

HERITAGE South Australia

NEWSLETTER

JULY 2000 • NUMBER 17

ISSUES AND INFORMATION ON HERITAGE CONSERVATION IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA



Heritage South Australia
Government of South Australia

A WORD FROM THE NEW MINISTER

for Environment and Heritage

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Francesca Stropin

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Front Cover:

Charles Compton Reade (1880-1933)
Source: TPCA archives, London

Charles Reade was principal designer for Colonel Light Gardens which has been declared a State Heritage Area – see article on page 4



Since taking on the new portfolio as Minister for Environment and Heritage, I have been encouraged by the good work already achieved in the heritage field.

In April I launched a modern interpretation of the Queen's Theatre, linking the past with the present, and encouraging an appreciation of our history. Since 1994 the State Government has spent \$600,000 on the conservation of the Theatre, and an allocation of almost \$100,000 a year is set aside for its conservation and management. We have come a long way since Barry Humphries stood outside an almost derelict Queen's Theatre in 1983 urging South Australians to care for this building.

Support for the National Trust continues, and I was invited to speak at the opening of the National Trust's Heritage Festival in March. The Department for Environment and Heritage contributed to the Trust's successful recreation of a 1909 heritage dinner held at Ayers House.

Regional Heritage Surveys of the State, which began in 1981, are due for completion this year. The Far North and Far West regions, covering two-thirds of the State, will be divided into thematic surveys given the size of the areas.

Heritage SA liaises with interstate heritage agencies to ensure that heritage information is consistent, and to minimise duplication of information. A national publication is due to for release later this year on twentieth century heritage: this publication looks at the way history has changed the built environment of Australia in the last hundred years. Another national publication organised by Heritage SA is the Heritage Advisory Services Handbook, which will be available on the Australian Heritage Commission's website in September of this year.

The State Government is also pleased to be working closely with the City of Adelaide in the promotion of conservation in South Australia. In June, The Lord Mayor and I launched new publications on *Painting of Older Buildings in South Australia*, and *Early Roofing and Roof Materials in South Australia*. They are important additions to the proper conservation of our heritage places.

Heritage SA has been busy making it easier to access heritage information by developing its own website. The address is www.heritage.sa.gov.au.

A further three maritime heritage/shipwrecks trails are being developed: the Southern Ocean Shipwrecks Trail, Port Elliot, and Garden Island Ship's Graveyard Maritime Heritage Trails. This brings the total to eight trails. Discussions are also proceeding with Tourism SA to further develop the tourist and recreational potential of South Australia's maritime heritage. These trails help to encourage community involvement in the protection and conservation of shipwrecks.

Wilpena Station in the Flinders Ranges is currently being developed as a tourist site. Heritage SA and National Parks staff will be working closely together, to ensure the proper conservation of the outbuildings and homestead for their reuse.

As the Minister for Environment and Heritage I look forward to working with the State Heritage Authority, and external heritage agencies, in continuing the conservation and management of heritage in South Australia, and to find the best ways of protecting that heritage.

Iain Evans

Minister for Environment and Heritage

PORT ELLIOT'S MARITIME HERITAGE

Development of the River Murray as a significant inland transport route involved by-passing the hazardous Murray Mouth and constructing, instead, a rail link between the port of Goolwa on the Murray, and a suitable ocean port on Encounter Bay.

In 1850, despite strong support for Victor Harbor, Governor Young selected Port Elliot on Horseshoe Bay, as the site for this coastal link. His decision may well have been an economic one, based on the shorter distance overland to Goolwa, but was undoubtedly influenced by Captain Thomas Lipson's favourable report:

"Indeed, it is my opinion, that Port Elliot will be proved the safest anchorage ... on the south line of the Province."

Between 1851-1854 a single-track railway was constructed between the two ports – the first public railway in Australia. A jetty and breakwater were constructed, moorings were laid and other port facilities and harbour improvements authorised. South Australia's first reticulation scheme piped water from nearby Waterport to establish a permanent water supply for the developing town and visiting vessels. The railway and river trade attracted new settlers and, in the early 1850s, Port Elliot looked to a prosperous future.

From 1851 to 1866 more than 500 vessels used the facilities of the port. Unfortunately, despite the costly and extensive harbour works, seven vessels anchored or seeking shelter in the Bay were wrecked between 1853-1864 (four in one year!) with subsequent loss of property and crippling increases in freight and insurance rates.

These catastrophes confirmed Port Elliot's growing reputation as an unsuitable anchorage and, together with the port's recognised lack of space for expansion, resulted in Victor Harbor replacing Port Elliot as the coastal outlet for the Murray trade.

"This ship-trap has been the occasion of the stranding of two more vessels ..."

Adelaide Times, 9 Sept., 1856

In February 1866 the schooner *Io* was the last vessel to officially use the port facilities.

Seven Shipwrecks

The first maritime tragedy occurred in May 1853 when the schooner *Emu*, travelling to Port Adelaide with 164 bags of wheat, was forced to turn back and anchor in the lee of Pullen Island. The next morning the anchorage was empty, but wreckage was strewn along the southern shoreline. The captain and three crew were presumed drowned.

By 1856 memories of the *Emu* had faded and local confidence was returning. Unfortunately optimism gave way to despair as four vessels came to grief in or adjacent to Horseshoe Bay.

In February the schooner *Commodore* anchored in an exposed position, dragged its anchor in gusty conditions and struck the rocky promontory now known as Commodore Point. In July the brigantine *Josephine Loizeau* broke from its moorings in a gale and was driven ashore, with the thirteen passengers (all women and children) courageously rescued by the captain. At the time it seemed that the mooring cable had parted, but it was later determined that a crew member had mistakenly shackled the vessel to the buoy chain. In September disaster struck again when the ketch *Lapwing* dragged its anchors in a storm and gradually drifted inshore. The vessel was a total loss with wreckage scattered over the Bay. In December the fully laden brig *Harry* was moving to the outer anchorage when the swell carried it inshore. The anchor was immediately dropped but failed to hold and the vessel was grounded – Port Elliot's fourth shipping disaster in 10 months!

The impact of these wreckings was considerable, but by 1859 trade was again

on the increase. Unfortunately a violent storm in December 1860 broke the schooner *Flying Fish* from its mooring. The vessel was driven towards the beach where it became embedded in the sand above high water mark.

