

# SA Heritage Register

Nomination form

## South Australian HERITAGE COUNCIL

To help your nomination be successful, please fill out this form with as much information as possible.

Feel free to expand the answer fields as much as you require or append information to the form.

Please note that places which have been nominated during past three years will not be reconsidered by the South Australian Heritage Council unless you can provide significant new information not provided through the previous nomination and assessment.

For assistance with this form you may contact:

Your local historical society or heritage adviser may be of assistance OR you may telephone an assessment officer in Heritage South Australia on (08) 8124 4960.

### A. Nominated Place

<b>1. Name</b>	
Name of Place / Object:	FIRST PUMPING STATION CORBOGELA IRRIGATION
Any other or former name(s):	AREA ON LAKE BONNEY BARMERA (INDIAN
Is the place already on another heritage list?	AMKA NO. 1 PLANT) (RUINS) NO

<b>2. Location</b> LAKE BONNEY/BARMERA SHORE					
Street Address:	LAKESIDE DRIVE (C/PARK RESERVE)				
	Suburb / Town: BARMERA		Post Code: 5345		
Local Council Name:	THE BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL				
Land Description: (if known)	Title:	Volume:	Folio:	Parcel Type:	Parcel No:
	Plan Type:	Plan No:	Section:	Hundred:	
GPS Location/s: (if known)	Longitude / Easting / X		Latitude / Northing / Y (Datum = )		

<b>3. Ownership</b>	
Name of Owner(s):	
Contact person: (if different from owner explain relationship)	
Postal Address:	Street Address:
	Suburb / Town: Post Code:
Phone Number:	
Ownership History:	PREVIOUSLY - CORBOGELA COUNCIL

<b>4. Nominator (your details)</b>	
Your Name/s:	
Organisation/Position:	
Daytime Phone:	
Fax:	
Postal Address:	Street Address:
	Suburb / Town: Post Code:

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**South Australian  
HERITAGE COUNCIL**

Email Address:

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## B. Description

5. Description of nominated place or object	
Description of the nominated place or object and its current condition:	SUBSTANTIAL CONCRETE WALL (ENCLOSURE OF THREE SIDES OF PUMPING STATION (RUINS)) (SEE ATTACHMENT 46)
Are you aware of any modifications or additions to the place or object? Can you provide dates for these changes?	NO
Do you believe there may be historical items under the ground? Should an archaeological investigation be considered?	NO
Date you inspected the place or object:	TUESDAY 31 <sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2023
Have you had any contact with the Owner?	YES
Current use of the place or object:	LAKE OBSERVATION/FISHING WALL
Original or former use(s):	FLOOD PROTECTION WALL FOR 1 <sup>ST</sup> PUMPING STATION
Are there any current or long term threats to the nominated place or object?	YES - COUNCIL VOTED TO DEMOLISH THE WALL
Name of Builder:	NOT YET NAMED
Any other information:	IMMEDIATE STOP OF DEMOLITION REQUESTED

## C. History

6. Origins and history	
Years of Construction:	Start: 1916 Finish: 1916
Name of Designer / Architect:	NOT KNOWN JOHN HERMANSON ASSISTED
History of the nominated place or object:	THE PUMPING STATION ERECTED TO IRRIGATE LUCERNE (FOODEN) CROPS FOR HORSE TEAMS TO DEVELOP THE COBBOLOGA IRRIGATION AREA. (SEE ATTACHMENT - PUMPING PLANTS - COBBOLOGA IRRIGATION AREA)
Historical sources used to support your nomination: Please attach copies of pages from publications or newspaper articles as appropriate.	✓



