

HERITAGE ASSESSMENT REPORT

NAME: Former Normanville Police Station and **PLACE:** 26470
Government Complex

ADDRESS 52–54 Main Road, Normanville, SA, 5204

HISTORY

The Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex functioned as a police station from the time of its construction in 1855 until 1961. In addition to this use it was used as a post and telegraph office, registry office and customs house. It was also used as a base for sea rescue in the Normanville area. In order to understand the importance the building played in the history of South Australia, a history of these different services follows.

The development of the Police Force in South Australia

The establishment of police stations and the development of law and order in early South Australia provides an insight into the lives of the early settlers and the patterns of rural development throughout the State. When the settlement of South Australia was initially planned, no provision was made for a police force because settlement was voluntary and unacceptable applications to come to South Australia could be rejected. Further, South Australia was established as a free colony meaning that there were no convicts. Early law and order was maintained by a group of Imperial Soldiers who came with the first pioneers in 1836.¹ However, by 1838 it became apparent that South Australia was not immune from crime and plans were made to establish a police force.

At the time of establishing a police force in South Australia, Governor John Hindmarsh introduced new policing concepts based on those used to form the police forces in London and Ireland. All policing for the State was centrally administered with police outposts located in many towns.² Hindmarsh's ambition to create a modern police force for South Australia was hampered by the dismissal of a succession of police commissioners and constables due to a variety of crimes. The crimes included illegal selling of alcohol (High Constable William Williams), public brawling (Chairman of the Board of Police Commissioners, Robert Gouger) and dishonesty (Superintendent Henry Inman).³ In addition to the problematic leadership experienced by the police force was the inadequate funding provided for its establishment and ongoing operation.

Due to an initial lack of funding, the central police administration office and court rooms were accommodated in the Queen's Theatre in Gilles Arcade, between Currie and Waymouth Street. The offices were later moved to a building next to the General Post Office on King William Street. The post office and police building were both demolished in the late 1850s when the present Post Office was built. The police remained in this building

until around 1860 when they moved to premises on Angas Street, a building previously used as the Supreme Court.⁴

As the South Australian colony expanded into the surrounding rural areas, the need for a more comprehensive police force became apparent. Alexander Tolmer, the Police Commissioner at the time, was engaged to establish inadequacies in the South Australian Police Force. He did this by conducting a lengthy inspection of the existing police posts throughout the State.⁵ As a result, Tolmer promoted the concept of decentralisation which would mean the division of the police force into four divisions, each overseeing law and order in a different section of the State. He also introduced a new water and native police division and a detective force. He suggested an overland gold escort service from Victoria to South Australia, designed to reverse the drain of currency from the colony during the gold rush.⁶ However, Tolmer's ambitions and ideas were poorly received by the government and were impossible to be met due to limited funding. After a failed investigation in 1853, in which he accused Inspector Charles Stuart of an '*improper order of the day*', Tolmer was sacked as Commissioner due to being '*deficient in qualities of temper and judgement*'.⁷ Tolmer was demoted but remained in the Police Force for years to come.

The lack of funding and the succession of commissioners and senior staff during the 1840s and 1850s lead to a difficult era in policing in the State. As a result, many of the police stations constructed at that time were rudimentary structures that ranged from tents to pug and pine huts and wood and corrugated iron sheds with thatched or shingled rooves. Occasionally they were constructed of stone, but due to poor footings and workmanship the stone buildings were often not considered habitable within a few years of completion. In most cases, the early police stations were comprised of two rooms. One served as the police station and kitchen and the other as shared living quarters for a police officer and the police officer's family. Over time, other rooms and structures were often added including courtrooms, external police cells and other essentials such as a dedicated bedroom, kitchen, office and water closet.

In addition to their policing duties, police officers in early South Australia were also responsible for manning and operating the telegraph stations which were built at 200-mile intervals along every telegraph line.⁸ In addition, they were also often responsible for delivering the mail. Other tasks carried out by the police included obtaining plant specimens for the Botanical and Zoological Gardens, taking agricultural statistics, inspecting and licensing horse-drawn vehicles and conducting marriage ceremonies. The multi-tasking role of the early police officer often resulted in the construction of multi-use buildings.

In 1853, Tolmer was replaced by Peter Egerton Warburton, former Major in the Military Battalion at Bombay. The government hoped that his appointment would restore stability to the troubled police force. Warburton acted on many of the initiatives proposed by Tolmer including the decentralisation of the force with the creation of four divisions - the Adelaide Division, Northern Division, Southern Division and Western Division. A consequence of decentralisation was the expansion of the police force into rural South Australia. Under

Warburton's leadership, by 1856 the number of police stations had reached 20 as opposed to the nine that were in operation in 1840.⁹

Warburton was also responsible for introducing a means to more easily distinguish between the foot and mounted police as well as establishing better promotion opportunities and job security for the members of the force.¹⁰ He instigated the building of cells within police stations to hold short term prisoners, better uniforms for the police force, and better food for the horses.¹¹

This brief era of growth of the South Australian Police Force under Warburton's leadership, ended when in March 1856 there were *great reductions ordered in the Metropolitan and Port Police*.¹² These cuts meant many of Warburton's initiatives were never realised. Warburton feared that the best of the South Australian Police Force would be drawn to Victoria where there were offers of high pay and quick promotion. In his Police Commissioners Quarterly Report 30 June 1857, Warburton states that the number of police employed in the colony in 1840 was 124. In 1857 it reached 171. While there was growth in the force he points out the growth is not proportionate to the growth of the population of the State. In his report he laments the lack of funding and the inadequacies the police force was suffering as a result.¹³ Once funding for implementing change in the police force was reduced, Warburton spent much of his time exploring the outer regions of South Australia. It is for his accomplishments in this regard he is better known.

Warburton explored the area of Lake Gairdner and the Gawler Ranges in 1857 and Lake Eyre and South Lake Torrens in 1858. Here he discovered groups of springs, grazing land and the ranges he named after (Sir) Samuel Davenport.¹⁴ In 1860 he explored the north-west of Streaky Bay, the country north-west of Mount Margaret in 1864 and in 1866 he examined the area around the northern shores of Lake Eyre where he found a large river, since named after him, which he traced to near the Queensland border.

Warburton continued in his role in the police force until 1867 when he was stood down. Apart from the early reform he instigated from 1853 until 1856, little change to the police force occurred under his control. In 1869 he accepted the lower salary of chief staff officer and colonel of the Volunteer Military Force of South Australia. In this role he continued to explore Australia including a large expedition which spanned from 1872 until 1874. This took him across the Northern Territory and Western Australia, making him the first to cross the continent from the centre to the west. The expedition left Warburton emaciated and blind in one eye. However, as a result he was awarded the patron's medal of the Royal Geographical Society and was granted £1000 by the South Australian Government.¹⁵

Post office and telegraph

Due to its role as the only means of contact between Australia and the rest of the world, postal services were an important feature of Australian life in the early colonial period. Therefore, postal offices were among the first infrastructure developed in each new town and each new colony.

In addition to the demand for a quick and efficient mail service was the need for a telegraph service. During the early settlement of South Australia, the telegraph was a new technology which could connect people over long distances very quickly. The first telegraph line in South Australia was laid by Mr James MacGeorge between Adelaide and Port Adelaide in 1855.¹⁶ It was a private line. At this time Charles Todd was the Government Superintendent of Telegraph (1855-1907).¹⁷ He bought the private line and dismantled it in 1856 then laid an underground line from Adelaide to Semaphore. Todd was also responsible for laying the first long telegraph line from Adelaide to Melbourne. Construction for this began in April 1857 and was completed in July 1858. This telegraph line was thought to be the flag ship for future lines overseas. The line was used so much a second line was built via Wellington and was opened in 1861.¹⁸

General Development of Normanville

The area around Normanville was initially founded to support the whaling industry. However, the picturesque scenery and fertile land quickly attracted settlers who were intent on making their fortune through agricultural pursuits. To support agricultural development and meet subscription, the Hundred of Yankalilla was surveyed in 1840 by M.L. Kentish, and sections offered for sale.¹⁹ As a consequence of the survey and settlement, a number of townships were established, including Normanville.

In June 1849, Robert Norman, an Adelaide Dental surgeon, made plans to form a township located on several sections of land he purchased known as Bungala Flats. Norman had arrived in Adelaide in 1844 and was an original subscriber to the South Australian Colonisation project in 1834. Norman was reputedly an ambitious man and claimed that his town would have a church, blacksmith shop and hotel.²⁰ To that end he had one million bricks made that were subsequently used to construct the town's main buildings. The clay for the bricks came from the Bungala River.²¹ He named the town Normanville and construction of its first building, St James' Church, began in 1850.

Normanville and its hinterland has comparatively high and reliable rainfall. As a result, the new settler's early crops of wheat were so successful that it led to a boom. In 1856, the Normanville Mill was built to process the wheat and at the height of the boom flour sold for £12 per bag.²² Normanville's location on the outlet of the Bungala River into the Gulf St. Vincent, provided easy access for shipping, and the area's flour was sent to both Adelaide and Melbourne.²³ The Normanville Jetty, known as the Yankalilla Jetty, was constructed in 1856.²⁴ Another Jetty was built at Port Willunga in 1853,²⁵ however, this jetty was seen as being inefficient and unsatisfactory for receiving and sending goods out to sea. Therefore, Normanville was often the first stop for visitors travelling to the area by sea.