In May 1864, one week before the opening of the railway extension to Victor Harbor, Port Elliot's deficiencies as a port were confirmed with the loss of the brigantine *Athol*, which dragged its anchor in heavy seas, drifted inshore and grounded.

Of the seven vessels wrecked at Port Elliot, the remains of four (*Harry*, *Josephine Loizeau*, *Lapwing* and *Flying Fish*) are often exposed within the surf zone at Horseshoe Bay. The *Emu*, *Commodore* and *Athol* sites are thought to lie outside the Bay and have not been located.

New Heritage Trail

The Maritime Heritage Unit of Heritage SA has established a series of Maritime Heritage Trails in many coastal areas of South Australia and along the River Murray, to promote the State's maritime heritage and to encourage community involvement in the protection and conservation of historic shipwrecks and related sites.

The *Port Elliot Maritime Heritage Trail*, consisting of a coloured brochure and five interpretive signs, will soon be launched at Horseshoe Bay, Port Elliot.

Funding for this project was achieved through a Coastcare Grant submitted jointly by Heritage SA and the Port Elliot Surf Living Saving Club, with assistance from the Alexandrina Council.

Robyn Hartell

Heritage SA

Below: *Horseshoe Bay based on a view circa 1860.*

Sketch by Russell and Doris Mitchell, courtesy Port Elliot National Trust



Colonel Light Gardens declared a State Heritage Area

The suburb of Colonel Light Gardens is now a State Heritage Area. Declared on 4 May 2000, this is the second such Area created under the *Development Act 1993*. Earlier ones were created under the South Australian *Heritage Act 1978*. There are now fifteen State Heritage Areas throughout South Australia. Developed through the 1920s, Colonel Light Gardens is an important part of our twentieth century history.

The fourth of May is also significant as the birthday of Charles Reade, South Australia's first Town Planner and principal designer of Colonel Light Gardens. It is considered the most comprehensive, intact example of a garden suburb in Australia.

Planned cities and garden suburbs were seen as a solution to the problems of poor housing, overcrowding and unsanitary conditions of industrialised countries in the nineteenth century. Those ideas

Below: *Ranelagh Street, west of Light Square, Adelaide c. 1916. There was no separation of residential and industrial areas and children played on the streets. Hundreds of families took the opportunity to move out of such crowded sub-standard city dwellings to the spacious domain of their own home in Colonel Light Gardens. Source: History Trust of SA GN12527*

worked their way to Australia where issues of housing standards, relief of population pressure, health and living standards of the working classes, as well as returning soldiers were also a concern.

The garden suburb philosophy was to provide a range of housing for all classes, provision for parks, reserves, children's playgrounds, gardens and sports facilities. To promote a healthy populace, open land was an essential component of a garden suburb.

The design for Canberra in 1911 brought town planning to the attention of Australians. Charles Reade was brought to South Australia by the government of the day after hearing his lectures on town planning. His principles were guided by the garden city movement, which aimed to improve the lifestyle and residential environment of all classes of people.

Imbued with ideas of garden suburbs the South Australian government purchased, what was then Grange Farm, the area which would become Colonel Light Gardens, in 1915. But World War One interrupted its development until 1921, when the first blocks were available for public purchase.

State Cabinet adopted the name Colonel

Light Gardens in April 1921, and the new suburb offered residents: gas, electricity, water and sewerage, surfaced roads, public transport and a view of the foothills.

In 1924 the development of the suburb was accelerated by the Labor Government's decision to initiate a mass housing scheme, called the Thousand Homes Scheme, on a large portion of the undeveloped land in Colonel Light Gardens. The scheme was to alleviate the shortage of housing; and targeted returned soldiers in particular.

The public housing scheme ensured Colonel Light Gardens developed quickly. Shops, churches and schools were soon established, and the Garden Theatre, for moving pictures, was built in 1927. Although Charles Reade's original plan had been altered, Colonel Light Gardens is still the best representation of his work. The design which developed during the 1920s remains unchanged.

Sources:

Alison Radford,
Senior Heritage Officer, Heritage SA

Colonel Light Gardens Walk Brochure, 1997, Philip Knight and Christine Garnaut

Colonel Light Gardens Conservation Study, 1989, Department of Environment and Planning



Colonel Light Gardens is significant because:

- It exemplifies the theories of town planning of the early twentieth century based on the garden city concept. It is considered the most complete and representative example of a garden suburb in Australia, combining both town planning, aesthetic and social elements into a coherent plan.
- It represents the best work of Charles C Reade who was the first appointed Town Planner in Australia, and South Australian Government Town Planner from 1916-1920. Reade was the leading, practicing, exponent of the garden city movement in Australia.
- It is the area where the majority of houses were built under the mass housing program of the Labour Government in the 1920s – known as the Thousand Homes Scheme. It was also the first mass public housing scheme in Australia.
- It contains a uniform style of residential architecture representing the particular workingman's house style of the mid 1920s, developed from the Californian Bungalow design.
- It is the embodiment of other, more ephemeral social concepts of the 1920s such as 'post war reconstruction', 'homes for returned soldiers' and 'community spirit' and 'self help' which lead to the creation and development of a community.

Below: *Moving-in day, Corunna Avenue, Colonel Light Gardens, late 1920s*

Source: Undated photograph held by the City of Mitcham Local History Collection. Original from J Ball



Charles Compton Reade 1880-1933

Colonel Light Gardens was principally designed by Charles Compton Reade. A New Zealander born in 1880, Reade first visited Britain in 1905. As a journalist, he wrote about the slums which had developed around the major industrialised cities in Britain and the lessons for Australasians. Reade worked in London with the Garden City and Town Planning Association, gaining sufficient experience in Britain to enable him to lead a public lecture tour promoting the garden city planning philosophy, throughout Australasia during 1914-15.

Soon after the end of the tour, South Australia appointed Reade as its first official Town Planner in 1916 (this made

him the first Town Planner in Australia). In 1917 he drew up plans for an Adelaide garden suburb and these were shown at Australia's first Town Planning and Housing Conference which was organised by Reade.

Comprehensive State-wide town planning legislation was the main focus of Reade's attention and this was achieved with legislation passed in late 1920. Reade left Australia for the Federated Malay States in December 1920 to take up a temporary appointment. He did not return to Australia. Sadly, after working successfully in Malaya and Rhodesia (now Malaysia and Zambia respectively) he committed suicide in South Africa, in 1933.

