

# HERITAGE South Australia

NEWSLETTER

JULY 1999 • NUMBER 15

ISSUES AND INFORMATION ON HERITAGE CONSERVATION IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA



Heritage South Australia  
Government of South Australia

# HERITAGE South Australia

NEWSLETTER

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Heritage and Aboriginal Affairs

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Front Cover: Features of Blown Youth – *Maggie 2*  
November 1997 *Queens Theatre*  
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## CONTENTS

Minister's Update	2
The debate of the century!	3
From Church to Home	4
Not so old heritage	7
Current issues in built heritage	8
Vale John Tregenza	9
Introducing the heritage advisers	10
Draft Heritage Planning Bulletin	10
Curtain goes up at the Queen's Theatre	11
Heritage News	12
Garden Island Ships' Graveyard	14

## Minister's Update



Welcome to the July 1999 edition of the *Heritage South Australia Newsletter*. The first half of 1999 has proved to be full of exciting events and activities as we prepare to leave the 20th Century and embrace the new millennium.

For those of you who attended the Heritage Festival activities in April, you will agree that much thought and discussion was given to the protection of our more recent past at the lunchtime heritage lectures and debate. I had the pleasure of opening the heritage debate, *'Modern architecture is worth protecting'* which was held on the last Friday night of the Heritage Festival. I was delighted to find such a large audience had come to hear the stimulating and challenging views of the distinguished debaters, including The Rt Hon The Lord Mayor, Dr Jane Lomax-Smith, Deputy Editor of The Advertiser, Mr Rex Jory and State Historian, Dr Robert Nicol.

Mr Keith Conlon deserves special thanks as the night's highly entertaining Master of Ceremonies, and Mr Anthony Durkin is also to be thanked for diverting the audience with his outstanding skill and wit as the official adjudicator.

I sincerely thank all the debaters who gave generously of their valuable time to be involved in this stimulating and highly entertaining evening. I would also like to thank the National Trust and Heritage South Australia for organising such an innovative and thought-provoking event.

The government has now appointed the new State Heritage Authority members. I look forward to getting to know the members over the next few years and attending some of the meetings as I have done in the past. I wish all members the very best for their important role in the identification and protection of the State's heritage resources.

The National Heritage Places Strategy, a Commonwealth initiative involving all State Heritage Agencies, has required considerable effort by Heritage South Australia over the last six months.

In brief, the central component of the National Heritage Places Strategy is the Commonwealth's goal to establish a meaningful National Heritage List. This concept of streamlining the heritage system has many advantages, particularly for people outside the heritage system who often find it difficult to understand the various levels and processes of heritage listing. There are many details still to be worked through and South Australia, together with the other States and Territories, is working towards achieving the best possible outcome.

Earlier this year, two Heritage Planning and Management Seminars were held to assist in educating people involved

in the planning, building and housing industries, on heritage planning and management issues. Facilitated by Katrina McDougall and Elizabeth Vines, two very experienced heritage consultants, the seminars were attended by more than 80 people in total. The interest in the seminars demonstrated a need for ongoing education and training opportunities. I look forward to Heritage South Australia offering more in the future.

Finally I would like to thank all those Councils who have continued to offer Heritage Advisory Services in the past year. Heritage Advisory Services provide a cost effective and highly efficient way for Councils and the State Government to manage and conserve their heritage assets. I strongly encourage any Council considering establishing a Heritage Advisory Service to contact Heritage South Australia to explore joint expansion opportunities.

I would like to congratulate Onkaparinga Council in particular for its recent expansion of Heritage Advisory Services within its area.

On a more personal note I would like to record my thanks to Martin Brine who has resigned his position as Manager of Heritage South Australia. Martin brought considerable architectural skill to the department, and I wish him every success in his new position with the Department of the Premier and Cabinet.

#### **Hon Dorothy Kotz MP**

Minister for Environment and Heritage  
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs

# The debate of the century!

As a community, we generally agree that significant places from the nineteenth century are important enough to keep for future generations. But what about buildings and structures from our recent past?



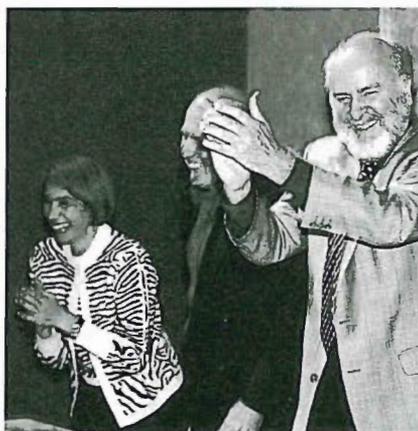
Do the places we have listed now reflect the cultural diversity that has evolved since the end of World War Two? Does our heritage reflect the evolution of architecture during the 1950s and 60s? Which places do we want to keep from the twentieth century? The twenty-first century is fast approaching which is why Heritage South Australia has been focusing on the importance of twentieth century heritage. It is also why the National Trust of South Australia chose as their theme for this year's Heritage Festival, 'Century in Review'. Heritage South Australia and the National Trust (SA) co-hosted two major events in the Festival: a debate and two public lectures on twentieth century heritage.

On Friday 23 April almost two hundred people listened to an enlivening debate on twentieth century heritage. The Minister for Environment and Heritage the Hon. Dorothy Kotz opened the debate with the proposition 'Modern architecture is worth protecting.' On the affirmative side sat The Lord Mayor, Dr Jane Lomax-Smith, Mr Rex Jory, Deputy Editor of the Advertiser and Ron Danvers, Architect. On the negative side were Dr Peter Bell, heritage consultant, State Historian Dr Rob Nicol and heritage consultant Ms Kate

McDougall. All speakers gave fine and witty representations for their cases, with applause and laughter signalling the audience's enjoyment.

An effervescent Keith Conlon, who took to the speakers with some cunning venom, skilfully controlled the debate. The debate was adjudicated by well known Barrister and Speaker Anthony Durkin, whose lively and rhythmical summary of the debate left the audience clapping in full appreciation.

The negative team were judged as winners on the night by audience applause. This may in part be due to certain instructions issued to family and friends of the negative side before the debate.



