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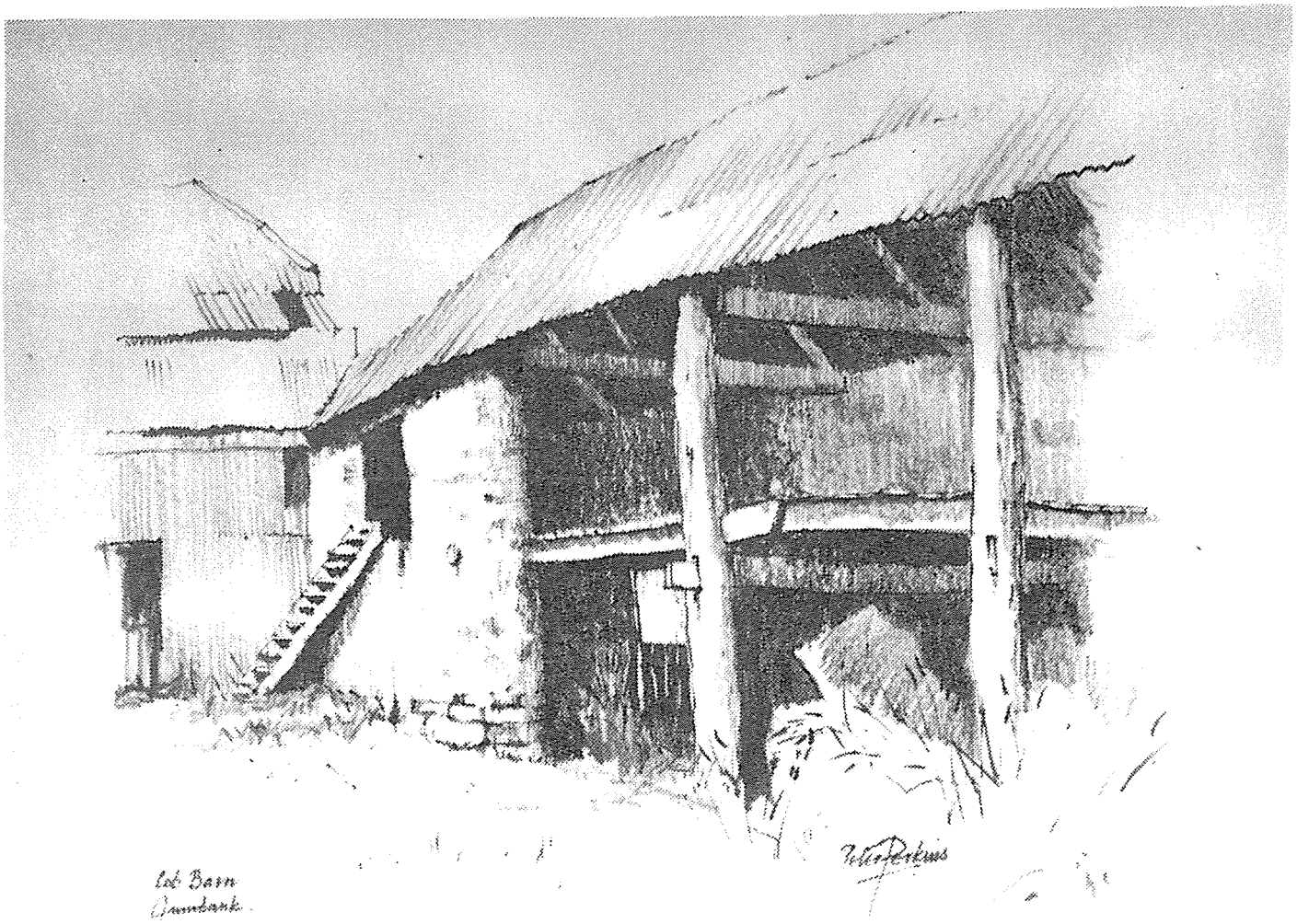

PIONEER BUILDINGS OF THE ONKAPARINGA BOWL

BALHANNAH – OAKBANK – WOODSIDE – LOBETHAL

PIONEER BUILDINGS IN THE

ONKAPARINGA BOWL - BALHANNAH, OAKBANK, WOODSIDE, LOBETHAL

G. YOUNG P. PERKINS

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The title was suggested by Brian Harper,
Senior Lecturer in Planning, School of Architecture and Building, S.A.I.T.

The cover illustration by Peter Perkins is the 'lin-hay' at Gumbanks,
Charleston, an open-fronted stable commonly found on Devonshire farms.

Preface

The material in this booklet is drawn from a chapter of the Onkaparinga District Heritage Survey, which was carried out between 1982 and 1984 by the South Australian Centre for Settlement Studies. It also uses material included in the previous Lobethal Survey which was conducted between 1980 and 1982.

The work summarises a large body of factual and graphic information collected on the history of the Council district. In particular it draws on the excellent field research carried out by Annette Green in the initial phase of the Onkaparinga Survey.

A considerable number of people have been involved in the two surveys, including academic staff and students from the Departments of Geography and History, South Australian College of Advanced Education and the School of Architecture and Building at the South Australian Institute of Technology (see Appendix).

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J. Faull
Acting Director
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Settlement Studies
August 1984

* *Several measured drawings and sketches in the booklet are taken from the Centre's publications on Hahndorf and Lobethal, where their delineators are acknowledged.*

The text was typed by Molly Chipper.

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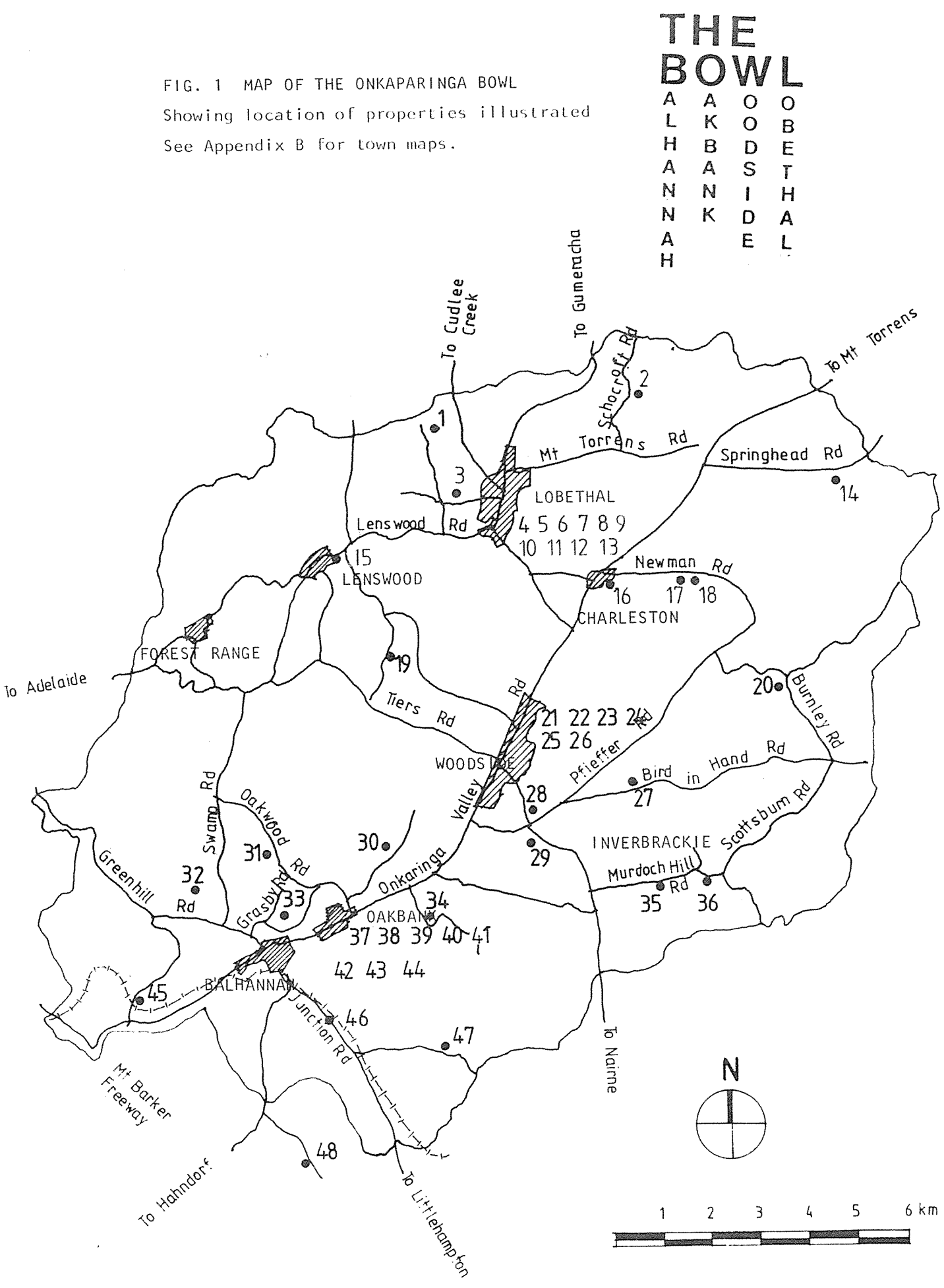
FIG. 1 MAP OF THE ONKAPARINGA BOWL
Showing location of properties illustrated
See Appendix B for town maps.



Geographical influences

Trees, sand and plastic soil, together with water, human skills and sweat have provided buildings for all human activity for countless generations.

This wooded and watered area was developed early in the history of South Australia, and competition for ownership of large parcels of land was a major factor in determining those areas first settled.

Naturally the settlers assessed the supply of immediately available materials with which they were familiar. The comparative abundance of timber, although of a different type from that with which they had grown up in Northern Europe, must nevertheless have appeared as a major asset to this valley, gently cradled in the rolling forested hills which contain it.

They would also have been quick to appraise the nature of the soil, not solely for its fertility but of almost equal importance, its potential for becoming building material. Added to this was a permanent supply of water - that often forgotten but utterly essential component of simple building techniques.

FIG. 2 THE ONKAPARINGA BOWL
(The Upper Onkaparinga Valley) As seen in the approach to Balhannah from Littlehampton on Junction Road.
An area which inspired some of Sir Hans Heysens' greatest paintings.

This landscape would have been looked at through eyes familiar with homeland structures on farms and villages built of clay, timber, plaster, brick or stone, with roofs of thatch, shingle, tile or brush.

The lower slopes of the valley were not too steep to plough, and soon wheat growing boomed, providing straw for building needs in wall construction (clay pug) and initially for roofing.

The original temporary dwellings in the area have long since disappeared. These were hurriedly put up in a day or two and were simple tent-like, pole framed shelters, roofed with canvas or brush and bark. Winter in the valley can be cold, with snow at times. Photographs taken in July 1901 show a landscape under deep snow,[2] so a protective shelter was a survival requirement. Obviously the first primitive abodes would not meet that need and so, just as their forebears before them had done, they soon began to build themselves more substantial shelters.

FIG. 3 TEMPORARY SHELTER
The hollowed out trunks of red river gum trees such as this one, known as the 'Shepherd's Tree', near to Birdwood (Gumeracha District Council) were frequently used for temporary shelter. The 'Herbig Tree' at Springton (Mt Pleasant District Council) was used as a permanent home for many years by the Herbig family.

FIG. 4 COUNTRY INNS

Some settlers, before taking up their country sections, were accommodated in the various inns and hostelries which were built along the early coach routes. James Thomson, who first sub-divided Balhannah in 1839, built and licensed the 'Balhannah Inn' in the following year (1840). Six years afterwards J. Payne built the Inverbrackie Hotel (locally known as Paynes Inn). This was licensed until 1850-51, after which it became a private residence. For several years it was the Inverbrackie Church Manse, when it was the home of the Reverend John McBean.

FIG. 5 COACHING PREMISES, MAIN STREET WOODSIDE

At first coaching teams were accommodated at local inns. Later, as roads were improved and coach services extended, special premises were built by the coaching companies. These buildings, which are located alongside the Onkaparinga Valley road at Woodside, were used for a time by the famous Cobb & Co. coaches.

Early settlers and their building traditions

The first Europeans to erect temporary shelters in the Onkaparinga valley were the shepherds and stockmen of the South Australia Company. Ferdinand Mueller and Charles Newman were both shepherds working for the company. The latter, tending his flocks in the Charleston area, erected a gum-slab hut on Mount Charles.[3] The former, who arrived on the 'Skjold', persuaded the German settlers who came with him to settle in the Lobethal valley, which he discovered in 1842 whilst tending the company's flocks. Although he was resident at Hahndorf at the time, he probably would have used a rough slab hut in the valley when looking after the sheep.

Samuel Day was a company stockman driving cattle into and through the area. It is almost certain that he would have used similar rough accommodation when droving. Later he took up land to the east of Balhannah and settled down to farming.

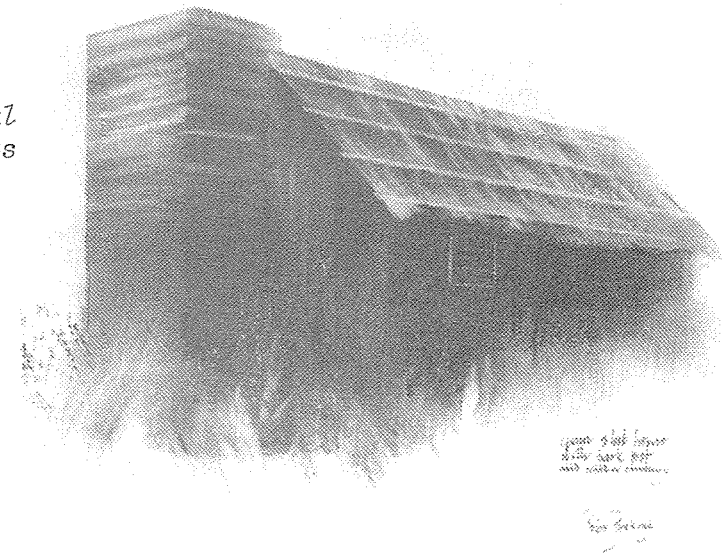


FIG. 6 SLAB HUTS
A drawing of a typical gum-slab hut, with its clay-lined timber chimney *(see p. 10)*

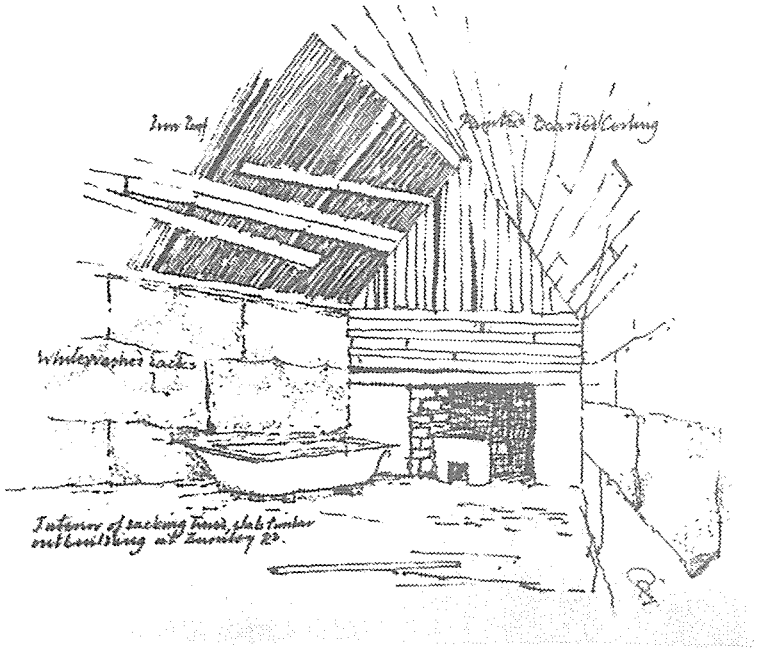
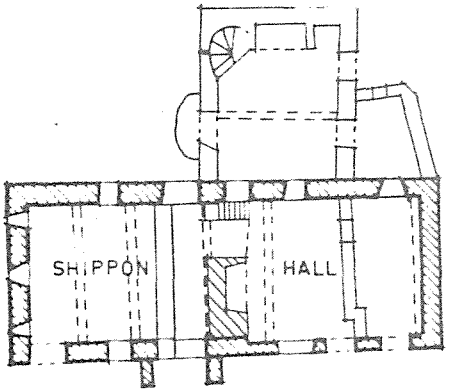
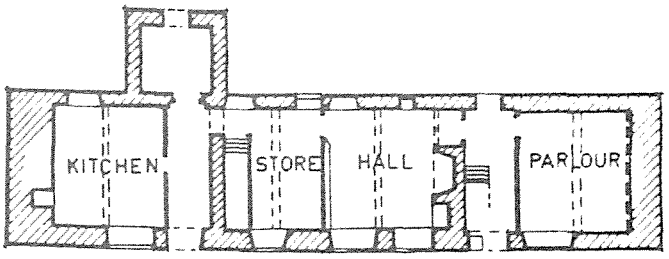


FIG. 7 INTERIOR OF EXTERNAL TIMBER KITCHEN, BURNLEY ROAD
The interiors were usually lined with whitewashed hessian or covered over with old newspapers!

All of these company employees and the settlers who followed them came from rural backgrounds in Europe, where building traditions which stemmed from the early Middle Ages were still being used. Newman and Day were both from Somerset in south-western England, an area of fine stone buildings, but where earth-walled structures (cob work) were still being built. The older farmhouses in south-western England with their adjoining shippons were derived from the Celtic long-houses commonly found throughout western Europe. This house form produces a cross passage generally off-centre on plan, through which both men and animals entered the building.[4]



Plan - Chapple, Gidleigh
17th century Devonshire farmhouse



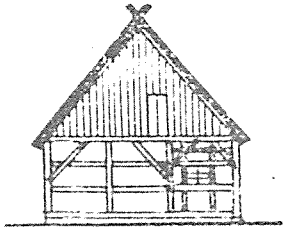
Plan - Drascombe, Drewsteignton
17th Century Devonshire farmhouse

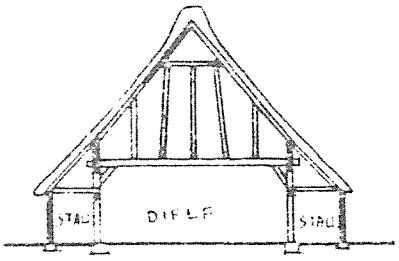
FIG. 8 17TH CENTURY DEVONSHIRE FARMHOUSES
Alcock, N.W. 'Devonshire Farmhouses'
Trans. Devon. Ass. 101 (1969) p.87 and p.100

Later the animals were removed to shippons connected to or separated from the houses and the byre end became storerooms for ale and dairy products, screened from the hall end by a timber screen. A similar house-form developed in Germany. This was the Franconian house where the common entry and cross passage persisted until the 18th century. However in this case the passageway also included cooking hearths. Subsequently the animals were located in separate buildings and their byres became storerooms or extra living rooms. It was this kind of house which the first German settlers brought with them to South Australia, examples of which can be found at Hahndorf and Lobethal. (Both these settlements were located within the boundaries of the Onkaparinga District Council when it was formed in 1853.)

Another more primitive barn-house (baurnhof) where a family and its animals were housed in the same building is rarely found in these German villages. However, according to Mr C.A. Pfeiffer, his great,

great grandfather Johann Friedrich Pfeiffer built a two storey house and stables in the mid 1850's at Scho nthal which may have been similar to Mooney's Barn near Hahndorf, a rare example of this kind of house, which still remains.[5]





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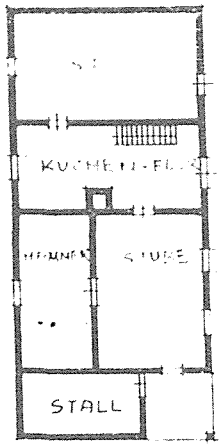
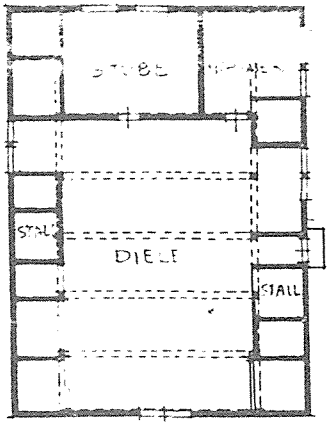


Franconian house
(Frankische)



Lower German house
(Nieder Deutsche)

Mooney's Barn

FIG.9 TYPES OF GERMAN FARMHOUSES

The majority of the first settlers in the area, both British and German, were either farmers or farmworkers, or rural artisans, coming from remote country areas of Europe.[6] * They and their forbears had suffered hardship and poverty for centuries. Those from southern England had seen this intensify in the late 18th century with the acceleration of the Enclosure Acts and many could only afford dwellings built of the flimsiest of materials such as wattle and daub or rough earth walling.[7] The Irish

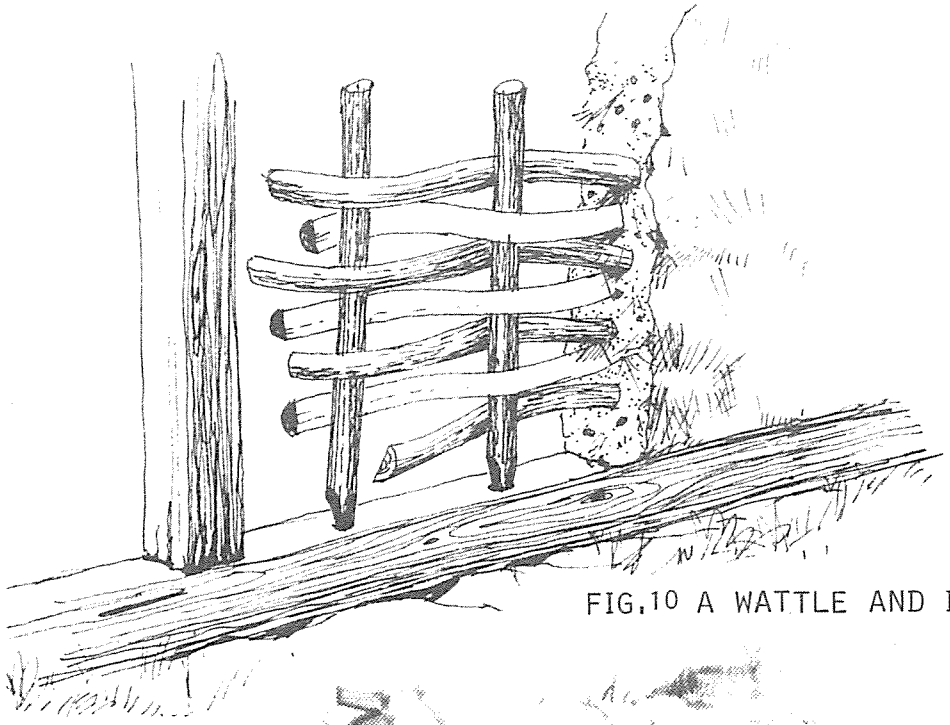


FIG.10 A WATTLE AND DAUB WALL

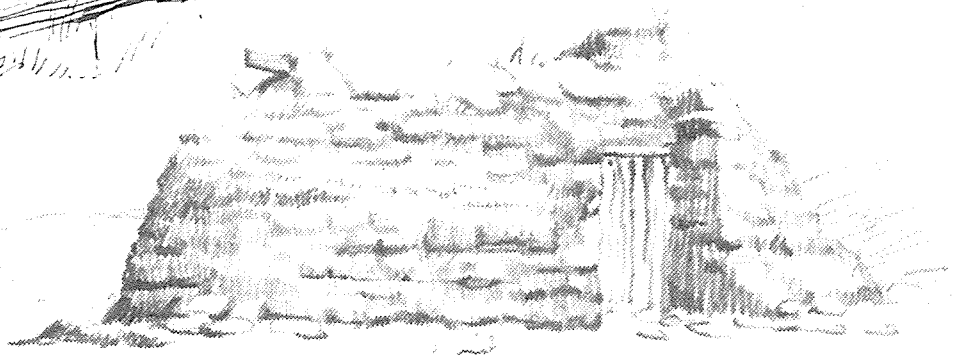


FIG.11 TURF HUTS
S.A. Company registers of annual returns of land under cultivation by tenants noted the presence of turf huts in 1850 in the adjoining Hundred of Talunga.

and Scottish migrants were often highland crofters whose houses were primitive structures built of stone and peat. Our studies of German settlers tell a similar story of hardship and poverty made more unbearable by an oppressive government which persecuted religious dissidents.[8] With their arrival in an even remoter and more primitive environment it is not surprising that they all continued to build with (for a time at least) their ancient building techniques, which they adapted to the new setting.

* *Manual labourers who applied for assisted passages to the new colony were carefully vetted by the Colonisation Commissioners for their suitability as emigrants. This system eliminated those who were totally destitute.*

The gum-slab hut

This was used by the majority of settlers when they first took up land. It consisted of roughly sawn or split thick red-gum slabs fixed to squared top and bottom rails supported by four earth held posts. A stone or brick chimney over an open hearth and white-washed hessian nailed to the inside of the walls and ceiling were the other simple elements which graced this structure. Thatch or bark roofs secured by wire and weighted down by external timbers covered crude roof frames built of tree branches. Such simple structures of single storey height were well within the capabilities of the average building team, the settler, his wife and maybe a neighbour or strong youngster! Later these temporary dwellings were either abandoned, used as outbuildings or surrounded by more permanent constructions and incorporated into larger dwellings. Similarly framed slab covered barns and other outbuildings completed the typical pioneer farmstead.

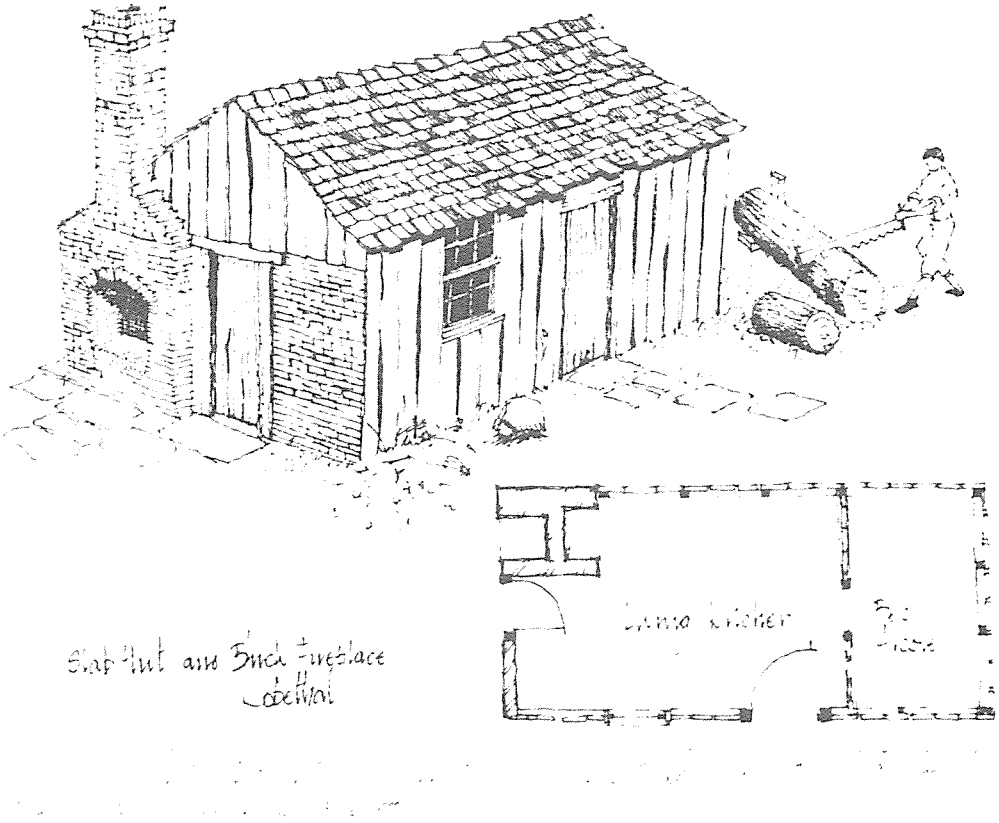


FIG. 12 A GERMAN SETTLER'S SLAB HUT AT LOBETHAL
This simple half timber-framed structure is still standing. It has brick back to back hearths, the external one may have been protected by a rough timber lean-to.

