Chairperson, SA Heritage Council, GPO Box 1047, Adelaide, 5001.



8th October 2025.

URGENT

Re:

Dear ______,
On 20th October 2025, the Council Assessment Panel of the City of Norwood, Payneham and St
Peters will be considering a demolition application for 69 High Street, Kensington by its owners

Interim State Heritage listing for 69 High Street, Kensington.

The building is a Local Heritage listed place, but new information has been discovered that dates the building back to the 1840's and as one of the first Congregationalist elementary schools in South Australia.

Kensington was the first village subdivided east of the Torrens, pre-dating Norwood. The village is also unique, as it was founded by John Roberts, a Congregationalist and prominent "Dissenter". He purchased large sections of Kensington and was a major force in the area, building cottages, gentlemen's residences, shops and the State Heritage listed Village Church in 1844. His activities transformed Kensington into a 'civilised community'.

John Roberts was civic-minded, and as soon as he resided in Kensington, he organised a school for the local village children. Roberts was crucial in furthering the cause of the Congregationalists in both Adelaide and Kensington, asserting the 'voluntary principle' and opposing State funding.

It is this precious school that is now under threat of demolition. If allowed to be torn down, it would severely diminish the fabric of historic High Street. Council reports found that the current owners have been neglecting the building, but our engineering experts found that it is repairable.

Attached is the formal nomination for State Heritage Listing. requests an emergency interim listing to safeguard the building until the SA Heritage Council determines this application for permanent listing.

Yours faithfully,



Place Nomination form

South Australian HERITAGE COUNCIL

A place is eligible for entry in the Heritage Register if it meets one or more of the criteria in Section 16(1) of the *Heritage Places Act 1993* (Act). Using the table below, please explain why you believe the place should or should not be entered into the Register, using the said criteria. The South Australian Heritage Council invites your submission regarding the entry of this place. For help in making a submission, please refer to the Guidelines for Interpreting State Heritage Criteria (**Attachment E**) and also available online: <u>Guidelines-for-Interpreting-State-Heritage-Criteria-2024.pdf</u>

How to help your nomination be successful:

- Fill out this form with as much information as possible.
- Expand answer fields as required and append information to the form.
- Include images, maps, diagrams, plans and photos where possible.

For assistance, contact:

- Your local historical society or heritage adviser.
- Heritage SA Assessment Officer on 8372 7521

Please note:

• Places which have been previously nominated during the past three years will not be reconsidered by the South Australian Heritage Council, unless you can provide significant **new** information.

A. Nominated Place

1. Name	1. Name			
Name of place:	Residence – 69 High Street, Kensington			
Former name/s:	"Kensington Elementary School" Ref: Register, 18 August 1856, P.1. "Schoolroom" Ref: Town of Kensington and Norwood Rate Assessment 3rd Assessment Book 1856. "Shop" Ref: Town of Kensington and Norwood Rate Assessment 1st Assessment Book 1853.			
Is the place already on another heritage list?	 Local Heritage Place, Heritage NR 5790 Kensington Historic Overlay (02406) – NPSP5 Refer to Nomination Report: Appendix A1 Site History			

South Australian HERITAGE COUNCIL

2. Location						
Street Address:	69 High Street					
	Suburb / Town: Kensington Post Code: 5068			de: 5068		
LGA (Council Name):	The City of Norwood, Payneham and St Peters					
Land Description (if known):	Title Type:	Volume N	lo:	Folio No:	Plan Type:	Plan No:
	СТ	6120		310		F139023
	Allotment	Allotmen	t	Hundred Nar	ne:	
	Туре:	No: 43		Hundred of A	Adelaide	
GPS Coordinates (if known):	Longitude /	Easting / X	(Latitude / No	orthing / Y (D	atum =)
	-34.9241286	5		138.6441979	(Scale 1128)	
				Refer to Nor	-	
3. Ownership	Appendix A2 Location Maps					
Name of Owner/s:						
Contact person (explain				1		
relationship to property if not				l		
owner):						
Postal Address:						
Phone Number:						
Ownership History:						
Current Certificate of Title	Current Cert	tificate of T	<u>itle</u>			
	Title Ref		CT 6	120/310		
	Status		Curre	ent		
	Easement		YES			
	Owner Num					
	Address No	tices	N	1111 (472	2	`
	Area	Dron-i-t	Not a	available (173r	n∠ estimated)
	Registered F Description	-		TMENT 43 File	ad Plan 1200	23
	Description	or Lariu		e area named		دی
				dred of Adelai	•	
	Valuation N	0				
	Refer to Nomination Report: Appendix A3 Ownership History					

South Australian HERITAGE COUNCIL

A. Nominated Place

4. Nominator (Your details)	
Your Name/s:	
Organisation / Position:	
Phone No:	
Postal Address:	
Email Address:	

B. Description

5. Description of nominated place

Description of the nominated place and its current condition:

The building at 69 High Street is unique in form and function for this period in South Australian history. It was a bespoke one-roomed building with a framed gabled roof, and it features a brick pediment with decorative acroteria elements at the apex of the pediment.

The building presents as a rectangular form with a symmetrical façade. It is a single-storey building constructed from locally produced materials, including bricks specifically commissioned by the owner, John William Roberts (1794-1875), from Thomas Constable, who was one of the few skilled artisans living in Kensington in the 1840s.

The building at 69 High Street was probably designed and built by local builder Charles Augustus Perry (1813-1884). It is stylistically similar to the Heanes Bootshop at 53 Bridge Street, Kensington, which was erected in 1850, and to the Town of Kensington and Norwood's first Town Hall, built in 1857.

The current building is rendered and has replaced the original lime mortar render, which Roberts seems to have favoured. The property features three sets of colonial casement windows on the western side of the building, dating back to 1847. Unfortunately, two other contemporary 'church' style pointed arch windows have been introduced into the western wall near the front. Inspiration may have come from the adjoining St Joseph's Memorial School. The original roof shingles have been replaced with tiles. The walls to the south and west display evidence of cracking and movement.

Elements of heritage significance include, but are not limited to

- Original rectangular building form
- Brick rendered walls
- Original casement windows
- Triangular Gable Roof
- Brick Pediment
- Acroteria elements at the apex of the pediment

Refer to Nomination Report: Appendix A5 Elements of Heritage Significance

SA Heritage Register Place Nomination form

South Australian HERITAGE COUNCIL

Are you aware of any modifications or additions to the place and can you provide dates for these changes?	The original building was a single room, but at some point was modified by creating internal wall divisions so that now it is a residential dwelling.
Do you believe there may be historical items under the ground, and do you think an archaeological investigation should be considered?	As one of the first buildings erected on the northern side of High Street in Kensington Village in 1847, combined with its changing use as a dwelling, schoolroom and shop over a 179-year period, it may well be suitable for an archaeological investigation. One of the reasons why John Roberts (1794-1875) developed this property early on was because it had a permanent spring or "well" at the rear of the block. This aided the settlement of High Street on the northern side, between Maesbury and Bridge Street, as it provided a ready supply of water for the development of allotments in this section. Due to changes in titles and boundaries at the rear of Allotments 57 and 58, it may be advisable to undertake a preliminary (GPR) Ground Penetrating Radar Survey of these sites to see if there is any Kaurna Aboriginal or European cultural heritage associated with the site. "Water for building and domestic purposes was obtained either from wells, or from creeks which flowed through the new settlement. In most cases the wells were 20 to 25 feet deep, the character of the water varying, those on one side of a road sometimes containing excellent water, and those on the other side very inferior". Gooden & Moore, Fifty Years' History of Kensington & Norwood, p9.
Date you inspected the	The nominator, who represents
place:	commissioned
	to review and inspect the property externally.
	had access to images and engineering reports prepared by the owner, which were submitted to the City of Norwood, Payneham & St Peters as part of the Development Application ID 25003913. The nominator has lived in Kensington since the 1970s and is very familiar with the property and has visually inspected the exterior of the building on a regular basis since February 2025, when the proposed Development Application became common knowledge in the local community, there were concerns about the loss of such a unique and historic building and its important contribution to the evolution of the Village of Kensington and the role of the Congregationalists in South Australian history. **Refer to Nomination Report: Appendix A4 Wilkinson Report**

South Australian HERITAGE COUNCIL

	I			
Have you had any	There has been no direct contact between the nominator and the property			
contact with the	owner. The nominator made a representation to the City of Norwood, Payneham & St Peters Council Assessment Panel Meeting held on 19 May 2025, to oppose			
Owner?	Development Application ID 25003913 for the demolition of Local Heritage Place			
	5790. At that meeting the Assessment Panel differed the demolition application			
	pending the receipt of further information regarding cost estimates for repair			
	work, and specialist engineering advice regarding restoration options. <u>The</u>			
	application will again be considered by the Council Assessment Panel on			
	Monday, 20 October 2025.			
	Refer to:			
	https://www.npsp.sa.gov.au/about_council/council_and_committees/committee_agenda_and_minutes			
Current use of the	Residential Rental Property			
place:				
Original or former use/s	The original purpose for this property, as conceived by			
of the place:	the influential John William Roberts (1794-1875) was adaptive use depending on			
·	need. It was intended to serve several functions; as a commercial shop for			
	trading, as a residential dwelling for tenants, and as a community space for			
	activities such as a schoolroom or meeting room. This was specifically linked to Roberts' 'Dissenter' views and his desire to create Kensington Village as a model			
	community based on the 'Voluntary Principle'.			
	community bused on the voluntary rimelpre.			
Are there any current or	There is a Development Application ID 25003913 for the demolition of Local			
long-term threats	Heritage Place 5790 at 69 High Street, Kensington. The demolition application			
to the nominated	will be considered by the Council Assessment Panel on Monday, 20 October			
place?	<u>2025.</u>			
Name of Builder:				
Any other information:	., in conjunction with			
	provided a report to the			
	dated 25 March 2025. The report outlined the heritage value of the			
	building and argued that the preservation of the building is not irredeemably			
	beyond repair and should not be subject to demolition approval under the			
	Planning and Design Code.			
	Refer to Nomination Report: Appendix A4 Wilkinson Report			
	т.,			

Place Nomination form

South Australian HERITAGE COUNCIL

C. History

6. Origins and history			
Years of Construction:	Start: 1846 Finish: 1847		
Name of Designer / Architect:	Colonial Builder, Charles Augustus Perry (1813-1884) in Kensington Village. He built the K&N Town Hall on The Parade in 1857.		
History of the nominated place:	John Roberts purchased the land, now 69 High Street Kensington, in1849. From the Book of Assessment for the Town of Kensington and Norwood 1849, in Section 289 of Lot 57, the building was described as a 'School Room' and the occupier was Septimus Webster, a school master. An advertisement from the SA Register on 18 August 1856 shows that Mr Septimus Webster advertised for students for the Kensington Elementary School at the site. If we lose the historic elementary school, an important part of the story of early South Australia will		
	be lost forever.		
Historical sources used to support your nomination (please attach copies of pages from publications or newspaper articles as appropriate):	 Land title certificates Assessment Books for the Town of Kensington and Norwood 1849 (Section 289/Lot57) Local Heritage Place, SA Heritage Places Database General Registry Memorial register Advertisement from The SA Register newspaper, 18 August 1856 for Kensington Elementary School 		
	Refer to Appendices A1 – A4		

D. Heritage Significance

7. Statement of State significance - Why is this place important to the State of South Australia?

This place is of State Heritage significance because it is one of the oldest elementary school buildings in South Australia and one of the oldest single-room adaptive colonial buildings in existence. Built in the 1847 as a one-roomed building later utilised as the Kensington Elementary School it is the oldest example still standing of a school associated with the Congregationalist movement championed by early settler and benefactor John Roberts, who also built the neighbouring Congregationalist Chapel in 1848. It is a rare example of a school built before the first Education Act of 1851.