*Speakers waiting for well-earned champagne after the debate, left to right: Keith Conlon, Ron Danvers, Anthony Durkin, Kate McDougall, The Lord Mayor, Rob Nicol, Rex Jory, Peter Bell.*

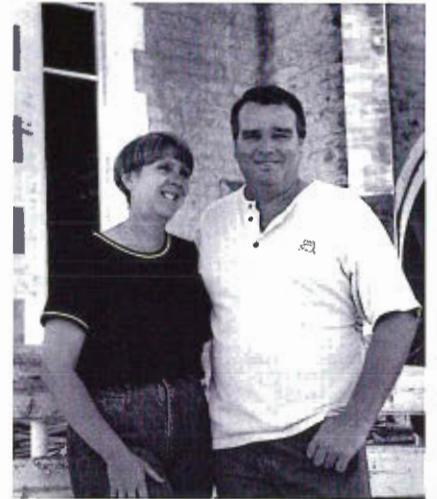
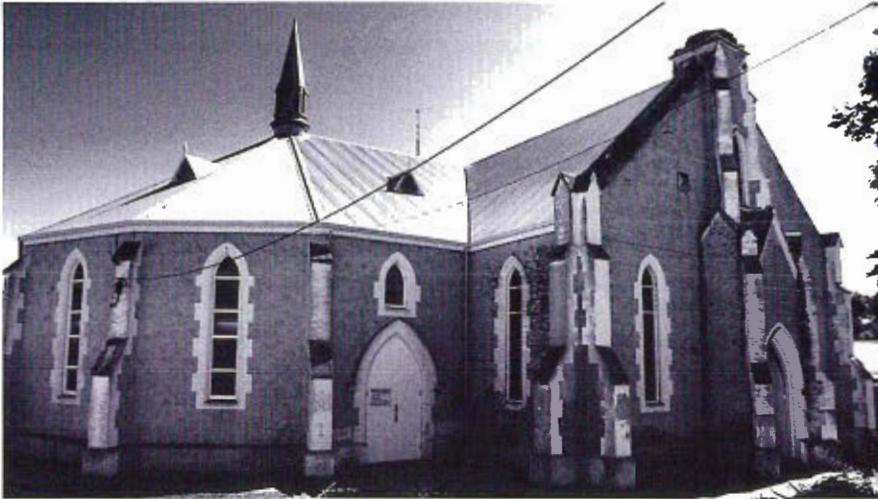
Preceding this exciting debate were two equally interesting lectures held at the Nova Cinema on April 19 and 21. On April 19 Ms Viv Szekeres, Director of the Migration Museum, and Mr Ben Yengi, Chair of the Migrant Resource Centre, spoke of multicultural heritage in the twentieth century. These speakers challenged us to consider whose heritage values we were protecting through heritage legislation. On April 21 Dr Donald Johnson, Architect and Dr Sean Pickersgill, Lecturer in architecture at University of South Australia, gave us a better understanding of the social value behind our modern buildings.

Thanks must go to all the speakers who volunteered their time readily and enthusiastically. Thanks should also go to Helen Paul from the National Trust who co-organised the debate; to Richard Humphrys, Commercial Photographer who volunteered his time for photography, and to Eureka Press for sponsoring the printing of posters.

*left: The affirmative side showing their appreciation of the adjudicator before the start of the debate.*

# From Church to Home

A NEW USE FOR A HERITAGE PLACE



Finding an appropriate use for a heritage building is a key factor in its conservation. Heritage places are best cared for if they are used. Dave and Anne Williams have given new life to a church and its unusual Sunday school annexe, by changing it into a modern residence and office.

The church, built in 1863 was the first Methodist church in Wallaroo. Sixty years later an unusual septagonal Sunday school annexe was added. While the church is important to Wallaroo, it is the Sunday school that has special significance as possibly the only one of its kind in Australia.

This septagonal structure is called a Panoptican design, and is similar to the Chrestomathia School devised by Jeremy Bentham in the early Nineteenth Century in England. There is only circumstantial evidence linking the two, but his theories give us an insight into the principles behind the

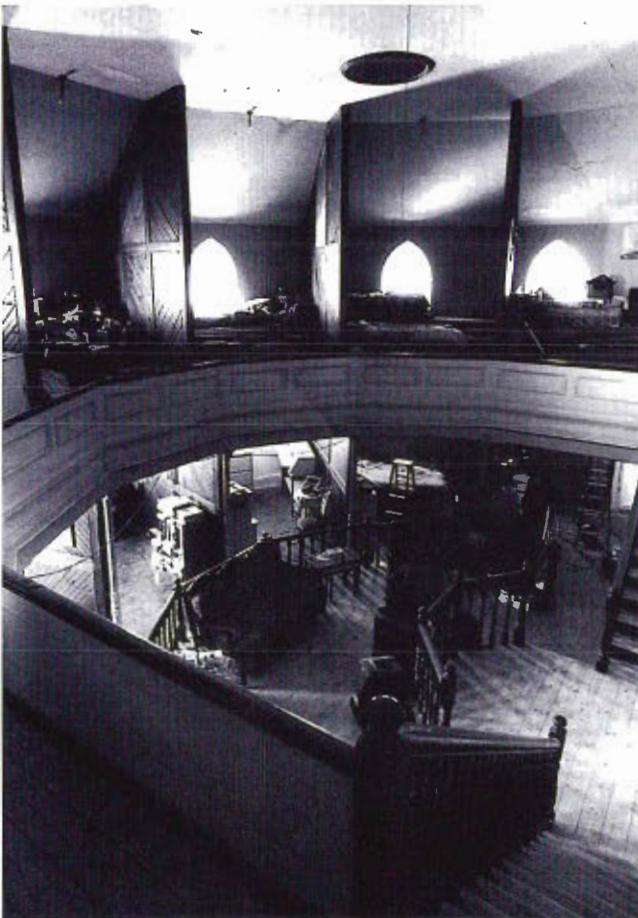
(top left) View from Stirling Street.

(top right) Anne and Dave Williams

(bottom left) The former Sunday School annexe. A teacher could supervise up to 10 groups of students simultaneously. Photos: R. Humphrys

(bottom right) The repaired spire being guided into its rightful position by Steve Wensvoort of KMW constructions (left) and Dave Williams. The spire was restored as part of Dave and Anne's renovations.

Photo: Yorke Peninsula Country Times.



Sunday school at Wallaroo.

The septagonal school is divided into small class spaces by wooden partitions, which screen each class from the others. All students are however visible to the teacher who in turn is the focus of their attention. The windows were placed so that nothing could be seen outside and, added to the fact that class groups were segregated by gender, there was little chance of distraction.

