HERITAGE SURVEY OF THE RIVER MURRAY
HERITAGE INVESTIGATIONS

HERITAGE SURVEY OF THE MURRAY RIVER

(REGION 5 - SOUTH AUSTRALIA)

PART TWO

12. D.C. STRATHALBYN

ITEM IDENTIFICATION SHEETS

LIBRARY
TRANSPORT SA
PO BOX 1
WALKERVILLE
SA 5081


Funded under the National Estate Financial Assistance Programme.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM NO.</th>
<th>ITEM DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>SOURCE</th>
<th>SUBJECT</th>
<th>PERIOD</th>
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JF : Jim Faull, Alexandrina's Shore
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JF: Jim Faull, Alexandrina's Shore
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JF : Jim Paull, Alexandrina's Shore
### District Council of Strathalbyn

**Town of Milang**

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**JF**: Jim Faull, *Alexandrina's Shore*
HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

Just outside the hamlet of Finniss, a road ends at what was patently the big house of the district. This was the Bowmans' "View Bank" aptly named, as the homestead is placed on a high bank of the Finniss River, with extensive views. The house is large but not grandiose, a single storied building carefully constructed in stone with protruding dressed stone quoins. The low-set front section (kitchen) has its own verandah with verandahs on the other three sides of the house. There is a capping over the front entrance.

Downslope is a large brick and stone shed which may have been originally horse-yard and stables.

William Bowman, as one of the districts' early pastoralists, was in occupation of this property by 1844, purchasing the land freehold in the early 1850's. Bowman was elected as the first Chairman of the District Council of Bremer in 1855 but left the area in about 1857. Although sections of the house may date from Bowman's ownership, the present building appears to date from the 1880s when it was owned by William Sander- grove Rogers. The stone and brick shed may date from an earlier period.

REFERENCES

Cockburn, Pastoral pioneers, vol. II, p.221
Faull, Alexandrina's shore, pp. 33, 37,64,71
National Trust, 3050

PHOTOGRAF

Film No. 841 Negative No. 12
Direction of view to SE

STATUS

Reg. of State Her. Items
Reg. Interim L
Nominated
National Estate
Reg. Proposed L
National Trust
CL RL File X
Other

RECOMMENDATION

(A) State X (B) Local

PREPARED BY
HERITAGE INVESTIGATIONS
Date: 1983
PROJECT HERITAGE SURVEY REGION 5
Item Ref. No. 1
L.G.A. Strathalbyn

Film No. 841
Negative No. 11
Direction of view

Film No. 841
Negative No. 9
Direction of view

Film No. 841
Negative No. 13
Direction of view
HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

"The Rankine brothers had been the first to take up land at Strathalbyn, running stock down to the shore of Lake Alexandrina, and their holdings were soon extended to Point Sturt. By the end of 1838, Dr. John Rankine had leased Hindmarsh Island from the Crown for £10 per annum and on it he built a substantial house of local limestone rubble called 'The Castle' (see D.C. Port Elliot and Goolwa item no. 40). The house was surrounded by accommodation for his stock keepers and further homes were erected ... on the opposite side of the narrow neck of lake under Clayton Cliffs; the two establishments were connected by a ferry. These buildings were some of the earliest in the lakes region to be constructed of permanent materials and constitute the only recorded complex of any size before 1845."

At this site the ferry landing area and a few limestone wall relics appear to be the only visible remains of the Rankine settlement on the Clayton Peninsula. The historical significance of the Rankine enterprise, however, make this an important archaeological site.

REFERENCES

Cockburn, Pastoral pioneers, vol. I, p. 94
Faull, Alexandrina's shore, p. 164
Irwin, "Station homesteads of Lake Alexandrina ...", pp. 9-10 (quote)

Verbal Mrs. Gemmell, 1980 (Letter) Mr. J. Tolley, 1983
Archival photographs

PHOTOGRApH

Film No. 845 Negative No. 1
Direction of view to S
**HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

Situated in an isolated, desolate spot, this small building exemplifies the efforts of nineteenth century farming families to gather for worship and educate their children by constructing such small and sturdy buildings for use as church and school.

