

## 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:** Semaphore Palais

**PLACE NO.:** 13952

**ALSO KNOWN AS:** The Semaphore Palais (former Maris Palais)

**ADDRESS:** Kaurna Country  
Esplanade, Semaphore SA 5019  
CL 6230/171 D42723 A102  
Hundred of Port Adelaide

### CONFIRMED IN THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE REGISTER:

23 November 1989

### STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

Built in 1922, the Semaphore Palais demonstrates the growing popularity of seaside recreation and tourism in South Australia during the twentieth century. Originally comprising several amenities, including a bathing pavilion, promenade, kiosk, café and dance hall, the Semaphore Palais is a bespoke, multi-purpose beachside recreational facility erected to attract visitors to Semaphore.

## **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***

The Semaphore Palais demonstrates the growing popularity of seaside recreation in South Australia in the twentieth century and the emergence of beach culture. With Glenelg and Henley Beach, Semaphore emerged as one of metropolitan Adelaide's most popular beaches in the late nineteenth century. In the first decades of the twentieth century a variety of foreshore improvements further enhanced its popularity. Constructed in 1922, the Semaphore Palais was the pinnacle of the redevelopment and improvements that occurred.

Built in partnership by private enterprise with local government, the Semaphore Palais comprised several amenities, including bathing facilities, a promenade, café, kiosks, and a dance hall or palais. While a fire damaged much of the interior in 1993, the internal arrangement of spaces associated with these functions can be inferred through the arrangement and massing of the surviving external envelope and tower. The scale of the structure and the variety of activities it originally supported demonstrates the extent to which seaside recreation and tourism played an important role in the lives of South Australians during the twentieth century.

NOTE: While not identified at the time of listing, the Palais' use as clubrooms for the Semaphore Surf Life Saving Club further demonstrates the growth of beach culture in the later decades of the twentieth century and the rise of volunteerism to keep South Australians safe while swimming at the beach.

# SITE PLAN

Semaphore Palais  
Esplanade, Semaphore

PLACE NO.: 13952



Semaphore Palais, Esplanade, Semaphore, CL 6230/171 D42723 A102, Hundred of Port Adelaide

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## LEGEND

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

## Physical Description

The Semaphore Palais is a large rectangular building located on the Semaphore foreshore, originally designed as a multi-purpose seaside pavilion. The structure is comprised of brick and reinforced concrete piers and reinforced concrete perimeter beams with structural brick walls. The Palais features a tower on the western side, surmounted by a recreated cupola.

Additional features include:

- hipped roof (not significant fabric) over former dance hall at northern end,
- flat roof (not significant fabric) over former café and promenade area at southern end,
- parapets to four original exterior walls,
- rendered concrete exterior, featuring pebbledash fields and flush rendered relief decoration, including string courses, window hoods and sills, castellation (part recreated), hanging pilasters, dentils, etc., with decoration mostly concentrated on the eastern elevation,
- large openings to former promenade area on southern and western elevations, currently glazed,
- square, window openings to first floor former dance hall,
- long rectangular, window opening to first floor, eastern elevation,
- arched windows to base of tower and porthole windows to top of tower,
- entrance porch on eastern elevation (not significant fabric),
- long rendered brick addition along length of eastern elevation.

## Elements of Significance:

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

- Semaphore Palais,
- Original four external walls,
- Tower, including porthole and arch windows,
- Promenade openings,
- Foundation stone,
- Original exterior details.

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

- Interior, including materials, fixtures and fittings,
- Non-original exterior additions, including entrance porch, marquees, canopies, outbuildings, decking.
- Fencing,
- Blue plaque.

## **History of the Place**

### **Seaside Tourism in South Australia**

The seaside has been a popular tourist destination in South Australia since the mid-nineteenth century. Initially, only those with the time and financial resources had the ability to take holidays. However, the introduction of half-day holidays for bank clerks in 1854, up to three weeks' annual leave for public servants from 1874, and the introduction of a range of public holidays throughout the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries made holidays and daytrips to the beach an option for a much larger portion of the population.<sup>1</sup>

The proximity of Glenelg to the city made it an early and popular seaside destination for South Australians. However, improvements to roads and the construction of railways provided new opportunities for tourism, and places such as Henley, Grange, Semaphore, Largs Bay, Victor Harbor, Port Elliot and Middleton also became popular seaside locations for holidays and daytrips. As the market broadened, towns vied with each other by enticing holiday makers with a range of accommodation options as well as a variety of different activities and attractions to visit once there. The introduction of the car in the early twentieth century further increased accessibility and broadened the range of potential holiday destinations.<sup>2</sup>