As a result of agricultural successes and easy access to shipping facilities, there was an influx of people to the area. By 1860, the Normanville and Yankalilla area had two breweries, three hotels and three flour mills. In addition, new infrastructure, in particular

public buildings, were required to accommodate the needs of the new settlers. One such building was the Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex.

Normanville Police Station

Due to the theft of sheep and cattle in the early 1850s, it became apparent a police station was required to service the Normanville and Yankalilla area,²⁶ especially as the closest police station and law court was in Willunga. The land on which Normanville's police station was built belonged to Robert Norman. Norman, aware of the necessity for a police station in his town, wrote to the former Police Commissioner, Inspector Alexander Tolmer (1852-1853).²⁷ In the letter he wrote:

*"Dear Tolmer. Allow me to refer you to a conversation we had some time since, when you were at the head of the Police Department on the subject of a Police Station at Yankalilla. I am still prepared to grant any of the unselected blocks in the Township of Normanville at the nominal rate of Five Pounds per acre, there present value is about Fifty Pounds per acre, but I am so impressed with the necessity of a Station there to prevent smuggling and the slaughtering and such acts leading to the demoralization of the Settlers I would willingly make a greater sacrifice than that, should it be deemed necessary for the purposes of the Police."*²⁸

Also concerned with the lack of law enforcement in their town, the residents of Normanville voiced their concerns in a memorial to the Government in 1854.²⁹ At the time, the Government were planning to build a new police station at Second Valley, however residents of Normanville and Yankalilla were unhappy that the proposed location was so far from the main trade port in Normanville. Therefore, the residents wrote a second memorial to the Government requesting a police station and court building be built in Normanville.³⁰

In his Police Commissioners Quarterly Report, December 1854, Commissioner Warburton stated that *'the establishment of a police station at Normanville is also a measure of importance; at present the police stationed at Willunga have to range down to Cape Jervis. The distance is far too great, and the country far too difficult to admit to effective police aid being given to the numerous settlers in those districts; whilst the police, both men and horses, are over worked trying to do that which is impossible'*.³¹ As a result, in January 1855, the Government announced the police station would be erected in the Yankalilla district.

Tenders for the construction of the police station and court house were called on 22 March 1855.³² The design of the building can be attributed to the government architect W. Hays (Government Architect 1852-1856).³³ Builders B. Sykes & Co were awarded the contract on 11 April 1855. During its construction, in July 1855, the Police Station and Courthouse was visited by the Governor.³⁴ The building was completed in December 1855.³⁵ At the time it was known as the Yankalilla Police Station. It wasn't until 1873 that it became known as the Normanville Police Station.

In January 1856, Boyce Travers Finniss, (Registrar-General and Treasurer 1847-1865),³⁶ on behalf of The Crown, officially re-acquired sections 14 and 15, on which the police station was built.³⁷

The 1855 section of the existing Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex is the single-storey eastern section. It was constructed in stone with a slate roof. It comprised five rooms including a courtroom, a constable's room, and kitchen and entrance foyer leading to a single cell. Behind the stone building was a wooden lean-to stable and forage room with three horse stalls, this has since been removed. The building was initially constructed to accommodate one mounted constable. However, Police Commissioner Warburton sent two of the men at Willunga Police Station to the new Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex.³⁸ The two constables were Mounted Constable Thomas Berrill, who arrived in South Australia in 1848 and joined the police force shortly before being posted to Normanville in 1856 and Dennis Toole, who arrived in South Australia at the age of 17 in 1855, and their two horses. The constables were on 24 hour watch.

In 1858, due to funding cuts, the Normanville Police force was reduced from two constables and two horses to one constable and one horse.³⁹ This further demonstrates how the Normanville community benefitted from the short-lived growth of the police force under the leadership of Warburton from 1853-1856, with the Police Station and Courthouse being built in 1855. Police buildings constructed using a high standard of workmanship such as that evident in the Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex was not commonplace during the 1850s. It wasn't until the late 1860s that the colonies economy improved and the early temporary, light-weight police buildings were replaced with more substantial stone buildings.

Introduction of the post and telegraph office

Early mail service to the area around Normanville was limited. In 1843, a fortnightly mail service began between Adelaide and Yankalilla.⁴⁰ However, due to poor road access between the city and Normanville, the mail service in the area during this time would have been slow. In 1856, a Post Office opened in Normanville.⁴¹ Later, in March 1859, a road over Sellick's Hill was opened.⁴² This allowed access for a mail coach service between Normanville and Adelaide. Coaches left early in the morning from the Police Station and arrived in Adelaide in the afternoon.

During the 1860s, agriculture and trade between Normanville and Adelaide expanded, and Normanville and its surrounding area became more populated – leading to growing demand for better communication between the area and the rest of the world.

In 1862, only one year after the laying of the second Adelaide to Melbourne telegraph line, discussions commenced about opening a telegraph line between Adelaide and the Fleurieu Peninsula. In May of that year, Todd announced the telegraph station would be located at the Normanville Government Reserve (Police Station).⁴³ At this time, it was observed that

there were advantages of having all the government services for the Normanville area located in one building. Therefore, the Police Station and Courthouse building was the preferred location for the post office and telegraph station and would be a *'handsome addition'* to the town of Normanville.⁴⁴

In December 1862, George Sara and Sons were awarded the contract to undertake additions and alterations to the Police Station.⁴⁵ The design can be attributed to the Architect W. Hanson (Government Architect 1860-1867).⁴⁶ The additions comprised a two-storey addition on the west end of the existing building. The addition would house the new telegraph station, post office and customs office on the ground floor of the new two-storey section, and bedrooms for the post and telegraph staff on the first floor. The proposed works would include the removal of the interior police cell and construction of new exterior cells and walled courtyard. There would be a new stable for the police horses at the rear north-east corner of the site and new rooms for the Local Court, Collector of Customs staff and a magistrate room all located in the middle section of the building. Work was completed in June 1863 and was opened by Superintendent of Telegraph Todd on 18 June 1863.⁴⁷

At the opening Todd was very complimentary of the new building saying *'the building that now has been completed has a very handsome appearance and forms a very ornamental as well as useful addition to the marine town of Normanville...there is a handsome cornice round the top of the building which as well as the quoins and chimney is formed in cement to represent cut stone'*.⁴⁸ Todd used the occasion to promote the speed and efficiency of the telegraph, saying that the telegraph *'might be said to annihilate space, and would eventually place all the world within speaking distance'*. He compared Australia's use of the telegraph to America and voiced his opinion that the line from Australia to England would take place soon.

The telegraph facilities were further expanded in 1875 when a cable was laid from Kangaroo Island to Normanville, providing better communication between the island and the mainland.⁴⁹

Sea rescue

From the rear of the Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex, a view of the entire coast of Normanville can be seen. This had the advantage of seeing any ships coming into the port and checking whether they might be in trouble. Therefore, plans for the construction of a signal station and lookout tower were made. Tenders for *'alterations and additions'* at the rear of the telegraph station were received in March 1864,⁵⁰ and June 1866 for *'building a room and erecting a fence'*.⁵¹ Plans which are dated by the builder, 8 June 1866, include a new store room located off the back of the single storey section of the police station and a lookout station at the rear of the building. The work was undertaken by W. McEwen. It is during this time that the lookout station would have commenced operation. In addition to the tower, a large iron shed, which would house a rescue rocket apparatus, was built.

The installation of the lookout tower and rocket shed further increased the services of the police station complex. Volunteer crews for the rocket used the police complex for regular training to maintain and develop operating skills. The rocket was never actually used for any rescues. The only instance where it was required was during the wreck of the *Star of Greece*.

In July 1888, the *Star of Greece* left Port Adelaide loaded with wheat for England. It became caught in a north-westerly gale and was driven ashore at Port Willunga. The rocket crew took too long to reach the ship due to using two 'clumsy horses'⁵² to get to the beach. Seventeen lives were lost.⁵³ This tragic incident led to improvements to the lifesaving facilities along the coast of South Australia. The South Australian Navy, in the form of Commander John Walcot of HMCS Protector, was placed in charge of the lifesaving service. Routine visits to ports where lifeboats and rocket apparatus were maintained were undertaken.⁵⁴ The constable at Normanville was paid for services as Officer in Charge of Life Saving Crews. However, in 1931 the rocket service was disbanded and the lookout tower subsequently removed.

In addition to being a police station, court house, post office, customs office and telegraph station, the building was used as a registry office. The Normanville police would ride to general stores in the area to collect birth registrations which were then stored at the police station complex. Reports suggest the building was also used as a maternity ward because there were no other facilities for this use in the area.⁵⁵

Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex in the Twentieth Century

The Federation of the Australian colonies into one new nation on 1 January 1901 resulted in all postal, telegraph and customs services being vested in the Commonwealth Government. One National Postal Service was created, called the Postmaster General's Department (PMG).⁵⁶ The *Commonwealth Post and Telegraph Act* was passed in June 1902, giving control of over 5,000 post offices to the new PMG. In 1906, a new style of post office was introduced to South Australia. Post offices were classified according to their size and the services they offered. In 1906 a telephone line was opened between Adelaide and Yankalilla.⁵⁷ In 1908 Normanville opened a telephone office and in 1910 the Normanville Post Office was classified as an 'Allowance Office' (provides post, telegraph, telephone and saving bank facilities).⁵⁸ It is likely that it was during this time that the post office was relocated to another site and telegraph services were replaced with the telephone.

