

**SOUTH AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE COUNCIL NEWS**  
**109th and 110th Meetings of Council – 16 July & 23 July 2020**



Image: Rosewood Grand Piano, Cummins House

The South Australian Heritage Council (Council) meetings were held via video link on Kaurna country, Adnyamathanha country, Nadjuri country and Ngarrindjeri country.

## **Outcomes of the 109th meeting**

### **Public Communication document 2019/20**

The Council has produced a public report that tells the story of the business conducted in the 2019-20 financial year for publication on its website. This is accessible via this link: <https://www.environment.sa.gov.au/topics/heritage/sa-heritage-council>

### **Cummins House, Novar Gardens – Objects**

The Council broke new ground with the provisional entry of the Cummins House furniture collection into the South Australian Heritage Register as a group of objects. This was a significant step for Council, as before this, there were only two objects in total on the South Australian Heritage Register – the Burra Jinker and the Islington Weighbridge.

Cummins House is one of South Australia's earliest extant buildings with the first section dating from 1842. The house was thought to be designed by George Strickland Kingston for John and Elizabeth Morphett (later Sir) who played a profound role in the establishment and development of the Colony of South Australia. Cummins House was lived in by five generations of the Morphett family. It was bought by the Dunstan Government in 1977.

Mrs Elizabeth Morphett and her 10 children travelled to the United Kingdom in 1855. After approximately 18 months there, Elizabeth returned with the latest furnishings including a Brussels carpet for the drawing room.

The Council was pleased to recognise and protect 21 items in Cummins House by provisionally entering them on the South Australian Heritage Register. Of the 21 objects that form the Morphett Furniture Collection, 17 are owned by the Minister for Environment and Water, 2 by the Cummins Society, and 2 by a member of the Morphett family.

The dedicated volunteers of the Cummins Society are reopening Cummins House for tours from September. Tours are the first and third Sunday of the month between 2 and 4:30pm. Bookings are essential as the number of

people in each group is limited to comply with COVID requirements. Tour and Devonshire Tea for \$10 per person. Check here for details:

<https://www.environment.sa.gov.au/topics/heritage/visiting-heritage-places/cummins-house>



Mahogany Hallstand



Armchair



Over Mantle Mirror

## Martindale Hall – Objects

Martindale Hall is a baronial style mansion near Mintaro in the Clare Valley. Representing a grand style of living no longer seen in the State, it was built in 1880 for pastoralist Edmund Bowman, and bought by William Tennant Mortlock in 1891. The Mortlock family gifted it to the University of Adelaide and it was given over to ownership by the South Australian Government in 1986.

The Council listed the Weapons Collection from Martindale Hall at this meeting. This collection is the first the Council will consider over the coming months relating to this mansion. In total, 13 groups of listings are proposed. They range in size from a single item to collections numbering hundreds of items.

The Mortlock Weapons Collection is comprised of 123 weapons. They were collected by William Tennant Mortlock and his son John during their travels throughout Australia and overseas.

These objects can be viewed when Martindale Hall is open, from 10am to 4pm Wednesdays to Mondays (closed Tuesday out of school holidays).



Smoking Room, Martindale Hall - view to the south east 1932



A selection of the Weapons Collection, Martindale Hall

## Truth telling re State Heritage listed monuments / statues

Council is keen to be proactive about working with key stakeholders and recognise the different impact that some State Heritage statues and monuments can have in relation to Aboriginal culture. This involves inclusive 'story telling' associated with these monuments in a way that does not try to ignore or re-write history, but rather expands it, and recognises its impact. Council will work with Reconciliation SA, the State Aboriginal Heritage Committee and others to work out how this can be achieved in a practical sense.

## Glenthorne National Park – State Heritage Area proposal

Within Glenthorne National Park, the significant heritage built structures are already listed as a State Heritage Place. At this meeting Council considered a proposal on behalf of the Friends of Glenthorne Park to expand the listing to a

State Heritage Area. The Council is not the authority to make State Heritage Area listings. Its role is to consider proposals and provide advice to the Minister for Environment and Water.

The former 'Lizard Lodge' Coachhouse, Smokehouse, Underground Tank and Cellar and former Army Remount Depot Ammunition Magazines, former Glenthorne CSIRO Field Station, 2 Majors Road O'Halloran Hill were already entered in the South Australian Heritage Register as a State Heritage Place on 25 July 2002, under criterion (g) - *it has a special association with the life or work of a person or organisation or an event of historical importance.*

At this meeting Council agreed that it would not recommend Glenthorne for further consideration as it agreed it does not meet the criteria for State Heritage Area listing.

### **Edinburgh Castle Hotel, Currie Street Adelaide – nomination**

The Council considered a nomination by a member of the public for the Edinburgh Hotel and rejected the nomination as the place does not meet any of the criteria for listing as a State Heritage Place.

Edinburgh Hotel is already recognised as a Local Heritage Place. The external form of this two storey building, in particular the fabric and detailing of the street facades and verandah balcony is recognised as locally significant.



Edinburgh Castle Hotel viewed from the south-west corner of Currie Street showing the front (northern) and eastern elevations

Source: DEW Files 17 March 2020

## **Guidelines and thresholds for interpreting criteria**

Members of the public who wish to nominate a place for State Heritage listing will benefit from a revision of South Australia's Guidelines for Interpreting the State Heritage Criteria. You can access these guidelines here: <https://www.environment.sa.gov.au/topics/heritage/sa-heritage-register/nominating-a-heritage-place>

## **Outcomes of the 110th meeting**

### **Nomination of 197 Childers Street, North Adelaide**

An extra meeting of Council was held to consider an urgent nomination for a bluestone house at 197 Childers Street, North Adelaide. The submitter nominated it under all seven criteria and advised that this place is slated for demolition and that it was the former home of Mr James Cyril Stobie, inventor of the stobie pole. Research uncovered that it was never actually the home of Mr James Stobie. It was in fact the home of his son Peter Stobie for a few years. The Council noted that there was scant information provided to support the nomination and an assessment by Heritage South Australia found no evidence to support it meeting any of the legislated criteria. The Council determined that the place did not meet any of the criteria for listing and rejected the nomination.

### **Update to Council policy regarding nominations**

Council added a small but important variation to how it accepts nominations from the public.

Some recent nominations have provided little information, making it difficult to assess their worthiness for consideration, particularly if emergency protection is sought. Nominators will now be encouraged to discuss the process and nomination in a phone conversation with a Heritage SA staff member before the nomination is submitted. They will be assisted in understanding the importance of addressing the criteria and in using the Guidelines provided to deduce if it is appropriate to proceed.