

## BETTER HERITAGE INFORMATION SUMMARY OF STATE HERITAGE PLACE

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### COMMENTARY ON THE LISTING

Description and notes with respect to a place entered in the South Australian Heritage Register in accordance with either the *South Australian Heritage Act 1978* or the *Heritage Places Act 1993*.

The information contained in this document is provided in accordance with s14(6) and s21 of the *Heritage Places Act 1993*.

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**REGISTERED NAME:** Former Criterion Hotel

**PLACE NO.:** 12539

**ALSO KNOWN AS:** Dwelling (former Criterion Hotel)

**ADDRESS:** Bunganditj Country  
28 Smillie Street  
Robe SA 5276  
CT 5789/979 D31159 A10  
Hundred of Waterhouse

### CONFIRMED IN THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE REGISTER:

05 April 1984

### STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

Erected for George Lord in 1856, the Former Criterion Hotel in Robe demonstrates the social and commercial development of one of South Australia's key seaport towns during the 1850s and 1860s. Additionally, its history as a non-alcoholic 'coffee palace' and Temperance Hotel during the first half of the twentieth century demonstrates the reach of the temperance movement within South Australia. It also demonstrates Robe's rise as a popular South Australian tourist destination, a process that began in the 1920s and escalated after the Second World War.

## **INDICATIVE CRITERIA (under section 16 of the *Heritage Places Act 1993*)**

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

Erected for George Lord in 1856, the Former Criterion Hotel in Robe demonstrates the social and commercial development of one of South Australia's key seaport towns during the 1850s and 1860s. Although the Robe Hotel had opened in 1847 as the 'Bonnie Owl', the Former Criterion Hotel was one of the first among several other pubs that emerged in Robe during the mid-1850s and early 1860s. The emergence of these new pubs shows that their owners believed there was a sufficient market for multiple hotels to operate in and around Robe at the time, a sentiment reflective of the general commercial and economic confidence exhibited during Robe's heyday as a thriving seaport town.

Additionally, the Former Criterion Hotel's history as a non-alcoholic venue during the first half of the twentieth century demonstrates the broad reach of the temperance movement within South Australia. Between 1911 and 1924, the hotel operated as the Criterion Coffee Palace and then as the Temperance Hotel until 1949. Coffee palaces were associated with the temperance movement and were established as venues that served non-alcoholic beverages and meals and provided accommodation.

The Former Criterion Hotel also demonstrates Robe's rise as a popular South Australian tourist destination. Robe has a long history as a summer retreat dating back to the mid-nineteenth century. However, most of its early visitors were wealthy. Realising its potential as a broader tourist destination, serious efforts to attract new visitors to Robe commenced in the 1920s. Limited accommodations options at that time meant the Former Criterion Hotel was able to capitalise on the growing tourism boom becoming a popular option for visitors staying in Robe.

# SITE PLAN

Former Criterion Hotel  
28 Smillie Street, Robe




PLACE NO.: 12539



Former Criterion Hotel, 28 Smillie Street, Robe SA 5278, CT 5789/979 D31159 A10, Hundred of Waterhouse.

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## LEGEND

-  Parcel boundaries (Indicates extent of Listing)
-  Existing State Heritage Place(s)
-  Outline of Elements of Significance for State Heritage Place

## Physical Description

The Former Criterion Hotel is a rectangular two-storey limestone building with a double-hipped roof and single-storey extension to the west. It features:

- Smooth rendered limestone walls,
- Patterned quoins on the northern elevation,
- Double-hipped (two-storey section) and single-hipped (extension) roofs clad with corrugated galvanised steel,
- Two four-panelled doors with glazed upper panels (eastern and central) and one double-door with glazed upper panels on the ground floor,
- A fan light above the central door with three panels,
- One double-door with glazed panels on the upper floor,
- Two casement windows with eight panels and a sash window with a fanlight and three glazed panels on the northern elevation of the ground floor,
- Two additional sash windows on the western ground floor elevation,
- Two sash windows on the upper floor,
- Keystones above the casement windows and eastern and western doors on the ground-floor of the northern elevation,
- Keystones above the sash windows on the western elevation,
- A timber balcony,
- Stone chimneys on the two-storey section,
- Additional lean-to/outbuilding structures to the rear,
- A limestone perimeter wall on the western side.

## Elements of Significance:

Elements of heritage significance include (but are not necessarily limited to):

- Former Criterion Hotel, including the single-storey and double-storey hipped roof sections,
- Stone chimneys,
- Patterned quoins,
- Keystones,
- Balcony.