Source: Colonel Light Gardens Walk Brochure, 1997, Philip Knight and Christine Garnaut
Brochures are available free from Mitcham Council

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For information about developing a place in Colonel Light Gardens please ring the Heritage Adviser at Mitcham Council on 8272 8888.

For further information on the history of Colonel Light Gardens see Christine Garnaut's book, *Colonel Light Gardens: model garden suburb* available at Mostly Books, Mitcham; and LJ Hooker, Colonel Light Gardens.

From Museum Manager to Farm Manager

Good-bye to Sue Scheiffers, Manager of the Adelaide Gaol.

The Gaol closed in 1988, and since then it has become a successful Museum generating income for its continued use. Sue has been the major instigator and organiser of its success. She arrived in 1988 as a part-time volunteer, working the other three days as a teacher. At the time she was the Secretary of the Adelaide Gaol Preservation Society. In 1994 Sue became part-time Manager, and quit her teaching job – but still worked six days a week at the Gaol! A few years later she was employed full-time.

Sue arranged entry fees into the Gaol, sleep-overs for school children and other groups; opened the space for Festival and Fringe activities, and was generally a tireless promoter of the new Museum. With limited funding Sue created a viable enterprise.

Sue worked at the Gaol for twelve years with the help of Boofy, her black Labrador. She is retiring to set new challenges for herself on a small farm at Strathalbyn, where she will revegetate 11 acres of weed and create a vegetable garden.

As well as overseeing the management of Adelaide Gaol, Sue has written a book about the Gaol and organised a display to interpret its history. In her time as Manager, Sue was also a councillor for the Mitcham Council for five years.

I'd like to thank Sue for all her enthusiasm and hard work. It is the efforts of people like Sue that helps societies maintain their cultural heritage. The Gaol is now a viable museum, a successful commercial enterprise, and a good example of sympathetic reuse of a heritage building. Individuals do make a difference.

Good luck Sue

David Conlon
Manager
Heritage SA

New Minister and Department Name

On 9 February Iain Evans became Minister for Environment and Heritage, while retaining his Recreation & Sport portfolio, and Dorothy Kotz retained Aboriginal Affairs and gained Local Government.

At the departmental level the name DEHAA (Department for Environment, Heritage and Aboriginal Affairs) has become DEH (Department for Environment and Heritage). Various water functions have been transferred to the new Department for Water Resources, and the Division of State Aboriginal Affairs, which included Aboriginal Heritage, has been transferred to the Department for Transport, Urban Planning and the Arts (DTUPA). The Pastoral Land Management and Conservation Act has been committed to the Minister for Primary Industries and Resources. The Chief Executive of the former DEHAA (John Scanlon) has resigned and Allan Holmes is acting in the position.

Heritage Surveys

Publication of the Upper North (centred on Jamestown) Heritage Survey is imminent, and the Tea Tree Gully Stage 2 Heritage Survey has now been published. A survey of the Oodnadatta Track has commenced, and this is seen as the first of a series of targeted area surveys along major transportation corridors in Region 13, the Far North and Far West. It is seen as the most manageable way of assessing the outback of the State, given that a conventional regional survey is not practical or cost effective. (This vast area comprises about 2/3 of the State.)

Thus the regional survey program that began in 1981 will soon be completed – a significant milestone. A five year strategic plan for thematic surveys and the revisiting of early regional surveys is now being prepared.

Heritage On Line

Finding out about heritage has become easier with heritage on line.

The Heritage SA website gives you access to information on heritage legislation; the registration process; heritage funding eligibility and access to issues such as planning for conservation management, and the criteria for inclusion of places in the State Heritage Register.

The Heritage SA website now also contains complete lists of the Heritage Surveys and Conservation Management Plans held in the agency.

Anyone can nominate a place for entry in the State Heritage Register and forms can now be accessed through the website.

This newsletter will be available on line as well. Our website address is www.heritage.sa.gov.au.



Heritage in the Parks

Wilpena Station is currently being developed as a tourist site. Heritage SA has coordinated the stabilisation of outbuildings and the conservation work at the homestead in readiness for its reuse as Park's offices. Heritage SA was involved in writing specifications, assessing tenders and checking the quality of conservation work. This has been an ongoing project for Heritage SA over a number of years.

Heritage SA is currently involved in identifying places in the newly created Gawler Ranges National Park.

The landscape around Martindale Hall Conservation Park has been developed with the help of Heritage SA. Strategies are also being developed for management of the Wakefield River.

A Conservation Management Plan for Inneston, in the Innes National Park is being developed.

A dilapidation report, and documentation for Karka Pavilion, in Belair National Park is underway.

Maritime

Heritage SA is involved with a number of projects within its core activities of survey, conservation and interpretation. Maritime sites on land and underwater continue to be surveyed, the latest survey including shipwreck and whaling sites on Kangaroo Island. Sites such as the *City of Adelaide* lifeboat, the Mannum Dock and the *Clan Ranald* shipwreck are receiving attention with regard to their conservation needs. A sixth maritime heritage/shipwrecks trail is being developed along the south eastern coastline, and discussions are proceeding with Tourism SA to further develop the tourist and recreational potential of South Australia's maritime heritage.

Heritage Festival 2000

The National Trust of South Australia held its annual Heritage Festival in April 7-16. This year's Festival encouraged a wider perception of heritage and included Jazz at Ayers House, Bush Tucker in the Botanic Gardens and olive tastings. Heritage SA has had a long standing relationship with the National Trust, and this year was no exception when it supported a recreation of an authentic state dinner as part of the Festival.

On 8 February 1909 a dinner was held in honour of the Governor General of the Commonwealth of Australia. The menu comprised eight courses with a wine to suit each course. This dinner was recreated in the State Dining Room of Ayers House on 14 April 2000. For eighteen guests only the menu featured Oysters, Bonne Femme, Roast Saddle of Mutton and Empress Pudding. Chef Kate Swaffer successfully adapted an old menu to contemporary tastes while retaining the original menu. Advice on the selection of wine was given by Robert Hill-Smith. Guests included The Hon Leigh Davis, Jane Reilly, and Carole Whitelock.

The National Trust will repeat this dinner at various times of the year. For more information please contact the Trust on 8223 1655.

State Heritage Register On Line

Selected fields for the State Heritage Register database can now be accessed on line via the Australian Heritage Places Inventory Web Site (<http://www.heritage.gov.au/ahpi/index.html>.)

