

HISTORY COUNCIL OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

PO Box 6809 Halifax Street, Adelaide SA 5000

www.historycouncilsa.org.au

A HISTORY POLICY MANIFESTO FOR 2010

WHO ARE WE?

The History Council of South Australia is body established to provide a representative voice on major historical issues affecting the community of South Australia and on issues affecting the historical community. Its members include most of the bodies, government and non-government, concerned with history and heritage as well as a number of individuals in the State.

WHAT IS TO BE DONE?

The History Council of South Australia believes that all political candidates and parties should include in their policy a commitment to the study and promotion of South Australian history. It is a vital part of our civic and community life and helps us appreciate our diverse origins, understand our current society and plan for our future. WE ARE CONCERNED THAT THE HISTORICAL FABRIC OF SA IS AT RISK.

Accordingly we urge the adoption of the following seven proposals:

HISTORY CURRICULUM

Ensure that South Australian history has a prominent place in the new national curriculum and that there are substantial requirements for all South Australian students to be aware of South Australia's origins, its original inhabitants, its history as a British Province from 1836 and as a State of the Commonwealth of Australia from 1901, and the contribution of its institutions and people to the nation.

ARCHIVES AND RECORDS

Ensure there is sufficient space and easy and access to State-held records, coupled with informed and professional advice.

Ensure the continuing presence of archives and records relating to the State held by the National Archives of Australia, including those from colonial times, together with the return of those records which were removed on the closure of the Collinswood Archive Office in 2002.

Consider the co-location of State Records Office and the National Archives Regional Office, with each maintaining its identity and integrity; which could include the resumption of the purpose built archive building in Collinswood.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S 175TH YEAR OF SETTLEMENT 2011

Fund key history organizations to deliver an appropriate year's events to mark 175 years of white settlement in SA

Give key recognition to the prior occupation and continuing culture of Indigenous peoples.

PTO 2/...

STATE, CIVIC AND COMMUNITY COLLECTING AND CONSERVING INSTITUTIONS

Ensure adequate funding through the History Trust and associated history and heritage organizations for the collection, conservation, access and display of all state, civic and community institutions

MUSEUM OF ADELAIDE

In association with the City of Adelaide establish and fund a museum which adequately explains and displays the city's history for visitors, students and the local community. Explore the best models which would enable this to be done, having regard to the facilities of similar institutions in other Australian and international cities.

STRENGTHENING HERITAGE CONSERVATION

Ensure that development of heritage areas such as Port Adelaide take into account and preserve existing historical fabric and incorporates it into any new planning

ANNUAL HISTORY PRIZE

Establish a state history prize for a work of South Australian history or a work of Australian history by a South Australian author to be awarded at the Festival of Arts.