

# South Australian Heritage Council

## HERITAGE NEWS – MAY 2022



Photo: East Lodge, Adelaide Botanic Garden.

**Heritage News contains news from the Council meeting and other topical news relating to conserving and promoting South Australia's unique heritage.**

**The South Australian Heritage Council (Council) met on 26 May 2022 in the Noel Lothian Hall, Adelaide Botanic Garden on Kaurna Country.**



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The Chair acknowledged with great respect that the Council was meeting on National Sorry Day.

Every year on 26 May, National Sorry Day remembers and acknowledges the mistreatment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who were forcibly removed from their families and communities, which we now know as ‘The Stolen Generations’.

# Introduction

We hope you enjoy this edition of Heritage News. Most of these stories come from the 26 May 2022 SA Heritage Council meeting and the diverse range of issues illustrate the breadth of its work.

It is always pleasing to add a new State Heritage Place to the South Australian Heritage Register. A cell block at the huge wartime internment camp in the Riverland dramatically demonstrates that State Heritage Places are not all about grand houses and institutions. State Heritage Place number 2311 on the Register tells a powerful story from World War II, when the Loveday Internment Complex housed 6000 detainees, (domestic interns and prisoners of war, mainly from North Africa and Asia), and 1400 Australian military personnel who supervised them.

Not all nominations succeed against the rigorous criteria set out in Heritage legislation, but they do involve fascinating stories. Council thanked the nominators for their diligence in putting them forward and acknowledged their importance as Local Heritage Places.

Given the Council's brief to give advice to the Heritage Minister, it furthered two aspects of its five year strategy in the May meeting. We were encouraged by a progress report on Reconciling with the Frontier, a multi-institutional Australian Research Council funded project that will help us all by developing a truth telling map of conflicts between First Nations people and settlers in the nineteenth century.

The Council has been keen to advance the listing of the Adelaide Park Lands and City Layout as a State Heritage Area, and now, after a pause for the implementation of the new Planning and Design Code, we hope to bring the matter to the new Planning Minister, who under current legislation makes such deliberations. Council will also raise planning issues relating to heritage when it has the opportunity. I am encouraged by the regular liaison recently agreed upon between the Council and the State Planning Commission.

It has been a personal delight to meet many fellow history and heritage lovers during events we mounted in the wonderfully successful South Australian History Festival. We thank the History Trust of South Australia for co-ordinating this people powered month long celebration of our stories.

Watch for continuing celebrations too of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Overland Telegraph which revolutionised communication between our province (and all of Australia) and the rest of the world in 1872. There is much more on offer through the Heritage Council web pages via the links below. Enjoy!



Keith Conlon

Chair, South Australian Heritage Council

# Confirmations in the South Australian Heritage Register

## Camp 10 Detention Cell Block, Loveday Internment Camp Complex

The Cell Block is located on the cultural lands of the First Peoples of the River Murray & Mallee Region Country.

The Council confirmed the entry of Camp 10 Detention Cell Block in the South Australian Heritage Register.

The Loveday Internment Camp Complex is rare as it is the only purpose-built internment facility in South Australia and demonstrates a way of life, social custom and land use that is of exceptional historical interest. The Camp 10 Cell Block is an integral component of the Camp Complex and one of only three cell blocks remaining at Loveday. It demonstrates important aspects of South Australia's role in the detention of civilian internees and prisoners of war (POWs) during the Second World War, and in particular, the experience of additional levels of imprisonment.

POWs were imprisoned in the detention cell block as punishment for a variety of 'illegal' activities, including failed escape attempts, espionage, physical violence and acts of civil disobedience. Imprisoned POWs included members of a small Nazi 'elite' who tried to gain control over the other detainees in early 1943. The Loveday Camp operated from 1941 to 1944. At its peak it housed about 6000 detainees and 1400 military personnel.



Photo: Camp 10 Cell Block. Source: DEW files

If you would like to find out more about the Cell Block you can read the Summary of State Heritage Place through this webpage:

<https://www.environment.sa.gov.au/topics/heritage/sa-heritage-register/entries-confirmations>

# Nominations considered

## 92 Brougham Place, North Adelaide (Karna Country)

On 22 December 2021, a public nomination was received for Dwelling (former Institute for the Blind Workshop), 92 Brougham Place, North Adelaide.

