

CAPE DU COUEDIC LIGHTHOUSE COMPLEX -
WEIRS COVE JETTY, FUNNELWAY AND STORE RUIN
CAPE DU COUEDIC, KANGAROO ISLAND

SUMMARY

This report has been prepared as part of continuing programme of evaluating National Estate Items. The item was declared an Historic Reserve under the Aboriginal and Historic Relics Preservation Act 1965 and gazetted on May 25, 1972.

Historically, these structures are significant for their association with the last manned lighthouse complex to be built in South Australia, and for their role as part of the pre-1909 lighthouse navigation network in this State.

Architecturally, the structures were well designed and executed. They constitute a rare tangible reminder of the transport needs and methods employed to maintain the State's navigational aids.

Environmentally, the structures are an integral part of a lighthouse complex which begins at Weirs Cove jetty and terminates at the lighthouse - both prominent visual landmarks. The stone structures blend in well with the surrounding landscape.

The Integrity of the structures is poor and an urgent stabilization programme is needed.

HERITAGE CONSERVATION BRANCH RECOMMENDATION:

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Manager

It is recommended that these items be placed on the Register of State Heritage Items, and that they be categorized H3, A3.

South
Australian
Heritage
Act
1978-30

HERITAGE SURVEY ITEM IDENTIFICATION SHEET

PROJECT
HERITAGE SURVEY REGION
Item Ref. No. 12

ITEM NAME: Weirs Cove Jetty, Funnelway
and Store
Former or other

Office Use
ITEM No.
DOCKET No.

DESCRIPTION: One of the most spectacular coastal ruins in the State, the site contains the structural relics of the limestone walled store, some concrete machinery bases and the excavated funnelway in the steep cliff leading down to the small, wooden jetty.

HISTORICAL SUMMARY: In the Marine Board Report No. 93 of 1902, it was recommended to build a new lighthouse at "the south side of Kangaroo Island, which is so dangerous by reason of this rocky coast". Cape du Couedic on the south-western tip was the site chosen for the circular masonry lighthouse, cottages and sheds, and 1½ kilometres to the south in Weir's Cove, there was constructed a jetty, a flying fox for carrying materials and stores up the perpendicular cliffs and a large stone store and tank at the top. Building took place during 1907 and 1908, with the lighthouse officially lit on June 27, 1909. When the lighthouse became automatic and was demanned in 1957, the structures at Weirs Cove were also partly disassembled.

HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE: Cape du Couedic lighthouse was one of the last fully manned lighthouses to be built in South Australia, and the Weirs Cove relics attest to the continuing determination and difficulties involved in servicing such necessary structures.

LOCATION
Address Flinders Chase
Town National Park
Postcode
Section 17
Hundred McDonald
County
L.G.A. Kingscote
S.H.P. Region 14
A.M.G. Ref.

SUBJECT
4.7

USE

PERIOD
State

Study Area
1875-1919

REFERENCES

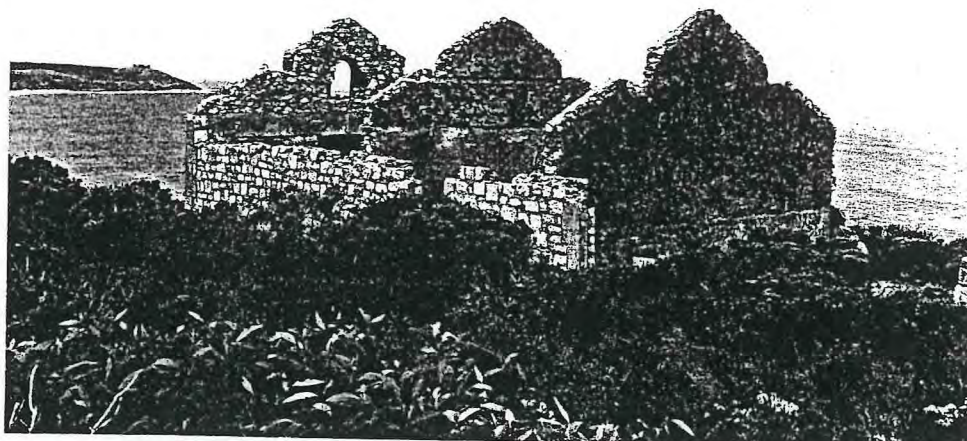
Kingscote CWA, Kangaroo Island Past and Present (1951)
National Trust 713
State Heritage Branch File

