


South Australian Heritage Act 1978-80	<b>MOUNT BARKER DISTRICT HERITAGE SURVEY (STAGE ONE)</b> <b>ITEM IDENTIFICATION SHEET</b>	PROJECT DATE 1840 Item Ref. No. 236
ITEM NAME: DISTRICT HOTEL Former or other Nairne Hotel : Nairne Arms.		Office Use ITEM No. BUCKET No.
<b>HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE</b> Built as the "Nairne Hotel" by Stoddart in 1840. On his death it was run by his wife Mary, who also ran the first carrying service to Adelaide. Bought by James Shakes, hotelier, builder and farmer, in 1847 and re-named "Nairne Arms". In 1851 Trewartha became licensee, and the name was changed to the "District Hotel". The next proprietor was E. Gillett, until 1856. A good stone building, little altered. Policeman's quarters were originally in the basement.  Roof constructed of corrugated iron and is hipped. Chimneys constructed of brick. Openings are rectangular.		<b>LOCATION</b> Address Lot 49, Main St., Town Nairne. Postcode 5252 Section Hundred County L.G.A. S.H.P. Region A.M.G. Ref. 6627-10509
<b>REFERENCES</b> N.T. 427. S.A. Archives Research Note 201. S.A. Liquor Licensing Branch. Mick Murphy, Nairne. Owners : J. & A. G. Johnston, Oakbank.  Verbal Archival photographs		<b>SUBJECT</b>   <b>PERIOD</b> State  Study Area
<b>PHOTOGRAPH</b> Direction of view 		<b>TYPE OF ITEM</b> LAND Natural feature <input type="checkbox"/> Historical site <input type="checkbox"/> Historical Gdn. <input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE <input type="checkbox"/> PHYSICAL CONDITION  <b>STATUS</b> Reg. of State Her. Items Reg. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interim L <input type="checkbox"/> Nominated <input type="checkbox"/> National Estate Reg. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Proposed L <input type="checkbox"/> National Trust CL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RL <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> Other  <b>RECOMMENDATION</b> (A) State <input type="checkbox"/> (B) Local <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PREPARED BY  Date:

**District Hotel, fr Nairne Arms****Place no.: 1263**

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**Address** 77 Princes Hwy, Nairne

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**ASSESSMENT OF HERITAGE VALUE****Description**

Two-storey hotel constructed of high-quality ashlar stonework to front with stone dressings including flat-arch stone voussoirs, random stone to side and rear walls, and a hipped cgi roof. The symmetrical front has seven openings to each storey, with the lower storey having a central wider window comprising a 16-paned double-hung sash, flanked by two doors. The rest of the windows are timber-framed 12-paned double-hung sashes. Other features include a hipped o-gee cgi verandah on timber posts, and red-brick chimneys. Internally, the cellars are of special significant because of their associations with the former police station.

**Statement of Heritage Value**

This is an outstanding example of an 1850s hotel building which demonstrates particularly-fine stone construction and has significant associations with the early development of hotels, police stations and the town of Nairne.

**Relevant Criteria**

- (a) *it demonstrates important aspects of the evolution or pattern of the State's history, providing significant information about the early development of hotels, police station and the town of Nairne.*
- (d) *it is an outstanding representative of a particular class of places of cultural significance, namely an outstanding example of an 1850s hotel and a significant representative of an early non-purpose-built police station.*
- (e) *it demonstrates a high degree of creative, aesthetic or technical accomplishment or is an outstanding representative of particular construction techniques or design characteristics, retaining a high integrity, being an outstanding representative of 1850s hotel design, and displaying outstanding ashlar stone construction.*

**RECOMMENDATION**

This place is recommended for retention in the State Heritage Register.

**District Hotel, fr Nairne Arms****Place no.: 1263****ASSESSMENT OF HERITAGE VALUE**

**Criterion (a)** *it demonstrates important aspects of the evolution or pattern of the State's history.*

Nairne was the first town to be registered in South Australia (1839), and its first hotel was the Nairne Arms, which was first licensed by Mary Ann Stoddart in January 1840. The town's second hotel was the District Hotel, which was constructed in 1851. The first licensee was James Trewartha, yet only a year after it was opened, the District Hotel license was taken over by Daniel Gillett, publican of the Nairne Arms. At that time, the nearby Nairne Arms was closed (now only a wall remains).

