Register Research Programme 1981/82

To: South Australian Heritage.
From: Senior Historical Architect
Subject: REGISTER NOMINATION REPORT: DWELLING (FORMERLY MONTEFIORE), AQUINAS COLLEGE 1 PALMER PLACE, NORTH ADELAIDE
Date: 21st May, 1982

SUMMARY

This report has been prepared as part of the Heritage Conservation Branch's processing of City of Adelaide Items reviewed by the Lord Mayor's Heritage Advisory Committee for possible inclusion on the State Register. This item was recommended by the Lord Mayor's Heritage Advisory Committee's consultants and subsequently recommended by the Lord Mayor's Heritage Advisory Committee as well.

Historically, this building is most important for being the home of Sir Samuel Way, one of the most notable of South Australians (11 April, 1836 to 8 January, 1916). Refer to City of Adelaide Cover Sheet.

Architecturally, the building is a good example of McMinn's Italianate style. Particularly good are the steps and porch which is similar to that of 26 Lefevre Terrace, also designed by McMinn's. An upper floor was removed in 1916 and the present roof of Marseilles tiles dates from that year.

Environmentally, the building is noteworthy because of its prominent siting on Montefiore Hill.

The Integrity of the building has been compromised because of numerous alterations and additions; the major ones being the removal of the upper floor and the adjacent college buildings.

Aquinas College is not on the National Trust or National Estate Register, but has been recommended by the Lord Mayor's Heritage Advisory Committee.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the dwelling (formerly Montefiore) at Aquinas College, North Adelaide, be placed on the Register of State Heritage Items and be categorised H.2.

Barry G. Rowney
Senior Historical Architect

GCB: BAH
21.5.82
AQUINAS COLLEGE
Palmer Place, North Adelaide

Historically, this building is particularly significant for being the home of S.J. Way one of the most notable of South Australians (11/4/1836 - 8/1/1916). He was Chief Justice from 1876 until his death - the first Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of S.A. - Acting Governor on numerous occasions - Privy Counsellor, baronet, Chancellor of the University and philanthropist, etc. Since 1948, it has been Aquinas College and thereby associated with the development of tertiary education in South Australia and with the wish of the Roman Catholic Church to be a part of this - in some manner complementing its education system.

Architecturally, the building is a good example of McMinn's Italianate work, particularly the entrance arch with attendant columns at impost level. The building is not a "complete" composition however since it was greatly reduced in size in 1916.

Environmentally, the building is noteworthy because it occupies a prominent site on Montefiore Hill.

The integrity of the building has been compromised by the additions made so that it might function as a University College. It underwent considerable alteration at the direction of S.J. Way, as well as in 1916.

D.M.S.
10/11/81
Aquinas College

**CURRENT NAME OF ITEM:**

Palmer Place, North Adelaide

**ADDRESS/LOCATION OF ITEM:**

S.J. Way

**PREDOMINANT USE:**

Residence

**FORMER NAME(S) OF ITEM:**

*Montefiore*

**FORMER OWNER(S):**

*Montefiore*

**FORMER USE(S):**

Education/Residence

**INVENTORY NUMBER:**

B

**INVENTORY GRADING:**

**LISTING RECOMMENDED:**

Yes

**TOPICAL THEME(S):**

- Social - Law - Government

**TOPICAL PERIOD(S):**

1884-1913 - Boom, Depression and Social Change

**FEATURE DATE(S):**

1852 (first assessment)

**UATION COMPONENTS:**

*Exemplifies the life style of a successful and respected South Australian. Associated with Catholic Tertiary Education.*

**ON/GROUP:**

*W. McMinn c.1880 alterations*

**FACTOR:**

Italianate

**REASON:**

The reduced form of the original design has compromised the structure, it is important however for surviving Italianate detail.

**REASON:**

Stuccoed masonry.

**REASON:**

Major surviving features are largely original and in good condition.

**ACTIONS:**

Additions made to suit new use.

**REASON:**

Good

**REASON:**

A significant feature - compromised by modern additions.

**AARK:**

A feature on Montefiore Hill

**COMMENT:**

*
MONTEFIORE (PART AQUINAS COLLEGE)
Palmer Place, North Adelaide.

This house, although much altered from its original state is rich in historical association. By 1853, George Green was in possession of the property which already included a house and garden. Green either extended the house or completely rebuilt it, in the 1850's, producing a Regency mansion of some note. Green probably designed it himself as he was noted as a civil engineer, surveyor and architect. By the late 1850's the property had passed to Luke Michael Cullen, solicitor, who in turn sold it to Samuel Way, one of South Australia's most notable citizens. Way, later Sir Samuel Way Baronet, was Chief Justice from 1876 until his death in 1916. He was also Chancellor of the University, first Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge in South Australia and a noted philanthropist.

