

State Heritage Areas of South Australia



Memories of Petticoat Lane *from Allan Adamson*

The following information was offered by Allan Adamson (of Mount Gambier) during a phone call to the Heritage Branch in July 2005. As a boy Allan lived on a farming property between Coonawarra and Penola.

Allan recalls that when he was growing up – as a junior school lad – his parents and others advised him not to go down Petticoat Lane as it had a bad reputation. This was in the early 1920s.

He was told that the area was 'scurrilous' – where 'the petticoats were lifted!' He believes that the name 'Petticoat Lane' probably refers to this reputation. He remembers that on washing day there were so many petticoats on the lines, that all you could see were petticoats.

In later years, the buildings were just falling down, with a dirt road past.