

# SA Heritage Register

Submission form

South Australian  
HERITAGE COUNCIL

## South Australian Heritage Council

Submission on whether the entry of **Australian Education Union Building (Raggatt House; SAIT Building)** 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 provide your evidence or further information to explain why you believe the place does or does not meet said criteria. For help in making a submission, please refer to the Guidelines for Interpreting State Heritage Criteria (**Attachment E**) and also available online: [Guidelines-for-Interpreting-State-Heritage-Criteria-Final-2024.pdf](#)

### Criteria

Criteria under the <i>Heritage Places Act 1993</i> , section 16(1)	Provide evidence or other information why you believe criteria applies or does not apply to this place
(a) it demonstrates important aspects of the evolution or pattern of the State's history	<p>This building was built in the late 60's/early 1970 when educators and education were in transition from what was widely regarded as a conservative profession dominated by principals, to become an active and effective union advocating for the profession in all its elements. It went on to house some of the great social, political and union debates of the era – from the first strike; the Vietnam War; East Timor; , the environment – eg, asbestosis; Apartheid South Africa, the status of the profession, the status of women; the status of LGBTQIA+ (some of the earliest meetings were held there in the frightening days of the Torrens murders); the status of Aboriginal Educators – the first award ever, a national first. It lead progressive unionism and political activism. The Hall which was one of its main mass venues is fundamentally unchanged.</p> <p>It contributed to the establishment of the Independent Education Union (private schools) as a separate organization having previously included them as members. It sponsored the development of one of</p>

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	<p>the first, and certainly a most successful, Credit Unions, then known as SATISFAC with its first offices on site. Now known as Credit Union SA, it contributed greatly to the development of Credit Unions and Credit Union regulation more generally, here and in English speaking African countries by the provision of training programs and scholarships. The strongroom is still there on the second floor.</p> <p>It was built – over engineered - with an eye to the future, with foundations and a spare lift well to support two more storeys – storeys three and four, in the hope that Council regulations would alter height limitations.</p> <p>An analysis of several years of annual reports reveals no particular impairments or abnormal maintenance expenditure.</p>
<p>(b) it has rare, uncommon or endangered qualities that are of cultural significance</p>	<p>The brutalist architecture speaks for itself. Contrary to some recent ill-informed opinion, the strength of its shell and the core around a lift well has supported a wide variety of internal re-arrangements very well over time and will continue to do so. Flexible. It has sheet copper roofing and has proved highly adaptable to internal re-organization over the years.</p>
<p>(c) it may yield information that will contribute to an understanding of the State's history, including its natural history</p>	<p>It is the centre of education history, with many internal fittings and namings which recognize various phases and leading contributors, including a rare keystone monument “borrowed” and preserved – obtained from the original government Education Building when it was demolished.</p> <p>The “borrowing” was official – set in place by the then reformist Education Minister, Hugh Hudson, in recognition of the close ties between the union and the Education department.</p> <p>Various meeting areas and rooms are named after eminent leaders in education. Aboriginal heritage has been recognized during important naming ceremonies.</p>


<p>(d) it is an outstanding representative of a particular class of places of cultural significance</p>	<p>There is no other brutalist building as outstanding and complete as this example.</p>
<p>(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>	<p>As noted above, the strength of this building is its core, and its shell, which permitted internal modification of interior spaces as needs changed. And will continue to permit...Its internal flexibility and its ability to permit redesign has provided great utility within a very strong, imposing, external framework.</p> <p>The Hall, the off street parking and the meeting rooms, serve and continue to serve, as important meeting spaces; and for a range of union training activities – not just for educators – for unionists more generally given the loss of Trades Hall.</p>
<p>(f) it has strong cultural or spiritual associations for the community or a group within it</p>	<p>It has been the centre for educators in SA for 56 years and will stay as such.</p>
<p>(g) it has a special association with the life or work of a person or organisation or an event of historical importance</p>	<p>It's the only remaining building for the education profession owned outright by educators and educators as unionists.</p>

## Declaration

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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.

I/We,  \_\_\_\_\_

wish to make a written representation regarding the provisional entry of **Australian Education Union Building (Raggatt House; SAIT Building)**. The information I have provided is correct to my knowledge.

