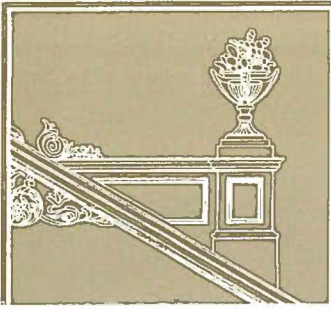


January 1994
Number 4



State Heritage

NEWSLETTER

Issues and information on heritage conservation in South Australia



THE AUSTRALASIAN SOCIETY FOR HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY INC.

ARCHAEOLOGISTS IN ADELAIDE

Many people think of archaeologists as people in Egypt who wear pith helmets and dig up romantic objects from the distant past. They would have been very surprised at the subject matter of some of the papers given at an archaeological conference in Adelaide in early October: Second World War installations, petrol pumps, depression campsites, the BHP steelworks in Newcastle, and what garbage dumps can tell us about consumer society.

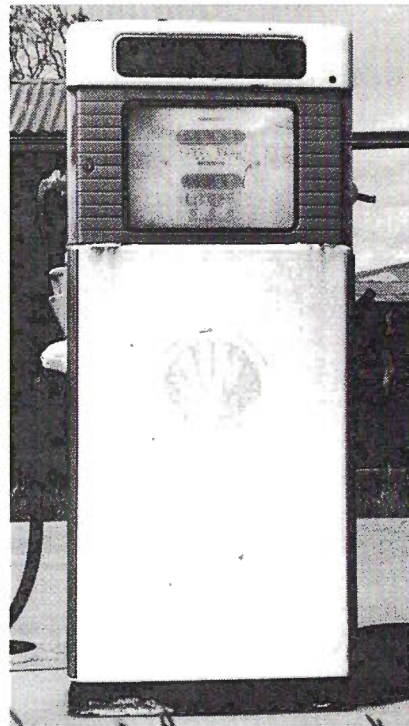
'The Recent Past' was the theme of the 1993 annual conference of the Australasian Society for Historical Archaeology, hosted by the State Heritage Branch in co-operation with Flinders and Adelaide Universities. Historical archaeologists study the physical remains of Australian settlement since 1788, and this

conference looked at the ways in which archaeological techniques could contribute to our knowledge of the last few decades, as opposed to the distant past where they are more commonly applied.

'Many of our heritage places, such as the Innamincka Nursing Home or Koonalda Homestead, have great historic value to Australia, although they aren't really very old. The conference was an opportunity to compare notes with researchers and cultural resource managers of similar places all over Australia', said Peter Bell of the State Heritage Branch, one of the conference organisers.

(right) Petrol Pump, Koonalda Homestead 1960s

(below) Innamincka: Australian Inland Mission, c.1930s



TAX INCENTIVES FOR CONSERVATION WORK

In the last Federal budget the government offered a Tax Incentive in the form of a 20% rebate on registered properties carrying out conservation work.

Two million dollars was granted nationally by the government encouraging a possible 10 million dollars in conservation work.

This scheme is an important contribution to the care and maintenance of heritage properties. Only properties on the State Heritage Register or on the National Estate Register are eligible for such a rebate. Preference will be given to conservation work on heritage places that are visible or accessible to the community. All interested property owners can obtain information through the State Heritage Branch.

HERITAGE PHOTOGRAPHIC AWARDS 1994

T H E M E : 2 0 T H C E N T U R Y H E R I T A G E

Heritage is a broad concept that means different things to different people. Heritage can mean associations with a core of traditions and values passed from one generation to the next, for example our sporting or European heritage. Traditional skills such as stonemasonry may also be regarded as heritage. Heritage is also reflected in buildings and landscapes.

Heritage is an important aspect of all our lives but it is precisely because the perceptions of heritage are so broad that it creates such interest.

The State Heritage Branch and the National Trust of South Australia have announced their annual Heritage Photographic Awards.

Last year's competition attracted more than one hundred entries on the theme of heritage; the result was a wide array of heritage from natural landscapes to wrought iron fences. Photographs were displayed in Adelaide and country areas during 1993.

The Awards for 1994 challenge the photographer to look at 20th century heritage. The place or item does not have to be heritage listed but it should be regarded as part of our heritage by the photographer. The only criterion is that the place or item was built or formed in the 20th century. For example; the Tropical Conservatory at the Adelaide Botanic Gardens represents a high degree of creative accomplishment; Adelaide High School and the Piccadilly



Theatre are examples of the Modern Movement in Architecture; the MLC building in Victoria Square is Adelaide's first post-war skyscraper and a benchmark building embodying advances in construction techniques; the tapestry that is being created for next year's Women's Suffrage Centenary may be regarded as historically significant.

