
SOUTH AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE COUNCIL NEWS
22 October 2020 Meeting



*Image: The former Treasury Building now Adina Hotel, King William Street.
Photo by Heidi Who.*

This is a great example of adaptive reuse of a State Heritage Place and a handsome part of our heritage tourism economy.

News from the 113th meeting

The South Australian Heritage Council held a meeting on 22 October 2020. This meeting was held face to face on Kurna country with one of the Council members participating via video link on Adnyamathanha country.

Reconciling with the Frontier project

The Council welcomed Dr Skye Krichauff, Chair of the History Council of South Australia and Ms Shona Reid, Executive Director of Reconciliation SA to discuss the *Reconciling with the Frontier* project.

The Council heard that this major Australian Research Council funded-project is being led by the University of Adelaide. There are four other partner organisations - the History Trust of South Australia, South Australian Museum, State Library of South Australia, State Records of South Australia and Reconciliation SA.

The project is focussing on research of conflicts between European settlers and Aboriginal people between 1836 and 1901. The project is about truth telling – bringing to light the atrocities that occurred against Aboriginal people here in South Australia.

When the project is finalised, the outcome will be a very useful online information tool that community and organisations can access.

The Council heard that the first phase of the project is archival research and there is much information in the archives regarding settler violence perpetrated against Aboriginal people. The starting point of the project is focussing on two areas, being the Mid North and the South East of South Australia.

Following the archival research, the second step will be to go to Aboriginal communities and hear their stories. Oral history will fill gaps and help with cross referencing the archival research. It was noted that often there are no memories in community of violent incidents and this is equally telling.

The project will not filter stories, but focus on truth telling. Great lengths have been taken to ensure a First Nation group drives this work.

The Council is looking forward to the outcomes of this project, particularly being able to use the information in its assessment, listing and interpretation of State Heritage Places to help ensure that the Aboriginal story is told where appropriate.

Aboriginal *Dhawura Ngilan* (Remembering Country): A vision for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage in Australia

The Council considered and supported *Dhawura Ngilan*, a document that has recently been supported by the Heritage Chairs and Officials from across Australia, and agreed it be forwarded to the Minister for Environment and Water, Hon David Speirs MP.

The recommendations within the report will make a positive difference to remembering Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage and *Dhawura Ngilan* document can be downloaded here:

<https://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/resources/8582db94-6daa-4097-b77e-079a797ef67d/files/dhawura-ngilan-vision-atsi-heritage.pdf>

Heritage and Planning matters

The Council has a role under the *Heritage Places Act 1993* to advise the Minister for Planning on a narrow range of matters. The Council discussed the particulars of what it would like to bring to the attention of the new Minister for Planning, the Hon Vickie Chapman MP. The Chair has sought an opportunity to discuss relevant matters with the Minister.

The Council has provided the Minister with a copy of its 2020 Report on Heritage Protection, in particular highlighting Theme 1 - *Refine the Planning and Design Code to support positive heritage outcomes and the ERDC Heritage Inquiry Report recommendations*.

Heritage Tourism

The Council were very pleased to receive news that the draft [Heritage Tourism Strategy and Action Plan](#) is now open for public consultation, closing at 5pm on Tuesday 17 November 2020.

Given its strong potential to contribute to the recovery of the visitor economy after the COVID pandemic, the Council is keen for anyone interested to respond to the draft strategy/action plan.

Comment can be made through YourSAy via the following link:

<https://yoursay.sa.gov.au/decisions/draft-heritage-tourism-strategy-and-action-plan/about>

At this meeting, the Council agreed that it is important that the objectives of the Draft Heritage Tourism Strategy and Action Plan are considered as part of regional tourism planning processes.

Listing of places situated on Commonwealth land in the South Australian Heritage Register

The Council has received advice that states that Commonwealth-owned places that are subject to a Commonwealth law inconsistent with the operation of the *Heritage Places Act 1993* should not be registered as State Heritage Places.

The Council agreed that its role should therefore be considering what Commonwealth-owned places here in South Australia ought to be recommended to the Australian Government for potential listing on the Commonwealth Heritage List.

Next meeting

The Council's next meeting will be held on Thursday 10 December 2020, 9:30am-1:30pm, face to face on Level 10, 81 – 91 Waymouth Street, Adelaide.

Council meetings are open to the public and the agenda for those meetings is available on the following webpage, approximately 7 days prior to the meeting:

<https://www.environment.sa.gov.au/topics/heritage/sa-heritage-council/agendas-minutes>