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## D. Heritage Significance

<b>7. Statement of State Significance - Why is the place or object important to South Australia?</b>	
It is of State heritage significance because IT DENOTES THE SITE OF THE FIRST PUMPING SITE TO OPEN UP THE COBDOCLA IRRIGATION AREA - WITH THIS AREA EXCLUSIVELY TO BE SETTLED BY RETURNED WWI SERVICE MEN - AS AN IMPORTANT FOOD PRODUCING AREA FOR THE STATE AND EXPORTS - BUILDING ON THE COBDOCLA STATION - SETTLED IN 1846 TO PRODUCE LIVE STOCK TO THE ADELAIDE CITY DEVELOPMENT	
<b>8. Significance Criteria</b>	
The South Australian <i>Heritage Places Act</i> 1993 lists seven criteria by which places are assessed as 'State significant'. Please tick the criteria you feel the place demonstrates and explain your reasons.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	It demonstrates important aspects of the evolution or pattern of the State's history. FIRST PUMPING STATION TO OPEN UP THE COBDOCLA IRRIGATION AREAS OF COBDOCLA, BARMENEA AND LOVEBAY - THE LATTER TWO AREAS - DESIGNATED WWI SOLDIER SETTLEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/>	It has rare, uncommon or endangered qualities that are of cultural significance.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	It may yield information that will contribute to an understanding of the State's history, including its natural history. ALLOCATED LAND - RURAL AND TOWN WAR SERVICE PERPETUAL LEASE TITLES - AND ORIGINAL WAR SERVICE RURAL PROPERTIES SERVICED
<input type="checkbox"/>	It is an outstanding representative of a particular class of places of cultural significance.
<input type="checkbox"/>	It demonstrates a high degree of creative, aesthetic or technical accomplishment or is an outstanding representative of particular construction techniques or design characteristics.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	It has strong cultural or spiritual associations for the community or a group within it. RECOGNISED AS A COMMUNITY LAND MARK
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	It has a special association with the life or work of a person or organisation or an event of historical importance. THE LIFE OF MR JOHN HERMANSON (WITH DECEASED'S STILL IN TOWN) SEE ATTACHED MR JOHN HERMANSON OLD BARM RESIDENT



