

HERITAGE STUDY
ITEM IDENTIFICATION SHEET

ITEM NO.: 301

Zone: CL

Heritage Zone:

ITEM NAME: Garden, "Wairoa"
Former or Other Names:

LOCATION:

C/T No.: 4050/237 Type of Item: 0415

Town: Stirling

No.: 158-160

Street: Mount Barker Road

Section No.:

Hundred: Noarlunga

A.M.G. Ref. Z: N:

Assessment No.: 4-2354-002

E:

DESCRIPTION:

Date: 1893

Historical Period: 1884-1913

Historical Theme: 2.1

Architect:

Builder:

CURRENT STATUS:

State Heritage List:

National Estate:

National Trust:

CONDITION: Good

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:

Architectural:

A large, well planned and maintained garden, the grounds have a very Victorian flavour. They feature a rhododendron and azalea collection and other features of particular interest including sculpture by W.A. Horn, cast iron steps and recently restored gazebo.

Historical:

Reputed to be in the style of Baron Ferdinand von Mueller, the "Wairoa" garden was laid out by head gardener George Sparrow. The garden remains substantially as laid out, but a W. Tibbits painting of 1897 shows that the wider grounds have become much more heavily forested. Horn's whimsical taste is reflected in the gazebo and artificial grotto he constructed, adorned with his own amateur sculpture.

Heritage Significance Recommendation: State

REFERENCES:

Written: Beames and Whitehill: "Some Historic Gardens in South Australia" pp. 59-64

'Wairoa, present and past': "Advertiser" May 7, 1979

Verbal: Margaret Langley

PHOTOGRAPHS:

Film/Neg.:

Film No : 27/25-27

Slide No : 27/22-24

Archival No:

DANVERS ARCHITECTS:

Date: 1985



ITEM NO.: 298

Zone: CL

Heritage Zone:

ITEM NAME: Marbury School

Former or Other Names: House, "Wairoa"

LOCATION:

C/T No.: 4050/237 Type of Item: 0302, 0505

Town: Stirling

No.: 158-160

Street: Mount Barker Road

Section No.:

Hundred: Noarlunga

A.M.G. Ref. Z:

N:

Assessment No.: 4-2354-002

E:

DESCRIPTION:

Date: 1893

Historical Period: 1884-1913

Historical Theme: 2.1, 2.6

Architect:

Builder:

CURRENT STATUS:

State Heritage List:

National Estate:

National Trust:

CONDITION: Good

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:

Architectural:

Random coursed stonework with brick quoins. Hipped and gabled roof clad with corrugated galvanised iron and with carved bargeboards to gable ends. Double hung sash windows and timber panelled front door with leadlighting to surrounding panel. Cast iron lacework to balcony and tiled verandah floors.

Historical:

William Austin Horn (b. 1841), mining director, pastoralist, M.H.A., patron and dilettante of the arts and sciences, followed 'the trend for a summer residence in the Adelaide Hills.' He soon (1896) sold to Tom Elder Barr Smith who made it a centre of Adelaide society. Barr Smith's daughter Joanna, Lady Gosse, owned it 1941-65. Extensions were made 1920-23.

Heritage Significance Recommendation: State

REFERENCES:

Written: 'Wairoa, present and past': "Advertiser" May 7, 1979

Beames and Whitehill: "Some Historic Gardens in South Australia" pp. 59-64

Verbal: Margaret Langley

PHOTOGRAPHS:

Film/Neg.:

Film No : 27/21, 24

Slide No : 27/18, 21

Archival No:

DANVERS ARCHITECTS:

Date: 1985



South Australian
Heritage Act 1978-80

HERITAGE STUDY ITEM IDENTIFICATION SHEET

STIRLING
HERITAGE SURVEY

ITEM NO.: 299

Zone: CL

Heritage Zone:

ITEM NAME: School Building, Marbury School
Former or Other Names: Guest House, "Wairoa"

LOCATION:

C/T No.: 4050/327 Type of Item: 0302,0505

Town: Stirling

No.: 158-160

Street: Mount Barker Road

Section No.:

Hundred: Noarlunga

A.M.G. Ref. Z: N:

Assessment No.: 4-2354-002

E:

DESCRIPTION:

Date: 1893

Historical Period: 1884-1913

Historical Theme: 2.1, 2.6

Architect:

Builder:

CURRENT STATUS:

State Heritage List:

National Estate:

National Trust:

CONDITION: Good

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:

Architectural:

For architectural description of building see Marbury School (House, "Wairoa").

