

South Australian
Heritage Act 1978-80:

HERITAGE SURVEY ITEM IDENTIFICATION SHEET

REGION 6 :
SOUTH EAST

Item No. : MTG:007
ITEM NAME: Pumping Station
Former or other names:

LOCATION:

Address: Adjacent Blue Lake,
near Mount Gambier

Allotment:

Section :

Hundred : Blanche

County : Grey

L.G.A. : Mount Gambier

S.H.P. Region: 6

A.M.G., Ref. Z: 54 N: 5811300
E: 480050

TYPE OF ITEM:

Description: Pumping Station

Subject: 4.09

Period: 1880-1890

Date: 1884

Condition: Well Kept

Architect:

Builder:

STATUS State Heritage List: Registered

National Estate : Listed

National Trust : Classified

HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

RECOMMENDATION: State

Description:

T-shaped building of rock-faced dolomite with dressed stone quoins to corners and openings. Paired vent openings in gabled wall, gabled corrugated iron roof with timber finials. Concave corrugated iron verandah surrounding main entrance doors.

After the Blue Lake had been selected as being the most suitable source, ratepayers agreed in 1880 to a water scheme. Work began in 1882 on an underground reservoir, waterworks and pumping plant. The Pumping Station was completed October, 1884. At first 11 miles of mains were serviced in the town, but there have been several additions to the water scheme since, including enlargements of the Pumping Station.

Report Text:

REFERENCES: L. Hill, "Mount Gambier, the City around a Cave" pp. 119-121

Verbal:

PHOTOGRAPHS:

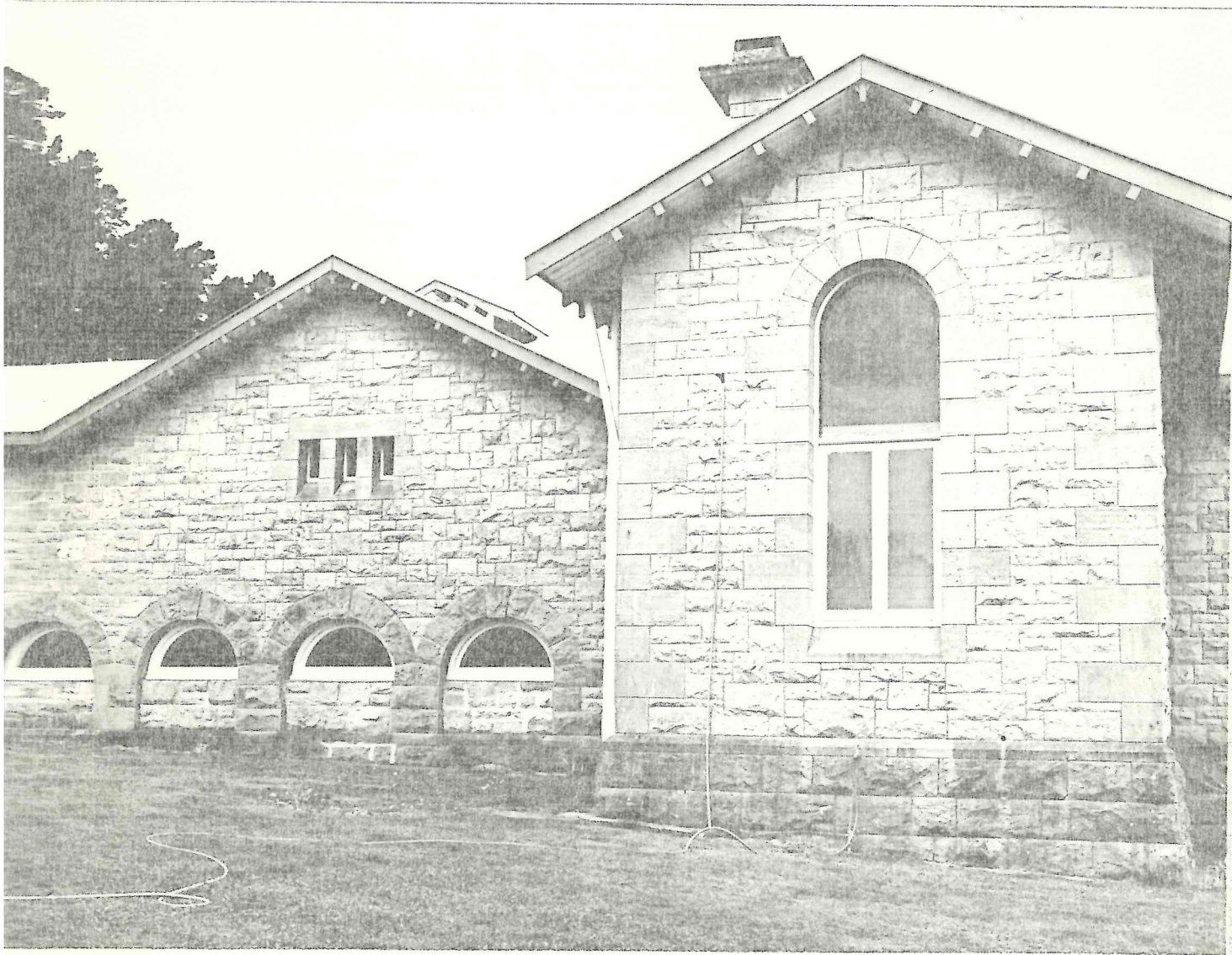
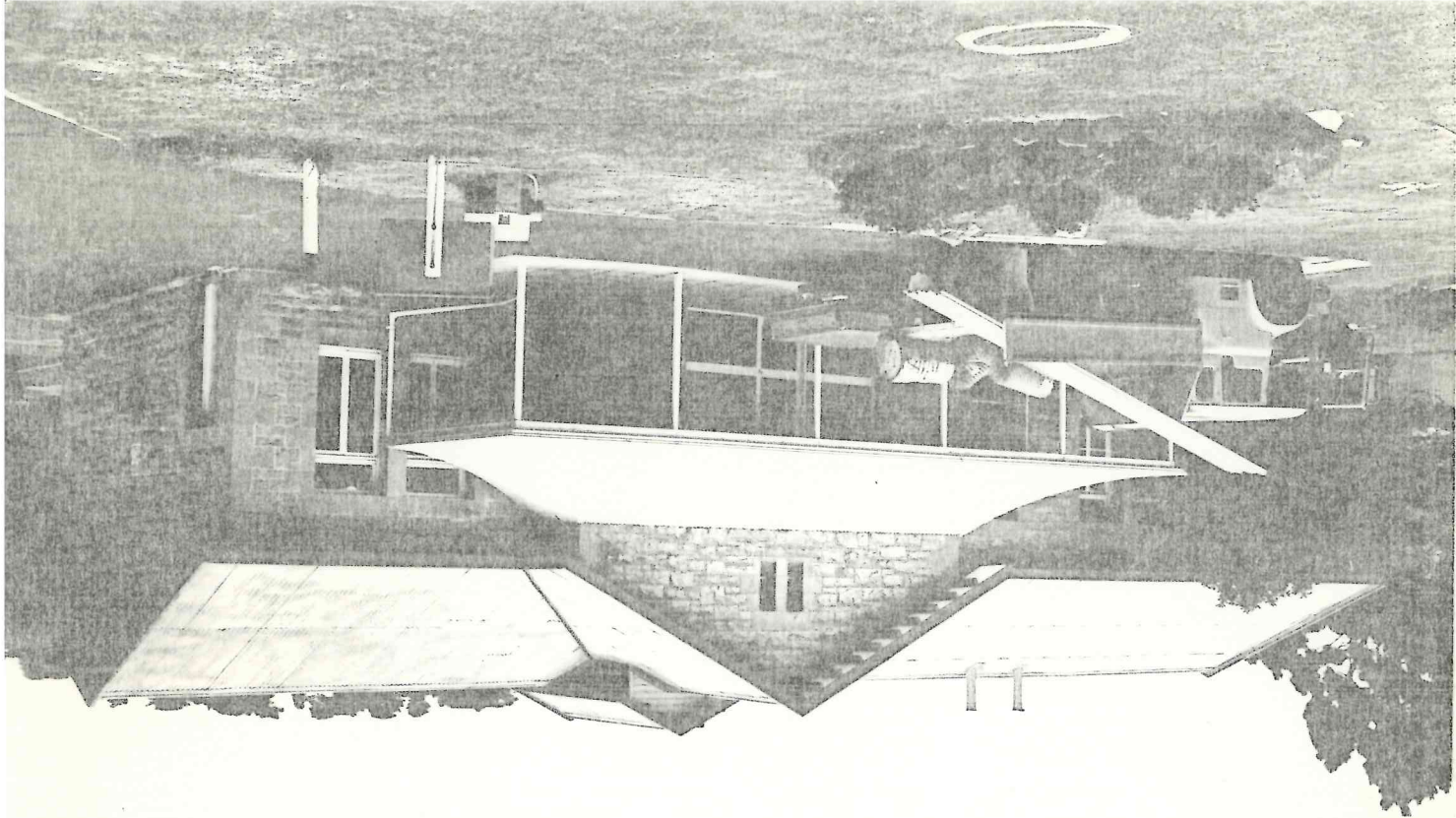
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FILM 54
NO. 5.