Elements not considered to contribute to significance of place include (but are not necessarily limited to):

- Non-original lean-tos/outbuildings

## History of the Place

### 'Pubs' in Colonial South Australia

Public Houses, better known as 'pubs' and hotels, developed in Britain between the seventeenth and early nineteenth century and grew out of alehouses and taverns.<sup>1</sup> Though at first 'indistinguishable' from their adjacent buildings and usually housed in a 'cellar or separate room', pubs started to become purpose-built venues and easily identifiable during the nineteenth century.<sup>2</sup> They were quickly embraced within the Australasian colonies, 'along with many other British traditions'.<sup>3</sup>

Anticipating their popularity in South Australia, colonial administrators immediately enacted legislation to regulate pubs, based upon similar measures operating in Britain.<sup>4</sup> Passed in February 1837, the Act introduced licencing requirements for publicans, intended to regulate the 'sale of Wine, Beer, and Spirituous Liquors'. As its name specifies, the purpose of the Act was the 'Prevention of Drunkenness, and the Promotion of Good Order in Public Houses'.<sup>5</sup> Additional legislation was enacted in 1839 that further refined licencing.<sup>6</sup>

Following the 1837 Act, pubs mushroomed across Adelaide. By 1840, there were 63 licensed pubs in Adelaide, serving a population of 6,657 people. This meant that there was one pub for every 105 residents.<sup>7</sup> Though their number briefly declined during the early 1840s, by 1855 there were 376 throughout South Australia.<sup>8</sup> Pubs were established 'on major transport routes, in new towns, at river crossings, major junctions, mining and railway towns, ports and seashores' and were 'often the first business in a new township and the last to close when a town was abandoned'.<sup>9</sup> Their number peaked at 719 in 1893.<sup>10</sup>

In addition to selling alcohol, pubs provided a variety of services to their patrons. Many sold food and most offered guest accommodation.<sup>11</sup> Moreover, as Patricia Sumerling notes:

They have provided venues for religious worship, theatrical entertainment, meetings small and large, public and private, balls, banquets, fetes and sporting events, and have been used as school classrooms, commercial rooms for travelling salesmen, electoral polling places and venues for inquests. As well as planned events by both publican and the community, pubs are renowned for unplanned interaction between regulars and strangers.<sup>12</sup>

J. L. Hoad further observes that '[h]otels played an important part in the early history' of South Australia and 'seem to have been looked upon as semi-official establishments', sometimes even housing the local post office.<sup>13</sup> Pubs, then, were typically important community and civic venues as well as places to drink, drink and find accommodation. Indeed, the 'early life of the Colony centred largely around the nearest Licensed Premises'.<sup>14</sup>

The size and quality of pub buildings increased over the second half of the nineteenth century and additional regulations were introduced, including age restrictions and limits on operating hours.<sup>15</sup> The number of pubs decreased after 1893 and regulations began to intensify in the early twentieth century, owing in part to the political rise of the temperance movement. Notable regulations included the introduction of the 6pm closing time and gender-based restrictions on licensing and patronage, both of which persisted into the 1960s.<sup>16</sup>

### **Establishing Colonial Robe**

Guichen Bay in the South East of South Australia forms part of the traditional lands of the Bungandidj people, who have been present in the area for at least 30,000 years.<sup>17</sup> Europeans first charted the coastline of the region in 1802 during the Baudin and Flinders expeditions and sealers established a presence at Guichen Bay in 1831.<sup>18</sup>

European exploration of the South East took place from 1839 and settlement began as early as 1840.<sup>19</sup> Much of the South East was initially settled by pastoralists and by 1847 approximately half of the region was held under pastoral licences. As primary production expanded the colonial government began to provide a series of government towns as service and staging centres. The provision of ports to ship goods to market was also viewed as essential and Robe was established in 1846, to provide a port for the burgeoning wool clip then being obtained from the South East.<sup>20</sup> Robe was officially declared as a port by the Government in 1847.<sup>21</sup>

Situated towards the south of Guichen Bay, the town at Robe (or Robetown) went on to become the first major town of the South East.<sup>22</sup> Robe became the administrative centre of the region when a Government Resident was appointed in 1846.<sup>23</sup> Over the next two decades, Robe developed as an international port that serviced the local wool industry and import and export markets. It also facilitated the arrival of thousands of immigrants, including British and Irish people, as well as Chinese prospectors during the Victorian gold rush.<sup>24</sup>

