Date: 8/7/83

Item Reference: 6630-10160

SAL TION ARMY CITAL - FORMER KINGSTON STREET, BURRA

HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

Historically, the Citadel is important because it represents the extension of the Salvation Army's activities to country areas following its establishment in Australia in 1880. Built around 1885, it also reflects the post-mining era of Burra, as mining actively ceased in 1877.

Architecturally, the Citadel is significant as a good example of a strong, austere 'citadel' building in the context of the Salvation Army movement. It is notable for its high integrity.

Environmentally, the Citadel is an important contributing element to Burra's character.

The Integrity of the Citadel is very good but it is in need of maintenance.

NOMINATION SOURCE/THREAT/OWNER

HERITAGE CONSERVATION BRANCH RECOMMENDATION:

This report has been prepared as part of a programme to evaluate those items in Burra which have been nominated but never processed. This item was nominated by the National Trust in Burra. The building is owned by the D.C. of Burra Burra and is under no known threat. This building has been the subject of discussion in Burra as a potential 'mining' museum or similar function.

Manager

It is recommended that this item be included on the Register of State Heritage Items, and that it be categorized H2, H3, A2, A3.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

Chairman

South
Australian
Heritage
Act
1978-82

Register of State Heritage Items
ITEM EVALUATION SHEET
Buildings and Structures

Ref. No.
6630-10160

Prepared By:
Item SALVATION ARMY CITADEL - FORMER
KINGSTON STREET, BURRA
Ivar Nelsen
Iris Iwanicki

Supplementary Information

Adaptation: The building's external form and appearance should be retained and enhanced. The internal spacial qualities should also be retained but restrictions on authenticity should be lessened and adaptation allowed. No new structures should be added and the view of the building from the Paxton Square area should remain unrestricted.

Interpretation: As a large hall in a near central position, the building has an interpretive potential. The exact subject of any interpretation should bear some relation to the building's former function and/or its relative location.

History and Sources

The Salvation Army Citadel is built upon Allotment 386 of the subdivision of Section I, and appears to have been constructed during 1885-6. The land was originally owned by The South Australian Mining Association as part of the half share of the 20,000 acre special survey. During the Burra copper mine's history, the Company refused to sell any of its section. It was not until the 27th March, 1885, eight years after the Burra mines had closed, that the property was transferred to Ballington Booth, Thomas Henry Howard and Henry Thurman, all of the Salvation Army, Melbourne, for a sum of £20 (G. RO. Search 521).

William Booth founded the movement known as the Christian Mission in England in 1865. Two years after it was renamed The Salvation Army, the first meeting of the religious group in Australia was held in Light Square, Adelaide, in 1880. (Bolton, 1980, 9). Neither John Gore nor Edward Saunders, the two men organising the meeting, were official members of the Salvation Army, so shortly after the meeting they requested William Booth send an officer to Adelaide. Their request was answered in February, 1881, when Captain and Mrs. Thomas Sutherland arrived at Port Adelaide. Mrs. Sutherland, whose maiden name was Milner:

"was known as Hot Milner far from manifesting a want of feminine feeling, there was a real charm about her daring ... Nobody who saw her chamber over the seats to seize some penitent but unhesitating ruffian by the head or neck, and order him out to the penitent-form for salvation, can forget the emotion of admiration for her fervour, her unhesitating common sense, or her straight forward honest dealing with souls". (Bolton, 1980, 12).

The couple arrived resplendent in appropriate uniforms. Captain Sutherland wore a white spiked helmet with brass chain under the chin, red tunic and navy trousers. This was intended to be the garb of the officials of the Salvation Army. Such sartorial splendour drew an immediate response from the larrikins of the town, and meetings were accompanied by boisterous heckling, the throwing of rotten eggs, tomatoes, and the like. Such conflict reached a climax in Clare, and the State was forced to uphold the right of assembly on the streets of the colony on more than one occasion. In 1882, Captain E. Rolfe replaced Sutherland, and corps were opened

South Australian Heritage Act 1978-82 Register of State Heritage Items ITEM EVALUATION SHEET Buildings and Structures

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History and Sources

in Hindmarsh, and Port Adelaide. From there, extensions were made to Norwood, Moonta, Moonta Mines, East Adelaide, Wallaroo, Kadina, Port Pirie, Port Augusta, Kapunda, Gawler, North Adelaide and Riverton. Headquarters were established in Melbourne in 1883. By 1884, both Redruth and Kooringa had separate "battalions" of the Army. The Burra Battalion triumphantly quoted one of the saved:

"I am only a poor bullock driver, but I can drive them without swearing now I'm saved". (War Cry, 11° April 1884).

In 1971 the property was sold to a private owner. After changing ownership, it was purchased by the District Council of Burra in 1980.

The Citadel in Burra reflects the nature of the Salvation Army organisation in its severely functional, yet theatrical, layout and militaristic facade. Built well after the mines closed in 1377, the Citadel reflects the post mining era of the town, and the expansion of the Salvation Army to country areas after its establishment in South Australia in 1880.

Sources:

- L.T.O. Searches
- "The Local Office and Bandsman", Sept. 1, 1944, p.266
- "The Register", 28/7/23, p.14.
- B. Bolton: Booth's Drum: The Salvation Army in Australia 1880-1980, Hodder & Stoughton, 1980.
- D. Dale: Salvation Chariot, Melb. 1952.