The site was acquired for this purpose by several farmers in 1860, and shortly afterwards this Point Sturt Congregational Church was constructed. It was permitted for use as a school also, and was transferred to the Education Department in 1888. It closed in 1928.

The building is a good vernacular limestone construction, an additional scarce feature being the corner buttresses.

**REFERENCES**

Faull, Alexandrina's Shore, pp. 177-179

Verbal
Archival photographs

**PHOTOGRAPH**

Film No. 845  Negative No. 3  
Direction of view to N
HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

This homestead complex is one of the most striking examples of vernacular limestone architecture in the region. All the buildings are in good & largely original condition. The complex includes a large two storey barn, a stable with a half round roof, a cool room with another half round roof, a circular tank with peripheral trough (also stone), an employees' quarters and the large homestead, built over the years, with an enclosed area which originally formed an open walled courtyard. The front verandah of the house overlooks Lake Alexandrina. From the shelf of limestone on which the house is built has grown a gigantic Moreton Bay fig, which probably dates from the earliest occupation of the site. There are also many good examples of dry limestone walling on the property.

The original part of this early farmhouse was built by its first owner John Crispin c.1856 or before, while the outbuildings, including the stable and the two storey barn, appear to date from the same period. In 1857 Frederick & Jane Mitchell settled there, making subsequent additions to the house. They were involved both in farming and river trade (the tunnel under the house is said to have been used for cheese-making, which was no doubt shipped out together with other commodities. In 1875 the paddlesteamer "Sturt" was built for Frederick Mitchell on the property.

Frederick Mitchell died in 1885 but the property remained in the hands of family members until 1966.

REFERENCES

Faull, Alexandrina's shore, pp 64, 175, 176

Verbal Mrs. E. McCoy (owner), 1983

Archival photographs

PHOTOGRAPH

Film No. 845  Negative No. 13

Direction of view to NE

STATUS

Reg. of State Her. Items
Reg. □ Interim L □
Nominated □

National Estate
Reg. □ Proposed L □
National Trust
CL □ RL □ File □
Other

RECOMMENDATION

(A) State □ (B) Local □
PREPARED BY

HERITAGE INVESTIGATIONS

Date: 1983
ITEM REF. NO. 17a

L.G.A. Strathalbyn

FILM NO. 845
NEGATIVE NO. 9
DIRECTION OF VIEW TO W

FILM NO. 845
NEGATIVE NO. 10
DIRECTION OF VIEW TO S

FILM NO. 845
NEGATIVE NO. 11
DIRECTION OF VIEW TO NE
**HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

Point Sturt Station was selected by J.H. Angas "for occupation by his famous herd of short-horns ... the result was that his herd became ultimately the finest in the British Empire or in the world". (Burgess) Angas made the place famous "by reason of his great short horn stud operations". He "swept the boards in the Adelaide, Melbourne and Sydney show rings". (Cockburn)

The Point Sturt lease was first taken up in 1851. Donald Gollan took over in the 1870s, and proved the possibilities of the country for cattle and sheep breeding. Angas bought the property in 1888 and established the stud there in 1894.

The homestead appears to date from the 1850s, with extensions made by the later owners. An unusual feature is the limestone garden boundary wall which is joined to the house, forming a courtyard. Interesting outbuildings and structures include a two storey barn and a massive battered stone walled tank a short distance from the homestead. All the buildings are constructed of local limestone.

**REFERENCES**

Faull, Alexandrina's Shore, pp. 171, 173-5
Cockburn, Pastoral pioneers, vols. I, p.11, II, p.171

**PHOTOGRAPH**

Film No. 845
Negative No. 6
Direction of view to E
HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE
The land in the Lakes Plains area was opened to farmers in 1854, and was soon quite intensively settled; this was the basis for the construction of a district school only ten years later, in 1864. The attractive limestone and brick schoolhouse was built on the banks of the River Bremer with a grant from the Council of Education of £112.10.0.

The school was originally run by trustees who handed over to the District Council of Bremer in 1874. In 1876 the Council surrendered responsibility for the school to the Education Department. Probably at that time the small limestone and brick residence was added to the rear of the schoolhouse.

