

# SA Heritage Register

Nomination form

## South Australian HERITAGE COUNCIL

To help your nomination be successful, please fill out this form with as much information as possible.  
Feel free to expand the answer fields as much as you require or append information to the form.

Please note that places which have been nominated during past three years will not be reconsidered by the South Australian Heritage Council unless you can provide significant new information not provided through the previous nomination and assessment.


*For assistance with this form you may contact:*


Your local historical society or heritage adviser may be of assistance OR you may telephone an assessment officer in Heritage South Australia on (08) 8124 4960.

### A. Nominated Place

1. Name	
<b>Name of Place / Object:</b>	Historic James Stobie's Home at 197 Childers Street, North Adelaide
<b>Any other or former name(s):</b>	No
<b>Is the place already on another heritage list?</b>	No

2. Location					
<b>Street Address:</b>	197 Childers Street in North Adelaide Historic (Conservation) Zone				
	Suburb / Town: North Adelaide			Post Code:	
	5006				
<b>Local Council Name:</b>	City of Adelaide				
<b>Land Description:</b> (if known)	<b>Title:</b> CT5731/949	<b>Volume:</b>	<b>Folio:</b>	<b>Parcel Type:</b>	<b>Parcel No:</b> F183343AL881
	<b>Plan Type:</b>	<b>Plan No:</b>	<b>Section:</b>	<b>Hundred:</b>	
<b>GPS Location/s:</b> (If known)	<b>Longitude / Easting / X</b> 138°35'16.0"E (138.587770)		<b>Latitude / Northing / Y (Datum = WGS84)</b> 34°54'19.1"S (-34.905317)		

3. Ownership	
<b>Name of Owner(s):</b>	
<b>Contact person:</b> (if different from owner explain relationship)	
<b>Postal Address:</b>	
<b>Phone Number:</b>	
<b>Ownership History:</b>	Former home of James Stobie, the inventor of South Australia's ubiquitous Stobie poles for electricity lines ( <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stobie_pole">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stobie_pole</a> )

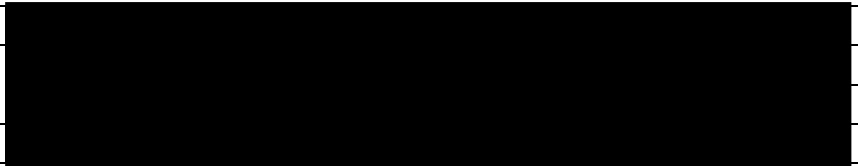
4. Nominator (your details)	
<b>Your Name/s:</b>	
<b>Organisation/Position:</b>	
<b>Daytime Phone:</b>	

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<b>Fax:</b>
<b>Postal Address:</b>
<b>Email Address:</b>



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## B. Description

5. Description of nominated place or object	
<b>Description of the nominated place or object and its current condition:</b>	Built in 1890 on 1,576 m <sup>2</sup> of land, this 7 bedroom, 4 bathroom recently restored house and gardens are in <i>the</i> North Adelaide Historic (Conservation) Zone, subject to the Hill Street Policy Area, and is in excellent (and attractively restored) condition we believe
<b>Are you aware of any modifications or additions to the place or object?</b> Can you provide dates for these changes?	I was restored extensively for structural and aesthetic reasons we recall since approximately 2014 after it was last sold
<b>Do you believe there may be historical items under the ground?</b> Should an archaeological investigation be considered?	No
<b>Date you inspected the place or object:</b>	Yes
<b>Have you had any contact with the Owner?</b>	No
<b>Current use of the place or object:</b>	Home
<b>Original or former use(s):</b>	Home through all of its life we believe
<b>Are there any current or long term threats to the nominated place or object?</b>	Yes:  DA/206/2020 which is for: <i>'Demolition of existing single storey detached dwelling and construction of a two storey residential flat building comprising two dwellings.'</i>  There is also an associated land division (LD/2/2020) being assessed concurrently. The land division proposes a division that facilitates construction of the two storey residential flat building as well as creating a further two allotments at the rear of this property.
<b>Name of Builder:</b>	
<b>Any other information:</b>	See articles below.

## C. History

6. Origins and history	
<b>Years of Construction:</b>	<b>Start:</b> <b>Finish:</b> 1890
<b>Name of Designer / Architect:</b>	To be researched.