The Council considered the nomination and determined that it did not meet the threshold for listing as a State Heritage Place. It noted that this in no way derogates from the importance of Mr Andrew Whyte Hendry whose idea it was to establish the Institute of the Blind.

Andrew Whyte Hendry was blinded in an accident as a child. His idea to establish an Institute was supported and a committee of professional and business men, headed by Charles Goode, was formed to establish the Industrial School for the Blind, soon after known as the Institute for the Blind. Hendry and Goode are recognised as the organisation's founders.

The Institute for the Blind workshop began in the adjacent Ebenezer Chapel (a State Heritage Place). In 1894 a two-storey workshop was constructed. It served until 1917 when the Institute for the Blind was built opposite the Children's Hospital (demolished in 1972).

The 92 Brougham Place site was sold and the two-storey workshop/factory was converted into a residence for Sir Thomas and Lady Francis Coombe in 1938.

On 1 November 2001, the Dwelling was entered in the Register as a Local Heritage Place due to its historical associations with housing in North Adelaide and to the structure's architectural style.



Photo: 92 Brougham Place, North Adelaide. Source: DEW files

The Council will suggest to the City of Adelaide that the history of the site is recognised with an interpretive sign. If you would like to read more about the work of Andrew Whyte Hendry and the location, the nomination document can be downloaded here:

<https://www.environment.sa.gov.au/topics/heritage/sa-heritage-register/entries-confirmations>

## **Ashford House, 87 Anzac Highway, Ashford (Karna Country)**

On 13 May 2020, a public nomination was received for 'Ashford House' (former dwelling, now education premises), 85-87 Anzac Highway, Ashford.

The Council considered the nomination and determined that it did not meet the threshold for listing as a State Heritage Place. It again noted the importance of the place to the local community and that it is a Local Heritage Place.

The surviving Victorian Italianate of 'Ashford House' was built in c.1882 as an extension to an existing structure built in stages from the late 1830s by 1836 colonist Dr Charles Everard. The earlier building was replaced in the mid-twentieth century with new buildings constructed for the Crippled Children's Association, (now Orana Australia Ltd) later the Ashford Special School (1976-2014) and Treetop Autism Specific School (2014-present).

On 2 October 2008, Ashford House was entered in the Register as a Local Heritage place as it was found to meet s23 criteria (a), (c), (d), (e) and (f) of the *Development Act 1993*.

The Council thanked the nominator for an interesting and informative nomination about the early colonial farm in the area.



Photo: Ashford House. Source DEW files.

# Reconciling with the Frontier Project

Dr Skye Krischuaff attended the Council meeting to give it an update on Reconciling with the Frontier, a multi organisational Australian Research Council funded project.

The team is collating historic record of confrontation between white settlers and Aboriginal people in South Australia. The project not only records deaths that resulted from conflict, but also injuries, rape of woman and girls, incidents of theft and destruction of Aboriginal possessions such as utensils. It will also detail death or brutality in police custody and instances where settlers were killed as a result of conflict.

The Council recognise it is an important project to enable it to reconcile with the past through its listing work and to conduct appropriate truth telling in all facets of its conduct.

Dr Krischuaff demonstrated to Council the progress with the digital story map that is being developed. It is hoped that this will be ready for release to the public mid-way through 2023.

## Planning matters

Since 2018, Council has been very active in developing policy on heritage and planning related matters. This is evident through its own Strategy document, submissions to the Parliamentary Environment, Resources and Development Committee Inquiry into Heritage Reform and representation on the Heritage Reform Advisory Panel (which reported late last year to the former Ministers responsible for Planning and Heritage).

High on Council's priorities list is recognition of the Adelaide Park Lands and City Layout as a State Heritage Area. The Council agreed in December 2018 that the Adelaide Park Lands & City Layout met five criteria under Section 16 of the *Heritage Places Act 1993* and therefore warrant recognition at a State level. (The Adelaide Park Lands and City Layout are already entered in the National Heritage List). Under legislation it is within the brief of the Planning Minister to declare a State Heritage Area.

The Council also has a specific role to provide advice to the Planning Minister on Local Heritage criteria for listing. At this meeting, the Council discussed the advice it could provide the new Minister of Planning, the Hon Nick Champion MP including the introduction of simpler and more transparent listing procedures and criteria that are better aligned with the State Heritage listing criteria.