Interstate News

Victoria

The *Victorian Heritage Strategy 2000-2005* was released in February. The following extracts are from the Introduction.

'Management of Victoria's known cultural heritage resource is one of the priority areas addressed by the strategy. As most of Victoria's heritage resources are in private hands, owners need support and assistance to care for these places and objects. Government agencies, local government authorities and other groups with responsibility for heritage places and objects also need support for their management activities...

Heritage is vital to the Victorian economy. It helps to support the tourism industry and is a significant component of contemporary lifestyle and leisure activities. The importance of heritage to the economic activity of regional Victoria and centres such as Maldon and Beechworth is obvious, but it is also the key attraction of provincial cities such as Ballarat and Bendigo. The practice of heritage conservation is both an economic activity in itself and a means by which historic structures and objects are improved in value and enhanced so as to make a contribution to the State's economic and cultural wealth.'

Queensland

Queensland's Minister for Environment and Heritage, The Hon. Rod Welford, MLA, had this to say when opening the Sustainable Heritage Conference held in Brisbane 2-3 June 2000.

'Sustainability is a key word for the future. It is at the core of environmental and industry thinking. I believe that the environment must be saved not only out of obligation to future generations, but as an end in itself.

The same applies to cultural heritage. Heritage is an inheritance from the past that is cared for in the present and held in trust for future generations. We must not limit thinking about adverse impacts on environmental sustainability to natural systems like air, water and biodiversity, but also include the impacts on society and its artefact – its culture. ...My aim is to make heritage conservation as much a part of our lives as other learned habits like recycling.

Heritage is an important part of Queensland's identity, and I am pleased to note that interest in preserving our past is increasing. I am delighted that rural and regional communities are recognising the economic benefits of cultural heritage through tourism.' The Minister also mentioned the Government's Queensland Heritage Trails Network and Community Cultural Heritage Incentive Programs.

Lyell Rosenzweig

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THE *FIDES* IN FINLAND – HISTORY, EXHIBITION AND RELIGION

On 3 July 1999 in the old Kristinestad school building in Finland, the *Fides* exhibition was launched in front of 120 Finnish, Swedish and Australian representatives. The exhibition was part of the official celebrations for the 350th anniversary of the city.

The *Fides* exhibition which included parts of the ship (the bell), and the general cargo carried by the vessel from London destined for Port Adelaide in 1860, was now back in its place of origin: Kristinestad in Finland. The exhibition was developed as a Visions of Australia travelling exhibition, and during 1998 and 1999 it was seen in five different states of Australia. In June 1999 it was transported to Finland and has been seen in Kristinestad and the Maritime Museum of Finland in Helsinki. Currently it is on display in Mariehamn in the Åland Islands, the home of Gustav Ericson and his fleet of windjammers. Windjammers were regularly sailed to South Australia during the 1940s, culminating in the last vessel visiting Port Victoria in 1949.

The *Fides* exhibition is not just a tale about a shipwreck. It is a representative story of many ships, crews and cargo that came to South Australia, that were essential in the settlement and development of the British colony. While it was British products that were brought to South Australia on the *Fides* as on other vessels, the colony was touched by a larger international community, such as those from China, United States of America, Canada, Japan, France, Germany, Norway, Greece and others. These connections are still there in the form of the material remains of the shipwrecks; the associated documentary remains, and the association of descendants.

The *Fides* was wrecked off the northern coastline of Kangaroo Island on 21 May 1860, 131 days from its departure. Out of the 15 crew, 10 perished, the remaining five walked back to Cape Borda and were assisted by William Tapley, the head



Above: Terry Drew (foreground) in a small church on the island of Jurmo where a model of a ship, similar to that found in Kristinestad, is suspended from the ceiling as its 'votive ship'.

Right: Erik Sandlund standing in front of the Captain (Asplund) of the *Fides*' house in Kristinestad in 1999.



lightstation keeper. Only two bodies of their crew mates were found and buried near the wreck.

The majority of the crew came from Kristinestad as did the owners and the builder. In 1989, Erik Sandlund, a great grandson of the owner, Carl Hyden visited Adelaide and unveiled a plaque on the northern coast of Kangaroo Island – the

first memorial to the 10 sailors who were killed on the *Fides*. Erik's interest in the *Fides* – together with that of Christer Norrvik, a Finnish/Swedish maritime historian – were the main incentives for the development of the exhibition. A more substantial memorial stone has now replaced the copper plaque placed at Cape Borda by Erik Sandlund.



Left: One of the 12 panels that formed part of the *Fides* exhibition as it appeared in the old school building in Kristinestad. The text is in Finnish and English.

The *Fides* shipwreck site today is protected under the Commonwealth *Historic Shipwrecks Act 1976* as it contains remains of the cargo and vessel; although it is quite broken up. However, intact fruit, olive oil, jam, and porter (beer) bottles have been found on the site, and form part of the exhibition which is now on show in the Aland Islands. A frequent visitor to the site is the leafy seadragon, which was featured in the exhibition and is now South Australia's marine emblem.

The former Harbor Master of Kristinestad and the current Curator of the Kristinestad Maritime Museum, Captain Jouni Harju constructed a model of the *Fides* to accompany the exhibition. In April this year, this model was offered to the 'new' church (the oldest one is over 300 years old) in Kristinestad as a votive ship. This is a Scandinavian tradition that goes back to at least

1609 (oldest votive ship in Finland) where sailors promised an offering – such as a ship's model – if God helped in saving their lives while at sea. From about 1850, with less ships being lost and more sailors surviving, the tradition carried on, but the offering was made before the sailors went to sea.

The *Fides* exhibition was accompanied to Finland by Bill Jeffery, Terry Drew (both of whom developed the concept for the exhibition) and the exhibition's designer John Perkins.

Bill Jeffery
Principal Maritime Officer
Heritage SA

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THE HERITAGE UNIT

of the Department for Administrative and Information Services (DAIS)



Above and top: Former Attorney-General's Building, Flinders Street, before and after

Since 1986 the Heritage Unit of DAIS has been the agency responsible for planning, managing and implementing the proper conservation of the Government's heritage listed public buildings.

The Unit was originally formed to implement façade conservation work to a number of prestigious public buildings. But by 1988 there was a recognition that this work should include less prominent, but still significant historic public buildings throughout South Australia. They also required various forms of conservation work to remain viable, presentable heritage assets.