Jeremy Bentham's principles for education were to create general respect; secure against idleness, secure against ennui and to keep good company. These principles accorded with the Methodism of the time and a Sunday School was the perfect venue for such teachings. The underlying precept is to *'eliminate the tendency so natural amongst persons of any age subject to coercion to unite in a sort of standing conspiracy against those by whom they are kept under that pressure...'*

The Sunday school annexe with its cedar partitions is a testament to some of those ideas. By adapting the building

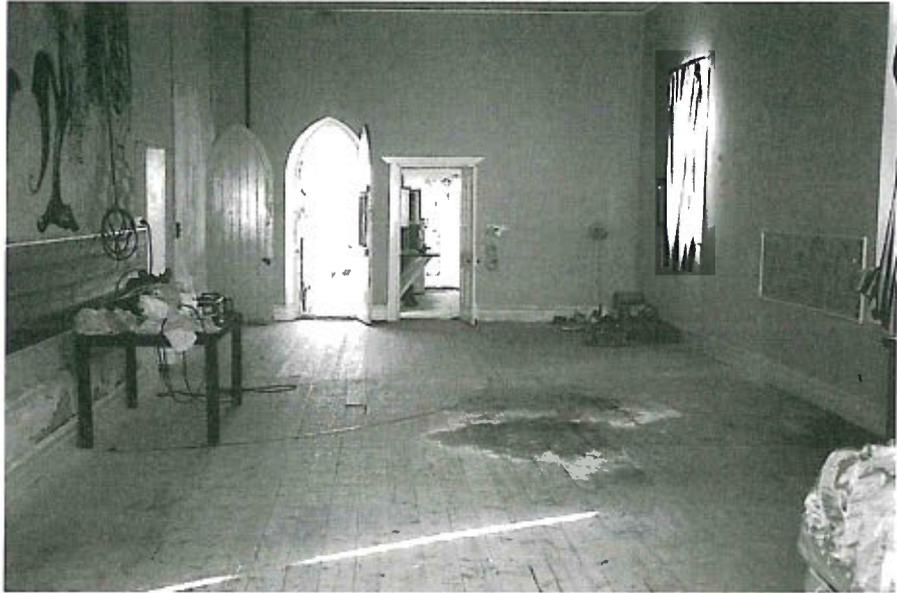
(right and below) *Former Church Hall now adapted for kitchen and family room. Photo below: R.Humphrys*

in sympathy with its original character Dave and Anne Williams are securing a part of South Australia's history for future generations.

To accommodate new uses it is often necessary to alter buildings. Heritage buildings can be changed provided the heritage values of the place are not destroyed. The adaptation of this property has followed good principles of conservation. Dave and Anne understood the history of the church

before they began work. Instead of seeing the septagonal annexe as a problem they embraced its importance, and in deciding to use the space as offices and storage, were able to keep the Sunday school intact.

Other practical decisions were to keep the bathroom and kitchen together near the location of the original kitchen. This has simplified the plumbing and minimised disruption of the original fabric.



Dave is a building designer and has restored buildings at Port Adelaide, Semaphore and Moonta. Two years ago Dave and Anne had two simple criteria for finding a new house: space for their 'noisy' children and somewhere near the beach. Although the church met these criteria it had some drawbacks. It had been used as a holiday shack; rising salt damp was high on walls; pigeons had occupied the main church area, and the roof was leaking. Despite all this Dave and Anne were undaunted.

After a white ant inspection and approval in principle from Heritage South Australia for renovations, Dave and Anne bought the property. It is a good idea to discuss ideas for conservation work with the local council, or Heritage South Australia if a property is State Heritage listed, before purchasing or planning alterations.

Two years of continual work have included the replacement of the roof, repairs to the spire (which is a story in itself), chemical injection into the walls, rewiring, plumbing and a new kitchen and bathroom.



The next stage of the project will see the repair of the entertainment room, previously the main church area, a huge 10 by 14 metre space. The timber floors of the church had been removed by previous owners and will be replaced with brick paving. The plaster ceiling which was badly decayed will be replaced with match boarding or mini-rib sheeting. Bedrooms for the children will be located on a mezzanine level. Dave hopes to have this finished by October.

above: Rising damp on Church walls.

Dave took four months off work to get the job this far. His advice for others wanting to restore and reuse heritage places, 'It is important to have some idea of costs and to set a budget ...although that budget inevitably drifts'.

In the meanwhile Dave, Anne, Shannon and Tim are enjoying the friendly town of Wallaroo, and their unique and spacious residence.

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# Not so old heritage

Most people's idea of heritage equates with something from the past and when the term is applied to buildings, it generally invokes nineteenth century architecture.

When it comes to twentieth century heritage, the story is different.

The heritage of the early part of the twentieth century is not so difficult to cope with – the 'Federation' style is repeated in new buildings of today. The look of age is also applied with the 'Georgian' and 'Tuscan' themes of much of our current domestic architectural styles and there are some rarer examples of the 'Tudor Bungalow' style also emerging on new housing estates.

The general consensus is that 'Federation' (early twentieth century) structures are readily identified as heritage places. Places such as 'Carclew' in North Adelaide and the Adelaide Oval Scoreboard are definitely 'heritage'. But what about places that were built around the time of the State's centenary in 1936? Should we be giving equal value to places such as Centennial Hall, the former AMP or CML Buildings in King William Street, the first Housing Trust houses or the Walter Burley Griffin incinerators at Hindmarsh and Thebarton? All but the first are already in the State Heritage Register.

