Burra
State heritage area: guidelines for development
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**Disclaimer**


Preferred way to cite this publication


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The information in these Guidelines is advisory, to assist you in understanding the policies and processes for development in the State Heritage Area. It is recommended that you seek professional advice or contact the relevant State Heritage Adviser at the Department for Environment and Water (DEW) regarding any specific enquiries or for further assistance concerning the use and development of land. Being properly prepared can save you time and money in the long run.
21 Areas within Bura
(which have specific characteristics, culture and significance)
1. Introduction

1.1 Burra State Heritage Area

The historic town of Burra is located in the hundred of Kooringa, in South Australia’s Mid North. Burra is approximately 160 kilometres north of Adelaide. Burra is a designated State Heritage Area, encompassing the surveyed townships of Burra & Burra North, including churches, cemeteries, railway structures, historic mining buildings and mines and dwellings.

State Heritage Areas are subject to special protection due to their cultural significance to South Australia. Burra is recognised as a State Heritage Area because of the town’s significant links with mining in the history and development of South Australia. This area is of economic and cultural heritage significance to Australian Mining History.

The following Development Guidelines for the Burra State Heritage Area are intended to provide accessible and relevant advice to current and prospective property owners and residents about conservation and appropriate development in the historic township. The guidelines outline a step-by-step guide to assist you in conservation and design in a sympathetic manner and to assist you in understanding the importance of preserving the historic significance of Burra.

1.2 Purpose of Guidelines

These guidelines have been prepared to assist property owners who wish to carry out changes to places within the State Heritage Area. The guidelines identify the heritage significance of the area and provide guidance in relation to:

- When development proposals are required for approval
- How to conserve, maintain and repair historic buildings, structures and ruins
- Appropriate alterations and additions to historic buildings and structures
- Site and location of new development
- Change of use.

The Development Guidelines are a reference document, and all development proposals will be assessed on their merits through the development approval process.

1.3 Getting Approval

Where changes within the Burra State Heritage Area involve actions that constitute ‘development’ a statutory approval against the planning and building rules is required. An application for approval of development in or affecting Burra is lodged with the Regional Council of Goyder. Note that exemptions that might apply elsewhere do not apply in the State Heritage Area.

For State Heritage Areas, ‘development’ as defined by the Development Act includes:

- Land division
- Change of use
- New construction
- Demolition, removal, conversion, alterations, additions and painting
- Signage
- Any other work that could materially affect the heritage value of the State Heritage Area

All development applications in the State Heritage Area that are lodged with Council will then be referred to Heritage South Australia in the Department for Environment and Water (DEW) for heritage assessment.

A checklist to guide you in preparing documents for a Development Application can also be found on the DEW website.

1.4 Seeking Heritage Advice

Getting the right advice on conservation methods is essential to preserving the heritage values of a place. Initial conservation advice can be obtained from heritage architects in Heritage South Australia or by contacting the Council. If you are planning to undertake development in the area, you are also encouraged to seek preliminary advice from Heritage South Australia or the Council.

For more detailed advice in relation to conservation issues, design advice for alterations and additions, property owners may wish to contact a suitably qualified heritage consultant. An experienced heritage consultant can help you plan the works and prepare the necessary documents required for approvals.
There are also various publications that are designed to assist property owners in planning conservation works and preparing a development proposal. They include:

- SA Guide to Developing State Heritage Places
- Heritage Impact Statement Guidelines for State Heritage Places
2. History and Significance

2.1 History
Burra is one of Australia’s earliest and most significant historic mining towns. It has many buildings and structures that date from the mid-nineteenth century, when it was the site of one of the world’s greatest copper mines.

Burra is made up of a number of distinct elements; the former Burra historic mines and smelter site; the Bon Accord Mine; it was not one town but a group of villages, the South Australian Mining Association town of Kooringa (now Burra) and to the north outside the company boundary, the privately surveyed villages of Redruth, Aberdeen, New Aberdeen, Copperhouse, Lostwithiel and Hampton and Llchwyr, which became known as Burra North.