The South Australian Government owns and manages an extensive inventory of approximately 300 heritage listed assets, and in order to fulfil its obligations under the *Heritage Act 1993* it established the Historic Buildings Conservation Program. Over the last 14 years the Heritage Unit has compiled the annual program of works to provide the best possible commitment of limited funding and resources, for the conservation of South Australia's significant built heritage and cultural tourism settings.

The Unit implements projects utilising its own resources, together with experienced heritage consultants and specialist contractors. In addition to the

programmed work, members of the Heritage Unit provide strategic planning and technical advice to the Facility and Asset Managers of the various government agencies, in the conservation and adaptive re-use of their heritage properties.

A Conservation Guidelines booklet has been published by the Unit to assist State Government Agencies in recognising their obligations, and the potential of their heritage properties. As part of this planning process, the Unit has an ongoing program to provide conservation plans and dilapidation surveys on all of the Government's heritage assets.

Members of the DAIS Heritage Unit work closely with Heritage SA, especially in assisting agencies to obtain approvals for works on heritage buildings which are seen as development work, according to the *Development Act 1993*.

The Heritage Unit is composed of three very committed Conservation Architects and a Senior Conservation Adviser, all of whom have a wide ranging experience in heritage conservation work. The Unit provides a range of research, architectural, and building conservation services for the restoration, adaptation and refurbishment

of historic buildings, sites and precincts. The Heritage Unit has been recognised as one of the leaders in the conservation of historic buildings throughout Australia and South East Asia.

Since 1993 the Unit's personnel, in partnership with other South Australian specialists, have been involved in major heritage projects in Malaysia, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Indonesia. Recognised as a centre of conservation excellence, Adelaide, through DAIS, now exports these skills internationally.

As due recognition of its expertise and sensitivity in the conservation field, the Heritage Unit has received many state and national architectural and civic awards, for its work in the conservation and rehabilitation of historic buildings.

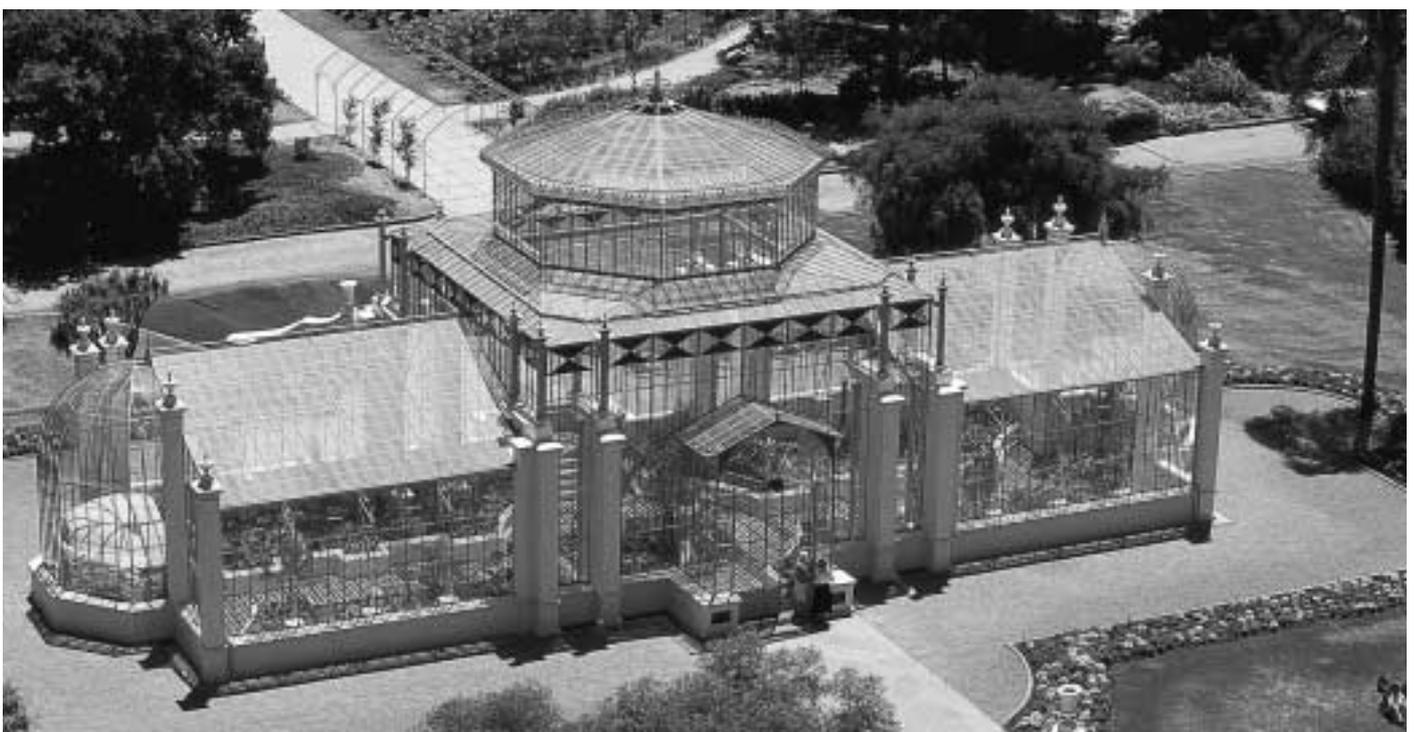
Some notable DAIS conservation projects include: restoration of the ornate Adelaide Fruit & Produce Exchange perimeter buildings; the very significant South Australian Institute Building on North Tce; the prominent Old Treasury Building on Victoria Square; the crystal-like iron and glass Palm House in the Adelaide Botanic Garden; the Old Port Adelaide Police Station; the former Attorney-General's Building in Flinders Street; Courthouse building which flanks the gateway to the Port Heritage Precinct; Adelaide's Government House and Parliament



House; and the renowned and majestic Martindale Hall mansion at Mintaro. All of these buildings not only serve useful functions but also provide a significant contribution to cultural tourism in South Australia.

Richard Cook
Senior Heritage Architect
Heritage Unit DAIS

Above: Adelaide Fruit and Produce Exchange
Below: Palm House, Botanic Gardens



CONSERVATION OF THE *Clan Ranald* SHIPWRECK ANCHOR

An anchor from the historic *Clan Ranald* shipwreck has been removed from its site near Troubridge Hill for urgent conservation work. The anchor, which since 1975 has been mounted above the cliffs overlooking the scene of the tragedy, was dangerously close to fragmentation caused by chemical corrosion.