Place Nomination form

South Australian HERITAGE COUNCIL

John Roberts (1794-1875), influential businessman and leading Dissenter, purchased six one-acre allotments in May 1846, designated as allotments 57, 58, 71, 72, 83, 84, in J.H. Hughes' 1838 survey of Kensington Village, Section 289 in the Hundred of Adelaide.

This was significant as it marked the beginning of John Roberts' strategy of purchasing land outside of the city of Adelaide in order to create a bespoke community shaped by Dissenter beliefs and the 'voluntary principle' that underpinned and regulated community life. Roberts firmly believed that South Australia was to be a model province, rid of every fault of the mother country and of previous colonial systems'. [1]

Pike, D., (1957) 'Paradise of Dissent', Longmans, Melbourne, p.145.

Relevant South Australian Historical Themes

Theme 4: Building settlements, towns and cities

The Kensington School is located in Kensington South Australia, one the first towns declared in South Australia. In May 1838 the first ballot for lands was held for Country Section 289, which would be known as Kensington. In November 1838 Kensington was surveyed and because it was surveyed before Norwood, the streets in Kensington are layed out in a diagonal pattern providing access to Second Creek. High Street and Regent Streets are the only two major streets in Kensington & Norwood which are oriented to Adelaide and parallel to Second Creek.

The arrival in 1844 of businessman John Roberts gave impetus to development in the north-east section from High Street to The Parade. Horse drawn trams were a main mode of transport between Kensington and Adelaide, with the tram barn still in existence today in Maesbury Street, Kensington. Irion rings for the horses can still be seen in the trees in neighbouring Borthwick Park. (Subthemes 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.6)

Kensington still has original buildings from the 1800s intact, which enables a unique opportunity to tell the story of our early settlers. The street still has the chemist shop at 67 High Street, the original two-story Rising Sun Hotel, historic shops, Doctor John Benson's surgery at 50 High Street, and the treasured 1844 congregational Chapel on the corner of Maesbury Street built by John Roberts.

1882 row cottages on adjoining Richmond Street still stand as an outstanding collection. There are other private homes still standing in High Street from the 1800s and the original horse tram depot is still standing in nearby Maesbury Street. Other nearby historic buildings include the Blacksmiths Workshop, the Rising

Place Nomination form

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Sun Inn, Heanes Boot Shop on Bridge Street and of course Saint Mary MacKillop's convent and chapel in High Street, still owned by the Sisters of St Jospeh. (Subtheme 4.7).

Theme 6: Developing Social and Cultural Life (Supporting and building communities)

The Kensington Elementary School is a unique example of small community-led schools that served underprivileged children. John Roberts, the owner of the building, appeared to founded the school, as evidenced in GH Manning's "Hope Farm Chronicles" which outlines Mr Roberts' desire to establish a school in conjunction with the Congregational Minister of Kensington (pg 82 – 85). Whilst some schools are listed in the State Heritage Register, none are the small Congregationalist schools such as the Kensington Elementary School in the mid 1800s.

Kensington is the first village subdivided and settled in District B (East of the Torrens) in 1838. However, it was not until John Roberts' arrival in South Australia in September 1843 and his purchase of large sections of Kensington Village that the area really began to develop. Roberts becomes a major force in the village, resulting in the building of cottages, gentlemen's residences, shops, and the Village Church in 1844. Even though he is a Congregationalist and a prominent "Dissenter", John Roberts rented one of his residences to the newly arrived Anglican Bishop, Augustus Short, in 1847. His business activities transformed Kensington into a 'civilised community', attracting professionals and tradespeople such as builders and carpenters, and contributing to the development of local brickfields.

Roberts' ownership of land in High Street, and the building of 69 High Street, is part of the development of High Street as an important part of the evolution of the pattern of settlement that characterised High Street into the late 19th century. Roberts owned and developed properties on Bridge Street, High Street, Maesbury Street, Bishops Place, Grove Place, Regent Street, and Salter Street. The development of Kensington Village as an urban community predates the establishment of the Township of Norwood in 1848. As noted by *Gooden & Moore* in their 1903 publication *Fifty Years' History of Kensington & Norwood*, "High Street became the principal street, its chief business places clustering about intersection with Bridge Street. (pg 11)"

John Roberts was civic-minded, and as soon as he resided in Kensington, he set about organising a school for the local village children – he is critical to furthering the cause of the Congregationalists in Adelaide and Kensington and in asserting the 'voluntary principle' and opposing State funding. John Roberts was born in Ruthin, Wales, in 1794, and was educated at the local grammar school in classics by Reverend Edward Jones

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– he brought with him ideas of challenging the orthodox views that were part of British society and believed in the principle of the freedom of religious worship.

This theme of freedom of religious worship and education is critical to Roberts' modus operandi he is engaging in social engineering as a Congregationalist/Dissenter and is directly associated with colonial teacher Joseph Ryder (1816-1887), who arrived in SA on the *Asiatic* 1849, and gives us the first description of 69 High Street in 1849. Extracts from Manning (pg 84–81) refer to Ryder's dealings with Roberts and how he rents 69 High Street from him soon after arrival. (Manning, GH, "Hope Farm Chronicle: Pioneering Tales of South Australia 1836 - 1870, Self Published June 1984.)

Septimus Webster, a teacher, also had links with Roberts and 69 High Street and taught at the Kensington Elementary School. There is evidence that Septimus Webster taught one of John Roberts' children – the 13th of John and Leonora's children born in Kensington, Frederick Stephen Roberts (1844-1928). Septimus taught Frederick Roberts in order to get a reduction on his rent for 69 High Street.

Refer to Nomination Report: Appendix 07 Newspaper clipping and book extracts

8. Significance criteria

The South Australian *Heritage Places Act 1993* lists seven criteria by which a place is assessed. Please tick the criteria you feel the place demonstrates and explain your reasons.

✓ It demonstrates important aspects of the evolution or pattern of the State's history. The Kensington Elementary School is the oldest Congregationalist school built in South Australia and one of South Australia's oldest surviving small schoolhouses having been built in 1847. It is an important example of the colony's religious diversity and commitment to religious freedom and providing education to the poor. It served the independent protestant population and was located near the Catholic school run by the Sisters of St Joseph during the period Saint Mary MacKillop roamed the streets of Kensington.

The school was built by pioneer settler John Roberts who acquired the land in 1844. He was a dedicated Congregationalist who also built the nearby Congregationalist church on the corner of Maesbury Street. Unlike the Catholic church however, Mr Roberts

Place Nomination form

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would not accept government funding to run the school (Manning, GH 1984).

There is written evidence of it being a school from the Book of Assessment for the Town of Kensington and Norwood 1849 (Attachment A1). The school was leased to teacher Septimus Webster, who also advertised for students at the school in 1856 (Attachment A1).

The Foundation Act (SA) guaranteed freedom of religious worship in the new Province of South Australia. John Roberts and Kensington can be characterised as a Dissenter community:

- The role of emigration and free settlers like John
 Roberts migrating with his family from England in the
 hope that there were greater social and economic
 freedoms combined with the fact that "Land" could be
 purchased in the Province of South Australia.
- The aspirational beliefs of Roberts and his belief in the role of education in bringing about a better society than the one he left.
- Roberts acted to socially engineer Kensington so that it
 was outside the influence of orthodox ideas and the
 social conformity of 'Church and State". He brings
 Dissenting teachers such as Ryder into Kensington and
 also Septimus Webster.

Further evidence of Roberts' contribution to Kensington can be found in the 1980 publication, Jensen, "Colonial Architecture in South Australia 1836-1890. Listings in Chapter 2 state,

"In July 1844, mainly with the help of the engineer Roberts, an Independent Chapel for all denominations was begun in Kensington a very poor area. Foundations were laid in September, and the building was finished by December at a cost of €150.423". And, "In February 1847 Roberts began

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building fourteen cottages there, each having four rooms.

Population increased to such an extent that a larger church was needed and tenders were invited for this by Roberts in December 1847, when the existing chapel became a school".

It has rare, uncommon or endangered qualities that are of cultural significance. Historic schoolhouses are important culturally to South Australia as they show the beginning of childhood education in the state, and how intimate the surroundings were. The foundation period for this school coincides with European settlement in South Australia from 1836. Before the Government began funding school buildings in the late 1850s, communities built their own schools and sometimes operated out of dwellings. 69 High Street is probably one of the first bespoke schoolhouses built in the state and for a very unique Congregationalist community.

Many such schoolhouses have been demolished or altered beyond recognition. While it was converted into a residence in 1910, 69 High Street still looks like a schoolhouse, with its gabled roof and church-like windows. It is a unique example of a purpose-built schoolhouse constructed prior to the first education act in South Australia in 1851, and an unusual example of a schoolhouse, due to its size and Congregationalist association, built prior to the Education Act 1875.

This building represents so many colonial design adaptations. The material, fabric, and design of the building, particularly its brick floor are significant. There is a frugality about the structure with nothing excessive in its form

The bricks were made in Constable David Packham's property in Maesbury Place (Maesbury named after the Shropshire village which Roberts had association with). Apparently, Roberts agreed to take 200,000 bricks according to Gooden & Moore's 1903 publication, "Fifty Years' History of Kensington & Norwood", (pg 9):

"During the forties, however, a fair impetus had been given to building by the arrival of a Mr. John Roberts, who at once saw the

SA Heritage Register Place Nomination form

South Australian HERITAGE COUNCIL

		healthful situation of the place nestling under the then thickly wooded ranges, and he decided to erect a number of what would at that period be regarded as ideal gentlemen's residences. The days of mud and straw were declining, and henceforth more modern material was to be used. So, a number of brickvards were started to supply the bricks to Mr. Roberts and other builders of housesMr. Roberts agreed to take 200,000 bricks from this place for his houses The work of erecting Mr. Roberts' houses proceeded apace The houses erected by Mr. Roberts still remain in the eastern part of Kensington a memorial o early-day architecture in South Australia."
	It may yield information that will	
	contribute to an understanding	
	of the State's history, including	
	its natural history.	
	It is an outstanding	
	representative of a particular	
	class of places of cultural	
	significance.	
	It demonstrates a high degree of	
	creative, aesthetic or technical	
	accomplishment or is an	
	outstanding representative of	
	particular construction	
	techniques or design	
	characteristics.	
	It has strong cultural or spiritual	
	associations for the community	
	or a group within it.	
✓	It has a special association with	The school was built by pioneer settler John Roberts who acquired
	the life or work of a person or	the land in 1844. He was a dedicated Congregationalist who also
	organisation or an event of	built the nearby Congregationalist church on the corner of
	historical importance.	Maesbury Street. Unlike the Catholic church however, Mr Roberts

Place Nomination form

South Australian HERITAGE COUNCIL

would not accept government funding to run the school (Manning, GH 1984).