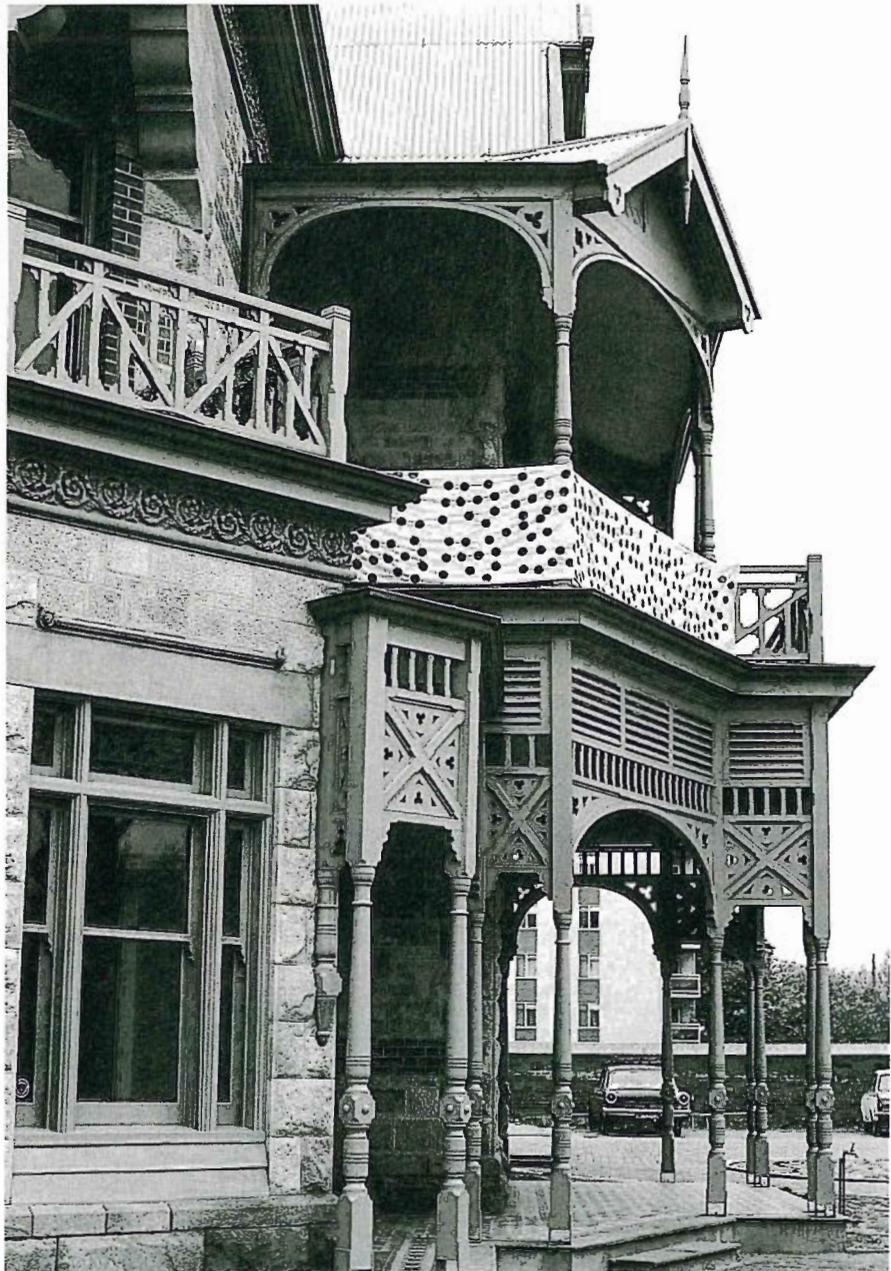
Post-World War Two heritage seems to be even more difficult to cope with; not only because styles tend to be more austere (like the Adelaide High School on West Terrace), but also because for many people these places were built within their lifetimes, and are therefore not considered to be historic, or old, and therefore not 'heritage'. It is difficult for some to consider the MLC Building in Victoria Square or the Bragg Laboratories at the University of Adelaide as heritage as these buildings are just too new!

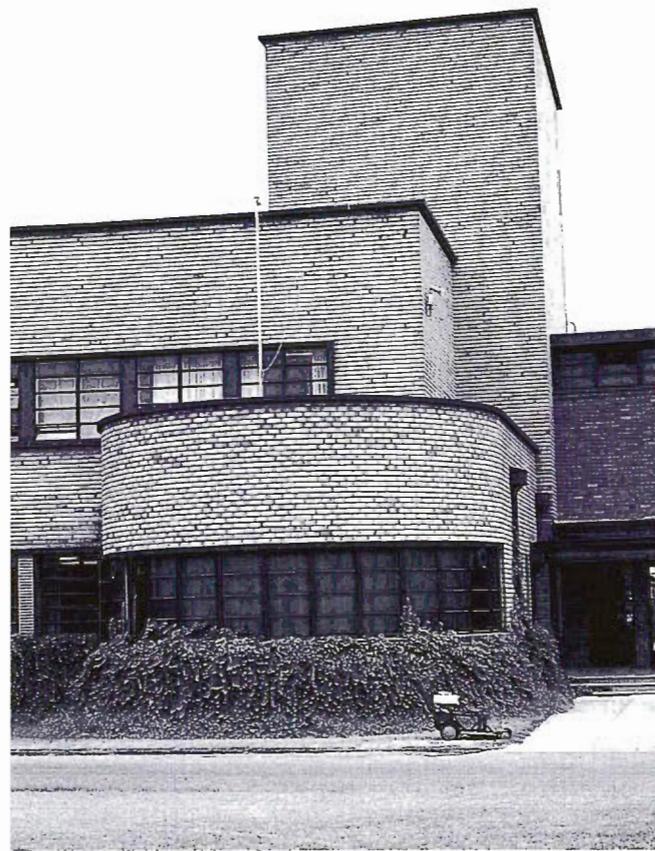
However it is important to consider late twentieth century heritage with the same degree of attention as nineteenth century heritage. These buildings may be under greater threat because such places are perceived neither to be old, nor of any value. They are not seen as 'pretty' or grand and may therefore be judged not worth preserving. Our familiarity with such places, working in them for example, may breed contempt for their value.

The twentieth century is as important to our social, economic and technological development as the nineteenth, indeed possibly even more so. Socially, the effects of two of the largest wars in the world's history left an impact on many communities. The depression of the 1930s and the boom years of the 1960s-80s have had an impact on our built environment. The effects of rapid technological changes; the advent of better transport, better communication and improved building materials, such as concrete, have also left their mark.

The common triggers for identification of heritage places – threat, systematic surveys or typological studies – which have helped establish a comprehensive inventory of nineteenth century places, appear not to have been equally applied to late twentieth century heritage. The bias towards nineteenth century heritage is reflected in the State Heritage Register. Only about 1/6 of the places entered in the Register are

*below: Carclew: 20th century architecture that is easy to appreciate*





above: *The CML building in King William Street, built at the time of the State's centenary*

right: *The Adelaide High School: 'mid' 20th century heritage*

constructed in the twentieth century and only 1/13 of places on the Register are constructed after 1917: the midway point of the State's European settlement timeline of 163 years.

There is really no excuse for this bias. From an assessment/evaluation point of view the twentieth century is easier to research – records tend to be more intact – and there is generally more information available to assist with the establishment of heritage value. It should be no more difficult to place a 20 year old building in an historical

context than a building 120 years old. Identification and protection of twentieth century heritage is clearly an urgent challenge for the twenty-first century.

**Sarah Laurence**  
Heritage Officer

## SOME CURRENT ISSUES IN BUILT HERITAGE MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

*This article is based upon Brian Samuels' talk at the Heritage Exposed seminar organised by the South Australian Centre for Australian Studies on 21 October 1998.*

Our heritage can be defined as everything we have inherited from the past. The issue for heritage administrators and society at large is to decide which parts of that inheritance it is both *desirable* and *feasible* to keep.

Because our heritage includes everything around us, there is an ever-present problem of familiarity breeding contempt. The community may not value some objects or places until it is too late to save them.

The issue of what we choose to value has another dimension. It changes over time as objects and building types

become scarce; our knowledge of them increases; or the mere passage of time leads us to see them in a new light.

### The South Australian Context

In common with other countries, the post-war built heritage movement in South Australia arose in response to the loss of buildings and streetscapes that people valued, and the banality and sometimes outright ugliness of what arose in their place.