The 1851 District Hotel was a substantial stone structure which was also used as a police station for several decades until the current purpose-built police station was constructed in 1883. The District Hotel housed the police office, holding cells and trooper's residence. This is a rare surviving documented example of a non-purpose-built police station, and evidence of this former use can be seen in the cellars of the hotel. The hotel has significant associations with the early development of hotels in the State, the early establishment of law and order in important towns, and provides evidence of the development of the significant early town of Nairne.

**Criterion (d)** *it is an outstanding representative of a particular class of places of cultural significance.*

Being an excellent surviving example of a two-storey hotel building of the early 1850s and the cellars having additional representative qualities as a surviving example of a non-purpose-built mid-19<sup>th</sup>-century police station including cells and police residence.

**Criterion (e)** *it demonstrates a high degree of creative, aesthetic or technical accomplishment or is an outstanding representative of particular construction techniques or design characteristics.*

The hotel retains a high integrity, is an outstanding representative of 1850s hotel design, and displays an outstanding quality of ashlar stone construction. Although many mid-19<sup>th</sup>-century hotels survive in the State, few have been as little altered as the District Hotel at Nairne. The original high quality design and construction of the building is clearly demonstrated by the surviving fabric.

**District Hotel, fr Nairne Arms****Place no.: 1263**

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**HISTORY**

The District Hotel was briefly known as the Dunstan hotel in the early 1970s.

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**REFERENCES**

- Australian Heritage Commission, *Register of the National Estate*, Report no. 7543.
- Gardiner, F 1997, *Interim Mount Barker & Nairne Townships Heritage Register*, S3:373.
- Hignett & Co. 1983, *Mount Barker District Heritage Survey*, L236.
- Hoad, J L 1999, *Hotels and Publicans in South Australia, 1836–1984*, pp 135-6 & 304.
- Jensen, Elfrida & Rolf 1980, *Colonial Architecture in South Australia*, p 33.
- Local History Centre, heritage files & photographs.
- Martin, Vivien S 1982, *Mostly Mount Barker*.
- *Mount Barker Courier*.
- National Trust of South Australia, Classified list 427.
- *Register*, 25 January 1840.
- State Heritage Branch, file 10509.
- [www.heritage.gov.au/ahpi](http://www.heritage.gov.au/ahpi), [www.slsa.sa.gov.au](http://www.slsa.sa.gov.au), [www.southaustralianhistory.com.au](http://www.southaustralianhistory.com.au)



**District Hotel, fr Nairne Arms****Place no.: 1263****SITE RECORD**

<b>Location</b>	77 Princes Hwy, Nairne
<b>Description</b>	Two-storey stone hotel building
<b>Significant fabric</b>	Ashlar stone work, stone walls and detailing including flat-arch stone voussoirs, hipped cgi roof. Symmetrical front with seven openings to each storey, with the lower storey having a central wider window comprising a 16-paned double-hung sash, flanked by two doors. The rest of the windows are timber-framed 12-paned double-hung sashes. Other significant features include hipped o-gee cgi verandah on timber posts, and red-brick chimneys. Internally, the cellars are of special significant because of their associations with the former police station.
<b>Condition</b>	Vulnerable
<b>Land Description</b>	Lot , Section 5200, Hundred of Kanmantoo CT 5133-59
<b>Local Government Area</b>	District Council of Mount Barker
<b>Current Use</b>	Hotel
<b>Original Use</b>	Hotel
<b>Date (approximate)</b>	1840
<b>State Heritage Status</b>	SHR 80
<b>State Heritage File No.</b>	10509
<b>Other Assessments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• District Council of Mount Barker 2002, S252</li> <li>• Gardiner, F 1997, <i>Interim Mount Barker &amp; Nairne Townships Heritage Register</i>, S3:373</li> <li>• Heritage Online 2004, <i>Mount Barker Heritage Survey</i>, included in the proposed Heritage Area NAA</li> <li>• Hignett &amp; Co 1983, <i>Mount Barker District Heritage Survey</i>, L236</li> <li>• Register of the National Estate, report no. 7543</li> <li>• National Trust of South Australia, Classified list 427</li> </ul>
<b>Photograph File</b>	Mt Barker Heritage Survey\MBHS Photos\Nairne\NA Princes 77#
<b>Map Reference</b>	NAA 6.6
<b>Report by</b>	Anna Pope

**District Hotel, fr Nairne Arms**

**Place no.: 1263**



*District Hotel, fr Nairne Arms, 2004*



*detail of stonework to District Hotel, 2004*