The Maritime Heritage Unit of Heritage South Australia will undertake the anchor's initial treatment, which is expected to take at least eighteen months. It will then return to Edithburgh where, in a joint project with the Edithburgh Progress Association and the Edithburgh Maritime Museum, the local community will complete its conservation.

When the anchor is returned to Troubridge Hill, an interpretive plaque will be established at the site honouring the names of all 64 crew members.

Wrecked in January 1909 the *Clan Ranald* shipwreck is one of South Australia's worst maritime disasters. Forty lives were lost

and only 24 members of the crew survived; heroically rescued by members of the local community. Despite being battered and bleeding when the survivors reached shore, 20 of the crew, who were Filipino and Indian, were seized and deported by the Commonwealth for being illegal immigrants. After public outcry against the scandalous treatment of these survivors, the Commonwealth Government was forced to allow coloured persons shipwrecked to land on our shores without restriction.

In association with the Edithburgh Cemetery, the wreck and its anchor serve as a sombre reminder of the tragedy, as well as providing a tangible link with this nation's maritime heritage and its past 'White Australia' policy. In 1999 the graves of the *Clan Ranald's* crew were entered in the State Heritage Register in recognition of their significance to South Australia's maritime cultural heritage.

The *Clan Ranald* is the only turret ship to have been lost in Australian waters. The

wreck was discovered by divers in 1962, and is now protected under the Commonwealth *Historic Shipwrecks Act 1976*. The site is an important element of the *Investigator Strait Maritime Heritage Trail*, which extends from Troubridge Point to West Cape at Innes National Park. The shipwreck has also been recognised as an outstanding feature of the Troubridge Hill Aquatic Reserve which was declared in 1983.

The conservation of the *Clan Ranald* anchor is one of a number of activities planned to highlight the site's national significance. The overall project to be undertaken by the Department for Environment and Heritage will also involve underwater surveys to monitor the corrosion of the hull and machinery, and

Below: Anchor from the *Clan Ranald* on shore near the wrecksite. The anchor will be conserved by washing it in a bath of caustic soda during which time, the main corrosive causing material, salt, will be washed out. This will then return the anchor to a stable and more presentable form.



Below: *Survivors from the shipwreck*
Courtesy Mortlock Library



the attachment of sacrificial anodes to prevent further disintegration. Importantly a marine biological survey will be carried out to identify the diverse range of marine flora and fauna that have colonised the site.

A publication covering the history and future management of this nationally significant shipwreck will be launched at a special commemorative service to be held at Edithburgh early next year.

Terry Arnott
Maritime Heritage Officer, Heritage SA

WHAT'S NEW IN THE STATE HERITAGE REGISTER

The following places have been included in the State Heritage Register in the year 2000 to date.

DOWLINGVILLE

Dowlingville Post Office

LAMEROO

Former Bank Manager's Residence
Irish Martyrs Catholic Church

MARDEN

Dwelling ('Korra Weera')
St Aidan's Anglican Church

near MERCUNDA

Elizabeth Well (ruin)

MINNIPA

Pildappa Rock

MITCHAM

Former E&WS Water Tank

MOONTA BAY

Saltwater Intake and Pumping Station

NURIOOTPA

Schaedel House and Cottage

TEA TREE GULLY

Former Highercombe (subsequently Tea Tree Gully) Council Chambers

VALE PARK

Dwelling ('Vale House')

WUDINNA

Mount Wudinna & Environs (Mount Wudinna, Little Wudinna, Polda Rock and Turtle Rock)
Ucontitchie Hill

VALE HOUSE, VALE PARK

Built in the early years of the settlement of South Australia, Vale House has been associated with several of the State's more notable residents, including William Henry Clark, founder of the West End Brewery. The most significant owner of Vale House was Philip Levi, a man who was influential in the development of the State's pastoral industry in the mid-nineteenth century. The property was originally owned by Sir

John Morphett, one of the founders of the colony, and the house built for WRS Cooke, an early shipping and wholesale dealer. But it was Philip Levi who had the longest association with the house.

Report by **Sarah Laurence**

Source: Heritage SA files



NEW HERITAGE PUBLICATIONS

From thatch to timber shingles, galvanised iron to asbestos, concrete and terracotta tiles, *Early Roofing and Roof Materials in South Australia* presents a comprehensive history of roofing materials used in our state. The publication provides valuable information on roof detailing and maintenance. It also contains advice on how to incorporate modern requirements, such as air-conditioning and antennae, into the roof structure in an unobtrusive and sympathetic way.

Painting of Older Buildings in South Australia not only records the history of colour schemes in South Australia, it also documents the early use of materials, and the philosophy dictating colour choices. It includes a practical guide for the user on how to design a house colour scheme

Author Di Robson has written an easy to read and practical guide for people wanting to paint their houses in sympathy with their environment. Di has reset the record to show that the dominant colour schemes in South Australia were not necessarily the currently fashionable red and green, but were often neutral, light tones.

A list of external colours from 1850 to 1870 shows a predominance of neutral colours, with charcoal, grey, off-white and cream the most frequently noted. Galvanised roofs, and shingles were often unpainted. Light colours were used on early buildings because they reflected ultra-violet light and heat.

In the latter part of the Nineteenth Century, however, especially in the High Victorian period, more dramatic colours became popular. Nevertheless, while the other states indulged in excessively voluptuous colour schemes, South Australian colours remained refined and lighter.

These publications were launched on the sixth of June by the Minister for Environment and Heritage, and The Lord Mayor, at the Nova Cinema.

Minister Evans said, 'Many people believe we protect our heritage places through legislation, which then controls what the owner of the place can do with the building. This



Above: Iain Evans, Minister for Environment and Heritage and the Lord Mayor Mr Alfred Huang launching the publications at the Nova Cinema.

is true, but we can also protect our heritage places by encouraging greater community awareness. Publications like those we are launching today are significant contributions to the growth of that awareness.'

