

To: The South Australian Heritage Committee  
From: Senior Historical Architect  
Subject: REGISTER NOMINATION REPORT -  
BOSTON HOUSE,  
PORT LINCOLN  
Date: 12 May 1982

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#### Summary

This report is prepared as a result of a funding application from the owners. The building has also been recommended for inclusion on the Register of State Heritage Items by other interested individuals.

Historically, Boston House was constructed in 1885-6 as a retirement residence for Frederick Sison, an Adelaide brewer.

Architecturally, the Boston House's size, design and quality of construction reflects the general lifestyle enjoyed by Adelaide's upper class. The House was probably designed by the architects English & Soward and although a prominently placed lookout tower was omitted from the original design, Boston House is a good example of colonial Victorian Architecture.

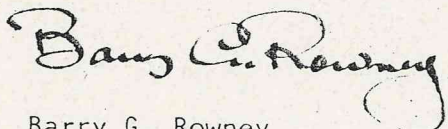
Environmentally, Boston House is a well-known historical and visual landmark which is an important element in the built environment along the Lincoln Highway between Port Lincoln and North Shields.

The Integrity of Boston House is good and is in reasonable structural condition.

Boston House is not on any known Heritage Register or survey.

#### Recommendation

It is recommended that Boston House be included on the Register of State Heritage Items and that it be categorised A1, A3, H2, H3.



