District Council of BLYTH

HERITAGE SURVEY OF THE LOWER NORTH

Department of Environment and Planning
PART TWO

4. D.C. BLYTH

ITEM IDENTIFICATION SHEETS


Funded by the South Australian Heritage Committee and the Australian Heritage Commission (National Estate Programme, 1981/2).
HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

The wooden passenger station was erected prior to the opening of the railway line on July 2, 1894. The station was named Brinkworth after Mr. George Brinkworth, who had owned the land on which the building was placed. The weatherboard building is a rare surviving example of its type in good original condition.

A concrete weir and a four million gallon capacity reservoir was constructed to the east on Magpie Creek to serve the railway complex (items 2 and 3). Of additional interest to the complex are grain silos built in 1956, 1969 and 1972. These are good representative examples of the stages of silo development.

REFERENCES

Jones, Snowtown..., pp.100-103

Verbal
Archival photographs

PHOTOGRAPH Jones, Snowtown..., p.101
HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

Built in 1870-5 this twin-gabled building was used first as a hotel, then as a school. It was then abandoned early this century. The ruin is also of interest as it is near the site of one of the Lower North's "paper" towns, that is, a government-surveyed township which never came into existence, in this case because it was checked by the big pastoralists who prevented farmers moving into the area in the 1860s by buying up such surveyed land themselves.

REFERENCES

Noye, Clare..., pp.34, 38; National Trust, 1674

Verbal
Archival photographs

PHOTOGRAPH
Film No. 299 Negative No. 4
Direction of view
HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

"Zulu Farm" was named by a previous owner, Joseph Clarke, because of his prior experiences in similar country encountered in South Africa during the Zulu Wars. It is one of the original farmhouses dating from the period of initial agricultural settlement in this area. The section was first open for selection in 1881 and taken up by Fred Clarke. The original house (now the rear section) was built by a brother, Joseph Clarke; other rooms were added in 1906 and in 1937 (with the help of his son, Jack, the present owner).

The house is a good typical example of the vernacular construction of the district, also clearly demonstrating its transformation from cottage to large house.

REFERENCES

Lands Dept. (details re section 420, Hd. of Blyth)

Verbal Jack Clarke, (owner), 1982
Archival photographs

PHOTOGRAPH

Film No. 297 Negative No. 10
Direction of view to SW
HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

The small galvanised iron building is characteristic of the type built to serve local populations, housing a variety of functions, in the small settlements which grew up about railway sidings.

The building was erected by the Power family in 1905. It operated as a general store until 1911 when the Post Office was incorporated into the building, Mr. S.D. Power and Miss V. Power then acting as postmaster and postmistress.

The general store was phased out in 1972 and it now operates only as a post office. A manual telephone exchange was also located in the store from 1913 and operated by the store owners. (An automatic exchange was not built until 1950).

Two other galvanised iron buildings on the block behind the post office are also of interest. These are the cottage (with picket fence) and storage shed. These appear to be of a later date than the post office.

REFERENCES

Clarke, Kybunga Primary School, p.6

Verbal
Archival photographs

PHOTOGRAPH
Film No. 297 Negative No. 6
Direction of view to NW
PROJECT HERITAGE SURVEY REGION 8
Item Ref. No. 7(a)
L.G.A. Blyth

Film No. 297
Negative No. 7
Direction of view to W

Film No. 297
Negative No. 8
Direction of view to NW
**HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

The single span steel beam bridge was built in 1935. It replaced a wooden bridge (part of which survives) built jointly by the Government and the Blyth Council in 1911. Erosion since the land was first ploughed has created quite a canyon of Kybunga Creek at this point.

**REFERENCES**

S.A. Highways Dept. 72; Clarke, Kybunga Primary School, p.13

Verbal Jack Clarke, 1982
Archival photographs

**PHOTOGRAPH**

Film No. 297  Negative No. 9
Direction of view to E

**STATUS**

Reg. of State Her. Items  X
Reg. Interim L
Nominated
National Estate
Reg. Proposed L
National Trust
CL RL File
Other
S.A. Highways Dept.  X
Instit. of Engineers

**RECOMMENDATION**

(A) State  (B) Local

**PREPARED BY**

HERITAGE INVESTIGATIONS

Date: 1982
HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

"Premises which are likely to have been a hotel for Richard Roberts of Kybunga, Blyth Plains, were planned by Garlick and McMinn in February, 1869 and were ready for plastering work in June." (Jensen).