### **Semaphore Foreshore**

Located at the southern end of Le Fevre Peninsula and west of Port Adelaide, Semaphore was surveyed in 1849. The area was named 'The Semaphore' after 1851, taking its name from the short-lived hotel of the same name built adjacent to the foreshore with an associated flagstaff that signalled ship arrivals. Development was initially slow, but began to accelerate from 1856 onwards, following the construction of a signal station that year and then the Semaphore Jetty (SHP 14360) in 1859-1860.<sup>3</sup>

While the jetty was built to serve customs and pilot officers, it quickly became a focus of seaside activities for day-trippers. Popular activities included picnics with temporary booths selling food and beverages, promenading on the jetty, cockling and, from the mid-1860s, both sea and land-based races.<sup>4</sup>

When the railway line was extended from Port Adelaide to Semaphore in 1878, the popularity of Semaphore for holidays and daytrips further increased, as did its potential for suburban development.<sup>5</sup> A range of beachside amusements and facilities were constructed in response to increasing numbers of visitors to Semaphore and as a means to ensure continued patronage of local businesses. Some included the construction of swimming baths (an enclosed area of ocean) at the sea end of the jetty in 1888 and a two-storey kiosk with restaurant and dance floor also on the jetty in 1914.

While the jetty offered a range of activities, the foreshore between the sea and the Esplanade became the focus of various amusements and activities. A bandstand opened on 18 January 1889, offering a venue other than the jetty for regular concerts.<sup>6</sup> In 1919, a new rotunda was built by the Municipal Tramways Trust (MTT) and opened on 15 December. The rotunda and bandstand offered a place for other events and acts to be performed and shelter for beach goers when not being used for performances. Permanent swings were also built around this time.<sup>7</sup> However, prior to the 1920s, other permanent structures offering facilities and amusements were fewer and less sophisticated.<sup>8</sup>

While basic seaside activities were inducements to spend the day or longer at Semaphore, annual organised events also became a mainstay in enticing people to choose Semaphore over other seaside locations. Organised sporting competitions began in the 1860s<sup>9</sup> and in 1892, the first annual sporting carnival featuring land and sea-based events was held in November.<sup>10</sup> The Semaphore Sports Day transformed into the Semaphore Carnival in the first decades of the twentieth century and continues in a modified form as a temporary annual amusement park over the Christmas holidays.<sup>11</sup>

In the 1930s to 1950s, large, organised holidays were arranged at Semaphore over the Summer. Mining companies operating in remote areas, for instance, arranged for their workers and their families to stay at Semaphore. However, beginning in the 1960s, such arrangements declined in popularity due to rising private car ownership, which afforded broader holiday options.<sup>12</sup>

### **Conceiving the Palais**

In 1917, the baths at the end of the jetty were damaged in a storm, which in turn left Semaphore without bathing amenities for beachgoers, such as changerooms, showers and lockers. As a result, Semaphore's popularity as a seaside destination purportedly waned.<sup>13</sup> Residents complained to the Corporation of the City of Port Adelaide (hereafter, the City) about the absence of bathing facilities for several years.<sup>14</sup> In response to this and other factors, the City introduced a 'Beach Improvement Scheme' in early 1921.

Broad in scope, the ambitious scheme sought to revitalise the beachfront area and included a retaining seawall and promenade between the Semaphore and Largs jetties, as well as lawns and gardens, amusements, kiosks, shelter sheds, bathing facilities and other amenities.<sup>15</sup> By providing a variety of amenities, the City hoped to surpass similar seaside destinations, such as Henley Beach.<sup>16</sup>

To finance the scheme, the City proposed taking out a £22,000 loan.<sup>17</sup> Ratepayers were asked to vote on the proposal on 12 February 1921.<sup>18</sup> The result was 'almost four to one' against the loan,<sup>19</sup> leaving the lack of bathing facilities unresolved.

In February 1922, the City returned to the matter and explored two recommendations proposed by the reserves committee. The first was to borrow money from the cemetery fund, paid at five percent interest, to erect a 'bathing house and refreshment kiosk'.<sup>20</sup> The other was to lease out a proposed site for a fixed term, on the basis that the prospective lessee would construct the facilities then relinquish them once the term had lapsed.<sup>21</sup> The City opted for the latter.