Throughout its history the schoolhouse has been a focal point of the community. In the 1890s about 23 pupils attended, but declining numbers finally meant the school’s closure in 1942. A local committee bought the building who converted it to a community hall. This has been used extensively for church services, dances, club meetings, and other functions.

Apart from its age and integrity, the school forms a significant social, historical and landscape element in this district.

REFERENCES
Faull, Alexandrina's shore, pp. 37, 157-161

Verbal
Archival photographs

PHOTOGRAPH
Film No. 785 Negative No. 12
Direction of view to SW
HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

The Congregational Church (now Uniting Church) was built at Milang in 1862 and was the town's second church. The original building had a thatched roof, which was replaced with galvanised iron, and a transept was also added later.

The stone church, together with the adjacent manse, forms an attractive and historically significant group.

REFERENCES

National Trust 441
Faull, Alexandrina's Shore, p. 52

Verbal
Archival photographs

PHOTOGRAPH
Film No. 787 Negative No. 11
Direction of view to NW

STATUS
Reg. of State Her. Items
Reg. [ ] Interim [ ]
Nominated [ ]
National Estate
Reg. [ ] Proposed [ ]
National Trust
CL [ ] RL [ ] File [ ]
Other [ ]

RECOMMENDATION
(A) State [X] (B) Local [ ]
PREPARED BY
HERITAGE INVESTIGATIONS
Date: 1983
The manse was possibly built shortly before its neighbouring church, as the town's first Congregational Minister, Reverend C.D. Watt, conducted services in his own house from 1861. This is a very interesting limestone and brick building which has been built in stages. The original section is the rectangular, low-set cottage which is typical of those built at Milang in the 1850s and 1860s. The second stage is obviously of later date, although only by a few years, and has "The Manse" inscribed on the gable.

With the church next door, this forms an attractive and historical group.

REFERENCES
Faull, Alexandrina's shore, p.52

Verbal
Archival photographs

PHOTOGRAPH
Direction of view to N

STATUS
Reg. of State Her. Items
Reg. Interim L
Nominated
National Estate
Reg. Proposed L
National Trust
CL RL File

RECOMMENDATION
(A) State (B) Local

PREPARED BY
HERITAGE INVESTIGATIONS
Date: 1983
PROJECT
HERITAGE SURVEY REGION 5
Item Ref. No. 27a
L.G.A.
Strathalbyn

Film No. 787
Negative No. 10
Direction of view

LIBRARY
TRANSPORT SA
PO BOX 1
WALKERVILLE
SA 5081

Film No.
Negative No.
Direction of view
Within a few years of the town's establishment, Milang had become "a very bustling little port", with several commercial and industrial buildings, one of which was a steam flour mill. The flour mill was built as a mill and brewery in 1856 for the Parry brothers. It was later operated by a younger brother, Albert Parry. Part of the mill at the rear of the surviving building was burnt down in 1869 and the machinery was transferred to a new mill elsewhere in the town.

This interesting long limestone house, formed part of the mill complex and was used for a variety of purposes - including a smithy - after 1869. The building dominates one of the town's main street corners, with its impressive side wall abutting directly onto the street. Thus, it is of significance both as one of the town's oldest industrial buildings and because of its contribution to the historical character of the present town.

REFERENCES
National Trust, 2006
Faull, Alexandrina's Shore, p.50
Burgess, Cyclopedia of South Australia, p. 894
Jensen, Colonial Architecture in South Australia, p.
HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

This appears to be the best surviving example of a pressed iron cottage in the region. It is in largely original condition and has been very well maintained and painted. The front wall of the cottage is "brick" patterned with "hammered freestone quoins".

The cottage was built in about 1900, probably for a well known member of a local family, Ted Bowden. Mr. R.J. Newland has lived in the cottage for 60 years after Bowden.