WEST WALL OF DUMPING STATION
AT BLUE LAKE

MOUNT CARRIER

10233

HISTORICAL NOTE

After a Bill had been passed in both Houses of the South Australian Parliament, voting £20,000 for a water supply for Mount Gambier and deciding on a price of 3/- for every 1,000 gallons of water, Mr. Oswald Brown, Hydraulic Engineer, arrived in the town during March, 1882 to make arrangements for the construction of a Reservoir, Waterworks and Steam Pumping Plant.

The work commenced on Monday, March 20, 1882 with the clearing of bushes, shrubs and ferns on the banks of the Blue Lake in preparation for the sinking of a shaft to the water's edge. A tender of £2,175 was let to Mr. Thomas Haig for the construction of a Reservoir to be erected between the Blue Lake and Leg of Mutton Lake. This underground concrete tank was completed by October, 1882 - the excavation having a diameter of 60 feet and a storage capacity of 270,000 gallons. Its concrete walls were from 18 inches to 30 inches thick, and the depth was 16 feet. It was covered with six inches of concrete, the plan of the reservoir being the same as one previously built at Gawler.

During the same month, pipes of six inches, four inches, three inches and two inches were laid throughout the streets of Mount Gambier and for two months a large number of workmen created a busy scene. The day, long

awaited by residents, when the water was first available was January 17, 1883 when amid great excitement the success of this scheme was assured. It was a dusty, dry day and shopkeepers had to keep their doors closed because of the conditions.

The Pumping Station, on the banks of the Blue Lake, was completed in October, 1884 with the boilers, engines and pumps all working smoothly. Early in March, 1885 a tender of £1,053 was accepted for the erection of an office and residence for the Superintendent in Helen Street. A modern complex of offices was occupied in 1971 in Commercial Street West.

CENTENARY TOWER

Summit of Mount Gambier.