Shortly afterwards, William Arthur Stewart Dunn and his business partners Frederick (Freddie), Norman and Sidney Fricker,<sup>22</sup> all local builders, tendered to construct a pavilion on the foreshore and lease the premises for 21 years.<sup>23</sup> On 11 May that year, the City accepted their tender.

The City designed the pavilion, very likely under the direction of the City Engineer, W. W. Tapp. Dunn suggested alterations to the design, including extending the length of the proposed café, adding a promenade and positioning the main entrance to face the esplanade rather than the seafront. Tapp agreed with these suggestions as he perceived they would increase both the capacity of the pavilion and the value of the asset.<sup>24</sup>

### **Building and opening the Semaphore Palais**

Construction commenced in June 1922. On 24 June, Elinda Slade, the wife of the City's Mayor, Henry Slade, laid the foundation stone during a well-attended ceremony.<sup>25</sup>

The pavilion was erected in front of the Royal South Australian Yacht Squadron's clubrooms, angering some of the Squadron's members.<sup>26</sup> Concerned that the City had violated the rights of the Squadron's members, as well as residents generally, D. J. Gordon raised the matter in Parliament shortly after work began, to no avail.<sup>27</sup> The Squadron eventually sold their Semaphore premises in 1927.<sup>28</sup>

The pavilion began operating in early December 1922, while the official opening took place on 23 December.<sup>29</sup> Mayor Henry Slade described the moment as the beginning of an 'epoch' and went on to announce that the new pavilion was 'one of the best of its kind in Australasia', which was only fitting as 'Semaphore beach was the best'.<sup>30</sup>

The two-storey pavilion provided several amenities. The upper floor, reached by a long, stepped ramp on the Esplanade side, housed a hall at the northern end, including a stage and dance floor; a promenade at the southern end; and a large café in between. A flat roof over the promenade and café, accessible from the promenade by stairs, was fitted as a roof garden. The western elevation featured a tall square tower with leadlight windows surmounted by cupola, to be used 'as a bandstand or vantage point for spectators'.<sup>31</sup> The ground floor housed bathing facilities, subdivided into male and female compartments, with shower cubicles, storage lockers,<sup>32</sup> dressing rooms, a wading pool for washing sand off feet, and a

laundry.<sup>33</sup> The entrance to the bathing facilities was tucked under the ramp on the Esplanade side, flanked by two small kiosks or shops.

Upon completion, the press praised the building. The *Port Adelaide News*, for instance, described it as 'great public acquisition', a 'beautiful structure'<sup>34</sup> and 'the most modern and luxurious building of its kind in the Commonwealth'.<sup>35</sup> Immediately successful, the pavilion became a popular seaside destination, providing the long-desired bathing facilities as well as refreshments and a place to promenade and socialise. The hall hosted jazz music and dances on a regular basis and was also available for hire for weddings and other events.<sup>36</sup>

At first, the pavilion did not have an official, broadly recognised name. Instead, the pavilion was variously described as 'Semaphore Beach Bathing Pavilion,' the 'Semaphore Baths Pavilion', the 'Semaphore Palais de Danse,' or even, 'the BIG kiosk on the lawns,' among other names.<sup>37</sup> The Palais label was almost certainly borrowed from other dance halls erected around Adelaide at the time, notably the Austral Gardens Palais de Danse on North Terrace, later known as the Palais Royal, which opened in 1914.<sup>38</sup> The pavilion was named the Maris Palais from c.1928, probably following a change in ownership,<sup>39</sup> and was known by this name until at least the mid-1950s.<sup>40</sup>

### **Decline and Subsequent History**

The Palais' initial heyday lasted less than a decade. South Australia's economy began to decline from 1927 and worsened during the Great Depression.<sup>41</sup> While beach visits remained popular, widespread employment meant that use of the Palais declined.<sup>42</sup>

Realising the Palais had become less lucrative than expected, Dunn withdrew from the lease. He and his wife Olive had run the facilities together, the former responsible for the bathing facilities and the latter for the hall and café.<sup>43</sup> Their departure left the extended Fricker family in charge. However, financial pressure in the wake of Freddie Fricker's death in 1928 forced Sidney Fricker and his family to sell their home and take up residence at the Palais.<sup>44</sup>