## E. Additional Information

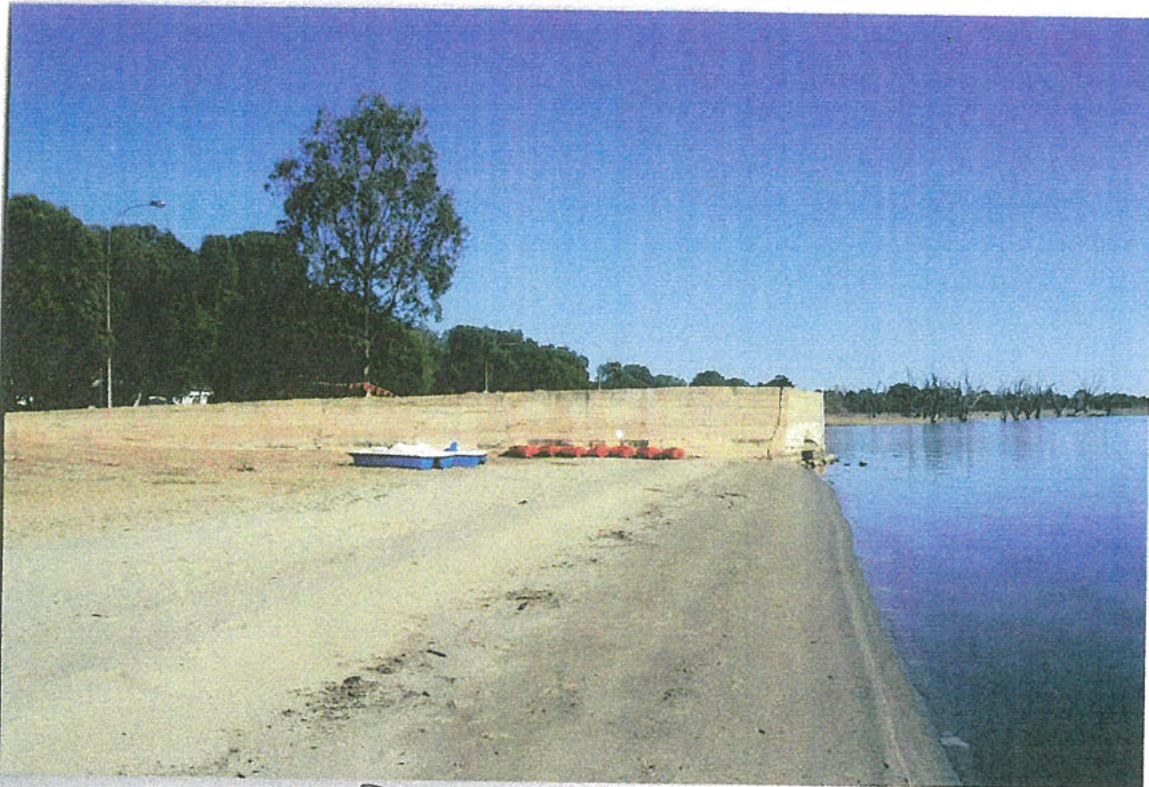
## 9. Images/Maps/Diagrams/Site Plans

A full range of images including maps, site plans, and photographs will help your nomination.

Please provide:

- a clear outline of the place or object being nominated within any maps or plans provided ✓
- high quality images of the place or object (please list the total number of images being provided) 2
- the subject of each image ✓
- the date each image was created 2022
- the author of each image, and [REDACTED]
- the copyright holder of each image (if known) [REDACTED]

EASTERN SIDE OF PUMPING STATION WALL ✓



TOP WALL ELEVATION OVER LOOKING LAKE BONNEY ✓





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## South Australian HERITAGE COUNCIL

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, [REDACTED] nominate FIRST PUMPING STATION  
to be heritage listed. CORROUSEL INNOVATION AREA (NOOKAMIA NO 1 PLANT)  
(RUINS)

The information I/we have provided is correct to my/our knowledge.

Your Signature/s: [REDACTED]

Date: 6<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2023

### Nomination Form Checklist

Please check that your nomination includes:

- ☒ A clear indication of the location of the place or object (including map/s). Where a number of features are nominated, show the location of each and/or a boundary surrounding the significant elements of the site.
- ☒ A history of the place or object explaining important aspects relevant to the nomination. This should generally help support arguments of cultural significance.
- ☒ A clear description of the nominated place or object/s.
- ☒ A statement of significance and indication on how the place or object satisfies one or more of the significance criteria.
- ☒ Have you taken the opportunity to discuss the nomination with a heritage assessment officer? It is strongly advised you to do so prior to submitting this nomination.

Email: [DEWHeritage@sa.gov.au](mailto:DEWHeritage@sa.gov.au)

Post: Executive Officer, South Australian Heritage Council  
Department for Environment and Water  
GPO Box 1047, Adelaide SA 5001



