

SA Heritage Register

Place Submission form

South Australian
HERITAGE COUNCIL

South Australian Heritage Council

Submission on whether the entry of the Place **Former G.J. Coles & Company Adelaide Store** should be confirmed in the South Australian Heritage Register

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, available online: [Guidelines-for-Interpreting-State-Heritage-Criteria-2024.pdf](#)

Criteria

Criteria under the <i>Heritage Places Act 1993</i> , section 16(1)	Provide evidence or other information to support your submission
<p>a) it demonstrates important aspects of the evolution or pattern of the State's history</p>	<p>Development of retail shopping in the CBD in the Interwar period, before the move to suburban shopping malls that began in the 1960s.</p> <p>Here, feel free to add your own recollections of shopping in the Coles building, looking in the display windows while passing along Rundle Street, eating in the first floor cafeteria or other, working in the store as a sales assistant, or as appropriate</p>

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<p>b) it has rare, uncommon or endangered qualities that are of cultural significance</p>	<p>Many city department stores that were contemporaneous with the former Coles building have been demolished, making it an uncommon surviving example.</p> <p>An iconic building that was and is a landmark in Rundle Street.</p> <p>As an example of the department stores that once dominated the Rundle Street shopping precinct, the Coles building demonstrates key features of the class including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prominent location on Adelaide's premier shopping street • impressive multi-level street facade with the rounded corner onto Rundle Street using bold, eye catching lettering spelling out the word COLES to attract the eye of the customer • Large plate glass windows to display items to tempt the shopper • Cafeteria that provided a meeting and rest place for shoppers visiting the city for a day of shopping.
<p>c) it may yield information that will contribute to an understanding of the State's history, including its natural history</p>	

SA Heritage Register

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d) it is an outstanding representative of a particular class of places of cultural significance	
e) it demonstrates a high degree of creative, aesthetic or technical accomplishment or is an outstanding representative of particular construction techniques or design characteristics	<p>Prominent Melbourne architect Harry Norris.</p> <p>Imposing exterior with strong horizontal emphasis which remains highly intact.</p> <p>Considered to have been aesthetically advanced for its time.</p> <p>Example of Functionalist architecture, with the use of steel and reinforced concrete to make possible the unusually wide open spans and the bands of ribbon windows. These allowed for maximum light penetration and contributed greatly to the important horizontal emphasis of the building.</p>
f) it has strong cultural or spiritual associations for the community or a group within it	

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(g) it has a special association with the life or work of a person or organisation or an event of historical importance

I remember my nanna taking me to the city on rare occasions and the highlight of these visits was finishing the outing at Coles Cafeteria.

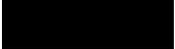
Choosing my favourite items for lunch: a Balfours pasty and Trifle, and a drink, placing it on the plastic tray and sliding it towards the cashier. Hearing the cash register "ting" indicating we'd paid, and then sitting at a Formica table to eat my lunch alongside my nanna, who ate her sandwich and drank a cup of tea.

The Coles Building is part of South Australia: from the architecture, through the experiences of the people who shopped there, to the memories it continues to invoke. It is an icon of Rundle Mall and should remain intact as a reminder of our past and all that was achieved by those involved in its making.

Declaration

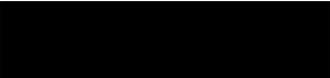
The South Australian Heritage Council is committed to transparency in relation to the listing process and wishes to enhance public confidence in the nomination, listing and decision-making process. The Council's policy is to make nominations for State heritage listing and submissions on provisional entries 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.

I/We,  wish to make a written representation regarding the provisional entry of **Former G.J. Coles & Company Adelaide Store**. The information I have provided is correct to my knowledge.

- I support** the confirmation of this provisional entry.
 I do not support the confirmation of this provisional entry.

~~I do~~ / **I do not** wish to appear personally before the Council to make oral representations.

Signature:  _____

Date: 28/02/2026

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Please attach any relevant documents and be aware that a heritage officer may contact you to discuss your submission.

Please provide your contact details here:

Phone:

Email:

Address:

This form must be received by 5pm on **22 March 2026**.

Please return completed submission form to the

Board and Policy Officer, South Australian Heritage Council

Via email: **DEWHeritage@sa.gov.au**

Or via post: **GPO Box 1047, Adelaide SA 5001**