Roberts enters South Australia at a time when things are very tough. The colony has nearly gone bankrupt, Governor Grey arrives in 1843 and things are very depressed. Roberts' development out at Kensington really provides an alternative focus to the budget restrictions impacting the city-state of Adelaide. "Mr Roberts of Maesbury House asked for tenders for an institute in the same locality. The inhabitants in the district were obviously fully aware of their civic responsibilities since the intake quota for the militia was one of the first to be met." Jensen, "Colonial Architecture in South Australia 1836-1890", ch 2, 1980.

Free settlers like John Roberts migrated with his family from England in the hope that there would be greater social and economic freedoms combined with the fact that "Land" could be purchased in the Province of South Australia.

The aspirational beliefs of Roberts and his belief in the role of education in bringing about a better society than the one he left.

Roberts acted to socially engineer Kensington so that it was outside the influence of orthodox ideas and the social conformity of 'Church and State". He brings Dissenting teachers such as Ryder into Kensington and also Septimus Webster.

Gooden & Moore, in their 1903 publication, "Fifty Years' History of Kensington & Norwood", confirm Roberts' contribution to the Congregationalists and Kensington: "The infant settlement of Kensington did not possess a place of worship till some few years after the erection of the first houses. A little chapel was then put up in a street, which in consequence thereof was styled Chapel Street, and which bears the name to this day. It was on the property of Mr. John Roberts, who then owned much land in that part of the suburbs. Mr. Roberts had belonged to the Congregational or Independent body in

Place Nomination form

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England, to which organization that brilliant and able man the Rev. T. Q. Stow gave his adherence." (pg 195)

Further evidence of Roberts' contribution to Kensington can be found in the 1980 publication, Jensen, "Colonial Architecture in South Australia 1836-1890. Listings in Chapter 2 state, "In July 1844, mainly with the help of the engineer Roberts, an Independent Chapel for all denominations was begun in Kensington a very poor area. Foundations were laid in September, and the building was finished by December at a cost of €150.423". And, "In February 1847 Roberts began building fourteen cottages there, each having four rooms. Population increased to such an extent that a larger church was needed and tenders were invited for this by Roberts in December 1847, when the existing chapel became a school".

John Roberts was also a Councilman for the Town of Kensington and Norwood in the 1850s, serving two terms.

E. Additional Information

9. Images, maps, diagrams, plans and photos

A full range of images, maps, diagrams, plans and photos will help your nomination.

Please provide:

- a clear outline of the place being nominated within a map or plan
- high quality images of the place
- a list and description of the images being provided (including file name, subject, date created, author and copyright holder (if known)

Paste images here or attach separately:

Please refer to Appendices.

Place Nomination form

We,

South Australian HERITAGE COUNCIL

The South Australian Heritage Council is committed to transparency in relation to the listing process and wishes to enhance public confidence in the nomination, listing and decision-making process. The Council's policy is to make nominations for State heritage listing and submissions on provisional entries publicly available via webpage or to interested parties. The Council will adhere to the Privacy Principles and your name and personal details will not be released, unless authorised or required under the privacy principles.

I do / I do not want my personal details to be released when this nomination / submission is published on the Department for Environment and Water's webpage, noting the above requirements.

nominate the following place
69 High Street, Kensington, South Australia
for listing on the South Australian Heritage Register.
The information I have provided is correct to my knowledge.
Signature:Date: 8 th October 2025
Signature:Date: _8 th October 2025
Nomination Form Checklist
Please check that your nomination includes:
\checkmark a clear indication of the place's location and significant elements within it, by marking points and
boundary lines on a map;
✓ a history of the place explaining important aspects relevant to the nomination (which help supports
arguments of cultural significance);
✓ a clear description of the nominated place;
\checkmark a Statement of Heritage Significance, explaining why the associated State Heritage Place is important to
the State of South Australia;
✓ photograph/s of the object;
✓ Have you discussed your nomination with a heritage assessment officer before submitting?

APPENDIX A1

A. Nominated Place

1. Name

Name of place:

Residence - 69 High Street, Kensington, SA. 5068.



Figure 1 View of 69 High Street on the right, looking west towards Bridge Street, November 2022. Image reproduced from Google Maps, accessed 29 September 2025.

Former name/s:

"Kensington Elementary School" Septimus Webster

"Kensington Elementary School" Advertisement (SA) Register newspaper, placed by teacher Septimus Webster in August 1856.

KENSINGTON ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL.—Mr. SEPTIMUS WEBSTER having
obtained additional household accommodation, is
enabled to receive Six BOYS as BOARDERS.
Terms:—For Boarders, 50 Guineas per Annum; Day
Scholars, £3 12s. 6d. per Quarter; Boys under 7 years,
£2 per Quarter. Payments Quarterly, in advance.
3 and 4, The Grove, July, 1856.
265'35v

Figure 2 Source: *Register,* 18 August 1856, P.1, https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/page/4142648

Former name/s

"Schoolroom" Septimus Webster 1856

Listed as "Schoolroom" 69 High Street, Kensington, SA, 5068.

Recorded in Town of Kensington and Norwood Rate Assessment: 3rd Assessment Book 1856.

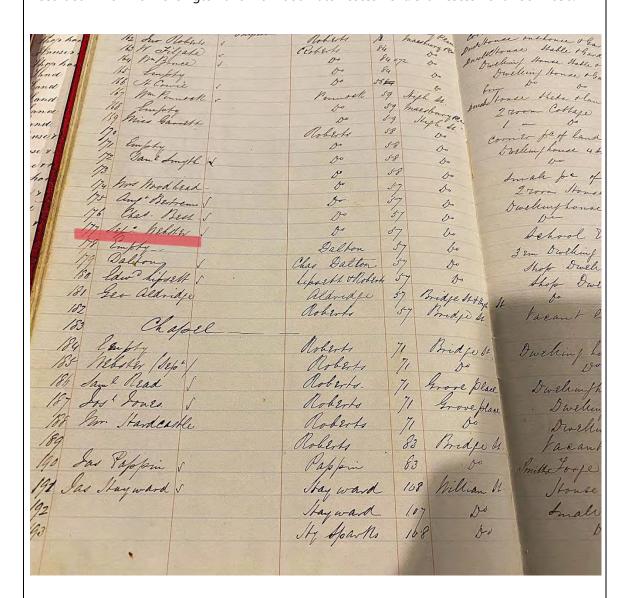


Figure 3

Source: Property at 69 High Street, Kensington, in Section 289. Block 57, Assessment 177, Owner John Roberts, Occupier Septimus Webster Teacher, Schoolroom, 1 Room, Rated at discounted £15, 1856, Town of Kensington & Norwood Rates Assessment Book.

Former name/s

"Shop" Edward Lipsett

Listed as "Shop", the building at 69 High Street was in existence at the time of the first rate assessment for the Town of Kensington and Norwood, Council Rate Assessment, 1st Assessment Book, 1853.

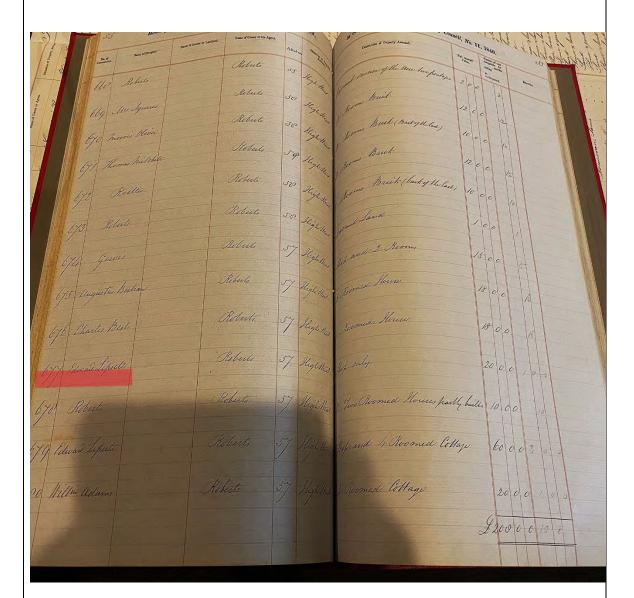


Figure 4

Property at 69 High Street, Kensington, in Section 289. Block 57, Assessment 677, Owner John Roberts, Occupier Edward Lipsett, Shopkeeper, Shop only, 1 Room, Rated £20, 1853, first assessment, Town of Kensington & Norwood Rates Assessment Book.

Is the place already on another heritage list?

Local Heritage Place, Heritage NR 5790 69 High Street, Kensington, SA, 5068

The property at 69 High Street, Kensington, is currently listed as a Local Heritage Place item 5790 and contributes to the heritage value of the area which is comprised of State and Local Heritage Places.



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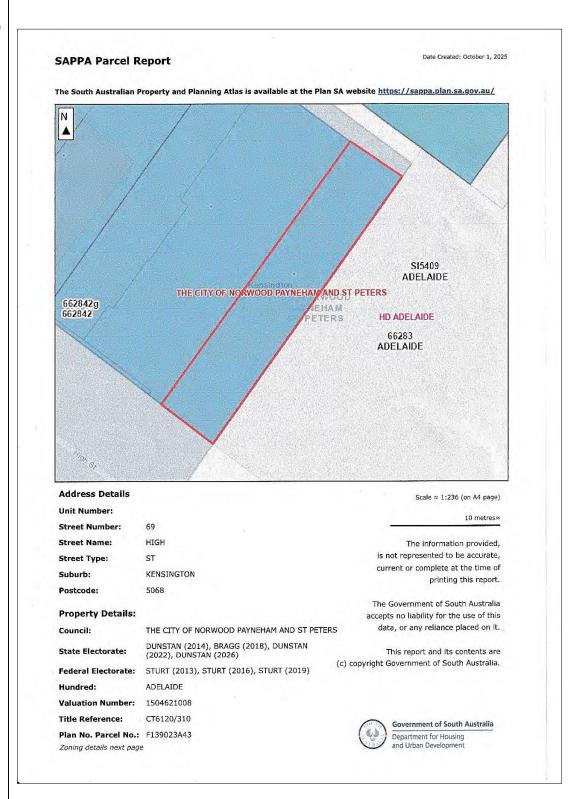
Figure 5

Local Heritage Place, Heritage NR 5790, 69 High Street, Kensington, SA, 5068 Source: SA Heritage Places Database https://maps.sa.gov.au/heritagesearch

Is the place already on another heritage list?

