

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE COUNCIL

MINUTES

The 88th Meeting of the South Australian Heritage Council (the Council) was held on Monday 23 July 2018 in the Conference Room, Level 7, 81-95 Waymouth Street.

Statement of Acknowledgement

We acknowledge this land that we meet on today is the traditional lands for Kaurna people and that we respect their spiritual relationship with their country. We also acknowledge the Kaurna people as the custodians of the Adelaide region and that their cultural and heritage beliefs are still as important to the living Kaurna people today.

PRESENT

South Australian Heritage Council: Chair: Mr Keith Conlon; Members, Ms Kate McDougall, Ms Jan Ferguson OAM, Mr Jason Schulz, Prof Alison Mackinnon and Mr Marcus Rolfe.

Apologies: Ms Robyn Taylor, Mr David Stevenson and Mr Michael Constantine.

Secretariat: Mr David Hanna, Executive Officer, Heritage South Australia, Department for Environment and Water (DEW) and Ms Beverley Voigt, Manager Heritage South Australia, DEW.

Guests: Dr Louise Bird, Assessment Officer, Heritage South Australia.

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed all present and noted the apologies of Ms Robyn Taylor, Mr David Stevenson and Mr Michael Constantine.

The Chair welcomed two members of the public present at the meeting.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The agenda was adopted without amendment.

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

3. SOUTH AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE REGISTER

3.1 BUREAU OF METEOROLOGY, 25 COLLEGE STREET, KENT TOWN

Dr Louise Bird was welcomed to the meeting and provided an overview of the assessment. Dr Bird noted that she and Mr Michael Queale conducted a site visit of the building on 10 July 2018.

The assessment interrogated whether the nomination met criterion (e) under section 16 of the *Heritage Places Act 1993* (given that the previous work of Heritage South Australia had ascertained that it did not meet any of the other criteria under section 16).

It was noted that the Bureau of Meteorology building is a good example of a purpose built 'modern' Bureau of Meteorology building constructed in the late 1970s. While the architectural features are of high interest the building is not a rare nor outstanding example of Late Modern architecture in South Australia.

Dr Bird noted that the ground floor and level 1 clearly express their use as garage and office space. While portions of the interior on these two levels have been gutted, most of it is still intact and includes partitioned work bays and offices, kitchen and staff room, built-in furniture, window coverings, fittings and fixtures.

Further, the interior atrium is of high design merit, but does not include high-tech features other than the stainless steel support brackets on the bridge connecting the wings of the building on level 2. The office and service areas are typical in finish to contemporary office spaces and also include some features that are found today. The only building service alluding to high-tech styling is the air conditioning ductwork, which while well placed, is also not uncommon.

Council agreed with the assessment that, while the Bureau of Meteorology building is a good example of Late Modern architecture, it cannot be considered to be a rare example. Nor can it be considered an exemplar of Late Modern architecture due to the incorporation of high-tech elements in its design.

It was noted that there is a disconnect between the inner court yard space and the remainder of the building.

It was noted that Sir Charles Todd, observer and superintendent of electric telegraph in the 1850's was responsible for the expansion of telegraph and meteorological stations throughout South Australia. His work, however, would have best been represented through his observatory on West Terrace which was demolished to make way for the Adelaide High School. Given that Sir Charles Todd was not employed by the Commonwealth Bureau of Meteorology, the building in Kent Town is not the most appropriate way to represent his work.

Council voted and unanimously agreed with the recommendation that the nomination does not meet any of the criteria for registration in the South Australian Heritage Register and rejected the nomination.

Council considered the suggestion by Heritage South Australia to request the owner to record the building through 3D modelling analysis prior to its demolition. Council agreed that, given the building did not meet the threshold for State listing, it would be inappropriate to request the owners to undertake this. Council agreed that an instance where this might be appropriate, is when a provisionally entered place is removed from the Register. The recent example was the Maughan Church which Uniting Communities captured through the 3D modelling process prior to its demolition.

RESOLUTION:

The South Australian Heritage Council:

- **REJECTED** the nomination of **Bureau of Meteorology Building and Garden, 25 College Road, Kent Town** for entry in the South Australian Heritage Register as a State Heritage Place, as it does not meet any of the criteria for State heritage listing under section 16 of the *Heritage Places Act 1993*.
- **AGREED** that it would not be appropriate to ask the owner to undertake 3D modelling of the building given that the Council determined that it was not of state heritage significance.

4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

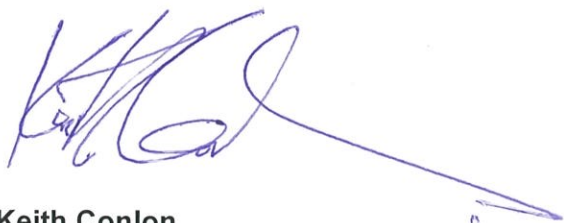
It was noted that Mr Conlon and Mr Rolfe of the Council met with representatives of the Planning Commission. Mr Rolfe noted that they had an excellent discussion and there is intent on behalf of both parties to work together. Mr Queale from Heritage South Australia will provide advice on development of the Planning Code from a heritage point of view.

Mr Conlon noted he will be meeting with the Minister for Environment and Water, the Hon David Speirs MP, on Thursday 26 July and they will discuss strategic direction of the Council.

Ms McDougall noted that Mr Conlon had written an excellent article about Adelaide's heritage viewable by bicycle and that article was published in Saturday's Advertiser.

CLOSE OF MEETING

The Chair closed the meeting at 10:00am.



Mr Keith Conlon

Chair

Date: 27.8.18.