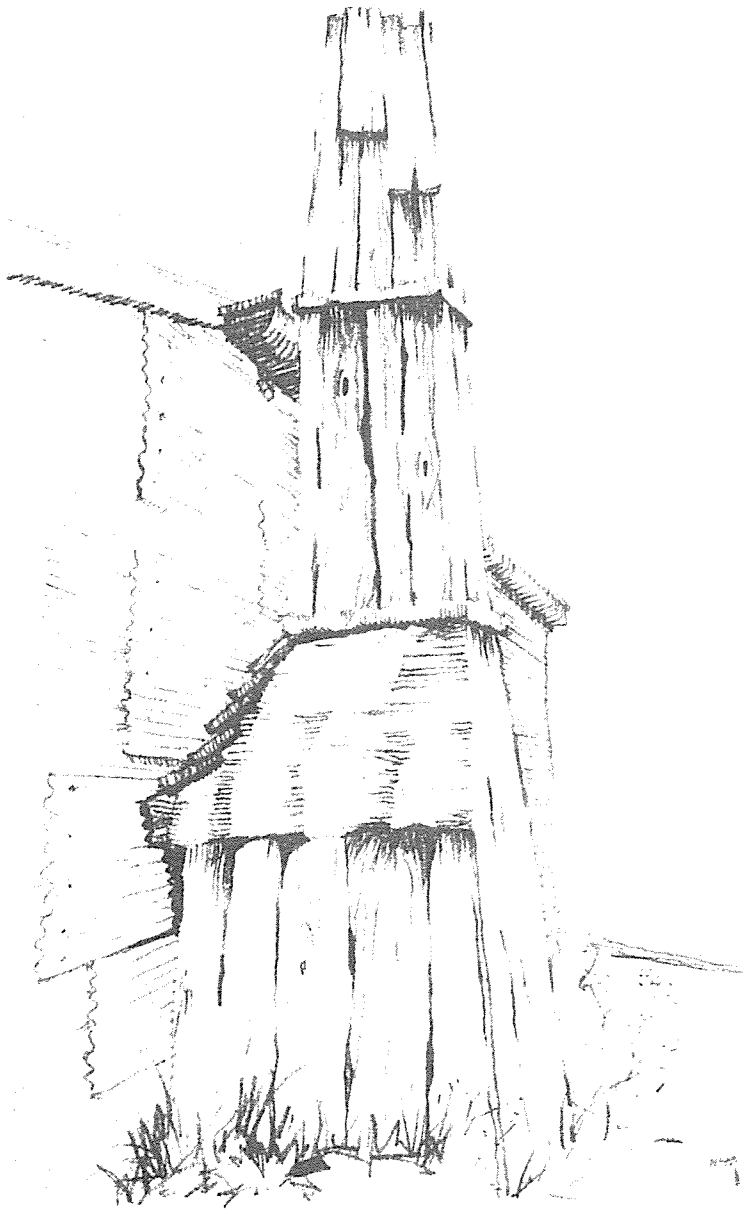


FIG.13 FIRE PROBLEMS
The pioneer builders were threatened not only by bushfires but by internal conflagrations stemming from their crude lighting and cooking appliances (e.g. candles, kerosine lights and open hearths). Timber chimneys, although clay-lined, were a considerable fire hazard. They were usually built away from the rest of the hut so that they could be easily kicked over when set alight!

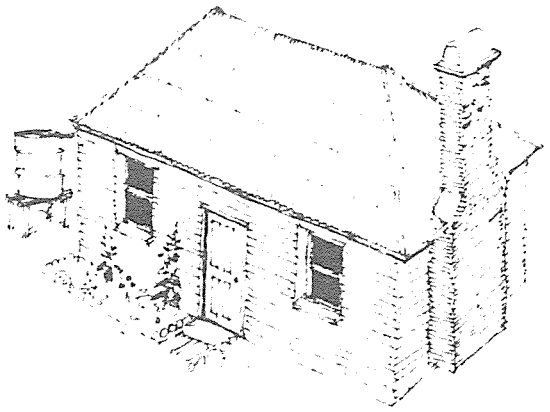
A late example of a pioneer's cottage is to be found on Section 24 off Kumnick Road. Although this was built about 1914 with modern timber framing and galvanised iron, it has a unique stone and clay cooking hearth in its back lean-to connected to an external timber and clay lined chimney. This cottage is still lived in and the hearth and chimney are in constant use today.

After the early settlers had established themselves on their properties they began to build more substantial buildings. The British generally built two-roomed cottages with back leantos (skillions) which incorporated a kitchen and a cooking range. On the larger farms separate kitchens in the British tradition were erected (e.g. the Edwards farm at Oakbank, see page 17) whilst the majority of German settlers in the Lobethal-Neudorf area built half-timbered two roomed cottages with back-up hearths accompanied by substantial stone and timber barns (see page 23).

FIG. 14 SIMPLE WEATHERBOARD HOUSE

Several of these are noted in early records (e.g. S.A. Company annual returns, 1840s-50s). They are less commonly found in South Australia than in N.S.W., Victoria and Queensland.

Some of the first settlers imported pre-fabricated timber houses (Manning Houses) but none have been found in the Onkaparinga area.



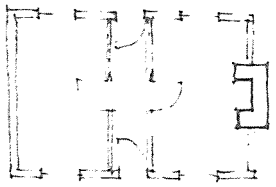
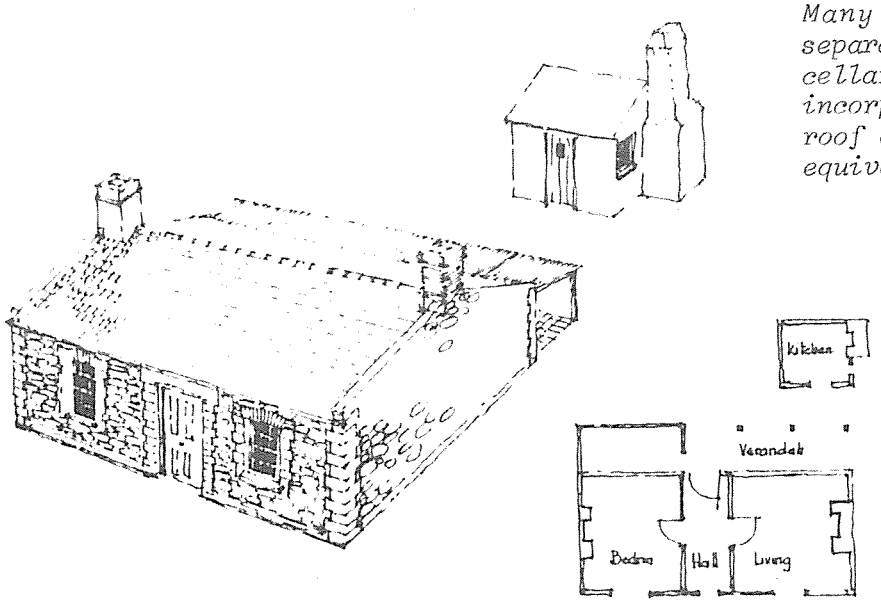


FIG. 15 KITCHENS AND SKILLIONS, ETC.

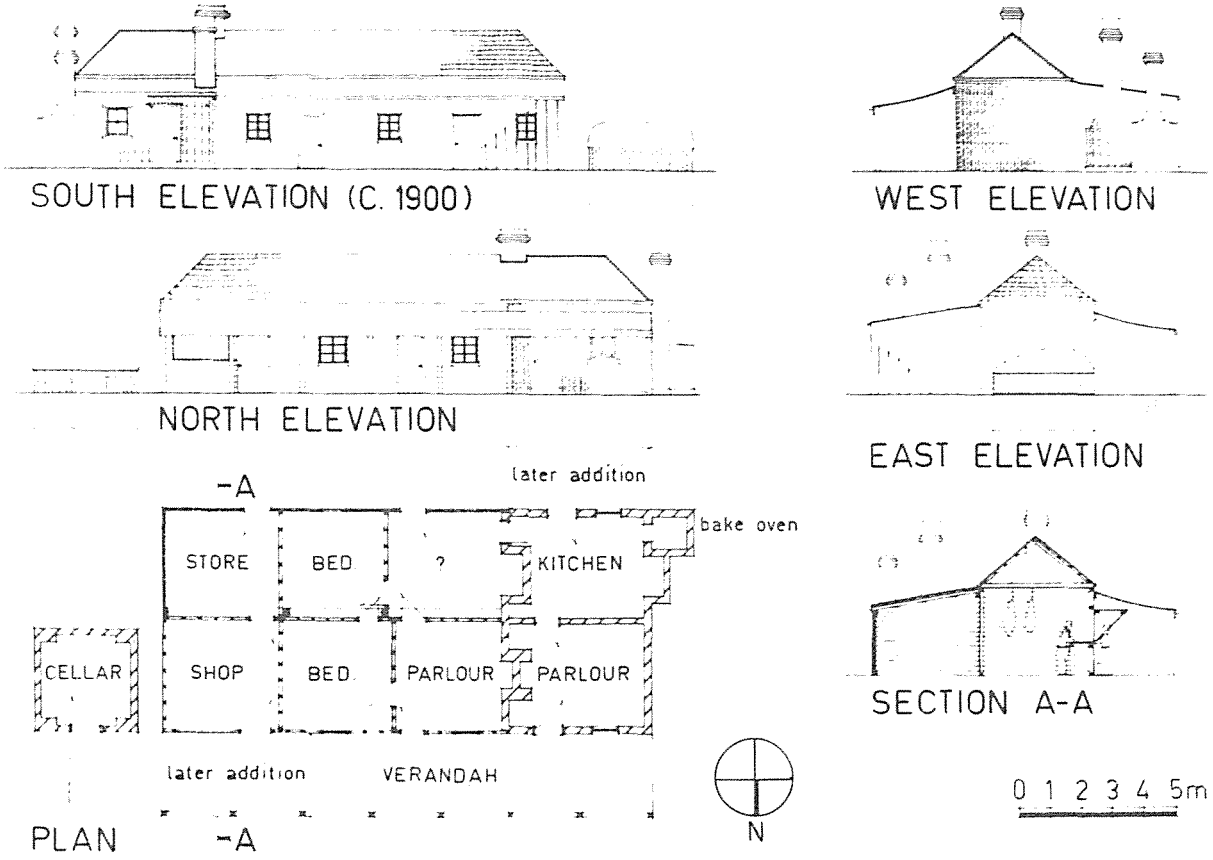
Many settlers' houses had separate kitchens, washrooms and cellars. Sometimes these were incorporated under the back skillion roof or "outshut' as it was called in equivalent English cottages.



If there were the financial means and freehold was assured, the settlers built with more permanent building materials.[9] Mostly this was in brick or stone, but earthwalling techniques such as adobe and cob and pise-de-terre as well as properly framed half-timbered buildings can be included in this category. Earth-fast post and frame construction used for building slab huts was also employed in conjunction with more permanent building materials. Many substantial houses and barns were erected in this manner with their corner and centre posts surrounded by stonework. Buildings might include a combination of materials with solid brick or stone walling for the front rooms and post and slab walling to the back lean-tos.

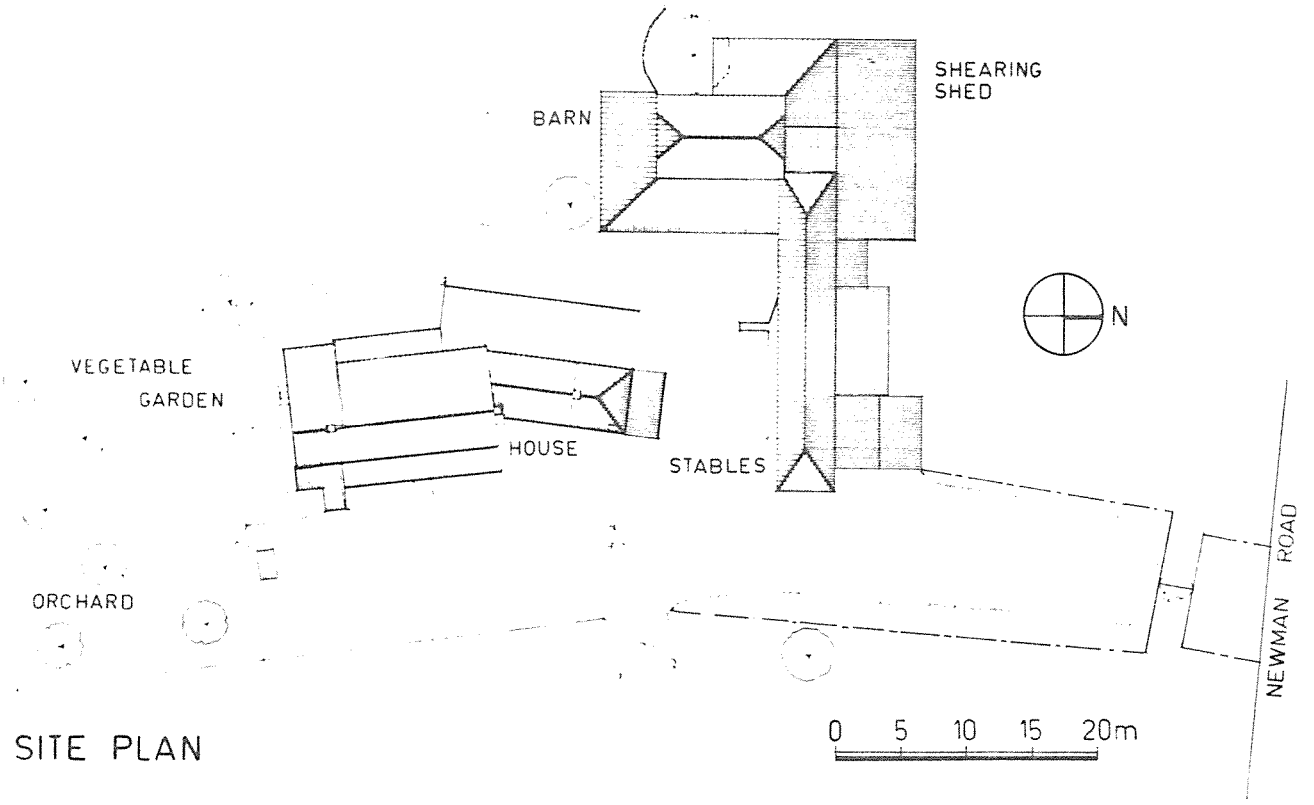
FIG. 16 ORIGINAL BUTCHERS SHOP, CHARLESTON

This building was clearly built in stages. The front portion which included the shop has a weather-boarded front and a slab lean-to. The later portion was built of brick.



Evidence of transposed vernaculars[10]

One of the most significant properties in the district is Gumbanks, at Charleston, which was built in the mid 1840s by William Dunn, who came from Devonshire. Although his house was a palladian design it was still closely integrated with the farmyard and its buildings and the whole ensemble was set well back from Newman Road. When approaching the farm it is the barns which first come into view. This is an ancient design of farmstead related to the vernacular buildings of south-west England and there are other examples of traditional farm layouts in the Onkaparinga district.



LOBETHAL SURVEY: GUMBANK, SECTION 5129, HD. ONKAPARINGA

FIG. 17 GUMBANKS

The largest complex of cob buildings in the Onkaparinga Council District. The work may have been supervised by William's brother George, who was a trained mason. At that time clay masons in Devon were known as cob masons, who were helped by 'mud-wallers', whilst stone masons were called 'rough masons'

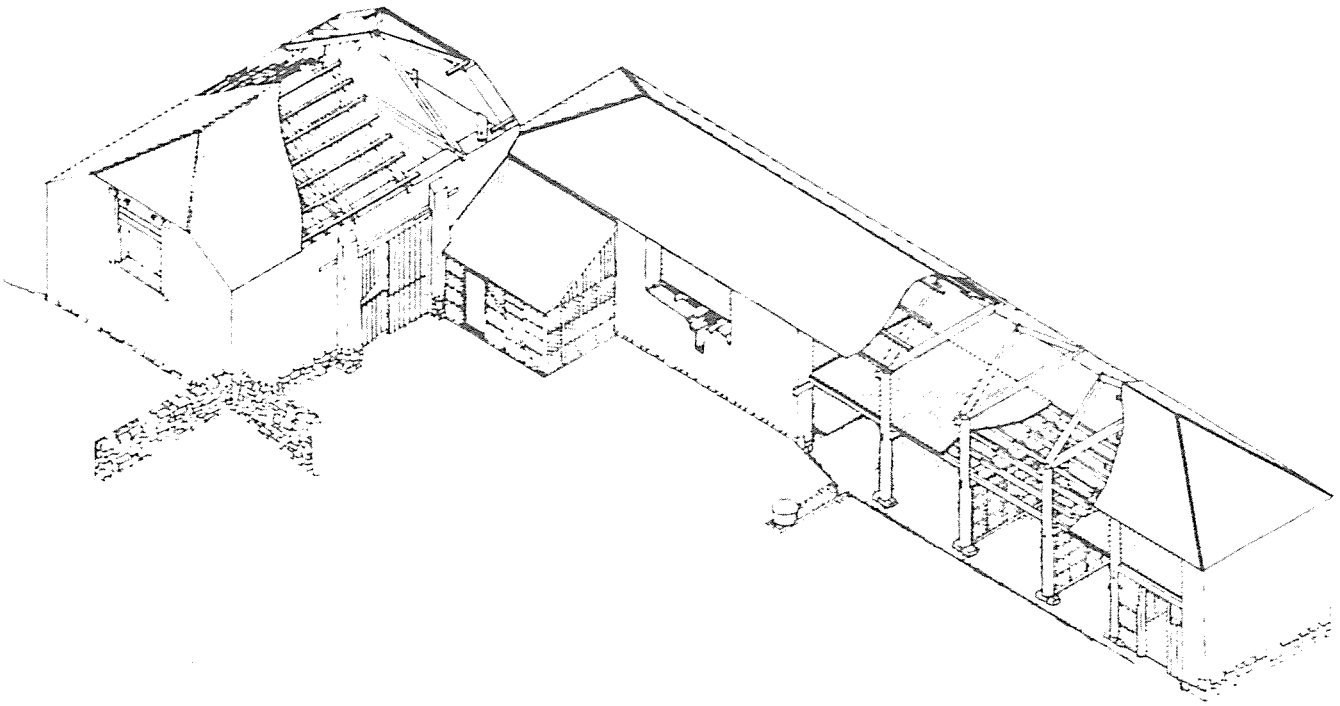


FIG. 18 GUMBANKS

Isometric of barn and stables showing structural elements

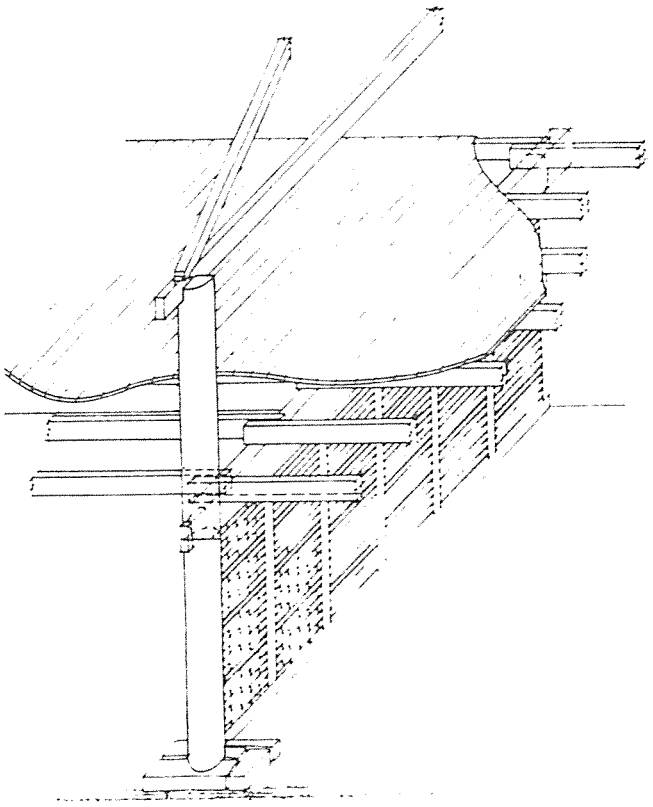
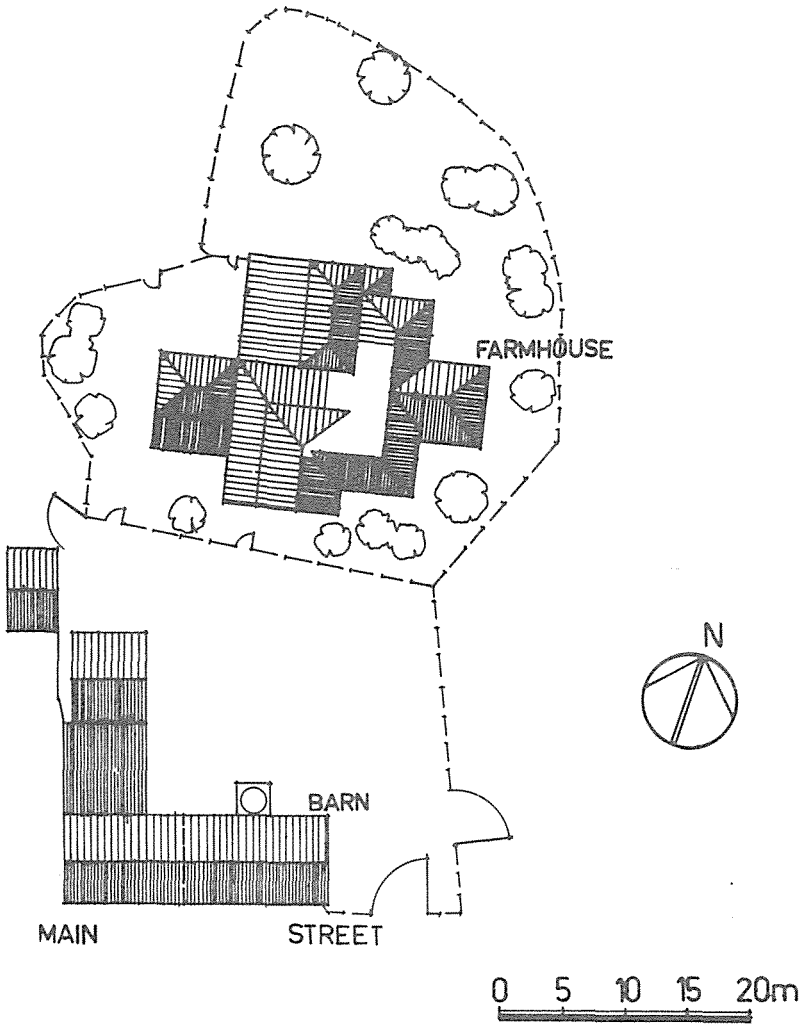


FIG. 19 GUMBANKS

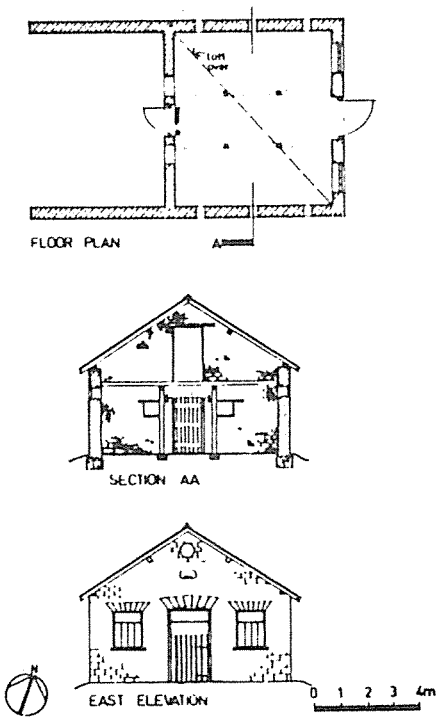
Detail of framing to stable

FIG. 20 THE EDWARDS FARM, OAKBANK



Several other examples of traditional farmsteads are to be found in this district. One of these is the Edwards farm at Oakbank, where the approach is dominated by the stone barn built in 1858 alongside the main Balhannah to Woodside road. The farmhouse, which has since been surrounded by modern additions, was set at the back of the farmyard. Its original shape has been identified from a study of the house plans and with it the independent farm kitchen.