The Minister argued that colour schemes and roofing styles of the built environment are important features of our heritage. A paint scheme

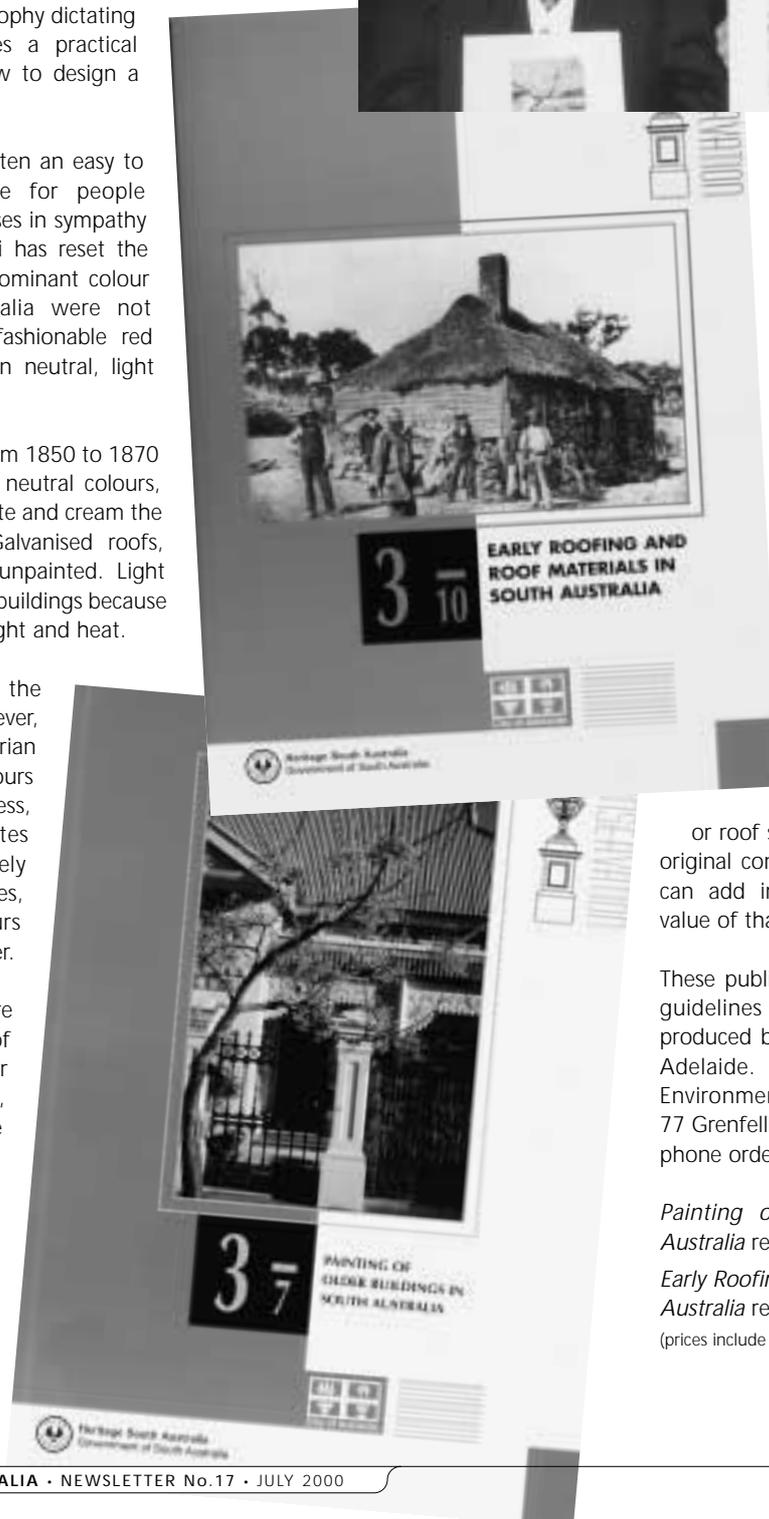
or roof style that is sympathetic to the original context and history of a building can add immeasurably to the heritage value of that place.

These publications are part of a series of guidelines on heritage conservation produced by Heritage SA and the City of Adelaide. They are available at the Environment Shop, Ground Floor, 77 Grenfell Street. Or phone 82041911 to phone order.

Painting of Older Buildings in South Australia retails at \$27.50

Early Roofing and Roof Materials in South Australia retails at \$13.20

(prices include GST)



GULAGA, THE MOTHER: A SHORT STORY

The Australian Heritage Commission ran a competition during 1999 to celebrate Australia's heritage.

The *Celebrating Australia's Heritage* campaign consisted of three competitions:

– *Heritage Rave*, a **writing** competition that aimed to encourage people to think and write 1000 words about Australia's heritage places and the role they played in shaping Australia's spirit, our culture.

– *Songs of Place*, a national **song** competition that aimed to encourage people to think about and then express in music their experiences and views about Australia's heritage places.

– *Heritage in Focus*, a national **video** competition that encouraged people to use the medium of video to create awareness of the relevance and importance of our heritage to our lives today and the way in which it shaped Australia's 'spirit' or identity.

The following story by Seph Scorazie, from Bermagui in New South Wales, won a special merit award in the Heritage Rave section.

Gulaga, The Mother

(Also known as Mount Dromedary)

The Great Woman Gulaga lies beside me with her children muddling in the folds of her skirt and I see her young son who is called back after he left home for the sea. That's Montague Island just off the coast. The myth tells how he is joined to his mother through an umbilicus that runs under the ocean to her innerness. Dolphins are said to swim that tunnel that connects that great woman to her son. The legend is that she is the site where the world began.

One of the local Aboriginal women at Wallaga Lake on the far south coast of New South Wales says, "Gulaga is a sacred mountain because the Creative Beings were there in the past and because they are there still. To engage with the mountain is to engage with spirit". Her clarity on sacredness is this: "Sacred events are events authorised by the Creative Beings and engaged in by human beings as a way of sustaining spirit in human life".

On the side of Gulaga are the Sacred Tors. The Yuin people refer to the Tors as the Caretakers, the Guardians. The Tors are giant standing nations, libraries held in rock like a giant computer mainframe – a sacred stone city where each building has its powerful place – a place to store history's records, a place where knowledge and personal power can be accessed, a place for ceremony, a sacred marriage ceremony site, a place to create fertility in a human belly, and on and on the City of Rock goes, stretching out, gazing out to the ocean and coming back to itself through the branching of the lakes moving inland.

Geographical linkages and visual perceptions are understood to indicate a spiritual relationship. Looking to the coast from up there at the Tors, Black Duck Island (*Merriman*) looks so distinct, so like a duck resting on Wallaga Lake. The black duck (*Wambara*) is the totem of the Yuin people. The Yuin people are the traditional custodians of Gulaga. As a white community we have been given their permission and blessing to have gatherings on Gulaga Mountain. She, by her very being, has provided a way whereby we can rebuild communities through nurturing the spiritual links with place – this heritage place.