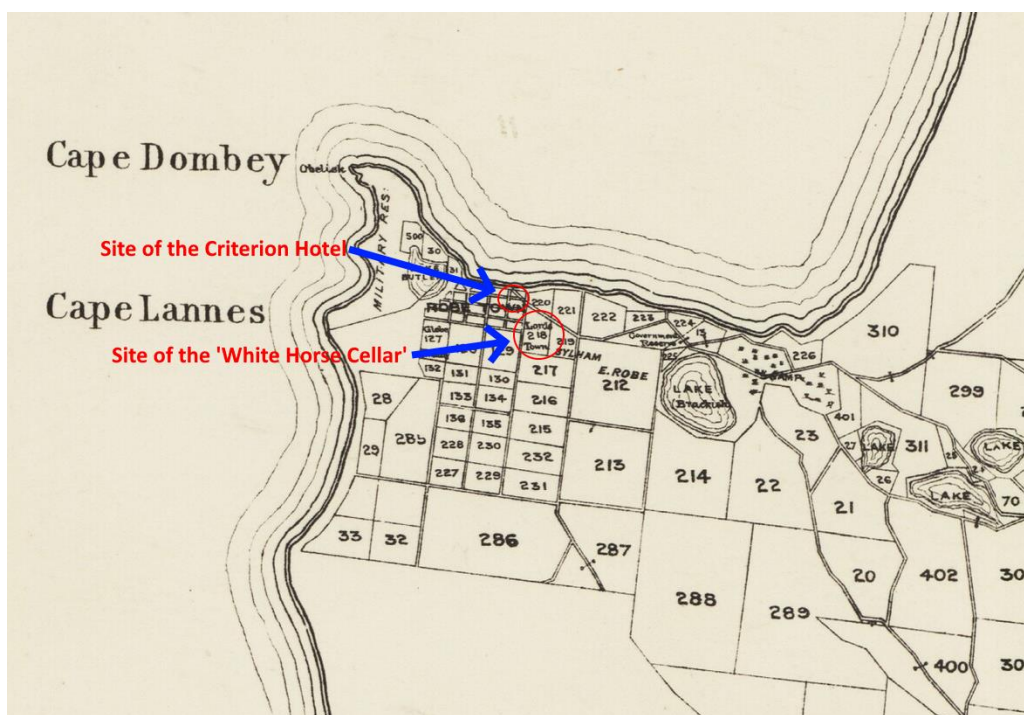
### **The Criterion Hotel as a Licensed Venue\***

In 1852, George Lord opened the 'White Horse Cellar', the second public house to be licensed in or near Robe, on section 218, Hundred of Waterhouse. The section was eventually subdivided into 'Lords Town' in 1856, named after Lord who was the original owner. The inn was only licensed until 1855, but in 1856 another hotel, the 'Frankfort', was built by Lord on Smillie Street, with Peter Roberts as its first publican. Roberts had been the former licensee of the 'White Horse Cellar'. He continued as the Frankfort's

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\* This and the following section are adapted from Carolyn Wigg, 'Item Evaluation Sheet: Holiday Flats, Smillie Street Robe (Formerly Criterion Hotel)', State Heritage Branch, 1983, Ref. No. 6823-12539.

publican until 1858, when the hotel gained both a new name, the 'Criterion', and a new Licensee, Charles Smith, the following year.<sup>25</sup>



**Segment of Hundred of Waterhouse showing the locations of the 'White Horse Cellar' and the Former Criterion Hotel, 1878.**

Source: Flickr (user: SLSA). Reproduced per [PDM 1.0 Deed](#)

At first, the Criterion 'offered a bar, two parlours, an upstairs ballroom, a tap room, 12 bedrooms and stabling for 13 horses'.<sup>26</sup> It went through several licensees until 1866, when its builder, George Lord, became its publican for the first and last time. Two years later, in 1868, Lord sold the freehold of the inn to Charles Bridgeland, who owned the 'Grapes Hotel' on Grenfell Street in Adelaide. Bridgeland acquired the property during a chance encounter while on his way to Portland in Victoria. He was travelling with his family to inspect a prospective hotel. During a stopover in Robe, he 'mentioned that he was looking for a business, whereupon Lord informed him that he would sell the Criterion for £1,000'. The sale included the furniture.<sup>27</sup>

Bridgeland remained as licensee of the Criterion until 1887 and apparently as owner of the freehold until October 1901. From 1888 to 1900, Charles Savage, the former publican of the Caledonian Inn on Victoria Street from around 1880 to 1885, held the licence of the hotel. In 1901, the license was transferred to Henry James McConville, who was formally granted a lease of the property from 1 July 1903 by the new owner, John Murphy, a victualler located on Gilles Street in Adelaide.<sup>28</sup>

