GILLES STREET SCHOOL
111 Gilles Street

This School, erected in 1899, is associated with the development of the public education system in general and the provision of education for residents of the City. Thus, it is identified with the earlier residential nature of this part of the City representing one of the major services required by those residents. It is historically significant because of this association.

This building with prominent gables, and roof form is similar to the form of model schools the construction of which was provided for by the Education Act of 1875. The building is distinctive, however, due to its use of loadbearing brick walls rather than the bluestone masonry more commonly found in the 1880s. The style of the building is aptly abstracted from aspects of the Gothic revival (or at least an Arts and Crafts version of it) and continues the architectural idiom of earlier Model Schools and their Gothic inspired Educational or Institutional overtones. This building is notable for its high quality brickwork and bevel edged sandstone dressings. The gables with well finished moulded brick detailing are reminiscent of "Tudor" half timberwork.

The environmental significance of this item is high. In form and detail it contrasts with nearby development, but it is comparable in scale and setback. It is a positive element in the streetscape, enhanced by the associated landscaping.

The essential integrity of the item appears to be high.

D.M.S.
25/11/82
5:P2A/22
### CITY OF ADELAIDE HERITAGE STUDY ASSESSMENT SUMMARY SHEET

#### A1 FORM/BUILDING
- **A2 CURRENT NAME OF ITEM**: Gilles Street School
- **A3 ADDRESS/LOCATION OF ITEM**: 111 Gilles Street
- **A4 P.T.A.**
  - **A5 ASSESSMENT NO.**: 21/2207.1
- **A6 NATIONAL MAP GRID CO-ORDINATES**
- **A7 PRECINCT**: R22
- **A8 DEVELOPMENT ZONE**: R22.2
- **A9 FURTHER VIABILITY STUDY REQUIRED**: -

#### CORPORATION USE ONLY

#### A1 FORM/BUILDING

- **B1 CURRENT OWNER**: Minister of Education
- **B2 PREDOMINANT USE**: Education
- **B3 FORMER NAME(S) OF ITEM**: -
- **B4 FORMER OWNER(S)**: -
- **B5 FORMER USE(S)**: -

#### D1 HISTORICAL THEME(S)

- **Social Life - Primary Education**

#### E1 HISTORICAL PERIOD(S)

- **1885-1913 - Depression and Social Change**

#### F1 VERIFIED DATE(S)

- **Plans dated 12/6/1899 - Foundation Stone laid 4/9/1899**

#### EVALUATION COMPONENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HISTORY (J1-J3)</th>
<th>COMMENT</th>
<th>GRADING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>J1 PERSON/GROUP</strong></td>
<td>Built for Education Department.</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>J2 EVENT</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>J3 CONTEXT</strong></td>
<td>Associated with history of public education in South Australia and reflects residential character of this region of Adelaide</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### DESIGN (K1-K6)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>K1 DESIGNER</th>
<th>Government Architect</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K2 CONTRACTOR</td>
<td>F. Fricker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K3 STYLE</td>
<td>In the form of Model school of the day, the educational association alluded to by Neo-Gothic overtones.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K4 DESIGN</td>
<td>Reminiscent of earlier State Model schools, this building is important for its symmetrical composition and high quality, especially brickwork and joinery.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K5 CONSTRUCTION</td>
<td>Loadbearing brick in Flemish bond with sandstone dressings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K6 INTERIOR</td>
<td>No access gained.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### INTEGRITY (L1-L2)

| L1 ALTERATIONS | No major alterations are apparent. |
| L2 CONDITION | Item appears to be in very good condition. |

#### ENVIRONMENT (M1-M2)

| M1 STREETSCAPE/ LANDSCAPE | Because of its form and detailing, building contrasts with nearby development, though is comparable in scale. It is an important element in the streetscape, enhanced by the associated landscaping. |
| M2 LANDMARK | Not a landmark feature. |

#### N1 OTHER COMMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>O HERITAGE LISTING STATUS</th>
<th>O1 NATIONAL TRUST</th>
<th>O2 NATIONAL ESTATE</th>
<th>O3 STATE HERITAGE</th>
<th>O4 OTHER</th>
<th>O5 LOCAL LISTING ENDORSEMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
GILLES STREET SCHOOL

ADDRESS 101-119 Gilles Street

BUILDING NO. 21/2207.1
NUA 0644/1

GILLES STREET

Main entrance.

Brick construction (Flemish bond) with sandstone window surrounds

Ventilated jerkinhead roofs to wings.

Sunscreens added to northern and western elevns.

Note: dormer windows.

Note: brick detailing in gables.

Additional school building of later date.
Gilles Street Primary School provides public school education for children from across the city of Adelaide and around the world. The main building is in the Gothic style and is notable for its high quality brickwork and limestone dressings.

Lady Bonython laid the foundation stone for the school in September 1899, but she did not make a speech because ladies did not shout in the days before loudspeakers. On Monday, 14th May 1900 Gilles Street Public School opened to serve the local community in the south-east corner of Adelaide. The school was named after Osmond Gilles, an early treasurer of the colony of South Australia. By July there were 588 students in a building designed for 500. Overcrowding continued to be a problem, so a new infant building was opened in 1919 followed by an extra primary school building in 1926. In 1918 the Glover Playground in the South Parklands was opened and was used by the school for ‘open air exercises’.

From 1920 until 1961, there were two separate schools – the Gilles Street Practising School and the Gilles Street Infant Practising School. Both had an important role in teacher training as practising schools for student-teachers. During this time other organisations also used the buildings, such as the Correspondence School, Girls’ Special Classes, the Deaf Blind Unit, the Language Centre and the Curriculum Unit.

Today Gilles Street Primary School is an international school community with over 350 students coming from over 40 different cultural groups.
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In the first 30 years, the top class contained girls and boys who, these days, would be secondary school students. There were also students for whom this would be their only school, as many students finished their education at the end of primary school.
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In 2004 Sturt Street re-opened as the Sturt Street Community School educating children from birth to 8 years of age.

Today Gilles Street Primary School has two components – the mainstream R–7 school and the New Arrivals Program – and is an international school community with students coming from over 40 different cultural groups.