

South Australian Heritage Council

HERITAGE NEWS – APRIL 2023



Image: Keith Conlon.

30 March 2023 Keith's last meeting as Chair of the South Australian Heritage Council.

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



Government of
South Australia

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Thank you Keith Conlon

The 30th March 2023 was Keith Conlon's last meeting as Chair of the South Australian Heritage Council.

Keith was an outstanding champion for heritage. He is a great story teller, enhanced by his excellent memory. The affectionate title of "Mr South Australia" is well deserved!

Keith chaired fifty meetings of the Council with his first meeting being held on 19 April 2018 to his last meeting on 30 March 2023.

In Keith's time as Chair, 25 places were confirmed and added to the South Australian Heritage Register as well as 8 objects (including collections of objects at Cummins House and Martindale Hall).

The SA Heritage Council and Heritage South Australia say "Thank You Keith" and we wish him all the very best in his "retirement" (we have noticed he is still producing many great social media posts about SA's heritage and history).



Image: SA Heritage Council members (L-R) Kate McDougall, Deb Lindsay, Keith Conlon, Stephen Schrapel, Eleanor Walters, Rob Donaldson (acting member) at Keith's last meeting



Image: Keith with Council members in Hahndorf on 23 June 2022 for a meeting



Image: Keith presenting at the 2021 Heritage Snaps event, held in the Botanic Gardens.

Confirmations in the South Australian Heritage Register

St Alphonsus Church, 87 George Street, Millicent

On Bunganditj Country.

St Alphonsus' Catholic Church is one of the largest churches built in regional South Australia after the Second World War. This reflects the rapid growth and prosperity of the town of Millicent as it emerged as a regional service centre for forestry and nearby associated industries during the post-war boom. Industrialisation drew an influx of workers and their families to Millicent. Many were migrants, and those who attended Mass at St Alphonsus' Church swelled the size of the Catholic congregation, leading directly to the construction of the new church in 1965-1966.

St Alphonsus' Church is a pivotal example of a post-war church, as it was the first South Australian church to respond directly to the Instruction on the Liturgy, a key document arising from the Second Ecumenical Council of the Vatican (1962-1965) (Vatican II). Notably, the design achieved this by fanning the pews around the sanctuary by nearly 180 degrees, the first time this was done in a South Australian post-war church. Thus, it demonstrates a key stage in the development of the 'post-war church' class of place.

The church is also an outstanding, critically-recognised example of late twentieth-century ecclesiastical Modern Movement architecture in South Australia. The building is noted for its imposing appearance, structural engineering, use of materials, sense of light, integration of interior design, master planning, and the legible relationship between plan and external form.

At this meeting the Council confirmed St Alphonsus' Church under criteria a), d) and e).

You can read the Summary of State Heritage Place about St Alphonsus' Church [here](#):



Image: St Alphonsus' Church. Source: DEW files

More Heritage Listing News

Victa Cinema, 37 – 41 Ocean Street, Victor Harbor

Located on Ramindjeri and Ngarrindjeri Country.

As the first South Australian picture theatre purpose-built to screen ‘talkies,’ the Victa Cinema established the pattern for all picture theatres that followed and is both an influential and pivotal example of its class, demonstrating an unusually high level of intactness and integrity.

On 25 November 2022, Mr Conlon provisionally entered the Victa Cinema (former Ozone Theatre) in the South Australian Heritage Register under s17(2)(b) of the Heritage Places Act 1993 to protect the place from development so that it can be appropriately assessed.

At this meeting, the Council considered an assessment report and endorsed a Summary of State Heritage Place document prepared by Heritage SA.

You can read the Summary of State Heritage Place about Victa Cinema [here](#):

You are also invited to make a written submission on whether or not the Victa Cinema ought to be confirmed as a State Heritage Place. The submission form can be downloaded [here](#).

The closing date for public submissions is 5 June 2023.



Image: The Victa Cinema (former Ozone Theatre), 28 November 2022

Meeting with the Minister

During this meeting, the Council had a good discussion with the Hon Dr Susan Close MP, Minister for Climate, Environment and Water. The points of discussion were based on the Council's Heritage Protection Report:

1. enhance the Heritage Places Act to strengthen protection and streamline listing pathways.
2. refine the Planning and Design Code to support positive heritage outcomes at both State and local levels.
3. provide a high quality South Australian Heritage Register.
4. develop a sustainable funding model that creates enduring financial support for heritage.
5. improve Government and community understanding of the economic and public value of heritage, including heritage tourism.
6. increase access to skills and trades for heritage conservation.
7. develop a Heritage Strategy for South Australia, with the above matters in mind.

