

# HERITAGE South Australia

NEWSLETTER

JULY 2003 • NUMBER 23

ISSUES AND INFORMATION ON HERITAGE CONSERVATION IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA



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## Newsletter of the Heritage Branch

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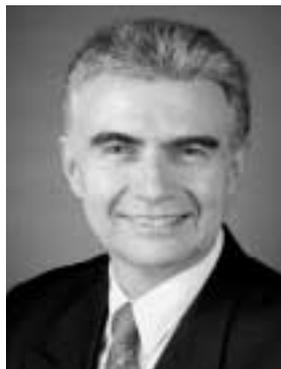
*Edmund Wright House was one of the first places protected under heritage legislation in 1979. It was a pivotal building in the history of heritage conservation in South Australia. See article on p3*

Welcome to the July issue of the *Heritage South Australia Newsletter*. This month will see the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the first comprehensive built heritage legislation in South Australia. The *South Australian Heritage Act 1978* was proclaimed on 6 July 1978. This state was one of the first to enact legislation following Victoria and New South Wales. A number of articles in this issue are dedicated to this Anniversary.

The Ministerial Heritage Advisory Committee, mentioned in my Update in the January 2003 Newsletter has recommended a package of improvements to local heritage administration which have been largely adopted by Planning SA, and incorporated in the Development Plan Improvement Program that Planning SA is currently engaged in.

Nominations for the inaugural Edmund Wright Heritage Awards have now closed. There was an overwhelming response from the public, with over 70 submissions received by the Heritage Branch. The Awards are designed to recognise the incredible amount of work individuals, organisations and community bodies are undertaking in the conservation and promotion of built heritage in South Australia.

Nominations came from as far as Mt Gambier and Penola in the south, to the Barossa Valley, Burra and Bungaree in the north. The wide range of entries included the restoration of small cottages; the conservation of grander Victorian buildings; Conservation Plans of heritage areas; archaeological sites, and the promotion of heritage through walking trails and interpretation. I will present the Awards on 8 August at the Adelaide Town Hall. A list of winners will be available from the heritage website at [www.heritage.sa.gov.au/awards](http://www.heritage.sa.gov.au/awards) on 10 August.



A successful Schools Heritage Competition was held in July, aiming to raise student awareness of South Australia's heritage places. This competition actively engaged students in the heritage of their local area, and encouraged them to consider issues of heritage and to participate in the assessment of significant

places. I was pleased to award the prizes at a presentation ceremony at the Education Development Centre, Hindmarsh on 2 July.

I also had the pleasure of launching the Birdsville and Strzelecki Tracks Heritage Survey on 22 July. This publication is the first of its kind for trialing a methodology for assessing places of national heritage. An innovative feature of the survey is the inclusion of tourism management recommendations for each place nominated along the tracks.

The Heritage Branch continues to advise owners of heritage places on the proper conservation and care of their properties. To aid this conservation a CD Rom has been produced on the *Maintenance of Older Buildings in South Australia*. The information is useful to anyone who owns an older building. This CD-Rom is available from the Branch's new location at Keswick.

### Hon. John Hill

Minister for Environment and Conservation

# EDMUND WRIGHT HOUSE: HERITAGE ICON

*The building is of course irreplaceable. Even supposing that one could assemble the craftsmen and artists capable of such work, the cost today would be quite prohibitive. Its familiarity and nearness to us in time tend to blind us to the true value of this building. It is the product of a philosophy and tradition which were responsible for the finest ornaments of the great cities, a tradition now dead. It is the equivalent to us of a work by Palladio or Wren, and we can assume that never again will such things be made here.*

- John Dowie in a leaflet issued during the 1971 campaign to save the building.



The seven month battle in 1971 to save the former ANZ Bank from demolition was a turning point in the history of built heritage preservation in South Australia. The fact that such a magnificent building could be demolished with impunity, and that only acquisition by another party could save it, drove home to the community the need for comprehensive legislation to protect built heritage across the State.

## History

The Bank of South Australia was established by the South Australian Company in 1836 and from 1839 occupied premises on the corner of North Terrace and Bank Street (the origin of the name). The Bank moved from there to 59 King William Street in 1878. The architects were Edmund Wright and Lloyd Tayler, who won the design competition organised by the Bank in 1874.

In 1892 the Bank of South Australia was taken over by the Union Bank which then occupied the premises. The Union Bank merged with the Bank of Australasia in 1951 to become the Australia and New Zealand Bank Ltd - the ANZ. By 1969 the ANZ had outgrown the building and in October 1970 sold it to Mainline Corporation, a Sydney development group, who intended to construct a nineteen storey office building on the site.

