

South Australian Heritage Council

HERITAGE NEWS – JUNE 2022



Image: Council members outside the Hahndorf Academy.

From left to right: Marcus Rolfe, Deborah Lindsay, Eleanor Walters, Gavin Leydon, Keith Conlon, Jan Ferguson, Peggy Brock, Kate McDougall and Stephen Schrapel

Heritage News contains news from the Council meeting and other topical news relating to conserving and promoting South Australia's unique heritage.

The South Australian Heritage Council (Council) met on 23 June 2022 in the Hahndorf Memorial Institute on Peramangk Country.



**Government of
South Australia**

Contents

- Introduction3**
- Confirmations in the South Australian Heritage Register.....4**
 - Green Waterhole – Tank Cave Fossil Complex.....4
- Hahndorf – State Heritage Area6**
- The Hahndorf Academy8**
- Hahndorf open forum11**
- Council’s Strategic Plan Update12**
- More Heritage News!13**
 - Overland Telegraph Symposium.....13
 - Celebrate NAIDOC Week, 3 – 10 July 202213
- The Criteria.....14**
- More information15**



Image: Lyndell Davidge speaking with Keith Conlon and other Council members, Main Street, Hahndorf

Introduction

We hope you enjoy this edition of Heritage News. Most of these stories come from the 23 June 2022 meeting of the SA Heritage Council on location.

We took the opportunity to explore some of the current issues in Hahndorf, surely the most visited of the 17 State Heritage Areas in South Australia.

On the one hand, it retains a strong sense of the original village in 1839, the oldest surviving German settlement in Australia. On the other, it is SA's most visited town, a tourism magnet. We much appreciated hearing about the inevitable concerns that arise as the community reconciles those realities.

In what was largely a policy matters agenda, Council did however confirm a new State Heritage listing of particular note. South Australia is rich in fossil sites but the Green Waterhole – Tank Cave Complex near Mount Gambier contains the only known extensive underwater vertebrate fossil deposits in Australia. On Boandik Country, it is now designated as a place of geological, palaeontological and speleological significance.

We are keen to bring you more information, news and ideas for enjoying our State Heritage.

Please browse other heritage news through this web page:

<https://www.environment.sa.gov.au/topics/heritage/heritage-news-events>

If you enjoy getting information from social media please see further links at the end of this edition. You'll find regular history and heritage posts from me, too, on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn. TikTok? Maybe later. Much later.

Enjoy!



Keith Conlon

Chair, South Australian Heritage Council



Image: St Michael's Lutheran Church Cemetery, Hahndorf. Source: Keith Conlon.

Confirmations in the South Australian Heritage Register

Green Waterhole – Tank Cave Fossil Complex

The Green Waterhole Tank Cave Fossil Complex is located on the cultural lands of the Boandik people.

The Council confirmed the entry of this place in the South Australian Heritage Register under criteria (b), (c) and (g) and Designated it as a place of geological, palaeontological and speleological significance. The criteria are listed on page 14 of this document for your information.

The Green Waterhole – Tank Cave Fossil Complex contains the only known extensive underwater vertebrate fossil deposits in Australia. This unique freshwater depositional environment has ensured the preservation of extinct species not found anywhere else, with several additional species new to science recovered and awaiting description.

The underwater deposits have also resulted in a completeness and preservation of fossil assemblages almost unique for Australia. This provides an important opportunity to investigate the evolution of South Australian mammals and birds. The impacts of this type of site on the age and nature of the fossil remains have yet to be fully studied.

The complex represents unusual geological formations including the occurrence of a shallow fresh waterhole not usually found in sinkholes in the South East, and evidence of rare volcanogenic influences in the formation of the cave system.

The cave complex also demonstrates rare speleological features, including length of cave passageways, clarity of water, underwater speleothems, and being a type locality for stygofauna. The complex also holds importance for the development of cave diving in the country and is closely associated with the Cave Divers Association of Australia.



Image: Green Waterhole (from drone). Source: DEW files.