The mining phase from 1845 to 1877 gave rise to the mining and industrial architecture at the Burra and Bon Accord mine sites and the smelting works site. Perhaps as many as 2,000 of the earliest arrivals lived in dugouts excavated on both sides of the Burra Creek, and some of these can still be seen. Mining provided the impetus for both company and private housing in Kooringa, Redruth, Hampton and Aberdeen. Many early houses were of timber, but most of these have now gone. Surviving stone houses are evidence of the influence of company housing in Cornish towns, for example Tiver’s Row at Redruth.

The sudden growth in Burra’s population during the mining boom necessitated the establishment of government buildings and symbols of frontier law and order, such as the police station, courthouse, Redruth Goal and telegraph station. The earliest shops and hotels were also linked to the rise of the mines. There were social divisions in the early Burra community, which can still be seen in the large number of former hotels standing alongside numerous Methodist chapels.

2.2 Character and Setting
Important to the historic character and distinguishing features of Burra is the significance of the two ‘townships’ separated by the Historic Burra Mines. Whilst individual buildings and places have historic merit and their own characteristics, it is the whole town’s layout, location, type of buildings and purpose that contribute to its heritage merit for South Australia’s Mining history.

Town Centre
Civic Area 1, Market Square Area 2 and Best Place Area 17 show the historic development of the town, with many early Victorian buildings surviving in the commercial hubs.

Commercial and retail development should be concentrated in these areas, with historic buildings preserved and new and infill buildings treated sensitively.

Residential
The residential areas of Kooringa, Paxton Square, Redruth, Llchwyr, Hampton and Aberdeen have distinct characters, demonstrating the range of dwellings by communities of different origins developed in Burra. Dwellings are primarily built of masonry, smaller cottages are close to the street, with larger residences on higher ground. Some church and civic buildings
survive.

The Goyder Development Plan clearly sets out infill and new building requirements specific to each area.

![Chapel Street Cottages](image1)

![Thames Street Cottages](image2)

![Paxton Square Cottages](image3)

![East Kooringa Planting Diagram](image4)

**Public and Recreational Areas**

The Cemetery 4, Gaol 14, Railway/Bon Accord 15 and Community School 19 demonstrate the history and development of the town, community buildings and infrastructure. The Burra Creek 19 and the North 20 and South 21 Gateways are key sites in the rural landscape setting.

These areas should be preserved as open spaces, with little or no new development.

![Cemetery Area](image5)

![Dugouts](image6)

**Climate**

The characteristics of the Burra’s climate are hot dry summers and cold winters with a low rainfall average of less than 620 mm over the winter months. The average maximum temperature in summer is 29°C and winter is 13°C, with the summer minimum of 13°C and winter minimum of 3°C.

Burra is sheltered by surrounding hills. The town is nestled within the valley, in marked contrast to the surrounding bare, open countryside, which is under rural land use. The lack of growth and minimal pressure for expansion has left the present town
within the original boundaries. The density of trees within the town clearly identifies a mature and pleasant environment, set against a backdrop of bare hills. This striking contrast and clear distinction between town and the countryside is an essential element of the Burra townscape.

Vegetation

Burra’s natural vegetation, as well as its planted vegetation, plays an important role in the significance of the town. You will find low scrub on the outer plains, Red River Gums in the Burra Creek Area, Aloe plantation in the Redruth and Pines in the Bon Accord and Bridge Terrace. There is also the very important formal street planting, which includes White Cedars, Carobs, Pyramids and Plane Trees.
3. Conservation of Historic Structures

3.1 Conservation, Maintenance and Repair
The first step in conserving a building is to learn as much about the building as possible. Who lived there and how the place was used? Are there any old photographs in the local history collection? Research and analysis of the building allows the heritage value (cultural significance) of the place as a whole and of each particular part to be better understood. The heritage value will guide what repair work can or should be done and which work is most urgent.

Historic photographs, early rates records, certificates of title, local publications and heritage survey information can be of assistance in learning about the history of a place. Your Local Council or local historical society may have a local history collection to assist in researching. There are also online research tools, such as Trove and the Australian Dictionary of Biography.