Murphy retained the freehold only briefly, selling it in May 1908 to 'Albion Everard Tolley and Frederick Osborne Tolley, both of Currie Street, Adelaide'. Albion and Frederick were listed as 'wine and spirit merchants'. They granted a new lease to H. J. McConville of 'seven years and 3 calendar months' from 2 July 1908, but this lease

was surrendered on 9 June 1909, some 13 days before the Tolleys sold the property to 'Jane Ann Paris of Robe' on 22 June 1909. This was the end of the hotel's life as a licensed premises, with the Robe Hotel remaining as the town's only licensed venue.<sup>29</sup>

During its life as a licensed venue, the Criterion Hotel provided its patrons with much more than a place to consume alcohol. While named the Frankfort Hotel, the Robe branch of the Order of Oddfellows established their first lodge in the building.<sup>30</sup> Important meetings were often held at the hotel, notably including the 1869 'meeting of those interested in the formation of a District Council at Robe'.<sup>31</sup> More casually, it was a place to dance and play billiards.<sup>32</sup> Like most hotels at the time, food and accommodation were also available.<sup>33</sup>

### **A Temperance Hotel and Subsequent Life of the Criterion**

The Criterion Hotel continued to operate for around a decade after the surrender of the liquor license as the 'Criterion Coffee Palace'. Based on its name and lack of license, it looks to have served non-alcoholic beverages. Hugh Jackson, its owner since 1911,<sup>34</sup> also ran a hire-car service which was available from the premises.<sup>35</sup> Hugh died in 1920 and then the property was transferred to his wife, Martha Christina Jackson.<sup>36</sup> In November 1924, the hotel was purchased by Leonard Denyer Niehus, a 'Boarding House Keeper' from Robe.<sup>37</sup> Likely because it did not have a license to serve alcohol, Niehus renamed it the 'Temperance Hotel' at some point during the mid-to-late 1920s.<sup>38</sup>



**OVERLAND MODEL 61T**

The Car you will eventually buy the Famous

**OVERLAND.**

30 Horse Power, Four Separate Cylinders, Comfortable, and Easy to Drive.  
Agent for Robe and District for Murray Aunger, Ltd.—H. JACKSON,  
Criterion Coffee Palace, Robe.

OVERLAND MOTOR CAR FOR HIRE, Night or Day. Terms on Application.  
3790x

### **Ad for the car-hire service available via the Criterion Coffee Palace, September 1912.**

Source: [trove.nla.gov.au](https://trove.nla.gov.au)

Based upon both of these two former names, it appears that the Criterion Hotel was associated with the temperance movement in South Australia during the first half of the twentieth century. Originating in the nineteenth century and comprising multiple organisations, the movement sought to restrict the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages.<sup>39</sup> Temperance ideology had been present in the South-East for decades. For example, the Robe Institute, located directly across the road from the Criterion,



was established during the 1860s in part to facilitate non-alcoholic recreation for working men.<sup>40</sup> Moreover, beginning in the 1890s, the Women's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU) operated branches throughout the South-East, particularly in Mount Gambier and Naracoorte.<sup>41</sup> Although Robe lacked a branch, the presence of the WCTU throughout the region suggests its residents would have at least been familiar with the organisation.

Alcohol does not appear to have been served at the Criterion Hotel for at least 40 years, which was in all likelihood the result of deliberate and conscious decisions. While it is unknown if June Ann Paris was associated with the WCTU, she purchased the hotel in 1909, the year after women had been prohibited from owning or working in hotels (excepting those 'directly related' to male licensees).<sup>42</sup> It is thus probable that she was aware of the new licensing requirements and purposefully sought to establish a non-alcoholic venue.

In any case, the place became exactly that following her tenure, first as a 'coffee house' and then as an overt 'temperance hotel'. Regarding the former, several 'coffee palaces' were established in South Australia as non-alcoholic alternatives to traditional pubs, notably West's Coffee Palace on Hindley Street, Adelaide (SHP 11584).<sup>43</sup> These palaces changed over time, gradually shifting their emphasis to 'cheap accommodation'.<sup>44</sup> The rebranding of the Criterion Coffee Palace to the Temperance Hotel probably reflects this transformation.

It is also probable that Niehus was tapping into the town's 'long history as a holiday resort dating back to the 1850s'.<sup>45</sup> During the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, Robe had been a 'summer retreat for a limited number of well-to-do people from the South East and Adelaide'.<sup>46</sup> Attempts were made in the 1910s to pitch Robe as a health resort, with advocates dubbing it the 'sanatorium of the South', though serious attempts to attract a broader clientele to Robe commenced in the mid-1920s. Accommodation options were at first limited.