Barry G. Rowney  
LB:JD

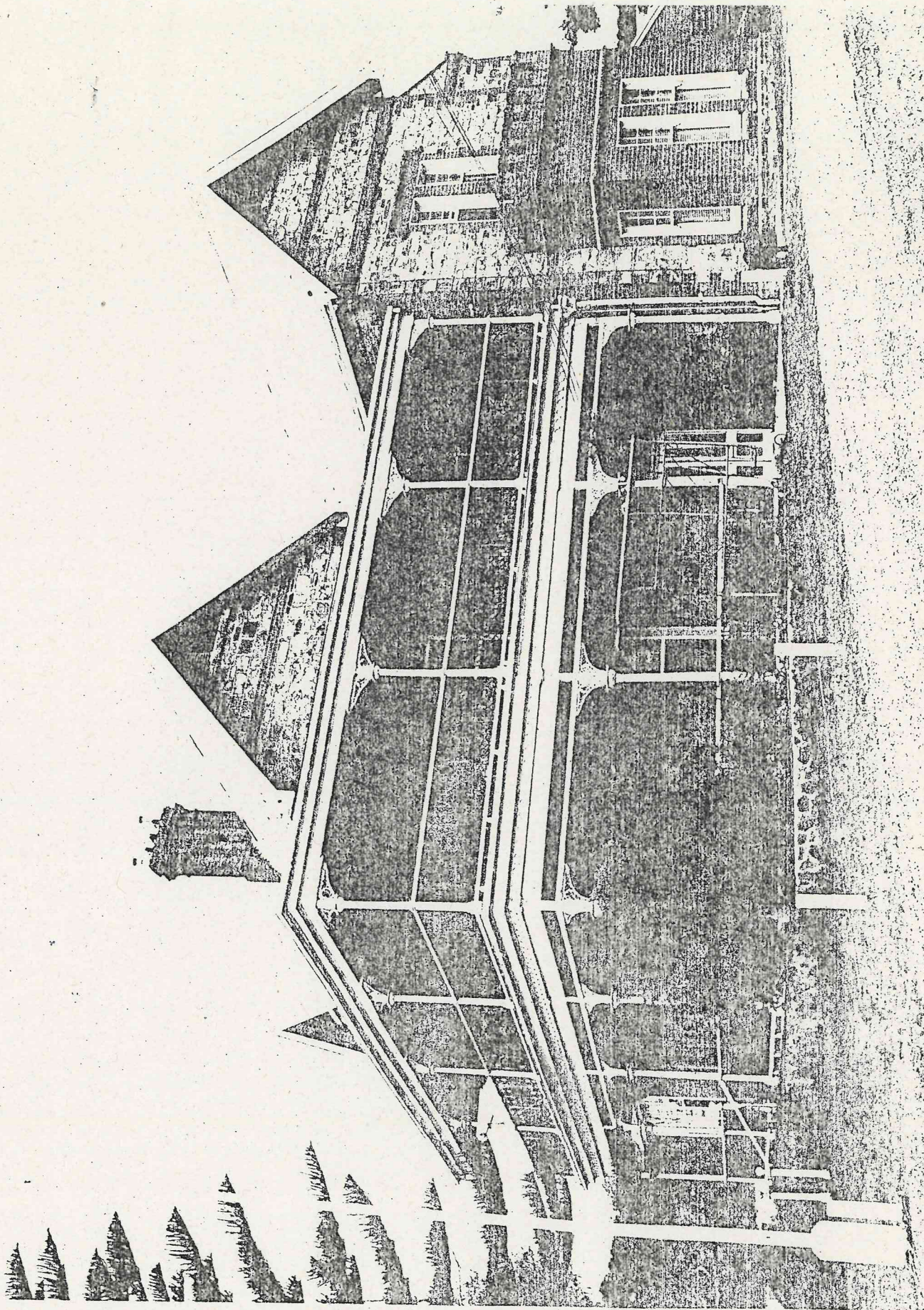


Australian Heritage Act 1978-	Register of State Heritage Items ITEM EVALUATION SHEET Buildings and Structures						
	Item BOSTON HOUSE, VIA PORT LINCOLN (MARINE RESIDENCE)						
Age 1885-86	Theme		Office 6028-10217				
Period 1884-1914	Subject PEOPLE - INDIVIDUALS/FAMILIES		Region 12 Eyre Peninsula & Far West Coast				
Building Type House	Style HIGH VICTORIAN		Status -				
<u>Qualitative Data</u>			<u>Grading</u>				
Component	Comment		E	VG	AG	FP	NA
<u>History</u>							
1. Context:	Boston House was built during 1885-6 as a retirement residence for Frederick Sison, replacing an early cottage on the site which had links with Poonindie Mission Superintendent, the Rev. Octavius Hammond.			*			
2. Person/Group:	Frederick Sison had been involved in the brewing industry in Adelaide, in partnership with J.T. Syme in the Adelaide Brewery, Pirie Street.			*			
3. Specific Event:	Not yet established.						*
<u>Architecture</u>							
4. Architect: Engineer: Builder:	Probably English & Soward, not confirmed. Not yet established. John Dorward.						* * *
5. Design:	Pretentious two-storey mansion of 17 rooms. From the exterior the ornamental brick chimney gables and return verandah tend to dominate, it is a large version of the popular domestic Villa style.		*				
6. Construction:	Predominantly ashlar pointed, random stone walls with brick door, window surrounds and string courses to gables; interesting use of shaped bricks to main door archivault and hoodmoulds.		*				
7. Interior:	Spacious interior with excellent timber work and pannelling to staircase and billiard room. In general, ornamentation is restrained but evenly applied throughout the building.			*			
8. Representation:	An excellent example of large scale villa architecture, of which few remain in the region.		*				



South Australian Heritage Act 1978-80	Register of State Heritage Items ITEM EVALUATION SHEET Buildings and Structures						
Item BOSTON HOUSE, VIA PORT LINCOLN (MARINE RESIDENCE)							
Component	Comment	Grading E VG AG FP NA					
<u>Environment</u>							
9. Continuity:	Refer to Note 10 below	*					
10. Local Character:	Important building in a rural landscape. It is part of a straggely chain of coastal buildings joining the major settlements - Port Lincoln and North Shields.	*					
11. Landmark:	A very conspicuous building which because of its history, location and physical form is a well-known landmark on Eyre Peninsula.	*					
<u>Integrity</u>							
12. Alterations:	No major alterations are evident.	*					
13. Condition:	Building is in good structural condition.	*					
14. Compatibility:	Presently used as a guesthouse which is compatible with the original use.	*					
<u>Supplementary Information</u>							
Adaptation:	Boston House is intended to continue to be used as a guest house, but its setting and external appearance should be maintained in any future adaptations. The interior spaces and atmosphere should also be retained.						
Interpretation:	Because of its isolation both regionally and locally, Boston House has limited interpretation potential. As a public guest house, however, it does have a passive interpretive role associated with its style of living.						
Current Situation:	No known threat exists to the house and the present owners, Peter Berry and Camville Modular Masonry Pty. Ltd. have nominated the building.						
Evaluated By	Lothar Brasse Consultant Architect	Kate McDougall Register Historian	Date				
Reviewed By	Ivar Nelsen		Date				
South Australian Heritage Committee Categorization			Date				