The imposing house has an extensive network of cellars but was never used as an hotel.

John and Richard Roberts took up 320 acres of the Hundred of Blyth in 1865. Colonel C.R. Roberts called his property "Kybunga", where he lived from about 1870, and built up a large holding, which was broken up again after his death. "Kybunga" was then the "grand house" of the district.

REFERENCES

Jensen, Colonial Architecture, p.420;
Lands Department;
Clarke, Kybunga Primary School, p.4

Verbal Jack Clarke, 1982
Archival photographs

PHOTOGRAPH

Film No. 297 Negative No. 5
Direction of view to SE
HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

The well was once clearly visible, because it was dug into white clay. It has now fallen into the creek. It was an important watering place on the plain probably during the 1860s and early 1870s. It was reported as falling down in the 1870s.

The first meetings of the Blyth Council were held at White Well in 1872 until it moved to Blyth in 1875. A wood and iron Wesleyan Chapel was situated beside the well (later removed to Kybunga) and Council meetings and school lessons were held there. The site was possibly intended as a township as the original section 87 is subdivided into allotments (see Clarke, below), gazetted in 1873. Presumably White Well was eclipsed when Blyth was established in 1875.

REFERENCES

Clarke, Kybunga Primary School, p.21;
S.A. Archives, "Short history and some recent statistics of Blyth".

Verbal R.J. Noye, 1982
Archival photographs
**HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

In 1851 Richard Jones took out a pastoral lease of 33 square miles in this area, and also had section 3067 surveyed (granted in 1852). This section was known as Jones Head Station (Pine Plains) and was frequently used as landmark for reference. The cottage, which may have been used as the Head Station, and was subsequently a boundary riders' hut, dates from this period, c.1852. It is a solid stone building with its original shingle roof (covered with galvanised iron). It is in good condition and is one of the few intact surviving buildings of this type dating from the early pastoral era in this district. The building is believed to be the oldest surviving in the Halbury district.

**REFERENCES**

National Trust, 2794;
Gregor, *District of Halbury...*, pp. 8, 42

Verbal W. Gregor; M. Gleeson; P.M. Dale, 1981
Archival photographs

**PHOTOGRAPH** Gregor, *District of Halbury*, p. 42
HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

The building was completed in 1879, by H. Hall & Co. Only 13 children first attended, but numbers presumably increased when a teacher was appointed who could teach both English and German, as requested by local residents. This was a school and residence combined, although the two sections appear to have been built at different times. It is a large stone building in good order.

Hoyleton School closed in 1971 and was reopened as a Church of England youth camp in 1974.

REFERENCES

National Trust 2284;
P.B.D. S.57;
Gregor, District of Halbury..., pp.39, 43

Verbal
Archival photographs

PHOTOGRAPH

Film No. 298  Negative No. 1
Direction of view to S
HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

This beautifully constructed stone goods shed is the only substantial surviving relic of the Port Wakefield to Hoyleton tramway (later converted to railway). This western railway system was a significant development for the entire Region and it heralded a similar process elsewhere in South Australian wheat lands; a shift in focus from Adelaide as railway terminus to a local port. This was Port Wakefield, and the line was constructed with its terminus at Hoyleton, to service the already well established agricultural districts of Auburn and Clares. The operation of the line also stimulated development in the surrounding plains as well as the towns of Balaklava, Halbury, Hoyleton and later Blyth (and others along the route). Work on the track started in 1867. The goods shed was constructed in 1870 by S. Saunders, the contractor (this is inscribed on a stone inset in the building). Huge amounts of wheat were stored here after harvest, for haulage by the horse-drawn trucks, and later by locomotive. This indicates the significance of the line (and goods shed) both to the lower north and to the economy of the State as a whole.

REFERENCES

National Trust 1523;
Cyclopedia of S.A., vol. 2., p.471;
Donovan, Port Wakefield and district..., pp.20-21;
Gregor, District of Halbury..., pp.18, 33-34

Verbal
Archival photographs

PHOTOGRAPH

Film No. 298  Negative No. 2

Direction of view to S
**HERITAGE SURVEY**

**ITEM IDENTIFICATION SHEET**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This typical little nineteenth century shop, shaded by a large Moreton bay fig, appears largely untouched, with its original windows, and workshop area. The building appears to date from the first era of development at Hoyleton, following the town's survey and the establishment of the Port Wakefield-Hoyleton tramway.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Within eight months of the town's survey in 1869 a saddler-bootmaker-blacksmith was in operation, and this was probably the surviving shop. In later years, the saddlery was owned by George Wauchope, District Councillor for the years 1905-1909.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The building was subsequently used as a shop and as a private residence.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**REFERENCES**