Historic Area Overlay (02406) - NPSP 5

P&D Code (in effect) Version 2025.3 13/2/2025 Page 1 SAPPA Parcel Report



Kensington Historic Overlay (02406) - NPSP5

P&D Code (in effect) Version 2025.3 13/2/2025

Page 2 SAPPA Parcel Report

Zone Details

Zones

Established Neighbourhood (Z1506) - EN

Subzones

No zones available

Overlays

Airport Building Heights (Regulated) (O0303) - All structures over 45 metres

The Airport Building Heights (Regulated) Overlay seeks to ensure building height does not pose a hazard to the operation and safety requirements of commercial and military airfields.

Historic Area (O2406) - NPSP5

The Historic Area Overlay aims to reinforce historic themes and characteristics through conservation, contextually responsive development, design and adaptive reuse that responds to the attributes expressed in the Historic Area Statement. The demolition of whole or part of a building within the Historic Areas Overlay requires a development application to be submitted for assessment and can only proceed if approved.

Heritage Adjacency (02413)

The Heritage Adjacency Overlay seeks to ensure development adjacent to State and Local Heritage Places maintains the heritage and cultural values of those places.

Hazards (Flooding - General) (O2414)

The Hazards (Flooding - General) Overlay seeks to minimise impacts of general flood risk through appropriate siting and design of development.

Local Heritage Place (O3602) - 5790

The Local Heritage Place Overlay seeks to maintain the heritage and cultural values of Local Heritage Places through conservation, ongoing use and adaptive reuse.

Prescribed Wells Area (O4804)

The Prescribed Wells Area Overlay seeks to ensure sustainable water use in prescribed wells areas.

Regulated and Significant Tree (05404)

The Regulated and Significant Tree Overlay seeks to mitigate the loss of regulated trees through appropriate development and redevelopment.

Stormwater Management (05710)

The Stormwater Management Overlay seeks to ensure new development incorporates water sensitive urban design techniques to capture and re-use stormwater.

Urban Tree Canopy (06302)

The Urban Tree Canopy Overlay seeks to preserve and enhance urban tree canopy through the planting of new trees and retention of existing mature trees where practicable.

Variations

Minimum Site Area (V0005)

Minimum site area is 400 sqm

Maximum Building Height (Levels) (V0008)

Maximum building height is 2 levels

Figure 6

Historic Area Overlay (02406) - NPSP 5. SAAP Parcel Report

Source: https://sapps.plan.sa.gov.au

Kensington 1 Historic Area Statement NPSP5 P&D Code Version 2025.18

"The Kensington 1 Historic Area Statement NPSP5 (which applies to 69 High Street Kensington) identifies localities that comprise characteristics of an identifiable historic, economic and social themes of recognised importance. These include land divisions, development patterns, built form characteristics and natural features that provide a legible connection to the historic development of a locality."

Map of State Heritage Places, Local Heritage Places, Representative Buildings Historic Overlays adjacent 69 High Street, Kensington



Figure 7 SAPPA <u>https://sappa.plan.sa.gov.au/</u>

The property at 69 High Street, Kensington, is an early colonial building dating back to 1847, located on High Street, Kensington. In its built form, it is part of the unique pattern of settlement and economic development of High Street, the main commercial street in Kensington Village. High Street was one of only two streets that did not cross Second Creek. Investor and developer, John Roberts (1794-1875) purchased various allotments from August 1844 which he subdivided, as well as a number of Second Creek acreages. The building at 69 High Street is part of the Historic Area Overlay (02406) and is subject to the attributes identified, which include State and Local Heritage Places.

APPENDIX A2

2. Location

Location of Nominated Property

Dwelling 69 High Street, Kensington SA 5068



Figure 1: Site location 69 High Street, Kensington

Local Government

The City of Norwood, Payneham and St Peters

Land Description

Title: CT 6120/310

Lot No: AL43
Plan No: F139023
Hundred: Adelaide
Status: LHP 5790

Zone: Established Neighbourhood

Survey of the Town of Kensington & Norwood 6 March 1882 Surveyor W Cumming, Adelaide.

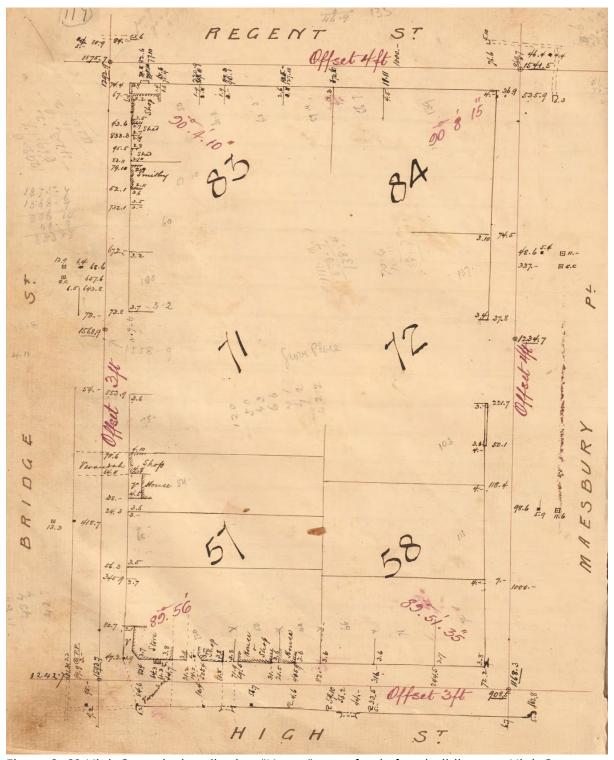


Figure 2: 69 High Street is described as "House" one of only four buildings on High Street

APPENDIX A3

A. Ownership History

3. Ownership

Summary of land ownership history pertaining to 69 High Street, Kensington, 1836-2025.¹

Colonel William Light and his survey party arrived in two small vessels off the coast of South Australia in September 1836, and by March 1837, he had completed the preliminary survey of town acres, now the site of the City of Adelaide. The first land ballot for town acres was held on 23 March 1837, where Preliminary Land Order (PLO) rights holders selected their one-acre blocks - one of these was Anthony Jackson of London.²

In April 1837, Colonel Light commenced the survey of lands on the Adelaide Plains to the east of the city, and in May 1838, the first ballot for Country Sections was held. Anthony Jackson of London, through his agent and solicitor in Adelaide, Matthew Smith, selected Section 289. Of importance was the fact that this section was traversed by Hallett's Rivulet, providing a ready supply of water for settlement.³

A notice appeared in the South Australian Gazette and Colonial Register, dated 20 October 1838, stating that Section 289 was to be surveyed into 114 allotments of land of 1 acre each, leaving 20 acres to be divided into streets. These would be sold at £12 each, including the costs of survey and deeds, to be paid at £1per week. In November, J.H. Hughes was commissioned to survey the Village of Kensington, which was named in honour of Queen Victoria's birthplace, whose coronation had taken place in June of that year.⁴

Allotments were sold from the survey plan declared by Matthew Smith, Solicitor of North Terrace, Adelaide; Investor John Foster Clay; and William Williams, the Proprietor of the Victoria Hotel in Hindley Street. On 28 June 1839, the Land Grant was made out in the name of John Brown, emigration agent for the Province of South Australia and Charles Catchlove.⁵

The original Land Grant issued on 28 June 1839 to John Brown is part of an important sequence of land transfers of the title regarding Block 57 and allotment 43, in Section 289, Hundred of Adelaide. The transfer of Block 57, allotment 43, in 1846 to the influential businessman and dissenter John Roberts (1794-1875) would result in the unique building design and mixed use of 69 High Street, Kensington, in the mid-19th century in the Village of Kensington, reflecting important social, cultural and economic themes in South Australian history.

¹ It is important to acknowledge that prior to British colonisation in 1836, and the establishment of the Province of South Australia by the British Government in 1834, the land upon which 69 High Street in Kensington is located was occupied by the Kaurna, who had land rights in the form of *pangkarra* over this Country and the Adelaide Plains.

² Plan of City of Adelaide in South Australia, Surveyed and Drawn by Colonel Light, published by John Gliddon, South Australian Agent, Ci94ASLSA.

³ Roberts, W., 1986, 'The History of John and Leonora Roberts and Family', Gillingham Printers, Adelaide, p.65.

⁴ Blackburn, M.,1953, 'The History of Kensington and Norwood', Corporation of the City of Kensington & Norwood, South Australia, p.2.

⁵ Gooden, G., & Moore, T.L., 1903, '50 Year History of Kensington & Norwood', (facsimile 1997) Wakefield Press, Adelaide, p.7.

3. Ownership

Land Ownership 69 High Street, KENSINGTON SA 5068

CT Title	Proprietor	Dealing Date
Number		
CT 6120/310		07/02/2014
Current		
CT 6120/310		03/10/2013
Current		
CT 5262/271		02/10/2013
Cancelled		
Converted Title		
CT 5262/271		29/08/2006
CT 5262/271		30/06/2004
CT 5262/271		18/11/2003
CT 5262/271		11/01/2000
CT 5262/271		01/06/1995
CT 4244/225		03/10.1988
CT 4244/225		31/07/1987
CT 4244/255		26/02/1987
CT 4244/255		14/02/1985
CT 4244/255		01/02/1980
CT 1908/85	Douglas James Geddes & Shirley Jean Geddes	09/07/1968
CT 1908/85	Kensington Service Centre Pty Ltd	28/06/1967
CT 1908/85	John Triantafilou & Chrisoula Triantafilou	29/10/1962
CT 1908/85	Brian Walter Howes	09/12/1954
CT 1908/85	Walter Dyke & Louisa Gertrude Dyke	27/08/1946
CT 556/172	Francis Lloyd Lillecrap Agent	08/07/1929

3. Ownership

Land Ownership 69 High Street, KENSINGTON SA 5068

CT Title Number	Proprietor	Dealing Date
CT 556/172	Richard Conlon	22/04/1929
	Agent	
CT 556/172	Agnes Helen Buckley	03/04/1929
CT 556/172	William Heinrich Bansemer	10/08/1921
CT 556/172	Hilda Cathrine Fitch	07/07/1920
CT 556/172	Cuthbert Viner Smith & Arthur Benjamine Lloyd	06/08/1916
CT 556/172	James Viner Smith Agent	28/07/1914
CT 556/172	Charles Segar Out of business	06/12/1909
CT 556/172	Richard Powell Baker	20/02/1900
CT 556/172	Henry Woodcock Agent	23/11/1897
CT 556/172	Charles Henry Dalton (1840-1915) Chemist High Street, Kensington	06/01/1892
Application 22076 Packet for title 69 High Street	Charles Henry Dalton in Application 22076 applied to bring part Block 57, Section 289, Hundred of Adelaide under the Provisions of the Real Property Act, 1886. (69 High Street Kensington).	17/06/1891
Application 22076 Packet transfer of land ownership of 69 High Street	Indenture Agreement transferring ownership of land described as part 57, Section 289, Kensington Village from John Roberts to Charles Henry Dalton, sale at 60 pounds sterling on 15 August 1872.	15/08/1872
Application 22076 Packet transfer of land ownership 69 High Street	Notations on the schedule confirm part Block 57, Section 280, Hundred of Adelaide, confirms transfers from 1839 John Brown and to the ownership on 14 May 1846 to influential figure John Roberts (1794-1875).	14/05/1846

Showing land transfers and ownership of part block 57 (69 High Street, Kensington) regarding John Roberts (1794-1875), Developer of Kensington Village 1843-1872.