Focusing on 20th century heritage reminds us that heritage is dynamic - aspects of a heritage place may disappear simply through the needs of modern living, or they are regarded as historic depending on what is significant for a particular historical period.

The prize for the 1994 Heritage Photographic Awards will be \$2,000 for the open category and \$500 for the Year 12 category. The closing date is 14 March 1994. The best entries will be selected and exhibited statewide during 1994.

Contact: Francesca Stropin (ph) 207 2380

Photo: Ewe Island Barrage built between 1935-40. This barrage was built to ensure that the southern reaches of the River Murray were not contaminated by seawater, and to ensure that the reclaimed farmland between Mannum and Wellington could be irrigated by gravitation. (John Dallwitz, 1983)

NEW USES for heritage buildings

*...We possess no other life, no other living sap,
than the treasures stored up from the past
and digested, assimilated, and created afresh by us.*

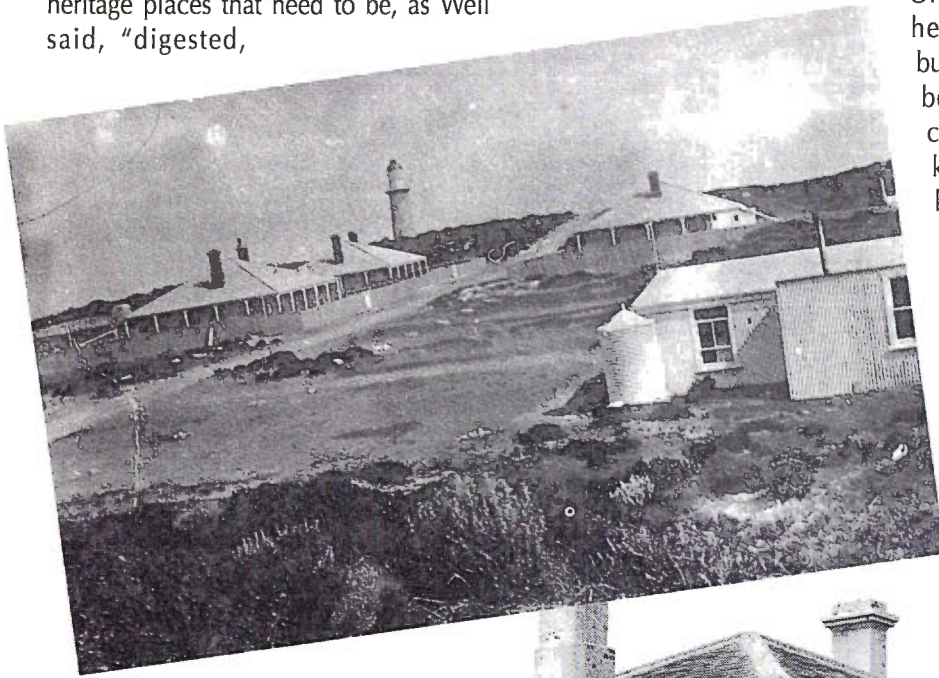
(Simon Weil, *The Need for Roots*)

Built heritage convinces us that the past really happened. It is these tangible links with the past that give us our identity. But change is inevitable. What happens to heritage places that need to be, as Weil said, "digested,

assimilated, and created afresh by the needs of present society."

One of the issues regarding protection of heritage places is that by changing a building, part of the cultural significance has been lost. But history is dynamic and change is inevitable; the challenge is to keep the integrity of the structure while keeping in mind the needs of modern day use. The following examples are just some good examples of owners of heritage places who have been able to meet this challenge.

(left) Workers cottages 1909, Cape de Couedic, Kangaroo Island to holiday homes 1980 (below).



Cape de Couedic on Kangaroo Island had for many years been the site of numerous shipwrecks during the nineteenth century. For this reason it was advocated to build a lighthouse, and building commenced in 1907. Three lodges known as 'Troubridge', 'Karatta', and 'Parndana', all named after sailing vessels, were built nearby to house the

three lighthouse keepers and their families. The lighthouse was staffed from 1909 to 1957 until it became automatic.

These worker's cottages have been recently restored and are now available for holiday-makers, sleeping up to six people at an approximate cost of \$45 a night.

Prior to the Education Act of 1875, which made school attendance compulsory, the education of South Australian children was the responsibility of parents. If indeed children went to school they were given their lessons by self-styled teachers who often used their own homes as classrooms.