Gregor, District of Halbury..., pp.16, 30

Verbal R. Newton, 1982

Archival photographs

**PHOTOGRAPH**

Film No. 297  Negative No. 14

Direction of view to N

**LOCATION**

Address Terminus St.,

Town Hoyleton

Postcode

Section 102

Hundred Hall

County

L.G.A. Blyth

S.H.P. Region 8

A.M.G. Ref. 6629-IV

54 27470 623240

**SUBJECT**

4.6

**PERIOD**

State

Study Area

1869-84

**TYPE OF ITEM**

LAND Natural feature

Historical site

Historical Gdn.

BUILDING

STRUCTURE

PHYSICAL CONDITION

**STATUS**

Reg. of State Her. Items

Reg. Interim L. Nominated

National Estate

Reg. Proposed L.

National Trust

CL RL File

Other

S.A. Highways Dept.

Instit. of Engineers

**RECOMMENDATION**

(A) State x (B) Local

PREPARED BY

HERITAGE INVESTIGATIONS

Date: 1982
HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

A number of shops were built in Hoyleton during its major period of growth after the survey of the town in 1869 and the opening of the tramway to Port Wakefield. This small building, with an arched front door, appears to date from that era, becoming a post office as well as general store from the early 1900s (the enclosure of the front verandah is of more recent date).

REFERENCES

Gregor, District of Halbury..., p.48
HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

"This building has served the surrounding district, including Halbury, in addition to being a Licensed Hotel, also as a place where most meetings of importance were held in the early days (including that of the District Council of Halbury), plus local band recitals, dances, concerts, religious services etc. Doctors' consultations were held here from not later than 1888 until approximately mid 1950's."

The hotel was built in 1871 for the first licensee, Thomas Rook. It is an excellent example of its type, a prominent street-corner landmark, low-set but substantial, with a partially enclosed courtyard and interesting brick parapet.

REFERENCES

Gregor, District of Halbury..., pp.18, 20, 75 (including quote)

Verbal
Archival photographs

PHOTOGRAPH

Direction of view to N

Film No. 297 Negative No. 11

STATUS

Reg. of State Her. Items
Reg. Interim LD
Nominated
National Estate
Reg. Proposed LD
National Trust
CL RL File
Other
S.A. Highways Dept.
Instit. of Engineers

RECOMMENDATION

(A) State X (B) Local

PREPARED BY
HERITAGE INVESTIGATIONS
Date: 1982
HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

This is a well-kept rendered stone and brick cottage which is a rare surviving example of the type built during Blyth's earliest period of development in the early 1870s. The neat garden is also characteristic.

REFERENCES

Verbal Don Maczkowiack, from Jean Brusnahan (owner), 1982
Archival photographs

PHOTOGRAPH

Film No. 296 Negative No. 11
Direction of view to NW
**HERITAGE SURVEY**
**ITEM IDENTIFICATION SHEET**

**ITEM NAME:** Former Saddlery Shop

**HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

This shop was a saddlery "conducted by Mr. Jones, and this was sold in 1929 to Mr. A.J. Sims who carried on his business here until his death in 1929".

The building is a combined shop and residence, and has retained the original shop front windows characteristic of such late nineteenth century establishments. It occupies an important corner position and contributes to the historical streetscape of Harley St., Blyth's main street.

**REFERENCES**

"District Council of Blyth, 100 years..." p.11

Verbal
Archival photographs

**PHOTOGRAPH**

Direction of view to S

Film No. 296
Negative No. 8

**LOCATION**

Address Harley St.,
Town Blyth
Postcode
Section
Hundred
County L.G.A. Blyth
S.H.P. Region 8
A.M.G. Ref. 6530-II

**SUBJECT**

4.6

**PERIOD**

State
Study Area

**TYPE OF ITEM**

BUILDING
PHYSICAL CONDITION

**STATUS**

Reg. of State Her. Items
Reg. Interim L
Nominated
National Estate
Reg. Proposed L
National Trust
CL RL File
Other
S.A. Highways Dept.
Instit. of Engineers

**RECOMMENDATION**

(A) State (B) Local

**PREPARED BY HERITAGE INVESTIGATIONS**

Date: 1982
HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

This is a very characteristic late nineteenth century industrial building, constructed of galvanised iron with original windows and doorways. The general form remains but the interior has been converted to a motor car workshop. This in itself reflects the history of succession from blacksmithing and coach-building to motor car mechanics.