Historical information, along with the physical appearance of the building, its built fabric, layout, former uses, its inhabitants and changes over time, provide an understanding of the place and how it evolved, so that informed decisions can be made about how to approach the conservation process. Even surface finishes can have heritage value: some early building timbers were hand sawn in a local sawpit. Each saw mark that remains clearly visible tells part of the story of the place. Overzealous restoration can inadvertently destroy the qualities of the place.

Structural safety is always the first priority, but keeping water out and away is essential for all buildings. Other risks to your building like fire or termites should also be considered and actively managed.

Before starting any work on older buildings, you should identify and address any hazards such as asbestos containing materials and lead paint. Almost all old paints contained lead. They present no risk while the paint is sound and is not disturbed. Lead is released into the environment when paint flakes off, is dry sanded, burnt off or is otherwise disturbed. All hazardous materials must be carefully and properly handled and disposed of to protect you, your family and the environment.

Suitably qualified heritage consultants can provide expert advice to guide the conservation of your place.

3.2 Original Finishes
Original building materials should be retained where practicable and missing elements reinstated wherever possible.

Mortars for re-pointing and repairs should match the colour, texture and mixture of the original. Mortars should not include cement.

Replacement wall material should match the original laying pattern and pointing style of the existing.

Paint removal should not damage masonry walls. Sand blasting shall not be used.

The treatment of rising damp and investigation of the cause will require professional advice.

All painted surfaces should be maintained in good repair with use of colours of a kind similar to or compatible with original colours where they can be determined from physical or archival evidence.

3.3 Roofing Repairs
Materials closely consistent with early materials such as corrugated iron should be used.

Evidence of original timber shingles within roof spaces should be retained. Eg, roofing should be fixed over original material. Replacement timber shingles should match the colour, size, texture and species of the original shingles.

Replacement slate shingles should match the colour, pattern, thickness and fixing technique of the original.

Metal tiles or coloured concrete tiles should not be used.

New roofing should be in galvanised or grey or similar recoloured finish. Zincalume should not be used unless painted. Repair by replacement of individual roof sheets with matching sheets should be considered in preference to re-roofing. The profile,
finish and material of these elements should be closely consistent with the original form; for example “ogee” gutters, round metal downpipes and rainheads of a traditional type.

3.4 Repairs to Doors
The original materials, configuration and finish should be retained, specifically timber framing of windows that are highly visible from roads, lookouts or the like.

Materially unsound sections should be replaced rather than total window replacement.

The size, profile and finish of new timber components should be consistent with the original.

Original doors and door hardware should be retained.

Timber framed windows, doors and shop fronts should be retained and repaired where possible.

Metal frame windows should not be introduced.

Detailing of sashes and frames should be consistent with those of original windows as outlined.

3.5 Interiors
General interior restoration work should seek to maintain the character of the building as a whole.

Consideration should be given to the original and painting colour scheme (determined by paint scrapes), especially in the most significant areas of the building. A matching scheme or one with similar tonal variance and contrast should be used. It is preferable to leave in place previous paint or wallpaper, painting or papering over these if possible.
The installation of lighting and fittings should cause a minimum of disturbance to the physical fabric of the building. Replicas should be avoided. The use of simple, unobtrusive contemporary fittings is preferable. Door hardware and switch ware should be retained where possible. Ceilings beyond repair should be covered with a new ceiling, not removed.

Original flooring should be retained where possible and individual boards or components replaced with matching species and size.

Impact of new services should be minimised. New services such as wiring or plumbing should be concealed by using existing cavities, conduits and fittings as far as possible.

3.6 Looking After Ruins

Within Burra there are many ruins, particularly old stone fireplaces, which are often all that remains of small cottages with pug and pine walls. As Burra is a State Heritage Area these ruins are protected and work may only be carried out on them if it is supported by a Development Application. The following actions are important in looking after ruins:

**Stabilisation:** This involves conserving the structure as a historic site and usually involves re-pointing stonework (particularly areas affected by rising damp) and replacement of missing stones. This work is usually undertaken to make the site safe and ensure the building’s survival for possible later use or interpretation.