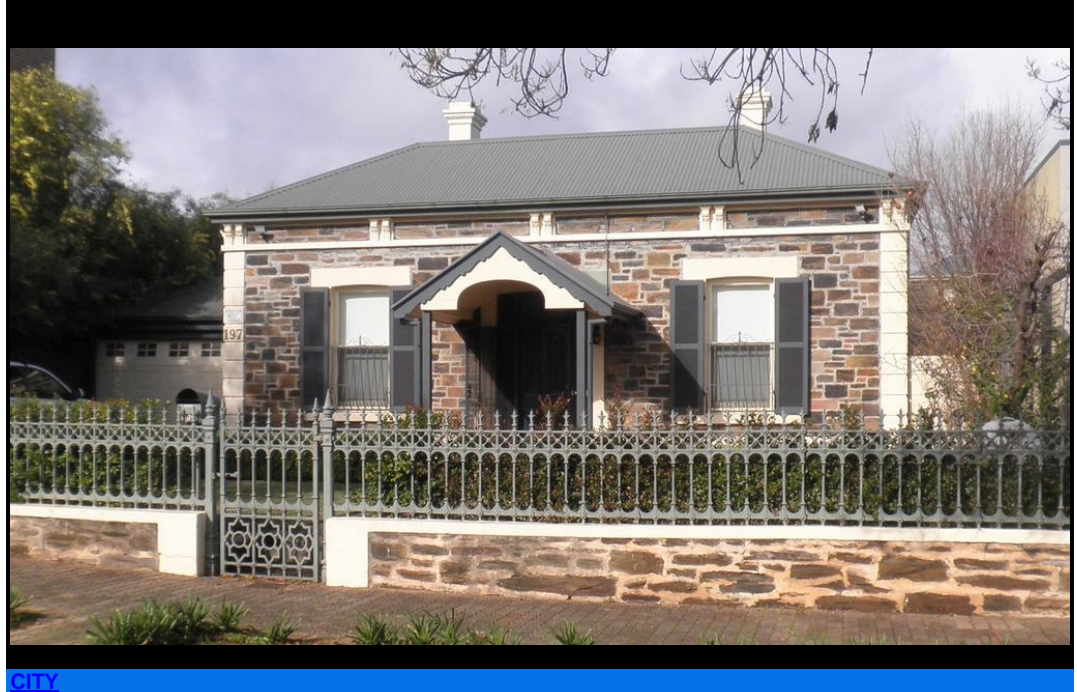
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**History of the  
nominated place  
or object:**

Please find a summary below from noted architect and former Adelaide City Councillor Sandy Wilkinson:



### **Old Stobie family home in North Adelaide could be demolished and subdivided**

Caleb Bond, The Messenger

The former North Adelaide family home of the inventor of the Stobie pole could be knocked over and turned into townhouses, under new plans.

The 1880s bluestone villa in Childers St was once home to James Stobie, who invented the eponymous concrete telegraph pole that is unique to South Australia, and later his son, Peter.

Now, there is an application to demolish the home and replace it with two buildings.

The home has no heritage listing because, according to a heritage advocate, it was “overlooked” for decades.

CoreLogic RP Data shows plans for a hammerhead development on the site of the home and tennis court behind the villa.

Heritage consultant and former Adelaide City Council member Sandy Wilkinson said the home was important both for its bluestone structure – unique to Adelaide – and association with the Stobie family

“The inventor of the Stobie pole, that was his house and, ironically, that end of the street had the power lines underground and the Stobie poles removed,” Mr Wilkinson said.

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*Heritage consultant Sandy Wilkinson.*

“The bluestone Adelaide is known for is unique to SA and Iceland.

“In my view, everything bluestone in SA should be conserved and should not be demolished.”

He said heritage surveys in North Adelaide had previously looked at a property’s part of the streetscape.

Because land around the Childers St home – which was renovated inside and out – had already been redeveloped, it was overlooked for heritage listing.

“It shows the inadequacy of the North Adelaide heritage zone provisions, which don’t afford protection to buildings other than those that have been listed, which are already protected anyway,” Mr Wilkinson said.

James Stobie joined the Adelaide Electric Supply Co. Ltd in 1916 and, in 1924, invented the concrete and steel Stobie pole.

Wooden telegraph poles were previously being imported from interstate at great expense and often destroyed by termites.

Mr Stobie died in August 1953.

The proposal is expected to come before Adelaide City Council’s development assessment panel this month.