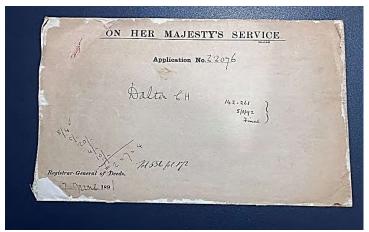


Image 1: Application Envelope Charles Dalton 17 June 1891

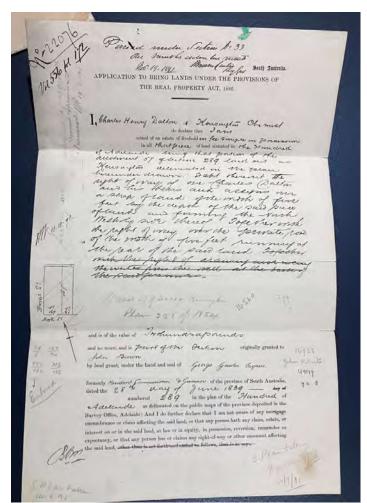
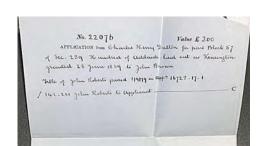


Image 2: Declaration by Charles Henry Dalton (1840-1915) Chemist, 67 High Street, Kensington, to bring the allotment under the Real Property Act.

Images of Application Packet 22076 Lands Title Office Documentation



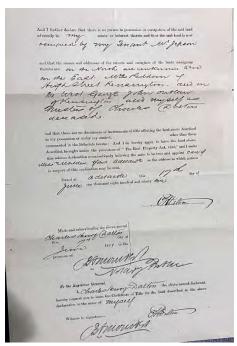


Image 3: Declaration by Charles H Dalton P2

Image 4: Application confirms link to 1839 Land Grant and John Roberts' ownership

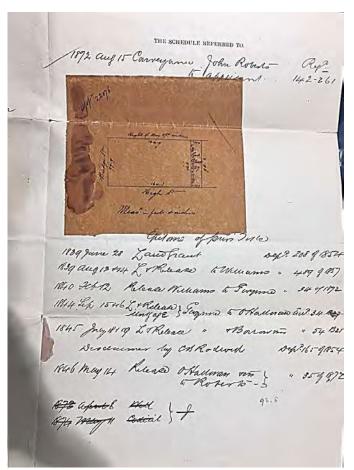


Image 5: Land Transfers 1839-1846. Roberts ownership dated 14 May 1846.

Images of Application Packet 22076 Lands Title Office Documentation

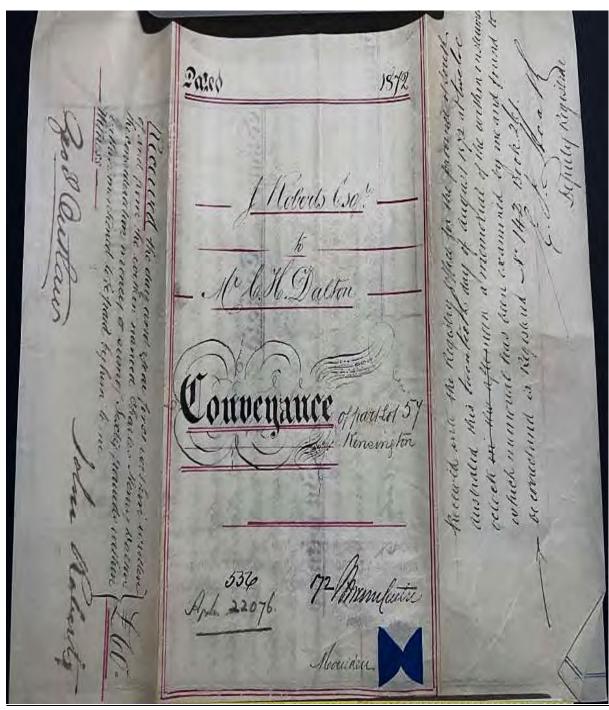


Image 6: Conveyance of Part block 57. Section 289 (69 High Street, Kensington) on 15 August 1872 From John Roberts (1794-1875) to Charles Henry Dalton (1840-1915).

Land Transfer from William Littlejohn O'Halloran to John Roberts; Memorial 8/98 on 15 May 1846.

Influential businessman and leading Dissenter, John Roberts (1794-1875), purchased six one-acre allotments in May 1846, designated as allotments 57, 58, 71, 72, 83, 84, in J.H. Hughes' 1838 survey of Kensington Village, Section 289 in the Hundred of Adelaide. This was significant as it marked the beginning of John Robert's strategy of purchasing land outside of the city of Adelaide in order to create a bespoke community shaped by Dissenter beliefs and the 'voluntary principle' that underpinned and regulated community life. Roberts firmly believed that South Australia was to be a model province, rid of every fault of the mother country and of previous colonial systems'.⁶

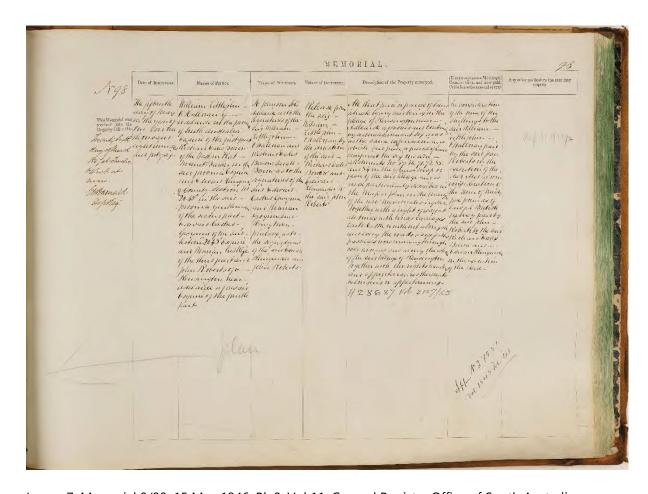


Image 7: Memorial 8/98, 15 May 1846, Bk 8, Vol 11: General Registry Office of South Australia. Purchase of Blocks 57, 58, 71, 72, 83, 84, in J.H. Hughes' 1838 survey of Kensington Village, Section 289 in the Hundred of Adelaide.

⁶ Pike, D., (1957) 'Paradise of Dissent', Longmans, Melbourne, p.145.



69 High Street Cumming 1882

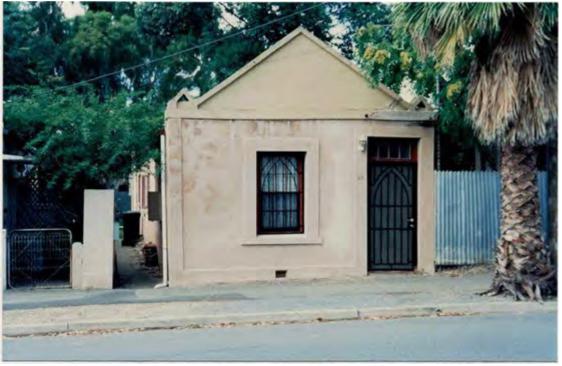


Figure 3: Site Location showing 69 High Street on boundary of main street demonstrating its positioning as one of the first buildings on High Street in 1847.

Image courtesy of , Norwood, 1994.

APPENDIX A4

25 March 2025



per email:

Planning + Heritage Submission

on behalf of

Application ID 25003913

Proposed demolition of a dwelling (Local Heritage Place)



Introduction

I have been asked by the to provide my opinion as a heritage consultant with respect to the proposed demolition of this Local Heritage Item in High Street Kensington.



Background/History

The subject property at 69 High Street, Kensington is a Local Heritage item within the Kensington Historic Area Overlay.

I am advised by Council's former Historian, that this property is a very early 1840's-1850's former School House.

From my observation, is it likely constructed of stone with red brick parapet detailing and quoins, similar to the Chemist Building next door seen in the photo above.

It is a particularly important historic building in Kensington because it is one of the very first buildings to have been built by John Roberts in the village of Kensington, a School House to educate the first generation of children who settled into the village, likely as early as the 1840's. Kensington was established in 1838.

Thus, whilst its appearance from the street is modest, its historical importance is paramount to the history of the area.

Part 11 - Heritage Places

Local Heritage Places

Norwood Payneham and St Peters

Property Address	Description and ∕or Extent of Listed Place	Section 67(1) Criteria	Heritage NR
69 High Street KENSINGTON	Victorian Dwelling	a b	5790

Current Condition/Alterations

The building has been modified cosmetically over its 180+ year life. Importantly the building was Local Heritage listed as a dwelling, which was its use at the time of listing, as it currently is seen today.

The walls have been rendered in past decades and the building appears to have been 'renovated' in the 1980's or thereabouts.

The gothic style lancet windows and security grills on the front window and door would have been added at this time.

The roof of this very early building would originally have been timber shakes, per the ones visible in the archival photo of the chemist shop of the same era, that were inevitably covered over with corrugated iron, and then the corrugated iron subsequently covered over with the 'Alutile' aluminium tiles which were popular in the 1960's/70's.

The original front window would have also been a casement window like on the front of the Chemist next door at 67. The original casement windows can still be seen down the side of the building. Very early Adelaide buildings had casement windows before sash windows became the predominant window type.



View down side



Original casement windows



Archival photo of CHEMIST DRUGGIST at 67 with timber shakes and casement windows



Photo* of CHEMIST building being restored and partially rebuilt in 2005,

^{*}which I took when I was working on the restoration & additions to 1/65 High Street on the corner of Bridge Street.



CHEMIST building adjacent the subject site as it stands fully restored today in 2025.

Demolition

It is proposed to demolish the whole of the building.





It would appear that since 2005 the front façade has rotated outwards. The lean is significant, but not irredeemably beyond repair.

I sought opinion from a company that I know that undertakes chemical underpinning, and wall straightening,

I have appended their email to me, which indicates a cost of about \$50K to structurally underpin and straighten the wall to plumb including taking out the kink and a further \$30-\$50K to undertake associated roof and plasterwork.

To satisfy this provision for demolition of a Local Heritage Place requires that a Local Heritage Place represent an unacceptable risk to public or private safety **and** is irredeemably beyond repair.