Historical:

Beneath the guesthouse were the smoking room and library. The guesthouse was later converted to invalid rooms.

Heritage Significance Recommendation: State

REFERENCES:

Written:

Verbal: Margaret Langley

PHOTOGRAPHS:

Film/Neg.:

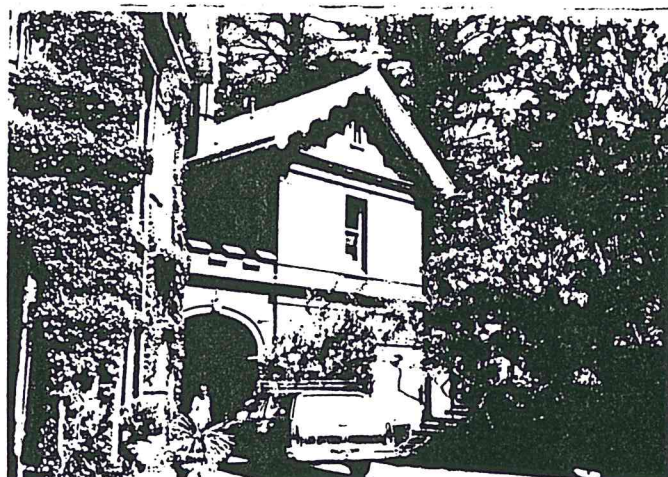
Film No : 27/22

Slide No : 27/19

Archival No:

DANVERS ARCHITECTS:

Date: 1985



South Australian
Heritage Act 1978-80:

HERITAGE STUDY ITEM IDENTIFICATION SHEET

STIRLING
HERITAGE SURVEY:

ITEM NO.: 300

Zone: CL

Heritage Zone:

ITEM NAME: School Building, Marbury School
Former or Other Names: Stables, "Wairoa"

LOCATION:

C/T No.: 4050/237 Type of Item: 0309,0505

Town: Stirling

No.: 158-160

Street: Mount Barker Road

Section No.:

Hundred: Noarlunga

A.M.G. Ref. Z: N:

Assessment No.: 4-2354-002

E:

DESCRIPTION:

Date:

Historical Period:

Historical Theme: 2.1, 2.6, 4.7

Architect:

Builder:

CURRENT STATUS:

State Heritage List:

National Estate:

National Trust:

CONDITION: Good

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:

Architectural:

Random coursed stonewirk with brick quoins. Hipped and gabled roof clad with corrugated galvanised iron. Double hung sash windows with multi-paned windows and timber panelled door. Finials to gable apex. Brick chimneys.

Historical:

Heritage Significance Recommendation: State

REFERENCES:

Written:

Verbal:

PHOTOGRAPHS:

Film/Neg.:

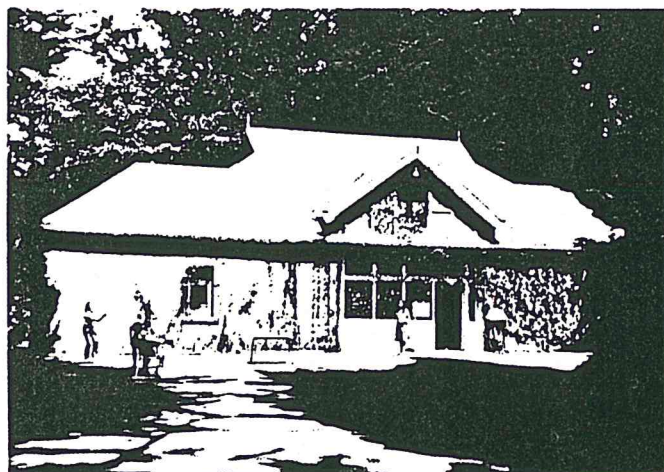
Film No : 27/23

Slide No : 27/20

Archival No:

DANVERS ARCHITECTS:

Date: 1985



ITEM NO.: 302

Zone: CL

Heritage Zone:

ITEM NAME: School Building, Marbury School
Former or Other Names: Gate House, "Wairoa"