The architectural work for the office building was to be undertaken by the firm of Berry, Polomka and Gray. Dean Berry, then President of the National Trust, was later to be responsible for the restoration of the saved bank building. The negative public reaction and publicity concerning the proposed office development was extensive and was to prove to be '...a test case of Adelaide's attitude to preserving things of beauty, of architectural and historic merit in the face of the destructive demands of progress.' (*Advertiser*, November 1971).

The bank building had initially been 'protected' by provisions of the Planning and Development Act, as one of a number of buildings of architectural or historical merit on the National Trust's 'A' classification list, the preservation of which was at the time regarded as essential to the heritage of the State.

However, a successful objection to this listing by the ANZ led to the removal of the building from the list by the Hall government. Adelaide City Council zoning regulations were not adequate to cope with the situation and the Council attempted to keep out of the ensuing debate. The National Trust became divided

on the issue and many were uncomfortable about the role that the National Trust President, Dean Berry, was playing in the development proposal.

The drive and determination of Adelaide optician Charles Wright (co-chairman of the 'Save the Bank' committee but no relation to the architect) in raising funds, publicity and public interest in the preservation of the old bank building was eventually to turn the tables of opinion. After almost seven months of controversy, the building was purchased by the South Australian Government on 18 November 1971 for \$750,000.

In 1972 it was named Edmund Wright House in honour of one of its two architects. After extensive renovations the building was opened again on 3 March 1973 for use by the public, with the main banking chamber being available for public functions and the offices being occupied by the Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages and his staff. Other tenants joined them in the ensuing years but they were the only occupants when they vacated the building on 2 June 1995.

In late July 1995 the building was occupied by the State History Centre, a division of the History Trust of South Australia, when it vacated Old Parliament House to allow the building to be used for offices and meeting rooms for parliamentarians. At time of writing the future use of Edmund Wright House is uncertain, as the History Trust head office will be relocating to the former Training Depot at Torrens Parade Ground later in the year.

## Note

This article is based upon one in *Community History* vol 5 no. 2 June 1995, which was in turn condensed and adapted from *Edmund Wright House Conservation Study* prepared for SACON by Danvers Architects in October 1991. The story of the campaign to save the building can be found in BJ Best *Preserving Our Heritage* (The author 1973). Records of the ANZ Building Preservation Trust are held in the State Library as SRG509.

## BUILT HERITAGE: where has it been, and where is it going?

It is twenty-five years since the South Australian government became involved in the business of conserving the community's built heritage. Before that, the National Trust had made private initiatives to save historic buildings, but there was little it could do when a building was under urgent threat. From 1965, there was legislation to protect what were called Aboriginal and Historic Relics, but these powers were used mainly in the outback, and always with the cooperation of the landowners.

The 1970s were a time of radicalism and social reform, and also a time of growing development activity. In this charged political climate the word "heritage" first entered the vocabulary of many people who were frustrated by a series of demolitions of prominent buildings in the City of Adelaide; among many others the gracious South Australian Hotel on North Terrace was lost in 1971, the same year Edmund Wright House (then an ANZ bank) was narrowly saved by government acquisition. What for many years had been Foy and Gibson's department store went in 1976. The National Trust was helpless, and government acquisition of threatened places was not a sustainable option; new powers were needed to ensure that valuable historic places would still be there for future generations.

Early in 1978 the South Australian Heritage Act passed through parliament with bipartisan support and a Heritage Unit was formed in the

Department for the Environment to administer the Act. Victoria and New South Wales had recently enacted similar legislation, and South Australia joined the first wave of Australian heritage laws. The Commonwealth had also passed the Australian Heritage Commission Act, creating the Register of the National Estate, but this had little effect on private owners.

The main provisions of the Act were to form a South Australian Heritage Committee to advise the government on heritage decisions, to create a Register of State Heritage Items, and to spell out planning controls for items on that register. The crucial power was that a building on the register could not be demolished or altered without the Minister's approval. There were also provisions for heritage agreements and for grants or loans from a State Heritage Fund. While these incentives for conservation work were a positive feature of the Act, its main thrust was negative: to control the behaviour of the owners of heritage properties. In the early years, entries on the register were mostly drawn from the National Trust classified list, so the South Australian Heritage Committee and the National Trust spent a lot of time duplicating each others' work. By 1986 there were 1,000 items on the register, but in 1982 the planning controls in the *Heritage Act* had been repealed and consolidated into the Planning Act.

In 1981 the first regional heritage survey was commissioned by the Heritage Unit, covering

the Lower North region; it was optimistically planned that surveys would cover the entire state by South Australia's Jubilee 150 in 1986! In fact, the regional survey program has taken twenty years, not five, but there is now a good overall picture of the state's built heritage. South Australia is the only state to have undertaken such a comprehensive study of its heritage resources, and our State Heritage Register is arguably the most balanced and representative one in Australia as a result. Besides register recommendations, the survey reports provide valuable data for many other purposes, and are in daily use in such roles as local government planning, and environmental impact assessments for mining and infrastructure projects.