Whilst the current state of the wall clearly presents as a potential risk to public safety due to the lean over the footpath, the question as to whether or not the structural integrity of the Local Heritage place is 'irredeemable' is based on assumption that works are undertaken to make the wall safe and so no longer present a risk to public safety.

Therefore, the initial \$50K is the expenditure that is required in order to make this wall safe for the purposes of consideration of PO 6.1(b).

Naturally if one was going down a path of restoring the wall it would make sense to undertake the further associated works.

However, it would not be a requirement, for example, to remove the cement render to expose and repoint the stone and brick quoins and parapet, however this would be highly desirable and a logical course of action, as was done in 2005 at 67.



This cottage at 34 Elizabeth Street, Norwood, an 1856 Local Heritage Item, was the recent subject of a demolition application which was refused. It is now being restored.



The S. HEANES boot shop had also been the subject of a demolition attempt many years ago I recall. It too has since been successfully restored with a modern addition done to the rear. It shares a similar parapet detail to 69 High Street with the acroteria details at the base of the pediment.

Conclusion

The subject property, whilst a modest building in need of significant repair, is a very important part of Kensington's history, being one of its earliest buildings and the only original School House dating to the 1840's.

The building could be restored based on the information provided by

The cost of this exercise must be considered relative to the considerable cost of demolition and construction of an entirely new building, which would be considerably more expensive.

I wish to speak at the Council Assessment Panel.

If you have any questions or queries, please feel free to contact me.

Yours Faithfully



Appendix 1: email from

Re: 69 High Street, Kensington



Thank you for the opportunity to have a look at 69 High St.

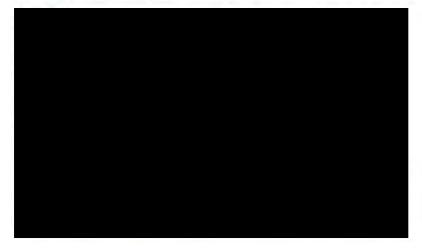
As discussed, I attended site to inspect externally on 17 March. I am confident the footing settlement and resulting rotation forward can be rectified. Interestingly, the gable appears to be held back towards to the top, resulting in quite a kink in the wall when viewed from side. Correcting this would not be as straight forward as stabilising and realigning the footings. By removing previous repairs to the façade (where cracks have been filled) and using several props and bracing, we expect to be able to achieve significant recovery towards plumb. We would likely need significantly modify the roof structure to achieve this and then secure once complete.

In estimating the cost to repair, we have made several assumptions. Please appreciate we would need to inspect internally, including the roof space, to understand what alterations have been made over the years and what is required to repair.

ESTIMATES

- Stabilise existing footing of front room and realign, tie façade back to external walls \$45-55K
- Make good roof structure following works \$10-20K
- Making good ceiling and plaster internal walls \$8-18K
- Re-render façade \$7-10K
- Carpentry Estimating this is difficult with external inspection only. Depending on how these items have been adjusted overtime to
 and how much lift and rotation is achieved, the existing timber framed window, front door and internal doors may need new frames.

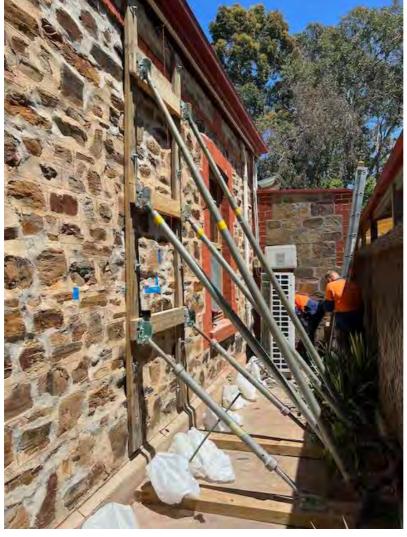
Hopefully, this is of assistance in your submission. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any queries.



Appendix 2: photos I took of

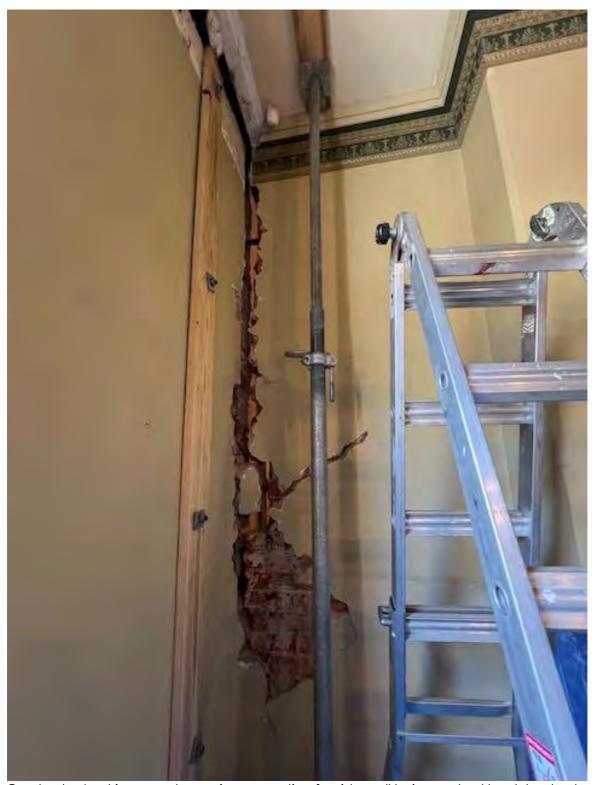
straightening wall in Kensington Park.







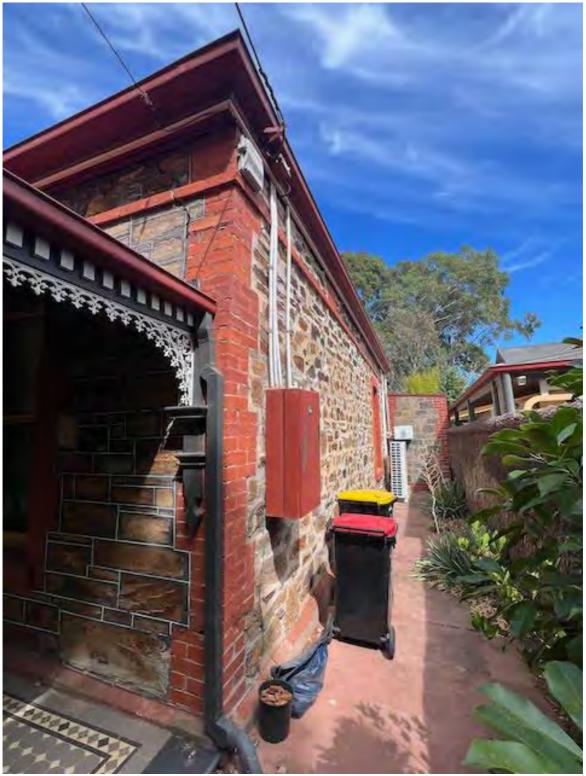
Crack raked out in front room in preparation for side wall being pushed back to plumb.



Crack raked out in second room in preparation for side wall being pushed back to plumb.



Crack raked out in preparation for side wall being pushed back to plumb.



Side wall underpinned, straightened and plumbed for about \$20K by 'urathane solutions'

Elements of heritage significance include but not limited to:

- Original rectangular building form
- Brick rendered walls
- Original casement windows
- Triangular Gable Roof
- Brick Pediment
- Acroteria elements at the apex of the pediment.



Figure 2: Triangular Gable and Acroteria elements at apex of pediment.



Figure 3: Colonial Casement Windows

GUM PERSUS BARK.

Gentiemen—I beg through the mediam of your valuable journal, to impress upon the notice of the Government the necessity of some neans being adopted to arrest the destruction of the valuable tree called the "Wattle."

It is notorious that for the last three years great destruction has been done to the waitle, by stripping off the bark; so great, indeed, that for ten to twenty miles round Adelaide, and even more, there is now scarcely a living tree to be seen, either on Crown Lands or private property; and where formerly they blossomed in all that beautiful luxuriance for which the wattle, at least in this country, is unrivalled.

The season being at hand when the sap rises, numbers, particularly the German settlers, begin the devastating work. If the Government, therefore, on the reassembling of the Legislative Council, would procure a short enactment to be passed, prehibiting the stripping of the bark on Crown Lands under a beavy penalty, it would be productive of much benefit.

By prohibiting the stripping, a greater export would be made in the article of gum, which will be found to be a far greater source of profit than the bark, besides saving the tree, and it will thus, year after year, yield a rich harvest to the industrious and often needy settlers, of obtaining a few pounds, during a season when the other occupations of agricultural and pastoral pursuits are at a stand-still.

By publishing the above, you will oblige me, and by enforcing it on the attention of the Legislature, I am sure you would confer a great benefit on the community; for although the subject appears small, yet it is our duty, an I should be our constant care, not only to increase our sources of export, but also to preserve and foster those we have, that we may not allow a hungry few, as the man in the fable, to kill the goose for the sake of the golden egg.

A LOVER OF EXPORT.

MR J. ROBERTS AND MR C. MANN.

MR J. BERTS AND MR C. MANN.

Gentlemen—You have inserted in your paper of the 29th, a still longer letter than the former one, of the 19th inst, from Mr Chas. Mann, in defence of the government, purity, and the pastoral labours of the present Minister of the Independent Church; and had Mr C. Mann not, in his former letter, as well as in this, called upon me personally. I should not have noticed his communication, but have allowed him to enjoy the good opinion he entertains of Mr Stow's ministry.

I wish the public to bear in mind, that Mr Stow's party are the aggressors, in this unholy warfare, and whether Mr Stowhad any hand in the scurillous anonymous letters. which are and in enother taper, or not, it is very come to my mind, from this last letter, as well as others, that Mr C. Mann is only Mr Stow's amanuensis; and however "reluctant" Mr Mann may have felt in entering upon this controversy, yet, Mr Mann must give me leave to tell him, that so far back as the month of August last, Mr Mann had almost decided upon joining Mr Stow's Church-" in order to put down the radicals." I hope sincerely from the high eulogium he now pays Mr Stow on account of the profit derived from his preaching, that Mr Mann's views of fellowship with a Christian Church have become more rational, pure, holy, and exalted in their character.

The Independent Church form of Government is democratic; and, in my last, I stated that the power of Mr Stow's church is vested in himself and Mr Giles. The Independent Church here is only a semblance of what it ought to be!—'s gross deception practised upon its members. If any grievance occurred, and any one of the few, who attended had the honesty to state it—he was put down with "hold your tongue"—or "sit down—you are an ignorant man." Or if privately stated that the people were dissatisfied—"Its a he"—"they are a prayer-less people!" Thus unconstitutionising—not a few—of the best and the most pious por-

a few—of the best and the most pious portion of the church. If again the Deacons remonstrated—Mr Stow evinced such an unhallowed temper as astonished them—and told them plump and plain that "he would be off."