The Fricker family lived at and operated the Palais until c.1938, when control was transferred to the City.<sup>45</sup> Leonard (Len) Robert Northey and J. Morris then took over the lease, the former in charge of the bathing facilities and the latter in charge of the hall. Northey was also the builder and proprietor of the Semaphore Carousel (SHP 26552), which he moved from Henley to Semaphore in 1938.<sup>46</sup> The two men immediately commenced 'extensive alterations' at the Semaphore Palais.<sup>47</sup>

It appears Northey and Morris retained a lease over the premises until around the time of Northey's death in 1966. Afterwards, the Semaphore Surf Life Saving Club acquired the lease.<sup>48</sup> This organisation superficially modernised the building by removing the cupola surmounting the tower, cladding part of the eastern elevation, removing some



upper castellation, and painting the exterior sky blue. A brick toilet block was also added on the eastern side.<sup>49</sup>

The Surf Life Saving Club remained at the Palais until the mid-1980s.<sup>50</sup> Following its departure, the City assumed responsibility for the building. On 15 June 1987, acting upon recommendations made by the City Engineer, the City determined the Palais was beyond repair and should be demolished.<sup>51</sup> This decision generated considerable backlash in the local community, culminating in a campaign to save the Palais.<sup>52</sup> Resulting from this campaign, the Palais was provisionally entered as a State Heritage Place on 12 May 1988 and confirmed on 23 November 1989.

Following its entry in the South Australian Heritage Register, various parties submitted proposals to conserve and reuse the Palais.<sup>53</sup> However, before a proposal could be implemented, the Palais was severely damaged by fire in September 1993.<sup>54</sup> It was determined that the building could be salvaged,<sup>55</sup> and after several years of delays and false starts, the Palais was rebuilt as a pub, restaurant and entertainment complex. It reopened in the mid-1990s as the Semaphore Palais,<sup>56</sup> adopting a colloquial name that emerged during the campaign to save the building.

## Chronology

Year	Event
1849	The area now known as Semaphore is surveyed by the colonial government.
1851	The area becomes known as 'the Semaphore'.
1856	A signal station is established in Semaphore.
1859- 1860	The Semaphore jetty is constructed.
1860s	Land is reserved on the foreshore as a public park, first known as Semaphore Reserve.
1878	The Adelaide-to-Port Adelaide railway line is extended to Semaphore.
1888	Swimming baths are built at the end of the jetty.
1888- 1889	A bandstand/rotunda begins construction in 1888 and opens in January 1889.
1896	The Semaphore Reserve is renamed Todd Reserve.
1914	A two-storey kiosk with restaurant and dance floor is built on the Semaphore jetty.

- 1917 The baths at the end of the Semaphore jetty are severely damaged during a storm. They are not replaced.
- 1919 The Municipal Tramways Trust (MTT) erects a new rotunda at Todd Reserve.
- 1921 The Corporation of the City of Port Adelaide introduces the ‘Semaphore Beach Improvement Scheme’ and proposes to take out a £22,000 loan to finance it. The loan must be approved by ratepayers and a poll is conducted. Ratepayers overwhelmingly vote against the proposal.**
- 1922 14 April, tenders are sought to construct a beachside pavilion.  
24 June, the Semaphore Palais’ foundation stone is laid.  
Early December, the Semaphore Palais opens unofficially.  
23 December, the Semaphore Palais, incorporating bathing facilities, a dance hall and kiosk is officially opened.**
- 1924 The Floating Palais at Elder Park opens.
- c.1928 The Semaphore Palais, previously known by various descriptive names, becomes known as the Maris Palais.**
- 1938 Control of the Semaphore Palais is transferred to the Corporation of the City of Port Adelaide.**
- 1940 Leonard (Len) Robert Northey and J. Morris. Northey acquire the lease. Len runs the bathing facilities (and nearby Semaphore Carousel, SHP 26552) and Morris the dance hall.**
- 1941 Northey and Morris initiate alterations to the Semaphore Palais.**
- 1946 The kiosk located on the Semaphore jetty is severely damaged by a storm.
- 1947 The Semaphore jetty kiosk is damaged by fire then demolished.
- 1965 The Semaphore Palais undergoes renovations and is occupied by the Semaphore Surf Life Saving Club.**
- 1987 15 June, due to its deteriorated condition, the Corporation of the City of Port Adelaide accepts a recommendation by the City Engineer and proposes to demolish the Semaphore Palais.  
  