The Former Criterion Hotel was one of the few places capable of housing visitors in Robe, the remainder being the Robe Hotel and private residences. In 1925, the Robe Progress Committee was established to rectify this issue. Their immediate solution was to erect a summer campsite.<sup>47</sup> While somewhat successful, it was 'not until Robe's isolation was broken after 1945 that the large influx of summer visitors began'.<sup>48</sup> The post-war economic boom and the mass uptake of motor vehicles contributed to this transformation.

Niehus owned the hotel until October 1949, when the property was sold to Alfred and Ernestine Stanhope,<sup>49</sup> who renovated the building and acquired a 'limited license to serve dry wines and ciders with meals in a dining room that could hold 44 people in one sitting'.<sup>50</sup> Though limited, the acquisition of this license ended the Criterion's history as a non-alcoholic venue. In 1961, local historian Kathleen Bermingham observed the

old Criterion Hotel had gone by the names of the 'Bay View' and the 'Hotel Esplanade' during their ownership.<sup>51</sup> It was then purchased in 1965 by Carol Belinda Morgan, a grazier from Turkey Heath homestead in Casterton, Victoria. Morgan appears to have used the old hotel as a private holiday residence.<sup>52</sup> It remains in the family and has been operating as holiday accommodation for some time.

## Chronology

Year	Event
1837	The 'Granting of Licenses, regulating the sale of Wine, Beer, and Spirituous Liquors, for the Prevention of Drunkenness, and the Promotion of Good Order in Public Houses' Act is passed by the Legislative Council in February.
1840	There are 63 public houses, or 'pubs', in or around Adelaide.
1843	The number of pubs declines to 32 due to the economic recession.
1846	Counties of Grey and Robe are proclaimed by the colonial government and are opened to claim under pastoral license. The Government of South Australia establishes Robe as the administrative centre of the South East.
1847	Robe is officially gazetted as a port by the government. The Robe Hotel (LHP), then called the 'Bonnie Owl Hotel', opens on Mundy Terrace.
1855	There are 375 pubs operating throughout South Australia.
<b>1856</b>	<b>The Former Criterion Hotel, then named the 'Frankfort Hotel', is erected for George Lord.</b>
<b>1858</b>	<b>The Frankfort Hotel is renamed the Criterion Hotel.</b> The Order of Oddfellows establish a lodge at the Frankfort Hotel/Criterion hotel.
1859	The Caledonian Inn (SHP 12368) opens on Victoria Street.
1861	The Bush Inn (SHP 10265) receives its hotel license.
c.1869	The Order of Oddfellows at Robe relocate to the new Robe Institute building (SHP 10365).
1893	There are 719 pubs operating throughout South Australia.

- 1908 The Licensing Act of 1908 prohibits single women from acquiring new hotel licenses or becoming barmaids. Those already with a license or working as barmaids are excepted.
- 1909 The Former Criterion Hotel officially loses its liquor license.**
- c.1912- The Former Criterion Hotel is renamed M. Jackson's Criterion Coffee  
1920 Palace.
- 1916 Following a state referendum in 1915, South Australia is the first State to enact early pub closure laws, resulting in the 'six o'clock swill'.
- 1924 Leonard Denyer Niehus purchases the Former Criterion Hotel and renames it the Temperance Hotel.**
- 1949 Alfred and Ernestine Stanhope purchase the Former Criterion Hotel.
- 1965 Carol Belinda Morgan purchases the Former Criterion Hotel.
- 1967 The prohibitions placed on women by the Licensing Act of 1908 are repealed.  
Early pub closure laws in South Australia are repealed.
- 1984 The Former Criterion Hotel is confirmed as a State Heritage Place on 5 April, originally listed as Criterion Hotel – Former.**
- 1988 The State Heritage Branch provisionally approves Development Application 822/0073/87 to construct a garden wall at the site of the Former Criterion Hotel, so long as it does not 'abut' the rear of the 'existing building' and there is a gap of one metre between the two.
- 1990 The State Heritage Branch provisionally approves Development Application 822/0005/90/P to undertake conservation works on the Former Criterion Hotel, so long as all work is faithful to the building's original qualities.
- 1997 The State Heritage Branch provisionally approves Development Application 822/13/97 to 'make additions' to the Former Criterion Hotel, so long as minor adjustments are made to remain faithful to the building's original qualities. This development appears to refer to the corrugated galvanised steel outbuilding with a gable roof at the rear.
- 1998 Heritage SA approves Development Application 822/35/98 to change the use of the Former Criterion Hotel from 'Tourist Accommodation to Bed and Breakfast' accommodation.