In the Morphett Vale district, William Waters ran such a school at Morphett Vale, Fanny Strongham at Hackham, and another was located at Field River servicing the Worthing Mine area. The Morphett Vale School was built in 1880 by Edward John Woods (Colonial Architect-in-Chief) and was occupied by the Education

Department until December 1989. The building is an important reminder of the importance given to education in rural South Australia in the late nineteenth century. It is now an office of Blackwell Funeral Parlor who have sensitively restored a heritage place for modern use while retaining its integrity. (State Heritage Branch report 1991, Yve Reynolds)



Morphett Vale School, 1908.
Back Row: Lawrence Sprigg, Clarrie Anderson, Wilfrid Taylor, Frank Stillwell, George Clayton, Robert Morrow, Clifford Stillwell, Eric Christie, Hurtle Hutchinson.
Middle Row: Charles Marr, Myra Jones, May Hunt, Madge Potter, Alice Marr, Gwen Jones, Dorothy Crittenden, Gertie Boothy, Myrtle Cain, Wilfred Anderson.
Front Row: Eva Hutchinson, Nellie O'Sullivan, Bessie Collins, Dorothy O'Sullivan, Hilda Hutchinson, Pearl Boothy, Dolly Christie, Grace McPhearson, Freda Collins.
Seated: Harold Hutchinson, Lindsay Anderson, Queenie Sparrow, Clarice Kelly, Gwen Stenson, Kathleen Christie, Leslie Hutchinson, Harry Stillwell.
 (PHOTO COURTESY OF MR. H. RIDING.)

Morphett Vale Primary School – class of 1908

Blackwell's Funeral Parlor, 1993



NEW USES for Heritage Buildings

The first police station in the Marryatville area was built on the eastern corner of Clapton Road and Kensington Road and opened on New Year's Day, 1885.

A new police complex for Marryatville was finished in 1908. The police continued to operate from this building in Marryatville until 1960. Due to a need for greater efficiency, police operations became centralised in the city; because of this several police stations in the eastern suburbs were closed. Until 1991 the Marryatville Police Station was used as overflow accommodation or as a 'staging post' for officers who were moving from one posting to another and needed temporary housing .

The police station has been successfully transformed into a Dental Surgery by owners Swaine & Peterson Real Estate Agents. It is a familiar sight on a prominent position on Kensington Road. (State Heritage Branch report 1991, Hamish Angas)

Marryatville Police Station 1908, to a Dental Surgery 1993



SYMPATHETIC REDEVELOPMENT

JENS' ANNEXE: MT GAMBIER

During the 1960s councils throughout the State embarked on a policy of removing verandah posts from commercial buildings to be replaced by cantilevered canopies. As a consequence some Victorian buildings lost decorative features such as iron lacework, which impacted on the streetscape: such is the case with Jens' Annexe in Mt Gambier.

In the top photograph the consequences of the 1960s policy of removing verandahs is clearly stated : the picture below shows how with vision and persistence a building can be

restored to its former presence. In 1993 Jens' Annexe is very much like it was in 1901 when it was built as upstairs accommodation and mixed business downstairs, (the building is popularly known as 'Jens' Annexe' because it was used for accommodation for Jens Hotel staff during the 1920s).

The impressive restoration of Jens' Annexe owes much to the interest and foresight of its current owners Brian and Sue Page. Brian is a chemical engineer who worked within the timber industry : he restored the building by looking closely

at similar buildings (such as Jens Hotel) and through old photographs. Westside Manufacturing Pty Ltd in Adelaide were helpful in researching and making the iron lacework that was used in the restoration.

Brian has a strong feeling for heritage places and realised the nexus between Jens' Annexe, Jens Hotel and the old Town Hall (all three are two storeyed and faced with red dolomite; Jens Hotel retains its iron lacework).

In addition Brian and Sue saw the commercial potential that renovation would bring. They expected the upstairs area would be more attractive for people to rent, and this has proved to be the case.

Not only has the restoration been of commercial value for the Pages but it has added aesthetic value to the streetscape which everyone can enjoy. Restoration of the building is still continuing on the inside and rear of the building.

1990



1993



CONSERVATION ISSUES

- Maintenance of Heritage Places
- Adaptations and Additions
- Rising Damp
- Repainting

These are some of the problems that owners of heritage places must deal with. Information on these and other conservation issues and concerns are available from the State Heritage Branch. Conservation Architects can also give free advice to potential and current owners of heritage places.



One Final Thought:

*When I most want to be contemporary the Past keeps pushing in,
and when I long for the Past...the Present cannot be pushed away.*

Robertson Davies, *The Rebel Angels*

Editor: Francesca Stropin

Front Cover: Cordillo Downs Woolshed (Peter Wells 1993)

Newsletter of the State Heritage Branch of the
Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

ISSN 1320 – 4173

January 1994

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