**Stabilising the tops** of stonewalls and chimneys to prevent the penetration of rain. Avoid capping over the top of the wall with mortar, as shown below. The preferred approach is to repoint the joints to run water away and prevent its soaking into the core of the wall.

**Conservation and Adaptation:** Depending on the nature of the ruin, it may be possible to undertake conservation and rehabilitation work and re-use the ruins in an innovative way, such as a tourist attraction or part of an outdoor museum display.

Original fireplaces can also be used in the construction of new cottages.

It is important that stones, other original materials and artefacts are not removed from these sites, in order for such items to be available for interpretation and re-use. Professional advice should be sought for any work on ruins, particularly where a ruin has collapsed or been disturbed. Advice can be provided by professional heritage advisers and conservation architects, and is also available from DEW on (08) 8124 4960.
4. Guidelines for New Development

4.1 Change of Use
The best way to conserve a heritage building or structure is to use it. Any change of use should aim to retain a place’s historic character, retain a sense of its original use, conserve significant fabric, but it may also include the sensitive inclusion of new services and alterations to make it functional and sustainable. Some interior fabric of a place may be significant and important to retain when adapting a place, such as unpainted joinery, fireplaces and decorative ceilings.

In heritage conservation, change of use is known as adaptation or adaptive reuse. Adaptation of heritage places makes good economic sense, as construction waste accounts for around 33% of landfill in Australia. Whether the adaptation is a traditional approach or more contemporary, it should have respect for the ‘old’.

A place’s adaptive reuse should consider whether traditional materials are reused in place of new materials. Some traditional materials may be more expensive than modern materials, but they may last longer and be more environmentally friendly.

4.2 Site of New Development
Development should utilise the existing building stock in preference to new buildings. Development requiring major new buildings should not be encouraged, but may proceed if it can be shown that the visual impact upon the State Heritage Area will be minimal. No building should take place between the front street boundary and existing buildings of heritage value, with the exception of repair or replacement to or of original elements or features.

The siting of the addition should respect, and be in harmony with, the historic character of the original building. The plan and roof form of the original building should be clearly legible.

The impact of visible change to original buildings should be minimized.

Additions should consider the character and structure of the original building and seek to minimise the impact of change.

The addition should be located on the side considered to be of lesser heritage significance or to maintain the principal view of the original building.

4.3 Scale and Form
General additions should maintain and strengthen the character of the heritage place without compromising its integrity.

Additions should maintain a distinction between new work and the original building fabric. New work should be designed to permit the return of the building to its original condition at a later date.

The scale and bulk of the new work should not dominate the significant building. Additions similar in size to the original building should be proportionate with those of the original building.

Lean-to additions should be set out from below the gutter line of the existing roof, unless the lean-to sections of the original building are otherwise constructed. A lean-to form is generally suited to a narrow addition across the width of a building and traditionally may have involved the enclosure of a verandah.

Additions larger than the original building should be separated visually. The roof and plan form should be consistent with, and retain the visual dominance of the original building.

Additions should respect the existing building form – the most important elements are the roof type and pitch, the verandah, spacing of support posts and proportions of windows and other openings.

Additions other than lean-to additions should continue the form and elements of the building to which they are attached; for example, the shape and pitch of the roof and the height and projections of eaves and gables.
Materials
Materials used for repair or infill of original walls should match, or be closely compatible with, the original materials of construction, including rendered masonry, stone, brick or lightweight construction with timber or corrugated iron cladding.

Roofing
Eave lines, roof heights, form, pitch and overhang should closely resemble or match the existing building. Additions other than lean-to additions should continue the form and elements of the building to which they are attached; for example, the shape and pitch of the roof and the height and projections of eaves and gables.

Materials used for roofs or additions should match or be closely compatible with the materials of the original building. Generally, painted or galvanized corrugated iron is the most appropriate roofing material.