Roderick Buzacott established a small smithy here in 1891, having built up a good trade at Clare. He expanded the premises into the Blyth Coach and Implement Factory, which covered half an acre by 1909. The site included the manufacture of agricultural implements (with a large engine driving the various machines); a paintshop; a carpentry shop; and an ironmongery. "A wide reputation for the manufacture of implements and vehicles has been won by Mr. Buzacott throughout the State..."

REFERENCES

"District Council of Blyth, 100 years...", p.10;
Cyclopedia of South Australia, vol. 2, p.479 (quote)

Verbal
Archival photographs

PHOTOGRAPH
Direction of view

Film No. Negative No.
HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE
The bank building was a branch of the Bank of Adelaide, built in 1903, and like other commercial and public buildings in the main street, a local reflection of revived prosperity (following years of drought and depression).

REFERENCES
"District Council of Blyth, 100 years...", p.16

PHOTOGRAPH
Direction of view

LOCATION
Address Cnr. Moore St., and Harley Street
Town Blyth
Postcode 5462
Section Hundred Blyth
County L.G.A. Blyth
S.H.P. Region 8
A.N.G. Ref.6530-II

SUBJECT
4.6

PERIOD
State
Study Area
1885-1904

TYPE OF ITEM
BUILDING

STATUS
Reg. of State Her. Items
Reg. Interim L
Nominated
National Estate
Reg. Proposed L
National Trust
CL RL File
Other
S.A. Highways Dept.
Instit. of Engineers

RECOMMENDATION
(A) State (B) Local
PREPARED BY HERITAGE INVESTIGATIONS
Date: 1982
In October 1875 an hotel for John Styles was ready for building there, with stables and shed. The railway was under construction at this time and the extension from Balaklava to Blyth was opened in 1876. The town was laid out in 1875.

An 1876 description of "Blyth Plains" (in the Australian Handbook) lists a public school, Wesleyan and Lutheran Chapel and a Hotel ("The Blyth"), which shows that the hotel was one of the earliest public buildings, as was typical of such towns.

The Hotel was rebuilt as a two storey building in 1910. It appears that the new Hotel entirely incorporated the old, as seen in the Archival photograph.
PROJECT
HERITAGE SURVEY REGION 8
Item Ref. No. 23(a)
L.G.A. Blyth

Film No. 296
Negative No. 10
Direction of view
(rebuilding of hotel)
HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE
This well-maintained limestone and brick building was opened as a branch of the English, Scottish and Australian Bank in 1908. The bank was closed in 1942 due to rationalisation and has since been used as a store. It is typical of the small banks which were established in many country towns during the early twentieth century, and it occupies an important corner position in the historical Hartley Street streetscape.

REFERENCES
"District Council of Blyth 100 years...", p.16 

PHOTOGRAPH
Film No. 296 Negative No. 9
Direction of view to SE

PROJECT
HERITAGE SURVEY REGION 8
Item Ref. No. 24

LOCATION
Address Harley St.,
Town Blyth
Postcode
Section
Hundred Blyth
County L.G.A. Blyth
S.H.P. Region 8
A.M.G. Ref. 6530-II

SUBJECT
4.6

PERIOD
State
Study Area
1905-28

TYPE OF ITEM
LAND Natural feature
Historical site
Historical Gdn.
BUILDING
STRUCTURE

PHYSICAL CONDITION

STATUS
Reg. of State Her. Items
Reg. Interim L
Nominated
National Estate
Reg. Proposed L
National Trust
CL RL File Other
S.A. Highways Dept.
Instit. of Engineers

RECOMMENDATION
(A) State (B) Local

PREPARED BY
HERITAGE INVESTIGATIONS
Date: 1982
THE INSTITUTE was established by the District Council in 1893. The front section was added in 1904 while the building was in use as the Blyth District Council Chambers (see also foundation stone).

The library was opened in 1900. In 1909 the building was altered and widened to give twice the capacity.

In 1933 the building was transferred to the Institute Committee "in consideration for the present Council Chambers which were erected by the Institute Committee who have also enlarged the Hall nearly doubling the seating accommodation."