[https://www.adelaidenow.com.au/messenger/city/old-stobie-family-home-in-north-adelaide-could-be-demolished-and-subdivided/news-story/0f75be56013c7b5374c641aad0d8dd96?fbclid=IwAR3pOO5bXy-MI27jAbWhlC5QOcmmc-8cNwiz\\_VOJtsZbuREDYCVuzRTk8](https://www.adelaidenow.com.au/messenger/city/old-stobie-family-home-in-north-adelaide-could-be-demolished-and-subdivided/news-story/0f75be56013c7b5374c641aad0d8dd96?fbclid=IwAR3pOO5bXy-MI27jAbWhlC5QOcmmc-8cNwiz_VOJtsZbuREDYCVuzRTk8)

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<p><b>Historical sources used to support your nomination:</b> Please attach copies of pages from publications or newspaper articles as appropriate.</p>	<p>Please find included above.</p>
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## D. Heritage Significance

### 7. Statement of State Significance - Why is the place or object important to South Australia?

It is of State heritage significance because for three reasons:

1. It is a well restored and beautiful example of quality residential architecture in North Adelaide, and one of the few now left on Childers Street.
2. It was the former home of Adelaide icon James Stobie, the inventor of the ubiquitous and unique to South Australia, the electric "Stobie Pole".
3. There is strong community support for the preservation of this property's home. New structures can be built behind the property on the large areas of open land there, but the property fronting Childers Street should not – and need not – be demolished. An economic gain for the owner and more residential units can be created while leaving the Childers Street facing property undamaged or demolished.

### 8. Significance Criteria

The South Australian *Heritage Places Act 1993* lists seven criteria by which places are assessed as 'State significant.' Please tick the criteria you feel the place demonstrates and explain your reasons.

√	<b>It demonstrates important aspects of the evolution or pattern of the State's history.</b>	Yes; the home is a high quality and most attractive construction and one of the few left in this part of North Adelaide
√	<b>It has rare, uncommon or endangered qualities that are of cultural significance.</b>	Yes; other similar properties in the area have been demolished and replaced with modern bland apartment units
√	<b>It may yield information that will contribute to an understanding of the State's history, including its natural history.</b>	Yes, especially the historic aspect of the house having been the home of James Stobie (see above entries)
√	<b>It is an outstanding representative of a particular class of places of cultural significance.</b>	Yes, it is of cultural significance due to it having been James Stobie's home.
√	<b>It demonstrates a high degree of creative, aesthetic or technical accomplishment or is an outstanding representative of particular construction techniques or design characteristics.</b>	Yes, the workmanship and aesthetic qualities of the home are high, and recent restoration works have been substantial and high engineering quality we understand, so the property has a long forecast of contributing to the character of the North Adelaide historic zone.



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√ <b>It has strong cultural or spiritual associations for the community or a group within it.</b>	Yes, the North Adelaide community is strongly upset at the thought of this loved home being demolished. There is sufficient land at the back for the current owner to both make a good return with additional units without the need to demolish the current building facing Childers Street.
√ <b>It has a special association with the life or work of a person or organisation or an event of historical importance.</b>	Yes, with the famous James Stobie, the inventor of South Australia's ubiquitous Stobie poles for electricity lines ( <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stobie_pole">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stobie_pole</a> )

## E. Additional Information

### 9. Images/Maps/Diagrams/Site Plans

A full range of images including maps, site plans, and photographs will help your nomination.

Please provide:

- a clear outline of the place or object being nominated within any maps or plans provided
- high quality images of the place or object (please list the total number of images being provided)
- the subject of each image
- the date each image was created
- the author of each image, and
- the copyright holder of each image (if known)