After the relocation of the post and telegraph office in the early 1900s, the Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex reverted to its original use as a police station and courthouse, continuing as such until 22 May 1961. At this time, the building was seen to be deteriorating and a new police station was built in Yankalilla. By the late 1990s, the new Yankalilla station was also deteriorating due to salt damp. In 2002, a new police station was built within a shop complex in Normanville, and the Yankalilla station was closed down.⁵⁹ This 2002 Normanville Police Station continues to operate today.

In May 1969, the police station complex and land was transferred to private owners, and it has changed hands several times since that date. The complex has been used as a residence and as a café. The stable at the rear is currently being used as a separate residence. The main building is currently empty.

Chronology

year event

1849 Robert Norman, an Adelaide Dental surgeon, made plans to form a township located on several sections land he had been granted known as Bungala Flats.

1850 Construction of Normanville's first permanent building, St James' Church.

1854 Local community send memorial to government objecting to the limited services available to residents of Normanville.

Second Memorial sent to Government requesting a police station and court building be built in Normanville.

Robert Norman offered to grant any one of the unselected blocks in the township of Normanville for the construction of a police station.

1855 Government announced a police station would be erected in the Yankalilla district.

Tenders for the construction of the police station and court house were called. Builders B. Sykes & Co were awarded the contract on 11 April 1855.

Police Station and Court House building was visited by the Governor.

The building was completed in December. At the time, it was known as the Yankalilla Police Station.

First telegraph line laid in South Australia between Adelaide and Port Adelaide.

1856 Construction of the Normanville Jetty.

The Crown re-acquired the land on which the police station was built.

1858 Telegraph line from Adelaide to Melbourne opened.

1859 Road over Sellick's Hill was opened. A mail coach service commenced between Normanville and Adelaide.

- 1861 Second telegraph line opened between Melbourne and Adelaide via Wellington.
- 1862 Superintendent Todd announced the telegraph station will be located at the Normanville government reserve (Police Station).

George Sara and Sons were awarded the contract to undertake additions and alterations to the Police Station
- 1863 The new two-storey telegraph station and post office facilities opened and the Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex.

Customs office located within the Normanville Police Station and Courthouse building.
- 1866 New room is added to the rear of the original police station and lookout tower including rocket lifesaving equipment.
- 1888 Star of Greece ship wreck resulted in the loss of many lives.
- 1872 Yankalilla Police Station changes its name to Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex.
- 1908-1910 Post office facilities relocated.
- 1931 Rocket lifesaving service was disbanded.
- 1961 Police services relocated to Yankalilla.
- 1969 Police station complex and land was transferred to private owners
- 2006 Title transferred to current owner. The building was used as a café and residential use. The stable was also converted as a separate residence.

DESCRIPTION

The Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex is a Victorian Georgian-style building that was built in two main phases.

The original 1855 building was a simple single-storey gable-roofed stone structure built on the eastern side of the site adjacent to the main road. This building was constructed of local limestone with red brick quoins and window surrounds. It is possible the bricks were locally-made using clay from the Bungala River. The stone is pointed using ribbon pointing which is original to the building and is still intact. This section of the building has a central door with two windows on each side. There is an arched fanlight over the door. The verandah on this portion of the building was added c1871. This verandah retains the original iron roof

cladding and some timber work. The gutters have been replaced with 'D' profile guttering. Elements of the timber detailing have been replaced, including the fascia scotia, post caps and neck moulds. The floor is a concrete slab.

The second phase of construction took place around 1863 and included the construction of a two-storey structure to the west and a single-storey infill that links the two sections of the building. Like the 1855 building, this was constructed from local limestone. It has two windows and a door on the ground floor, and three windows on the first floor. The front wall has a decorative parapet with cement-rendered cornice. The quoins and window surrounds are also cement rendered. The main roof is hipped and retains its original 'ogee' gutters and rainwater heads. This section of the building included a hipped, concave verandah. The verandah retains its original iron sheet roof cladding and timber posts and fascia. There is a glass sky in the verandah which was likely an addition in the 1900s. The 'D' profile verandah gutters on the verandah are a latter addition. The floor of the verandah is large slate slabs. The central in-fill section has a single door and a window.

Further additions occurred in c1866 and included two small rooms constructed on the northeast corner of the building. The first room is constructed from limestone, the other from red brick.

The entire building is painted with modern acrylic paint.

The stable, located on the north-east corner of the site is a small two-storey structure with a gable roof. It has redbrick parapets and is also painted. A single-storey rendered masonry addition has been built on the south side of the stable.

Access to the site was limited during the assessment process, however, a thorough description of the building was provided in a book written by the Yankalilla Area School in 1984:

'There are two doors at the back of the courtroom. If someone was guilty he or she went through the door to the cells. If innocent they went through the door that led out to freedom.'

'There are two prison cells in the police station. One is capable of accommodating one prisoner. The other can hold two prisoners. There are two long wooden benches on which the prisoners slept. The floors of the cells are made of slate from Willunga. The cell doors are arched and the walls are 19 inches thick. On each cell door there is a little peep-hole through which the troopers passed the food to the prisoners. One door is lined with metal. Both doors have big locks on them which made it impossible to escape. Above the doors there is a sheet of tin with holes for light and air to come through. There is also a small window in each cell, with bars across each one. Both cells are very cool, like a cellar.'

'The cells open onto a small exercise yard which has very thick walls and used to open to the sky. However, the present owners have put a Perspex roof on it. The exercise yard is

boarded on all sides with a high wall. The original floor was cobble stone.’ ‘The only toilet the prisoners could use was situated in the exercise yard.’

‘Troopers horses that weren’t on duty were kept in the stables behind the police station. There was a ceiling above the horses where their hay was kept.’

‘The walls of the stables are very thick and made of stone with brick around the windows.’ ‘The floor is made of cobblestones, and the yard in front of the stable was also paved with cobblestones.’

‘Under the policeman’s quarters is a large cellar’. ‘The cellar walls are made of slate which is now starting to crumble’. ‘At the back of the police station there was an underground tank. The opening of the tank is a small circle of metal. The walls of the tank were lined with fat so it wouldn’t leak. Nearby there is the old pump that was used many years ago to get the water out. When the police station moved to Yankalilla in 1961, the old records were thrown down the tank and destroyed.’⁶⁰

The assessment of the front of the building found that much of the original building fabric remains. In addition, an aerial image of the site shows that the outline of the building footprint is the same as the 1862 plans, with the exception of the addition of a room on the north-east corner of the building. The stable and some of the associated outbuildings including sheds and an outhouse also remains.

The building is generally in fair condition. There is some evidence of salt damp along the bottom of the walls as well as some deterioration of the cement cornice.

Extent of Listing:

The extent of listing includes:

- Original 1855 police station including verandah
- 1863 two-storey Post Office building with single-storey infill to original police station, including verandahs
- original stable building on the north east corner of the site.

ASSESSMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

Statement of Heritage Significance:

The Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex is one of the oldest surviving police buildings in the State and played a significant role in the provision of government services to the Normanville area for more than 100 years. The first section was constructed in 1855 during a period of growth for the South Australian Police Force, with the

two-storey post and telegraph office being built in 1863. As trade and agriculture led to the development of the Fleurieu region, the building provided a wide range of services including police station, courthouse, register office, post and telegraph office, customs house and as a base for sea rescue. The complex, including the stables, remains largely unaltered and illustrates the association between the police force and other government services through its built fabric.

Comparability / Rarity / Representation:

There many police and courthouse buildings on the South Australian Heritage Register.

- Redruth Courthouse, Police Station, lockup and stables, Burra c1847, SHP10027
- Mount Barker Police Station and Stables c1850, SHP10511
- Port Elliot Police Station, cells, stables and fence c1853, SHP10354
- Willunga Police Station and Residence, Cell Block and Courtyard, Stables & Courthouse) c1856, SHP 10342 (Police present in the area since 1840s)
- Strathalbyn Police Station and Courthouse c1858, SHP10339
- Callington Police Station c1859 (approx.), SHP10486
- Woodside Police Station and Courthouse c1859, SHP20674 & 10482
- Goolwa Police Station and Courthouse, including Cells and Stables c1859, SHP10368
- Auburn Courthouse and Police Station c1860, SHP10076
- Melrose Courthouse & Police Station c1862, SHP 10154
- Wellington Police Station and Courthouse c1864, SHP 10477
- Wallaroo Police Station and Residence c1865, SHP10138
- Kingston Police Station c1866, SHP10244
- Salisbury Police Station, Courthouse & Stables, SHP10587

Similarly, many post and telegraph offices are on the South Australian Heritage Register.