Just as the heritage legislation had arisen as a reaction to perceived threats to historic buildings, so a series of new heritage initiatives followed over the years, each triggered by a specific incident where the existing heritage provisions were seen to be inadequate. After five years of heritage legislation, with hundreds of places entered in the Register of State Heritage Items, the demolition of the Aurora Hotel on Hindmarsh Square in late 1983 brought widespread disillusionment with the process. It led directly to the formation of Aurora Heritage Action, which would be a vocal heritage lobby group for the following decade, and indirectly to calls for Councils to have their own local heritage registers and planning controls.



*One of the more recent places listed on the State Heritage Register is the Union House complex at the University of Adelaide, which was completed in 1975. Union House is considered to be the culmination of a series of buildings in the 1960s-70s by the prominent South Australian partnership of Dickson and Platten which developed a 'vernacular' adaptation of modernism. What our society deems to be important enough to protect changes over time. We have to continually take into account how our built environment has been significantly altered by social, political and economic forces.*

This campaign brought a conservative reaction from state planning administrators, who feared that local government involvement in heritage would somehow damage property development. In Victoria as early as 1970 the Town and Country Planning Board had declared the town of Maldon an Area of Special Significance under the control of the local Council, and in 1973 the Victorian Town and Country Planning Act was amended to create Urban Conservation Areas. However, it would be nearly twenty years before South Australia followed this path; in 1989 as a rather clumsy compromise, Historic (Conservation) Zones were introduced into the local planning system, but kept subject to rigorous state control. Despite their shortcomings, the zones at least acknowledged that local government had a legitimate role in heritage conservation. The demolition of the House of Chow in Wakefield Street in 1991 triggered attempts at a "townscape" policy within the City of Adelaide. But, uncertain whether it was concerned with heritage conservation or visual amenity, this over-ambitious proposal proved a dead end in heritage planning.

As the building boom of the 1980s passed, South Australia's economy sank into recession, and many of the new high-rise buildings sat empty for years; property developers realised that the dream of making huge fortunes by demolishing old buildings and constructing new ones had been an illusion. The pressure on historic buildings everywhere eased. As times changed, many of the smarter property owners and managers discovered that heritage was good for business; that customers were actively seeking out historic buildings as homes, restaurants and business premises. By the early 1990s there had been a sea change in attitudes, and heritage conservation was no longer a radical cause, but was accepted by the mainstream of society and the business community.

Heritage agencies were learning, too. The first generation of heritage conservation measures were adversarial in nature, focused on stopping people doing things, but it was becoming clear that this reactive process had no future. Gradually there came recognition that the heritage agency's client was not the historic building, but its owner. Heritage management entered a new era of cooperation between owners and professional advisers, with the shared aim of conserving the building. In 1987 the first heritage adviser was appointed in Burra, taking both conservation advice and the development control process out of the hands of remote bureaucrats, and making them accessible within the community. This program has expanded until it is now available to the owners of about two-thirds of the buildings on the register.

With these many changes in the economy, in community attitudes and administrative practices, the old heritage legislation was becoming outdated by the early 1990s. Around the country a new generation of heritage Acts was taking shape, and every state and territory would have heritage legislation by 1995. South Australia, one of the pioneers in the field, was being left behind by some of the innovations interstate, especially provisions for local heritage.

Following reviews of both heritage and planning legislation, new legislation followed in 1993: the Heritage Act and the Development Act. The new legislative package makes bureaucrats much more accountable, shares heritage powers between the Minister and a State Heritage Authority which represents community views, allows powers to be delegated to advisers, and explicitly recognises local heritage registers, with criteria based on community values.

The new era of the past ten years has set administrators climbing steeper learning

curves, and the legislation is still far from perfect. However, heritage conservation has certainly advanced from the position where heritage values were handed down from on high, and owners were regarded with suspicion, to a new era where the community's views are listened to with respect, and conservation is based on a partnership with the owner.

Attitudes to heritage conservation are still evolving, and their new directions are mainly outwards from the centre. The idea of a register of the state's architectural and historic jewels was achieved twenty years ago, and what remains to be done there is simply adjusting the details. Major buildings and city real estate are no longer controversial, which means that the system is working and there is general consensus over what the state's big heritage is. The challenge to state heritage administrators is no longer creating a register, but managing it effectively.

When heritage issues arise today, they are usually about little heritage. Today's battles are taking place in the suburbs, and involve the character and amenity of people's local environment: leafy streets, old cottages, open space and venerable

gum trees. Local heritage has merged with more general environmental and quality-of-life concerns, and the headlines in community newspapers are telling us that the management of these issues still has some distance to travel before it provides what the community wants.