welcome to  
Barmera

Barmera  
Central

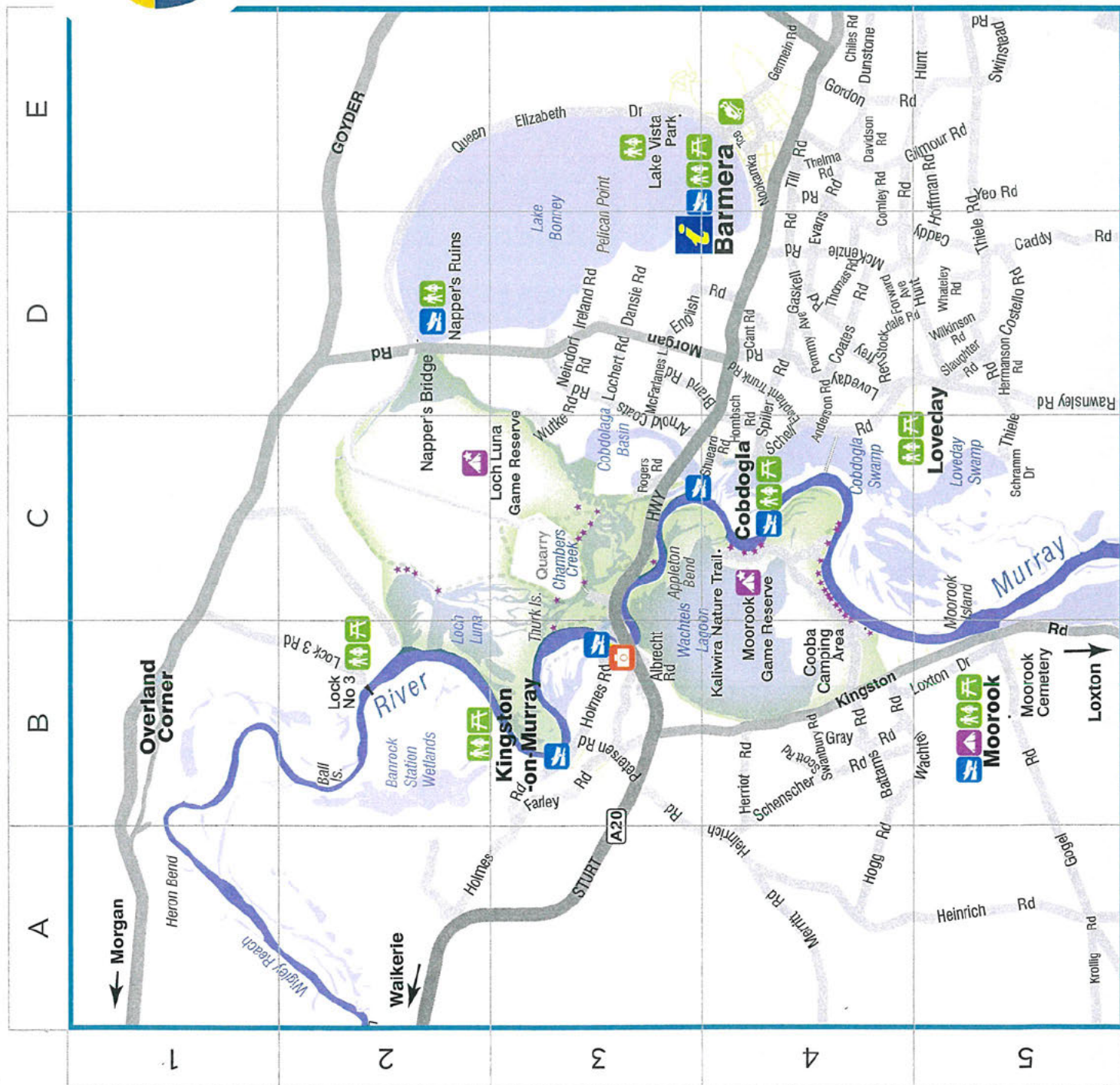


### Amenities

- VIC
- RV Dump Point
- RV Overnight
- Boat Ramp
- Campsite
- Camp Reserve
- Scenic Lookout
- Public Toilet
- Picnic Area/BBQ
- Golf Course

Scan the QR code  
to visit our website  
& access more tourism  
and historical information.