REFERENCES

S.A. Archives, "Short history... Blyth", (and quote); "District Council of Blyth 100 years...", p.13

Verbal
Archival photographs
HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

There was a large Lutheran community settled in and around Blyth by the 1880s, supporting two churches in Blyth. The St. Petri Church was constructed in 1886 (the date and name are given on the foundation stone). The attractive and prominent tower is of cut stone (while the Church is of random rubble) with rendered quoins. The tower was built in 1889 and housed a bell said to have been sent from Germany by Kaiser Wilhelm the First. (The bell is now housed in the new Trinity Church).

The congregation of the two churches, St. Petri and Trinity, united in 1966 and the former Church is now used only for storage and is falling into disrepair. No other early Lutheran Church survives in Blyth.

REFERENCES

National Trust 474;
"District Council of Blyth 100 years...", p.19

Verbal
Archival photographs

PHOTOGRAPH
Film No. 296
Negative No. 13
Direction of view to SE
(St. Petri tower from Harley St., showing also item no. 27 shop and residence).

Film No. 296
Negative No. 12
Direction of view to NE
HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

This is a good example of the new post offices built early in the twentieth century, when the Commonwealth took over responsibility for postal and telegraph services from the State Government.

This brick building was erected in 1912. It superseded earlier post offices, built in 1867 and 1876 by the South Australian Government.

REFERENCES

S.A. Archives, "Short history... Blyth";
"District Council of Blyth 100 years...", p.14

Verbal
Archival photographs

PHOTOGRAPH

Direction of view to NW

Film No. 297  Negative No. 3

STATUS

Reg. of State Her. Items Reg.  Interim L
Nominated
National Estate Reg. Proposed L
National Trust
CL  RL  File
Other
S.A. Highways Dept.
Instit. of Engineers

RECOMMENDATION

(A) State X (B) Local

PREPARED BY
HERITAGE INVESTIGATIONS

Date: 1982
**HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

C.B. Young offered the site in 1876; local subscribers put in £100, and the school was completed by the end of 1877. The builder was Mr. Hall, who was also the contractor for the Hoyleton School.

The school is of random rubble walling with brick dressings and galvanised iron roof.

**REFERENCES**

S.A. Archives, GRG 38;
S.A. Archives, Research Note 506;
P.B.D., S.19;
National Trust, 475

**PHOTOGRAPH**

Direction of view to SE

Film No. 297  Negative No. 4

**PROJECT**

HERITAGE SURVEY REGION 8
Item Ref. No. 32

**LOCATION**

Address 161 August St.,
Cnr Wakefield Street
Town Blyth
Postcode 5462
Section
Hundred Blyth
County L.G.A. Blyth
S.H.P. Region 8
A.M.G. Ref. 6530-11

**SUBJECT**

2.6

**PERIOD**

State
Study Area
1869-84

**TYPE OF ITEM**

LAND Natural feature
Historical site
Historical Gdn.

BUILDING

STRUCTURE

PHYSICAL CONDITION

**STATUS**

Reg. of State Her. Items
Reg. Interim L
Nominated
National Estate
Reg. Proposed L
National Trust

CL RL File
Other

S.A. Highways Dept.
Instit. of Engineers

**RECOMMENDATION**

(A) State (B) Local

**PREPARED BY**

HERITAGE INVESTIGATIONS
Date: 1982
HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

This was a Wesleyan Methodist Church built in 1878 (see also foundation stone). It is a good example of the local use of limestone rubble and brick quoins, with a small brick arched belfry above the porch. The Church is still in use.

REFERENCES

"District Council of Blyth 100 years...", p.19

PHOTOGRAPH

Film No. 296 Negative No. 15

Direction of view to N

PROJECT

HERITAGE SURVEY REGION 8
Item Ref. No. 33

LOCATION

Address 123-124 Moore St, East
Town Blyth
Postcode 5462
Section
Hundred Blyth
County
L.G.A. Blyth
S.H.P. Region 8
A.M.G. Ref. 6530-II
54 26780 625190

SUBJECT

2.5

PERIOD

State
Study Area
1869-84

TYPE OF ITEM

LAND Natural feature
Historical site
Historical Gdn.
BUILDING
Historical
STRUCTURE

PHYSICAL CONDITION

Good

STATUS

Reg. of State Her. Items
Reg. Interim L
Nominated
National Estate
Reg. Proposed L
National Trust
CL RL File
Other
S.A. Highways Dept.
Instit. of Engineers

RECOMMENDATION

(A) State (B) Local

PREPARED BY
HERITAGE INVESTIGATIONS

Date: 1982