Looking back over 25 years, we can see that the vision of heritage chanted by radical protesters in the 1970s is accepted as part of normal property management in the most conservative circles today. How do we keep that evolutionary process moving on? By understanding that heritage conservation is not about the past, it is about the future. State and local planners must accept that many of today's most extreme views on environment and heritage issues - and the two have become the same thing - will be government policy in a generation from now. The challenge facing them is to find ways to facilitate that process, not to be remembered for obstructing it.

**Peter Bell**

*Peter Bell is the principal of Historical Research Pty Ltd and was on the staff of the Heritage Branch 1983-94.*



*One of the first places to be protected under new heritage legislation was Edmund Wright House, built in 1878.*

Conserving built heritage is simply one of the more recent manifestations of South Australians' long-standing efforts to record and conserve significant aspects of their past. At a time when we are celebrating the 25th anniversary of the State's first comprehensive built heritage legislation, it is interesting to review the long lineage of what can be broadly termed heritage activity.

## The nineteenth century

In the nineteenth century the most common ways of capturing the Colony's past were memorials, written histories and museums. Memorials appeared before the colony was settled. General histories of the colony appeared from the late 1830s, the first local history in 1860, and the first museums around the same time.

By the 1880s the Colony was old enough to spawn some formal historical groups as well, even though history was not their primary focus. The objects of the Old Colonists' Association, included 'to promulgate facts relative to the early history of the Colony' and one of the five objects of the Geographical Society of Australasia: SA Branch was 'Historical - The collection and publication of historical records of geographical interest, and of memoirs of notable men of Australia'.

The Colony's 50th birthday was celebrated with the Adelaide Jubilee International Exhibition of 1887-88, which attracted over 750 000 attendances. A Jubilee Exhibition Building was erected on North Terrace, Adelaide (now the site of the underground car park adjacent to Bonython Hall), and when the Exhibition was over a Technological Museum was established in the eastern annexe.

- Memorials – beginning with Memory Cove (1802), Frenchman's Rock (1803)
- Histories – first general history 1839, first local history 1860 (Gawler)
- South Australian Institute (1856: renamed the Public Library, Museum and Art Gallery in 1884)
- Museums – beginning with Gawler Institute Museum c1859, SA Institute Museum 1862 (now the SA Museum)
- National Gallery of SA (1881: renamed Art Gallery of SA 1967)
- Old Colonists' Association (1883: disbanded 1916)
- Geographical Society of Australasia: SA Branch (1885: became 'Royal' 1886)
- Technological Museum of the SA School of Mines & Industries (1889: closed 1963)



*Jubilee Exhibition Building erected 1887. Demolished 1963*

## 1901-1939

By the turn of the century the Colony, soon to become a State of the new Commonwealth of Australia, boasted a range of cultural institutions along North Terrace, quite a few general and local histories, some significant memorials and a handful of museums. The twentieth century saw an expansion of these activities. The Archives Department of the Public Library, Museum and Art Gallery was the first public archives in Australia. A number of local history booklets appeared in the 1920s, as the jubilees of the settlements created in the boom years of the 1870s prompted 'Back to ...' celebrations. In 1927 the Royal

- Archives Department of the Public Library, Museum and Art Gallery (1919: opened to public 1920)
- Dingley Dell, near Port MacDonnell, home of the poet Adam Lindsay Gordon 1864-67, purchased by the SA Government (1922)
- Kingston House ('Marino'), Cameron Avenue, Kingston Park, sometime home of Sir GS Kingston and his son CC Kingston, purchased by the SA Government, and Kingston Park Reserve declared a National Pleasure Resort (1925)
- Historical Memorials Committee formed by the Royal Geographical Society (1927: renamed Geographical Heritage Committee 1982)
- Pioneers Association of SA (1935: only for descendants of pre-1846 colonists)
- State Centenary celebrations held July - December 1936

Geographical Society created a Historical Memorials Committee, a very industrious body which instigated memorials - typically plaques - across the State. The State Centenary generated considerably more activity. The period also saw the beginning of homes of notable individuals being preserved by acquisition by State or Local government.

## 1940-1959

The immediate post-war period saw a slow but steady growth in history and heritage related activity. The Royal Geographical Society generated another productive section, special interest history groups were started, and the Commonwealth of Australia Jubilee celebrations

- Historical Division formed by the Royal Geographical Society (1947: lapsed c1968)
- SA Methodist Historical Society (1950: Uniting Church since 1977)
- Commonwealth of Australia Jubilee celebrations throughout the year (1951)
- Australian Railway Historical Society: SA Division (1952)
- National Trust of SA (1955)
- Sturt's Cottage (The Grange), Jetty Street, Grange, sometime home of the explorer Charles Sturt, purchased by the Henley & Grange Council (1956)
- First National Trust Branch (1956: Renmark)
- First National Trust museum (1959: Renmark)

provoked more local histories. In 1955 the National Trust of South Australia, destined to become the State's largest voluntary heritage association, was formed. It had a broad brief covering natural and built heritage. The first of many Trust branches was established at Renmark in 1956 and, in what was to become a common pattern, the branch soon opened a museum.