Verbal
Archival photographs

TYPE OF ITEM
LAND Natural feature ☐
Historical site ☐
Historical Gdn. ☐
BUILDING ☒
STRUCTURE ☒
PHYSICAL CONDITION

PHOTOGRAPH

Film No. 64 Negative No. 5



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

LAND TITLE

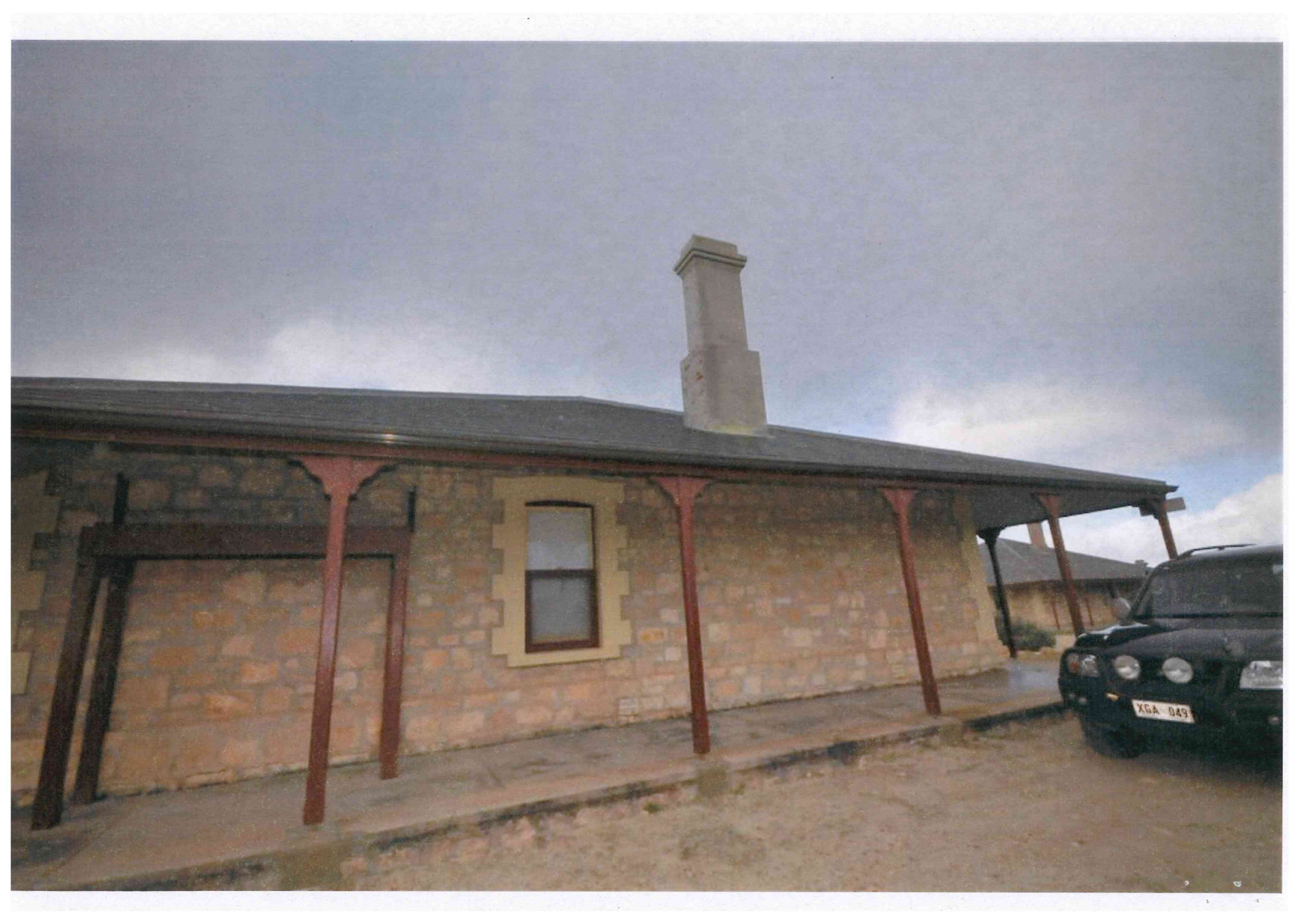