LOCATION: C/T No.: 4050/237 Type of Item: 0302, 0505
Town: Stirling
No.: 158 Street: Mount Barker Road
Section No.:
Hundred: Noarlunga A.M.G. Ref. Z: N:
Assessment No.: 4-2355-001 E:

DESCRIPTION:
Date: 1893
Historical Period: 1884-1913
Historical Theme: 2.1, 2.6
Architect:
Builder:

CURRENT STATUS:
State Heritage List:
National Estate:
National Trust:

CONDITION: Good

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:

Architectural:

Brick walls with dressed stone surrounds to windows, corners and doors.
Hipped and gabled roof with corrugated galvanised iron cladding. Casement
sash windows with leadlighting and timber porch to front door. Stone
chimney.

Historical:

Heritage Significance Recommendation: State

REFERENCES:

Written:

Verbal:

PHOTOGRAPHS:

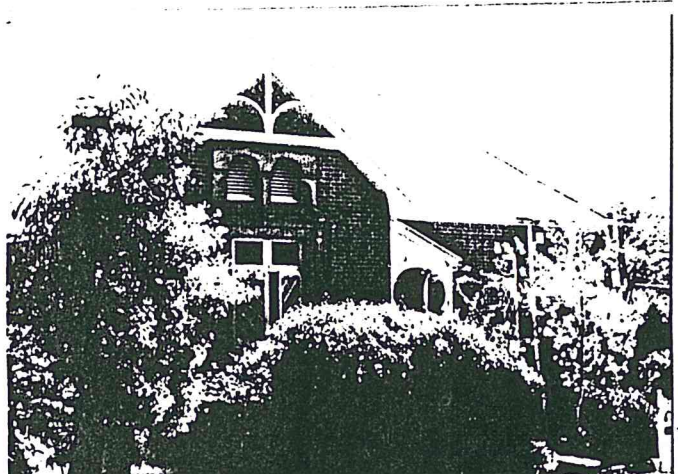
Film/Neg.:

Film No : 27/28

Slide No : 27/25

Archival No:

DANVERS ARCHITECTS:
Date: 1985



Places to be entered in the Interim List

TYPE: 2 HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

DATE: 14/09/94 ITEM# 3

Name of place: MARBURY SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND GARDEN

Former/other names: WAIROA ESTATE

Registration number: 019399

Group: 01 Residential

Date: 1893

File Number: 3/03/025/0024/01

Status: 67 NOMINATION - TO BE ENTERED IN THE INTERIM LIST

Date: 11/04/94

Area (Ha): 0.00

Nearest town: ALDGATE

Distance (Km): 1.0

Direction from town: NW

Location/boundaries:

Comprising main school building (formerly residence Wairoa), guest house, stables, gate house and Victorian garden area (within Lot 8 Section 94 Hundred Noarlunga), 158-160 Mount Barker Road, 1km north-west of Aldgate.

Property information:

LOTS 6 & 8 SECTION 94 HUNDRED NOARLUNGA
CT 4050/237

Local authorities:

STIRLING DISTRICT COUNCIL

Statement of significance:

Marbury School, formerly known as "Wairoa" estate, is one of the few remaining examples of Victorian style summer retreats in the Adelaide Hills built for the South Australian gentry in the late nineteenth century. Other examples include "Marble Hill", "Forest Lodge", and "Carminow", all of which are registered on the National Estate.

(Criterion B2)

It is an uncommon and outstanding example of a hills estate featuring significant original architectural and garden design elements.

(Criterion D2)

The romantic Victorian-style garden demonstrates a high level of aesthetic appeal, designed to complement the original building complex. (Criterion E1)

The property is closely associated with William Austin Horn, influential in pastoral, mining, political, cultural and scientific developments in South Australia during the late nineteenth century. It is also associated with Robert Barr Smith, founder of the Elder Pastoral Company, and his son Tom Elder Barr Smith. The artist William Tibbet recorded "Wairoa" and its young gardens in a watercolour in 1897. (Criterion H1)

Significant associations:

HORN, W.A.