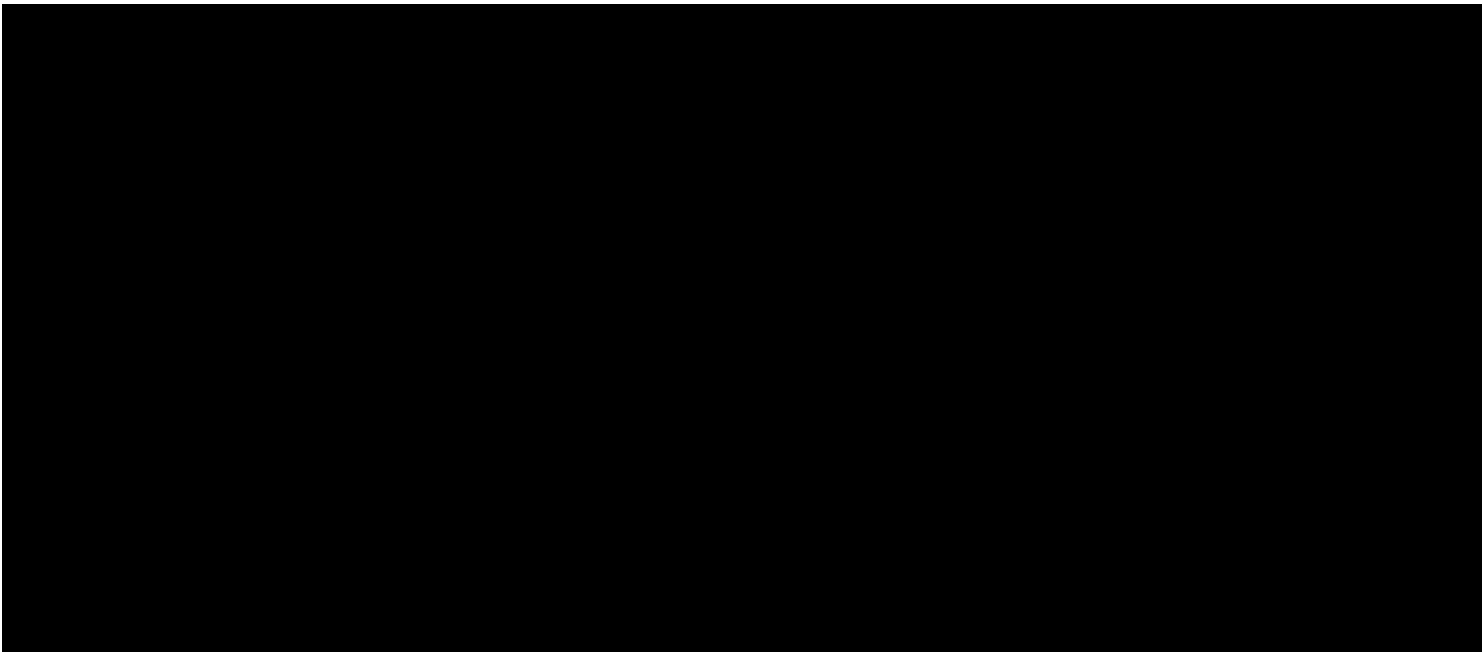
- I **support** the confirmation of this provisional entry.  
 I **do not support** the confirmation of this provisional entry.

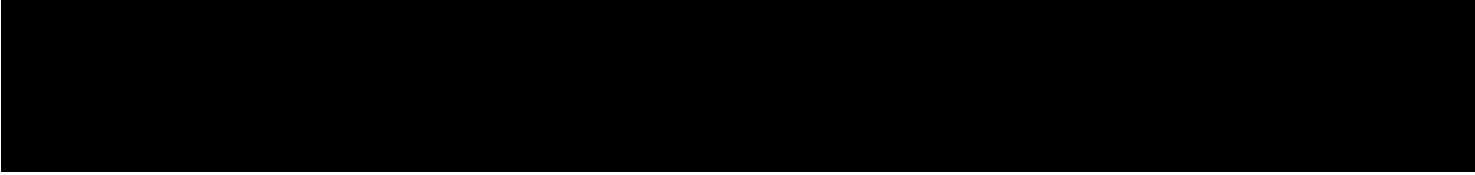
**I do / I do not** wish to appear personally before the Council to make oral representations.  
*Open to an invitation to appear.*

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_18 May 2025\_


*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 **4 June 2025**.

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**