RECOMMENDATION

(A) State ☒ (B) Local ☐

PREPARED BY
HERITAGE INVESTIGATIONS
AND HISTORICAL CONSULTANT
PTY LTD 198

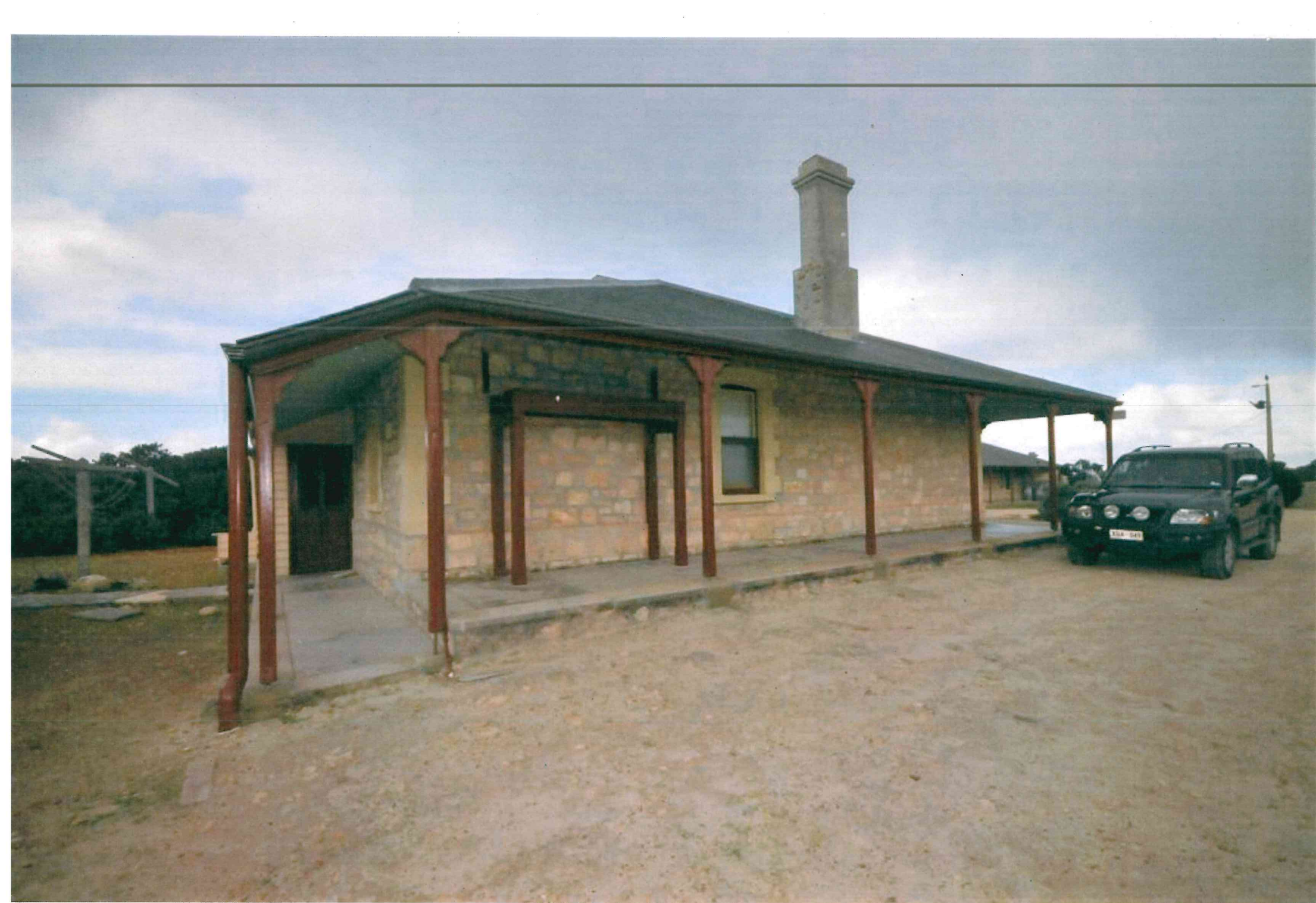




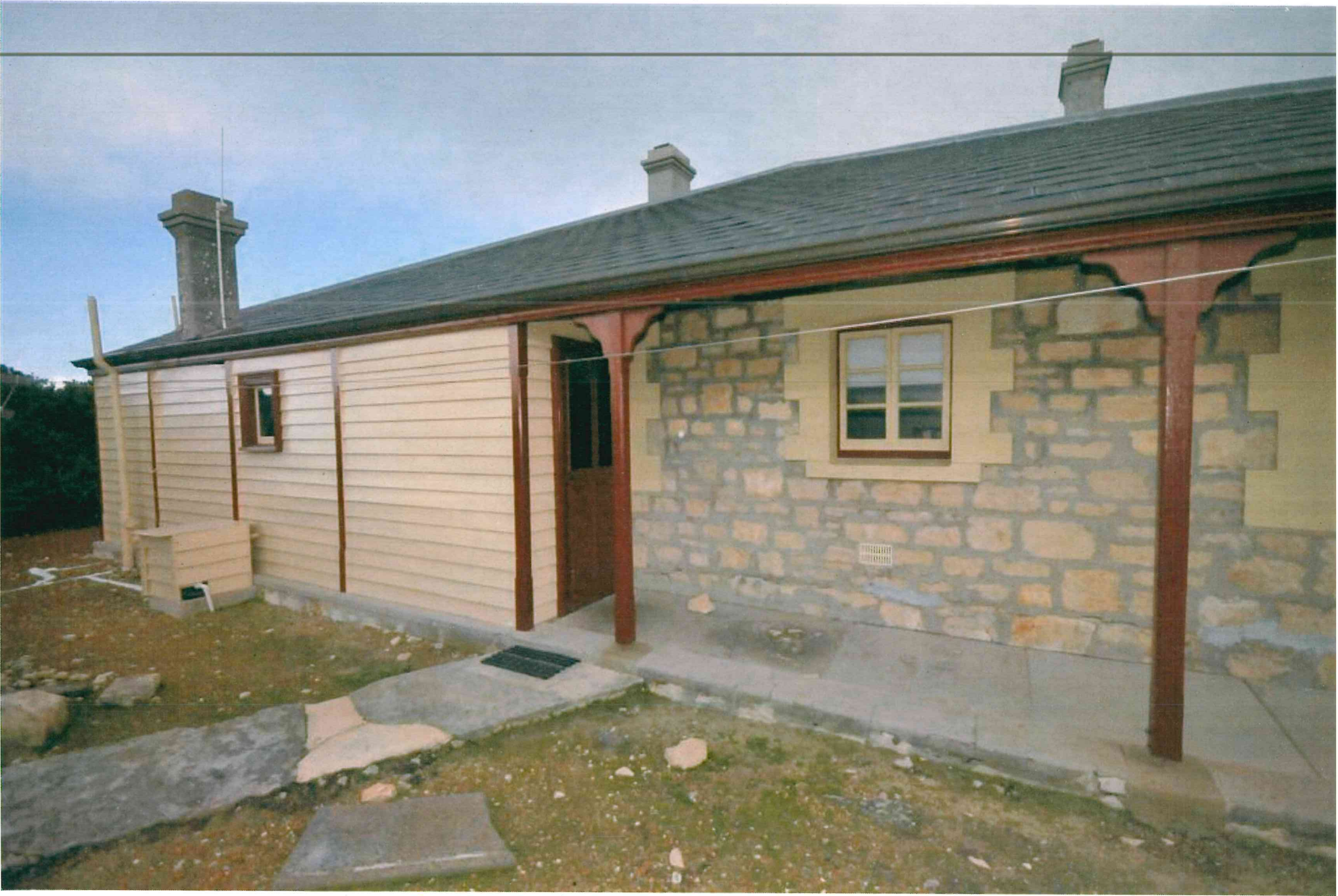






























A photograph of a green wooden sign with the text "Troubridge Lodge" in white. The sign is supported by two green wooden posts and is placed on a patch of dry grass and dirt. In the background, there is a building with a stone wall and a brown door. A red vertical post is also visible behind the sign.

Troubridge Lodge