REFERENCES

Verbal  Ridgeway Newland, 1983
Archival photographs

PHOTOGRAPH  Film No. 789  Negative No. 1
Direction of view to NE

STATUS
Reg. of State Her. Items
Reg. Interim
Nominated
National Estate
Reg. Proposed
National Trust
CD  RL  File  Other

RECOMMENDATION
(A) State  (B) Local

PREPARED BY
HERITAGE INVESTIGATIONS
Date:
### HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

This neat small limestone Church of Christ was the first church constructed in Milang. Several of the original settlers at Point Sturt followed the religion and they decided that their first church should be based in the town. The land at West Milang was donated by Thomas Magarey of Hindmarsh, who had introduced the teachings of the Church of Christ to South Australia, and the congregation built it, with William Turner and James Pearce quarrying the stone. The church was completed at a cost of £140 in 1857. Enlargements were made in 1899, 1901 and the vestries in 1908.

Besides its significant role in Milang, the church is one of the earliest surviving in the riverlands region.

### REFERENCES
- S.A. Archives A956
- Faull, Alexandrina's shore, pp 38, 50-53
- National Trust, 170

### PHOTOGRAPH
- Film No. 787
- Negative No. 7

### RECOMMENDATION
- (A) State [X] (B) Local [ ]

### PREPARED BY
- HERITAGE INVESTIGATIONS
- Date: 1983
Heritage Significance

This handsome and substantial limestone Institute was constructed in 1883 by the contractor J. Oldfield, who had also built Poltallock House. The hall and rooms were fitted with pipes so that they could be lit by gas. The stone addition on the right hand side appears to date from the 1920s.

The Institute was opened on New Year's Day, 1884 by James Rankine, MLC, followed by a bazaar and a cricket match. Throughout the following years "the building was in constant use for dances, concerts, socials, roller skating, meetings of all kinds, church services, lectures, tea meetings, and wedding receptions; it was virtually the centre of the town's life".

The building is on land donated by the Government, facing the commonage, now the Soldiers' Memorial Park, and thus forming a dominant landscape item in the town centre.

References

National Trust 2018
Faull, Alexandrina's shore, pp 117-121 (quote, p. 121)

Verbal
Archival photographs Faull, pp 120, 121, 136

Photograph
Film No. 786 Negative No. 15
Direction of view to N

Status
Reg. of State Her. Items
Reg. Interim
Nominated
National Estate
Reg. Proposed
National Trust
CL RL File
Other

Recommendation
(A) State [X] (B) Local

Prepared by: Heritage Investigations
Date: 1963
**HERITAGE SURVEY**

**ITEM IDENTIFICATION SHEET**

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<th>Item Ref. No. 39</th>
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**ITEM NAME:** Former Police Station
Former or other

**HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

A police constable was appointed at Milang in 1865. This attractive building was constructed in 1874 as a police station and residence. (There is a datestone in the main gable). The limestone and brick building is in good original condition, and was used as a police station until about 1972.

**REFERENCES**

National Trust, 442
Faull, Alexandrina's Shore, pp. 56, 134
Jensen, Colonial architecture in South Australia, p.505

Verbal
Archival photographs

**PHOTOGRAPH**

Film No. 787
Negative No. 2
Direction of view to N

**LOCATION**

Address Coxe St.
Town Milang
Postcode
Section
Hundred Alexandrina
County L.G.A. Strathalbyn
S.H.P. Region 5
A.M.G. Ref. 6627-II

**REFERENCE**

3.5

**PERIOD**

State
Study Area
1853-1880

**TYPE OF ITEM**

LAND Natural feature
Historical site
Historical Gdn.
BUILDING
STRUCTURE

**PHYSICAL CONDITION**

**STATUS**

Reg. of State Her. Items
Reg. Interim
Nominated
National Estate
Reg. Proposed
National Trust
C. Nomination
RL File
Other

**RECOMMENDATION**

(A) State (B) Local

PREPARED BY
HERITAGE INVESTIGATIONS
Date: 1983
**HERITAGE SURVEY**  
**ITEM IDENTIFICATION SHEET**  

**ITEM NAME:** Cannon  
Former or other

**HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

"During November 1867 the townspeople had an opportunity to display patriotic fervour when Albert, the Duke of Edinburgh and Queen Victoria's second son, passed through Milang on his way to spend a few days shooting near Meningie. Since this was the first member of the Royal family to ever visit Australia, the Milang people spared no effort to make his visit memorable... on 16 November, and again on 23 November the local riflemen stood to attention as guard of honour when the Duke passed through. A royal salute was fired from a cannon which is still on view in the Milang Soldiers Memorial Park."