#### 1960-1979

Early in the period Government involvement in preserving the State's built heritage remained ad-hoc, so in 1961 the National Trust stepped into the gap and formed an Early Buildings Committee which set about compiling a Register of Historic Buildings. The Trust's Register did not have any legislative backing, but listing could assist in deterring demolition. The proclamation of the *Aboriginal and Historic Relics Preservation Act, 1965*, in 1967 provided a limited coverage of European heritage. 'Historic relics' were defined as 'any trace or remains of the exploration and early settlement considered of sufficient importance by the Minister to warrant protection under this Act'.

Meanwhile community involvement in preserving heritage began a period of sustained growth. In 1960 there were about 20 museums and historical societies in the State. Twenty years later there were approximately 150. The conservation of built heritage gained public prominence through the demolition of the South Australian Hotel on North Terrace and the last minute rescue of the ANZ Bank, King William St (now Edmund Wright House) from the same fate. This increased level of community interest led both State and Commonwealth governments to provide legislative and financial

support. The State gained its first comprehensive built heritage legislation with the passage of the *South Australian Heritage Act 1978*, which inter alia established a Register of State Heritage Items, a State Heritage Fund and a SA Heritage Committee as an advisory body to the Minister. A Heritage Unit was created in the Department for the Environment to administer the Act.

#### 1980-1999

In May 1980 the Heritage Unit of the Department for the Environment published Susan Marsden's *Historical Guidelines*, which established the framework for the regional heritage survey program. The program

commenced in 1981 with the commissioning of a survey of the Lower North region and was to continue for just over twenty years. That year also saw the release of the State's first comprehensive examination of museum policy, Robert Edwards' *Museum Policy and Development in South Australia Final Report*, which led to major upgrading of the SA Museum and the creation of the History Trust of SA. Historical high points of the decade were the State's sesquicentenary and Australia's bicentenary, which funded some significant museums and interpretive centres and prompted many worthwhile historical activities and publications as part of year-long celebrations.



The former site of the Jubilee Exhibition Building is now the site of the underground carpark of the University of Adelaide

- Early Buildings Committee of the National Trust (1961)
- Australian Council of National Trusts (1965)
- *Aboriginal and Historic Relics Preservation Act 1965* proclaimed 3 August 1967
- Civic Trust of South Australia (1969)
- ANZ Bank, 59 King William St, Adelaide, purchased by the State Government to prevent its demolition for a 19 storey office block (1971: renamed Edmund Wright House 1972)
- SA National Trust publishes first edition of its *Register of Historic Buildings* (1972, 2nd 1975, 3rd 1979, 4th 1980)
- Historical Museum opened by the Art Gallery of South Australia in the former Archives Building at the rear of the Gallery (1972: closed 1982)
- South Australian Genealogy and Heraldry Society (1973)
- National Estate Grants Program began. (1973-74)
- *Report of the National Estate* published by the Commonwealth (1974)
- Interim Committee on the National Estate (1974: replaced by the Australian Heritage Commission in 1976)
- Historical Society of South Australia (1974)
- *Australian Heritage Commission Act 1975* assented to 19 June 1975 and inter alia establishes the Register of the National Estate
- Cummins, the Morphett family home at Sheoak Avenue, Novar Gardens, purchased by the SA Government (1976)
- SA Branch of the Museums Association of Australia (1978)
- *Constitutional Museum Act 1978* proclaimed 11 May 1978 (Museum closed 1995)
- *South Australian Heritage Act 1978* proclaimed 6 July 1978 and Heritage Unit created in the Department for the Environment.
- SA Branch of the Oral History Association of Australia (1979)
- Australia ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance (The Burra Charter) adopted by Australia ICOMOS at Burra (1979)

The 1990s saw new State and local heritage legislation, including for the first time significant protection for locally significant places, along with a new focus by the Commonwealth on nationally significant places, and a resultant contraction in Commonwealth funding for places of State and local significance. The *Heritage Act 1993* continued the State Heritage Fund but replaced the previous advisory committee with a State Heritage Authority with power to add and remove entries from a (renamed) State Heritage Register. The voluntary sector continued to flourish, with the 150 museums and historical societies of 1980 approximately doubling in number by 1995. At the end of the nineties there were over 2100 places entered in the State Heritage Register and approximately 1900 places of local significance listed in local council's Development Plans.