**Barmera Visitor  
Information Centre**



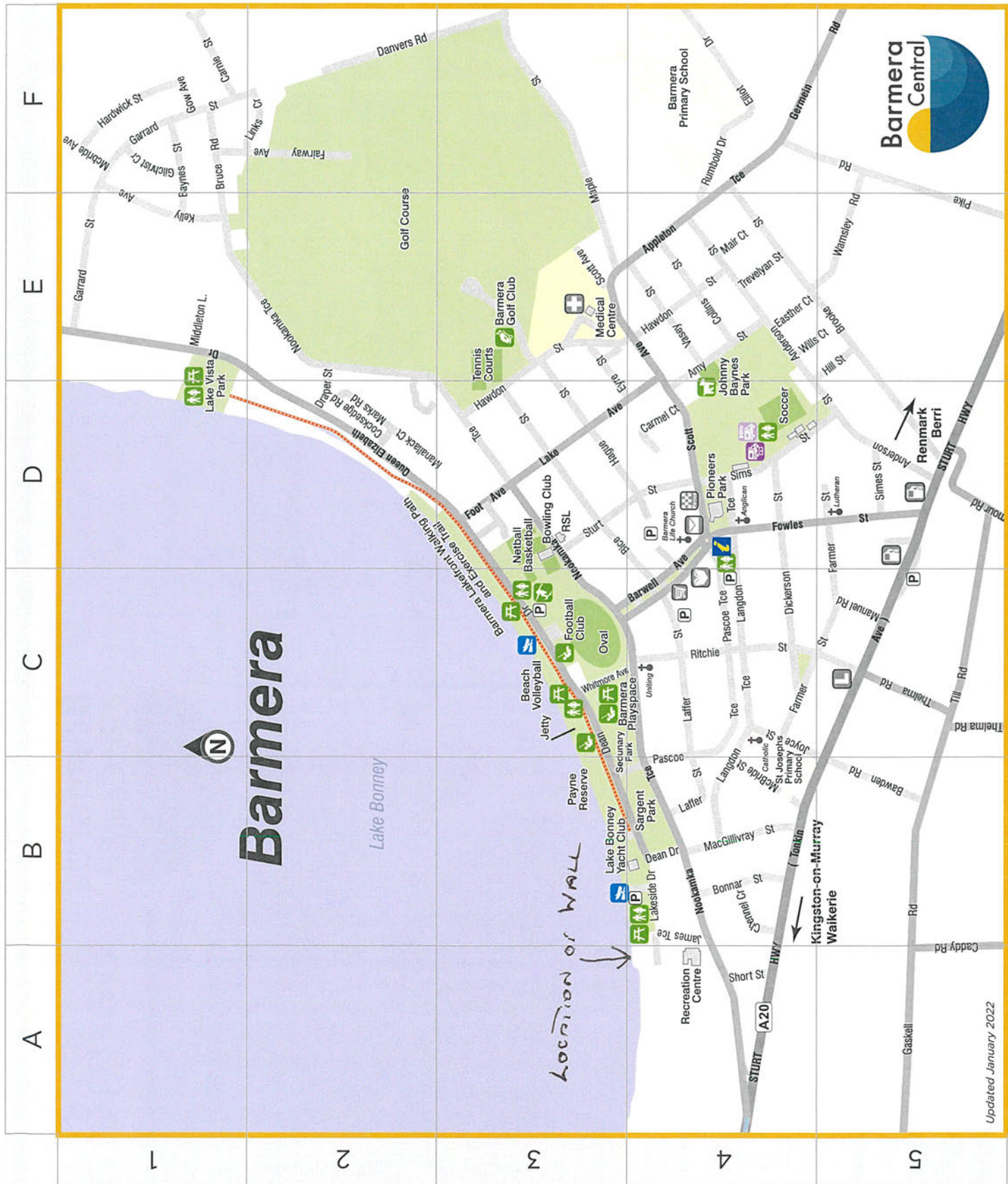


- Streets
- Amy Street E4  
Anderson Street E4  
Appleton Terrace E4  
Barwell Avenue C4  
Bawden Road B5  
Baynes Street E1  
Bice Street D3  
Bonmar Street B4  
Brooke Street E5  
Bruce Road F1  
Caddy Road A5  
Carnel Court D4  
Carnie Street F1  
Chermel Crescent B4  
Cocksedge Road D2  
Collins Street E4  
Danvers Road F2  
Dean Drive C3  
Dickerson Street C4  
Draper Road D2  
Eather Court E4  
Eyre Street E3  
Fairway Avenue F2  
Farmer Street C4  
Foot Avenue D3  
Fowles Street D4  
Garrard Street F1  
Gaskell Road A5  
Germein Road F4  
Gilchrist Crescent F1  
Gilmour Road D5  
Gow Avenue F1  
Hardwick Street F1  
Hague Street D3  
Hawdon Street E3  
Hill Street E5  
James Terrace B4  
Joyce Street C4  
Kelly Avenue E1  
Laffer Street C4  
Lake Avenue D3  
Lakeside Drive B4  
Langdon Terrace C4  
Links Crescent F2  
Macgillivray Street B4  
Mair Court E3  
Manallack Court D2  
Manuel Road C5  
Maple Street F3  
Marks Road D2  
McBride Avenue F1  
McBride Street B4  
Nookamka Terrace B4

Pascoe Terrace C4  
Pike Road F5  
Queen Elizabeth Drive D2  
Ritchie Street C4  
Rumbold Drive F4  
Scott Avenue E3  
Short Street A4  
Sims Street D5  
Sims Street D5  
Sturt Highway A4  
Sturt Street D3  
Thelma Road C5  
Till Road D2  
Tonkin Avenue B4  
Trevelyan Street E4  
Vasey Street D3  
Wamsley Road E5  
Whitmore Avenue C3  
Wills Court E4
- Amenities
- VIC  
RV Dump Point  
RV Overnight  
Boat Ramp

Public Toilet  
Picnic Area/BBQ  
Playground  
Skate Park  
Golf Course  
Dog Park  
Walking Trail

Grocery Store  
Library  
Fuel  
Hospital  
Post Office  
Police  
Laundromat  
Car Park  
Church