During the late 1870's, Way refaced and extended the building in Italianate form, the design of the porch being typical of the work of architect W. McMinn. After Way's death the size of the house was considerably reduced due to the removal of the second storey, the house thereby reaching its present form. Since 1948, the house has been a major component of Aquinas College.

The building, the historical associations with which, are of pre-eminent importance is nevertheless of architectural significance, since components of it exemplify McMinn's Italianate manner (compared with the former house at the corner of Ward Street and Lefevre Terrace, to a design by McMinn (and Woods?). The entrance arches with attendant columns at impost level and foliated spandrels are almost identical with those seen at Montefiore).

Montefiore is environmentally significant due to its occupation of a prominent site on Montefiore Hill. Although, the integrity of the building has been compromised, and although the structure is affected by salt damp attack, it remains an important property due mainly to its historical associations.

D.M.S.
4:DCP10B/P
(Amended 12/9/83)
CITY OF ADELAIDE
HERITAGE STUDY

ASSESSMENT SUMMARY SHEET 1/1

A2 CURRENT NAME OF ITEM
Aquinas College

A3 ADDRESS/LOCATION OF ITEM
Palmer Place, North Adelaide

A4 P.T.A. 748

A5 ASSESSMENT NO.

A6 NATIONAL MAP GRID CO-ORDINATES

A7 PRECINCT
Residential District
- Cathedral

A8 DEVELOPMENT ZONE

R 15.7
AS FURTHER VIABILITY STUDY REQUIRED

B1 CURRENT OWNER
Aquinas College

B2 PREDOMINANT USE
Inc.

B3 FORMER USE(S)
Education/Residence

C1 FORMER NAME(S) OF ITEM
Montefiore

C2 FORMER OWNER(S)
S.J. Way
L.M. Cullen
G. Green

C3 FORMER USE(S)
Residence

D1 HISTORICAL THEME(S)
Social life - Law - Government

D2 HISTORICAL PERIOD(S)
1865-1884-1913 - Boom, Depression and Social Change

D3 VERIFIED DATE(S)
Original building date from 1850's.
Refaced in area 1880. Attended area 1916.

G1 INVENTORY GRADING
B

H1 LISTING RECOMMENDED
Yes

SAFETY ASSESSMENT

E1的历史期
1865-1884-1913 - Boom, Depression and Social Change

E2 验证日期
Original building date from 1850's.
Refaced in area 1880. Attended area 1916.

E3 评论

E4 历史主题
Social life - Law - Government

E5 历史时期
1865-1884-1913 - Boom, Depression and Social Change

E6 验证日期
Original building date from 1850's.
Refaced in area 1880. Attended area 1916.

E7 列表

E8 列表建议
Yes

E9 安全评估

E10 GRADING
B

E11 EVALUATION COMPONENTS

E12 HISTORY [11-13]

E13 J1 PERSON/GROUP
Associated with S.J. Way - Lieut-Governor, Chief
Justice. Chancellor of Adelaide University etc. and
philanthropist, baronet

E14 J2 EVENT

E15 J3 CONTEXT
Exemplifies the life style of a successful and respected
South Australian. Associated with Catholic Tertiary Education.

E16 DESIGN [K1-K6]

E17 K1 DESIGNER
W. McMinn c.1880 alterations

E18 K2 CONTRACTOR

E19 K3 STYLE
Italianate

E20 K4 DESIGN
The reduced form of the original design has compromised the
structure, it is important however for surviving Italianate
detail.

E21 K5 CONSTRUCTION
Stuccoed masonry.

E22 K6 INTERIOR
Major surviving features are largely original and in good
condition.

E23 INTEGRITY [11-12]

E24 L1 ALTERATIONS
Additions made to suit new use. Floor removed area 1916.

E25 L2 CONDITION
Good, although building affected by salt damp.

E26 ENVIRONMENT [M1-M2]

E27 M1 STREETSPE/ LANDSCAPE
A significant feature - compromised by modern additions.

E28 M2 LANDMARK
A feature on Montefiore Hill

E29 N1 OTHER COMMENT
Amended 19/9/83

E30 HERITAGE LISTING

E31 01 NATIONAL TRUST

E32 02 NATIONAL ESTATE

E33 03 STATE HERITAGE

E34 04 OTHER

E35 05 LOMHAC LISTING ENDOREMENT
Yes
ITEM: AQUINAS COLLEGE - "MONTEFIORE"

ADDRESS: 1-10 Palmer Place; 1-10 Montefiore Hill.
(CT also to 2-20 Jeffcott Street)

BUILDING NO.: 31/0808.2
CT 167/211

NOTE:
- Terra-cotta tiled roof
- Elaborately stucco porch & steps
- Note: cast-iron frieze and standards to verandah
- Note half-level basement
- Note: arches at half basement level
- Note fountain and brick paving
- Rendered masonry construction with stucco enriched window surrounds and battered plinth

SCALE (approx): 1:480