About the same time, another substantial brick farmhouse was built by John Williams near Mattners Road, east of Balhannah, which had next to it a stone barn and dairy. The two buildings with their high pitched roofs are almost identical and they are set well away from the main road. Again the relationship of the buildings in this farmyard suggests a much more ancient type of farm layout, unaffected by palladian design ideas. In fact, this particular ensemble of buildings is much closer in design to the farmhouses and barns of the German settlers who also erected buildings little affected by classical ideas. (See p.18)



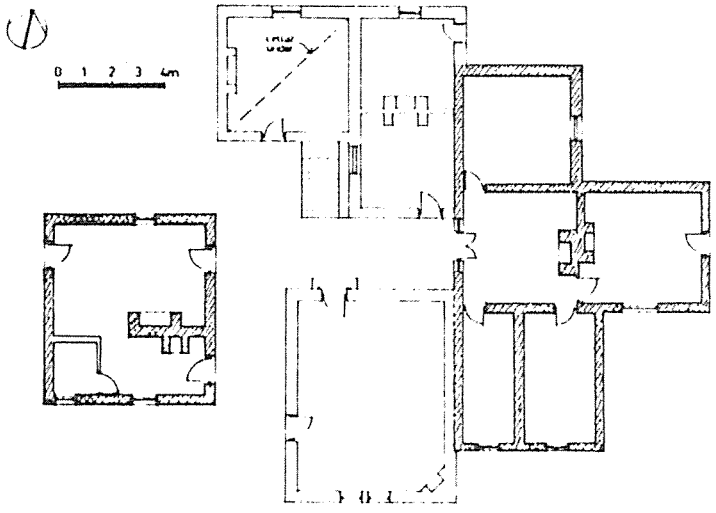
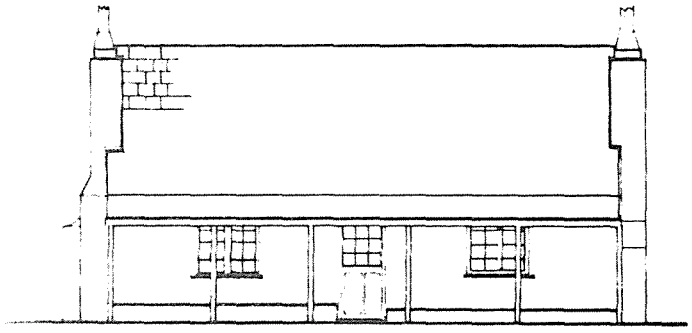
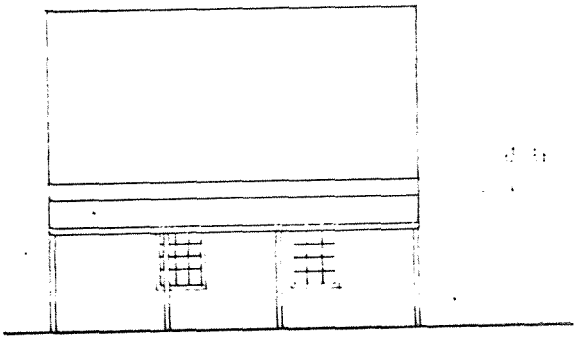
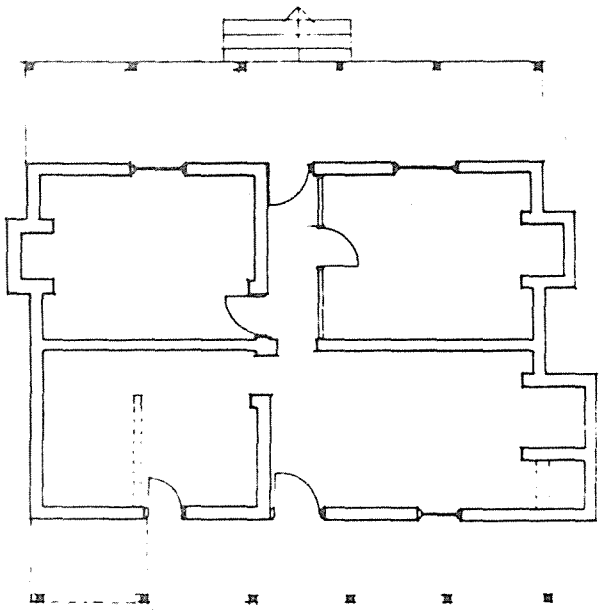


FIG. 21 PLANS OF EDWARDS HOUSE AND BARN

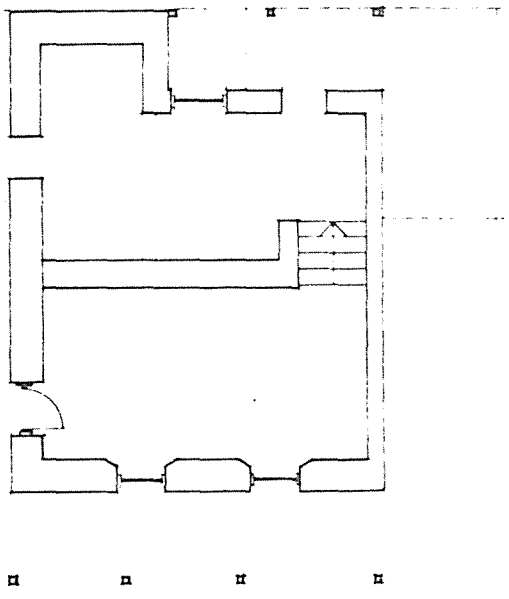
The darkened walls indicate the original house over the separate farm kitchen.







Elevation and plan of house



Elevation and plan of barn

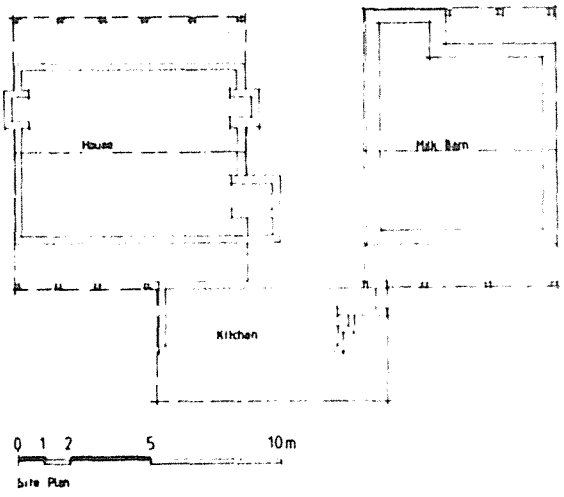


FIG. 22 JOHN WILLIAMS' FARM AND BARN

Another group of settlers, probably of Scottish origin, built several substantial stone cottages in the scattered community around Murdochs Hill. These may have been used by stockmen working on the large pastoral properties in the area (e.g., Thomas Inglis' Sandy Water Hole). A house off Murdoch Hill road owned by Mr and Mrs P. Kaethner has incorporated within it a two-roomed stone cottage built of random stonework with a large end chimney serving a cooking hearth. This has an adjacent bake-oven (see below). Further research is required to establish whether this building can be related to an equivalent Scottish vernacular style.

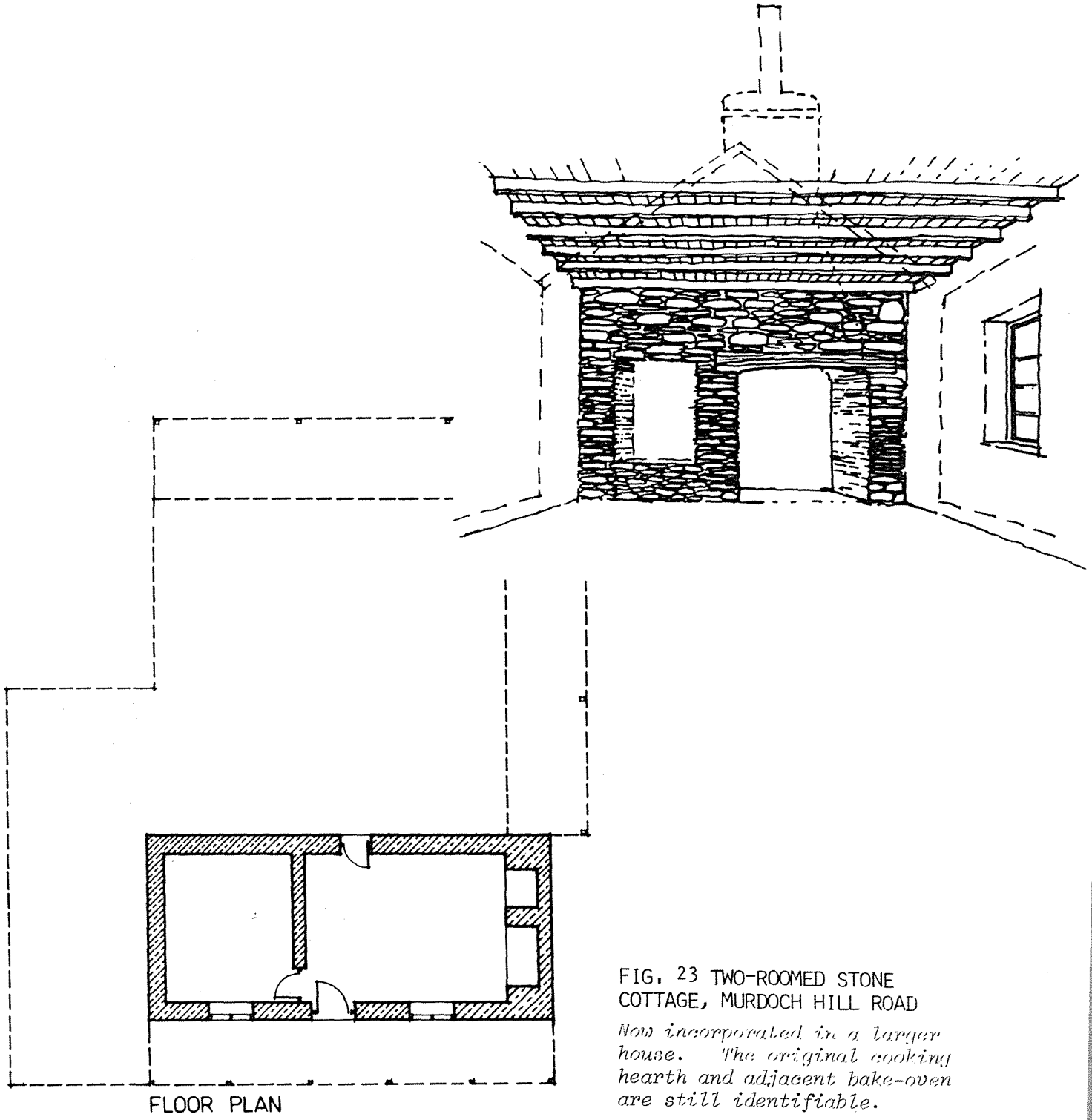


FIG. 23 TWO-ROOMED STONE COTTAGE, MURDOCH HILL ROAD

Now incorporated in a larger house. The original cooking hearth and adjacent bake-oven are still identifiable.

German settlers in the Onkaparinga district brought with them different building traditions. Although many of their houses were just simple two-roomed dwellings with back to back cooking hearths, others were grandly planned cooking-hall houses (flürkuchenhaus). Several of these were built by members of the Schubert family at Schoenthal and Springhead. On first appearance they seem to be symmetrically planned palladian houses, but this camouflages the real use of their halls, which were built for the function of cooking and not for the display of the family's artistic possessions.

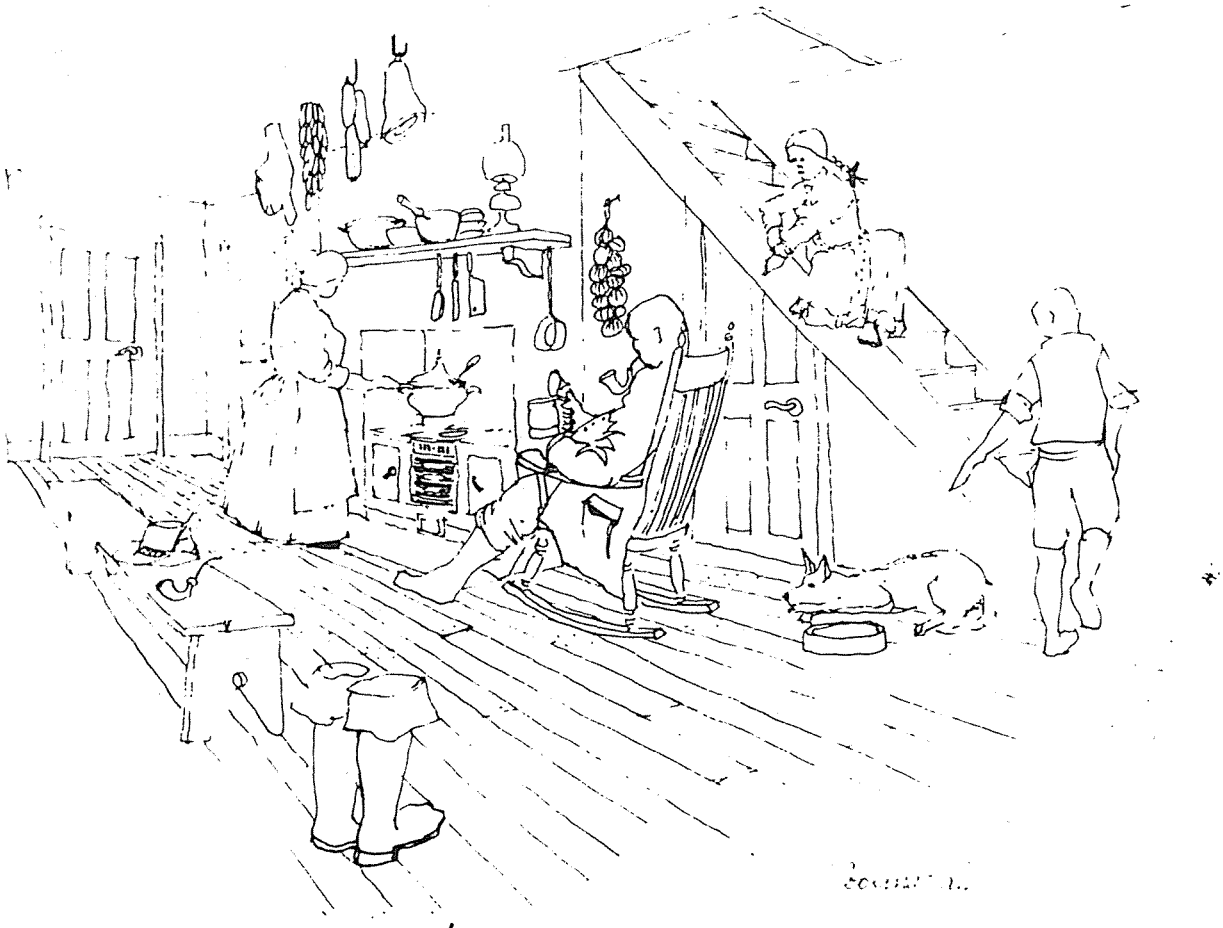
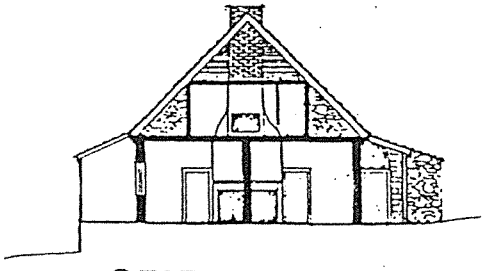


FIG. 24 INSIDE THE SCHUBERTS' COOKING HALL AT SPRINGHEAD



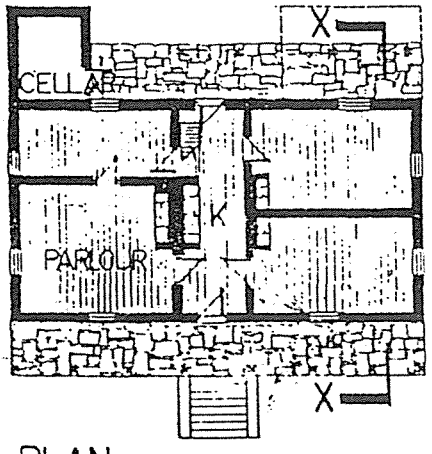


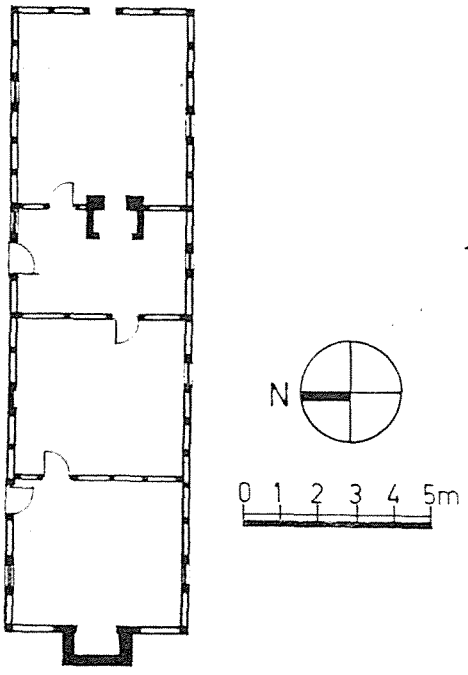
FIG. 25 PLAN AND SECTION OF THE SCHUBERTS' HOUSE

Only one example similar to a traditional long-house has been identified. This is No. 54 Mill Road, a half-timbered house built in two stages and aligned down its farm allotment (hufe). (The first building stage had wattle and daub panels whilst the addition was panelled with bricks.)

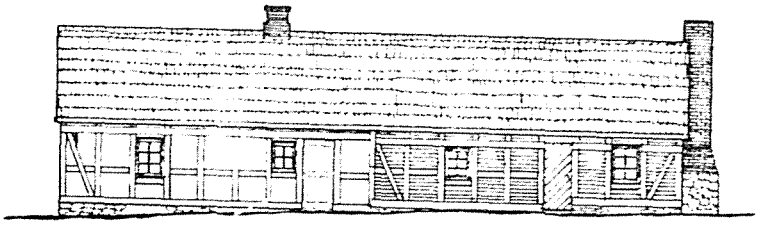
Many of these farmhouses can be easily identified by their high pitched half hipped roofs and double central chimneys. Their attics, which generally extended the full length of the building, were mainly approached by outside staircases and lit by small casement windows in the end gables (dormer lights were rarely used). Only in the larger houses does one find ladder stairs leading up to the attics from the central hall (e.g. Schubert house, Springfield).

Apart from some symmetrical elevations and the panelled doubled entrance doors there was little evidence of classical design elements in these buildings. However, a well-preserved timber cottage at No. 5 Woodside Road, built about 1860 by Mr Grimm, a German immigrant carpenter. does indicate that classical traditions were by then well-established in the timber architecture of eastern Germany.[11]

FIG. 26 PLAN ELEVATION,
54 MILL ROAD, LOBETHAL

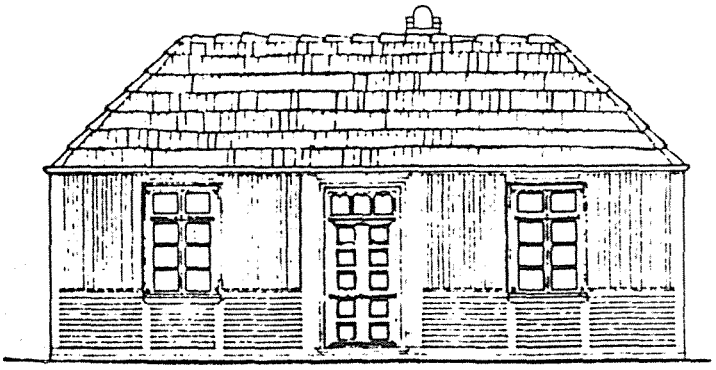


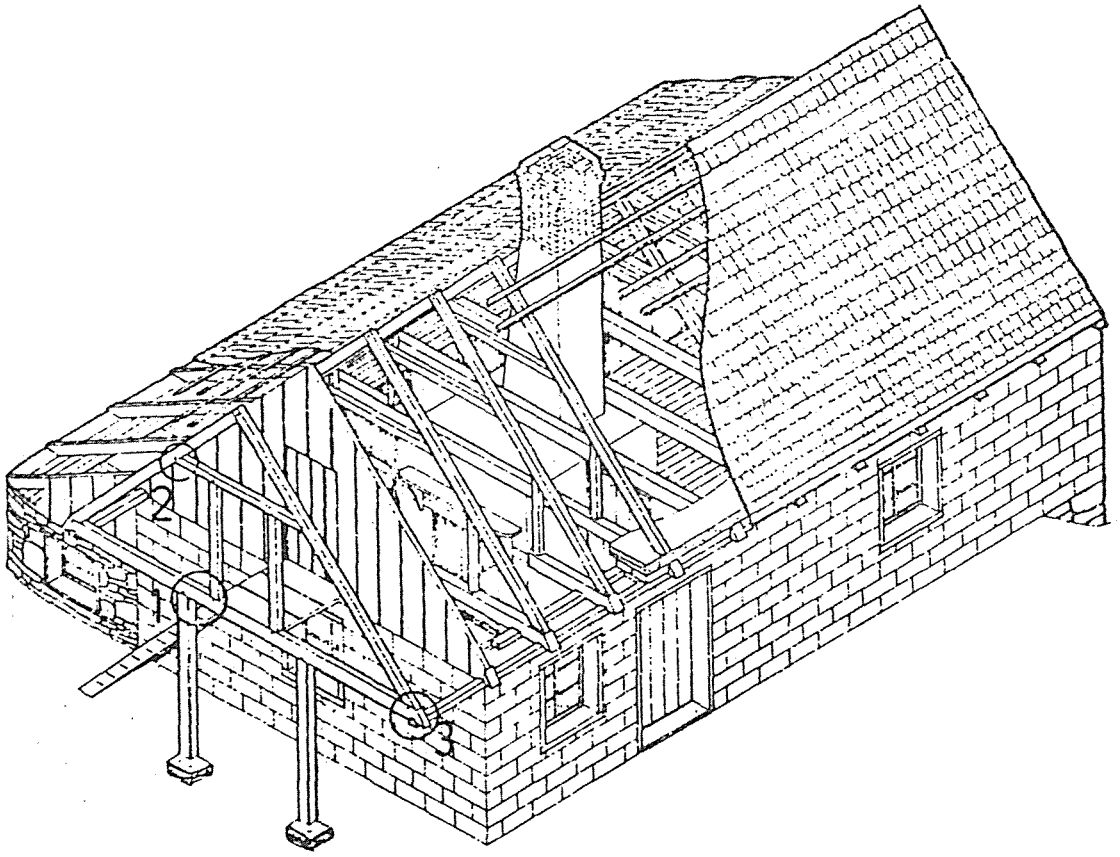
PLAN



NORTH ELEVATION

FIG.27 FRONT ELEVATION,
5 WOODSIDE ROAD





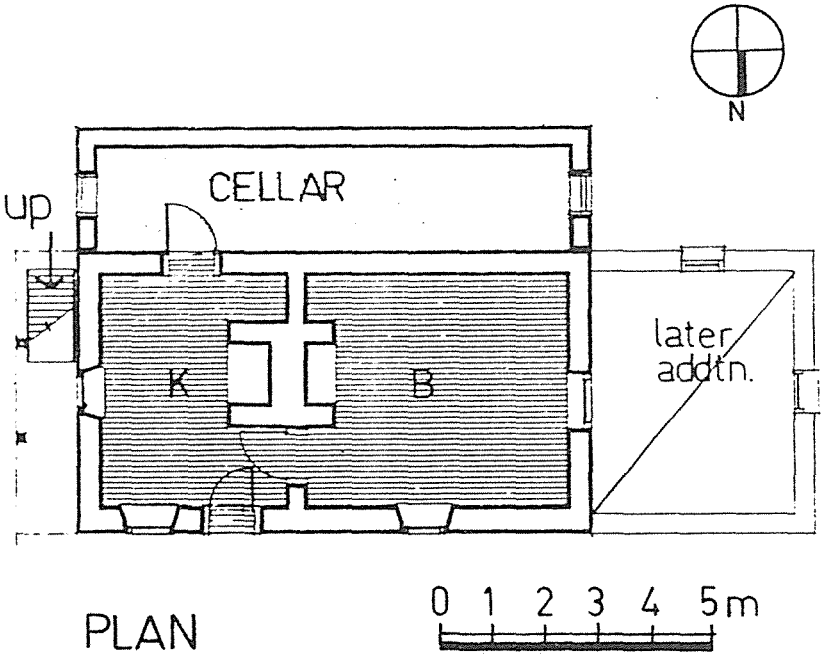
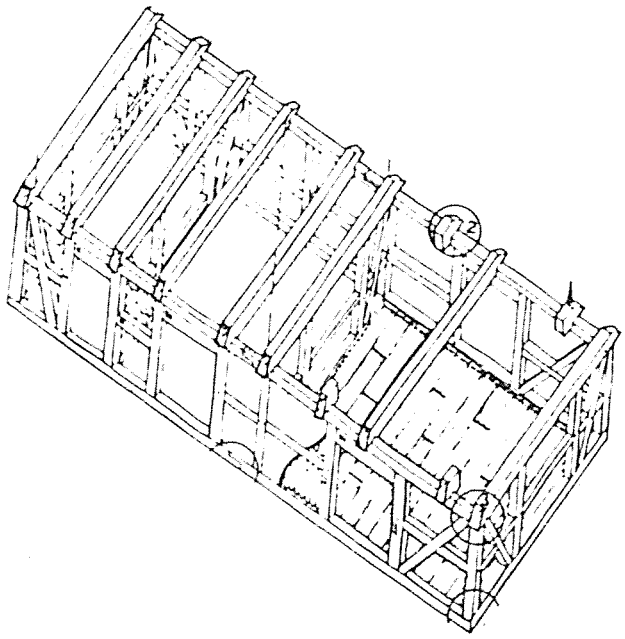
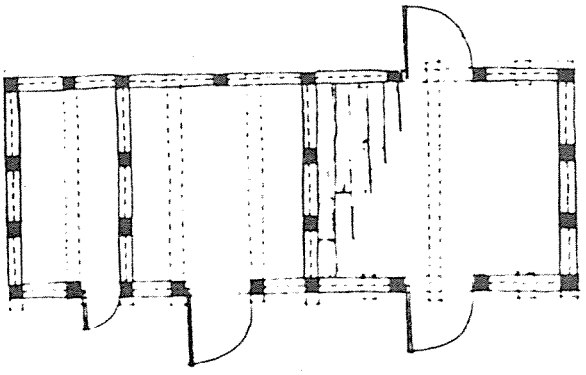


FIG. 28 GERMAN SETTLERS' TWO-ROOMED COTTAGE

This unusual building is an extended gable house (Giebellarben) in which the gable forms covered access to the loft. The remnants of a similar house have been found at Neudorf (see Lobethal Survey, p. 159)





N

Plan of barn

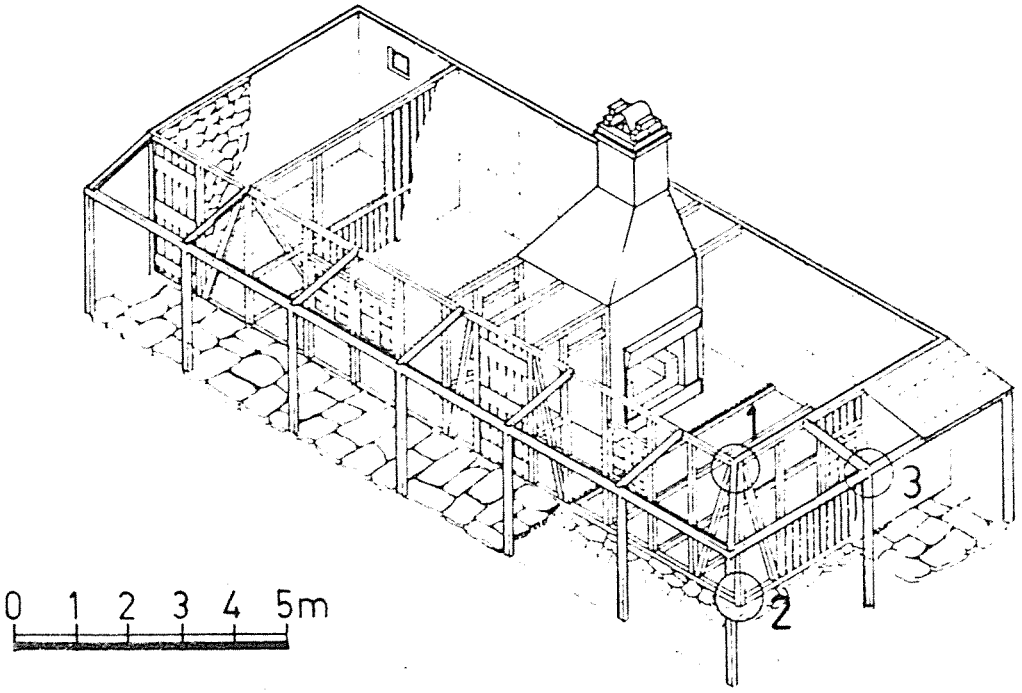
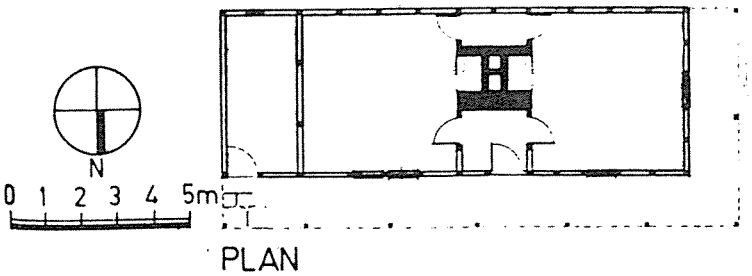
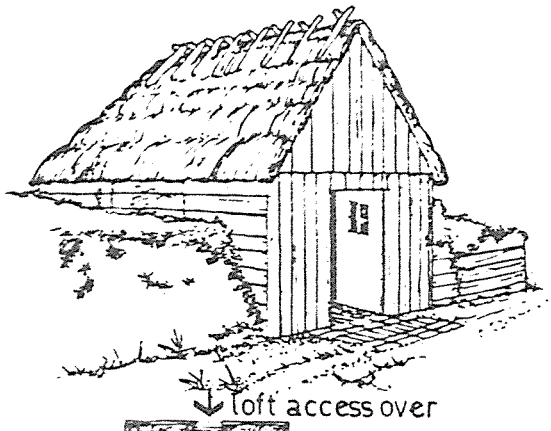


FIG. 29 GERMAN SETTLERS' HALF-TIMBERED HOUSE AND BARN

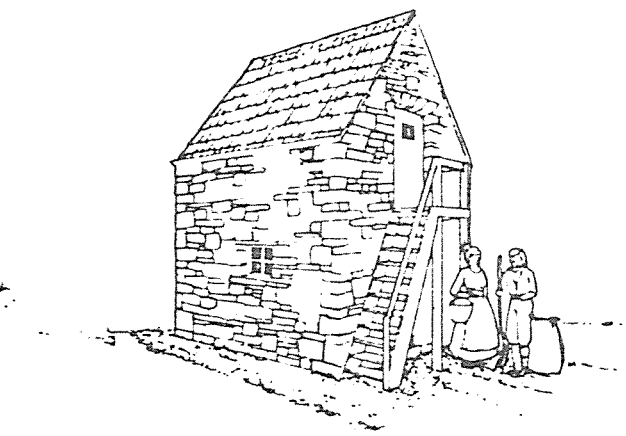
These simple half-timbered buildings have wattle and daub panels. The house walls are covered externally with a sand-lime render, lined to represent ashlar stonework.