She's our local landmark and if anyone gets a bit lost on their personal life path they climb her ways, moving up her side and they find answers coming to them as if secrets are held in the pockets of her robes. I think they are.

For a number of years the women from Sydney, the ones leading those busy corporate lives, came down to spend time with Gulaga. When the women went onto Gulaga they put on red headbands – it is both a sign and a protection and signifies a respect for the earth. They would walk up the mountain to be joined by local aboriginal elder Ann Thomas, clapping her sticks to herald their arrival. Ann walks them in to the sacred women's site, leading the way through 'The Great Ones'. Steady, throbbing and alive, Gulaga invites them to come home to themselves. They share ceremony together.

I like that this magnificent woman lies beside me. I like to watch her. She wears a

series of totally original and ever-changing garments. From sensuous gossamer creamy negligees to all-sensible, fluffy woolly coats. And then in the evening when the sun and her play and dance together, the light show is the evening's joy. She tells us if rain is on the way by her wardrobe.

Last evening she covered herself from head to toe in French Grey Tuille which had a mauve satin lining and as the night was falling, on came the layering of soft cottons and fine wools until she finally slept in an elegant charcoal throw-around. During the night it rained, she said it would.

For the Yuin people who live around here it is their ancestors who live there on Gulaga. She is one of the few places that has not had too much European impact. She's a living entity connecting past with present by her stability on a continent whose original inhabitants have been swept into huge dislocating changes.

Gulaga supports three different types of rainforest and a Eucalypt forest covers most of her. I have just been informed that she has been listed on the 'May be logged' list. I can't believe the people who did that could know this Beauty at all. They couldn't know how sacred she is, how she rests in everyone's heart or they wouldn't ever think to damage one hair on her beautiful head. I lift my head and look at her lying there like a goddess in repose, nestled between Narooma and Bermagui with her toe dipped in there at Mystery Bay watching her boy out at sea, and again I am stilled by the site of her. My deep wish is for Gulaga to remain undamaged by human habitation. That amongst all these changes going on in all our lives she remains unchanging and stable. And yet forever changing that fabulous auric garb. Oh those divine gossamer pearl shell numbers – so elegant.

In my early morning run around the waking village I come over the crest of the hill and there she is, directly ahead of me, and I'm running with my daughter towards her. I feel an invisible bolt of energy in my solar plexus as her hugeness enters and fills all of my visual perception. I am breathing hard, my daughter has gone ahead of me. It's 6.30am, the day has begun and I've been blessed by her presence again.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S 19TH CENTURY MEMORIALS

Memorials, so often taken for granted and all too easily overlooked in a society dominated by fast moving transportation, were one of the first means of recording significant people and events in our State's history and are an important part of our built heritage. This list of nineteenth century memorials is restricted to those of State significance – an inevitably subjective selection – and excludes indoor memorials and grave-stones in cemeteries. The strong emphasis on explorers reflects the concerns of the times – the achievements of such individuals were easily recognisable and suitable for heroic status.

The monuments to Light and Flinders are notable for the earliness of their erection, although it must be remembered that the Light monument marked his tomb. With the exception of the statues of Queen Victoria, Robert Burns and the now demolished original memorial to Light, all these places are entered in the State Heritage Register.

1802 Engraved sheet of copper erected 24 February on a 'stout post' at Memory Cove in memory of eight of Matthew Flinders' sailors who drowned on 21 February. (Portion found on the beach 20 August 1866. Replacement plate mounted at the head of the bay 21 February 1897. Plate subsequently destroyed; replaced in August 1924.)

1803 Frenchman's Rock, Hog Bay, Kangaroo Island inscribed, presumably in January, by a member or members of Nicolas Baudin's expedition. (Protective brick structure built 1906; rock removed in

1917-18 and a cement cast substituted for the original, which since 1996 has been on display in the Penneshaw Information Centre.)

1844 Monument to South Australia's first Surveyor-General, Colonel William Light, Light Square, Adelaide, completed. (Foundation stone laid 18 February 1843; inscription added to monument 1876; monument replaced 1905. The original inscription is now held in the History Trust of South Australia's Historic Relics Collection.)

1844 Flinders Monument, Stamford Hill, out of Port Lincoln, completed (Commenced c.1842; obelisk refaced with marble 1866 and new tablet affixed. A bronze plaque reproducing the same inscription was placed on top of the marble one and unveiled 9 March 1934.)

1852 Sturt Light (Cape Willoughby Lighthouse) first exhibited 10 January.

1858 Board on Old Gum Tree, Glenelg, commemorating the Colony's 21st anniversary, affixed 26 February. (Rain prevented board being affixed on 28 December 1857)

1858 Flinders' Light (Cape Borda Lighthouse) first exhibited 13 July.

1875 Monument to explorer John McKinlay, Murray Street, Gawler

completed. (Foundation stone laid 14 November 1874)

1887 Obelisk to poet Adam Lindsay Gordon erected near the place where in July 1864 he made his famous leap on horseback over the fence around the Blue Lake, Mt Gambier. (Foundation stone laid 8 July)

1894 Statue of Queen Victoria, Victoria Square, Adelaide, unveiled 11 August.

1894 Statue of Robert Burns, west corner of North Terrace and Kintore Avenue, Adelaide, unveiled 5 May. (Subsequently moved to in front of the Art Gallery in May 1930 and to in front of the State Library in 1940.)

The principal source for this list was my leaflet *South Australian Memorials 1802-1935* (Community History Unit, History Trust of South Australia, Leaflet No. 5, 1992), with some minor updating. If your appetite for memorials has been sharpened, there are three publications which are especially useful: Simon Cameron's *Silent Witnesses* (Adelaide 1997), Eric Gunton's *Memories in Stone* (Adelaide 1984) and F Paul Bulbeck's *Some Plaques and Memorials of South Australia* (Adelaide 1998). Also of interest are the South Australian entries from the National Register of Unusual Monuments Project, held on open access in the Mortlock Library at Z/725.94/N277/b.

Brian Samuels is Principal Heritage Officer with Heritage South Australia

Below: *Frenchman's Rock c.1907-1912*
Courtesy: Penneshaw Museum