A summary of the Council's report can be read [here](#).

The Council thanks the Minister for her attendance.

Other Heritage News / Events

Welcome Sandy Verschoor and David Brooks

The SA Heritage Council welcomes incoming Chair, Sandy Verschoor, and incoming member David Brooks. Sandy takes on the role as Chair following the departure of Keith Conlon and David replaces Peggy Brock (historian) who resigned from Council in late 2022.

The next meeting of the SA Heritage Council is scheduled for 15 June 2023 and promises to be a busy one with many heritage nominations / listings to be considered.

Best wishes to Sandy and David!

Heritage Friday Forum

Come and celebrate the publication of the new Burra Charter Practice Note on Cultural Landscapes and hear about the forthcoming ICOMOS General Assembly 2023.

The next Heritage Friday Forum will be 4:30pm to 6:30pm on Friday 5th May at the newly-restored Q on Hallett (a State Heritage Place!)

Co-hosted by Australia ICOMOS and Heritage SA, the event will feature discussions on the management of significant Australian cultural landscapes in South Australia and beyond, by heritage practitioners Richard Mackay AM, Stephanie Johnston, Neale Draper and Stephen Schrapel.

Prof Richard Mackay is the founder and 'Director of Possibilities' at Mackay Strategic and Convenor of the 21st ICOMOS global General Assembly and Scientific Symposium to be

hosted in Sydney 31 August-9 September 2023. Richard is an ICOMOS World Heritage advisor and past Chair of the Australian World Heritage Advisory Committee.

Stephanie Johnston is a member of the State Planning Commission and Kadaltilla/Park Lands Authority. A key advocate for the World Heritage nomination of Adelaide and its Rural Settlement Landscapes, Stephanie is co-convenor of the AICOMOS National Scientific Committee on Cultural Landscapes and a member of the Australia ICOMOS National Executive Committee.

Also a member of the AICOMOS Cultural Landscapes NSC, Associate Professor Neale Draper is an Adelaide-based consultant specialising in cultural heritage management and research, with a long and successful track record in managing the heritage requirements for major projects across Australia including mining, energy, infrastructure and defence.

Dr Stephen Schrapel is a member of the SA Heritage Council and associate at Swanbury Penglase Architects. Stephen has significant experience in heritage management and has assisted with preparation of Heritage Management Plans for the National Heritage-listed Burra and Moonta cultural landscapes and the Adelaide Park Lands and City Layout.

Date: Friday 5 May 2023

Time: 4:30pm for arrival, nibbles and drinks, with the talk starting at 5:45pm.

Venue: Q Theatre, Hallett Street, Adelaide.

RSVP is essential. Please RSVP to David Hanna via email david.hanna@sa.gov.au or phone 8226 2127 by Tuesday 2nd May 2023.

Cost is \$10 (drink voucher included) otherwise \$5. Please bring cash for payment at the door.



Image: Adelaide Park Lands. Source: @Adelaideairial

History Festival

May is fast approaching and this means the return of the History Festival!

The theme is “Past, Present, Wonder”.

There will be many exciting things to do, including Keith Conlon and Richard Venus’ “Walk of Wonder with Visionary Charles Todd” happening on Sunday 14 May, starting at 10am.

You can search for and book events through the History SA webpage here: <https://festival.history.sa.gov.au/>

The majority of the events will require booking through Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/>

We hope you enjoy the History Festival in May!

18 April - World Heritage Day

Also known as the ICOMOS International Day for Monuments and Sites, the theme for the 2023 World Heritage day is “Heritage Changes”. ICOMOS is promoting the safeguarding of all heritage from adverse climate impacts by working in solidarity with First Nations people, vulnerable and frontline communities as we transition to low carbon economies. The theme of “Heritage Changes” offers the opportunity to respond to questions regarding learning about traditional ways of knowing and knowledge systems in relation to climate action, and how to use a cultural heritage focus to support equitable protection of vulnerable communities through climate action, while responding to the UN Decade of Action. More information [here](#).

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>



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