Examples
Once again refer to which area your new development is within, as the setbacks, heights and forms are critical to the areas characteristics

The following examples outline various acceptable forms of addition to a dwelling:

a) Pavilion addition (this creates a separate roof, with elements of form similar to the form of the original roof, connected to the original building by a lower linking section)

b) Extension of original form at rear and side (this type of addition continues the existing gutter line and roof pitch. The additions repeat the existing roof form)

c) Wing addition (this extends a parallel roof ridge, maintaining the existing gutter line, ridge height and ceiling height
and may include a veranda that is consistent with any original verandahs).

d) Lean-to with skillion roof addition (this traditional form of addition is generally suited to a narrow addition across the width of a building and traditionally may have involved the enclosure of a verandah).
e) Lean-to with wing addition (this adds a wing orthogonal to the traditional lean-to addition, allowing increased floor space, within a lean-to appearance).

Openings

The size and proportion of window, door and other openings should complement existing openings.

Roofing

Traditional edge details of eaves and barge boards should be retained

Detail

The detailing on the new section can reflect detailing of the original building. The clear visual distinction between old and new should be maintained.

Details such as gables, gutter trim and ridge capping should not conflict with the appearance of adjacent buildings.

4.3 Residential Development

The following section outlines the approach that should be followed to facilitate the referral process. Whilst the following Residential Development guidelines guide development, they should be read in conjunction with the residential development criteria within the Goyder Development Plan, and ‘Development (General)’ section, as there are criteria that are specific to each area within the Burra State Heritage Area.

Developments should be specific to its area, that being residential within the residential areas and commercial and retail development in the commercial and retail zones.
Scale and Form

The scale and form of development is relevant to which area the development is to be built within. However, the following principles apply;

New buildings should be located to match any consistent, or generally consistent, setback of existing buildings in order to maintain the traditional arrangement of buildings in the road concerned. The location of open space should also be considered.

The height of eaves should be similar to the height of the eaves of any adjoining buildings, which contribute to the historic character of the locality.

Vertical heights and horizontal lines should be maintained along the street facade. New infill buildings should be of similar scale and massing to the prevailing historic character of the locality.

Setbacks and Spacing

Set back and spacing of the new development should match the existing character and setbacks of the streetscape. The street edge and existing setbacks of adjacent buildings should be maintained. New development should not dominate nor reduce the historic character of the street.

The existing development pattern is also to remain, with setbacks from the main street and side boundaries matching existing
Infill Development

New residential development within Burra should complement the existing historic character of the contributory buildings. New development should not dominate the streetscape, and not compromise the historic character of the area.

New dwellings should be placed on the site to match front and side setbacks of adjacent and other contributory buildings within the same street. Where these existing setbacks vary significantly, new buildings should be located with a similar setback from front and side boundaries of the most adjacent contributory building. They should also be located in a manner that will contribute to the pattern created by those contributory buildings within the streetscape.

Building Form

The form of new residential development should be consistent with the typical scale and proportion of contributory buildings. New development should match the height at eaves line of adjacent contributory buildings and be consistent with the predominant eaves, ridge height and roof pitch, number and size of windows and doors and overall scale and location of other buildings within the street.

Roof and Verandah

The principal roof form within this area is hip roof construction, clad with corrugated iron. Roof pitches are generally between 30 and 40 degrees. Principal roofs on new buildings should reflect this dominant characteristic. Where an asymmetric floor plan is proposed, then a gable wall to the projecting room within the front façade may be appropriate. New dwellings should include verandahs to the street front which reflects a modern interpretation of the verandah, a form similar to adjacent buildings. Reproduction of historic decorations such as pseudo-cast iron, Dutch gables and finials to suggest a ‘heritage’ appearance is inappropriate.
4.3 Civic and Main Street Development

This development section outlines how development should be approached within the civic areas and the main street areas. This section covers items like, fences, advertisement & signage.

**Land Division**

The historic patterns of land division are characterised by the existing allotment sizes and setbacks from street and side boundaries. Maintaining these patterns of development is critical to the preservation of the State Heritage Area. Subdivision of existing allotments is not appropriate.

**Carports, Garages and Sheds**

Existing structures, particularly stone, corrugated iron and timber should be retained and repaired where possible.

A carport, garage or shed should be designed to relate to the form and materials of the existing adjacent buildings. Roof pitches should be consistent with adjacent significant structures. Carports, garages and sheds should be detached where possible.