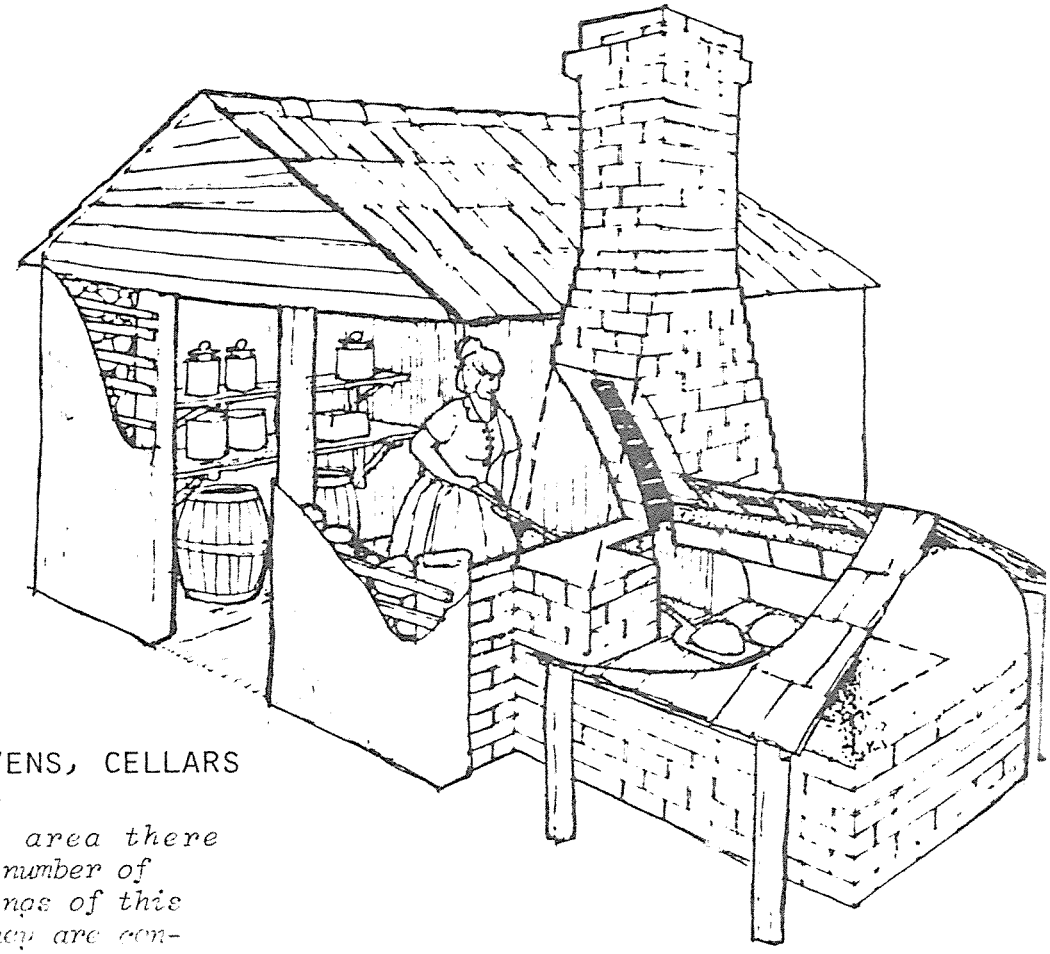
PLAN



Nº 54 MILL RD.



Nº 17 GUMERACHA RD.



BAKEOVEN & BAKEHOUSE
28 LENSWOOD ROAD

FIG. 30 BAKE OVENS, CELLARS AND SMOKEHOUSES

In the Lobethal area there are still a large number of independent buildings of this kind. Usually they are constructed of stone or timber, and in the case of the cellars have lofts over.

Palladian or Georgian style building

Although the British settlers continued to employ some very ancient building techniques their house designs were dominated by theories of building derived from Italian renaissance architecture.[12] (This is illustrated at 'Gumbanks' where the house was a symmetrically designed Palladian house and is not a copy of a traditional Devonshire longhouse.)

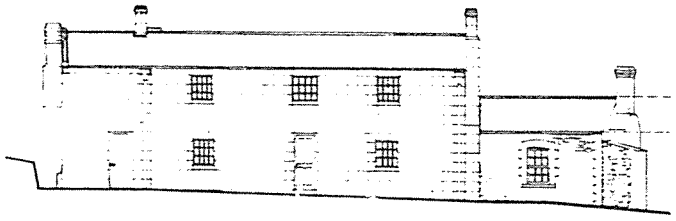


FIG. 31 'GUMBANKS HOUSE'
The Palladian 'mode' of the house is supported by a sand-lime render over the cob walling, which is lined out to represent ashlar stonework.

During the late 17th and early 18th centuries the British aristocracy and rising middle classes abandoned the outmoded half-timber buildings of their forbears. They began to reside in symmetrically planned brick and stone houses built either on their country estates or as town houses. The Great Fire of London in 1666 had also created a demand by insurance companies for more fireproof dwellings and brick houses became common in the capital. These spread throughout the provinces and were often dubbed 'London Boxes'!

FIG. 32 LONDON 'BOXES' IN A ROW - *18th century terraces and squares*

Large squares and terraces of 2-4 storey houses appeared in the towns, which were usually built on land owned by leading aristocrats or mercantile entrepreneurs. The houses were subject to quite rigid building and planning restrictions as the land was normally leased by its owner for a period of 99 years.

This created very standardised house plans throughout the country, many of which were copied from the numerous 'pattern books' which began to proliferate from the late 18th century onwards.[13]

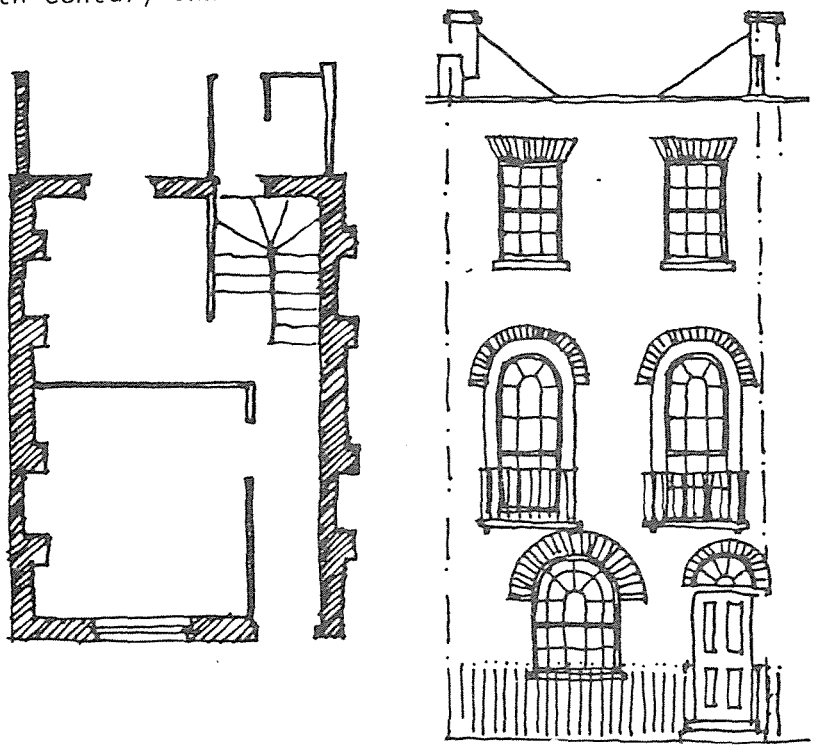


FIG. 33 PLANS OF A 4TH RATE HOUSE

Illustrated in Nicholson's Practical Builder, 1823

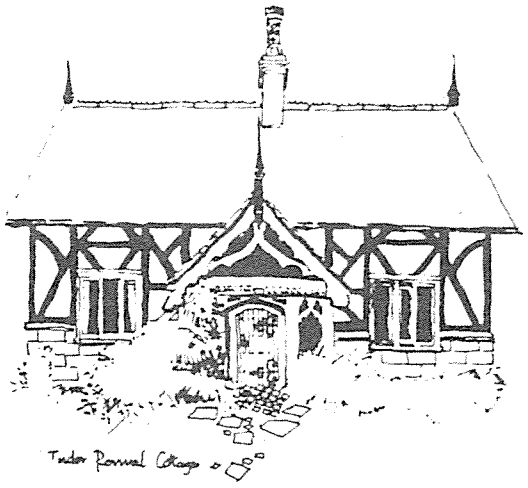
19th century Revivalist styles

By the time South Australia was settled, Palladianism was the established mode of design for a variety of buildings. However, its precepts were soon being challenged by a new generation of dilettante designers who became interested in a much wider range of design styles. On the one hand these arose from a revived interest in mediaeval life and architecture, and from travellers visiting and appreciating the traditional buildings of England, France, the Alps and North Italy (thus Gothic and Tuscan influences began to appear in the design of buildings).

FIG. 34 LATE 'TUSCAN' REVIVAL IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Pikes Dorset Brewery brewing tower, Oakbank

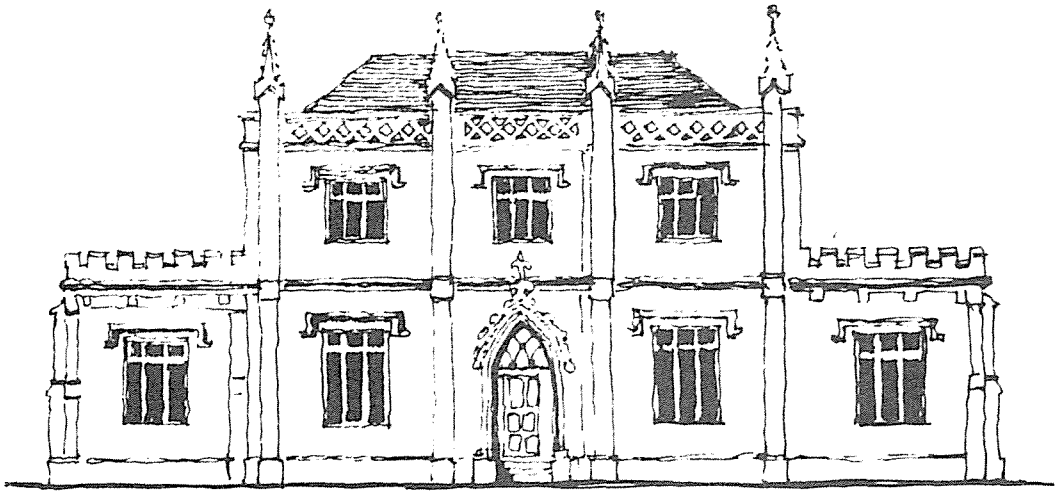
On the other hand, Greece by the late 18th century had become accessible to visitors, and this created a revived classical style, the Greek Revival (it resulted in plain Doric columns to front entrance doors and porches and wide ashlar stone door and window architraves). At this time the more concerned gentry began to provide 'ideal' villages for their farmworkers. These sometimes included farm cottages designed in a classical style with semi-detached plans, or more romantically designed cottages decorated in an ornate manner (cottage ornée).



'Cottage ornée', c.1840 with Tudor detailing

'Greek Revival' houses in Kensington, London c. 1850

FIG. 35 19TH CENTURY REVIVAL BUILDING STYLES IN ENGLAND



Castellated Gothic, c. 1820

Encyclopedias and traditional building techniques

The appearance of French encyclopedias on rural husbandry before and during the revolutionary period (1789) stimulated an interest in traditional and economic building techniques, such as pisé-de-terre - earth walling erected between timber shuttering.[14]

English examples of building encyclopedias began to appear in the early 19th century. One of the most influential was J.C. Loudon's Encyclopedia of Cottage, Farm and Villa Architecture, first published in 1833. These widely available books quickly spread a knowledge of the revivalist styles which were developing as well as consolidating the basic palladianism (i.e. symmetrical planning). They also helped in the rediscovery of traditional building techniques suitable for use by the less fortunate classes or aspiring colonists! It is clearly evident that a considerable number of buildings built in Adelaide during its first two decades of settlement used some of these (e.g. lath and plaster).[15] Later, similar constructions were employed by colonists moving out into the rural areas of the state and they appear in the Onkaparinga district from the 1840's onwards. The remains of pisé-de-terre and lath and plaster buildings are found throughout the district and they were still being built in the 20th century (e.g. a lath and plaster cottage was erected in 1903 as a retirement home for the elderly Mr and Mrs Edward Klopsch on their farm at Neudorf).

FIG. 36 TRADITIONAL BUILDING TECHNIQUE

Lath and plaster with earthfast posts and stone infill. The rendering was lined out to simulate ashlar stonework.

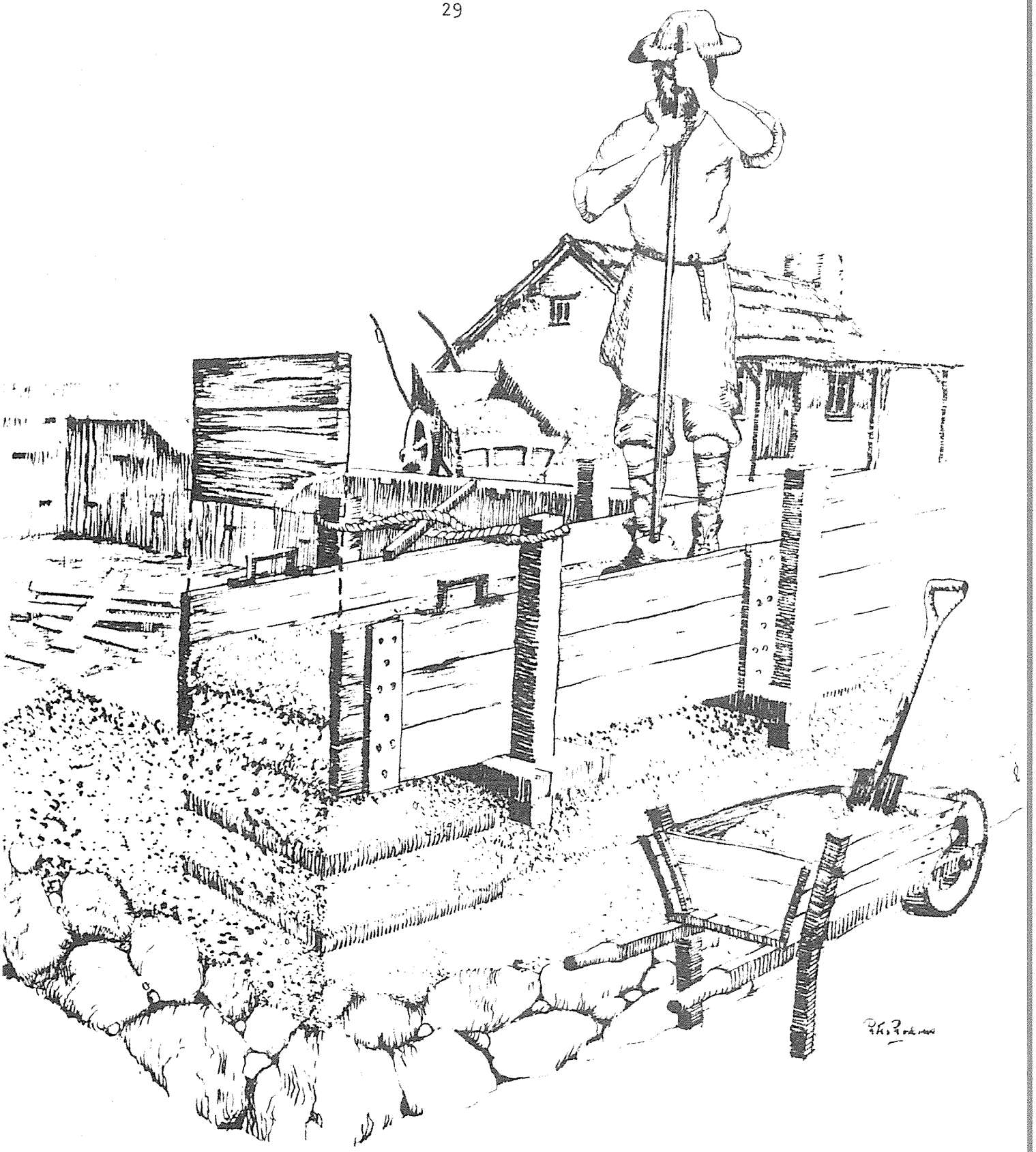


FIG. 31 PISÉ-DE-TERRE CONSTRUCTION

The earth walls were built up in layers between timber shuttering similar to the present day technique of forming in-situ concrete. The layers were lapped at the wall junctions and raked back where new work was commenced. To facilitate the drying-out of the walls the holes formed by the put-logs which supported the boards were left until the walls were topped.

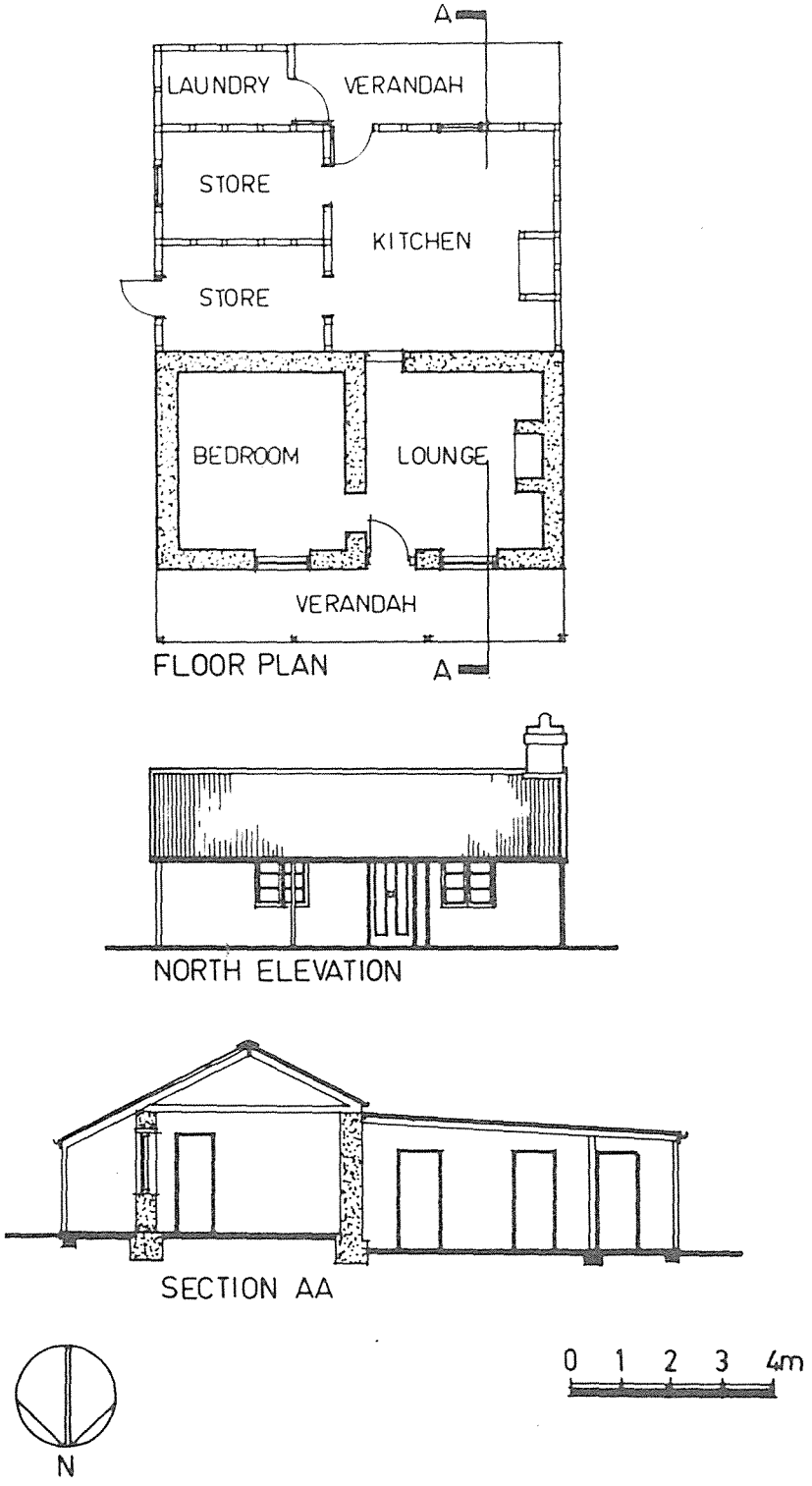


FIG. 36 SETTLERS' COTTAGE, FOREST RANGE

A pisé-de-terre cottage with a lath and plaster lean-to which may have been built early this century.

In the Tiers (Forest Range) the primitive timber huts which were first built by wood cutters who settled in the area were later replaced by economically built pisé-de-terre houses when some of the settlers took up permanent residence and became orchardists. Many of these simple buildings were rendered over and lined out to represent ashlar stonework, the preferred type of stone walling for residences with some pretentions to style.

A continuation of this 'politeness' occurs in later 19th century timber framed houses built in Lobethal and Woodside, where their front elevations are clad over with squared blocks of wood to represent ashlar work (e.g. No. 1 Main Street, Lobethal and at No. 8 Langbein Street, Woodside). Other timber houses in the district were covered with the newly available galvanised iron and some had pressed metal panels on their front elevations representing stonework (e.g. cottage on a workingmen's block at Size Road near Oakbank).

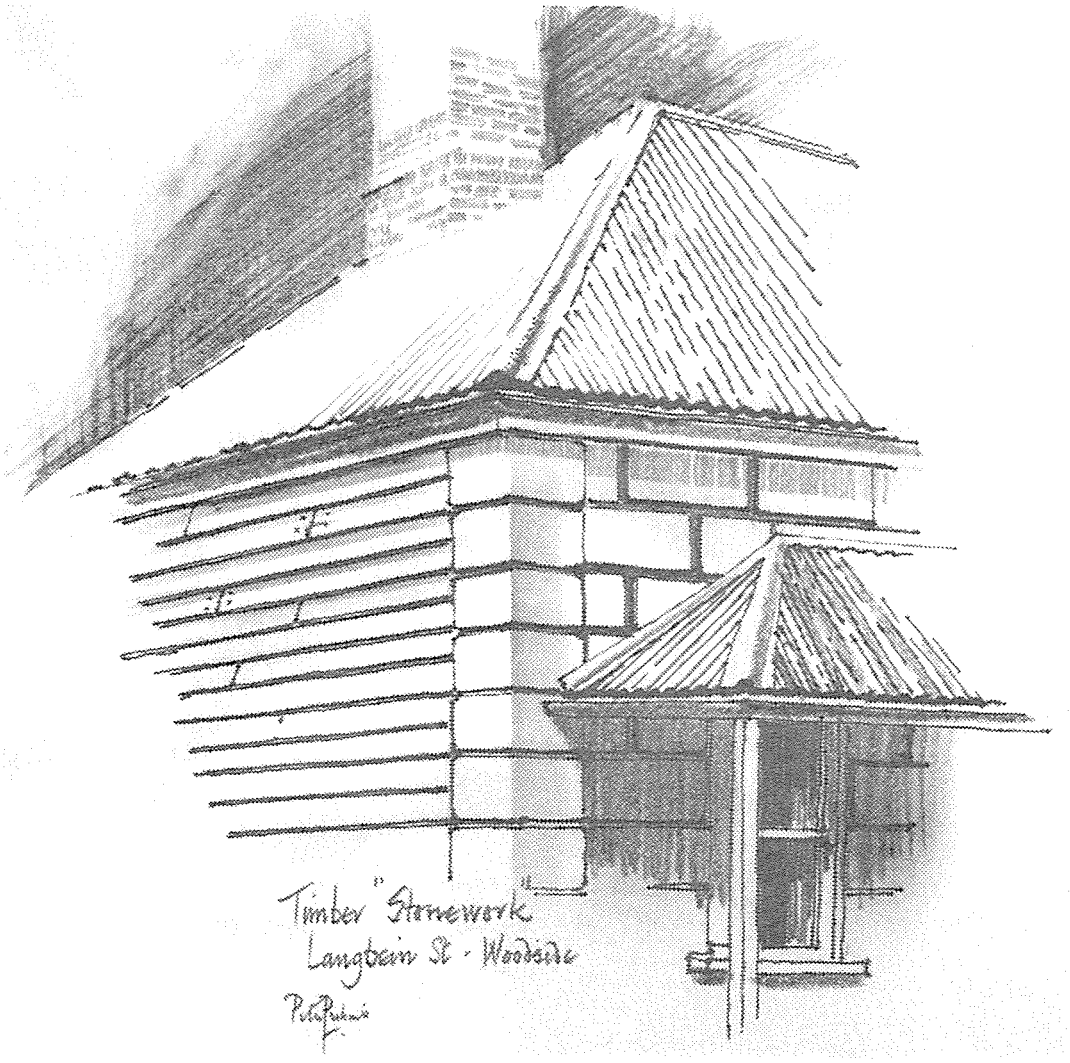
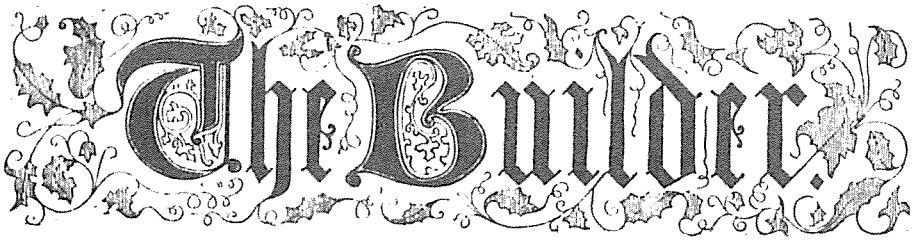


FIG. 39 'POLITE FRONTS'

Some timber framed cottages in the late 19th and early 20th simulated ashlar stonework in this manner.