irrigation area. In 1930, rising salinity in Lake Bonney caused the water to be unsuitable for irrigation leading to the closure of the station. The area was then supplied via Cobdogla and Loveday pumping stations. In 1936 the building was taken over to house the Barmera Electricity Supply Plant until 1946 when it was purchased and donated to the Yacht Club. The floods of 1956 inundated the premises with water and a plaque indicating the flood level in on the Eastern side of the building. Barmera Yacht club in one of South Australia's leading Yacht Clubs and hosts a full program of regattas through the warmer months including State and National events.

**24 The Retainer Wall**  
*Dean Dr*

The old wall on the lake front near the Lake Bonney Holiday Park was built in 1916 in an attempt to keep approaching floodwaters from engulfing the first steam irrigation pump which was erected on the lake front in 1914.

**25 The Palms**  
*Nookamka Tce*

The Palms behind the Recreation Centre were part of a larger government initiative to establish Date growing along the Overland Telegraph track in outback South Australia. Originally gifted by the French Government in 1891, 50 of these palms were grown in French Algeria, transported to Australia via Marseilles and arrived at Lake Harry (near Maree) in 1895. Through 1914 and 1915 some of the remaining Palms were

Cobdogla irrigation area and planted at the southern end of Lake Bonney.

**26 Uniting Church**  
*Nookamka Tce*

Officially opened in 1922 as a Congregational Church, the Uniting Church was Barmera's first solid construction Church and one of the first buildings in the township.

**27 Memorial Gates**  
*Nookamka Tce*

The Memorial Gates stand at the end of Barwell Ave, at the entrance to the Town oval. These gates are dedicated to local service personnel who paid the supreme sacrifice during the war. A wreath laying service is held there on Remembrance Day.

**28 The Canon**  
*Barwell Ave*

In the shade of the trees at the bottom of Barwell Ave you will find on display a Quick Firing 25 Pounder which was the standard Field Gun used by the Australian Army from 1940 - 1967. The Gun was presented by the Barmera RSL to the Barmera District War Memorial Community Centre who placed it on display in the main street of Barmera.