Description:

TYPE: 2 HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

DATE: 14/09/94 ITEM# 3

The property "Wairoa" was established in 1893 as the residence of prominent South Australian, William Austin Horn. Horn played a prominent part in pastoral, mining, political, cultural and scientific development of South Australia in the late nineteenth century. He was a pastoralist who owned "Poolamacca" and "Mundi Mundi" in the Barrier Range, and a director of a company to mine silver discovered in the Barrier Range. Horn was also elected to the House of Assembly, and amassed a large fortune from his share in the Broken Hill mine. In March 1896 the property was purchased by South Australian pastoralist and benefactor Robert Barr Smith and given to his son Tom Elder Barr Smith as a family residence. Robert Barr Smith was a prominent South Australian pastoralist, mining company director, benefactor and philanthropist, who founded the Elder Pastoral Company and donated large sums of money to the University of Adelaide. His son, Tom Elder Barr Smith, was also a prominent pastoralist. With his wife Molly, he made "Wairoa" a centre for the entertainment of Adelaide society.

Upon Tom Barr Smith's death in 1941, the property was inherited by his eldest daughter Joanna, wife of James Gosse (later Sir James). The Gosse family took up residence and Lady Gosse continued to live there until her death in 1965. The property was then purchased by an Adelaide Company as a weekend residence for its managing director. In 1972, the property was purchased by its present owner, Marbury School Incorporated.

EXTERIOR: The main residence was built in 1893, constructed of random coursed stonework with red brick quoins. The hipped and gabled roof is clad with corrugated iron, with carved barge-boards to gable ends with turned timber and cast iron finials. Double hung sash windows and timber panelled front door with lead lighting to surrounding panel. Cast iron lacework to balconies and tiled verandah floor. Guesthouse with gentlemen's smoking room and library connected to main building by arched and crenellated bridgework. Random stone and brick service buildings including dairy and barrel vaulted cellar. Additional brick and stucco outbuildings, with corrugated iron roofing were completed in 1923.

INTERIOR: Rooms with gracious proportions with original timber skirtings and plaster work. Tiled entry foyer with archway to stairwell. Polished and painted mahogany staircase with carved and turned painted baluster and polished handrail and carved Chinese newel post. William Morris wallpapers in some rooms. Five polished fire surrounds and mantelpieces to main fireplaces. Two original cast iron fire screens.

STABLES: Random coursed stonework with brick quoins. Hipped and gabled roof clad with corrugated galvanised iron. Double hung sash windows with multipaned windows and timber panelled door. Finials to gable apex. Brick chimneys.

GATE-HOUSE: Brick walls with dressed stone surrounds to windows, corners and doors. Hipped and gabled roof with galvanised iron cladding. Casement sash windows with leadlighting and timber porch to front door. Stone chimney. White painted timber and wrought iron gates and posts.

GARDEN: The large Victorian garden is integral to the original building complex. The garden was planned by William Austin Horn and head gardener George Sparrow, laid out around the house, reputedly in the style of Baron Ferdinand Von Mueller. The gardens remain substantially as laid out, as recorded in a painting by W. Tibbets of 1897, however they have become more heavily forested over the years.

Places to be entered in the Iterim List

TYPE: 2 HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

DATE: 14/09/94 ITEM# 38

The garden structure follows the Victorian romantic style with interconnecting pathways following the contour of the valley beneath the house. The pathways broaden to grassed slopes and a groups of recreational lawns including tennis court, bowling green and croquet lawn. A natural cave and rock outcrop have been developed as a grotto and small gazebo. The rock cave was planted with ferns, Above the cave, a rock pool and stone stairways were constructed with central iron column and shingle umbrella roof. William Horn, an amateur sculptor, adorned the rockfaces with Maori heads and a self-portrait. The garden was planted with Camellias, rhododendrons, banks of shrubs and a canopy of exotic trees. The trees which remain today include weeping-elm, magnolia, copper beech, pin oaks and conifers.

Condition:

The complex of buildings is in almost original condition, and few alterations have been made over the years.

Bibliography:

- Beames, R.D. & Whitehill, J.A.E., SOME HISTORIC GARDENS IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA, Pub. National Trust of SA in Conjunction with the Botanic Gardens of Adelaide, 1981.
Preise, K. & Oborn, P., THE TORRENS PARK ESTATE, Pub The Authors, 1991.
Brown, J., THE ALMONDS OF WALKERVILLE, pub, The Author, 1970
Legoe, M.I., A FAMILY AFFAIR, Pub the Author, 1982.
Pascoe, J.J., (Ed) History of Adelaide and Vicinity, Hussey & Gillingham, Adelaide, 1901.