The mid to late 19th century saw an increasing literacy in the general population, books, popular periodicals and the mechanics journals imported from the United Kingdom, were avidly read. Some of these texts such as R.S. Burns' The Colonists and Emigrants Handbook of the Mechanical Arts, published in 1854, were specifically written for the colonial readers, whilst other more technical publications like the Builder, published in London from 1842 onwards, began to have a direct influence on the design ideas of colonial architects and on the construction of colonial buildings.



AN

ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY MAGAZINE,

FOR THE

DRAWING-ROOM, THE STUDIO, THE OFFICE, THE WORKSHOP, AND THE COTTAGE.

Volume the Second.

LONDON:

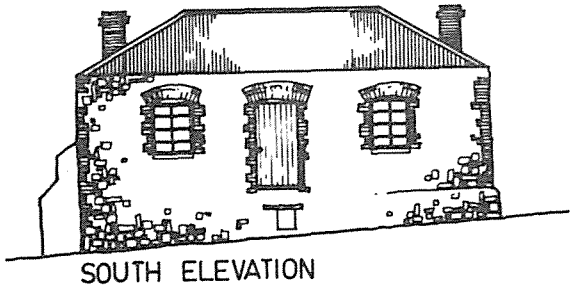
PUBLISHING OFFICE, 2, YORK STREET, COVENT GARDEN.

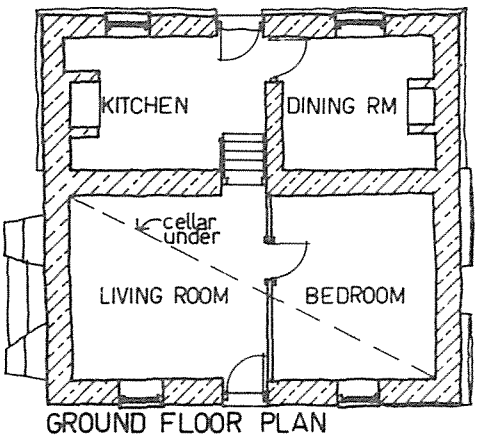
1844.

FIG. 40 FRONTISPIECE OF A WIDELY READ BUILDING MAGAZINE

Palladian designs in the Onkaparinga bowl

As previously stated, the most commonly designed cottages built by the settlers after they had become established were two or four-roomed single storey residences symmetrically planned, sometimes with a central hall and backend lean-to's. Although very simple buildings, their sash windows and panelled front doors were a reflection of much grander Palladian counterparts in the United Kingdom.





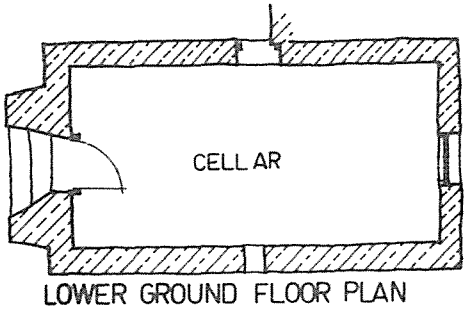
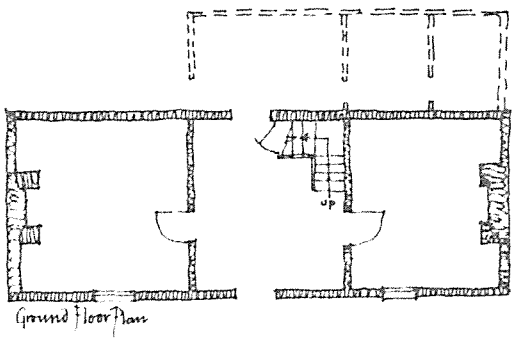


FIG. 41 EARLY SETTLER'S COTTAGE

This symmetrically planned four roomed cottage is unusual in having such a large cellar. This was used for apple storage or cider making.

Wealthier colonists still preferred to build two-storey houses with central hallways and staircases. Woodlands in Elizabeth Street, Woodside, is a fine example and there are similar houses located along Newman Road at Charleston (Lobethal Report p. 175).

An elegant but smaller example of this type of house, only one room in width, is Apple-Tree Cottage, built by a sawyer - in name and trade - from the New Forest area of Hampshire, its form probably resulting from his or his wife's aspirations. This is the inference to be drawn from the present owner's historical notes of the property. In plan and appearance it is typical of many such small houses in the New Forest, all, as is this, brickbuilt.



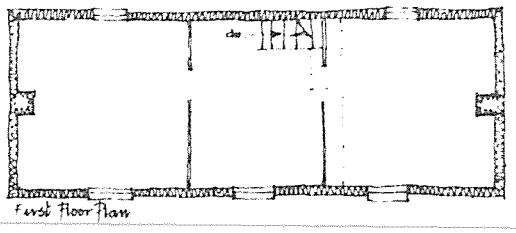


FIG.42 APPLE-TREE COTTAGE

Most of these houses are quite plain when compared to the handsome Johnston brothers' villa houses, which they built at Oakbank in the late 1860's. James Johnston's 'Oakbank House' was built of bluestone with rendered detailing and the jutting ground floor salon with principal bedroom over is typical of many late 19th century suburban villas to be found in Adelaide. The fine proportions of the front elevation are fully appreciated as one approaches the house down its long avenue of gum trees.

FIG.43 OAKBANK HOUSE

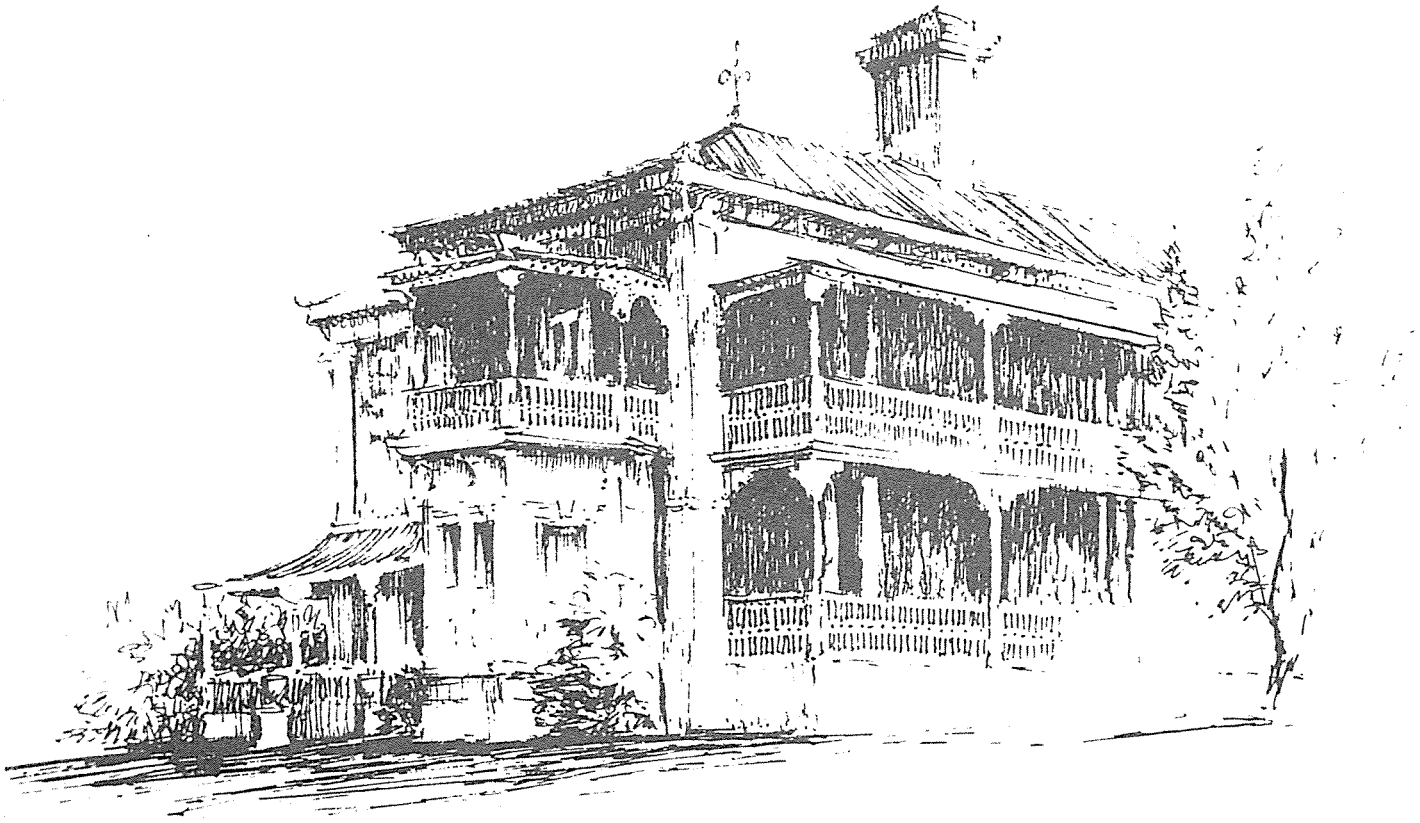
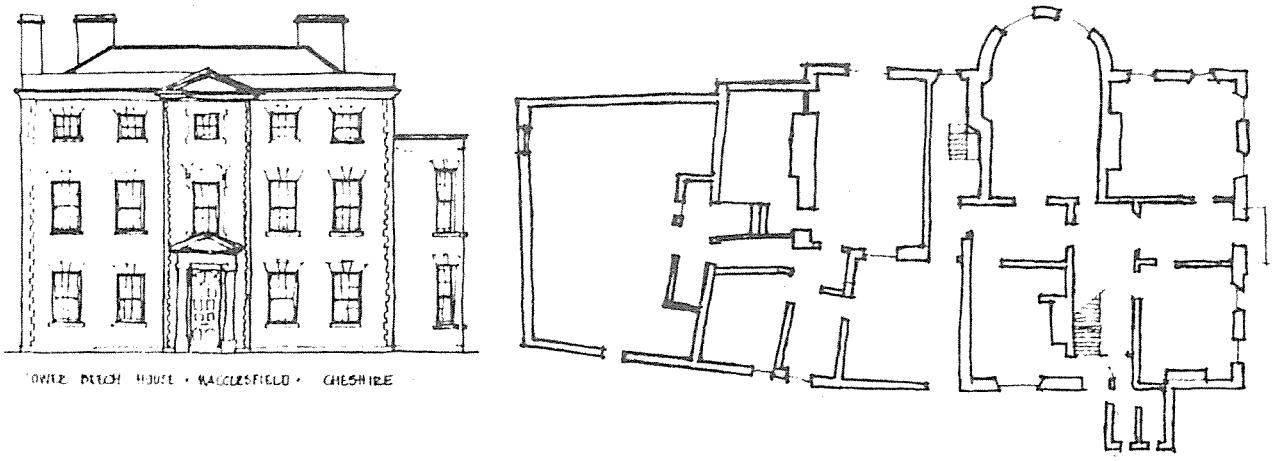


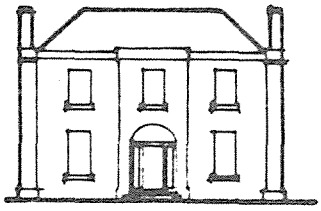
FIG. 44 DALINTOBER

In contrast, Andrew Galbraith Johnston's 'Dalintober' was a much more lively rendering of an Italianate villa, where, set on a rise to the east of the town, it once had extensive views over the surrounding countryside. The main approach to the house is along a curving driveway which opens up to view a beautiful English garden. The elaborately planned wings of the house include a large bay window with a canopied first floor balcony over it. Protecting the house from the sun is a two storey cast-iron balcony on the west elevation and a single storey one on the north elevation, which have winged dragon motifs. The cast-iron work was imported from Walter McFarlane's Saracen Foundry, Glasgow, the city from where the family migrated.

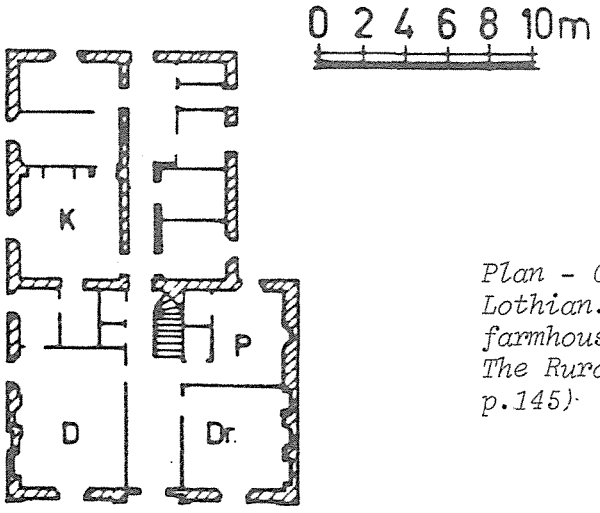
The Newman farm ('Blackford') at Charleston, is typical of those new or rebuilt farmsteads erected in the British Isles during the late 18th to early 19th centuries which began to separate their palladian houses from the other farm buildings. Formal gardens were often placed in front of the houses and these were separated from the more functional kitchen gardens. This 'polite' response can be seen in the Newman property, where the house faces on to Newman Road, from which it is slightly set back. In front is a small formal garden enclosed behind a high stone wall (see over).



Lower Beech House, Macclesfield, Cheshire. A new palladian wing added to an original farmhouse in 1743.



Front elevation - Glendevon



Plan - Glendevon, Kirkliston, West Lothian. 19th century Scottish farmhouse (Fenton, A., Walker, B. The Rural Architecture of Scotland, p.145).

FIG. 45
18TH & 19TH CENTURY PALLADIAN FARMHOUSES

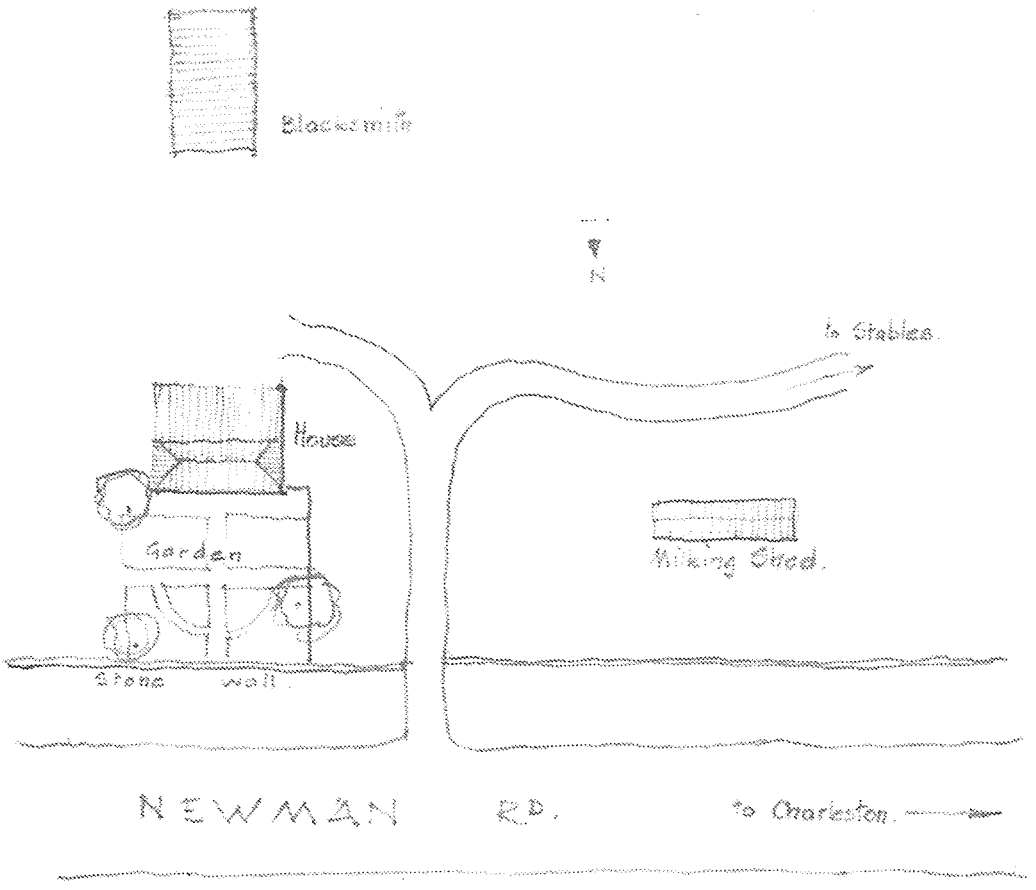


FIG. 46 'BLACKFORD'
NEWMAN ROAD, CHARLESTON

Villa housing

Although the simple double fronted palladian house persists in the area through the rest of the 19th and into the 20th century, it is matched by other houses which are a reflection of the villa styles common to Adelaide and other British cities.[16] In the majority of cases the centrally planned hall is retained and all that occurs is an extension of the major front room or salon. At the side of this extension the remaining elevation is covered by a short verandah which in some cases is continued around the side of the house. Bay windows or bay like ends to the projecting salons are also characteristic. The decoration to the front elevations, although more elaborate than on the side and back elevations, is still discreet, with palladian influences persisting or gothicky gabling reminiscent of the cottage ornée, rather than a true gothic revival style. (Only in the late 19th century is this gothic mode elaborated to include decorative brick detailing and panelled timber gables.) Several houses of this type are to be found in the district - one is illustrated below.

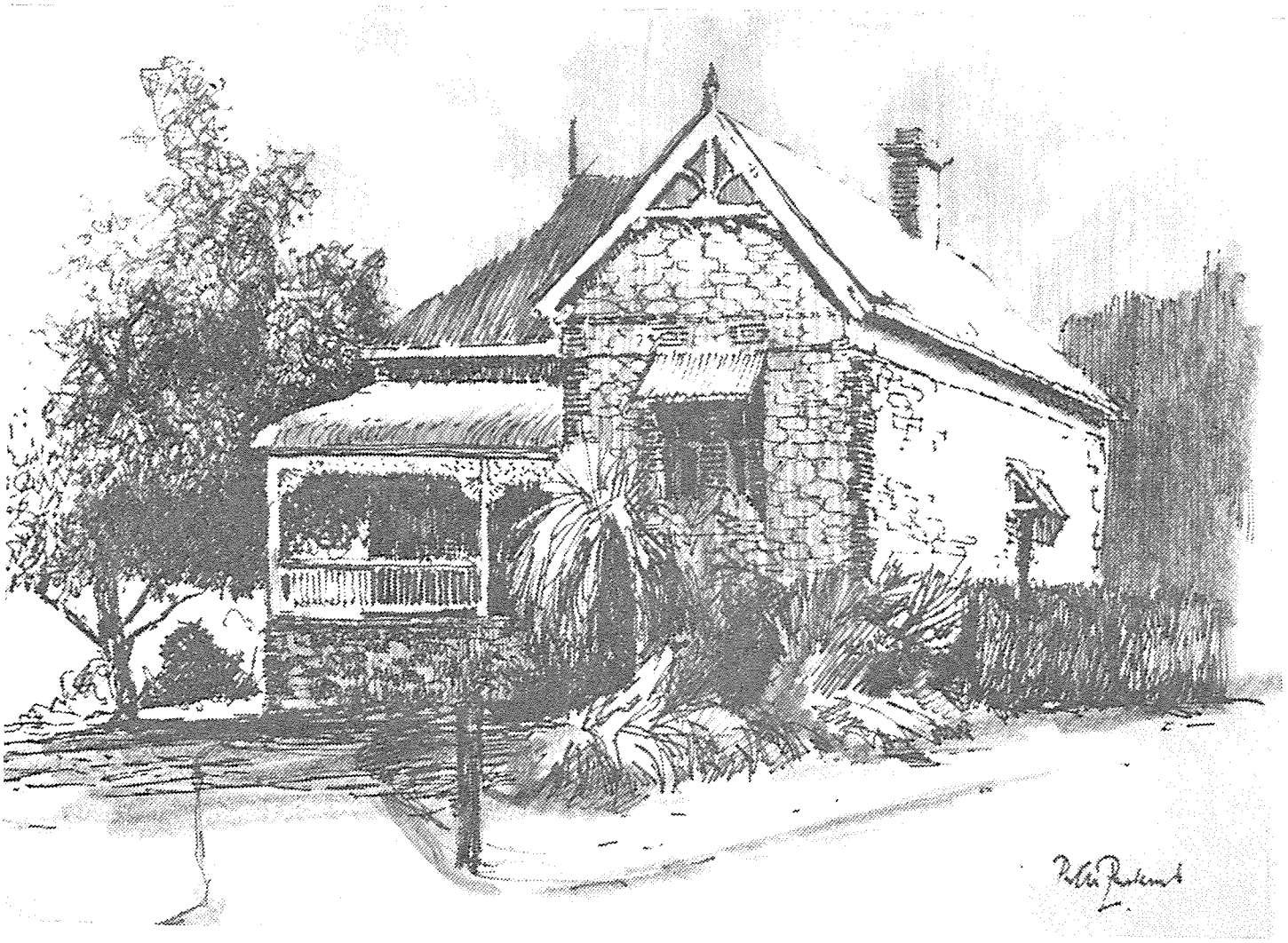


FIG. [47] VILLA HOUSE ON ORIGINAL WORKINGMAN'S BLOCK, OAKBANK

Public and commercial buildings in a late Palladian or Neo-classical design

During the early 19th century a variety of new building types began to appear in Britain which were designed in a neo-classical style of architecture (e.g. Sir Robert Smirke's British Museum, begun in 1824). A fine example of this type of building is the Courthouse at Woodside. A strictly ordered classical building, it was set back from the road and hides from view the adjoining police station and jail, which were built in the less imposing cottage ornée style. This is another polite response to an architectural setting, and similar to the Newman property described before. An earlier neo-classical building is St. John's Church at Lobethal, which was completed in 1845. A further excellent example of industrial architecture designed in a neo-classical manner is to be seen in the Grunthal Mine buildings, which were built in 1872 (see p.54).

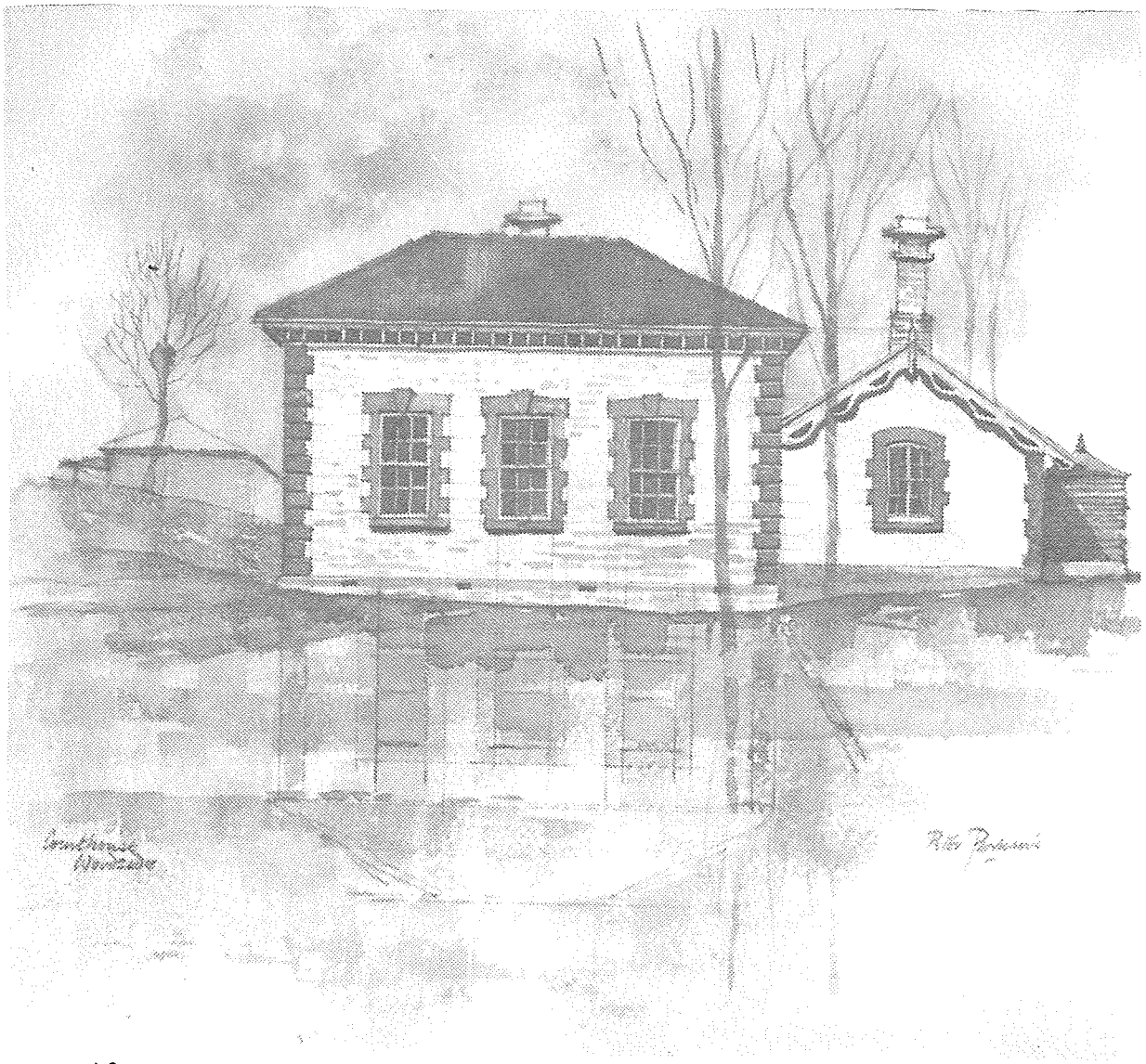


FIG.48 WOODSIDE COURTHOUSE

This illustration 'reconstructs' the courthouse to bring alongside it the cottage ornée police station.