- Robe Post Office & Telegraph Station c1856, SHP 10361 (approx.) Adelaide Melbourne line went through Robe.
- Gawler Telegraph Station c1857, SHP10370
- Burra Post Office and Telegraph c1860, SHP10017
- Penola Post Office (and telegraph) c1860, SHP10266
- Willunga Post Office and Telegraph c1857-1861, SHP10626
- Auburn Post Office (and telegraph) c1862, SHP10075
- Mount Gambier Post (Originally Telegraph office) c1865, SHP14689
- Blanchtown Post Office (and telegraph) c1866, SHP10084
- Kingston Post Office (and Telegraph) c1866, SHP10245
- The Peake Historic Site - Ruins of Overland Telegraph Station, Police Station, Homestead, Smelter c1840s (approx.), SHP13624
- Tanunda Post and Telegraph Station SHP 12287
- Melrose Post Office and Telegraph c1866, SHP10155

- Victor Harbor Post & Telegraph Office and Postmaster's Residence c1866, SHP 11103
- Victor Harbor Custom House & Station Master's Residence c1866, SHP 12739.

The Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex is unlike many of these heritage places due to it having housed a number of government services on the one property. There are currently three similar former multi-use government buildings included in the Register:

- 'The Customs House', Port MacDonnell (former Customs House, Courthouse, Telegraph Station and Police Station) c1862 SHP10254. This building incorporated all legal and law enforcement offices. The Custom House was used to process all tariff on goods entering the country. The building also included the residence for the police and their families.
- Port Adelaide Visitor Centre Complex (former Police Station, Courthouse and Custom House) c1859-1860 SHP10880. This building was originally built as a Court House, Customs House and Police Station.
- The Wellington Courthouse (former Wellington East Police Station & Courthouse) c1864 SHP10447. This building comprises a police station, court house, stables, store, telegraph office and ferryman's residence.

Similar examples of multi-use government buildings which were not registered and are now demolished include:

- The Kadina Police Station, Courthouse and other government services c1861.⁶¹
- Naracoorte Police Station, telegraph office and courthouse c1866.⁶²
- Metropolitan Police Station c1850s. This building was built on the current General Post Office site, King William Street, Adelaide. It included a police station, police cells, and post and telegraph office and court house. It also housed the police fire appliance. The initial postal/police building was demolished to make way for a larger Post Office in the 1860s. However, the police remained in the newly expanded building until 1890, when police moved to Angas Street (now the Adelaide Magistrate's Courts).⁶³

Like the Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex, these buildings represent early government buildings which fulfilled more than one government service. However, the Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex differs from these examples by including a range of functions, combining post office, telegraph, customs house, registry office and sea rescue. In addition, the Normanville Police Station was built considerably earlier than the other three multi-purpose examples.

The Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex is also linked to the requirement for public buildings due to expansion of rural areas in early South Australia. Other similar public buildings built during the early development of coastal towns in the Fleurieu Peninsula include:

- Willunga Post Office and Telegraph c1857-1861, SHP10626
- Willunga Police Station and Residence, Cell Block and Courtyard, Stables & Courthouse) c1856 (Police present in the area since 1840s), SHP 10342
- Victor Harbor Post & Telegraph Office and Postmaster's Residence c1866, SHP11103
- former Victor Harbor Custom House & Station Master's Residence c1866, SHP12739
- Goolwa Police Station and Courthouse, including Cells and Stables c1859, SHP10368.

Assessment against 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.

In regard to this criterion consideration has been given to *Guidelines for State Heritage Places*, that note:

The place should be closely associated with events, developments or cultural phases which have played a significant part in South Australian history. Ideally it should demonstrate those associations in its fabric

Places will not normally be considered under this criterion if they are of a class of things that are commonplace, or frequently replicated across the State, places associated with events of interest only to a small number of people, places associated with developments of little significance, or places only reputed to have been the scene of an event which has left no trace or which lacks substantial evidence.

The Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex demonstrates the evolution of a number of important aspects of the state's history including early development of the South Australian police force, the development of agriculture and trade on the Fleurieu Peninsula, and the range and diversity of early government services in South Australia.

The South Australian Police Force

Normanville's 1855 Police Station and Courthouse was built during a turbulent time for the police force. The earliest days of the service were hampered by poor leadership and a lack of funding, and it was only after the appointment of Police Commissioner Peter Egerton Warburton in 1853 that things started to improve. The nine police stations spread throughout the colony in 1840 grew to 20 by 1856. This growth was linked to the expanding rural population and the decentralisation of the police force into four divisions. Yet in 1856, one year after the Normanville station opened, major funding cuts meant many aspects of the police force were downsized. While police buildings continued to be built after 1856, most were built in the late 1860s when the colonies economy improved and the early temporary, light-weight police buildings were replaced with more substantial stone buildings. Therefore, the original police building at Normanville is associated with a short phase of initial growth of the South Australian police force. Other similar police buildings constructed during this period include:

- Redruth Courthouse, Police Station, lockup and stables, Burra c1847, SHP10027
- Mount Barker Police Station and Stables c1850, SHP10511
- Port Elliot Police Station, cells, stables and fence c1853, SHP10354
- Willunga Police Station and Residence, Cell Block and Courtyard, Stables & Courthouse) c1856 (Police present in the area since 1840s), SHP 10342.

The significance of the building to the South Australian Police Force is directly related to the single storey eastern end. Further development of the building took place in 1863 to include the two-storey telegraph and post office. This development was not funded by the South Australian Police Force and was independent to the funding cuts the force was experiencing during this time.

The building continued to be used as a police station until 1961. Consequently, the fabric of the building, including the stable remains relatively unaltered. Therefore, the association between the evolution of police services and the built fabric of the Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex remains intact.

Development of agriculture and trade on the Fleurieu Peninsula

The construction of the Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex demonstrates aspects of the evolution of the Fleurieu Peninsula during the mid-1850s. Expansion of Normanville and surrounding area is testament to the early agricultural success of South Australia's first settlers. As farmers moved to the area to make a living off the fertile land, in addition to increasing sea trade with the opening of the Normanville Jetty in 1856, there was a need for government and public buildings. The Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex is testament to this significant phase of South Australia's agricultural and early settlement history. Similar public buildings associated with the early agricultural success of the Fleurieu Peninsula that are included on the South Australian Heritage Register include:

- Willunga Post Office and Telegraph c1857-1861, SHP10626
- Willunga Police Station and Residence, Cell Block and Courtyard, Stables & Courthouse) c1856 (Police present in the area since 1840s), SHP 10342
- Victor Harbor Post & Telegraph Office and Postmaster's Residence c1866, SHP11103
- former Victor Harbor Custom House & Station Master's Residence c1866, SHP 12739.
- Goolwa Police Station and Courthouse, including Cells and Stables c1859, SHP10368.

The 1855 Police Station at Normanville was built earlier than any of the places listed above, and as such tells an important part of the storey of the provision of government services in the developing region. Not only was it the oldest, but the Normanville station also provided a broader range of government services than any of the State-listed places within the Fleurieu region.

Government Services in South Australia

In addition to law and order, the building also played an important role in the provision of communication to the Normanville area. In 1863 the two-storey section of the Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex was built to accommodate the new telegraph station, post office and customs office on the ground floor, and bedrooms for the post and telegraph staff on the first floor. From 1863 until the early 1900s Normanville Police Station was the first place to provide postal and telegraph services to the Yankalilla region. The first telegraph line in South Australia was laid in 1855 from Adelaide to Port Adelaide. The first line laid to connect Adelaide to the rest of the country was from Adelaide to Melbourne in 1858 and another in 1860. The line from Adelaide to Normanville was laid in 1862. This was during a time when telegraph offices were built in many rural towns around Adelaide with several already on the State Heritage Register. Other similar examples include:

- Robe Post Office & Telegraph Station c1856 (approx.), SHP 10361
- Gawler Telegraph Station c1857, SHP10370
- Burra Post Office and Telegraph c1860, SHP10017
- Penola Post Office (and telegraph) c1860, SHP10266
- Willunga Post Office and Telegraph c1857-1861, SHP10626
- Auburn Post Office (and telegraph) c1862, SHP10075
- Mount Gambier Post (Originally Telegraph office) c1865, SHP14689
- Blanchtown Post Office (and telegraph) c1866, SHP10084
- Kingston Post Office (and Telegraph) c1866, SHP10245
- Tanunda Post and Telegraph Station SHP 12287
- Melrose Post Office and Telegraph c1866, SHP10155

Unlike the Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex, many of these buildings were built for the specific use as a post office and telegraph office. The style of most of these buildings is similar to the Normanville building being Georgian in style. The Robe, Gawler, Burra, Penola, Willunga and Auburn buildings were built before the telegraph and post office addition to the Normanville building and provide significant examples of the importance of the first telegraph lines in rural South Australia. While the building of the two-storey section of the Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex played a role in the evolution of communication between Adelaide and rural areas its significance is no greater than the above examples. The telegraph part of the building is not the first of its kind, nor does it have any design qualities which set it above the other examples. Therefore, the connection between the Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex and the development of the telegraph in South Australia is not the building's primary source of significance.

The Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex also housed a number of other government services over the years. In addition to the police station, courthouse, post and telegraph office, it also operated as a customs house (1863-1890), registry office (approx. 1855-1900), and centre for sea rescue for the area (1866-1931). While police buildings fulfilling more than one service were not uncommon in the establishment of government services throughout South Australia, the Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex was one of the earliest examples. Further, while most similar buildings only serviced two or three government services, the Normanville building housed seven different services.