While you still occasionally hear joking references to 'hysterical' societies, the growth of the history and heritage

movement since the late 1960s has been such that the value and importance of keeping built heritage is no longer disputed; even though the merits of retaining specific buildings may be.

### Heritage Management

Contrary to popular belief, heritage conservation is not about freezing places in time. It is about managing change. However, while that statement rolls off the tongue and echoes modern management jargon about change management, in practice it is not at all straightforward.

Many, if not all of us like to cling to the familiar, to what makes us comfortable. Confronting change and learning to accept what can't be controlled, and endeavouring to influence changes that are open to influence, is something we all have to come to terms with in our lives. Built heritage conservation poses the same issues, and requires the exercise of *judgement* as to what should be conserved, how best to conserve it, and what degree of change is acceptable. It is not a matter of simple yes/no answers and ticking check-boxes in a list of criteria.

### Some Long-standing Issues

There is a tendency for the media and some individuals to seek to polarise the heritage debate. Put crudely, this can be expressed as 'development at all costs' versus 'preserve everything'. Somewhere in between there is usually a compromise to be found.

There is also a related tendency to seek simple solutions. The calls to return the Adelaide Park Lands to their 'original' condition or to respect 'Light's vision' spring to mind. We need to ask not only whether such calls are feasible, but are they sensible. What was Light's vision, and even if we knew what it was – which we don't beyond the uses specified in his plan – is the vision of 1836 necessarily valid today and would returning the Park Lands to their 'original' condition meet current and future needs?

Other issues include grappling with how to save not just individual buildings but the overall character and amenity of an area and the proliferation of 'mock heritage' buildings, especially dwellings, and what their popularity means.

### Some Challenges

- Putting in place much more interpretation and promotion of the heritage we have. Historic walk leaflets and booklets have been proliferating over the last twenty years. There is still a long way to go with making knowledge more accessible through good plaques and signs, and through a series of well illustrated guidebooks, which allow the State's more significant heritage places to be understood in both a local and State context.

- Learning to come to terms with the fact that heritage values change over time as building materials deteriorate and require replacement; the surroundings of heritage places are altered; and our knowledge increases, allowing us to perceive values previously overlooked. One can read commentators like David Lowenthal and intellectually accept that change is inevitable. However, in the face of much modern architecture it is easy to understand why in practice people often prefer older styles and want to freeze buildings and streetscapes in time. Why good modern urban design is so hard to achieve in this State is a question of considerable importance, and one that warrants attention in its own right.
- Making local heritage conservation effective. Local heritage protection gained real teeth with the proclamation of the *Development Act 1993* in January 1994. However,

councils are under no compulsion to protect local heritage places through the provisions of the Act, and some Councils may need encouraging to do so.

- Learning to accept that retaining buildings is only one way of preserving heritage, and that sometimes retaining good documentary or photographic records is sufficient.
- Appreciating that the heritage debate is part of a broader debate about what sort of society and local communities we want. This can lead to heritage nominations being used vexatiously in an attempt to block new development. While this can give heritage a bad press and can be irritating for heritage administrators, it is necessary to see such actions in context, and see that they often arise from a need for better planning and/or community consultation.

*Brian Samuels is Principal Heritage Officer with Heritage South Australia.*

## VALE JOHN TREGENZA

South Australian history has lost one of its most meticulous and tenacious researchers with the death of John Tregenza at the age of 68 on 21 May 1999.

Many readers would remember his exhibitions on South Australian themes in the Art Gallery's former Historical Museum. John's appointment to the Gallery as Curator of Historical Collections followed a distinguished career at the University of Adelaide (1963-76), where he supervised many honours history theses on South Australian history. He was transferred from the Gallery to the newly formed History Trust of South Australia in 1981, where he occupied the position of Historian (now styled State Historian), and amongst many activities contributed significantly to the Jubilee 150 Publications Committee and the creation of the Mortlock Library and conceived the display in the round of Townsend Duryea's photographic panorama of Adelaide in 1865 (now located in Gay's Arcade). He retired in 1987.

Within the heritage field he served as a member of the Lord Mayor's Heritage Advisory Committee, and also provided

timely and important historical advice when Old Parliament House was being adapted to house the Constitutional Museum and the former Police Barracks and Armoury behind the South Australian Museum were being conserved and adapted for new uses. He also played a leading role in saving Elder Hall from demolition and reawakened interest in South Australia's and Australia's first government town planner, Charles Reade. His invaluable South Australian Historical Pictures Index, begun while he was at the Art Gallery and now housed in the Mortlock Library, is another legacy of lasting benefit to historical and heritage researchers.

John's interests ranged widely, and his books included *Australian Little Magazines 1923-1954*, *Eugene von Guerard's South Australia*, *George French Angas*, *LeMessuriers of Port Adelaide*, *Professor of Democracy: the life of Charles Henry Pearson 1830-1894* and *Collegiate School of St Peter: the founding years 1847-1878*.

He is survived by his wife Jean and three sons.

**Brian Samuels**

# Introducing the heritage advisers

Mark Butcher is one of nine heritage advisers in South Australia. Heritage advisers provide advice on heritage matters to local Councils and to their communities. Mark has been heritage adviser to the Willunga Council, now part of the new Onkaparinga Council, since 1993.



**Mark Butcher**  
Heritage adviser  
to the Onkaparinga  
Council

Mark has specialised in the conservation & rejuvenation of older buildings and neighbourhoods ever since 1978 when he joined the former State Heritage Branch as its first architect. He spent eleven years in the Branch, helping to set it up and establish its role in the community. Initially the first Register Supervisor, he later became Senior Development Assessment Architect in 1982. In 1989 Mark joined Woods Bagot Architects to head up their Heritage Section. While there he was responsible for restoring St. Peter's Cathedral and St. Lukes Church. He was also design architect for the redevelopment of the Regent Arcade, the new hall and offices to St. Peter's Cathedral, and the Sagasco Display Centre on Port Road.

Mark has established close links with the community at Willunga and McLaren Vale and has worked with the local people on various projects, including upgrading the High Street, restoring the Willunga Institute and upgrading the McLaren Vale Community Hall. He also worked closely with Council Planning Staff on setting up a local Heritage Committee; a Heritage Survey of the area; preparation of a Heritage Plan Amendment Review; and the restoration of Council-owned property such as Waverley House and the Aldinga Community Hall. Mark has taken a particular interest in rejuvenating older streetscapes in the area and has worked closely with council staff on street tree planting, landscaping and fencing projects.