Now what chance could there be of getting things rectified in such a Church. The people had many times, before we came into the colony, remonstrated with Mr Stow and the Deacons, and the only effect it had upon Mr Stoy was of short duration : and the Descoust... og them they had no power to remedy the evil. Descons and members had sent these complaints to England again und again ; but whether the gentlemen who commissioned me to send them full particulars of the Colonial Mission, in Adelaide, knew of this or not, remains to be seen. I told Mr S:ow my instructions to write home, as far back as Christmas, 1842. I wrote home the end of January following, but would not hazard an opinion with whom the bland lay, of the depressed state and failure of the mission, and it was only in August last, I gave my candid opinion on the matter. In February, 1841, I made an effort, and thought if we could get Mr Stow from his farm, to reside amongst his people, it would be something towards a revival. I told a party this, and was answered with "its of no use -we have tried him before, and we were to better." And as to any spiritual profit to be gained from his visits-I shall not regret if he does not enter my doors again." I omitted to say that I had resalved to be one of eight, if I could have found them, for his entire support; but you may be sure that the above proved a regel a danper.

About the end of February, 1844, the Deacons had a meeting, and determined to bring things to a crisis. Mr Stow was at that time at Encounter Bay. They passed certain regulations, but they only served to increase, instead of allaying the differences, and Mr Stow threatened to leave them—with their great responsibilities, namely, the large Chapel debt. After this, many pain-

large Chapel debt. After this, many painfal things occurred in the Church; some of the worst cases of delinquincy came before it, I ever knew or heard of; and I am corry in the investiga ion of some of these. Mr Stow was not free from blame. again, Mr Stow knew of the adultery case two years before the contingency arose of bringing it before the Church. Will Mr Mann say, that the man is not liable to transportation, if his other wife comes out (and which is likely to be the case now emigration has recommenced)? Then what a humiliating position the church will be placed in.

Then again, the bastardy case is infinitely worse than when I told it privately to one of the Deacons-the uncle marries the niece to cover her shame, and was expelled from the Church, recently, I understand, for having a child by another woman. Well might it be asked, by one of the members, of Mr Giles, when he went to him upon another shameful business-" Am I to understand that I am sitting down at the Lord's Table, from time to time, with 'rogues,' 'rascals,' 'whores,' and 'whoremongers ?" Understand what you like! was the reply. He would not trouble himself about the case that the party went upon, for if he began, he did not know where he should end, for Mr Stephens, at the Bank, had been with him, teiling him of a most disreputable case, that morning.

Mr Mann may think two sermons on the Sabbath sufficient—a small prayer-meeting on Monday evening, of some ten or a dozen, and sometimes about half that number—a lecture on Thursday, so thinly attended that it would almost break the heart of a pious minister—" for a salary of £215 a-year, viz. £125 from the Colonial Missionary Society—it used to be £200—weekly subscriptions of the members or friends, £50 per annum—unless lately reduced—and about £40 was ascertained as given in presents." Mr Mann should have remembered "Audi alteram partem, before he wrote so positively on mere "hear say."

mere " hear say."

Mr Stow and his friends have received in cash and goods towards the support of the Congregational Chapel and the Missionary, upwards of £2000 from the society and private friends.

I would tell Mr Mann, that preaching two sermons is but a very small part of the labours of a faithful, holy, and devoted minister-I mean one who knows nothing amongst men, save Jesus Christ and him crucified, and the salvation of the souls of the people of his charge. Would Mr Mann desire an example, he has one in the Wesleyan minister and his wife. them from house to house visiting their members, directing, instructing, comforting, exhorting, advising, encouraging, and reproving, as the various cases that come under their notice require. Look, again, at the affection of the people for them. I believe many would share their last crust with them—this is as it ought to be; and although I am a thorough Independent in principle, yet it gives me the greatest pleasure in bearing testimony to the love subsisting between them; but it was not so with their predecessors; they looked to the Missionary Society at home for support, but these, to the liberality of their people-" no favouritism." This has been the rock on which Mr Stow and his members have split.

The Wesleyan Chapel, Mr Playford's chapel, and others, are crowded on the Sablath evening, whilst Mr Stow's congregation is enough to chill the warmest heart; and as to the week-day services, every lit le interest has a better attendance, the little chapel at Kensington not excepted.

Now, I have, I should suppose, stated sufficient to prove that Mr Mann's "absolute denials" are words without meaning; and permit me to ask him, if Mr Stow has now a congregation of 300 or even 200, and a church of 164 (although he did not tell you how many of these Mr Stow has been instrumental in gathering into the church), how comes it to pass that

into the church), how comes it to pass that they do not wholly support their minister, as the Wesleyans I understand now do?—something upon Mr Mann's own showing must be radically bad,

Mr Mann enquires on what principle the new Independent Chapel will be governed. On the very opposite, I reply, to what Mr S ow's church is now governed; and, as to its minister, I trust that the occasion may never come when he will want the support and sympathy of his church. I can truly say from my heart, I would that this were not the case with the people at

Freeman-street chapel.

Lastly, I must tell Mr Mann that the friends who are supporting me were for a very long time in the field struggling for the rights and purity of the church, and for the revival of its dying energies, before I and my family came into he colony. They laboured, and I have entered into their labours. And if it pleases God to spare me, the new Independent Chapel and its pastor shall have all the pecuniary assistance, prayers, and sympathy given them which I have or can give them; but I fear I shall not be able to render them any other assis ance. I thank the parties who have written on my side, as Mr Mann says, although at present they are unknown to me. I have consulted none of the friends in what I have now and before sent to your paper of the 26th ins ant, but shall do so before I publish the documents and letters of Mr Stow, which have come into my hands.

I am grieved in having had occasion to write what I have, but shall be further pained in being necessitate I to bring other people on to actual collision; and, in conclusion, I would state that it is not the man that I am opposed to, but his principles. Had he been my own brother, I should have acted just the very same, for I could not conscientiously have suffered his time and his best energies to be devoted to his farming operations whilst rereceiving pay from a Missionary Society 16000 miles off.

16000 miles off.

I fear I shall weary you and the public, but I have much more to say, and believe me to be,

> Gentlemen, yours respectfully, JOHN ROBERTS.

Maesbury house, Kensington, April 28, 1845.

INDEPENDENTS, AND INDEPENDENT

CHAPELS. Gentlemen-I have read with mingled feelings of pity and disgust, the rancorous and libellous production of Saturday last, to which Mr John Roberts has affixed his name. In one respect, nevertheless, it satisfies me. It closes a controversy which, to the public at large, must have become as tedious as a thrice told tale. When I entered the arena, I determined to take the statements of Mr Stow's opponents as the ground on which I founded my remarks. By adoping this course no issue of facts could arise or has arisen. So far from it, Mr Rober's has by his !ast communication put his seal and sign-manual to the admissions made by " An Independent," and recognizes their truthfulness. The fac s on which the argument is based being admitted on both sides, Mr Roberts would have done well if, instead of reiterating libels, eminently characteristic of a narrow mind, he had confined himself to the reasoning of my letters, and had show # that the rules of the Independent Church permitted i's members out of the church to controvert publicly that which whether true or false, I contend could only be laid before the church, and be decided by the members of the church, and within the pale of the church. The first appeal to the world was, I contend, the first step in error, and the determined reiteration of that appeal in the public newspapers, only renders Mr Rober's and his followers, in my opinion, more obstinately and irrecoverably schismatic. If I am correct in this view (and the public must judge of this from my past communication), the result is more fatal to Mr Robert's ambitious views than he would at first imagina

more man to mr modert s ambilious views than he would at first imagine. He and his followers may, if they please, build a chapel for Mormonism, or Mugletonianism, or Socialism, or Owenism, or Robertism, or any other "ism," except Congregationalism. Assuming, as I do, that Mr Roberts is amenable to the charge of schism by his appeal from the church of which he was a member to the world at large, I do not believe that any respectable minister of the Congregational Chu. ch will join one distinguished by this sad pre eminence. I canno believe that the Independents of England will tolerate the license (not liberty) assumed by Mr Roberts; it is therefore my intention to forward to an eminent Congregational minister at home, the poisonous libels circulated and the antidote administered. Mr Robert's logic halts, when he interrogates me as to my knowledge of church discipline. It is not necessary for my argument to know more than that Mr Roberts has published to me, and to the world at large, what neither the world or myself ought to have known, and could only have known except through the unadvised publications of Mr Rober's and his partizans.

This is the very ground of my impeachment of his acts, as well as my answer to his Mr Roberts alleges that interrogatory. during the eight months we were members, he never saw me within the chapel walls. May I ask Mr Roberts who the emphatic pronoun we may designate? Is he like Mrs maloprop's cerberas-three gentlemen in one? Or does the we include "Homo" and the "Independent," and "A Friend to the Bible Society," and the "140th Psalm 1st ver.," &c.? It is very probable that during the eight months we were members, Mr Roberts never did see me within the Chapel. Had heenquired further, he might have learnt that during the eight months in question I was labouring under severe illness; that I was distant nearly seven miles from Adelaide; that I had no vehicle to carry myself. wife, and children to and from chapel; and that, as a master and a husband, I thought

that, as a master and a husband, I thought it right to administer the religious services of the day to my household rather than gratify my individual taste by attending the ministry of Mr Stow. He might have ascertained that, from 1837 up to the present time, I have, to the utmost extent of my power, and whether absent or present, contributed to the support of the chapel; that, trom 1837 to the latter end of 1840, I was a constant attendant on Mr Stow's ministry, and that on my return to town I have resumed the sittings, for which I have at all times paid. I have known Mr Stow nearly seven years, and Mr Roberts can only count eight months' attendance on his minis ry to five years of attendance on my part, Mr Roberts has endeavoured to show that I held the privilege of attendar.ce lightly. I trust I have rebutted this, and that I am entitled to ask Mr Roberte whether he recollects a passage of Scripture which runs to this effect-Judge not that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge ye shall be judged, and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again. And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye. First cast out the mote that is in thine own eye, and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote that is in thy brother's eve. If he does remember this, I recommend him to consider itsimport.

I cannot conclude without thanking you, as editors, for the courtesy which you have displayed in the admission of communications of no public interest; and certainly, far exceeding the extent of newspaper limits.

I am, &c., Chas. Mann.

P.S. I have just ascertained that I have misunderstood, in some degree, the statement made to me in reference to the bibles, and that there have been no bibles received since those left by Mr Quaife. Mr Stow, on leaving England, received from the Society at home a small supply for discretional distribution, and Mrs

tor discretional distribution, and Mrs Gawler subsequently added to the amount of those bibles. The bibles in question were principally given to the superintendents of Sabbath schools, a few were sold, and from this source the smaller sum of £2 7s. 6d., alluded to in my last commumeation, were received. The larger sum received, £5 13s. 6d., has arisen from the sale of Mr Quaife's bibles. This amount, as I have already stated, came to Mr Stow's hands in February last, and immediately after the receipt of the last payment, Mr Stow gave notice at the first mee mg of the Provisional Committee of the Bible Society that he would remit both amounts through the Society.