### Looking ahead

It is easy to scan lists like the above and be impressed by the progress that has been made. What is missing from the list is opportunities that were missed and judgements as to the adequacy of the resources available and the effectiveness of the initiatives themselves. Nevertheless, it is obvious that there has been steadily growing engagement with history and heritage in the community for many years.

There are now 2190 places entered in the State Heritage Register and over 3700 places of local significance listed in Councils' Development Plans. Work is currently underway on preparing a Heritage Directions for South Australia report that is intended to shape heritage policy for some years to come. In that context, it is useful to conclude with an extract from the equivalent document published by the English Department for Culture, Media and Sport in December 2001, *The Historic Environment: A Force for the Future*, which is available from the Historic Environment

section of the DCMS web site <<http://www.culture.gov.uk/>>.

In their Foreword the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport and the Secretary of State for Transport, Local Government and the Regions wrote:

*This historic environment is something from which we can learn, something from which our economy benefits and something which can bring communities together in a shared sense of belonging. With sensitivity and imagination, it can be a stimulus to creative new architecture and design, a force for regeneration and a powerful contributor to people's quality of life... (p 4)*

Part One of the Report, 'The Historic Environment - A New Vision', elaborates on the Ministers' sentiments.

*The past is all around us. We live our lives, whether consciously or not, against a rich backdrop formed by historic buildings, landscapes and other physical survivals of our past. But the historic environment is more than just a matter of material remains. It is central to how we see ourselves and to our identity as individuals, communities and as a nation. It is a physical record of what our country is, how it came to be, its successes and failures. It is a collective memory, containing an infinity of stories, some ancient, some recent: stories written in stone, brick, wood, glass, steel; stories inscribed in the field patterns, hedgerows, designed landscapes and other features of the countryside. (p 7) ...*

*The Government looks to a future in which:*

- public interest in the historic environment is matched by firm leadership, effective partnerships, and the development of a sound knowledge base from which to develop policies;

- the full potential of the historic environment as a learning resource is realised;
- the historic environment is accessible to everybody and is seen as something with which the whole of society can identify and engage;
- the historic environment is protected and sustained for the benefit of our own and future generations;
- the historic environment's importance as an economic asset is skilfully harnessed. (p 9)

It is expected that similar sentiments will inform the Heritage Directions for South Australia report.

**Brian Samuels**  
**Principal Heritage Officer**

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- SA Association of Professional Historians (1981: renamed Professional Historians Association (SA) Inc 2001) – the first such body in Australia
- *History Trust of South Australia Act 1981* proclaimed 26 March 1981 (repealed the Constitutional Museum Act).
- Aurora Heritage Action (1983: disbanded 1995).
- Jubilee 150 activities throughout 1986
- Migration and Settlement Museum of the History Trust (1986: renamed Migration Museum 1988).
- SA Maritime Museum of the History Trust (1986)
- Lady Nelson Park, Mount Gambier (1986)
- Australian Bicentenary celebrations (1988)
- Signal Point Interpretive Centre, Goolwa. (1988)
- Wadlata Outback Interpretive Centre, Port Augusta (1988)
- SA National Trust ceased compiling its Register of Historic Buildings. (1989)
- Historic (Conservation) Zones under the Planning Act (1989)
- *Heritage Act 1993* proclaimed 15 January 1994 - repealed the 1978 Act
- *Development Act 1993* proclaimed 15 January 1994. Inter alia, provided for the designation of places of local heritage value
- Tax Incentive for Heritage Conservation introduced by the Federal Government. (1994: abolished 1999)
- State and Territories component of the National Estate Grants Program abolished by the Federal Government. (1996-97)
- Cultural Heritage Projects Program introduced by the Federal Government to replace the National Estate Grants Program and the Tax Incentive for Heritage Conservation. (1999)

## Further Reading

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# 2003 SCHOOLS HERITAGE COMPETITION

Primary schools from around the State recently participated in the inaugural Department for Environment and Heritage's Schools Heritage Competition. Working within the theme, *HERITAGE CONSERVATION – a future for our past*, students were invited to develop computer-generated entries which showcased either State or local built heritage.

A total of 72 entries were received in the two competition categories, representing a range

of age groups and communities. In all, 32 entries were received from Years 3-5 and 40 from years 6-7. The quality of the entries, which included PowerPoint, Publisher, Word, iMovie and web presentations, prompted the judging panel to create additional Commendation and Merit Awards in each age group.

On 2 July 2003, 100 invited guests gathered at the Education Development Centre, Hindmarsh, to view the winning entries and

congratulate the students responsible for their development. Prizes and certificates were awarded by John Hill MP, Minister for Environment and Conservation.

Further information about the competition format and process is available at [www.environment.sa.gov.au/heritage/education.html](http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/heritage/education.html). For a limited time, the winning entries (listed below) can also be viewed at this site.