FILM 440  
No. 15

PORT LINCOLN  
Boston House

March 1982  
Lothar Brasse



BOSTON HOUSE, PORT LINCOLN

Initial settlement in South Australia was in the immediate vicinity of Adelaide and outlying areas were Crown Land available for lease only until surveyed and divided by Special Surveys.

The Port Lincoln district was surveyed in 1839 and the two Special Survey areas of 4,000 acres each were made available as country land. These surveyed areas were quickly sold; half to Charles Smith and Henry Hawson and the other 4,000 acres to the subscribers of the Adelaide and Port Lincoln Trading Company. The purchase price for newly surveyed land was one pound an acre. Other land was taken up as pastoral leaseholds.

The part of Section 19, Hundred of Lincoln, on which Boston House stands originally contained a cottage occupied by Reverend Octavius Hammond, who was the second Superintendent of Poonindie Mission Station. Hammond was also a medical doctor and so responsible for the health of the mission's blacks, as well as being the minister at St. Thomas' Anglican Church in Port Lincoln. Hammond established a garden around his cottage which included vines and olive trees.

After Dr. Hammond died, the land was bought in 1885 by Frederick Sison, who had recently retired from his brewing interests in Adelaide. Sison had been in partnership with J.T. Syme, another Adelaide brewer, and they had owned the Adelaide Brewery in Pirie Street until 1882.

Sison commissioned a house design from the Adelaide architects English and Soward (later English, Soward and Jackman) and drawings for the house are still held in the offices of Jackman, Gooden, Scott and Swan. The house is described as a 'marine residence', and the plans show the usual formal and service rooms of the large gentleman's residence of the 1880s including a billiard room over a cellar. Frederick Sison did make some wine at Boston House; the winemaking industry was going through a boom in production during this period and Sison's brewing experience no doubt led him to this gentlemanly retirement occupation. Unfortunately, the vines proved not to flourish in the sea air. Outbuildings such as the stables and the smokehouse still remain but there is no evidence of a winery as such. The cellar under the billiard room was used for storing casks of wine, some of which was made at Boston House but wine would also have been bought from other winemakers.

Sison's other main interest was yachting, and his boat 'White Squall' arrived in Adelaide in 1885. It was used to transport many of the fittings for Boston House to Port Lincoln, including the cedar staircase and the brass speaking tubes which linked the rooms with the servants quarters.

Frederick Sison died at Port Lincoln in 1891, and his widow retained the property until 1904, when a Mr. Ridgeway, a Port Lincoln resident, bought Boston House. Since then the house has been used as a private residence, a hospital (during the 1920s) and a boarding house. In 1974, Lincoln Developers declared Boston House and grounds a Principality with a resident Prince - a colourful but unsuccessful period in the house's history.



The present owners run Boston House as a guest house and have extended the accommodation by building self-contained units in reasonably sympathetic style and materials, a short distance from the house. Some of the land surrounding it has been sold on separate titles but Boston House still stands on a block 4.87 hectares in area.