10 November, the Semaphore Residents’ Association resolves that ‘the Semaphore Palais should be restored and should become a facility for community use and entertainment’.**
- 1988 12 May, the Semaphore Palais is provisionally entered in the South Australian Heritage Register as a State Heritage Place.**

**1989 23 November, the Semaphore Palais is confirmed as a State Heritage Place, originally listed as Hall – Semaphore Palais.**

The State Heritage Branch approves Development Application 040/031/89 to 'upgrade' the Semaphore Palais.

**1993 27 September, the Semaphore Palais is severely damaged by fire.**

**Structural Engineers determine that the building can be salvaged.**

**1994-1996 The Semaphore Palais is reconstructed as a licensed venue, restaurant and function centre.**

2008 Heritage South Australia approves Development Application 040/0658/08 to undergo additions, alterations and upgrades to the Semaphore Palais.

2009 Heritage South Australia approves Development Application 040/1567/09 to replace timber doors with 3 aluminium doors and 2 aluminium windows to the upper-level deck on the southern side.

Heritage South Australia approves Development Application 040/1568/09 to erect a glass canopy and supporting steel structure to the southern side.

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## SITE DETAILS

Semaphore Palais  
Esplanade, Semaphore

PLACE NO.: 13952

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<b>FORMER NAME:</b>	Semaphore Bathing Pavilion, Semaphore Dance Hall, Maris Palais
<b>DESCRIPTION OF PLACE:</b>	Large rectangular pavilion built of steel, reinforced concrete and brick with distinct sections, including one inferring a hall and one a promenade.
<b>DATE OF CONSTRUCTION:</b>	1922
<b>REGISTER STATUS:</b>	Identified: 2 March 1988 Provisionally entered: 12 May 1988 Confirmed: 23 November 1989
<b>CURRENT USE:</b>	Hotel and Restaurant, 1996 -
<b>PREVIOUS USE(S):</b>	Surf lifesaving clubrooms, 1965 - 1988 Seaside pavilion including bathing facilities, dance hall, café, etc., 1922 - 1965
<b>ARCHITECT:</b>	City of Port Adelaide, likely led by City Engineer, W. W. Tapp
<b>BUILDER:</b>	W. A. S. Dunn
<b>LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA:</b>	City of Port Adelaide Enfield
<b>LOCATION:</b>	<b>Street No.:</b> N/A <b>Street Name:</b> Esplanade <b>Town/Suburb:</b> Semaphore <b>Post Code:</b> 5019
<b>LAND DESCRIPTION:</b>	<b>Title Reference:</b> CL 6230/171 D42723 A102 <b>Hundred:</b> Port Adelaide

## PHOTOS

Semaphore Palais  
Esplanade, Semaphore

PLACE NO.: 13952



Esplanade entrance of the Semaphore Palais, 1922.

Source: SLSA PRG 280/1/30/89



Semaphore Palais, then known as the Maris Palais, c.1937.

Source: S. J. Freak; SLSA B 23628



Semaphore Palais

PLACE NO.: 13952

Esplanade, Semaphore



**Southern elevation of the Semaphore Palais showing the open promenade, tower and original cupola c.1926.**

Source: SLSA B 29168



**Southern and western elevations of the Semaphore Palais with sea wall and beach in foreground, c.1929.**

Source: SLSA B 48372

Semaphore Palais

PLACE NO.: 13952

Esplanade, Semaphore



**Semaphore Palais (background), c.1950.**

Source: Flickr (User: State Records of SA); SRSA GRG7/70/1083



**Semaphore beach showing the Semaphore Palais in the background (top right), c.1955.**

Source: *Centenary History of Port Adelaide, 1856-1956*, p.74.

Semaphore Palais  
Esplanade, Semaphore

PLACE NO.: 13952



**Southern and western elevation of the Semaphore Palais, occupied by the Semaphore Surf Life Saving Club, c.1988. Note that the cupola surmounting the tower is gone.**

Source: DEW Files



**Northern and western elevations of the Semaphore Palais, c.1988.**

Source: DEW Files



Northern elevation of the Semaphore Palais, c.1988.

Source: DEW Files



Esplanade entrance (eastern elevation) of the Semaphore Palais, c.1988.