Other buildings which provided more than one government service include:

- 'The Customs House', Port MacDonnell (former Customs House, Courthouse, Telegraph Station and Police Station) c1862 SHP10254. This building incorporated all legal and law enforcement offices. The Custom House was used to process all tariff on goods entering the country. The building also included the residence for the police and their families.
- Port Adelaide Visitor Centre Complex (former Police Station, Courthouse and Custom House) c1859-1860 SHP10880. This building was originally built as a Court House, Customs House and Police Station.
- The Wellington Courthouse (former Wellington East Police Station & Courthouse) c1864 SHP10447. This building comprises a police station, court house, stables, store, telegraph office and ferryman's residence.

As one of the oldest surviving police buildings in South Australia, the Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex has significant associations with the evolution of the South Australian Police Force. The police station was constructed

in 1855 from stone and brick at a time when light-weight, timber or pug and pine police structures dominated. None of these timber structures are known to still exist. The Police Station and Courthouse building is also one of the small number of surviving police buildings that dates back to the significant expansion and restructuring of the South Australian police force 1853-1856.

In addition, the Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex is a rare and early example of a multi-function building complex that provided a range of government services, and played an important role in supporting the development of Normanville and the Fleurieu region. Given it operated as a police station until 1961, the building fabric and stables remain substantially intact and still illustrate many aspects of the buildings' long-term function and use.

It is recommended that the nominated place **does** fulfil criterion (a).

(b) it has rare, uncommon or endangered qualities that are of cultural significance.

In regard to this criterion consideration has been given to *Guidelines for State Heritage Places*, that note:

The place should demonstrate a way of life, social custom, industrial process or land use which is no longer practised, is in danger of being lost, or is of exceptional interest. This encompasses both places which were always rare, and places which have become scarce through subsequent loss or destruction.

Places will not normally be considered under this criterion if their rarity is merely local, or if they appear rare only because research has not been done elsewhere, or if their distinguishing characteristics have been degraded or compromised, or if they are at present common and simply believed to be in danger of becoming rare in future.

The Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex is an early example of a multi-function government complex. In 1853, the closest police station to service the population of Normanville was 36km away in Willunga, meaning police assistance could take hours to reach Normanville. As the population grew and sea trade increased, the need arose for a police station to be located closer to the Normanville Jetty. Therefore, in 1855, approval was given for the construction of the Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex. As the population of Normanville continued to expand the need for better communication between the area and the city became increasing apparent and resulted in the extension of the building to include a post and telegraph office in 1863. In 1863, it also commenced operation as a customs office and a registry office. Later, in 1866, a lookout tower was erected in the grounds behind the police station. The addition of the lookout increased the services and government operations located at the Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex to seven. Other similar buildings which fulfilled a number

of government services already entered on the South Australia Heritage Register include:

- 'The Customs House', Port MacDonnell (former Customs House, Courthouse, Telegraph Station and Police Station) c1862 SHP10254. This building incorporated all legal and law enforcement offices. The Custom House was used to process all tariff on goods entering the country. The building also included the residence for the police and their families.
- Port Adelaide Visitor Centre Complex (former Police Station, Courthouse and Custom House) c1859-1860 SHP10880. This building was originally built as a Court House, Customs House and Police Station.
- The Wellington Courthouse (former Wellington East Police Station & Courthouse) c1864 SHP10447. This building comprises a police station, court house, stables, store, telegraph office and ferryman's residence.

Similar building which have now been demolished include:

- The Kadina Police Station, Courthouse and other government services. (c1861)
- Naracoorte Police Station, telegraph office and courthouse. (c1866)
- Metropolitan Police Station (c1850s).

While multi-use government buildings are represented on the Heritage Register, there are none which include the number of government services offered at the Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex. In addition, the construction of the Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex, between 1855 and 1863 makes it a very early example of a multi-use government building.

Multi-use buildings have some historical importance because they provide evidence of how townships became established and developed during the early settlement of South Australia. The requirement for services such as the police, the post, telegraph and customs indicates a towns growth and success. In addition they provide evidence of the multi-tasking role of the early rural police force. In the case of the Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex, its construction was a result of the demand for services due to successful farming and sea trade.

The Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex is significant because it is an early and intact example of a government multi-function service centre that supported the early agricultural development of the Fleurieu Peninsula, and hence the early agricultural development of South Australia. However, each

service offered by the Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex is common to many other buildings in South Australia and cannot be considered rare. Therefore, the multi-use aspect of the Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex is not of cultural significance at the state level.

It is recommended that the nominated place **does not** fulfil criterion (b).

(c) it may yield information that will contribute to an understanding of the state's history, including its natural history.

In regard to this criterion consideration has been given to *Guidelines for State Heritage Places*, that note:

The place should provide, or demonstrate a likelihood of providing, information that will contribute significantly to our knowledge of the past. The information should be inherent in the fabric of the place. The place may be a standing structure, an archaeological deposit or a geological site.

Places will not normally be considered under this criterion simply because they are believed to contain archaeological or palaeontological deposits. There must be good reasons to suppose the site is of value for research, and that useful information will emerge. A place that will yield the same information as many other places, or information that could be obtained as readily from documentary sources, may not be eligible.

It is possible that there is evidence not currently visible at Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex that would provide a small amount of additional information about the police and courthouse building. However, the information yielded would be specific to the building itself and would not yield physical evidence that would substantively contribute to an understanding of the State's history.

It is recommended that the nominated place **does not** fulfil criterion (c).

(d) it is an outstanding representative of a particular class of places of cultural significance.

In regard to this criterion consideration has been given to *Guidelines for State Heritage Places*, that note:

The place should be capable of providing understanding of the category of places which it represents. It should be typical of a wider range of such places, and in a good state of integrity, that is, still faithfully presenting its historical message.

Places will not be considered simply because they are members of a

class, they must be both notable examples and well-preserved. Places will be excluded if their characteristics do not clearly typify the class, or if they were very like many other places, or if their representative qualities had been degraded or lost. However, places will not be excluded from the Register merely because other similar places are included.

The Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex is a good representative of early police buildings in South Australia as well as a multi-use government building.

Police buildings

The Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex, 1855, is associated with an early period of growth, restructuring and decentralisation of the South Australian Police Force. Early police buildings in rural South Australia were often built quickly and were temporary, light-weight structures. The Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex was one of the few permanent stone buildings completed in the mid-1850s. Other buildings of this class include:

- Redruth Courthouse, Police Station, lockup and stables, Burra c1847, SHP10027
- Mount Barker Police Station and Stables c1850, SHP10511
- Port Elliot Police Station, cells, stables and fence c1853, SHP10354
- Willunga Police Station and Residence, Cell Block and Courtyard, Stables & Courthouse) c1856 (Police present in the area since 1840s), SHP 10342.

These places are similar to the Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex due to the period in which they were constructed and their location in rural areas of South Australia. Each provides an example of early police buildings in South Australia. The Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex was used continuously from 1855 to 1961. It has since been used as a private residence and a café. Despite its adapted reuse, the external fabric of the building has not been significantly altered. Therefore the building continues to provide an understanding of the category of places which it represents. The Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex is one of a few remaining examples of early police buildings in South Australia and is in a good state of integrity that still faithfully presents its historical message. However, in comparison to other police buildings, the Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex is standard in design, it cannot be considered outstanding or notable.

Multi-use government buildings

The Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex is one of a number of buildings in South Australia which housed multiple government services. The building was originally built as a single storey building for use as a police station and

courthouse in 1855. It was extended to include the post and telegraph office, customs house in 1863 and sea rescue in 1866. Therefore, the built fabric of the building provides an understanding of the numerous functions it served.

It was not uncommon for police buildings to fulfil more than one government service in South Australia. Other buildings which served more than one government service include:

- 'The Customs House', Port MacDonnell (former Customs House, Courthouse, Telegraph Station and Police Station) c1862 SHP10254. This building incorporated all legal and law enforcement offices. The Custom House was used to process all tariff on goods entering the country. The building also included the residence for the police and their families.
- Port Adelaide Visitor Centre Complex (former Police Station, Courthouse and Custom House) c1859-1860 SHP10880. This building was originally built as a Court House, Customs House and Police Station.
- The Wellington Courthouse (former Wellington East Police Station & Courthouse) c1864 SHP10447. This building comprises a police station, court house, stables, store, telegraph office and ferryman's residence.

Each independent use of the building falls into its own class. However, it is problematic to classify a 'multi-use building' in a class of its own. While the Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex provides an understanding of the class of each of its functions, including police station, post, telegraph, registry and customs office and sea rescue, it is not an outstanding representative of any of these classes independently.

It is recommended that the nominated place **does not** fulfil criterion (d).

(e) it demonstrates a high degree of creative, aesthetic or technical accomplishment or is an outstanding representative of particular construction techniques or design characteristics.

In regard to this criterion consideration has been given to *Guidelines for State Heritage Places*, that note:

The place should show qualities of innovation or departure, beauty or formal design, or represent a new achievement of its time. Breakthroughs in technology or new developments in design would qualify, if the place clearly shows them. A high standard of design skill and originality is expected.

Places would not normally be considered under this criterion if their degree

of achievement could not be demonstrated, or where their integrity was diminished so that the achievement, while documented, was no longer apparent in the place, or simply because they were the work of a designer who demonstrated innovation elsewhere.

The Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex is a typical example of the police and post office complex built in the mid 1800s in South Australia. The building was built in two phases and used standard building techniques of coursed masonry construction with timber framed gable and hipped roof that was typical of many buildings at the time. The original police station consisted of a court room, police office, cells and exercise yard. The building was extended in 1863 to include the post and telegraph office. Other additions included additional cells, toilets and the sea rescue facilities. The development of the building is typical of early police and public buildings in South Australia. Most similar buildings originally comprised two or three rooms. Over time and as the requirements of the building increased, additional rooms were added to the structures.

The Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex is constructed in the Victorian Georgian style from limestone with red brick detailing and is typical of government buildings constructed during the 1850s-1860s. Other similar buildings include:

- Redruth Courthouse, Police Station, lockup and stables, Burra SHP10027- built c1847
- Willunga Police Station and Residence, Cell Block and Courtyard, Stables & Courthouse) SHP 10342- built c1856 (Police present in the area since 1840s)
- Wellington Police Station, court house, stables, store, telegraph office and ferryman's office SHP10447 c1864
- Port MacDonnell Customs House, Court House and residence for police. SHP10254 c1923
- Port Adelaide Police Station, Courthouse and Custom House SHP10880 c1870

The Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex is a typical example of a police and multi-use government building. It was well-designed and constructed, however it does not demonstrate a high degree of creative, aesthetic or technical accomplishment, nor is it an outstanding representative of particular construction techniques or design characteristics.

It is recommended that the nominated place **does not** fulfil criterion (e).

(f) it has strong cultural or spiritual associations for the community or a group within it.

In regard to this criterion consideration has been given to *Guidelines for State Heritage Places*, that note:

The place should be one which the community or a significant cultural group have held in high regard for an extended period. This must be much stronger than people's normal attachment to their surroundings. The association may in some instances be in folklore rather than in reality.

Places will not be considered if their associations are commonplace by nature, or of recent origin, or recognised only by a small number of people, or not held very strongly, or held by a group not widely recognised, or cannot be demonstrated satisfactorily to others.

The Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex has cultural associations with the Normanville community, in particular the Yankalilla and District Historical Society. This local historical group nominated the building and have high regard for its association with the history of Normanville. This cultural value is relevant to the local community of Normanville rather than the entire State.

In addition to their cultural association to the building, the Yankalilla and District Historical Society believe the Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex contributes to the cultural heritage of the South Australian Police Force. The police used the building from 1855 until 1961, and while this implies they could have had a high regard for the building for an extended period, this attachment is directly related to the local police officers and Normanville community. It is unlikely the connection the South Australian Police Force has with the Normanville building is stronger than to any other police buildings in the State. This cultural connection between a police building and the police force is common to many police buildings on the South Australian Register. Therefore, the connection the police has with the Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex is not stronger than any other police building in the State. Further, their relocation in 1961 implies the building no longer has a special association with the South Australian Police Force.

It is recommended that the nominated place **does not** fulfil criterion (f).

(g) it has a special association with the life or work of a person or organisation or an event of historical importance.

In considering this criterion, I have had regard to the *Guidelines for State Heritage Places*, that note:

The place must have a close association with a person or group which played a significant part in past events, and that association should be demonstrated in the fabric of the place. The product of a creative person, or the workplace of a person whose contribution was in industry, would be more closely associated with the person's work than would his or her home. Most people are associated with many places in their lifetime, and it must be demonstrated why one place is more significant than others.

Places will not generally be considered under this criterion if they have only a brief, incidental or distant association, or if they are associated with persons or groups of little significance, or if they are associated with an event which has left no trace, or if a similar association could be claimed for many places, or if the association cannot be demonstrated. Generally the home or the grave of a notable person will not be entered in the Register unless it has some distinctive attribute, or there is no other physical evidence of the person's life or career in existence.

The Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex and former Post and Telegraph Office is associated with the South Australian Police Force, Peter Egerton Warburton (Commissioner of Police from 1853 until 1867) and Charles Todd (Government Superintendent of Telegraph from 1855-1907).

As an organisation, the South Australian Police Force has played a significant role in the development of the State. However, given the large number of buildings that have been erected by this organisation over the decades, there is little evidence that the Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex has particularly special associations with their work. Other notable buildings that share this association include:

- Redruth Courthouse, Police Station, lockup and stables c1847, Burra SHP10027
- Mount Barker Police Station and Stables c1850, SHP10511
- Port Elliot Police Station, cells, stables and fence c1853, SHP10354
- Strathalbyn Police Station and Courthouse c1858, SHP10339
- Willunga Police Station and Residence, Cell Block and Courtyard, Stables & Courthouse) c1856 (Police present in the area since 1840s), SHP 10342
- Callington Police Station c1859 (approx.), SHP10486
- Woodside Police Station and Courthouse c1859, SHP20674 & 10482
- Goolwa Police Station and Courthouse, including Cells and Stables c1859, SHP10368
- Auburn Courthouse and Police Station c1860, SHP10076
- Wellington Police Station and Courthouse c1864, SHP 10477

- Wallaroo Police Station and Residence c1865, SHP10138
- Kingston Police Station c1866, SHP10244
- Melrose Courthouse & Police Station c1862, SHP 10154
- Salisbury Police Station, Courthouse & Stables SHP10587.

Police Commissioner Peter Egerton Warburton was a former Major in the Military Battalion at Bombay and was responsible for approving construction of the Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex. Warburton was also instrumental in the decentralisation of the South Australian Police Force with the creation of four divisions. These included the Adelaide Division, Northern Division, Southern Division and Western Division. He introduced a method to more easily distinguish between the foot and mounted police, as well as providing greater promotion opportunities and job security for members of the force. Warburton's decentralisation policy was responsible for the expansion of the police force into rural locations. Police buildings constructed during Warburton's leadership include:

- Port Elliot Police Station, cells, stables and fence c1853, SHP10354
- Normanville Police Station c1855
- Willunga Police Station and Residence, Cell Block and Courtyard, Stables & Courthouse) c1856, SHP 10342
- Strathalbyn Police Station and Courthouse c1858, SHP10339
- Callington Police Station c1859 (approx.), SHP10486
- Woodside Police Station and Courthouse c1859, SHP20674 & 10482
- Goolwa Police Station and Courthouse, including Cells and Stables c1859, SHP10368
- Auburn Courthouse and Police Station c1860, SHP10076
- Melrose Courthouse & Police Station c1862, SHP 10154
- Wellington Police Station and Courthouse c1864, SHP 10477
- Wallaroo Police Station and Residence c1865, SHP10138
- Kingston Police Station SHP10244, c1866.

Warbuton served as Commissioner for 14 years, but his main legacy dates from the 1853-56 period where he made the biggest changes to the way in which the police force operated. Warburton's frustrations with the lack of funding and government support meant that after the 1853-56 period his focus changed to the exploration of Australia. Therefore, Warburton was better known for his accomplishments as an explorer. This included his exploration of the area of Lake Gairdner and the Gawler Ranges in 1857 and Lake Eyre and South Lake Torrens in 1858. In 1860 he explored the north-west of Streaky Bay, the country north-west of Mount Margaret in 1864 and in 1866 he examined the area around the northern shores of Lake Eyre where he found a large river, since named after him, which he traced to near the Queensland border. In 1874 he became the first to cross the continent from the centre to the west. While these explorations have significance to the State, they have no relationship to the Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex.

Charles Todd is a significant and well-known figure in South Australia's history. Todd served as the Government Superintendent of Telegraph from 1855-1907. During his 52 years of service to the State, Todd was instrumental in the construction of the Overland Telegraph that connected Australia to the wider world. In addition, he also built a number of telegraph lines that connected Adelaide with the other colonies as well as many rural South Australian town to the Capital.

There are numerous buildings that are associated with Todd's work, including:

- Robe Post Office & Telegraph Station c1856 (approx.), SHP 10361
- Gawler Telegraph Station c1857, SHP10370
- Willunga Post Office and Telegraph c1857-1861, SHP10626
- Port Adelaide Visitor Centre Complex (former Police Station, Courthouse and Custom House) c1859-1860, SHP10880
- Burra Post Office and Telegraph c1860, SHP10017
- Penola Post Office (and telegraph) c1860, SHP10266
- Auburn Post Office (and telegraph) c1862, SHP10075
- 'The Customs House', Port MacDonnell (former Customs House, Courthouse, Telegraph Station and Police Station) c1862, SHP10254
- The Wellington Courthouse (former Wellington East Police Station & Courthouse) c1864, SHP10447
- Mount Gambier Post (Originally telegraph office) c1865, SHP14689
- Blanchtown Post Office (and telegraph) c1866, SHP10084
- Kingston Post Office (and telegraph) c1866, SHP10245
- Tanunda Post and Telegraph Station, SHP 12287
- Melrose Post Office and Telegraph c1866, SHP10155
- Victor Harbor Post & Telegraph Office and Postmaster's Residence c1866, SHP 11103.

Although Todd played a significant role in the establishment of telecommunications in South Australia, he had limited associations with the Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex. Apart from visiting Normanville to open the telegraph office in 1863, there is no record of him making subsequent visits. Therefore, Todd could not be said to have a special association with the Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex.

It is recommended that the nominated place **does not** fulfil criterion (g).