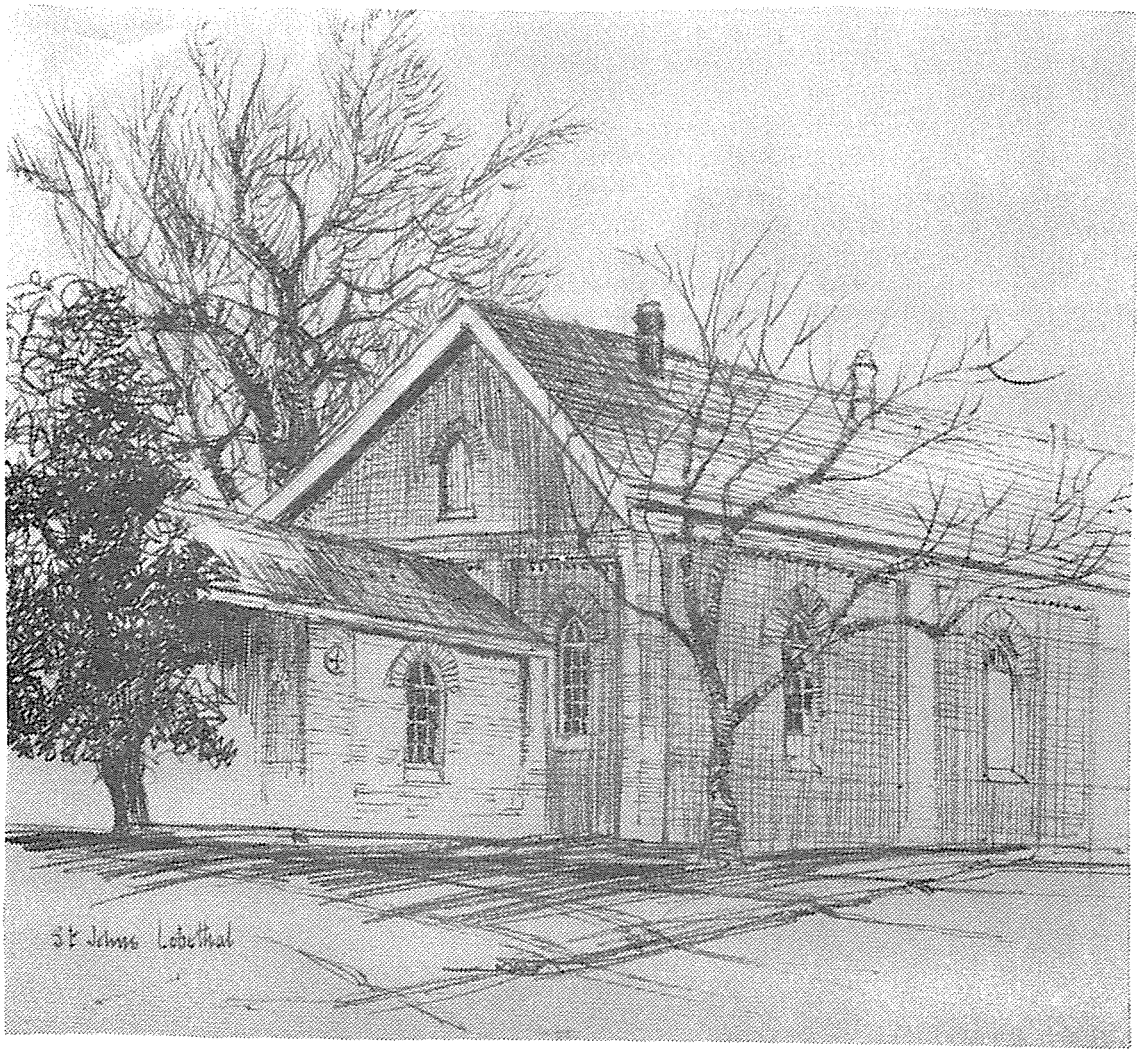


FIG.49 ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, LOBETHAL
(ZUM WEINBERG CHRISTI)

Completed in 1845, it was the first permanent Lutheran church erected in Australia. It was built of locally made bricks, which are purported to have been carried from the 'clamps' (brick kilns) to the site in whicker baskets by the women of the congregation.

Gothic Revival buildings

The appearance of Christian revivalist movements in the 18th century heralded a new attitude in British society which culminated in the devoutly religious and family-orientated community of the Victorian age. This religious revival was accompanied by a deep interest in historicism and romanticism in the arts. In 1835 Augustus Welby Pugin, an English architect of French descent, put forward his theory that to build in a mediaeval style was a moral duty - which added the stamp of approval to a movement that had already begun.[17]

Very little church building was carried out in the 18th century and the first congregations of the Christian reformists were held in large private houses or in simply designed (palladian) meeting halls. However, much larger church congregations were appearing by the early 19th century and the British Parliament passed the Church Building Act in 1818, leading to the building of 174 churches in an economical gothic style.[18]

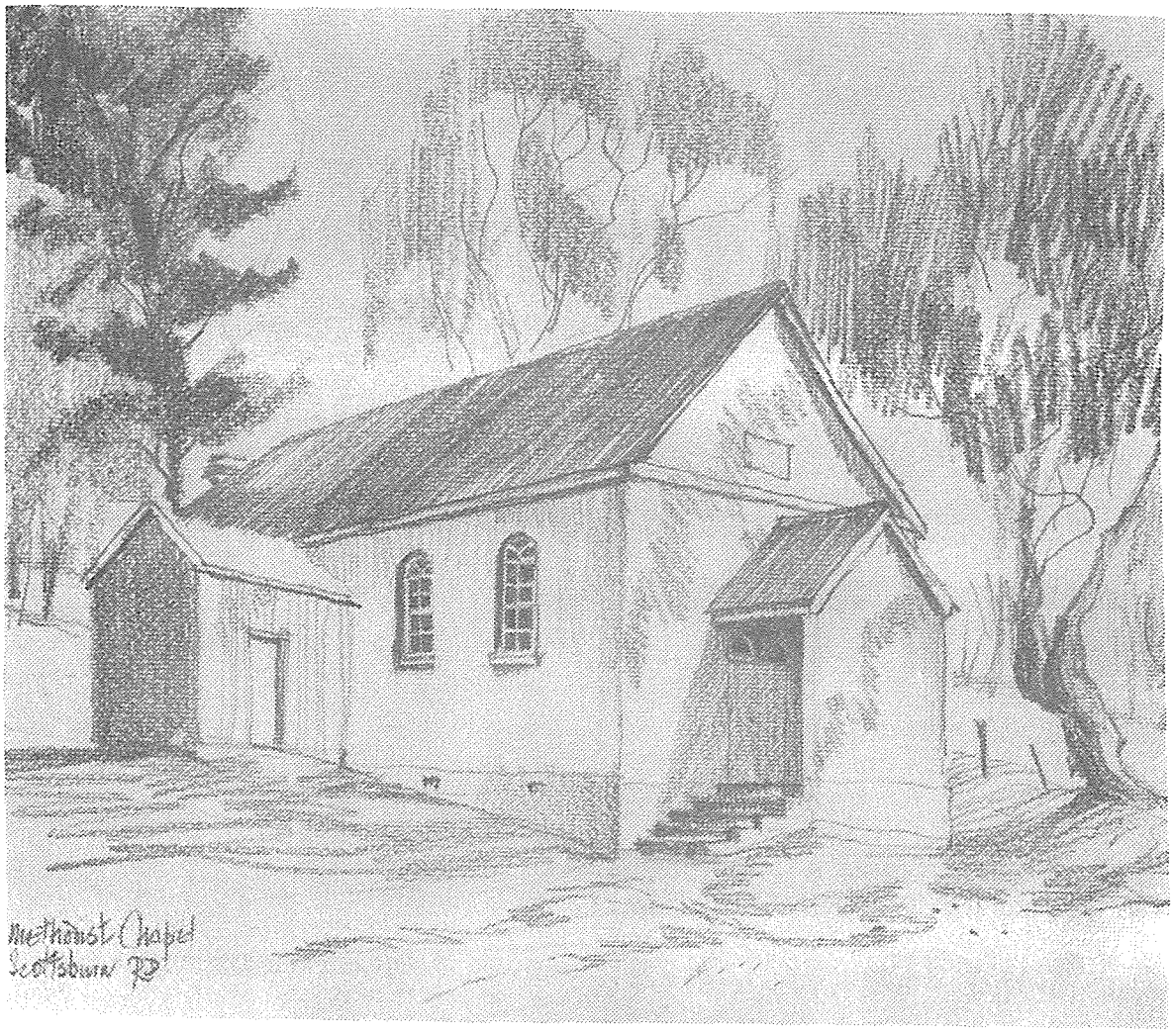


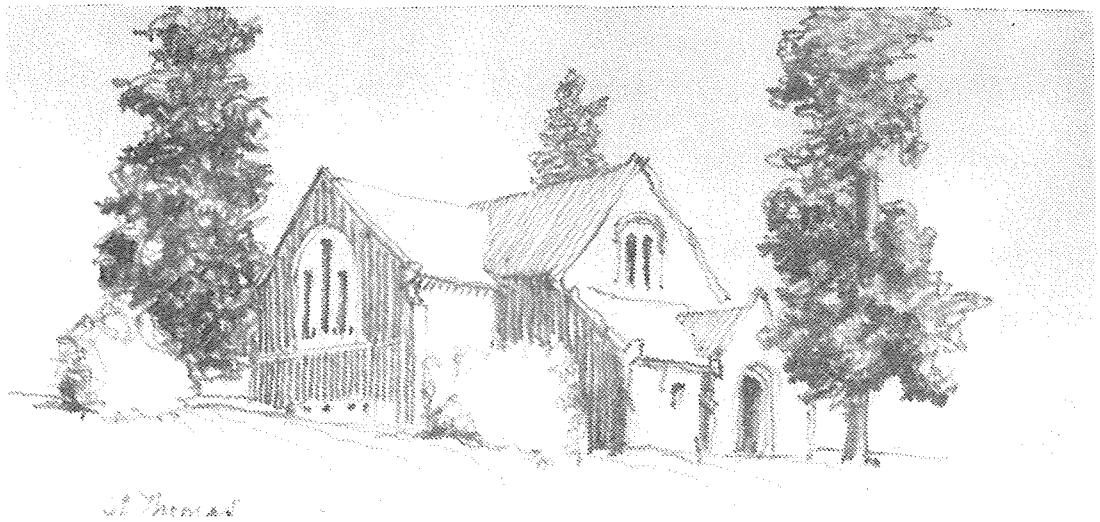
FIG.50 PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL, MURDOCHS HILL

This simple Gothic style is illustrated in the design of the Primitive Methodist chapel built in 1866 on Scottsburn Road, Murdochs Hill. A gabled building, it has romanesque semi-circular windows and door openings and is similar to another Primitive Methodist church built in 1846 on Nairne Road, Woodside. The first Anglican church which was built at Woodside in 1857 was a similar stone building, but with pointed arched windows, therefore expressing a more 'correct' Gothic mode of design (a 'correctness' which appears in the modern Methodist church in Nairne Road which was built in 1876).

The design of the first Lutheran church built in the valley, St. John's, Lobethal, dedicated in 1845, has design elements more characteristic of the neo-classical styles of the late 18th/early 19th centuries (see p. 41). This contrasts with the church of St. Petri built by the Lutheran congregation at Woodside in 1865, which is a rather clumsy building with its square towered porch and heavy corner buttresses. However, it is a fairly rare example in the district of a church design based on Saxon or early Norman styles.

FIG. 51 ST. JOHN'S (ORIGINALLY ST. PETRI), WOODSIDE

From the time of Ruskin (1850)[19] a more academically correct approach to the design of Gothic revival buildings began to be practised by British architects. This can be seen to a degree in the design of the new St. Mark's of England Anglican church built at Woodside in 1885 and in the original Wright Memorial Church, which was built at Oakbank in the late 1880s. These can be compared to the more whimsically designed St. Thomas' Anglican Church in Balhannah built in 1865, with its unusual combination of segmental, semi-circular and triangular window heads.



St. Thomas' Church

FIG. 52 GOTHIC REVIVAL
IN BALHANNAH

St. Thomas' School House

One of the earliest Gothic revivalist designs was the now derelict Inverbrackie church, the second church to be completed in the valley (1849). Its Manse, built in 1858-9 was also built in a Gothic style.

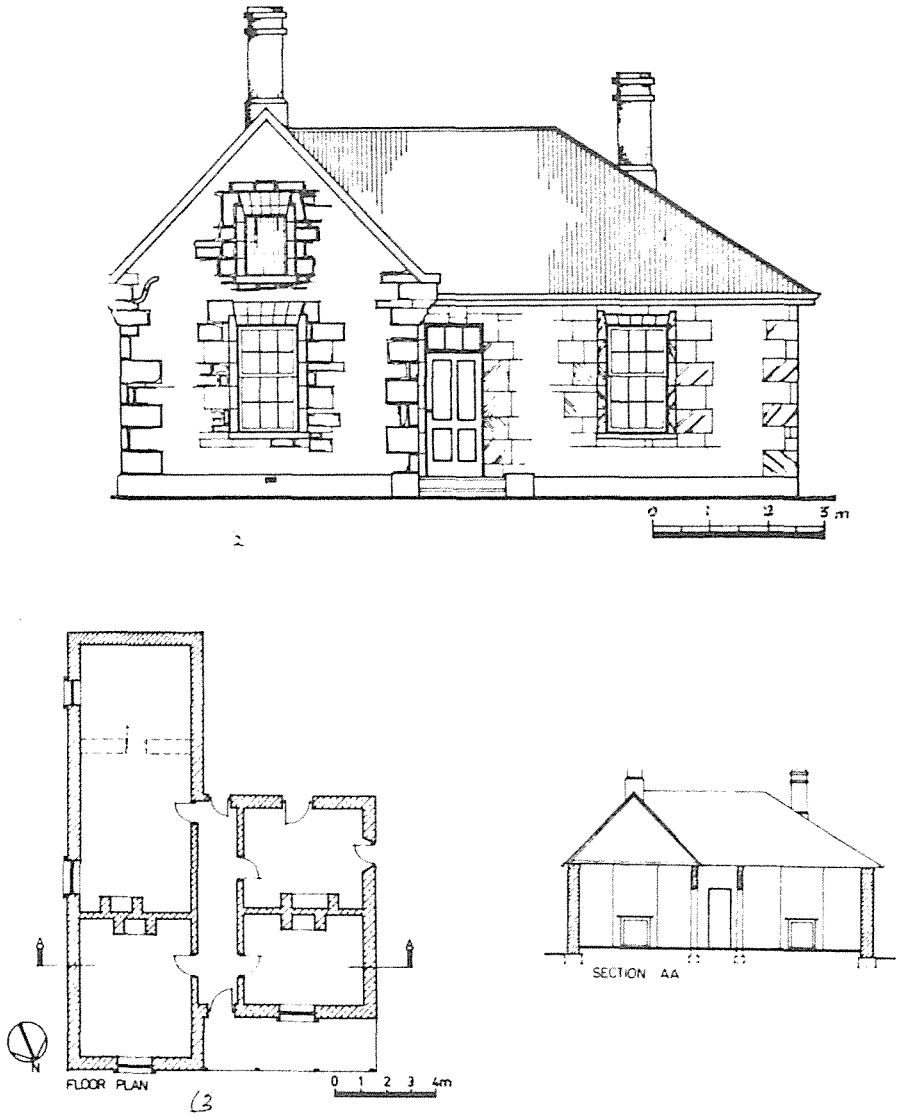
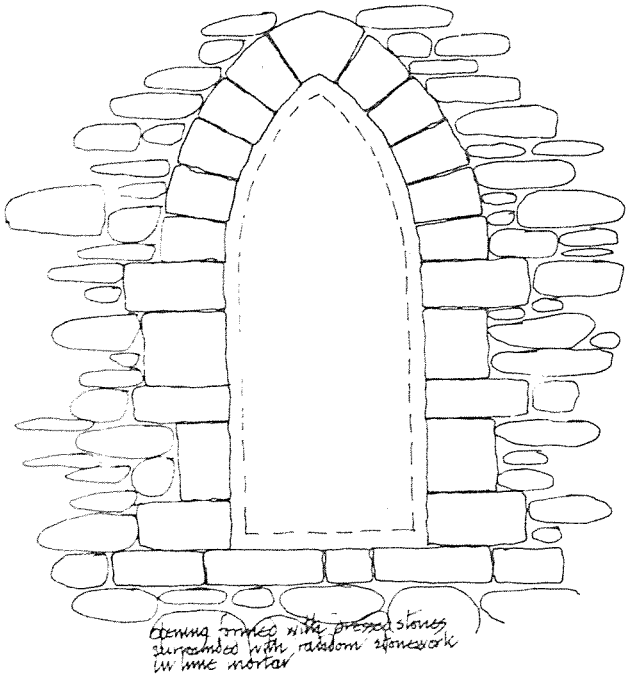
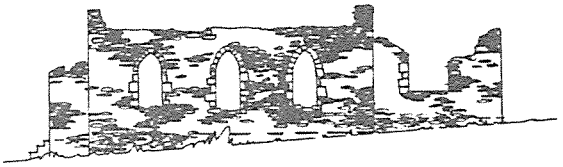
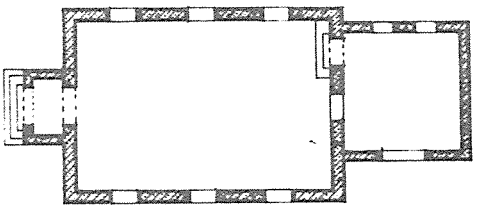


FIG. 53 ORIGINAL MANSE OF THE INVERBRACKIE CHURCH

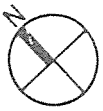


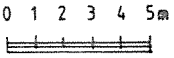


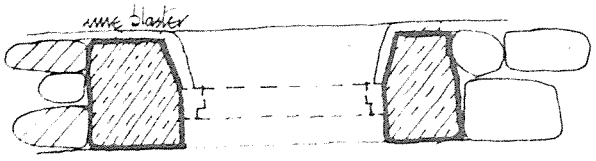
WEST ELEVATION



FLOOR PLAN







Window Detail

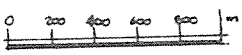


FIG. 54 REMAINS OF THE INVERBRACKIE CHURCH

Later revivalist styles in the 19th and early 20th centuries

William Morris and his company of designers probably had the most influence on the interior design of late 19th century and early 20th century houses in Britain and her colonies.[20] This can be seen in the introduction of elaborately designed wallpapers, ornate timber and tiled fire surrounds and the use of leaded stained glass panels in windows and doorways. It appears also in the substitution of timber detailing for cast-iron work in verandah frameworks and with the introduction of conservatories adjoining the main living areas.

These influences appear in some of the larger houses in the Onkaparinga area, such as 'The Gables', No. 47 Nairne Road, Woodside (this house also illustrates how an earlier settler's cottage was gradually extended into a fine mansion decorated in a late 19th century arts and crafts style).

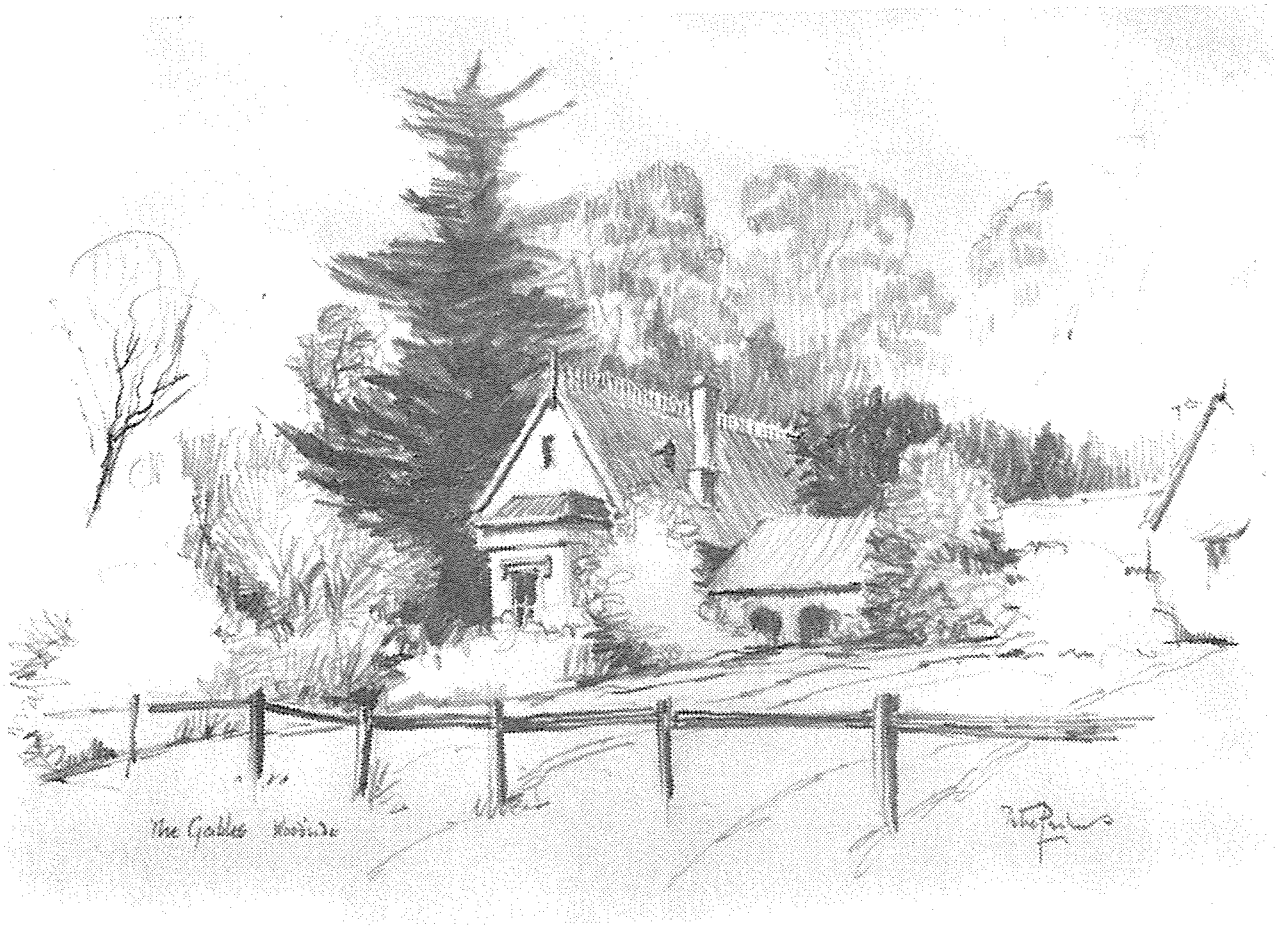


FIG. 55 THE GABLES, WOODSIDE

From this time onwards the different housing styles mentioned before continue to be used, well into the 20th century (e.g. the Tudor styles of the 1920's). It is not until after the Second World War that the contemporary house appears (i.e. a house design related to the international functionalist architecture, but beginning to have Australian characteristics).

During this period the architecture of public buildings is also quite conservative and they reflect design influences stemming from overseas. Thus the new Government school at Oakbank has Gothic elements which can be related to the work of the late 19th century British architects such as Norman Shaw, while the Lobethal Institute building, erected in 1904, has something of his Queen Anne style about it.[21]

FIG.56 THE LOBETHAL INSTITUTE

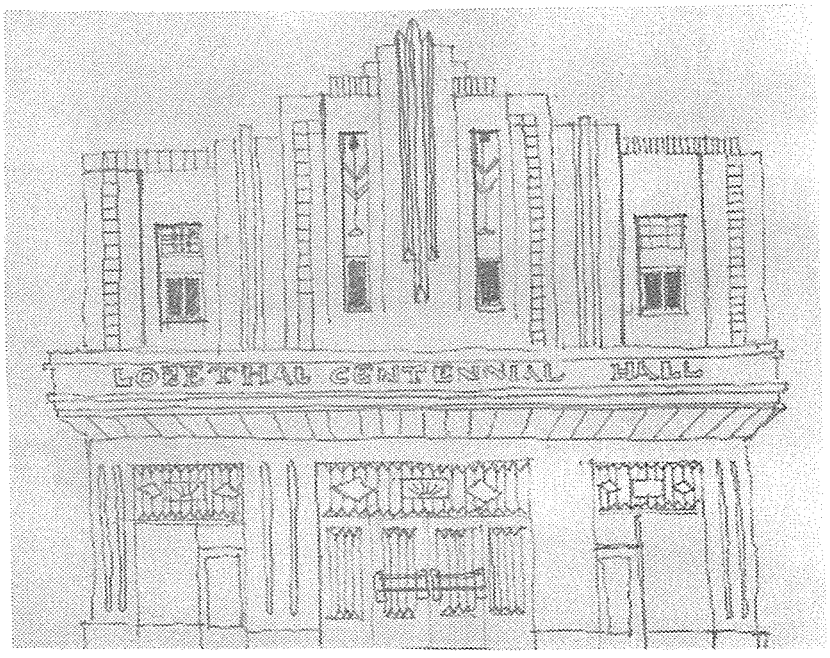
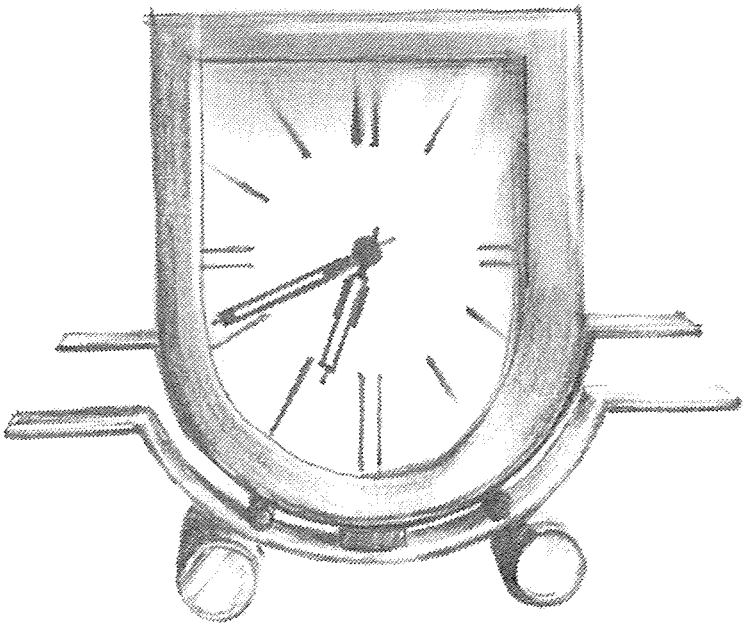
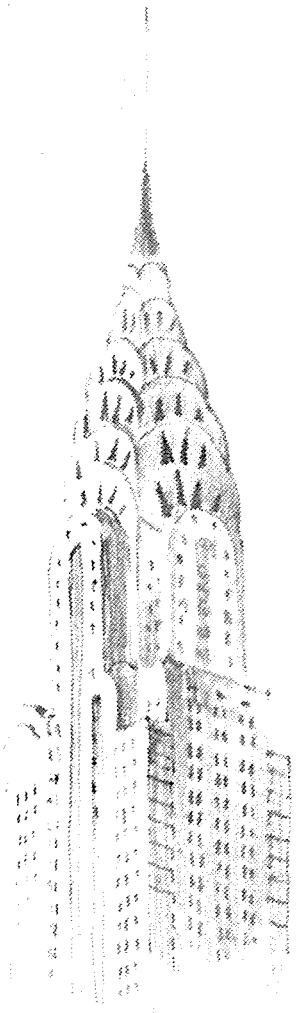


FIG.57 THE LOBETHAL CINEMA

A style of design which precedes the modern architecture of the 1950's is Art Deco. This is largely an architectural stylism derived from interior design and modern industrial design, a rather tentative example of which is the new cinema built at Lobethal in the late 1930's.[22]



Art Deco Clock



Chrysler Building N.Y.
1926-30

Art Deco Tapestry

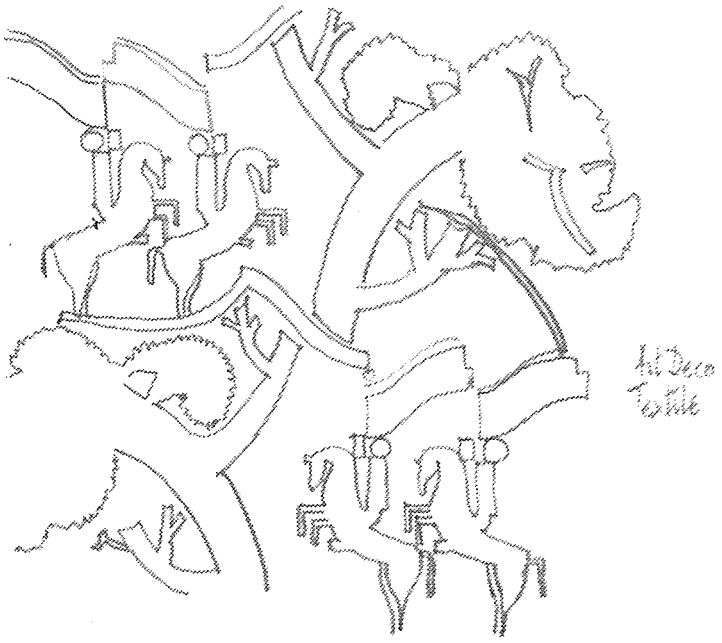


FIG.58 EXAMPLES OF ART DECO

Industrial architecture and workers' housing

Most of the factories built in the new (19th century) industrial towns of England and America were strongly influenced by Palladian design principles. This produced some handsomely proportioned buildings of a simple classic style. A late example was the Lobethal tweed factory built in the 1870's, the front wall of which still remains within the present day Onkaparinga Woollen Mills. (All of the other industrial premises built in Lobethal in the 19th century have disappeared - e.g., Kum icks brandy distillery.)