Source: DEW Files

Semaphore Palais  
Esplanade, Semaphore

PLACE NO.: 13952



**The Semaphore Palais showing fire damage, 1993.**

Source: DEW Files



**The four original walls and tower salvaged following the fire, 1994.**

Source: Chris Burns



Foundation stone laid by Elinda Slade, c.1988. The stone has since been relocated and is now close to the Esplanade entrance.

Source: DEW Files



South-eastern corner of the Semaphore Palais, c.2002

Source: DEW Files

Semaphore Palais

PLACE NO.: 13952

Esplanade, Semaphore

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**Esplanade entrance (eastern elevation) of the Semaphore Palais, c.2002.**

Source: DEW Files



**The tower featuring a recreated cupola, c.2002.**

Source: DEW Files

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<sup>1</sup> Lesley Abell, 'Holidays and Health in Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Century South Australia', *Journal of the Historical Society of South Australia* vol. 22 (1994), pp. 82-97.

<sup>2</sup> Abell, 'Holidays and Health', pp.82-97. Lester Firth & Murton Pty Ltd, *An insight into The Development of Western Adelaide* (Adelaide: Lester Firth & Murton, 1982), pp.39, 54, 65, 77-78, 104-105, 108, 120, 140; *The Cyclopaedia of South Australia in Two Volumes: An Historical and Commercial Review, Descriptive and Biographical, Facts, Figures and Illustrations: An Epitome of Progress*. H. T. Burgess (ed.) (Adelaide: Cyclopaedia Co., 1909), pp.197-199, 830, 839-840, 877, 988-989, 895; Henley and Grange Historical Society, *From Sand and Swamp to Seaside City: A Chronicle of the Henley and Grange Area 1836-1986* (Adelaide: Henley and Grange Historical Society, 1986), pp.14-22; Rob Linn, *A Land Abounding: a History of the Port-Elliot & Goolwa Region South Australia* (Goolwa: Alexandrina Council, 2001), pp.130, 159-161; Averil Holt (1991), *The Vanishing Sand: Commemorating 150 Years of Brighton South Australia* (Adelaide: City of Brighton, 1991), pp.149, 224, 229.

<sup>3</sup> John Couper-Smartt, *Port Adelaide: The History of a Commodious Harbor* (Mile End SA: Wakefield Press, 2021), pp.100-102.

<sup>4</sup> 'Semaphore Beach', *Adelaide Observer*, 11 November 1865, p.1.

<sup>5</sup> Couper Smartt, p.288.

<sup>6</sup> 'General News', *Express and Telegraph*, 25 February 1878, p.1; 'The Semaphore Rotunda', *Express and Telegraph*, 19 January 1889, p.2.

<sup>7</sup> 'Tramways Military Band', *Port Adelaide News*, 19 December 1919, p.4.

<sup>8</sup> Early examples include the Ozone Open Air Pavilion (vaudeville theatre c.1909-c.1920), the Wondergraph Open Air Picturedrome (picture theatre) from 1910, large timber framed, gable roofed structures providing shelter and refreshments, a toilet block and some bathing boxes.

<sup>9</sup> 'Semaphore Beach', *Observer*, 11 November 1865, p.1.

<sup>10</sup> 'Semaphore Sports Day', *Adelaide Observer*, 12 November 1892, p.36.

<sup>11</sup> See 'The Holiday. Semaphore Sports', *Advertiser* 13 November 1900, p.5; 'The Semaphore's Great Carnival, A Great Success. A Galaxy of Amusement', *Port Adelaide News*, 4 February 1916, p.3; 'Semaphore Gala Day', *Daily Herald*, 25 January 1919, p.7; 'Amusements', *Register*, 14 January 1920, p.2; 'Semaphore Carnival. The Concluding Sports', *Register*, 2 February 1926, p.13; 'Semaphore Carnival', *News*, 21 October 1930, p.3; 'Semaphore Carnival Continues, Baby Show Yesterday', *Advertiser*, 24 January 1935, p.15; 'Semaphore Carnival Starts this Week, Three-Day Gala', *Advertiser*, 26 January 1937, p.10; 'Semaphore Victory Carnival, Opening Date Now January 26', *Advertiser*, 13 December 1945 p.5; Couper-Smartt, *Commodious Harbor*, p.577.