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'Meeting at Yankalilla', *South Australian Register*. 17 Oct 1854, p. 3

'Public Meeting at Yankalilla', *South Australian Register*. 27 Dec 1854, p. 3

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'Tour of His Excellency the Governor', *Adelaide Observer*, 14 July 1855, p.3

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'Opening of the Victory Road, Sellick's Hill', *South Australian Register*, 17 Mar 1859, p. 2

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'More Country Telephones', *The Register*, 17 Oct 1906, p. 8

'Troops for South Australia', *Adelaide Observer*. 16 Mar 1861, p. 5

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Websites

<http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/tolmer-alexander-4728>

<http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/warburton-peter-egerton-4798>

<http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/finniss-boyle-travers-2044>

<http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/todd-sir-charles-4727>

<http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/tolmer-alexander-4728>

http://www.architectsdatabase.unisa.edu.au/arch_full.asp?Arch_ID=44

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NAME: Former Normanville Police Station and **PLACE NO.:** 26470
Government Complex

SITE RECORD:

FORMER NAME: Yankalilla Police Station.

DESCRIPTION OF PLACE: Victorian Georgian, single storey police and courthouse building constructed in 1855 and two-storey building constructed in 1862 (opened 1863). Constructed in local limestone with brick detailing.

DATE OF COMPLETION: 1862

REGISTER STATUS: **Description:** Nominated
Date: 26 November 2016

CURRENT USE: **Description:** Vacant and stable used for residential use
Dates: 2016

PREVIOUS USE(S): **Description:** Police station, courthouse, post and telegraph office, customs, sea rescue, registry office, café and residential.
Dates: 1855- present

ARCHITECT: **Name:** W. Hays (Government Architect 1852-1856)
And
W. Hanson (Government Architect 1860-1867).
Dates: 1855 and 1862 (opened 1863)

BUILDER: **Name:** B. Sykes & Co and George Sara and Sons
Dates: 1855 and 1862 (opened 1863)

SUBJECT INDEXING: **Group:** Miscellaneous/Residential
Category:

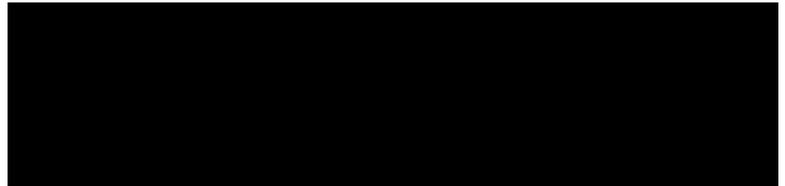
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA: **Description:** LGA

LOCATION:
Street no: 52-54
Street Name: Main Road
Town/Suburb: Normanville
Post Code: 5204

LAND DESCRIPTION:
Title Type: CT
Volume: 5332
Folio: 948
Lot No.: Lot
Section: 305
Hundred: Yankalilla

MAP REFERENCE
MGA Zone 52
main building
Easting (X) 1346805.13270
Northing (Y) 6037314.30124
stable
Easting (X) 1346763.67310
Northing (Y) 6037327.08737

OWNER:



SITE PLAN

NAME: Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex **PLACE:** 26470
Government Complex



Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex 52-54 Main Road Normanville
Site Plan N ↑

Legend

- Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex allotment boundary
- Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex and Stables
- Parcel Boundaries

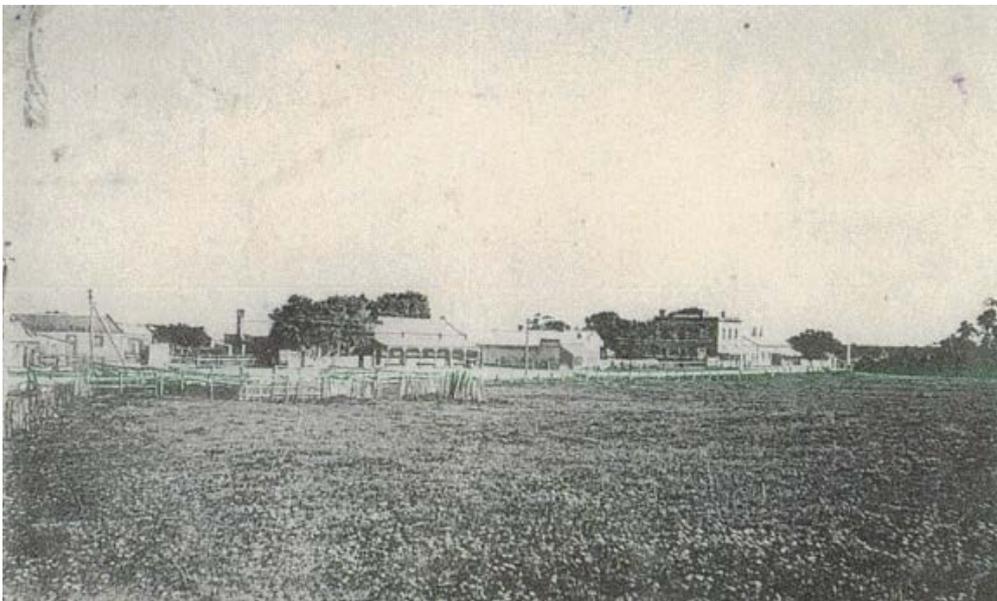
PHOTOS

NAME: Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex **PLACE:** 26470



Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex. c1880 (approx.) Note lookout tower at the rear of the building.

Source- Yankalilla and District Historic Society



Normanville. Note Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex on the far right. c1880 (approx.)

Source- Yankalilla and District Historic Society

PHOTOS

NAME: Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex **PLACE:** 26470



Normanville mail service. Note the Police Station and Courthouse behind

Source State Library of South Australia B24317



Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex – Original building (c1855)(from north). Note ribbon pointing and 1870s verandah. March 2017

Source: State Heritage Unit Site Visit 28 March 2017.

PHOTOS

NAME: Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex **PLACE:** 26470



Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex- west end (c1863). Note decorative cement rendered cornice and window surrounds and original verandah. March 2017

Source: State Heritage Unit Site Visit 28 March 2017.

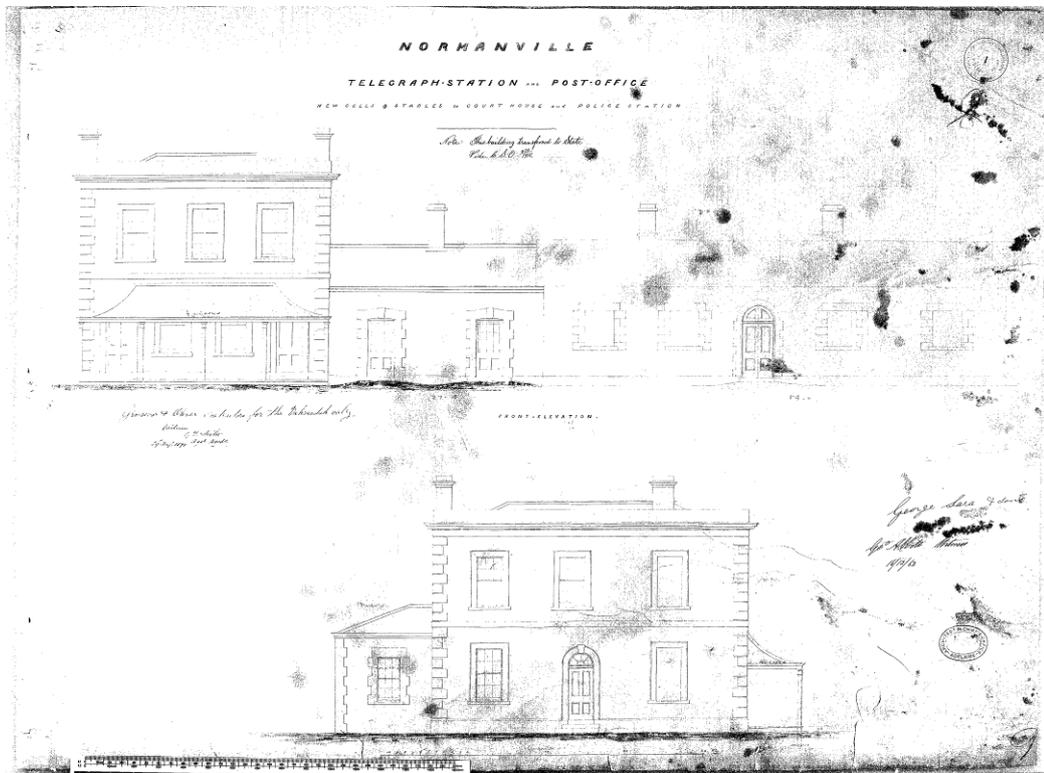


Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex- stable. Note original two-storey building with single storey addition to side. March 2017

Source: State Heritage Unit Site Visit 28 March 2017.