**Marbury School, Guesthouse, Gatehouse and Gates,
formerly 'Wairoa'**

ALD:002

Address 150-158 Mount Barker Road, ALDGATE 5154

ASSESSMENT OF HERITAGE VALUE**Description**

The former guesthouse, gatehouse and gates are part of what was once the grand house 'Wairoa', now owned and used by Marbury School.

Most of the former 'Wairoa' buildings and the garden are included in the State Heritage Register, but for reasons unknown these three structures were omitted.

The purpose of this report is simply to ensure that the documentation is correct to enable the inclusion of these three items to proceed.

Most of the 'Wairoa' buildings were built in 1893 and it is likely that these buildings were also built at the same time. The former guesthouse is now linked to the main house. It is a late nineteenth century, two storeyed stone structure with decorated timber bargeboards.

The gatehouse is a single storeyed building built of brick with dressed stonework to the surrounds and quoins and a hipped and gabled roof. Timber is used in a decorative way on the gable ends and to form a porch over the front door.

The main entrance to the property lies close to the gatehouse and is defined by charming decorative timber gates.

Statement of Heritage Value

The 'Wairoa' complex and garden is of undoubted significance to South Australia's history. It is largely intact and contains a fine collection of nineteenth century buildings set within a significant garden. The complex is associated with some of South Australia's most prominent individuals. The inclusion of the Guesthouse, Gatehouse and Gates of the former 'Wairoa' simply completes the registration of all the significant items on this property.

Relevant Criteria

- d) it is an outstanding representative of a particular class of places of cultural significance.
- e) it demonstrates a high degree of creative, aesthetic or technical accomplishment or is an outstanding representative of particular construction techniques or design characteristics.
- g) it has special association with the life or work of a person or organisation or an event of historical importance.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Guesthouse, Gatehouse and Gates of the former 'Wairoa' be provisionally entered in the State Heritage Register.

**Marbury School, Guesthouse, Gatehouse and Gates,
formerly 'Wairoa'**

ALD:002

ASSESSMENT OF HERITAGE VALUE

Criteria d), e) and g). The Guesthouse, Gatehouse and Gates of the former 'Wairoa' join with the other significant buildings and places on the property in being outstanding representatives of a particular class of places of cultural significance; demonstrative of a high degree of creative, aesthetic or technical accomplishment and has special associations with the life or work of a persons of historical importance.

The house and its outbuildings were constructed for William Austin Horn, a wealthy company director of mining companies who also had pastoral interests in the 1890s. Horn was a parliamentarian and a prominent patron in nineteenth century South Australian social and business life. By 1893 he owned a 30 acre land parcel in this area.

Horn sold the mansion to T E Barr Smith in 1896 and it became a focus of Adelaide society gatherings. The Barr Smith family, similarly prominent in social and business circles owned it until 1965. It passed from Tom to his daughter, Joanna Gosse after his death in 1942.

In 1972, after a brief period of ownership by Screenings Pty Ltd, the house and land were sold to Marbury School Incorporated.

The 'Wairoa' complex and garden is of undoubted significance to South Australia's history. It is largely intact and contains a fine collection of nineteenth century buildings set within a significant garden. The complex is associated with some of South Australia's most prominent individuals.

REFERENCES

Danvers Architects, Stirling District Heritage Study, prepared for the Stirling District Council, 1984-5, item no. 298, 299, 300, 301, 302.

Land Titles Office, CTs 578/160.

**Marbury School, Guesthouse, Gatehouse and Gates,
formerly 'Wairoa'**

ALD:002

SITE RECORD

Location: 150-158 Mount Barker Road, ALDGATE 5154

Description: Stone two storeyed building, brick single storeyed building and timber gates

AMG References:

Land Description: Lot 7, pt lots 5,6 and 8, Pt Section 94, Hundred of Noarlunga, CT 4050/237

Local Government Area: District Council of Stirling

Owner: Marbury School Incorporated, 150-60 Mount Barker Road, Aldgate SA 5154

Current Use: School buildings and associated dwellings

Original Use: Residence

Heritage Status: Other buildings and garden registered (SHR 6628-13962)

Other Assessments: None

Photograph Nos:

Report: Robyn Taylor