This small cannon is now set in concrete with a plaque commemorating its moment of glory. Its origins are unknown but it appears to have been a naval cannon.

**REFERENCES**

National Trust 2009  
Faull, Alexandrina's Shore, p.59 (quote)

Verbal  
Archival photographs

**PHOTOGRAPH**  
Film No. 787  
Negative No. 3

Direction of view

**STATUS**

Reg. of State Her. Items  
Reg. [ ] Interim [ ]  
Nominated [ ]  
National Estate  
Reg. [ ] Proposed [ ]  
National Trust  
CL [ ] RL [ ] File [ ] Other

**RECOMMENDATION**

(A) State [X] (B) Local [ ]

**PREPARED BY**

HERITAGE INVESTIGATIONS

Date: 1983
HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

In 1856 G. Stewart was granted a licence for his newly opened Lake Hotel, which was enlarged and improved the following year. It has had several enlargements and improvements since, but the building remains a good typical example of the long, single-storey hotels which were first constructed in the early colonial towns.

The hotel was the second to be constructed in Milang, and reflected the town's rapid social and commercial development as an inland port. After it ceased to function as a hotel, part of the building was converted for use as a shop.

The building is constructed of limestone with brick quoins. It is of significance because of its early construction, its association with the development of the town and its integrity. Its corner position on Coxe and Lang Streets also makes an important contribution to that historical commercial intersection.

REFERENCES

National Trust, 2013; Faull, Alexandrina's shore, pp. 47, 48
McLellan, "Index to Hotels, 1839-1875"

Verbal
Archival photographs

PHOTOGRAPH

Film No. 788 Negative No. 6
Direction of view to N

STATUS

Reg. of State Her. Items
Reg. Interim L
Nominated
National Estate
Reg. Proposed L
National Trust
CL RL File
Other

RECOMMENDATION

(A) State [X] (B) Local

PREPARED BY

HERITAGE INVESTIGATIONS

Date: 1983
**HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

This is a typical small shop dating probably from the early 1870s, and which was in use for most of its existence as a butcher shop by Fravel Moar (1899-1906) and Ted Burgess (1907-1947). The building which is situated on the north east corner of Coxe and Lang Streets, makes an important contribution to the historical commercial character of that intersection. It is of the usual limestone and brick construction and with its mullioned shop window is in largely original condition.

**REFERENCES**

National Trust 2012
Faull, *Alexandrina's shore*, p.126

Verbal
Archival photographs

**PHOTOGRAPH**

Film No. 788
Negative No. 7
Direction of view to N

**STATUS**

Reg. of State Her. Items
Reg. [ ] Interim [ ]
Nominated [ ]
National Estate
Reg. [ ] Proposed [ ]
National Trust
CL [ ] RL [ ] File [ ]
Other [ ]

**RECOMMENDATION**

(A) State [X] (B) Local [ ]

**PREPARED BY**

HERITAGE INVESTIGATIONS

Date: 1983
**HERITAGE SURVEY**

**ITEM IDENTIFICATION SHEET**

**ITEM NAME:** Shop

Former or other Robert's General Store

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**HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

Robert's General Store is one of the buildings which defines the historical commercial corner of Coxe and Lange Streets. The store is an excellent example of its type, and, apart from the enclosing of the verandahs, appears to be in largely original condition, with its early shop fittings inside. The typical high pitched galvanised iron roof covers the original timber shingle roof. The walls are constructed of limestone. The shop may date from the beginning of the town in the 1850s, and almost certainly from the 1860s.

Its owners have included J.S. Upton, W.H. Cleeworth and members of the Robert's family, since 1905.