**29 Celebration of Life Sculpture**  
*Barwell Ave*

In the lawned centre of Barwell Ave you will see a large sculpture "Celebration of Life" by Mark Chiles, local artist. The hand represents hard work and the country music heritage of the town, the foot represents dancing and sporting life and



### PUMPING PLANTS - COBDOGLA IRRIGATION AREA

To provide fodder for the livestock, pumping first started from south Lake Bonney in late 1912, using a steam traction engine powering a Worthington 120,000 gph centrifugal pump on the foreshore to water lucerne paddocks (253C) to the west of the future town of Barmera. The pumping site was near the eastern end of the present caravan park. This temporary unit was very suitable at that time, for being mobile, it could follow the water level in the lake as it rose and fell (before the locking of the river).

#### ROBEY STEAM, NOOKAMKA N° 1 PLANT, 1914.

In 1914, the first pumping station in the (yet to be named) Cobdogla Irrigation Area, was installed on the southern edge of Lake Bonney, adjacent to the present entrance to the caravan park. It was only intended to be a temporary station as it was installed solely for the purpose of supplying water to a channel for irrigating the 127 acre lucerne paddocks. The channel started at the north east corner of Section 1 and its route continued to be used in the following sixty or so years along the northern edge of the Sturt Highway to the west of the town (along the famous avenue of cotton palms). The engine, previously used in a Gawler flour mill, was a Robey slow speed (100-140 rpm), two cylinder horizontal 260 hp steam engine, supplied by James Martin & Co of Gawler, which drove via ropes an 18" Kelly and Lewis centrifugal pump of 250,000 gph capacity. The pump delivered to a portion of the future Nookamka [§] Division to a lift of about 30' through a 26" wooden stave rising main bound with ¼" steel rod bands, totalling about 680' in length. The plant was later designated Nookamka N° 1 plant.

This station experienced problems from the start, for no sooner was it installed, than the big drought of 1914-15 occurred and it was left high and dry for about twelve months from early 1914. During this period, as the lake steadily dried out, the Department progressively planted a crop of barley on the lake bed, and it was eventually mowed and carted away as loose hay for the stock.

[§] The correct meaning is uncertain. Sam McIntosh said it was the native name for the lake.