## YEAR 3-5 CATEGORY

<b>MOST OUTSTANDING ENTRY</b>	<b>DON'T LET IT HAPPEN!</b> PowerPoint Isabelle, Erika & Gemma	Year 4	Trinity Gardens Primary School
<b>COMMENDATION AWARD</b>	<b>THE OLD SCHOOL HOUSE</b> Quicktime iMovie Aidan & Nathan	Year 5	Mintaro Farrell Flat School
<b>COMMENDATION AWARD</b>	<b>SALISBURY'S HERITAGE CALENDAR</b> Publisher Damon, Noan, Annie & Matthew	Year 4	Paralowie R-12 School
<b>MERIT AWARD</b>	<b>THE BUNYIP</b> PowerPoint Kevin & James	Year 5	Murray Bridge South Primary School
<b>MERIT AWARD</b>	<b>MANNUM'S SIGNIFICANT LOCAL HERITAGE</b> PowerPoint Ms Hancock's	Year 4/5 Class	Mannum Primary School
<b>MERIT AWARD</b>	<b>A FUTURE FOR OUR PAST</b> Quicktime iMovie Madeleine & Nicole	Year 5	Scotch College



Winners of the year 3-5 Category  
Erika, Isabelle and Gemma  
Trinity Gardens Primary School



Winners of the Year 6-7 Category  
Eliza, Elle & Danika  
Hahndorf Primary School

## YEAR 6-7 CATEGORY

<b>MOST OUTSTANDING ENTRY</b>	<b>THE USE OF HERITAGE BUILDINGS IN MODERN BUSINESS</b> PowerPoint Danika, Eliza & Elle Year 7 Hahndorf Primary School
<b>COMMENDATION AWARD</b>	<b>KIDS FOR HERITAGE</b> Webpage Room 32 Students Year 6/7 Woodcroft Primary School
<b>COMMENDATION AWARD</b>	<b>THE OLD SMITHY</b> PowerPoint Mr Katsambis' Group Year 3-7 Ascot Park R-7 Gym Focus School
<b>MERIT AWARD</b>	<b>THE HINDMARSH INCINERATOR</b> PowerPoint Stefan Year 7 Flinders Park Primary School
<b>MERIT AWARD</b>	<b>KAPUNDA MINES</b> PowerPoint Mahalia, Molly & Kirralee Year 7 Kapunda Primary School

## HERITAGE NEWS

### The Conservation of Cemetery Sites 24 October 2003

A one day seminar in Adelaide is being convened on 24 October 2003 to provide practical advice on the conservation of cemetery sites. Experts will discuss differences between cemeteries and burial rites; the causes of deterioration; the conservation of stone monuments and metal elements; the use of modern products to make good old problems; finding old skills today, and the role of volunteers in caring for this important part of our history. The presentations will be supplemented with case studies and site visits.

The seminar will be of particular interest to those looking after entire cemetery sites or individual burial monuments. It is also useful for those wanting to learn more about the causes of deterioration and appropriate conservation materials and methods.

### Cracking up? The stabilisation of masonry buildings 7 May 2004

One of the big concerns faced by the owners of historic buildings in South Australia is the problem of cracking. It can deface a careful restoration project, or at its worst result in structural failure of a masonry building. To help owners understand the causes and the options available for dealing with the problem, a one-day seminar is being held on Friday 7 May 2004.

*Both seminars are being organised by the Heritage Branch, Adelaide City Council and the Heritage Unit of the*

*Department for Administrative and Information Services.*

*For further information on seminars, please contact Fran Stropin on 8124 4942.*

### New Maritime Heritage Website *Ships' Graveyards of South Australia*

This dedicated website provides comprehensive information about deliberately abandoned vessels in South Australian waters.

These wrecks are found at 19 identified sites around the State's coast and waterways. While a rotting keel or rusting plates are all that remain of some vessels, others are largely intact. Many were abandoned on muddy shores and can be enjoyed by land, kayak or small boat. Others, including the recently scuttled ex-HMAS

Hobart, lie underwater and provide rewarding recreational dive experiences.

The *Ships' Graveyards of South Australia* website provides comprehensive information about these sites and vessels. Features include:

- a location map and description of the 19 identified graveyard sites.
- facts sheets for all known graveyard vessels, including histories, photographs and other illustrative material.
- access information for diving these sites or visiting them by land, kayak or small boat.
- an overview of South Australia's shipwreck protection.
- publications and links for additional research and information.

The website can be viewed at [www.shipsgraveyards.sa.gov.au](http://www.shipsgraveyards.sa.gov.au)

Included in this issue of the Newsletter is a bookmark of the website.