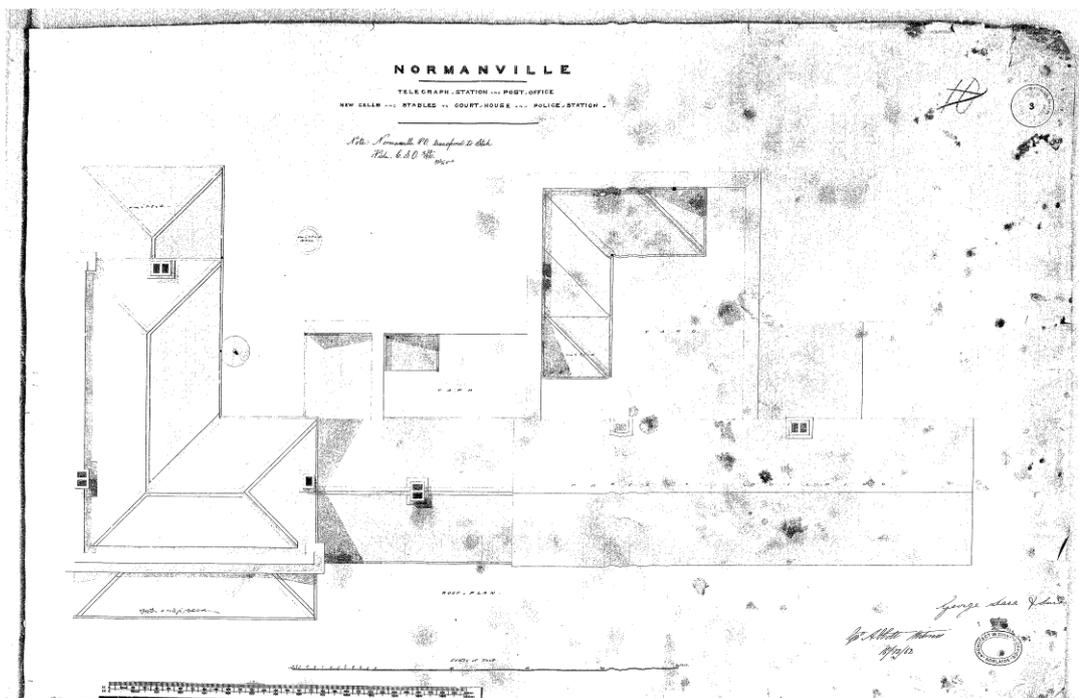
ARCHIVAL PLANS AND ELEVATIONS

NAME: Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex **PLACE:** 26470
Government Complex



Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex elevation (c1862).

Source- Information Management- Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure



Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex plan (c1862).

COMPARISON PHOTOS – MULTIUSE GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS

NAME: Former Normanville Police Station and **PLACE:** 26470
Government Complex



Kadina police station/post (now demolished)
Source- www.sapolicehistory.org/269.jpg



Naracoorte Police Station (c1878) (now demolished) Source- State- Library of SA [B 10018]



Wellington Police Station, court house, stables,
Store, telegraph office and ferryman's office
(c1864) SHP10447
Source- State Library of SA (B5684)



Port Adelaide Police Station, Courthouse and
Custom House (c1870) SHP10880
Source- State Library of SA (B1874)



Port MacDonnell Customs House, Court House and residence for police (1923) SHP10254
Source- State Library of SA (PRG2801/1/38/28)

COMPARISON PHOTOS – POLICE STATIONS

NAME: Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex **PLACE:** 26470



Redruth Courthouse, Police Station, lockup and stables, Burra SHP10027- built c1847

Source- DEWNR



Mount Barker Police Station and Stables SHP10511- built c1850

Source- DEWNR



Port Elliot Police Station, cells, stables and fence SHP10354- built c1853

Source- DEWNR



Willunga Police Station and Residence, Cell Block and Courtyard, Stables & Courthouse) SHP 10342- built c1856 (Police present in the area since 1840s)

Source- DEWNR

COMPARISON PHOTOS – TELEGRAPH STATIONS

NAME: Former Normanville Police Station and **PLACE:** 26470
Government Complex



Robe Post Office and Telegraph Station
SHP10361 (c1856)
Source- DEWNR



Gawler Telegraph Station SHP 10370 (c1857)
Source- DEWNR



Burra Post Office Telegraph SHP10017
(c1860)
Source- DEWNR



Penola Post Office and Telegraph SHP10266
(c1860)
Source- DEWNR



Willunga Post Office and Telegraph
SHP10626 (c1857-1861)
Source- DEWNR



Auburn Post Office (and telegraph)
SHP10075 (c1862)



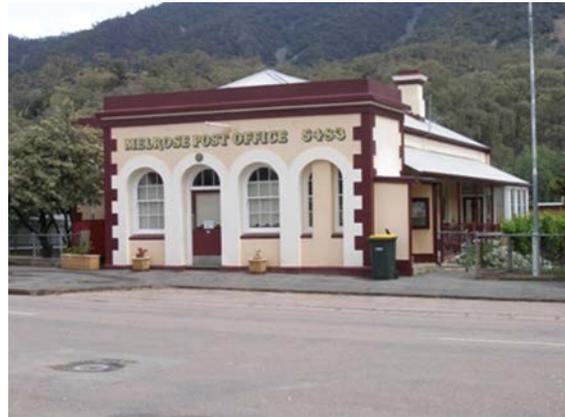
Mount Gambier Post (originally Telegraph office) SHP14689 (c1865)
Source- DEWNR



Blanchtown Post office (and telegraph) SHP10084 (c1866)
Source- DEWNR



Kingston Post Office (and telegraph) SHP10245 (c1866)
Source- DEWNR



Melrose Post Office and Telegraph SHP10155 (c1866)
Source- DEWNR

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- ¹ Hopkins. C (1992) *South Australia Police 1838-1992- A History of the Development and Operations of the Force from its Establishment.* (Adelaide), p. 1
- ² Clyne. R. (1987), *Colonial Blue*, (Netley, Wakefield Press), p. xx
- ³ Clyne. R. (1987), p. xx
- ⁴ Hopkins. C (1992), p. 10
- ⁵ Clyne. R. (1987), p. 124
- ⁶ <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/tolmer-alexander-4728>
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- ¹⁰ Clyne. R. (1987), p. 130
- ¹¹ Police Commissioner's Quarterly Report 25 December 1854. (source- State Library of South Australia)
- ¹² Police Commissioners Quarterly Report 31 March 1856 (source- State Library of South Australia)
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- ¹⁶ 'The Electric Telegraph', *South Australian Register*, 18 Aug 1855, p. 2
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- ¹⁹ Dallwitz. J, Marsden. A, Marden. S, Linn. J, Linn. R. (1985) *Heritage Survey of the Fleurieu Peninsula.* (Adelaide: State Heritage Branch)
- ²⁰ 'Local Intelligence' *South Australian Register* Sat 2 Jun 1849. p. 2
- ²¹ Various, (1884). *Yesteryear in Yankalilla.* (Yankalilla). p. 8
- ²² Dallwitz. J, Marsden. A, Marden. S, Linn. J, Linn. R. (1985) *Heritage Survey of the Fleurieu Peninsula.* (Adelaide: State Heritage Branch)
- ²³ Lush. p. 21
- ²⁴ 'Normanville Jetty, Yankalilla', *South Australian Register*, 27 February 1856, p.3
- ²⁵ Dallwitz et all. (1985)
- ²⁶ 'District Councils. Yankalilla'. *Adelaide Observer.* 23 De c1854, p.11
- ²⁷ <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/tolmer-alexander-4728>
- ²⁸ Norman's letter to Police Commissioner Tolmer (Many 1854) Source- John White APM- History Normanville Police Station. SA Police Historical Society.
- ²⁹ 'Meeting at Yankalilla', *South Australian Register.* 17 Oct 1854, p. 3
- ³⁰ 'Public Meeting at Yankalilla', *South Australian Register.* 27 De c1854, p. 3
- ³¹ Police Commissioner's Quarterly Report 25 December 1854. (source- State Library of South Australia)
- ³² *Adelaide Observer* 24 Mar 1855, p. 8
- ³³ http://www.architectsdatabase.unisa.edu.au/arch_full.asp?Arch_ID=78
- ³⁴ 'Tour of His Excellency the Governor', *Adelaide Observer*, 14 July 1855, p.3
- ³⁵ 'District of Yankalilla' *South Australian Register* Fri 21 De c1855, p. 4
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- ³⁷ Memorial 8 March 1855
- ³⁸ Police Commissioners Quarterly Report 30 March 1855 (source- State Library of South Australia)
- ³⁹ Police Commissioners Quarterly Report 30 March 1858 (source- State Library of South Australia)
- ⁴⁰ Williams. R. F, (1986) *To Find the Way, Yankalilla and District 1836-1986* (Adelaide: Lutheran Publishing House), p.40
- ⁴¹ Martin Walker, (2004) 'The Post, Telegraph and Telephone Offices of South Australia and the Northern Territory', p.227
- ⁴² 'Opening of the Victory Road, Sellick's Hill', *South Australian Register*, 17 Mar 1859, p. 2
- ⁴³ *South Australian Register*, Wednesday 28 May 1862, p. 3
- ⁴⁴ *South Australian Register*, Wednesday 28 May 1862, p. 3
- ⁴⁵ Plans and elevations of the police station c1862. Source- Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure
- ⁴⁶ http://www.architectsdatabase.unisa.edu.au/arch_full.asp?Arch_ID=44
- ⁴⁷ 'Opening of the New Telegraph Station at Normanville', *South Australian Register* 24 June 1863, p.2

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- ⁴⁸ 'Opening of the New Telegraph Station at Normanville', *South Australian Register* 24 June 1863, p.2
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- ⁵⁵ Yesteryear in Yankalilla p.14
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- ⁶¹ 'Troops for South Australia', *Adelaide Observer*. 16 Mar 1861, p. 5
- ⁶² 'Mosquito Plains', *Adelaide Observer*. 19 May 1866, p. 3
- ⁶³ Source- John White APM- History Normanville Police Station. SA Police Historical Society.