Image: Green Waterhole cave entrance lake showing a line of grid marker stakes
Photo: Peter Rogers 1979



Image: Bone Room' in Green Waterhole/Tank Cave system - Photo: Stewart Don, 2019

If you would like to find out more about the Green Waterhole Tank Complex, you can read the Summary of State Heritage Place through this webpage:

<https://www.environment.sa.gov.au/topics/heritage/sa-heritage-register/entries-confirmations>

Hahndorf – State Heritage Area

Located on Peramangk Country.

In December 1838, 38 Lutheran families arrived at Port Adelaide aboard the Zebra, captained by Dirk Hahn. They settled in what is now known as Hahndorf (Hahn's village). A further 14 German families who had settled at Klemzig on the River Torrens, joined their brethren at Hahndorf. The names of the 52 pioneering families are inscribed on the gates of the Pioneer Memorial Gardens in the town (image below).

Hahndorf's layout is a unique form, combining characteristics of both the farmlet (Hufendorf) and street village (Strassendorf) patterns of Prussian land subdivision.

Some of the older buildings show traditional German designs and techniques, such as "fachwerk" with timber framing and wattle and daub infill panels. Many other buildings are of local stone, which together with the large street trees create a distinctive streetscape. Open farmland at both ends of the town is another important element of its landscape setting and character.

The declaration of the Hahndorf State Heritage Area, on 25 August 1988, acknowledges the town of Hahndorf as Australia's oldest (1839) surviving German settlement.



The South Australian Heritage Council undertook a walking tour of a portion of the Main Street of Hahndorf.

The Council thanks Ms Lyndell Davidge and Mr Harold Gallash of Hahndorf for accompanying it on the walking tour and explaining the heritage significance and issues of various aspects along the way.



The Hahndorf Academy

The Council were welcomed by Mike Greenwood, Chair of the Board of the Hahndorf Academy and were taken on a tour to explain how this building was built through the addition of rooms over time, rather than as one holistic structure. The additions were seamlessly added and what we see today is a historic building perfect for the art and craft shop, museum and gallery that it is.





Image: Exhibition inside the Hahndorf Gallery



Image: Nora Heysen's illustrations of New Guinea children.



Image: Council member's, community and staff outside the Hahndorf Academy. Source: Keith Conlon.

For more information about the Hahndorf Academy, visit the website:

<http://hahndorfacademy.org.au/the-hahndorf-academy-story#:~:text=It%20served%20as%20a%20nursing,art%20gallery%20and%20heritage%20museum.>

Hahndorf open forum

Returning to the Hahndorf Memorial Institute, the Council had a constructive discussion with members of the community and representation from the Mount Barker District Council and Heritage South Australia.

Hahndorf is one of seventeen State Heritage Areas in South Australia.

Council thanks Lyndell Davidge, Harold Gallasch, Julie White and Dieter Siefert – Hahndorf locals for their important contributions to the discussion about conserving Hahndorf’s heritage values. Council also thanks Mr Nathan Franklin of Mount Barker District Council for his input.

Heritage Standards are used by Heritage South Australia, as delegates of the Minister responsible for the *Heritage Places Act 1993*, in undertaking assessment for referrals under the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016*. Heritage Standards are part of the set of rules that govern the approach to development within a State Heritage Area. The Heritage Standards – Colonel Light Gardens State Heritage Area were published in March 2021 following community consultation. Mr Philip Knight whom was involved in the development of the process for the Heritage Standards for Colonel Light Gardens State Heritage Area, was present at the forum and outlined the importance of community input.

Heritage Standards are proposed for the remaining State Heritage Areas. Details of community involvement and public consultation will be advised to all key stakeholders and the local community when available.

The Council were saddened to hear of the passing of Mr Malcolm Kentish, a passionate Hahndorf local who was the Chair of the local resident’s association. Council passes its condolences on to Malcolm’s family and friends.

Council members found it very useful to hear from members of the community about several key issues.