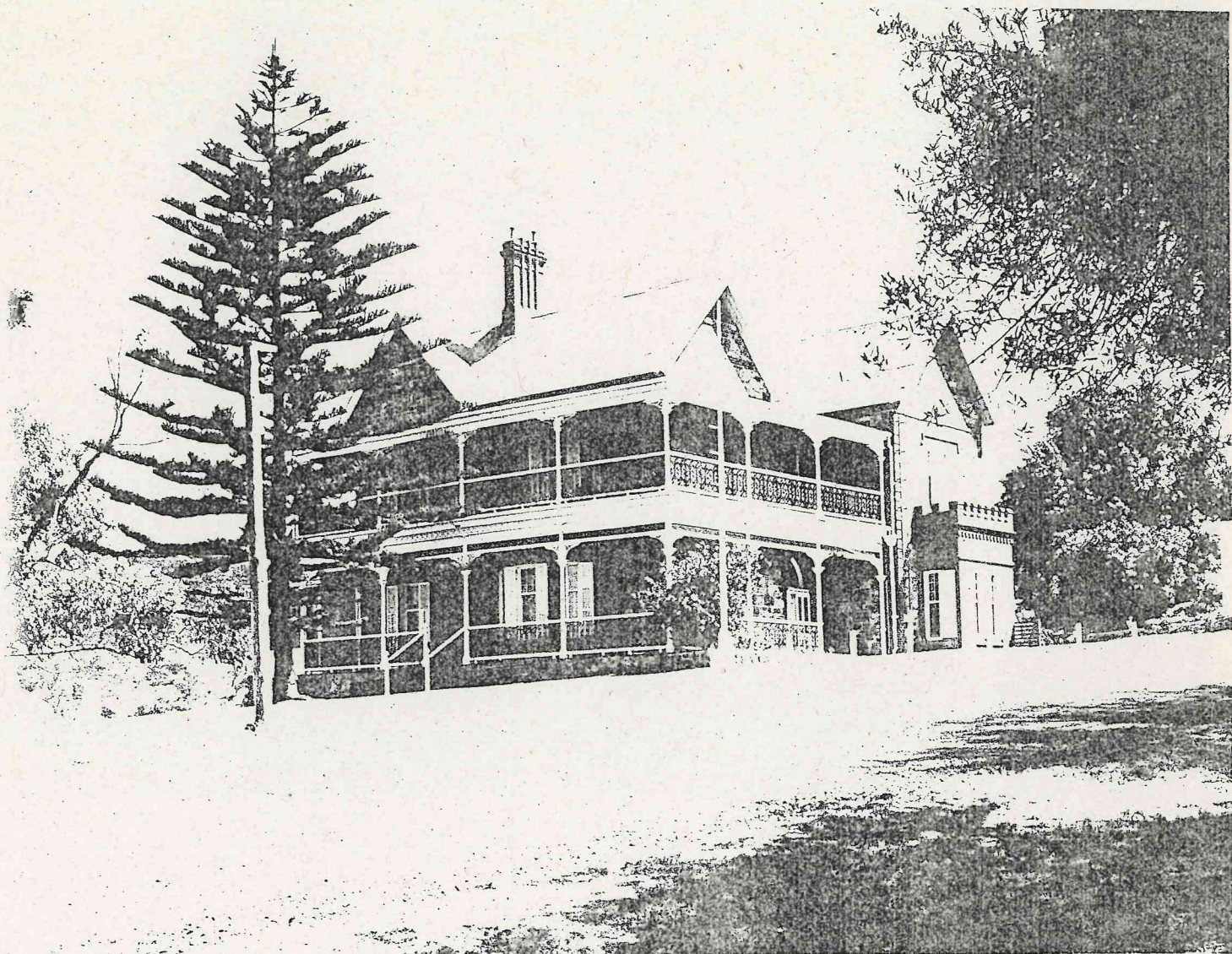
Sources:

P. Baillie, Boston House, (n.d. Port Lincoln)  
Records of Jackman Gooden Scott & Swan, Architects.

Katrina McDougall  
Register Historian

KMcD:JD  
19/4/81





FILM 454  
No 8

PORT LINCOLN  
BOSTON HOUSE

Feb '81  
Lorwan



South Australian Heritage Act 1978-80	HERITAGE SURVEY ITEM IDENTIFICATION SHEET	Region 12 Eyre Peninsula
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ITEM NO.: LIN:001

Type of Item: 0302

Date: 1885-1886

ITEM NAME: Boston House

Former or Other Names:

LOCATION

PERIOD: 1884 - 1914

CONDITION: Good

L.G.A.: Lincoln

Town: near Port Lincoln

No:

Street: Lincoln Highway

Section: Pt. 19

C/T No.: 4067/473

County: Flinders

Hundred: Lincoln

A.M.G. Ref. Z: 53

N: 6161700 E: 578150

S.H.P. Region: 12

Architect:

Builder: John Dorward

CURRENT STATUS: State Heritage List: Registered

National Estate:

National Trust:

## HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

Recommendation: State

### Description:

Large, two storey house of random coursed stonework with brick quoins and string courses. Gable ended corrugated galvanised iron roof with ornamental brick chimneys. Raked return verandah with cast iron posts and cast iron lace balustrade to first floor balcony. Double hung sash windows and brick bay window to ground floor elevation. Shaped bricks to main entrance and brick hoodmoulds. Attractively sited on rise overlooking Boston Bay. Small stone outbuilding to rear of main house.

### Historical Summary:

Part of Section 19, Hundred of Lincoln, in which Boston House stands originally contained a cottage occupied by Rev. Octavius Hammond, who was second Superintendent of Poonindie Mission Station. When Hammond died, land bought by Frederick Sison, retired brewer, who commissioned Adelaide architects English and Soward to design his retirement home.

### Significance:

An excellent example of large scale villa architecture of which few remain in the region, it is an important building in a rural landscape.

## REFERENCES

Written: Files of the Heritage Conservation Branch - File No. 6028-10217

Perc Baillie, 'Boston House', (n.d.), Port Lincoln

Verbal:

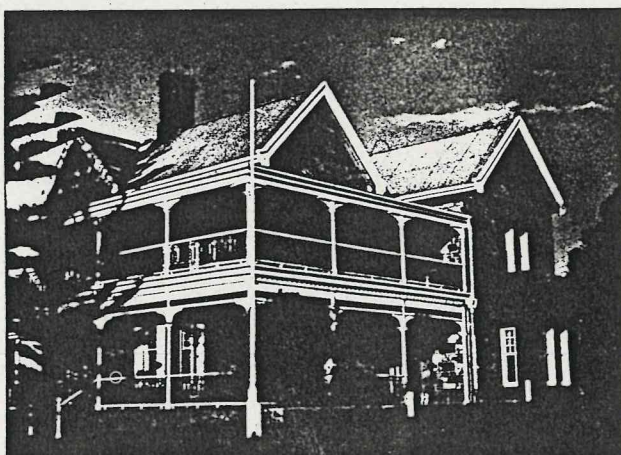
## PHOTOGRAPHS

B & W No.: 3/31

Slide No.: 3/31,32

Archival: B26732 (c. 1970)

DANYERS ARCHITECTS  
1985





To: The South Australian Heritage Committee

From: Senior Historical Architect

Subject: REGISTER NOMINATION REPORT -  
BOSTON HOUSE,  
PORT LINCOLN

Date: 12 May 1982

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Architecturally, the Boston House's size, design and quality of construction reflects the general lifestyle enjoyed by Adelaide's upper class. The House was probably designed by the architects English & Soward and although a prominently placed lookout tower was omitted from the original design, Boston House is a good example of colonial Victorian Architecture.

Environmentally, Boston House is a well-known historical and visual landmark which is an important element in the built environment along the Lincoln Highway between Port Lincoln and North Shields.

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#### Qualitative Data

Component

Comment

Grading

E VG AG FP NA

#### History

- Context: Boston House was built during 1885-6 as a retirement residence for Frederick Sison, replacing an early cottage on the site which had links with Poonindie Mission Superintendent, the Rev. Octavius Hammond.
- Person/Group: Frederick Sison had been involved in the brewing industry in Adelaide, in partnership with J.T. Syme in the Adelaide Brewery, Pirie Street.
- Specific Event: Not yet established.

#### Architecture

- Architect: Probably English & Soward, not confirmed.  
Engineer: Not yet established.  
Builder: John Dorward.
- Design: Pretentious two-storey mansion of 17 rooms. From the exterior the ornamental brick chimney gables and return verandah tend to dominate, it is a large version of the popular domestic Villa style.
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1.E.S./D3/21.001



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Lothar Brasse





FILM 454  
No 8

FORT LINCOLN  
BOSTON HOUSE

Feb '81  
Latham