<sup>12</sup> For example, in 1936, approximately 1,300 people stayed at Semaphore and Largs Bay in camps established near the beach; 500 Pinnaroo residents camped at Semaphore in January 1937, while in 1939, 8,000 people from Broken Hill travelled to Adelaide for their summer holiday. 'Broken Hill Holiday-Makers Arrive at Semaphore, Trip was First Train Ride for Twenty Of the Visiting Families, Also Gaze on Sea for First Time', *News*, 21 December 1936 p.10. 'Accommodation for 1,500 at Semaphore and Largs', *Advertiser* 10 April 1936, p.8; 'Centenary Camp at Semaphore', *News* 3 September 1936, p.24; '8,000 Barrierites Here for Xmas, Five Excursion Trains For Zinc And Combined Committees, Forth Successive Year of Cheap Fares Plan', *Mail*, 5 November, 1939 p.8. 'Pinnaroo Residents to Camp at Semaphore', *News*, 5 January 1937 p.6; 'Semaphore Camp for Barrier Visitors', *Advertiser*, 15 April 1947 p.4; 'Miners start holiday influx', *Mail*, 19 December 1953, p.7.

<sup>13</sup> 'Semaphore Bathing Facilities', *Port Adelaide News*, 12 May 1922, p.2.

<sup>14</sup> 'A Beach Without Bathing Facilities: Semaphore Handicapped', *Port Adelaide News*, 2 November 1917, p.4; 'Semaphore's Lack of Bathing Facilities', *Daily Herald*, 4 March 1921, p.2.

<sup>15</sup> 'Great Beach Improvement Scheme', *Port Adelaide News*, 4 February 1921, p.1.

<sup>16</sup> See 'Henley Beach Kiosk', Henley and Grange Historical Society, 2024. <https://henleyandgrangehistory.org.au/henley-beach-kiosk/> Accessed 17 May 2024;

<sup>17</sup> 'Great Beach Improvement Scheme', 4 February 1921, p.1.

<sup>18</sup> 'To-morrow's Loan Poll. The City's Future in the Balance. Is Our Motto to be "Progress" or "Stagnation"?' , *Port Adelaide News*, 11 February 1921, p.2.

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Confirmed in the South Australian Heritage Register on 23 November 1989

The South Australian Heritage Council endorsed the content of this BHI - SSHP on 27 June 2024



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<sup>19</sup> 'Port Adelaide Loan. Rejected by Ratepayers. Beach Scheme May Now be Dropped', *Daily Herald*, 14 February 1921, p.4.

<sup>20</sup> The City would repay the loan from the revenue it received by leasing out the facilities.

<sup>21</sup> 'Bathing Facilities Wanted', *Register*, 17 February 1922, p.6.

<sup>22</sup> Jack Fricker, *Memories of the Semaphore Palais* (Port Adelaide: Hourglass Books, c.1996), p.2 (of pamphlet).

<sup>23</sup> 'Semaphore Bathing Facilities', 12 May 1922, p.2; 'Semaphore Beach. Proposed Bathing Facilities. Fine Building to be Erected'. *Daily Herald*, 12 May 1922, p.4.

<sup>24</sup> 'Semaphore Bathing Facilities', 12 May 1922, p.2.

<sup>25</sup> REFERENCE

<sup>26</sup> Councillor W. E. C. Baudinet and Town Clerk E. Bradwell alleged they had been victims of a 'violent attack' during the Squadron's annual meeting held in October. 'Council and Yacht Squadron. Remarks at a Meeting Resented', *Port Adelaide News*, 27 October 1922, p.9.

<sup>27</sup> 'Objected To: Semaphore Bathing Pavilion', *Daily Herald*, 15 November 1922, p.4.

<sup>28</sup> 'A Short History', Royal Australian Yacht Squadron, 2023. <https://www.rsays.com.au/a-short-history/> Accessed 17 May 2024.

<sup>29</sup> Robyn Taylor, 'History and Sources' in Item Evaluation Sheet: "Semaphore Palais", the Esplanade, Semaphore, State Heritage Branch, 6628-13952.

<sup>30</sup> 'The Semaphore Beach Bathing Pavilion Opened', *Advertiser*, 25 December 1922, p.11.

<sup>31</sup> 'The Semaphore Beach Bathing Pavilion Opened', 25 December 1922, p.11.

<sup>32</sup> The male compartment was fitted with 66 cubicles and 352 lockers; the female compartment was fitted with 44 cubicles and 176 lockers.