The role of heritage adviser has changed with the amalgamation of

Willunga into the Onkaparinga Council. Mark is now based at Noarlunga and works over a larger area. The close community links established at Willunga have evolved into a more centralised role, focussing on development applications and specific council projects.

Mark has also been actively involved in his own local community and was an elected member for five years on the former Kensington and Norwood Council, where he organised one of Adelaide's early heritage surveys. He was also instrumental in saving the interior of the Norwood Town Hall.

In 1993 Mark Butcher Architects was established as a specialist conservation and urban design practice. This has since carried out a wide range of

projects, including the Townsville Heritage Survey and designing major additions to Duntroon House. Its core interests are heritage management and the integration of old and new building fabric, whether in the form of buildings streetscapes or neighbourhoods. Current projects include the restoration of the Adelaide Bridge and the design of the new Gateway-to-Adelaide at Glen Osmond.

Mark Butcher enjoys working with older buildings and the social contact this brings with owners and local communities. Managing the dynamic of change is the ongoing and never ceasing challenge.

*Mark can be contacted at the Onkaparinga Council on 8384 0666.*

## Draft Heritage Planning Bulletin

The draft Heritage Planning Bulletin has recently been endorsed for public exhibition.

The draft Bulletin is a joint initiative between Planning SA and Heritage SA and provides an outline of current heritage and conservation planning practices in South Australia. It was developed with the assistance of many local government planners and heritage practitioners, and in line with national best practice approaches to heritage conservation. As you would be aware, local heritage has been part of government planner's work for more than a decade, gaining formal recognition with the authorisation of the *Development Act 1993*. The draft Bulletin acknowledges the importance of local heritage and provides a framework for its recognition.

The draft Bulletin sets out a process for identifying and conserving heritage in the community, and provides the context and background for the development of heritage policy. It describes the full range of heritage

protection available in South Australia for both State and local heritage places. The draft Bulletin is seen as an important and informative document for the use of the public and practitioners.

The draft Bulletin will be on public exhibition for two months and your written comments are encouraged. If you would like to obtain a free copy of the Bulletin please contact Planning SA on (08) 8303 0724. Heritage South Australia is available to provide further information on the draft Bulletin on (08) 8204 9262.

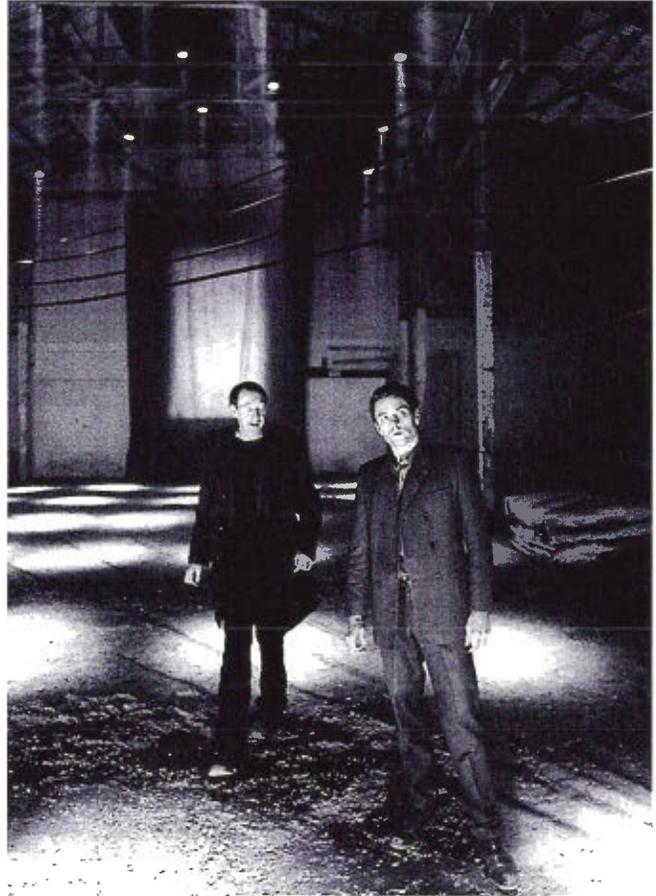
# The Curtain Goes Up at The Queen's Theatre

The 1996 Adelaide Festival saw the return of theatrical productions to the Queen's Theatre in Adelaide, after an absence of more than a century. Heritage South Australia, which manages the Queen's Theatre, encourages the use of this theatre by both artistic and community groups, as well as the corporate sector. If you are interested in hiring the Queen's Theatre, please contact Heritage South Australia on 8204 9246.

Photographs courtesy of David Wilson, 14 East Terrace, Hawthorndene, SA, 5051 Ph. 8278 6265



above: *Trojan Women*  
Theatro Oneiron March 1997  
Photographer: David Wilson, Hawthorndene

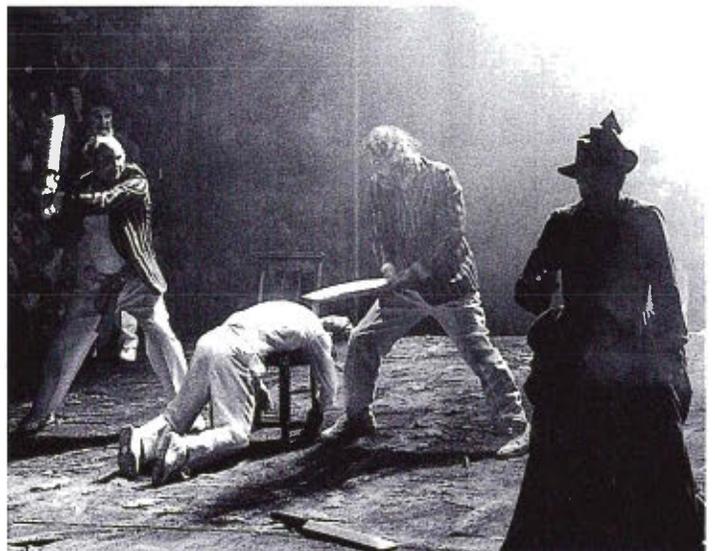


above: *Future Tense – "In the Solitude of the Cotton Fields"*  
Magpie2 May 1997  
Photographer: David Wilson, Hawthorndene

below: *Scam!*  
Junction Theatre Company July 1998  
Photographer: Eric Algra, Stepney



below: *Natural Life*  
Playbox/State Theatre SA February 1998 (XXth Adelaide Festival)  
Photographer: David Wilson, Hawthorndene



## HERITAGE NEWS

## Launch of *Heritage of the Murray Mallee* by Minister for Environment and Heritage

The regional survey of the Murray Mallee was launched by the Minister for Environment and Heritage, Hon Dorothy Kotz, on 16 March 1999. The launch was held at Karoonda in the offices of the District Council of Karoonda-East Murray.