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**REFERENCES**

National Trust 2011
Faull, Alexandrina's shore, pp. 125, 127, 222

Verbal
Archival photographs Faull, p. 127 (1870s)

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**PHOTOGRAPH**

Film No. 788 Negative No. 4
Direction of view to S

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**LOCATION**

Town Milang
Postcode
Section
Hundred Alexandrina
County L.G.A. Strathalbyn
S.H.P. Region 5
A.M.G. Ref.6627-11

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**SUBJECT**

4.6

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**PERIOD**

State Study Area
1853-1880

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**TYPE OF ITEM**

LAND Natural feature [ ] Historical site [ X ]
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

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**RECOMMENDATION**

(A) State [ X ] (B) Local [ ]

PREPARED BY
HERITAGE INVESTIGATIONS
Date: 1983
Before the advent of the railways in the late 1870s, only Goolwa, Mannum and Milang in the riverlands region could boast the trade and population sufficient to support a shop of this size, which is thus one of the very few dating from before that period in the region. Several others have been demolished, including an important group in Milang itself. The limestone and brick building actually grew with the town: the bottom storey of the two storey section is one of the oldest surviving buildings in Milang as it was in use by 1855 as W.H. Turner's wheelwright's shop. This was used as the first meeting place of the Church of Christ congregation. It was later used as a dwelling by Philip Parry.

It was bought in 1868 by the publican, W. Gosling, who added the second storey in that year and the two shops, one at each end in 1870. One was used as a butcher for several years then the whole building was used for several decades into the early twentieth century as a bakery by David Griffin.

The building makes a significant contribution to Milang's historical character and has been described in a National Trust assessment as perhaps the most significant remaining in Milang.

REFERENCES
P. Stark - Project 9, vol. 1, p. 83
National Trust, 2014
Faull, Alexandrina's shore, pp. 51, 59, 60

Verbal
Archival photographs Faull, p.60 (c.1909)
HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

The original section of the school is one of the oldest purpose-built schools in the State and the oldest schoolroom still being used for teaching purposes. It was constructed in 1864 and opened in 1865 by the builder, Rowland Nutt, for 345 pounds, exclusive of stone and bricks.

Apart from its use as a school, "thereafter the schoolroom became a major venue for evening entertainment in the town'.

The schoolroom is a neat, white painted stone and brick structure, with its original windows and appearance, although a long wing was attached at a later date.

REFERENCES

National Trust, 2015;
Faull, Alexandrina's shore, pp 52, 55, 57

PHOTOGRAPH

Film No. 788 Negative No. 9
Direction of view to E

STATUS

Reg. of State Her. Items
Reg. Interim L
Nominated
National Estate
Reg. Proposed L
National Trust
CL RL File
Other

RECOMMENDATION

(A) State (B) Local

PREPARED BY
HERITAGE INVESTIGATIONS
Date: 1983
HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

This small old willow was planted by H.R.H. Duke of Edinburgh, Australia's first Royal visitor, on 11 November 1867. Note also the commemorative plaque near the tree.

REFERENCES

Faull, Alexandrina's shore, pp. 58, 59
National Trust, 1590

Verbal
Archival photographs

PHOTOGRAPH

Film No. 787 Negative No. 6
Direction of view to SE

STATUS

Reg. of State Her. Items Reg. Interim
Nominated
National Estate Reg. Proposed
National Trust CL RL X File
Other

RECOMMENDATION

(A) State [X] (B) Local

PREPARED BY
HERITAGE INVESTIGATIONS
Date: 1983
HERITAGE SURVEY
ITEM IDENTIFICATION SHEET

ITEM NAME: Pier Hotel
Former or other

HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

This typical large two storey hotel dates from a period of expanding prospects for the port of Milang, and has been for many years one of the town's landmark buildings. It was the second hotel to be established at Milang. It provides an interesting contrast to the more modest original Lake Hotel, and its first owner, W. Brooks, who started building the "Pier" in 1857, over-extended himself and was declared insolvent in 1859. A.H. Landseer, W. Parry and G. Chalklen bought the hotel, and George Chalklen became the first recorded licensee in 1867.

The hotel, with its wooden balustraded verandah, appears to be in largely original condition.

REFERENCES

National Trust, 2016
Faull, Alexandrina's shore, pp 47, 48
McLellan, "Index to hotels ..."