### Multicultural Walking Trail: south west corner of Adelaide

A new walking trail which highlights the migrant heritage of Adelaide is now available from the Adelaide City Council Customer Service Centre. From 1836, when the British colonised South Australia, Adelaide's heritage has been influenced by British migrants. In 1900 German settlers and their descendants made up about ten percent of South Australia's population. In the 1920s and 30s Italian, Greek and Maltese migrants made Adelaide their home. From the late 1940s to the early 1970s



Central Market 1965

Australia accepted three million immigrants from all parts of Europe, and the arrival of some of these migrants to Adelaide arrival changed the cultural life of the city. They introduced the population to a rich array of cultural traditions including foods, languages, festivals and religious practices, influenced Adelaide's architecture, and contributed to the city's economic activity. This walk offers a glimpse of the multi-cultural history of Adelaide through our built heritage highlighting places such as the Central Market, the Sturt Street School and the Church of Archangels Michael Gabriel.

This walk begins in Victoria Square and finishes in Franklin Street. It is the first of several trails being produced by SA Department for Environment and Heritage, The History Trust of South Australia and Adelaide City Council.

### Launch of the Birdsville and Strzelecki Tracks Heritage Survey

The Minister for Environment and Conservation, Hon. John Hill MP, launched the latest heritage survey report produced by the Department for Environment and Heritage on Tuesday 22 July 2003 in Edmund Wright House.

This report, entitled *Heritage of the Birdsville & Strzelecki Tracks*, has taken over two years to complete and identified places of State and local heritage value along the two tracks, both in the north-east of South Australia and in south-west Queensland.

In addition to providing Heritage Assessment Reports on significant heritage places, the report describes a trial methodology for assessing places of National heritage significance, as well as including tourism management recommendations for the National, State and local heritage places identified. Both these additions have never before been included in survey reports in South Australia, and probably Australia.

The Birdsville & Strzelecki Tracks heritage survey was funded jointly by the South Australian Government, through the State Heritage Fund, and by the Commonwealth Government, through the Australian Heritage Commission. The survey was undertaken by consultants commissioned by the Department for Environment and Heritage, specifically Historical Research Pty Ltd, in association with Austral

Archaeology, Lyn Leader-Elliott and Iris Iwanicki. It commenced in April 2001 with the final report of the survey being submitted in January 2003.

The type of heritage places identified during the survey covered such themes as Aboriginal contact, exploration, pastoralism, transport and communications, pastoralism, social life and organisations (hotels, settlements and outback general stores), geology and the natural history of the region.

The report of the Birdsville & Strzelecki Tracks Heritage Survey is now available in two digital formats, as a CD-ROM for sale, initially from 1 Richmond Road, Keswick, SA, 5035 (Ph. 8124 4700), or free of charge on the internet at [www.environment.sa.gov.au/heritage/pub.html#surveys](http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/heritage/pub.html#surveys).

For further information about the Birdsville & Strzelecki Tracks project, you can contact Hamish Angas, Heritage Survey Co-ordinator at the Heritage Branch, on (08) 8124 4956 or [angas.hamish@saugov.sa.gov.au](mailto:angas.hamish@saugov.sa.gov.au).

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## The Heritage Branch has moved!

*Our new address is:*

**Ground Floor  
1 Richmond Road  
Keswick**

*New phone number:* **8124 4960**  
*New fax:* **8124 4980**

*Postal Address remains the same:* **GPO Box 1047 Adelaide, 5001**  
*The email remains the same:* **heritage@saugov.sa.gov.au**  
*The website remains the same:* **www.heritage.sa.gov.au**

### Heritage SA is now called the Heritage Branch.

This is in line with a policy of establishing a common unifying identity for the Department for Environment and Heritage.

The Heritage Branch of the Department for Environment and Heritage, is the lead agency in the protection and identification of built and maritime heritage in South Australia.

### Our services

The Heritage Branch offers free conservation advice to owners of heritage places on the care and development of their place. A free Heritage Advisory Service is available at the following Councils:

Adelaide Hills	Goyder	Mt Gambier	Robe
Alexandrina	Grant	Naracoorte & Lucindale	Tatiara
Barossa	Kapunda & Light	Onkaparinga	Tea Tree Gully
Clare & Gilbert Valleys	Kingston	Outback Areas	Unley
Flinders Ranges	Mitcham	Port Adelaide Enfield	Wattle Range
Gawler	Mount Barker	Port Augusta	

We also hold conservation plans for a number of heritage places, which are listed on our web site.

The Branch provides advice on maritime heritage. A range of regional and thematic maritime surveys, brochures and heritage trails are available. Regional heritage surveys for most of the state, and a number of thematic surveys are available, (also listed on our web site).

The Branch administers the State Heritage Register, which is a list of culturally significant places. The Register is available for public inspection.

The Branch holds a variety of saleable and free publications. These will be available *from our new premises*.

*At our new premises we will provide free internet access to the Department's website, and desks for students and professionals for research purposes.*