Council's Strategic Plan Update

Council discussed a range of actions it could undertake, some independently, and some with the assistance of Heritage SA or other stakeholders, to progress its Strategic Plan – Towards 2025.

The Strategic Plan is based on three pillars of Protect, Conserve and Promote.

Work in 2022/23 to include, but not limited to:

- SA Heritage Council and the State Planning Commission to meet quarterly.
- Provide advice to the Minister responsible for Heritage, the Hon. Dr. Susan Close MP.
- Complete the thematic framework for SA.
- Focus attention on thematic gap priorities including conflict/contact sites and twentieth century places.
- Advocate to Government for ongoing investment into heritage grants and investigate alternative funding sources.
- Investigate the value of a revival of a regional heritage advisory service and consult key stakeholders.
- Provide mechanisms and information for Place owners in areas of high fire risk.
- Consider possible Planning and Design Code amendment to promote adaptive reuse of State Heritage Places.

The Strategic Plan can be downloaded via this link:

<https://www.environment.sa.gov.au/topics/heritage/sa-heritage-council/strategic-plan>

More Heritage News!

Overland Telegraph Symposium

This symposium will feature a range of speakers presenting newly researched information about the Overland Telegraph Line, what preceded it, the heroic effort to build it and what followed. The line was completed in 1872. With its connections, the near instantaneous communication with the world went a long way to dissipate the Tyranny of Distance felt by the people of colonial Australia.

Date: Thursday 21 July 2022. Time: 9:30am - 1:00pm.

Location: University of South Australia, City West Campus.

Cost: \$15

Bookings through Eventbrite:

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/overland-telegraph-sesquicentennial-symposium-tickets-324457098917?keep_tld=1

<https://www.barossa.sa.gov.au/community-and-wellbeing/news/latest-news/recognising-peramangk-connection-to-herbig-tree>

Celebrate NAIDOC Week, 3 – 10 July 2022

NAIDOC Week celebrates the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The South Australian Heritage Council is fully committed to a comprehensive process of truth telling and working together to ensure stories related to heritage places are culturally appropriate.

This year's theme calls for all of us to continue to Get Up! Stand Up! Show Up! for systemic change by rallying around, advocating for and supporting Aboriginal communities and Aboriginal Elders.

NAIDOC 2022 invites us to embrace First Nations' cultural knowledge and understanding of Country as part of Australia's national heritage and equally respect the culture and values of Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islanders.

The Criteria

HERITAGE PLACES ACT 1993 – SECTION 16—HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

A place is of heritage significance if it satisfies one or more of the following criteria:

- (a) it demonstrates important aspects of the evolution or pattern of the State's history; or*
- (b) it has rare, uncommon or endangered qualities that are of cultural significance; or*
- (c) it may yield information that will contribute to an understanding of the State's history, including its natural history; or*
- (d) it is an outstanding representative of a particular class of places of cultural significance; or*
- (e) it demonstrates a high degree of creative, aesthetic or technical accomplishment or is an outstanding representative of particular construction techniques or design characteristics; or*
- (f) it has strong cultural or spiritual associations for the community or a group within it; or*
- (g) it has a special association with the life or work of a person or organisation or an event of historical importance.*

More information

If you would like to know more about the work of the South Australian Heritage Council and Heritage South Australia, here are some useful links.

Receive information through our email distribution list. Email us at:
dew.heritage@sa.gov.au

Web: <https://www.environment.sa.gov.au/topics/heritage>



Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/heritagesouthaustralia>



LinkedIn - Heritage South Australia:



Published by the South Australian Heritage Council
Government of South Australia
30 June 2022

Telephone +61 (8) 8226 2127

www.environment.sa.gov.au



With the exception of the Piping Shrike emblem, other material or devices protected by Aboriginal rights or a trademark, and subject to review by the Government of South Australia at all times, the content of this document is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 Licence. All other rights are reserved.

© Crown in right of the State of South Australia



**Government of
South Australia**