<sup>33</sup> 'The Semaphore Beach Bathing Pavilion', 25 December 1922, p.11.

<sup>34</sup> 'Semaphore Kiosk. The Official Opening. Great Public Acquisition', 29 December 1922, p.4. Also see 'Beach Improvements. Semaphore Kiosk Opened. Splendid Bathing Facilities', *Daily Herald*, 25 December 1922, p.3.

<sup>35</sup> 'The Bathing Season: Semaphore Pavilion and Kiosk Open', *Port Adelaide News*, 19 October 1923, p.7.

<sup>36</sup> 'The Bathing Season', 19 October 1923, p.7.

<sup>37</sup> At its opening, for instance, the press variously described it as the 'Semaphore Baths Pavilion', the 'Semaphore Beach Bathing Pavilion' and the 'Semaphore Kiosk' 'Semaphore Baths Pavilion', *Journal*, 23 December 1922, p.33; 'The Semaphore Beach Bathing Pavilion Opened', 25 December 1922, p.11; 'Semaphore Kiosk. The Official Opening. Great Public Acquisition', 29 December 1922, p.4.

<sup>38</sup> 'Palais Royal, North Terrace [B5229]', State Library of South Australia.

<https://collections.slsa.sa.gov.au/resource/B+5229> Accessed 23 May 2024.  
<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article6422390> Ref for opening Palais de Danse.

<sup>39</sup> The earliest reference to the 'Maris Palais' available via Trove occurs in 'Social Notes', *News*, 3 May 1928, p.8; Fricker, *Memories of the Semaphore Palais*, p.3.

<sup>40</sup> TROVE search – latest hit for Maris Palais is 30 December 1954.

<sup>41</sup> Paul Sendzuik and Robert Foster, *A History of South Australia* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2018), pp.118-129, esp. p.118.

<sup>42</sup> Fricker, *Memories of the Semaphore Palais*, p.2; Sendzuik and Foster, *History of South Australia*, pp.118-127.

<sup>43</sup> Fricker, *Memories of the Semaphore Palais*, p.2.

<sup>44</sup> Fricker, *Memories of the Semaphore Palais*, p.2. <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article87570034>

<sup>45</sup> Fricker, *Memories of the Semaphore Palais*, p.2; Taylor, 'History and Sources'.

<sup>46</sup> See Heritage South Australia, *Heritage Assessment Report: Semaphore Carousel, SHP 26552* (Adelaide: Department for Environment and Water, 2022), pp.22-27.

<sup>47</sup> 'Extensive alterations...'. *Advertiser*, 18 July 1941, p.6.

<sup>48</sup> Robyn Taylor, 'History and Sources'.

<sup>49</sup> Robyn Taylor, 'History and Sources'.

<sup>50</sup> Robyn Taylor, 'History and Sources'.

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<sup>52</sup> 'Fight to Save the Palais', *News*, 31 December 1987, p.n.a.

<sup>53</sup> 'Palais Revamp will Start...', *Portside*, 12 January 1994, p.n.a.; 'Nightclub Proposal for Palais Stalled', *Portside Messenger*, 19 June 1991, p.n.a.

<sup>54</sup> 'Historic Dance Hall Burnt Out', *Advertiser*, 28 September 1993, p.n.a.

<sup>55</sup> 'Historic Dance Hall Burnt Out', 28 September 1993, p.n.a.; 'Deal Imminent on Burnt Palais', *Advertiser*, 8 February 1994, p.n.a.

<sup>56</sup> See 'Palais Upgrade on Hold Again', *Portside Messenger*, 1 June 1994, p.n.a.; 'Work Starting on Semaphore Palais', *Portside Messenger*, 22 June 1994, p.n.a.; 'Palais to Return as Old and New', *Advertiser*, 18 July 1994, p.n.a.; 'Latest Hurdle Leapt in Palais Marathon', *Portside Messenger*, 1 January 1995, p.n.a.; 'Movement to Save the Palais, but no Dancing Just Yet', *Portside Messenger*, 2 August 1995, p.n.a.; 'The Maris Palais', Semaphore South Australia. <https://semaphoresa.com.au/history/history-tour/the-maris-palais/#:~:text=This%20nostalgic%20relic%20of%20balmier,costumes%2C%20beach%20shelters%2C%20etc.> Accessed 17 May 2024.