant Burra mine precinct. Specifically, it provided easier access between the Koorunga and Redruth townships at a time when Burra was still one of the world's most significant copper-producing areas. The surviving fabric and detailing to the front wall of the bridge, especially the original stone parapet and coping, are of particular significance because of their relative rarity.



FILM NO.

6630-10021
HINE BRIDGE

MAY 83

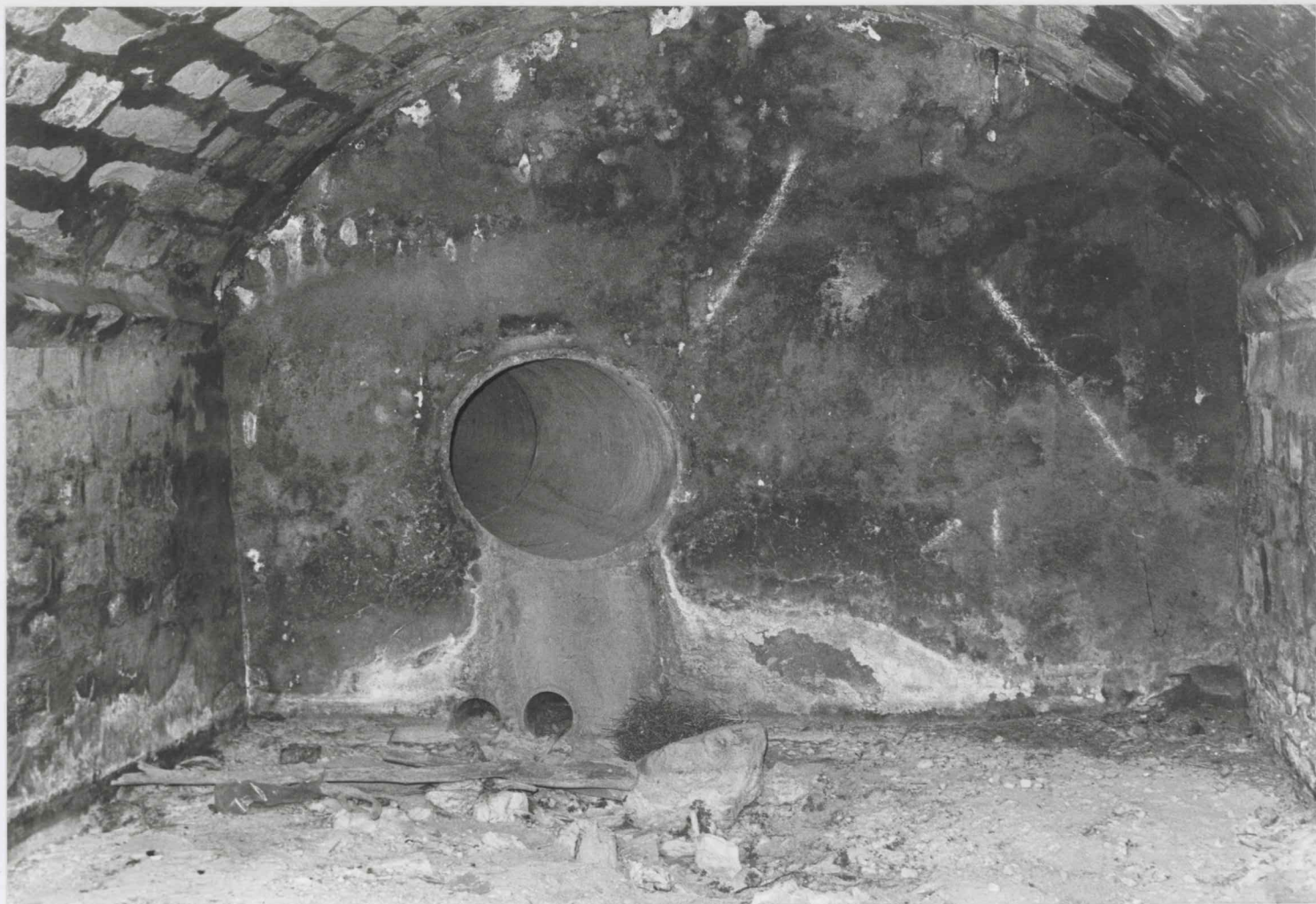


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HINE BRIDGE

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MWS BRIDGE - INTERNAL WALL

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HINE BRIDGE

MAY 83



FILM NO.