A complete ensemble of industrial buildings stemming from the mid to late 19th century is the Johnstons brewery and mineral water works at Oakbank. These are dominated by the old brewing tower and represent a very historical ensemble of industrial premises set in a beautiful landscape similar to that of small industrial villages in the Pennines of northern England. Nearby, the brewing tower of the Pike brewery, (see page 52) which still stands among some of its original storage sheds, is an even finer edifice with its decorative panelling of brick and stone. Both these buildings share design qualities reminiscent of the towers of Tuscan houses (i.e., in the region around Florence).

FIG. 59 LOBETHAL TWEED FACTORY, c. 1870

FIG. 60 A RE-CREATED SETTING
OF JOHNSTON'S BREWERY

An important mid-late 19th century industrial complex which should be retained as a State heritage item. This reconstruction, showing a mill-pond, suggests how the beautiful setting of the mill might be further enhanced.

FIG. 61 PIKE'S BREWERY

Built in 1889 by Henry Pike, the Dorset Brewery is a fine example of a late 19th century industrial building. Its builder skilfully employed a combination of brich and stone panelling in the front elevation. This property has been carefully preserved by the Oakbank Weavers (its present owners) and converted into a weaving studio and art gallery.

Another very important group of industrial buildings are the houses, crushing plants and mine chimneys of the Balhannah and Grunthal Mines. The former is a complete ensemble of simple Georgian-like buildings lying off Greenhill Road, while the latter - including a fine manager's house - is a superbly designed ensemble of buildings in a neo-classical mode, located off Beaumont Road, Verdun (see over).

FIG. 62 BALHANNAH
MINE BUILDINGS

FIG. 63 GRUNTHAL MINE BUILDINGS

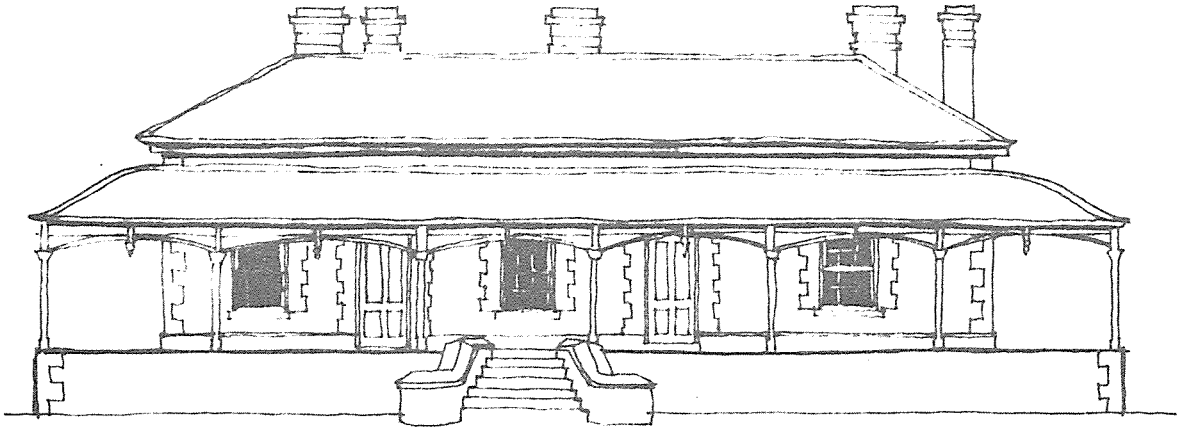
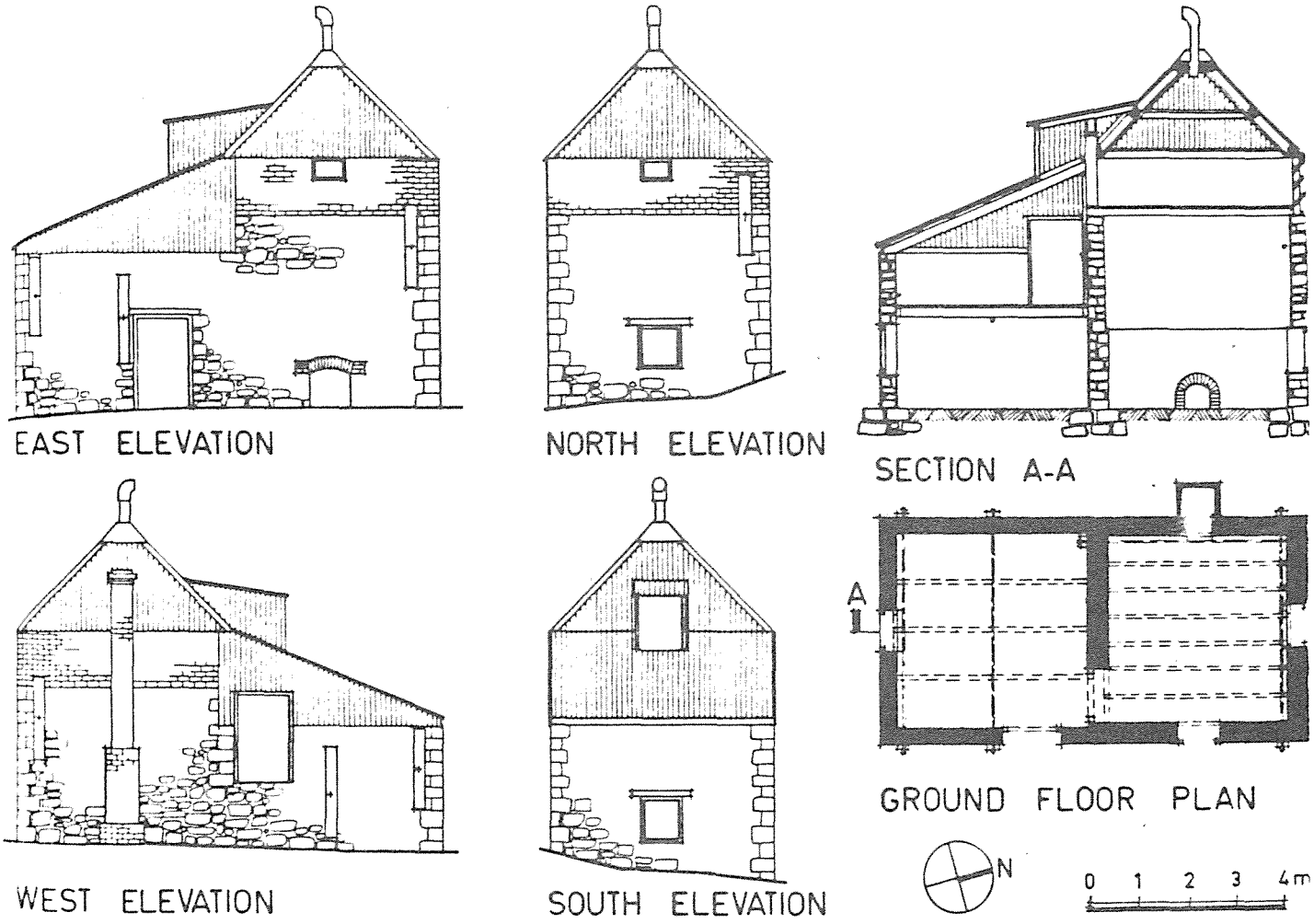


FIG.64 GRUNTHAL (VERDUN)
MINE MANAGER'S HOUSE



LOBETHAL SURVEY: HOP KILN, SECTION 5143, HD. ONKAPARINGA 161

FIG. 65 HOP KILN AT NEUDORF

The last remaining example of an industrial building once common in the Lobethal area. One of these, a double kiln built by F.W. Kleinschmidt at Lobethal, was later converted into the Mill Shop.

The other fine late 19th century industrial complex left remaining in the area is the Balhannah railway station, with its station cottages. The castellated timber detailing of the station waiting rooms is reminiscent of the early gothic revival styles found in England during the late 18th and early 19th centuries.

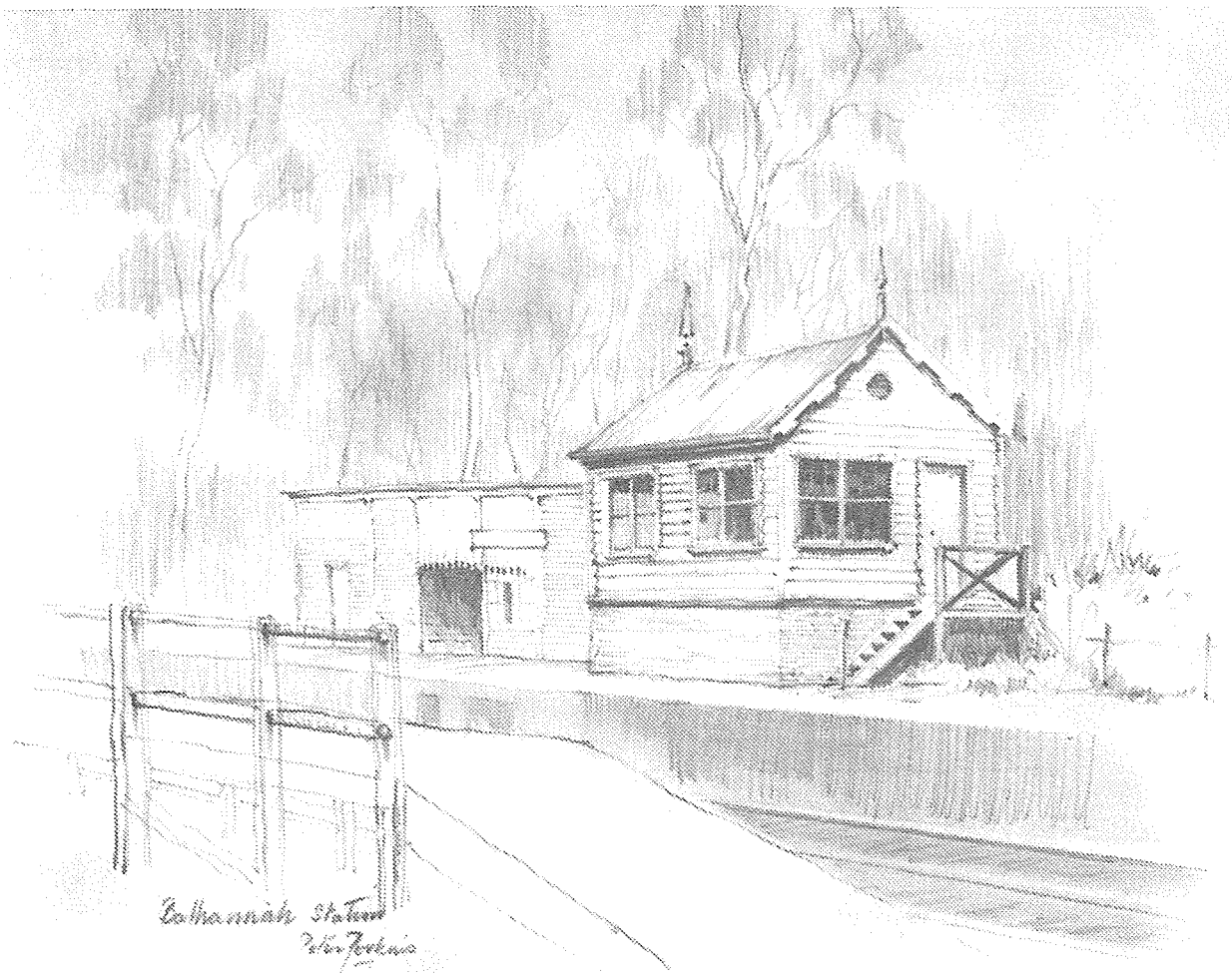


FIG. 66 BALHANNAH STATION

Workers' housing built in Britain's northern industrial towns was either provided or sponsored by some of the new industrial magnates. A classic example of this was Saltaire, an entirely new town built near to Bradford in 1853 by Sir Titus Salt, a woollen magnate.[23] A similar project was envisaged in relation to the Bird in Hand Mine but it never came to fruition (see plan over). Small scale examples of workers' housing in the Onkaparinga district are illustrated by the cottages in Main Street, Lobethal, which adjoined Kumnicks brandy distillery, and the fine group of stone-built terrace houses in Moffatt Street, Woodside.

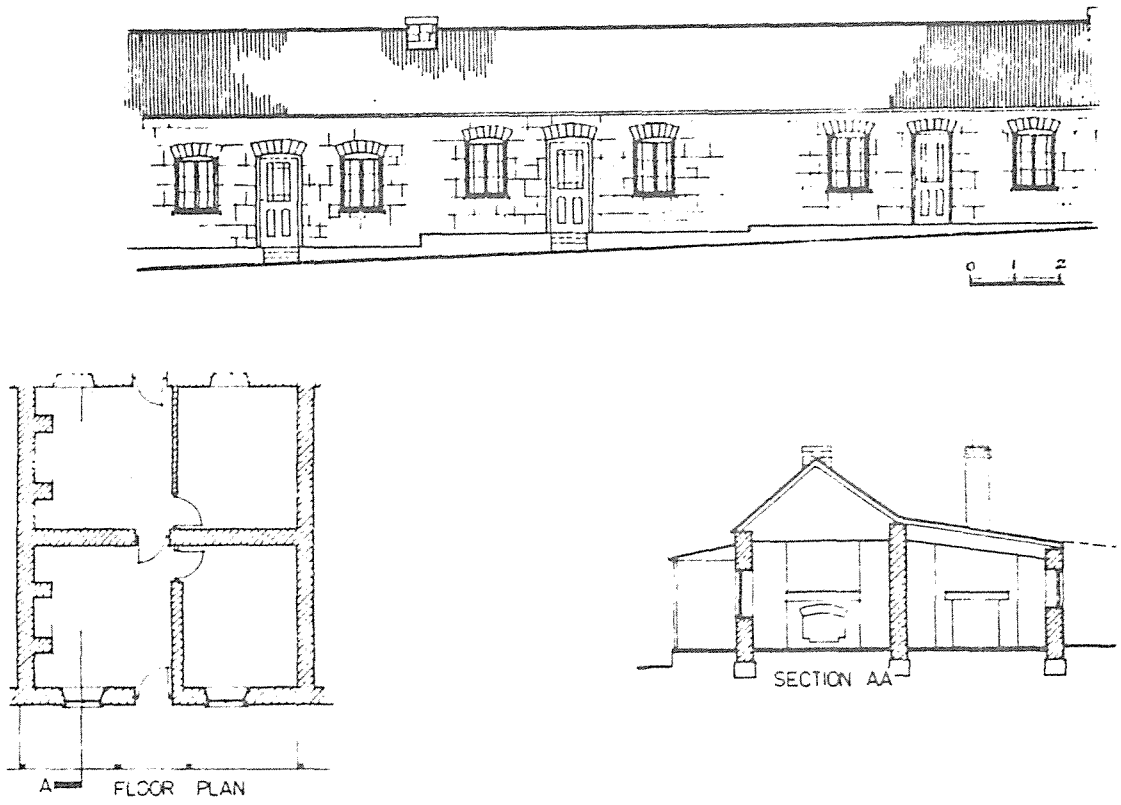


FIG. 67 TERRACE HOUSES, WOODSIDE
Probably built to house miners.

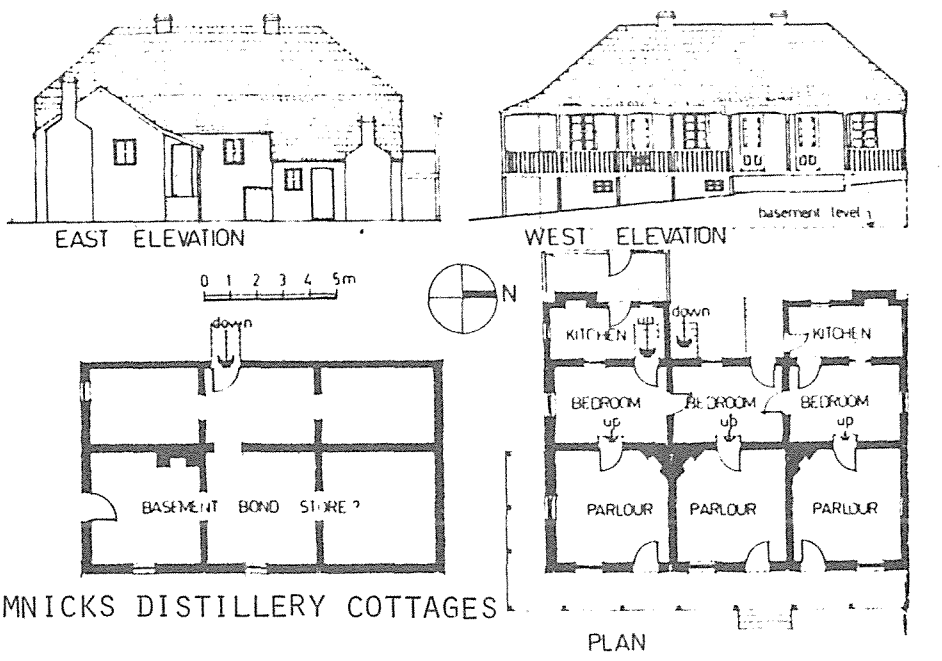


FIG. 68 KUMNICKS DISTILLERY COTTAGES

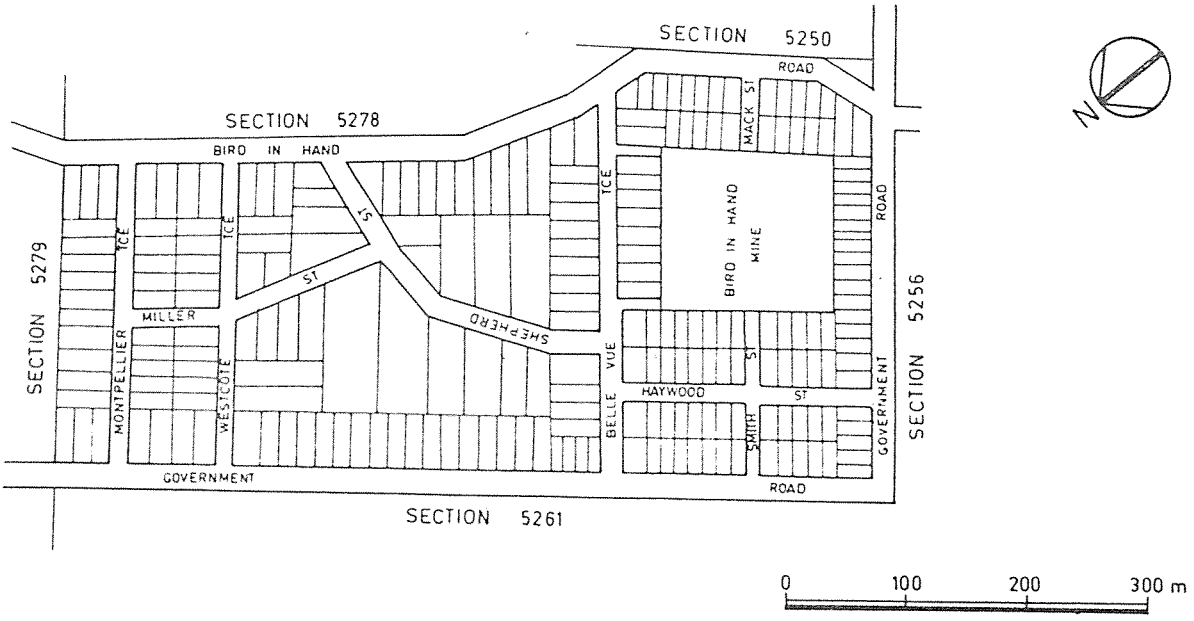


FIG. 69 PLAN OF BIRD IN HAND MINE VILLAGE

Oakbank, a company town

This is a small, privately laid out township which was built in relation to the Johnstons brothers' brewery. The first portion of the town was laid out north of the Woodside road in 1850-51, the southern portion was developed later and included the Pike's Dorset Brewery. Although this company town was not as complete as Saltaire, whose foundation it preceded, it appears that the family were considering a town development along similar "idealistic" lines. This is illustrated by an early sub-division plan still in the company's possession, probably drawn in 1864 by R.R. Page, the architect for the new St. Thomas church, Balhannah, which was built in 1865 (the drawing is signed by Page, D.F.L.). Apart from showing the layout of the allotments, some have within them views of future public buildings (see opposite). The reality of the town's rate of development was very different from this idealised plan. Allotments filled up slowly and the town only took on a completed form by the First World War. The end result was a small town with some interesting houses and an ambience somewhat similar to the later company towns of 19th century England (e.g. Bournville)

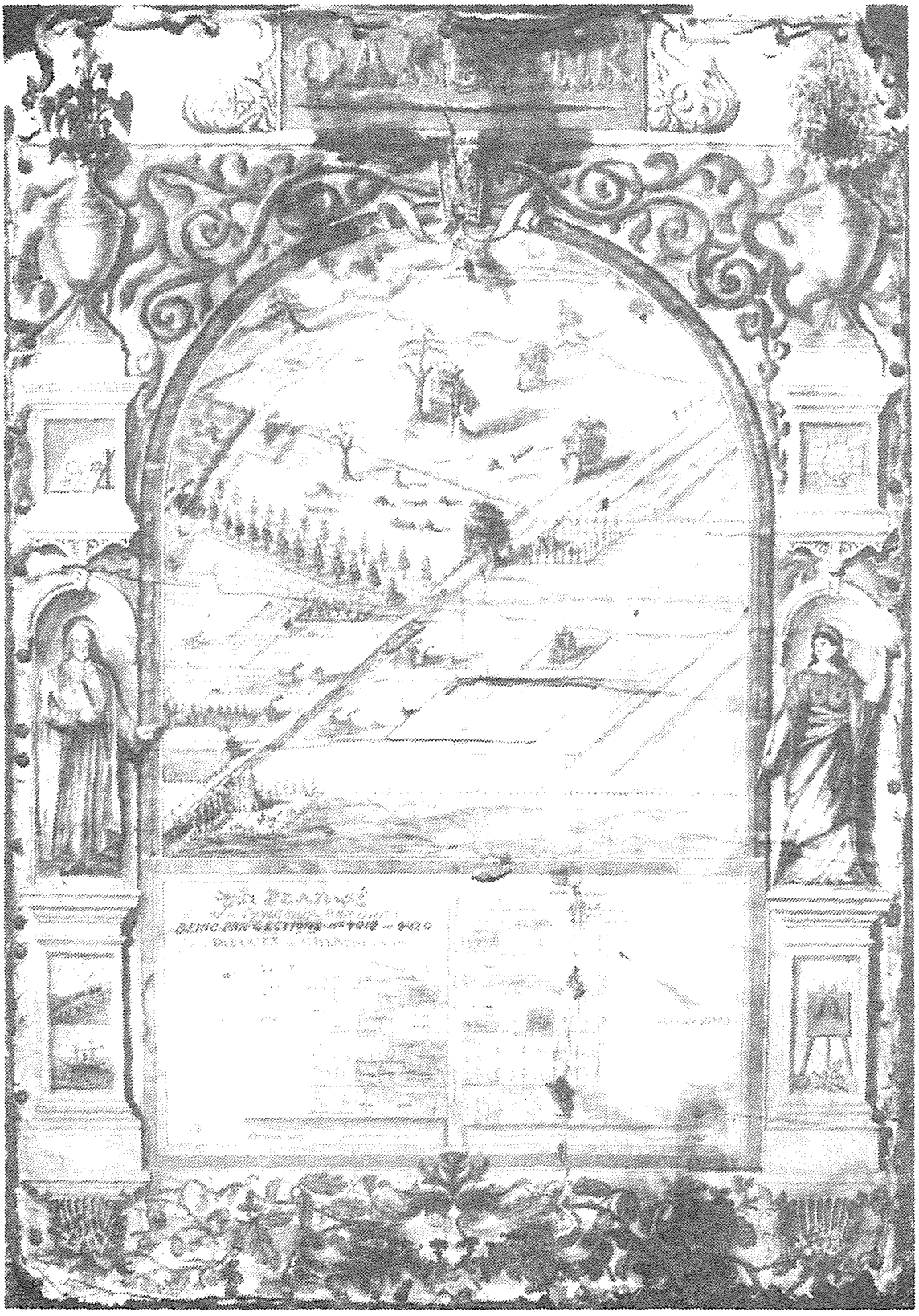


FIG. 70 PLAN OF OAKBANK C.1864

Post Script

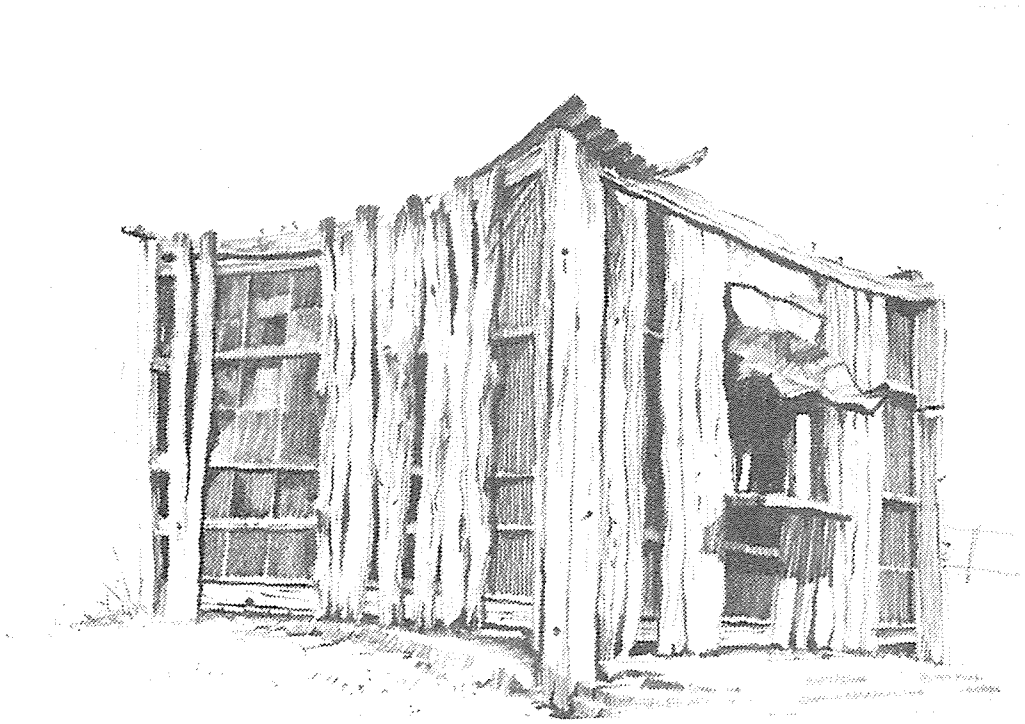


FIG.71 A DEPRESSION PERIOD c1890's HUT ON A WORKING-MAN'S BLOCK AT OAKBANK

This simple dwelling used a traditional building technique of pine and pug, rendered - when built - on the outside. Internally it was lined with steel sheets from flattened kerosine tins!