Verbal
Archival photographs Faull, p.48 (c.1911), p.91 (c.1900)

PHOTOGRAPH
Film No. 788 Negative No. 11
Direction of view to N
HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE
Following the opening of the Milang railway in 1884 dairy farming rapidly assumed importance in the Milang district, which was further helped by the construction of the Milang butter, bacon and cheese factory in the late 1880s. The dairy industry and the butter factory symbolized the transition of the town's economy from one based on the river trade and by 1908 it was observed, "The little township of Milang is chiefly noted for its butter, the dairying industry in the district being its chief support". Large quantities of butter and cheese were produced at the factory both for the Adelaide and overseas markets. For much of its working life in the twentieth century, the factory was owned by the South Australian Farmers Union.

Besides its role as an important local industry, the factory is also of significance as a good example of its type. The attractive stone section with the half round roof is the original building. The adjoining galvanised iron sections were added probably c.1915 at the time the business was restructured and new machinery was purchased.

REFERENCES National Trust 2017;
Faull, Alexandrina's shore, pp. 76, 128, 129
Burgess, Cyclopedia of South Australia, vol. II, p. 891
May Vivienne, Sunny South Australia (1908) p. 170

Verbal
Archival photographs Faull, P. 91 (c. 1900)

PHOTOGRAPH
Film No. 786 Negative No. 13
Direction of view to N

STATUS
Reg. of State Her. Items
Reg. Interim □ Nominated □
National Estate
Reg. Proposed □
National Trust
CL □ RL □ File □
Other

RECOMMENDATION
(A) State [X] (B) Local □
PREPARED BY
HERITAGE INVESTIGATIONS
Date: 1983
Milang, surveyed as a town in 1853/4, soon became one of the busiest ports in the region, serving both the river trade passing to Goolwa and the boats carrying stock and passengers across the lakes. A jetty was soon petitioned for by the newly-formed District Council. This was built in 1856. As it was said to have been sited at the lake's most shallow point, pressure mounted to have the jetty extended, which was done in 1860 by William Mason. It was further extended in 1869. The contractor was a local builder, Rowland Nutt. The extension took the length of the jetty to 711 feet, but this was shortened again in 1958.

The present hand crane appears to have been placed on the jetty when additional timbering was added to the deck to take its 5 ton weight in 1872. The crane, with its cast iron jib, was probably manufactured at an earlier date and transferred to this site: it is reputed to be the oldest crane in South Australia. As the jetty is also one of the oldest surviving in the State, both items are of major significance due to their age and their long associations with the river trade.

REFERENCES
National Trust 2694
Faull, Alexandrina's shore, p. 49, 52 and 71 (Nutt)
Dept. Marine and Harbours Plan Room, Drg. nos. 3004/70, 3005/70, 1128/22A, 1129/22A
Jensen, Colonial Architecture in South Australia, pp.222, 395, 505

Verbal Faull, p.49 - but the crane appears to
Archival photographs be different from the present one, c.1860

PHOTOGRAPH Film No. 788 Negative No. 12
Direction of view to SE

HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE
HERITAGE SURVEY
ITEM IDENTIFICATION SHEET
ITEM NAME: Jetty and Hand Crane
Former or other

HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

Milang, surveyed as a town in 1853/4, soon became one of the busiest ports in the region, serving both the river trade passing to Goolwa and the boats carrying stock and passengers across the lakes. A jetty was soon petitioned for by the newly-formed District Council.

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Jensen, Colonial Architecture in South Australia, pp.222, 395, 505

Verbal Faull, p.49 - but the crane appears to
Archival photographs be different from the present one, c.1860

PHOTOGRAPH Film No. 788 Negative No. 12
Direction of view to SE

HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

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Jensen, Colonial Architecture in South Australia, pp.222, 395, 505

Verbal Faull, p.49 - but the crane appears to
Archival photographs be different from the present one, c.1860

PHOTOGRAPH Film No. 788 Negative No. 12
Direction of view to SE
PROJECT
HERITAGE SURVEY REGION 5
Item Ref. No. 52a
L.G.A. Strathalbyn