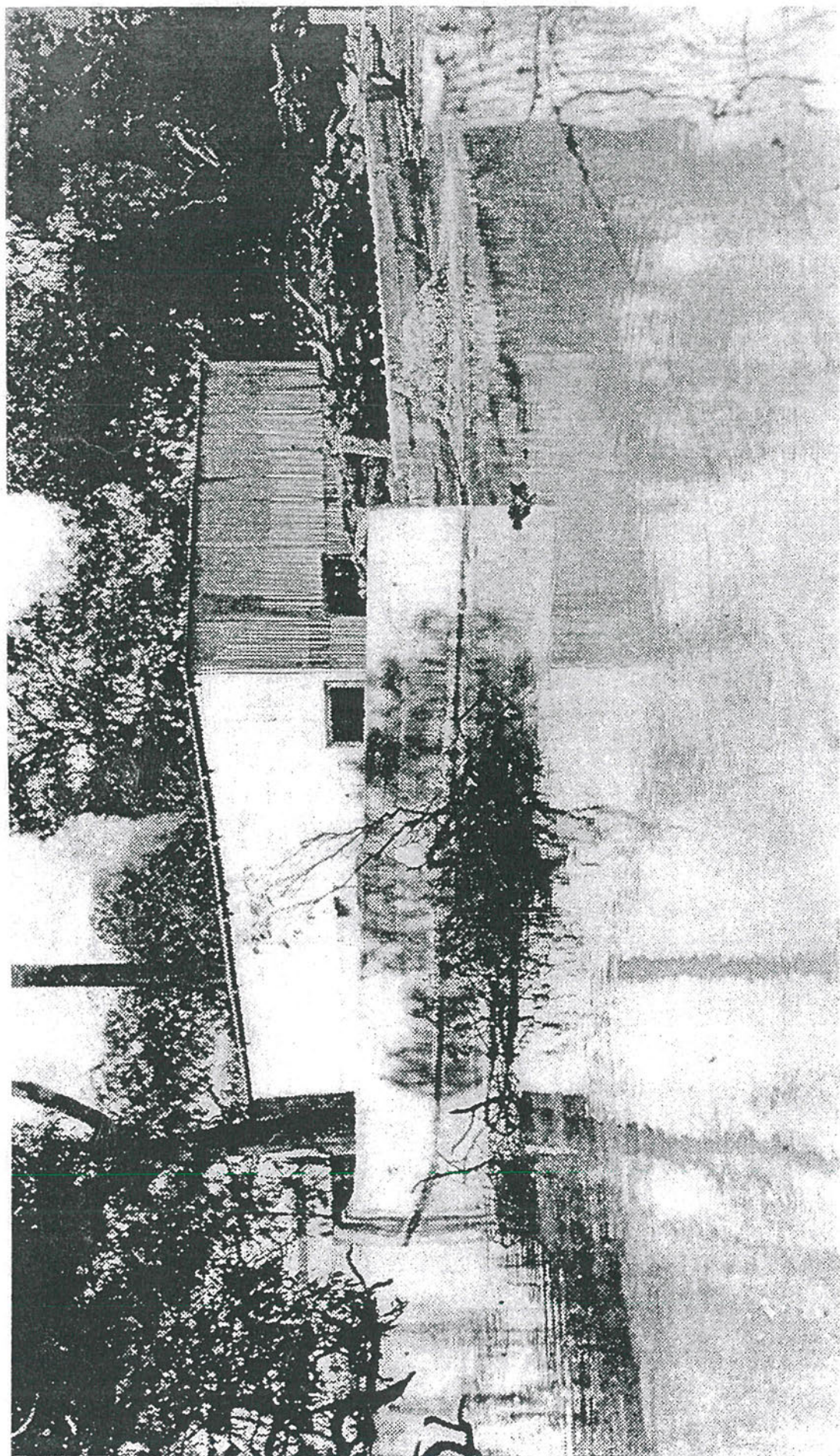
Other historians state it means lake of shining water, or the name of the tribe who occupied the southern shore.



PUMPING STATION N° 2 ON LAKE BONNEY (Refer page 255) in 1920. From 1936-1947, it housed the council electric generating plant and later was occupied by the Lake Bonney Yacht Club. The view is over the site of Barmera. The new Nookamka channel, woodstacks, store and staff cubicles are evident.

Author's collection.





*First pumping station, Lake Bonney 1917.*



## Mr. John Hermanson Old Barm. Resident

The recent death of Mr. John Hermanson has removed one of the oldest, if not the oldest, resident of Barmera.

Mr. Hermanson was an early employee of the Irrigation and Reclamation Department as early as 1913. During the 1914 low river he was one who assisted in placing a sandbag barrage across the River at Kingston to enable water to be supplied to the then small settlement.

At a later stage, he assisted on the construction of temporary pumping plant, at what was then known as South Lake (Lake Bonney) and he was employed at the plant for a number of years as engine-driver, and on the completion of a permanent pumping station he was kept on in this capacity.

Water was later supplied to the Nookamka Area from Cobdogla through Loveday and

20/12/0.

this plant was closed. Mr. Hermanson was transferred to Loveday, where he remained till reaching the age of retirement. Owing to staff shortage, he carried on in casual employment.

Finally retiring from the irrigation branch of the Engineering and Water Supply Department his interests were taken up as a shareholder and he became engineer of the Barmera Smallgoods Factory. The passing of the Steam Boilers Act in 1914, required all persons in charge of a steam boiler or steam engine to hold a certificate and Hermanson lost no time in obtaining a First Class Engine driver's Certificate.

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**Your parcels are delivered to and from MORRELL'S free of charge by Benmark Bus Service.**