

Showcasing SA Heritage Places



'The Marines'

499-513 The Esplanade, Grange

SAHR 14320 – confirmed as a State Heritage Place on 21 October 1993

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

'The Marines', a terrace of eight attached residences, is prominently sited on the beachfront at Grange and is a landmark from both land and sea. It is closely associated with the establishment of this seaside suburb and with the founding of the Grange Land and Investment Company, which was responsible for much of the early development in the area. Frederick Estcourt Bucknall and Arthur Harvey, who were founding members of the Company, became members of the South Australian Parliament to better promote expansion in the area.



The Marines, Grange

Designed by Bayer & Withall, this imposing row of three-storied houses was constructed in 1882-83, during the peak of the land boom in Adelaide. It was planned in the grand scale of similar buildings at English seaside resorts and is one of only a small number of three-storied terrace houses remaining in South Australia.

'THE MARINES':

The early 1880s was the peak of the land boom in Adelaide and included the sale of many new sites in the Grange and Henley Beach area. As a consequence, F.E. Bucknall and A. Harvey founded the Grange Land and Investment Company to develop these seaside suburbs.

The Company constructed roads in the area and the Grange Railway and Jetty to encourage further development and, in June 1882, the 'Marine Residences Company' was formed, with the aim of acquiring land and erecting beachside residences that would later be sold or let. (view prospectus)

The Marine Residences Company purchased a sea frontage of 569 feet in length, between the railway terminus and the Jetty. Messrs. Bayer & Withall were appointed as architects and developed a plan to erect a terrace of 24 three-storied houses, which was later altered to a row of eight dwellings. The houses each had eleven rooms and were described as being similar to those erected at seaside resorts in England, with separated verandahs ensuring the privacy of each dwelling.



*Marine Residence, Grange, 1910
B 14988: State Library of SA*

Construction of 'The Marines' began in October 1882 using bluestone quarried at Dry Creek, although some stories suggest that the building stone had been carried as ballast on sailing ships. The cast iron was by local foundry G.E. Fulton & Co. of Peel Street, Adelaide. The eight-dwelling terrace was completed in December 1883 and the residences advertised as being for lease or sale. ([view newspaper advertisement](#))

Arthur Harvey was the first to purchase one of the houses and, in a letter to a prospective tenant, described the terrace in some detail:

They are magnificent houses, each contains eleven rooms, bathroom, W.C. and large cellar. The verandah on the ground floor is 12 feet wide with balconies each 9 and 6 feet

respectively on first and second storey. They are elegantly finished in the latest style and are close to the Grange Jetty and the terminus of the Grange Railway.

State Library of South Australia, BRG 35, page 245

From 1883 to 1885, until an Anglican Church (St Agnes) was opened at Grange, Anglican services were held in a room at 'The Marines' lent by Arthur Harvey.

ASSOCIATED STATE HERITAGE PLACES:

St Agnes Church (SAHR 14632) was built on land donated by the Grange Railway and Investment Company (formerly the Grange Land & Investment Company).

Further north along the coast, the Largs Bay Land & Investment Company played a similar role to the Grange Land & Investment Company, building a railway from Glanville, a [jetty](#) and the [Largs Pier Hotel](#) (SAHR 10638), as well as a two-storey **terrace of shops and residences** (SAHR 14370)

