

South
Australian
Heritage
Act
1978

HERITAGE SURVEY ITEM IDENTIFICATION SHEET

PROJECT
HERITAGE SURVEY REGION 1
Item Ref. No. 70

ITEM NAME: Randell's Dry Dock,
Beam Engine & Paddle Steamer
Marion

Office Use
ITEM No.
DOCKET No.

HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

The Dry Dock is of immense significance because of its identification with William Randell and the pioneering of Australia's inland river transport. The dock was built at Milang for A.H. Landseer and launched on 18 September 1873. At the time it was said to be the largest floating dock in the southern hemisphere, the only one in Australia. It was sold to Randell who had it towed to Mannum and finally completed as a dry dock on 5 June 1876. It became the major site for the repair of riverboats on the Murray.

The beam engine was built by John Key of Kircaldy. It was used to pump water from the dock, and is of heritage significance because of its association with this item.

The Paddle Steamer "Marion" which has been fixed in the dry dock as a National Trust Museum since 1963, had a varied and interesting association with the Murray. It was built in 1896 for George Fowler, as a houseboat, then used as a barge and then - apart from a period of use by Ben Chaffey - was a paddlesteamer in the river trade between 1900 and 1953.

LOCATION

Address Randell St
Town Mannum
Postcode 5238
Section 114
Hundred Finnis
County
L.G.A. Mannum
S.H.P. Region 5
A.M.G. Ref. 6728-II

SUBJECT

4.7
4.10

PERIOD State

Study Area
1853-80
1881-1905

REFERENCES

Godson, The Marion Story.
Bevan and Vaughan, Mannum Yesterday, p.14
S.A. Archives, Newspaper Cuttings Vol.2. p.283.
Advertiser 16 November 1946.
National Trust file no. 2388, 1230
Australian Heritage Engineering Record S353
Tolley Collection
Verbal
Archival photographs Original photo. cl875 (In NT's "Marion")

TYPE OF ITEM

LAND Natural feature ☐
Historical site ☐
Historical Gdn. ☐

BUILDING

STRUCTURE

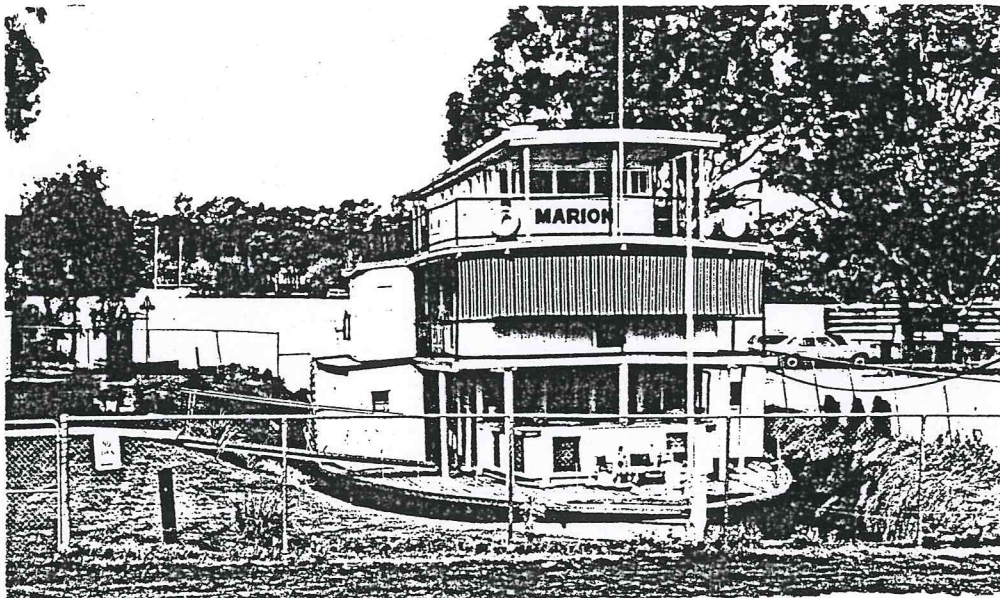
PHYSICAL CONDITION

PHOTOGRAPH

Film No. 782

Negative No. 4

Direction of view to SE



STATUS

Reg. of State Her. Items
Reg. ☐ Interim L ☐
Nominated ☐
National Estate
Reg. ☐ Proposed L ☐
National Trust
CL ☒ RL ☐ File ☐
Other
Institution of Engineer

RECOMMENDATION

(A) State ☒ (B) Local ☐

PREPARED BY

HERITAGE INVESTIGATIONS

Date: 1983

IIS/D4/25.11.81