- 2014 Heritage SA retrospectively approves Development Application 822/19/14 to undertake conservation work on the Former Criterion Hotel's walls.
- 2016 Of the 6,518 liquor licenses in South Australia, 632 are owned by hotels.  
Heritage SA approves Development Application 822/67/16 to undertake conservation work on the Former Criterion Hotel's western wall and chimney.
- 2019 Heritage SA approves Development Application 822/100/19 to undertake renovations at the site of the Former Criterion Hotel.

## References

### Books and Chapters

- Bermingham, Kathleen. *Gateway to the South East: A Story of Robetown and the Guichen Bay District*. Millicent: The South Eastern Times Ltd., 1961.
- English Heritage. *Pubs: Understanding Listing*. London: English Heritage, 1994.
- Harfull, Liz. *Almost an Island: The Story of Robe*, reprinted edition. 2013; Mile End: Wakefield press, 2015.
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- Young, Gordon, et al. 'The Adelaide Pub, 1837-1900' in *Preserving Historic Adelaide*, Colin Bond and Hamish Ramsay (eds.). Adelaide: Rigby, 1978; pp.97-105.

### Reports and Theses

- Dallwitz, John, and Marsden, Susan. *Robe Historical Interpretation Study: Stage 1 in the Establishment of the Robe Historical Interpretation Centre*. Adelaide: Department of Environment and Planning, 1983.
- Wigg, Carolyn. 'Item Evaluation Sheet: Holiday Flats, Smillie Street Robe (Formerly Criterion Hotel)', State Heritage Branch, 1983, Ref. No. 6823-12539.

### Newspapers

- 'Country Letter. Robe, Monday, Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>', *Port Augusta Dispatch, Newcastle and Flinders Chronicle (SA)*, 23 February 1906, p.3.
- 'DISTRICT COUNCIL FOR GUICHEN BAY', *South Australian Register (Adelaide)*, 2 April 1869, p.2.
- 'News from Robe; Masquerade Dance', *The Mail (Adelaide)*, 12 October 1929), p.20.
- 'ODDFELLOWSHIP ... APPLICATIONS FOR NEW LODGES', *South Australian Register (Adelaide)*, 22 July 1858, p.3.
- 'Overland... (advertisement)', *Narracoorte Herald (Naracoorte)*, 10 September 1912, p.2.
- 'Petition for Grant for Institute at Robe' reproduced in 'Local Intelligence', *Border Watch (Mount Gambier)*, 31 August 1867, p.2.
- 'Robe', *Narracoorte Herald (Naracoorte)*, 17 March 1893, p.3.
- 'Women's Christian Temperance Movement: Convention of South East Branches', *Narracoorte Herald*, 20 April 1894, p.2.

### Land Titles

BHI Summary of State Heritage Place: 12539

13 of 20

Confirmed in the South Australian Heritage Register on 05 April 1984

The South Australian Heritage Council endorsed the content of this BHI - SSHP on 14 March 2024

Certificate of Title Vol. 2279, Folio 13

Certificate of Title Vol. 682, Folio 68

### **Websites**

Allen, Margaret. 'Women's Christian Temperance Union', SA History Hub, History Trust of South Australia, 2013.

<https://sahistoryhub.history.sa.gov.au/subjects/temperance>

André, Roger. 'Wool', SA History Hub, History Trust of South Australia, 19 March 2014.

<https://sahistoryhub.history.sa.gov.au/subjects/wool>

Rafferty, Judith. 'Temperance', Adelaïdia, History Trust of South Australia, 2013.

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Sumerling, Patricia. 'Pubs', SA History Hub, History Trust of South Australia, 2015.

<https://sahistoryhub.history.sa.gov.au/subjects/pubs#:~:text=The%20Edinburgh%20Castle%20in%20Currie,licensed%20pub%20in%20March%201879.>

'West's Coffee Palace (Former Grant's Coffee Palace; Former Austral Stores', Heritage of the City of Adelaide, the City of Adelaide. (Text from Heritage of the City of Adelaide: An Illustrated Guide (Adelaide: City of the Corporation of Adelaide, 1996)).

