

SUMMARY OF STATE HERITAGE PLACE

REGISTER ENTRY

**Entry in the South Australian Heritage Register in accordance with the
*Heritage Places Act 1993***

NAME: Former Normanville Police Station

PLACE NO.: 26470

**ADDRESS: 52-54 Main Road, Normanville SA 5204
CT 5332/948, Section 305, Hundred of Yankalilla**

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

The Former Normanville Police Station 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 Australia Police Force, with the two-storey post and telegraph office being built in 1863. As trade and agriculture led to the expansion 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.

RELEVANT CRITERIA (under section 16 of the *Heritage Places Act 1993*)

(a) it demonstrates important aspects of the evolution or pattern of the State's history.

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

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. In 1840 there were only nine police stations operating in the colony, most of which were temporary timber buildings. From this time until 1856, the number of police stations grew to 20, with some more permanent stone buildings being built. Only five of these early police buildings remain, including the Former Normanville Police Station. 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 colony's economy improved and the early temporary, light-weight police buildings were replaced with more substantial stone buildings. Therefore, the original police building at Normanville (single-storey eastern end) is associated with a short phase of initial growth of the South Australia Police Force.

The Former Normanville Police Station also 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 and provides valuable insight into the pattern of South Australia's rural development. As farmers moved to the area to make a living from the fertile land, and as sea trade increased following the opening of the Normanville Jetty in 1856, there was a need for government and public buildings. One of the earliest of these was the police station and courthouse (1855), constructed before Fleurieu Peninsula's boom period of the 1860s.

The Former Normanville Police Station provided a range of services to the fledgling community, including providing a police station and courthouse in the original building (1855-1961); and after the two-storey building was constructed in 1863, the complex included a post and telegraph office (from 1863), customs house (1863-1890), registry office (c1855-1900), 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 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.

The Former Normanville Police Station is a rare and early example of a police station and multi-function 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 illustrate several aspects of the buildings' long-term function and use.

SITE PLAN

Former Normanville Police Station
52-54 Main Road, Normanville, SA, 5204

PLACE NO: 26470



N ↑

Legend

 Boundary of State heritage place

COMMENTARY ON THE LISTING

Description and notes with respect to a place entered in the South Australian Heritage Register in accordance with the *Heritage Places Act 1993*

Physical Description

The Former Normanville Police Station is a Victorian Georgian-style building that was built in two 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 skylight in the verandah which was probably added 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 infill section has a single door and a window.

Further additions 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.

The components identified as being intrinsic to the heritage significance of the Former Normanville Police Station include:

- Front elevation of the single-storey 1855 police building and the 1863 two-storey building and single-storey infill.

- Original gable roof form on the single-storey 1855 police building and hipped roof and decorative parapet on the 1863 two-storey building.
- Original building footprint.
- The verandahs on both the single-storey 1855 police building and the 1863 two-storey building.
- The original stable building.

The extent of listing excludes:

- Non-original sheds at the rear of the main building
- The non-original addition to the stable building

History of the Place

The Former Normanville Police Station was originally built as a police station and courthouse in 1855, at a time when the Fleurieu Peninsula was experiencing an era of growth due to success in farming wheat. Until its construction, the closest police station was in Willunga. As trade in the area grew and with the opening of the Yankalilla Jetty, a need for law enforcement in the area became apparent.

The construction of the police station and courthouse took place during a period of growth in the police force. 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.

In 1863 the two-storey section of the Former Normanville Police Station 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 one of the first places to provide postal and telegraph services to the Yankalilla region and became a significant multi-use government complex.

In the early 1900s the telegraph and postal services were located to another building. However, the Former Normanville Police Station and Government Complex continued to be used as a police station until 1961. Since this time the building has been used as a private residence and café.

References

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Websites

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NAME: Former Normanville Police Station

PLACE NO.: 26470

SITE RECORD:

FORMER NAME:

Former Normanville Police Station

DESCRIPTION OF PLACE:

Single-storey stone and brick police station (1855) with 1862 two-storey extension, infill and stables.
[Interiors of buildings not assessed]

DATE OF COMPLETION:

1855, 1862

REGISTER STATUS:

Description: Provisionally entered
Date: 30 August 2017
Description: Confirmed
Date: 21 February 2018

CURRENT USE:

Description: Shop and residence
Dates: 2016

PREVIOUS USE(S):

Description: Police station, courthouse, post and telegraph office, customs, sea rescue, registry office
Dates: 1855- present

ARCHITECT:

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

BUILDER:

Name: B. Sykes & Co (1855) and George Sara and Sons (1862)

SUBJECT INDEXING:

Group: Police station and government complex
Category:

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA:

Description: Yankalilla

| | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| LOCATION: | Street no: | 52-54 |
| | Street Name: | Main Road |
| | Town/Suburb: | Normanville |
| | Post Code: | 5204 |
| | | |
| LAND DESCRIPTION: | CT reference: | CT 5332/948 |
| | Lot No.: | |
| | 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 |

PHOTOS

NAME: Former Normanville Police Station

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Former Normanville Police Station – Original 1855 police station and courthouse building (from north). Note ribbon pointing and 1870s verandah. March 2017

Source: State Heritage Unit Site Visit 28 March 2017.



Former Normanville Police Station - stable (c1863). Note original two-storey building with single-storey addition to side. March 2017

Source: State Heritage Unit Site Visit 28 March 2017.

PHOTOS

NAME: Former Normanville Police Station

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Former Normanville Police Station c1880

Source- Yankalilla and District Historic Society



Former Normanville Police Station - 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.