6630-10021
HINE BRIDGE, PARAPET AT RIGHT

MAY 83

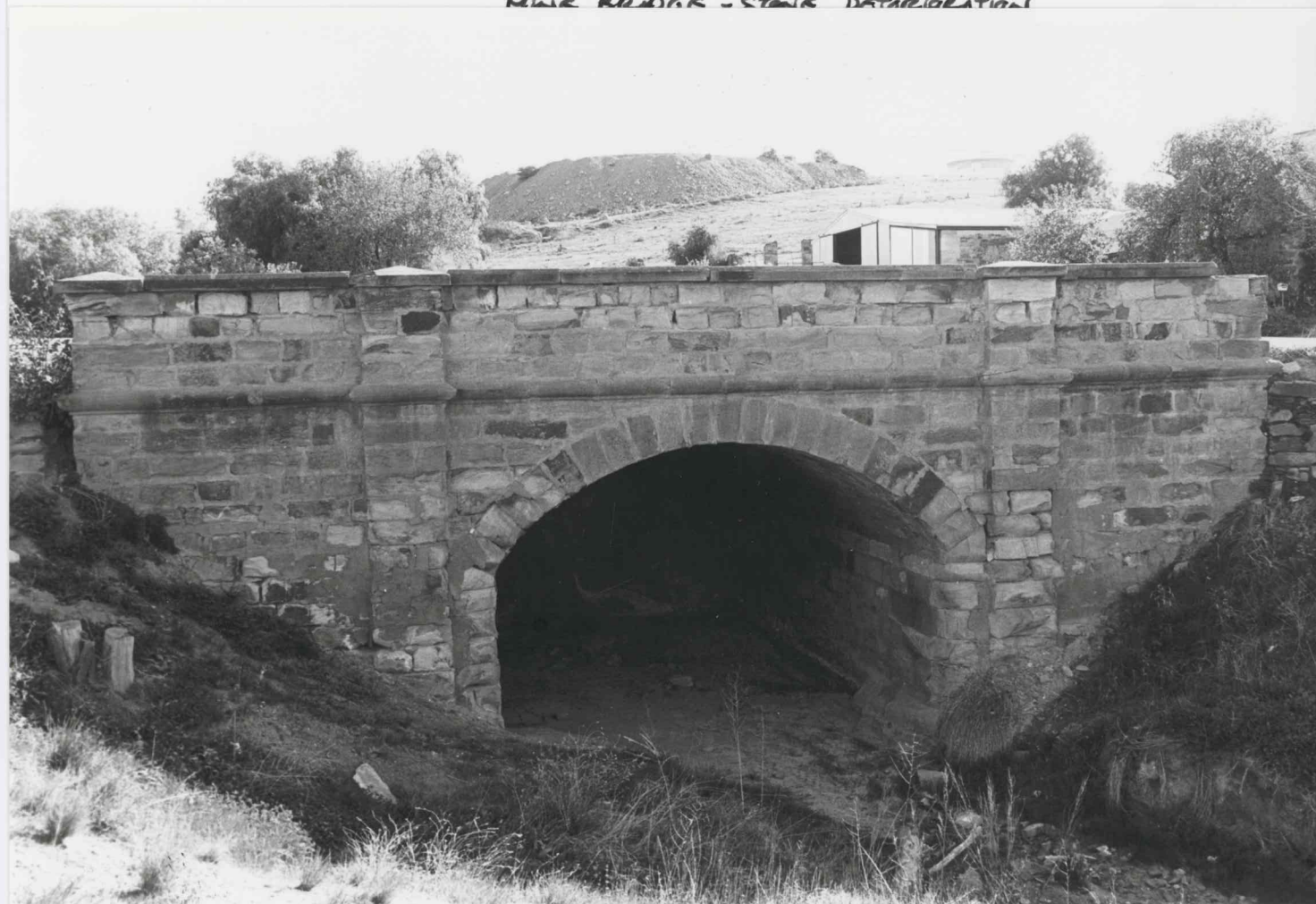


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MINE BRIDGE - STONE DETRIORATION