Undertaken by heritage consultants Paul Kloeden and Bruce Harry & Associates, the Murray Mallee heritage survey includes the following Council areas:

- District Council of Karoonda-East Murray
- Southern Mallee District Council and parts of the
- Coorong District Council
- District Council of Loxton Waikerie
- Mid Murray Council
- Rural City of Murray Bridge
- District Council of Renmark Paringa

In her speech at Karoonda the Minister said:

*The Murray Mallee Heritage Survey identifies a wide range of places from churches, schools and shops to wells and railway stations. The Murray Mallee region is a unique agricultural and pastoral area having no reliable surface water, and the settlement of this region wasn't without difficulty. Much of the Murray Mallee's history is therefore about the search to find a suitable water supply.*

*The places identified in this Survey report centre around the non-Aboriginal settlement of the Murray Mallee which followed a distinct pattern of access to water, transport and suitability for agriculture. Other places recommended in the report for heritage listing relate services which supported farming activities, such as post offices and schools. Most of the places are not grand but they reflect the hardships of a community that struggled in a harsh physical climate.*

*During the late 19th and 20th centuries a network of settlements were established throughout the Murray Mallee to service the farming families. However, with the exception of Lameroo, Pinnaroo and Karoonda, most of these settlements never grew beyond a few buildings.*

*As you can see, many of the places recommended for heritage listing in the report of the Murray Mallee Heritage Survey date from the early 20th century. This indicates that our heritage is more than just Victorian buildings – it comprises all the places that help us understand our State's history and historical development. Without these important heritage surveys much of our history would be lost. I believe that the knowledge and awareness of our history presents us with a richer life.*

*below: Peter Lewis, Member for Hammond; Hon Dorothy Kotz, Minister for Environment and Heritage; Andrea Kloeden; Paul Kloeden; Bruce Harry; and Martin Brine, former Manager, Heritage South Australia*



## Heritage Planning and Management Seminar

Earlier this year, Heritage South Australia hosted two Heritage Planning and Management Seminars. They were designed specifically to meet the needs of those involved and interested in the protection and management of heritage places within local areas. Katrina McDougall and Elizabeth Vines of

McDougall & Vines Conservation and Heritage Consultants presented the seminars, with assistance from experienced heritage practitioners and State and local government town planners.

Over 80 people attended, comprising State and local government town

planners, consultant town planners, architects, elected members and owners of heritage places.

The intensive one day seminars had a practical focus, encouraging the participants to carry out problem solving exercises in small groups, and to share

## HERITAGE NEWS



Participants during the Seminar

ideas and issues with the audience and presenters. The key issues covered were:

- the legislative framework
- methods for involving the community
- integration of conservation and planning requirements at the local level
- the use of Local Government Heritage Advisory Services

The seminars are recognised by both the Royal Australian Institute of Architects and the Royal Australian Planning Institute as professional development activities.

The overwhelming interest in the Seminars has highlighted the need for heritage education courses to be offered on a more regular basis. Heritage South Australia is committed to providing ongoing education and training for people involved in the heritage industry, and to assisting in broadening an understanding of current 'best practice' heritage planning processes, and heritage management frameworks.

The *Heritage South Australia Newsletter* will inform you of any other courses to be offered in the future.

## Endangered Places List

Australia's cultural heritage is the forgotten component of our environment. But many Australians regret the continuing loss of heritage places and areas. Many more are threatened by damage, neglect or redevelopment.

In response to these threats, the Australian Council of National Trusts, ACNT, has established *Endangered Places* program, launched in 1998. By featuring a new list of 'endangered places' each year, the ACNT aims to refocus national attention and to stimulate community action in conserving heritage.

The 23 places on the 1998 list feature a wide array of rural and urban places.

The 1999 list will be launched on 22 August.

Details of each *Endangered Place* and the nature of the threat, together with information on how to nominate places, are provided on the ACNT website [www.austnatrust.com.au](http://www.austnatrust.com.au). The website also provides general information and entry points to State and Territory National Trusts.

For further information contact:

Dr Susan Marsden  
National Conservation Manager,  
Australian Council of National trusts,  
PO Box 1002 Civic Square ACT 2608.  
Phone: 02 6247 6766,  
Fax: 02 6249 1395



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# Garden Island Ships' Graveyard

## MARITIME HERITAGE TRAIL



On the 21 July 1906 the worn out wooden hull of an old ship was deliberately run aground on the banks of Garden Island, in the North Arm of the Port Adelaide River. This barque, built in 1868 in Mystic, Connecticut, USA and named *Seminole* was at one time a highly regarded ship and traded extensively throughout the Pacific. Upon reaching Australian shores it was found to be old, unseaworthy and therefore unsuited for commercial purposes. The vessel was then condemned to a life as a storage hulk in Port Adelaide. Later, after further deterioration it was abandoned and left to rot, the first of many once-proud ships to be dumped in an area later known as the Garden Island Ships' Graveyard.

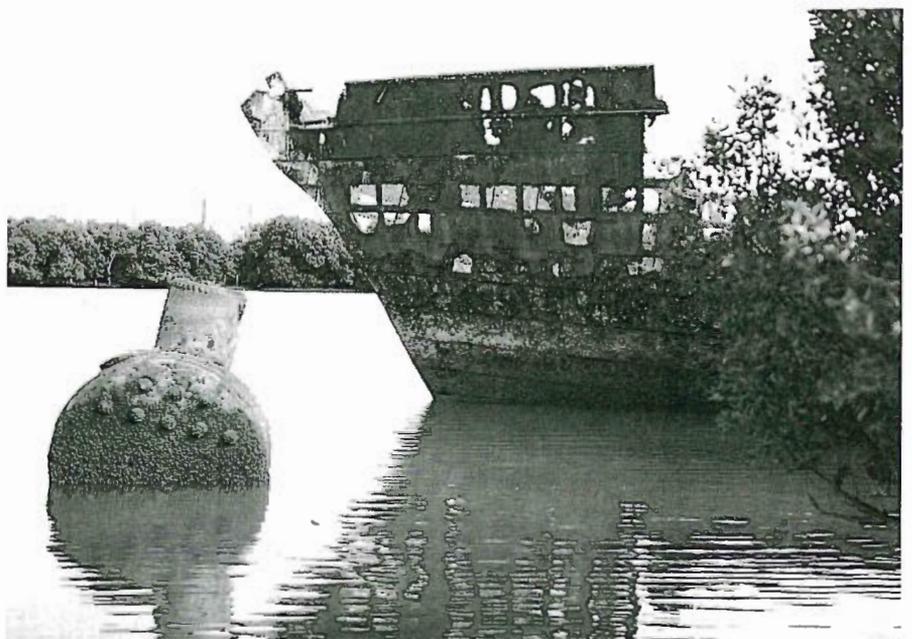
The Garden Island Ships' Graveyard is only one area in a larger ships' graveyard in the Port Adelaide area that contains the remains of over forty located abandoned ships. Garden Island itself is the home of twenty-five of these ships, all of varying sizes, configurations, nationalities and types. Not all of these vessels were placed in the graveyard for reasons of age and

condition. Others were disposed of due to the economic advantages associated with new forms of propulsion sources and fuels, such as diesel and petroleum that meant that some ships became uncompetitive in international and coastal trades. The influence of economic decline further contributed with many trades disap-

above: *Inside the barque Sunbeam.*  
below: *Barque Sunbeam and the boiler of the steamship Killarney (R to L).*

pearing overnight, leading to eventual vessel disuse and inevitable company bankruptcy.