[heritage-place-information-sheet-104-120-hindley-street.pdf](https://heritage-place-information-sheet-104-120-hindley-street.pdf)  
([d31atr86jnqrq2.cloudfront.net](https://d31atr86jnqrq2.cloudfront.net))

## SITE DETAILS

Former Criterion Hotel  
28 Smillie Street, Robe

PLACE NO.: 12539

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<b>FORMER NAMES:</b>	Frankfort Hotel; Criterion Coffee Palace; Temperance Hotel; Bay View; Hotel Esplanade
<b>DESCRIPTION OF PLACE:</b>	A rectangular two-storey limestone building with a hipped roof and single-storey extension to the west.
<b>DATE OF CONSTRUCTION:</b>	1856
<b>REGISTER STATUS:</b>	Provisionally entered 03 November 1983 Confirmed 05 April 1984
<b>CURRENT USE:</b>	Holiday accommodation
<b>PREVIOUS USE(S):</b>	Licensed hotel, 1856 – 1909 Unlicensed hotel, c.1909 – c.1949
<b>LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA:</b>	District Council of Robe
<b>LOCATION:</b>	<b>Street No.:</b> 28 <b>Street Name:</b> Smillie Street <b>Town/Suburb:</b> Robe <b>Post Code:</b> 5278
<b>LAND DESCRIPTION:</b>	<b>Title Reference:</b> CT 5789/979 D31159 A10 <b>Hundred:</b> Waterhouse

## PHOTOS

**Former Criterion Hotel**  
**28 Smillie Street, Robe**

**PLACE NO.: 12539**



**Former Criterion Hotel, c.1870.**

Source: SLSA B 7779



**View of the Former Criterion Hotel showing the western elevation, c.1983.**

Source: DEW Files



## PHOTOS

**Former Criterion Hotel**  
**28 Smillie Street, Robe**

**PLACE NO.: 12539**

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**Two-storey section of the Former Criterion Hotel, c.1983.**

Source: DEW Files



**Former Criterion Hotel, c.2010.**

Source: DEW Files

## PHOTOS

**Former Criterion Hotel**  
**28 Smillie Street, Robe**

**PLACE NO.: 12539**



**View from Bagot Street showing the rear of the Former Criterion Hotel (left) and Criterion Cottage (right), which is on a separate title.**

Source: DEW Files

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- <sup>1</sup> English Heritage, *Pubs: Understanding Listing* (London: English Heritage, 1994), p.1.
- <sup>2</sup> Heritage, *Pubs: Understanding Listing*, pp.1-2; Paul Jennings, *The Local: A History of the English Pub*, third edition (2007; Cheltenham: The History Press, 2021), chapter two.
- <sup>3</sup> Patricia Sumerling, *Down at the Local: A History of Hotels in Kensington, Norwood & Kent Town* (Kent Town: City of Norwood, Payneham and St Peters, 1998), p.5.
- <sup>4</sup> See Herbert Anthony Monckton, *A History of the English Public House* (London; Sydney; Toronto: The Bodley Head, 1969), pp.77-86.
- <sup>5</sup> *Granting of Licenses, regulating the sale of Wine, Beer, and Spirituous Liquors, for the Prevention of Drunkenness, and the Promotion of Good Order in Public Houses, 1837*, South Australia.
- <sup>6</sup> See J. L. Hoad, *Hotels and Publicans in South Australia, 1836 – March 1993*, Second Edition (Adelaide: Self-published, 1999), p.4.
- <sup>7</sup> Hoad, *Hotels and Publicans*, p.5.
- <sup>8</sup> Gordon Young, et al., 'The Adelaide Pub, 1837-1900' in *Preserving Historic Adelaide*, Colin Bond and Hamish Ramsay (eds.) (Adelaide: Rigby, 1978); p.97.
- <sup>9</sup> Patricia Sumerling, 'Pubs', SA History Hub, History Trust of South Australia, 2015.  
<https://sahistoryhub.history.sa.gov.au/subjects/pubs#:~:text=The%20Edinburgh%20Castle%20n%20Currie,licensed%20pub%20in%20March%201879.>
- <sup>10</sup> Hoad, *Hotels and Publicans*, p.5.
- <sup>11</sup> See Hoad, *Hotels and Publicans*, pp. 12-13, p.15 and p.17; Sumerling, *Down at the Local*, pp.6-7; and Young, et al., 'The Adelaide Pub', pp.99-101.
- <sup>12</sup> Sumerling, 'Pubs', SA History Hub.
- <sup>13</sup> Hoad, *Hotels and Publicans*, p.5.
- <sup>14</sup> Hoad, *Hotels and Publicans*, pp.14-15.
- <sup>15</sup> Sumerling, 'Pubs', SA History Hub.
- <sup>16</sup> Sumerling, 'Pubs', SA History Hub.
- <sup>17</sup> Liz Harfull, *Almost an Island: The Story of Robe*, reprinted edition (2013; Mile End: Wakefield press, 2015), 12-14; Susan Marsden, *A Glimpse of Golden Days* (Robe: District Council of Robe, 1985), pp.11-12.
- <sup>18</sup> Harfull, *Almost an Island*, p.11; Marsden, *A Glimpse of Golden Days*, p.12.
- <sup>19</sup> Harfull, *Almost an Island*, pp.14-16; Marsden, *A Glimpse of Golden Days*, p.14.
- <sup>20</sup> Roger André, 'Wool', SA History Hub, History Trust of South Australia, 19 March 2014.  
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- <sup>21</sup> Dallwitz and Marsden, *Robe Historical Interpretation*, pp.4-10.
- <sup>22</sup> Dallwitz and Marsden, *Robe Historical Interpretation*, pp.4-10.
- <sup>23</sup> Marsden, *A Glimpse of Golden Days*, pp.21-24.
- <sup>24</sup> Dallwitz and Marsden, *Robe Historical Interpretation*, pp.10-16.
- <sup>25</sup> Carolyn Wigg, 'Item Evaluation Sheet: Holiday Flats, Smillie Street Robe (Formerly Criterion Hotel)', State Heritage Branch, 1983, Ref. No. 6823-12539; Kathleen Bermingham, *Gateway to the South East: A Story of Robetown and the Guichen Bay District* (Millicent: South Eastern Times, 1961), p.234.
- <sup>26</sup> Harfull, *Almost an Island*, p.204.
- <sup>27</sup> Bermingham, *Gateway to the South East*, p.234.
- <sup>28</sup> Certificate of Title Vol. 682, Folio 68, transfer no. 396737.
- <sup>29</sup> Bermingham, *Gateway to the South East*, p.235.
- <sup>30</sup> 'ODDFELLOWSHIP ... APPLICATIONS FOR NEW LODGES', *South Australian Register* (Adelaide), 22 July 1858, p.3; Harfull, *Almost an Island*, p.227.
- <sup>31</sup> 'DISTRICT COUNCIL FOR GUICHEN BAY', *South Australian Register* (Adelaide), 2 April 1869, p.2.
- <sup>32</sup> 'Guichen Bay', *South Australian Register* (Adelaide), 16 September 1861, p.2; 'Country Letter. Robe, Monday, Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>', *Port Augusta Dispatch, Newcastle and Flinders Chronicle* (SA), 23 February 1906, p.3.