NOTES

1 The South Australian Company was the major landholder until the early 20th century

2 G. Young and others Lobethal 'Valley of Praise' p.61

3 ibid. p.120

4 ibid, p.183

5 G. Young et al Hahndorf Survey Vol. 1, p.189

6 At this time those British settlers who came from the west country were quite isolated from London and the midlands area of England due to the comparatively long distances and very poor roads. Irish and Scottish settlers came from even more remote locations. The Germans were from outlying districts of Eastern Europe in the Prussian provinces of Brandenburg, Posnania and Silesia

7 C.F. Innocent The Development of English Building Construction, p.135. He notes that, "in the year 1809 in Leicestershire, road scrapings were considered to make the best mud for the walls of cottages". (The cattle and horse manure would provide good cementatious addition to the mix!)

8 G. Young et al. Hahndorf Survey Vol. 1, p.189

9 We have found in our surveys that even single-roomed houses were sometimes built of brick or stone (see Lobethal Survey p.96)

The first Onkaparinga District Council assessment in 1854 confirms that where freehold occurred more substantial buildings were built. (Several owner occupied brick and stone houses are recorded in the Balhannah/Woodside areas; whereas when the occupier was leasing his land from the South Australia Company the majority of buildings recorded were of slab construction.)

10 Defined by Dr R.N. Brunskill as 'that sort of building which is deliberately permanent rather than temporary, which is traditional rather than academic in its inspiration, which provides for the simple activities of ordinary people, their farms and their simple industrial enterprises, which is strongly related to place - especially through the use of local building material - but which represents design and buildings with thought and feeling rather than in a base or strictly utilitarian manner'.

Quoted by R.J. Lawrence in Vernacular Architecture Vol. 14, 1983, p.19

11 Symmetrical elevations and simple classical mouldings in timber are also to be found in late 18th and 19th century timber houses in Scandinavian countries and in Russia. Similar classical detailing is found in timber farmhouses which were built in the west Canadian province of Saskatchewan by German-speaking Menonite settlers who had migrated there from Russia in the 1870's.

12 These design theories were introduced to the Court of James VI of Scotland (who later became James I of England) by Inigo Jones, an English designer who was trained in Italy. He had been particualrly impressed by the work of the late 16th century architect Andrea Palladio, who was noted for his villa designs in the area of Vincenza. The latter had written several books on architecture, copies of which Inigo brought back with him to England, and which helped him in the design of the first truly Italianate buildings to be built in the country - The Banqueting Hall, Whitehall Palace, and the Queen's House, Greenwich

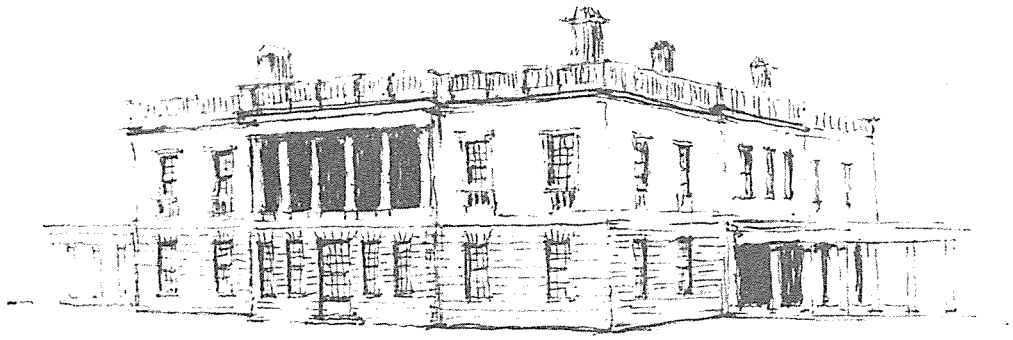


FIG. 72
Queen's house, Greenwich
(Inigo Jones)

Palladianism became firmly established after the resotration of the monarchy in 1660 (Charles II) and Jones' pioneer work was later recognised by the architects of the 'Burlington School' (Lord Burlington) in the early 18th century, when it became the established mode of design. These were the design principles embodied in the Georgian house.

13 Apart from the treatises on Architecture, which appeared in the Italian Renaissance and coincided with the invention of printing, more practical books on architecture and building began to be published in European countries in the 18th and early 19th centuries. Such a book was Peter Nicholson's 'New Practical Builder', published in 1823. This covered all aspects of building work, including detailed drawings of buildings and the Greek and Roman orders of architecture.

FIG. 73

Frontispiece of Nicholson's New Practical Builder

14 A building technique commonly found in the area of Lyons, where it had probably existed since the time of the Romans.

15 In the first decades of settlement lath and plaster buildings were commonly used in Adelaide and many were noted on C. Kingston's plan of the city's buildings in 1842. They were probably similar to the ones discovered in the Onkaparinga district. These have earth-fast posts roughly 600-900 mm apart, with solid filling between them and are lath and plastered over on both faces.

16 John Nash, the Prince Regent's architect, created the first prototype suburb with his work in Regents Park, London (1811-1828). Here, apart from his famous terrace houses, several huge villas appeared which were later imitated by other architects and building developers when they began to build the first examples of suburban housing in London and Manchester (e.g., at St Johns Wood and Swiss Cottage, London). Nash was capable of using with facility a variety of design styles, including Palladian, Cottage Ornée, castellated Gothic, Tudor or Hindu! (viz. the Regent's Brighton Pavilion). He is the true predecessor of the Victorian architects who also delighted in using a variety of building styles to suit their and their clients' romantic whims!

17 W. Pevsner, An Outline of European Architecture, Pelican Books, London, 1945, p.280. Pugin was an English Catholic whose father, also a designer, had fled from France at the time of the revolution. Pugin designed and carried out some fantastic commissions in a Gothic mode, his most well-known work being the interiors of the Houses of Parliament, for which he was the interior designer in partnership with Sir Charles Barry, the country's leading architect at that time.

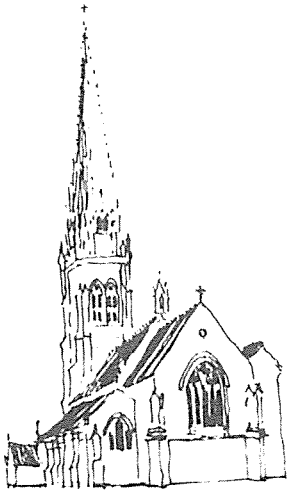


FIG. 74
Gothic style church, Cheadle
A.W. Pugin

18 R.F. Jordan Victorian Architecture, Penguin Books, London, 1966, p.72.

19 Ruskin continued the theme of the morality of Gothic architecture first propounded by A.W. Pugin. He was a writer and commentator on Victorian Arts and Society, who had a considerable effect both at the time when he wrote and later.

20 William Morris was greatly influenced by Ruskin's theories, but translated them into social reality. He was enormously versatile and worked as a painter, weaver, dyer, glazier, typographer, poet, merchant and socialist. (R.F. Jordan, op.cit.p.174). He was not only horrified at the social degradation he saw around him in the new industrial society, but also in the cheapening of craftsmanship with the introduction of mass-produced goods and 'objets d'art'. He was one of the first people to recognise the need for architectural conservation and he founded the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings in 1877.

21 Norman Shaw (1831-1912) was an eminently successful late Victorian architect who, contrary to Morris, fully exploited a variety of revivalist styles. He began by designing half-timbered Tudor and Queen Anne style homes and commercial buildings, finally he worked in the rather pompous Edwardian style. His influence was enormous, as he was an excellent teacher and he trained many of the successful architects of the succeeding generation who were the founders, along with some of Morris' disciples, of the Arts and Crafts Movement. (N. Pevsner, op.cit. p.213)

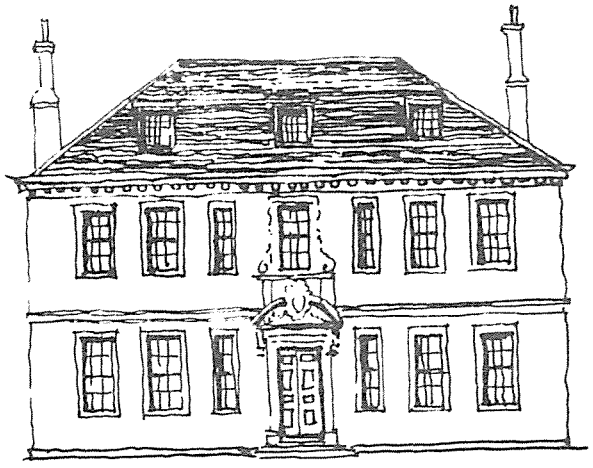


FIG. 75

Queen Anne style house
(Mompesson House, Salisbury, U.K.)

22 Arts deco is short for Arts decoratifs, the title given to an exhibition of the modern decorative arts held in Paris in 1926. (Exposition des arts decoratifs)

APPENDIX A

The South Australian Centre for Settlement Studies

The South Australian Centre for Settlement Studies is an incorporated body set up under the aegis of the Councils of the South Australian College of Advanced Education (S.A.C.A.E.) and the South Australian Institute of Technology.

It was launched upon the foundation of a successful collaboration between Ian Harmstorf, Senior Lecturer in History in the S.A.C.A.E. and Gordon Young, Senior Lecturer in Architecture in the S.A. Institute of Technology in the production of the Barossa Survey (1976-1977). That survey examined the patterns of German settlement in the Barossa Valley in the 19th century. It was one of the first heritage surveys funded under the National Estate programme set up late in 1975. Apart from the architectural and historical research which was undertaken, a survey was also made of the physical geography of the district by Roger Smith, Lecturer in Geography at the S.A.C.A.E.

The research group then went on to study the early German settlement of Hahndorf in the Adelaide Hills, a project funded by the newly formed Australian Heritage Commission (1977). The township's historical development was studied as well as that of its surrounding hamlets, including Paechtown. A major feature of the survey was the measurement and delineation of all the buildings on both sides of the main street of Hahndorf and several nearby large farmhouses and barns. In order clearly to understand the nature of the settlement and its buildings, the settlers' historical European backgrounds were carefully researched (viz. their village life, farmhouses and outbuildings and patterns of settlement).

The information obtained from the Barossa and Hahndorf surveys clearly highlighted the importance of German settlement in the early rural history of South Australia.

To complete the research of major German settlements, two more projects have since been undertaken. Lobethal and its environs were studied between 1980 and 1982 and Birdwood (formally Blumberg) between 1982 and 1984. Michael Butler, then a Lecturer in Geography, S.A.C.A.E., studied the physical geography of the Lobethal district and Jim Faull, Senior Lecturer in Geography, S.A.C.A.E. was responsible for a similar study of the Birdwood area.

The Centre has recently completed a study of the Onkaparinga Council District. The Upper Onkaparinga Valley is an area of the Adelaide Hills which, as well as being settled by German immigrants, had a large Scottish enclave during its first twenty years of settlement. It was one of the first parts of the state to be settled outside of the metropolitan area (e.g. Balhannah, 1839 and Lobethal, 1842). Both it and the adjoining council districts of Gumeracha, Mt. Pleasant and Mt. Barker still retain many pioneer buildings and historic precincts from this early period of settlement.

Centre Activities

The area of research with which the Centre is concerned covers the broad spectrum of European settlement in Australia, and in particular:

History	both social and economic;
Geography	land forms and uses and economic developments;
Architecture	the transfer of cultural heritages into Australia in the form of building types and their related construction;
Planning	the form of early settlements, their origins and the development which took place in the 19th and 20th centuries;
Conservation	methods of conservation related to both the natural and adapted environment and individual historical architectural precincts or individual buildings.

Centre Publications

The Centre has published all of its survey reports, details of which are as follows:

The Barossa Survey:	a 3 volume report published in 1978 (out of print, and to be republished in 1985 in one volume)
The Hahndorf Survey:	a 2 volume report published in 1981
The Lobethal Survey:	a single volume report published in 1983
The Birdwood Survey:	a single volume report published in 1984

Other Publications

Early Barossa Settlements:	a single volume report based on the Survey (out of print)
A German Teachers Handbook:	A specialised handbook based on the Centre's surveys of German settlements and prepared by Ms Karen Wickman, Senior German Teacher, Underdale High School. (A $1,000.00 printing subsidy was provided by the Multi-Cultural Education Unit of the S.A. Department of Education).
People, Places and Buildings:	A book on early settlers, their houses and places of settlement, written by J. Faull and G. YOung and published by the Centre in conjunction with the S.A. 150th Jubilee celebrations. (Publication assistance has been sought from the Jubilee 150 History Committee).
Pioneer Buildings of the Onkaparinga Bowl - Balhannah, Oakbank, Woodside & Lobethal	A lavishly illustrated booklet on key historic buildings of the Onkaparinga District Council area.

Establishment of the Centre

The research collaboration between the College and the Institute was formalised in April 1982 by the incorporation of the Centre.

The Centre is controlled by a Board of eleven members, chaired by Graeme Pretty, Senior Curator, S.A. Museum, and is directed by Gordon Young, Senior Lecturer in Architecture, School of Architecture and Building at the S.A. Institute of Technology (Jim Faull, Senior Lecturer in Geography, S.A.C.A.E. was the acting Director during 1984.)

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APPENDIX B.

N

42 ST THOMAS' SCHOOL HOUSE
43 ST THOMAS' CHURCH
44 BALHANNAH STATION

FIG. 76 BALHANNAH
Location of historic properties

0 100 200 300 400 500 km

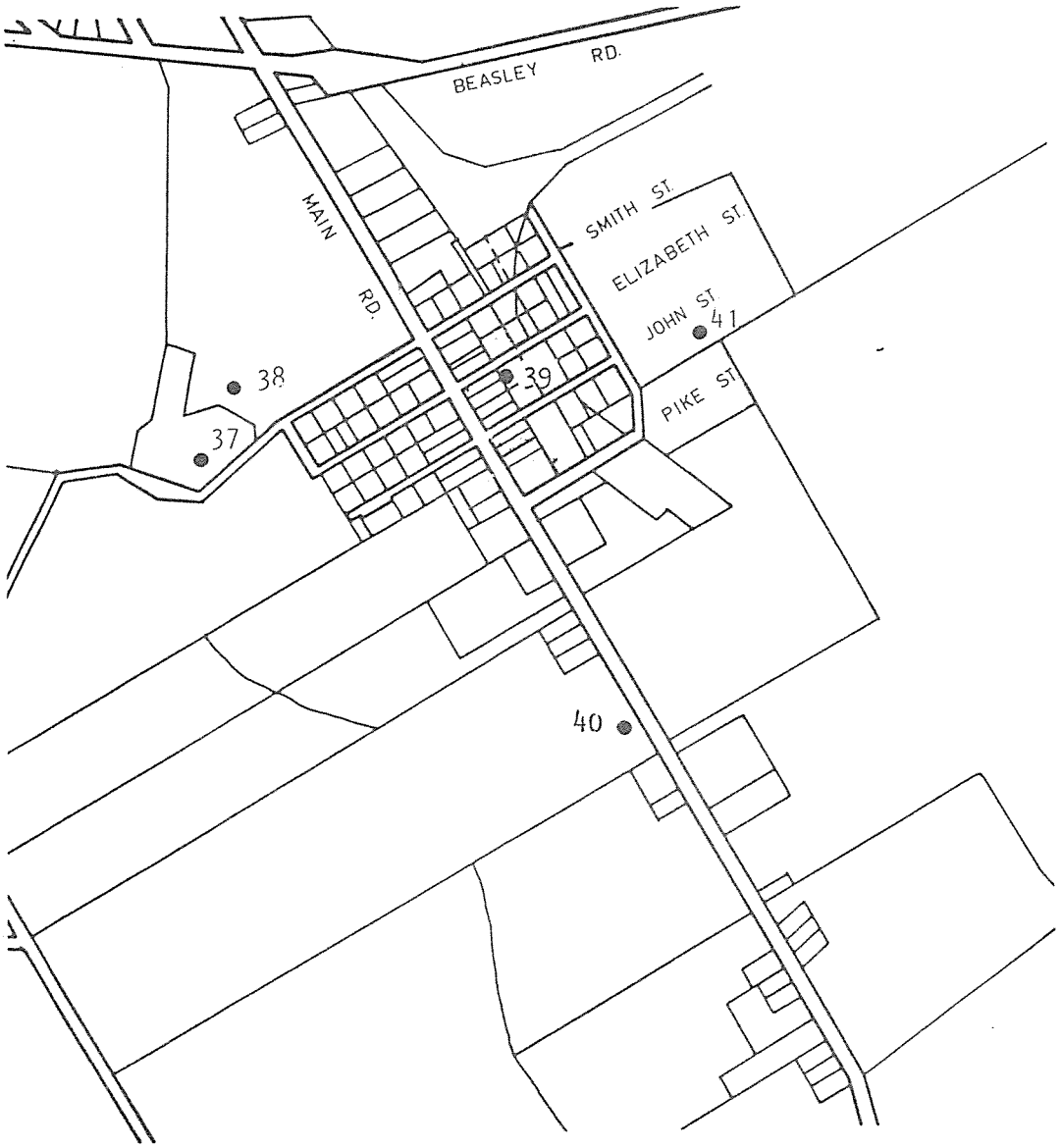

FIG. 77 OAKBANK

Location of historic properties

21 OLD COACH HOUSE
22 8 LANGBEIN STREET
23 TERRACE HOUSES
24 ST JOHNS (Originally St Petri)
25 WOODSIDE COURTHOUSE
26 THE 'GABLES'

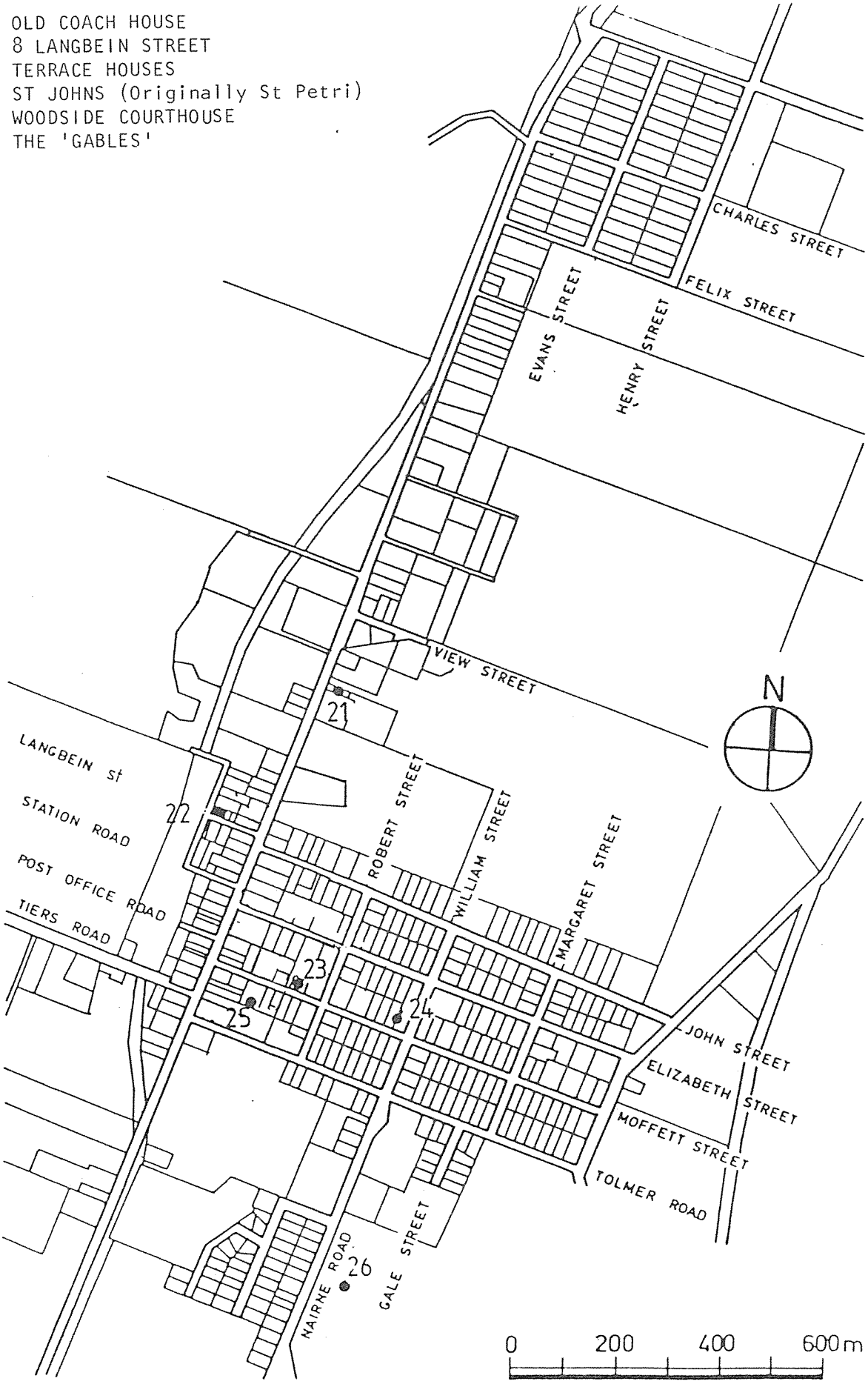

FIG. 78 WOODSIDE

Location of historic properties

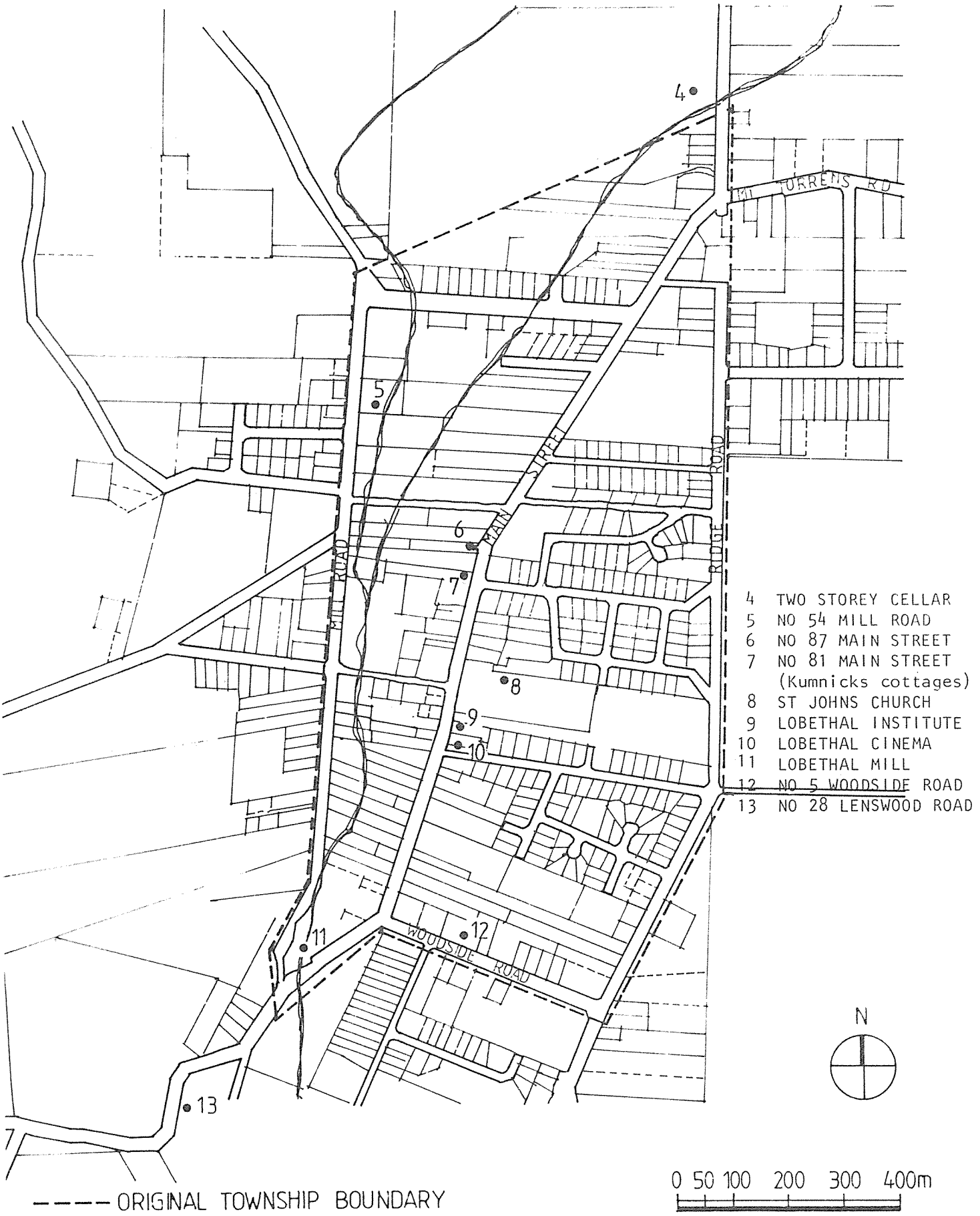

FIG. 79 LOBETHAL

Location of historic properties.