Statement of Cultural Significance

An important link with the district's past. Built for the Bible Christians (who later joined the Methodists) this building is associated with Rev. James Way and his son Samuel.

Relevant Criteria

Samuel Way (later Hon. Sir S J Way Bart., PC., DCL., LLD, Chief Justice and Lieutenant - Governor of South Australia) as a boy attended the church of which his father was minister. He formed a friendship with Mr and Mrs Luney of Seaview a nearby property. Mr and Mrs Luney are said to have persuaded the Rev. Way to allow Samuel to take up the law. The rest is history.

Significant Interest

A building still serving the community after 120 years.

Recommendation

It is recommended that this item be included on the Register of State Heritage Items.
Analysis of Significant Interest

Architectural

The original building has been altered, restored and gained additions but the original features are still to be seen.

Historical

Built in 1865 for the Bible Christian Church. One of its early ministers was the Rev. James Way of Willunga. Sir Samuel Way (son of Rev. James Way) later purchased 'Seaview' a property nearby. The church became known as Seaview Methodist Church and was used as a place of worship, a school and a meeting place for 100 years. It fell into disrepair, but in 1979 after some restoration, the building reopened as a winery.
Site Record
Chapel Vale Winery
Chapel Hill Road
MCLAREN VALE SA 5171

Location
Chapel Hill Road, McLaren Vale

Mapsheets

AMG Reference

Description
Winery (former chapel and schoolhouse)

Land Description
Seciton 518 Hundred of Willunga
CT4024/661

LGA
Noarlunga

Owner
John Younger & Co
P O Box 194
McLaren Vale SA 5171

Other Assessments

Heritage Status

References
Noarlunga Heritage Study 1979
Noarlunga Library Local Studies Collection
The Rich Valley - Adele Pridmore 1949
The Bible Christians in South Australia by Arnold D Hunt 1983.