OFFICIAL

Charles Augustus Perry 1813-1884

Charles Augustus Perry arrived in South Australia in September 1839 on board the ship the "Anna Robertson". Building contractor, Kensington.

THE LATE MR. C. A. PERRY.—Our Shipping Reporter writes:—Mr. Charles A. Perry, who died at Port Pirie on the 31st ult., was in old colonist much respected amongst the people of his particular circle. He was not dentified with any public movement, but was well known as the contractor for the very first bridge erected over the Port River. Subsequently he directed the extensive repairs to the Semaphore Jetty some years ater, and then he built the pier at Yankalilla. Latterly he has been in failing health, and after a long illness passed away at the age of 70.

Adelaide Observer, Saturday 3 January 1885 p.29

RELIGION IN KENSINGTON, SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

To the Editor of the " British Banner."

Sir,—Enclosed are some extracts from a letter which my father received last March from Mr Roberts, of Kensington, near Adelaide, South Australia. He is a draper by trade, and emigrated about six or seven years age. Although I have delayed sending the extracts, I trust they will be acceptable to some of your readers.—I remain, your obedient servant, Vernon Marse.

(hester.

Your letter of the 10th August reached here in seventy-zeven days—the quickest passage to this colony. With regard to your first question, journeymen in your trade (journeymen tailors) are paid 7d to 8d per hour.—but as I know but little of what is done by the principal tailors here, I cannot speak positively, but only from inference. I believe they are all doing well, although they commenced with I ttle or nothing. Most of them have their country houses.

The Almighty has blest my exertions beyond my most sanguine expectations, and I do hope I am thankful,—extremely thankful. Since I wrote you last this colony is advancing rapidly in numbers and prosperity. We cannot be much short of 50,000 souls.

We have now eleven Independent ministers, and they expect several more out.—Towns and villages are rising up in all directions. You can rearely telieve the spirit of enterprise were I to tell you, nor the spirit of liberality to the cause of the Redeemer. Instead of doling out a £1 or £10, it comes forth in £20, £3°, £50, £100, and £300 at a time. One gentleman has given about £10,000 already. This is using prosperity rightly. I am sometimes afraid I am not sufficiently grateful; no one in this colony has greater cause for gratitude than the writer.

Should you come out you must make up your mind to work hard at first; it is like beginning I to anew,—but every industrious man succeeds well as far as I know. We have many out who, I am sorry to say, are the very reverse of this. Houses are very scarce, owing to the thousands who are arriving on our shores. Nearly the whole of this large township belongs to me (Kensington); and if it was ten times as large it would be all let. Most of our first citizens live here.

If you could see our beautiful gardens just now they would astonish you. We are beginning our summer (November), and we expect about four tons of grapes from our own garden.

grapes from our own garden. • Calicoss and prints, if bought at Manchester, would pay to bring out instead of money: also crockery, breakfast cups and saucers, common plates, dishes, chamber ware, mugs, and jugs. And now I must close by commending you and yours to the wisdom of one who cannot err. Mr Strongman is drawing large congregations. I expect s on that another new chapel much larger must be erected.

Yours very truly.

JOHN ROBERTS.

Kensington, near Adelaide, South Australia,

November 7th, 1849.

LETTER WRITING HOME. - We have before us the Bury Post of the 26th May last, containing & letter by "a regretted and respected townsman," Mr T. G. Williams, who commences the fulfilment of a promise to write the editor a series of letters on the condition and prospects of South Australia. The communication, though a good specimen of its class, contains sufficient to justify the wisdom of a rule which we would recommend to all new comers to be at least one year in the colony before they write either upon its condition or its prospects. We shall take the l berty of commenting on one or two of the assertions. The writer arrived on the 26th December, 1849 and the letter is dated the 10th of February following. He says, "The whole country appeared burnt up, the dust was annoying, the streets were crowded with men on berseback, many intoxicated, the greater part appeared of a wild and reckless character, and the whole in uncouth dresses; the greater part of the houses mean looking wooden erections which indicated an absence of commercial prosperity or a total disregard of domestic comfort,"

He afterwards finds a satisfactory explanation for all these phenomena, and before he writes his letter his unfavorable impression was ontirely removed, and an opposite one created. of course is so far satisfactory, but Mr Williams ought to have gone a little farther, and mentioned the real cause of his conversion, which, we are convinced, was the discovery that matters here are not so bad as he represented. His statements, in fact, are grossly overcharged, and some of them are absurdly incorrect. We have dust and heat at Christmas it is true, and the country looks parehed, but we deny in toto that our country population are either drunken, reckless, or uncouth in their sppearance. Indeed we have the unvarying evidence to the contrary of strangers as intelligent and trus worthy as Mr Williams could possibly be. The question, doubtless depends in a messure on opinion, but we are certain Mr Williams by this time is

but we are certain Mr Williams by this time is ashamed of having been the means of such opinions being published in England. But Mr Williams also ventures on matters of fact, and there we can satisfactorily meet him. He says the greater part of the houses were mean looking wooden erections. Now. what are the facts. The last account taken of the buildings in town was at the time of the census in 1846. According to that census there were in North and Fouth Adelaide:—

Houses built of stone or brick 863
Ditto Wood....... 231
Ditto Other materials ... 441

Total Now, it is notorious that since 1846 the number of houses in Adelaide has been at least doubled and that for one house during that period built of wood probably one hundred have been built of stone or brick. It is also notorious that many of the wooden houses are not mean looking. It therefore follows that Mr Will ami's assertion above mentioned is a gross misstatement. Mr Williams says he was informed that about Christmas time ' three-fourths of the population of the whole province are to be found in the city of Adelaide. Now the population of the province at the time he speaks of was about 56, '00. This would give an accession to the city of about 20,000 country people, which is about four times the entire number we have ever heard estimated as attending the Adelaide races, and of these one-half at least we should think reside in the city. If Mr Williams therefore divides his statement by eight, he will be near the trath. Add to the above that " the id e and worthless were drinking at the taverns, or disgracing themselves and their adopted country by drunken brawls in the streets," and withal that Adelaide hal "a dult and unbusinesslike appearance," we have a picture whose consistency equals its correctness.

SA Register Sat 4 December 1847 p.1

To Builders and Contractors.

THE Trustees and Committee of Kensington Chapel are prepared to receive tenders for building a substantial chapel 30 by 45 feet in the clear, leaving the present one for a village school. For plans and specifications, apply to Mr John Roberts, Kensington.

Building Ground in Kensington.

TRADESMEN requiring shops in the centre of this highly respectable and populous village may now be accommodated, by applying to Mr John Roberts, Kensington.

Adelaide Times Monday 4 June 1849 P.1

Kensington, Norwood, and General Suburban Building and Investment Society.

In Shares of £60 each. Subscription, 3s, per week, and 3s, per week additional on every drawn Share.

TRUSTEES:

Messrs. Nathaniel Hailes, John Roberts, and William C. Stamp.

DIRECTORS:

Messrs. Henry Aldridge, Henry Brood, Charles J. Perry. William Hambridge, George Muller, John Nott, James Powell, and William Roberts.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the first general Monthly Meeting of the Members of the above Society, will be held in the School-room, Kensington, on Tuesday evening next, the 5th instant, at seven o'clock, on which evening the first weekly subscription of 3s. per share will become due and payable; and a few remaining details as to the future management of the Society finally arranged.

By order.

By order, E. R. BOOTHBY,

Secretary.

Kensington, 1st June, 1849.

The 'School-room' - note Directors

Adelaide Observer Saturday 19 June 1869 P.5

Roberts visiting from Melbourne in 1869 meeting in a schoolroom...

WELCOME TO MR. JOHN ROBERTS .- A meeting of an interesting character was held on Friday evening in Mr. Caterer's schoolroom, Norwood. The Deacons of Clayton Church had issued invitations to the members to attend a social gathering to welcome Mr. John Roberts, of Melbourne, for many years resident in Kensington, and a Deacon of Clayton Church, who is now on a visit to this colony. The invitation was heartily responded to. and a large number assembled. After the discussion of the good things provided, resolutions expressive of the high estimate in which Mr. Roberts was held, and acknowledging the valuable and substantial support which he had rendered to the cause of Christ generally, but specially to the cause at Clayton Church, were moved and carried unanimously, The Deacons and several other gentlemen addressed the meeting. Mr. Roberts having replied in a feeling manner, a presentation of a handsomely-bound volume, accompanied by an address, was made by some young men who were members of a Bible Class which Mr. Roberts conducted seven or eight years ago. All the young men who were connected with t at Class, with only one exception, are now members of the Christian Church and engaged in Christian work-a fact which must be very gratifying to Mr. Roberts. Recitations, readings, and songs filled up the remainder of a most enjoyable evening.

OFFICIAL

Nomenclature of South Australia Register, Saturday 20 June 1908 page 10. (Copy hard to read so text version)

—'The Village of Kensington.'— Kensington, or the village of Ken sington as it was originally named, by Charles Catchlove, is situated on section 289, selected by Anthony Jack son, of London (whence comes the name), through his Adelaide agent, Matthew Smith, solicitor. The grant was made out in the name of John Brown, emigration agent, and Charles Catchlove. The survey of the village was made by J. H. Hughes, in Novem ber, 1838, and allotments were sold in 1839 from a plan declared to by Mat thew Smith, John Foster Clay, and William Williams. The village was laid out in 102 acre allotments, divided by spacious streets running at right angles, intersected by 'Hallett's Rivulet, which will afford the village a plentiful supply of water nine, months in the year.' (Vide The Register of April 13, 1839.) Hallett's Rivulet is the Second Creek of to-day. Up to 1840. only a few persons had made their homes in Kensington, but during the forties an impetus was given, to settlement in the neighbourhood by

OFFICIAL

the building enterprise of Mr. John Roberts, founder of Clayton Church, in the cemetery attached to which his remains lie. It is recorded that a Mr. Marshall was the first resident of Kensington. His house was situated in what is now Wellington street. At the extreme end of High street near the tram sheds, stands a very old habitation, which was the residence of Col. A. H. Freeling, formerly Sur veyor-General. Not far away, in Bishop's Place, stands what in the late forties and early fifties was Bishop's Court, the dwelling place of the Right Rev. Augustus Short, first Bishop of Adelaide. Kensington and Norwood were the first suburban townships to receive the boon of separate municipal government. The corporation was established by proclamation in The Government Gazette of July 7, 1853.



THE OLD TOWN HALL

JOHN ROBERTS:

BOYN OF JUNE 1875.

AGED SY VEARS

MEMORIES LINCER WHEN

A so or

LEONORA SOAMES WILLSHERE,
WIFE OF THE ABOVE
WHO DEPARTED THIS LINE ON

APR L 514 1884,

AGDID SO YEARS.

SO HE GIVETH HIS BELOVED SEFT