197 Childers Street home and surrounding properties (Google Maps current image at time of this application)



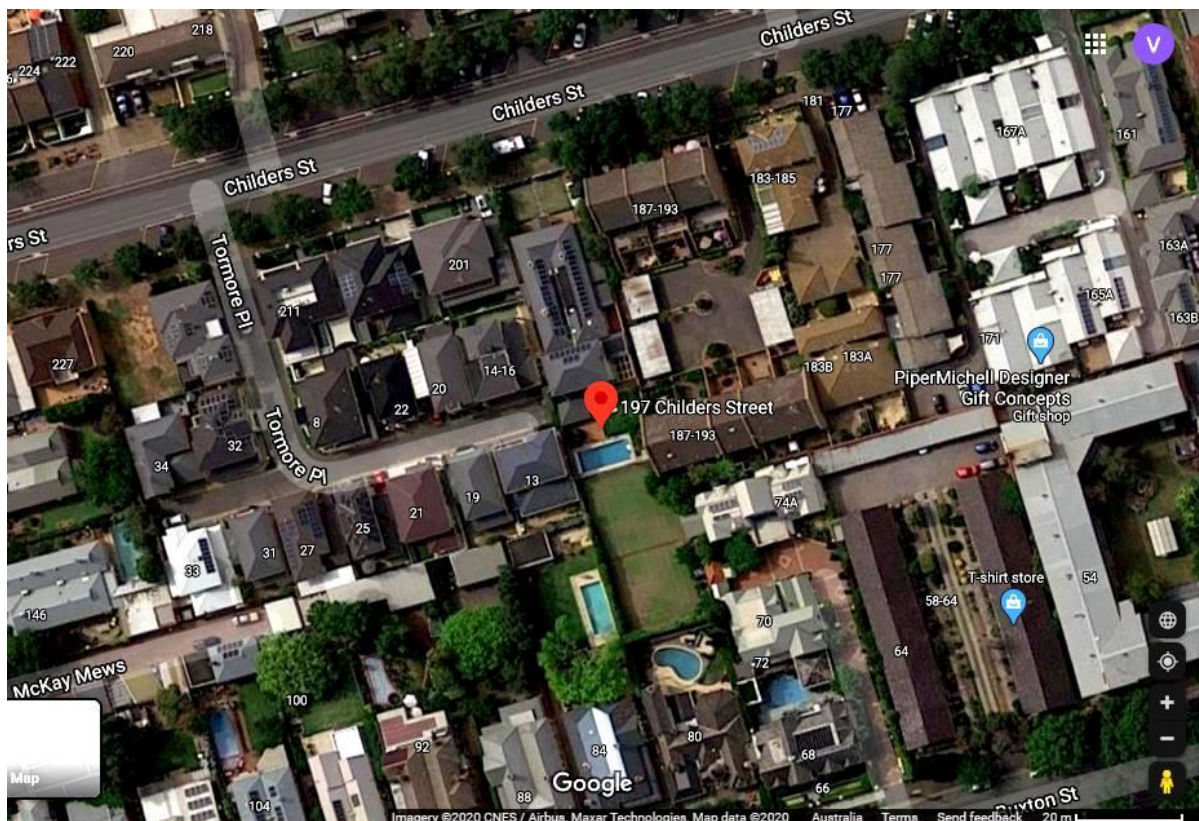
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197 Childers Street home closer up (photographer and date unknown)



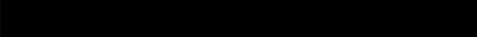
Aerial View of Property (Google Maps current image at time of this application)

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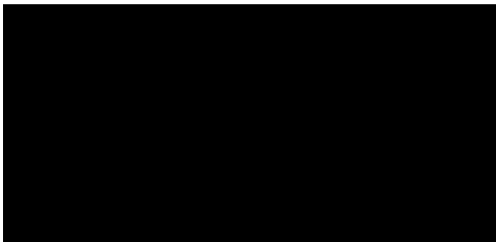
## South Australian HERITAGE COUNCIL

The South Australian Heritage Council is committed to transparency in relation to the listing process and wishes to enhance public confidence in the nomination, listing and decision-making process. The Council's policy is to make nominations for State heritage listing and submissions on provisional entries publicly available via webpage or to interested parties. The Council will adhere to the Privacy Principles and your name and personal details will not be released.

I,  nominate 197 Childers Street, North Adelaide SA 5006 to be heritage listed.

The information I/we have provided is correct to my/our knowledge.

**Your Signature/s:**



**Date:** 14<sup>th</sup> July 2020

A heritage officer may contact you to discuss aspects of the nomination.

### Nomination Form Checklist

**Please check that your nomination includes:**

- √ A clear indication of the location of the place or object (including map/s). Where a number of features are nominated, show the location of each and/or a boundary surrounding the significant elements of the site.
- √ A history of the place or object explaining important aspects relevant to the nomination.  
This should generally help support arguments of cultural significance.
- √ A clear description of the nominated place or object/s.
- √ A statement of significance and indication on how the place or object satisfies one or more of the significance criteria.
- √ A heritage officer may contact you to discuss aspects of the nomination.

**Email:** [DEWHeritage@sa.gov.au](mailto:DEWHeritage@sa.gov.au)

**Post:** Executive Officer, South Australian Heritage Council  
Department for Environment and Water  
GPO Box 1047, Adelaide SA 5001