Due to the relative shallowness of South Australian coastal waters it was not cost-effective or safe to tow these



unwanted or outmoded vessels out to sea and sink them with explosives. Instead, the vessels were dumped in an isolated channel not used by commercial shipping where they could be used for firewood and scrap iron, and guaranteed not to become navigation hazards. This practice continued until 1945 when the 86 year old *Santiago* was abandoned on the eastern boundary of the graveyard.

As well as containing many historically significant ships, the ships' graveyard at Garden Island represents one of the largest assortments of accessible vessel remains in the world. The site encapsulates important aspects of South Australian history and represents the effects of the Great Depression of the 1930s, and the two World Wars on South Australian maritime trades. It is also representative of transitions in the design and construction of ships and technology of shipbuilding on local, national and international levels spanning two centuries. For this reason the site is also beneficial as a teaching resource in maritime history and archaeology.

It is with this educational purpose in mind that the *Garden Island Ships' Graveyard Maritime Heritage Trail* was commenced. Currently due for launch



above: Unidentified iron pontoon.

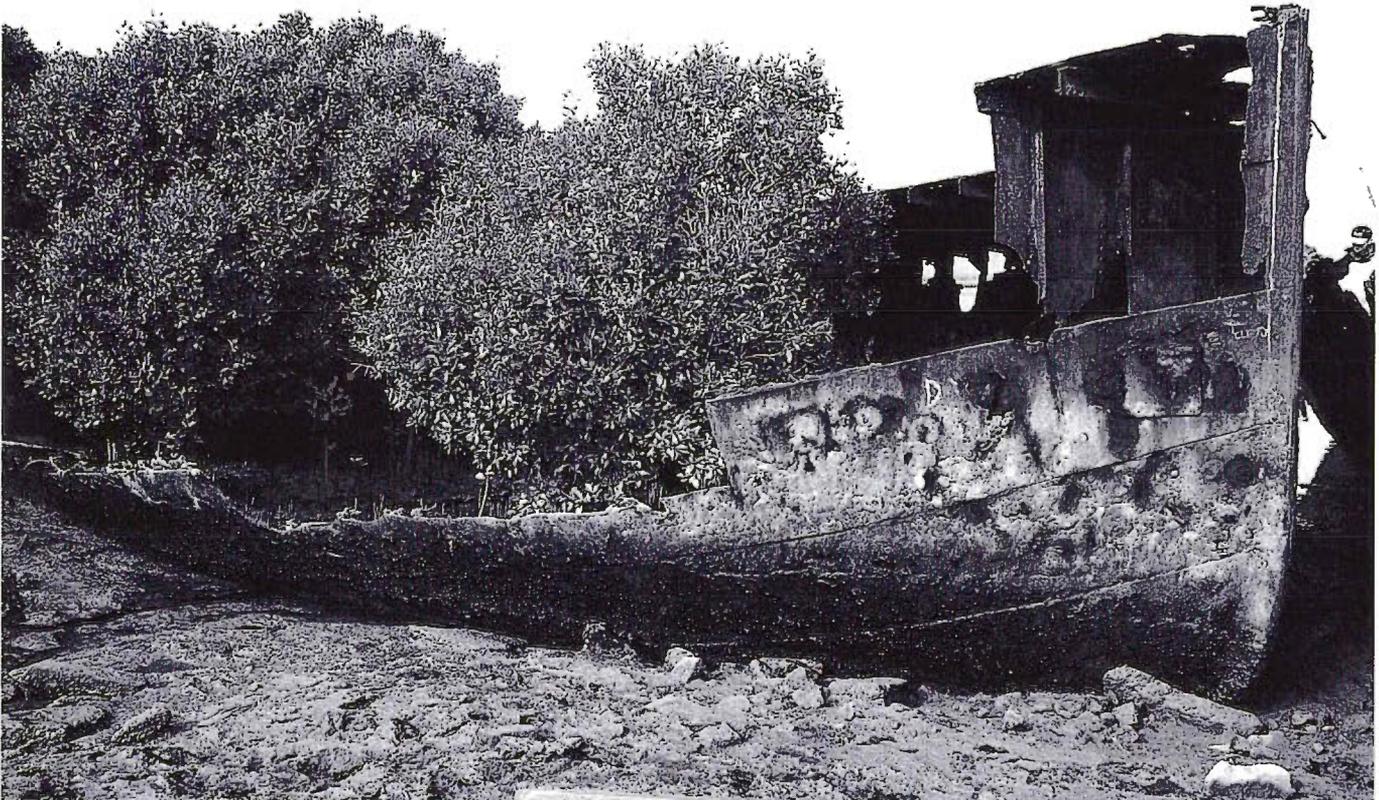
in August 1999, a major feature of the trail will be the installation of interpretive signage at the Garden Island Boat Ramp and upon posts in the North Arm of the Port Adelaide River. Other parts of the trail include the creation of an interpretive booklet and an internet site. A small exhibition titled *Abandoned Ships of Port Adelaide*, developed in cooperation with the Archaeology Department at

Flinders University the display will be located at the South Australian Maritime Museum.

For further information call 8204 9311

**Nathan Richards**  
Maritime Heritage Officer

below: Unidentified iron bopper barge.



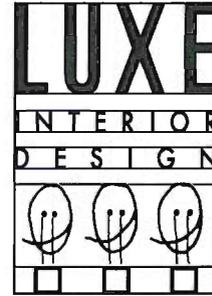
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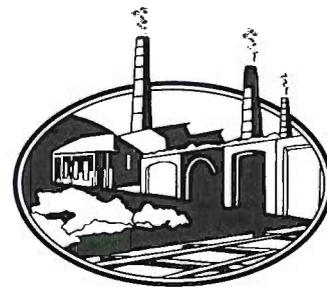
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