Materials should complement adjacent structures and include stone, timber or corrugated iron (galvanised, pre-painted or painted Zincalume) or rendered masonry with minimal decoration. Combinations of appropriate materials to create patterns of wall materials should be encouraged.
The location of a new carport, garage, outbuilding or shed should preserve or enhance the setting of existing buildings.

Carports can be attached to the heritage building provided they are well set back to allow the original form of the structure to be read clearly. Further, provided they are constructed at walls where windows will not be obstructed.

Garages should generally be located within the rear part of the site of a dwelling. The height and proportion of new sheds should be sympathetic to the adjacent significant structures.

The impact of new sheds should be reduced by using a combination of smaller roof forms with the appropriate roof pitch. Skillion buildings of lower roof pitch are also appropriate.

Openings should be carefully positioned in locations to maintain a traditional appearance.

Landscape, Gardens and Fences

Landscape:

The informal tree groups along open spaces and the more formal street trees make a significant contribution to Burra’s townscape. Any future tree planting programmes should be designed to reinforce and supplement the Red River Gums in the Burra Creek Area, The Aloe plantation in the Redruth, the pines in the Bon Accord and Bridge Terrace, and the very important formal street planting which includes White Cedars, Carobs, Pyramids and Plane Trees.

For further reading please refer to Goyder Council’s Works Practices manual and the Street Tree Policy.

Public Infrastructure:

Stone kerbs, water tables and other items of public infrastructure that form part of the significance of the State Heritage Area should be retained and repaired.

Gardens:

Mature trees are often a landmark in the area and should be retained wherever possible.

Established garden areas of significance should be retained.

Public spaces should be carefully designed, landscaped and maintained.
Landscaping enhances the appearance of buildings and species selected should be appropriate to the form and scale of the heritage place.

Established public garden areas of significance should be retained.

Hedges provide an acceptable alternative to fences. Species that already exist in the area should be planted. Existing hedges should be retained.

Fences:

Original fences and gates should be retained and reinstated where possible. Where evidence regarding the original fence is not available, a fence sympathetic to the style of the building on the site to be fenced should be erected.

The fence should be compatible in height, design and materials to the existing building or other similar fencing in the street.

Relatively open fencing is appropriate to enable significant buildings to be viewed from public places. Solid side and rear fencing should be constructed of traditional materials such as timber, corrugated iron (galvanised, pre-painted or painted Zincalume) or rendered masonry with minimal decoration.

For rural properties, especially those in the mines area, the fences shall not detract from the State-heritage place.

The civic and public areas are to retain the stone walls.
Stone walls should be retained and restored using similar size and type of stone and laying technique

Dry stonewalling should be retained.

**Signage**

Signs are one of the strongest visual elements in a street. Their location, scale and proportion, text and colour affect the character of the State Heritage Area.

The placement and size of signs should be in scale and integrated with the architectural features and elements of the building. Signs should be designed to complement the building. Preferred sign locations, lettering styles and colours are those that were traditionally used in the 19th century.

Signs should be positioned not to conceal architectural features or detailing. Signs may be painted or fixed flat to existing parapets, verandah fascias, verandah ends or veranda posts, providing they do not obscure the structure.

The parapet serves to identify a building and the sign on it identifies the function of the building. Signs must not form false parapets by being positioned on a verandah edge, nor must they project orthogonally from the building facade. Parapet signage recesses should be used.

Signs are generally best located about the building axis or to emphasize an entrance. Other suitable locations are on side or end walls.

Scale and form of signs may be determined from the parapet or other adjacent building element.

Contemporary letter styles are relevant to the function of many businesses and may be used. Simple lettering in traditional typeface gives signs greater clarity. Avoid the use of "olde-world" lettering and Gothic script.

The background colour of a sign attached to a building should complement the colour of the building. Colours that detract from the overall appearance of the building are not recommended and include bright, garish and luminous paints.

![Signage Diagram](image_url)
4.11 Solar Panels, Satellite Dishes and Air Conditioners

Buildings within State Heritage Areas can be adapted to include new services and technologies, including solar technologies, and often this can be done with little or no impact on the historic character of the area.