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MINE BRIDGE

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HWS BRIDGE

MAY 03

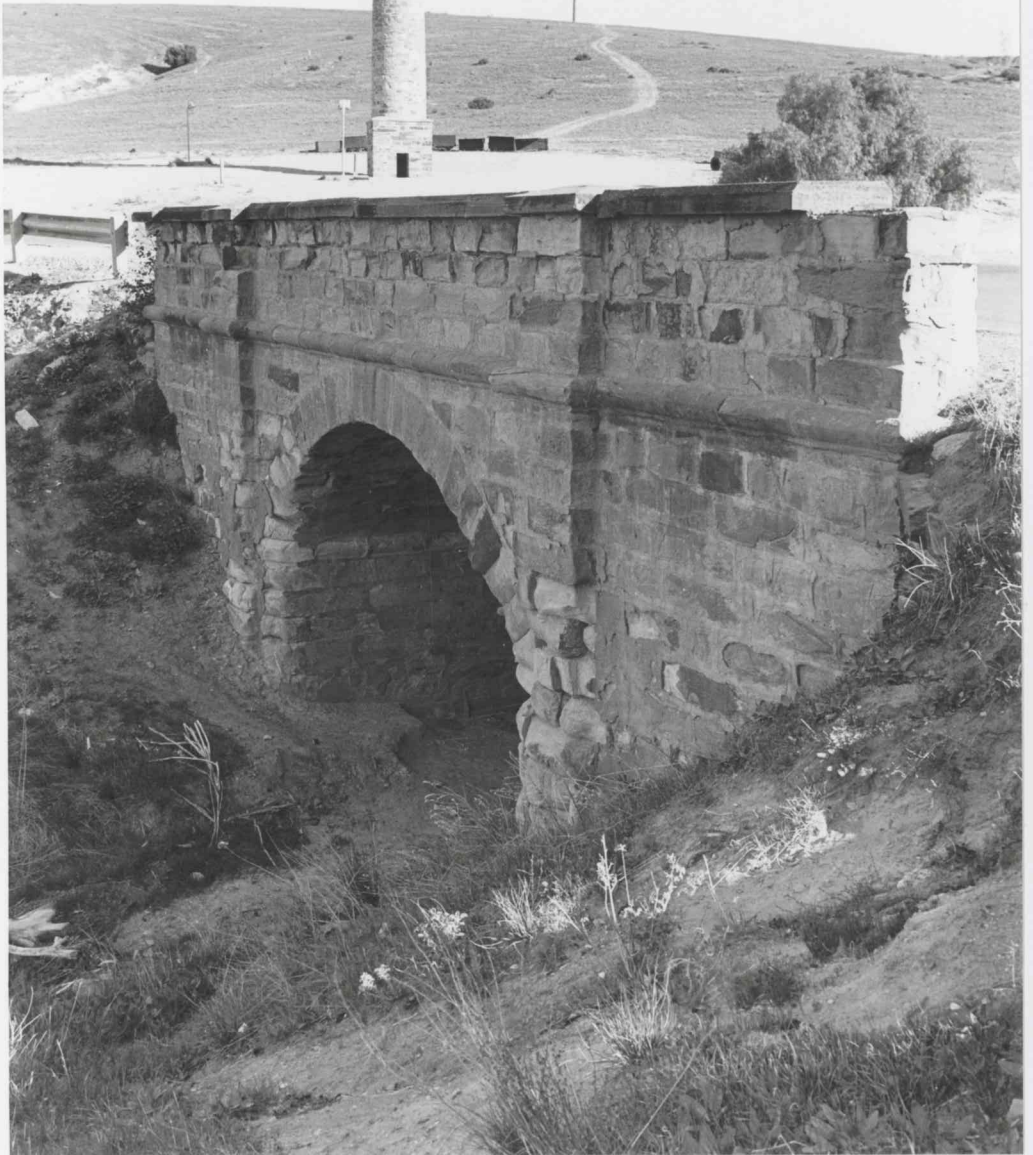


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