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- <sup>33</sup> 'Robe', *Narracoorte Herald* (Naracoorte), 17 March 1893, p.3.
- <sup>34</sup> Certificate of Title Vol. 682, Folio 68, transfer no. 534661.
- <sup>35</sup> 'Overland... (advertisement)', *Narracoorte Herald* (Naracoorte), 10 September 1912, p.2.
- <sup>36</sup> Certificate of Title Vol. 682, Folio 68, pursuant to application no. 910108.
- <sup>37</sup> Certificate of Title Vol. 682, Folio 68, transfer no. 910173.
- <sup>38</sup> For example, see 'News from Robe; Masquerade Dance', *The Mail* (Adelaide), 12 October 1929), p.20.
- <sup>39</sup> See Judith Raftery, 'Temperance', *Adelaidia*, History Trust of South Australia, 2013.  
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- <sup>40</sup> See 'Petition for Grant for Institute at Robe' reproduced in 'Local Intelligence', *Border Watch* (Mount Gambier), 31 August 1867, p.2.
- <sup>41</sup> 'Women's Christian Temperance Movement: Convention of South East Branches', *Narracoorte Herald*, 20 April 1894, p.2.
- <sup>42</sup> Sumerling, 'Pubs', SA History Hub.
- <sup>43</sup> 'West's Coffee Palace (Former Grant's Coffee Palace; Former Austral Stores', Heritage of the City of Adelaide, the City of Adelaide. (Text from Heritage of the City of Adelaide: An Illustrated Guide (Adelaide: City of the Corporation of Adelaide, 1996)).  
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- <sup>44</sup> 'West's Coffee Palace' Heritage of the City of Adelaide.
- <sup>45</sup> John Dallwitz and Susan Marsden, *Robe Historical Interpretation Study: Stage 1 in the Establishment of the Robe Historical Interpretation Centre* (Adelaide: Department of Environment and Planning, 1983), p.26.
- <sup>46</sup> Marsden, *A Glimpse of Golden Days*, p.38.
- <sup>47</sup> Harfull, *Almost an Island*, pp.189-190.
- <sup>48</sup> Dallwitz and Susan Marsden, *Robe Historical Interpretation Study*, p.26.
- <sup>49</sup> Harfull, *Almost an Island*, p.204.
- <sup>50</sup> Harfull, *Almost an Island*, p.204.
- <sup>51</sup> Bermingham, *Gateway to the South East*, p.234; Harfull, *Almost an Island*, p.204.
- <sup>52</sup> Harfull, *Almost an Island*, p.204.