Original Date : 1900 - 4

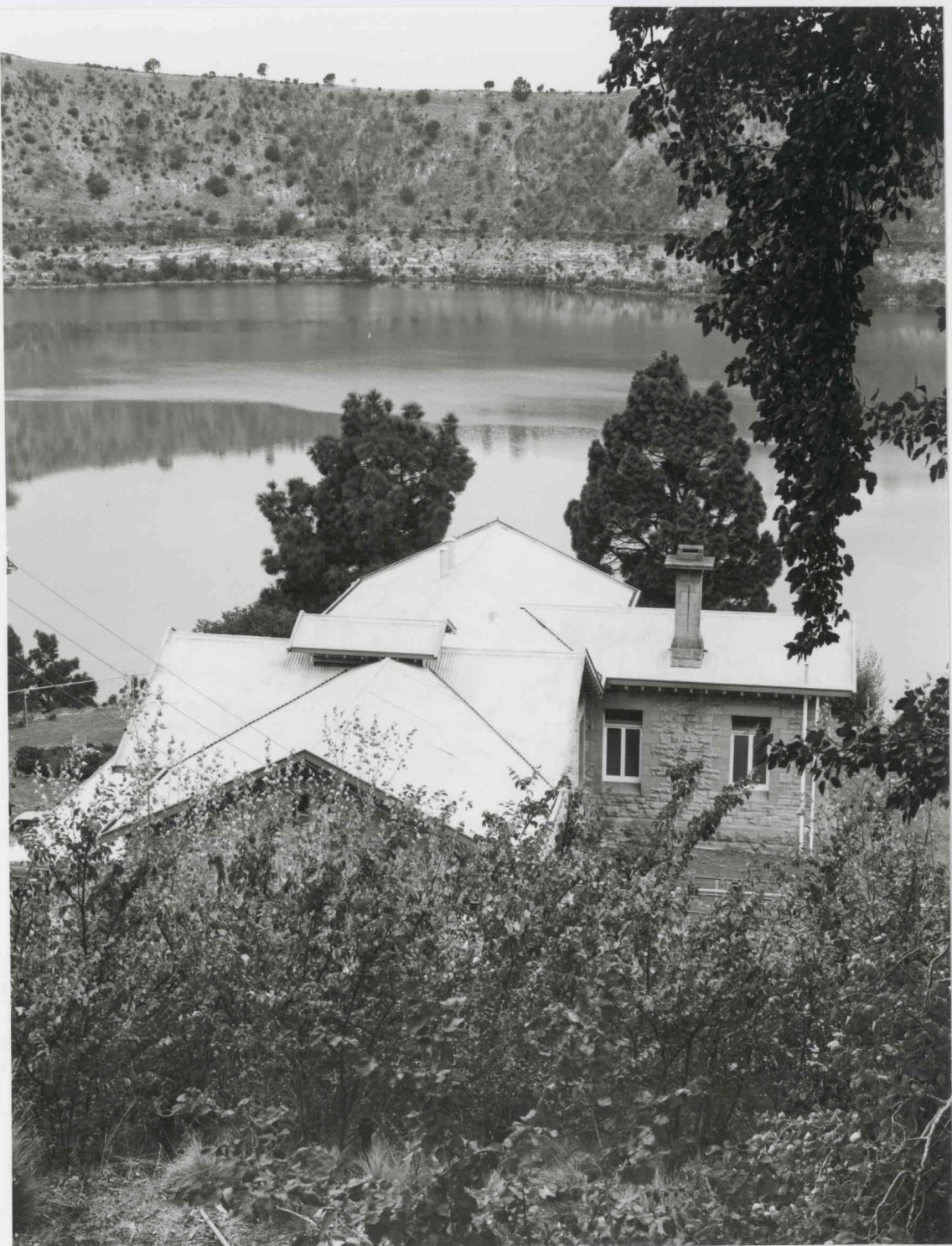
HISTORICAL NOTE

The Centenary Tower on the summit of Mount Gambier was erected to commemorate the 100 years that had elapsed from the time that Lieut. James

FILM 54
NO 8

VIEW OVER PUMPING STATION AT
BLUE LAKE FROM NORTH

MOUNT GAMBIER
22-2-79





FILM 54
NO 5

WEST WALL OF PUMPING STATION
AT BLUE LAKE

MOUNT GAMBIER
22-2-79



FILM 54
NO 4

VIEW FROM EAST OF PUMPING STATION
AT BLUE LAKE

MOUNT GAMBIER
22-2-79



FILM 54
NO 7

INTERIOR PUMPING STATION
AT BLUE LAKE

MOUNT GAMBIER
22-2-79