To minimise the visual impact to the streetscape, it is desirable to mount solar panels where they are not visible. This is easily achieved on roof planes facing away from the street or on additions and outbuildings located behind the dwelling.

Placement may pose a problem for dwellings with north-facing main elevations, but solar panels can be effective on east and west faces. The diagram demonstrates the effectiveness for a range of orientations and tilt angles for Adelaide’s latitude.

![Solar Panel Tilt, Orientation and Output Variation](source.png)

4.13 Archaeology

When undertaking new work that disturbs the ground in the State heritage area, consideration should be given to the potential for archaeological deposits to be revealed. Uncovering the footings of a forgotten building or well can be an exciting discovery and important part of the history of the place.

If you propose to excavate or disturb any place, you may need to obtain a permit under the *Heritage Places Act 1993* if you know or have reasonable cause to suspect that the works will or are likely to result in the discovery, damage or removal of archaeological artefacts of heritage significance. Also, if works uncover an archaeological artefact of heritage significance you
must notify the South Australian Heritage Council within the period specified in the *Heritage Places Regulations 2005*. For more information on the archaeological potential of your place, contact Heritage South Australia.

**Aboriginal Archaeology**

Aboriginal heritage and culture is important to Aboriginal people and communities. Aboriginal sites, objects and remains are protected under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988*. Certain landforms are more likely to contain evidence of Aboriginal occupation, such as areas within 2km of coasts and major waterways, areas within 100m of creek banks and lakes, parklands and road verges, and sand dunes.

If you propose to excavate land in South Australia that may uncover an Aboriginal site, approval may be required under the Act. If works uncover Aboriginal sites, objects and remains, the discovery must be reported to the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation as soon as practicable.

Professional advice may be required from a suitably qualified archaeologist to assist in determining if works are likely to impact on a site, object or remain of Aboriginal importance, and the identification of such matters if uncovered during works.
5. Contacts and Resources

**Department for Environment and Water (DEW)**

Contact Heritage South Australia in DEW for advice on heritage conservation, historical archaeology, grant funding for State Heritage Places and further information regarding the Burra State Heritage Area.

There are various publications on the DEW website, many which can be downloaded for free, such as ‘Maintenance and Repair of Older Buildings in South Australia’ and ‘Salt Attack and Rising Damp: A Guide to Salt Damp in Historic and Older Buildings’.

Phone: (08) 8124 4960

Email: DEWHeritage@sa.gov.au

Website: www.environment.sa.gov.au

**Regional Council of Goyder**

Contact the Regional Council of Goyder for information on how to lodge a development application, and advice on fees, timeframes, documentation requirements and what constitutes ‘development’ in Burra.

Phone: (08) 8892 0100

Email: council@goyder.sa.gov.au

Website: www.goyder.sa.gov.au
6. Glossary of Conservation Terms

Principles that guide the conservation and management of heritage places in Australia are set out in the *Burra Charter 1999*. The following definitions drawn from the Burra Charter can help in understanding what conservation is:

**Conservation** means all the processes of looking after a place to retain its cultural significance. This includes retaining the contribution that the setting, and related places and objects, make to the significance of a place.

**Maintenance** means the continuous protective care of the fabric and setting of a place, and is to be distinguished from repair. Repair involves restoration or reconstruction.

**Preservation** means maintaining the fabric of a place in its existing state and retarding deterioration. Eg, treating termite infestation will stop the cause of deterioration completely.

**Restoration** means returning the existing fabric of a place to a known earlier state by removing accretions or by reassembling existing components without the introduction of new material. Eg, where a conservation plan recommends restoring an open space by the removal of walls that presently divide it.

**Reconstruction** means returning a place to a known earlier state and is distinguished from restoration by the introduction of new material into the fabric. New material may include recycled material from other places. The new material should not convey false impressions of the history and characteristics of the place.

**Adaptation** means modifying a place to suit the existing use or a proposed use. Eg, interpretative signs and paths.
For further information please contact:
Department for Environment and Water phone information line (08) 8204 1910, or see SA White Pages for your local Department for Environment and Water Natural Resource office.

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Department for Environment and Water
GPO Box 1047 Adelaide SA 5001