# More Heritage News!

## State Heritage Places in the Adelaide Botanic Garden

The Chair led the Council members on a walk around the Botanic Garden to celebrate the 11 State Heritage Places within the Garden:

- Main Entrance Gates
- Stone Wall (on North Terrace)
- Boy and Serpent Fountain
- East Lodge
- North Lodge
- Museum of Economic Botany
- Bicentennial Conservatory
- The Goodman Building and Tram Barn
- Palm House
- Simpson Kiosk
- Morgue – former Dead House dwelling



Image: Museum of Economic Botany, Adelaide Botanic Garden. Source Keith Conlon



Image: Boy and Serpent Fountain, Adelaide Botanic Garden. Source: DEW files

Read more about each of the eleven State Heritage Places through this link:

<https://www.environment.sa.gov.au/topics/heritage/heritage-news-events>

## **Celebrating the SA History Festival 2022!**

The History Festival throughout May explored the state's places and spaces, stories, collections and ideas that make us who we are. The theme was "reimagine".

One of South Australia's largest open-access community events, the History Festival program featured more than 500 events ranging from talks to tours, walks to workshops and exhibitions to special events.

The Council, along with Heritage South Australia, was pleased to be involved this year through the following events:

- Heritage Snaps in the Adelaide Arcade – the magnificent photographs chosen from the entries in the Heritage Snaps 2021 Photo Competition were displayed in the grand surroundings of the 1885 Adelaide Arcade throughout the month of May.
- The Keith Conlon tour of the Heritage Snaps Top 20. On Tuesday 10 May Keith was the gallery guide and entertained the attendees with stories behind these fabulous photographs.
- Our History and Heritage Reimagined: In the Pub!, Keith Conlon was joined by much published historian Patricia Sumerling for a rollicking Q & A at the Hotel Metro, 46 Grote Street on 9 May.
- A Walk with Visionary Charles Todd. Keith Conlon and Richard Venus (engineering historian) and attendees took a walk in Charles Todd's footsteps through the the city to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Overland Telegraph on Sunday 15 May. Richard's self guided tour version is on our web page here: <https://www.environment.sa.gov.au/topics/heritage/heritage-news-events#celebrating-150th-anniversary-of-the-overland-tele>

Visit the <http://www.ot150.net/> website for more information

- Chris Burns, Heritage South Australia, undertook two History Festival tours about Adelaide's Postwar Churches.

Keep an eye out for the return of the History Festival in 2023.

## Overland Telegraph Symposium

This symposium will feature a range of speakers presenting newly researched information about the Overland Telegraph Line, what preceded it, the heroic effort to build it and what followed. The line was completed in 1872. With its connections, the near instantaneous communication with the world went a long way to dissipate the Tyranny of Distance felt by the people of colonial Australia.

Date: Thursday 21 July 2022. Time: 9:30am - 1:00pm.

Location: University of South Australia, City West Campus.

Cost: \$15

Bookings through Eventbrite:

[https://www.eventbrite.com/e/overland-telegraph-sesquicentennial-symposium-tickets-324457098917?keep\\_tld=1](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/overland-telegraph-sesquicentennial-symposium-tickets-324457098917?keep_tld=1)

## Reconciliation Week

National Reconciliation Week 2022 was held 27 May to 3 June 2022. The theme, "Be Brave. Make Change" is a challenge to all Australians— individuals, families, communities, organisations and government—to Be Brave and tackle the unfinished business of reconciliation so we can Make Change for the benefit of all Australians.

The Council is committed to truth telling and reconciliation through its work, including through the heritage listing process, and its communication about State Heritage Places and how they interface with Aboriginal culture.

As an example, the Herbig Family Tree is a State Heritage Place on the South Australian Heritage Register with clear and important associations with the Peramangk people. You are encouraged to read this article by the Barossa Council about this historical tree:

<https://www.barossa.sa.gov.au/community-and-wellbeing/news/latest-news/recognising-peramangk-connection-to-herbig-tree>

# The Criteria

## Heritage Places Act 1993 – Section 16—Heritage significance

*A place is of heritage significance if it satisfies one or more of the following criteria:*

- (a) it demonstrates important aspects of the evolution or pattern of the State's history; or*
- (b) it has rare, uncommon or endangered qualities that are of cultural significance; or*
- (c) it may yield information that will contribute to an understanding of the State's history, including its natural history; or*
- (d) it is an outstanding representative of a particular class of places of cultural significance; or*
- (e) it demonstrates a high degree of creative, aesthetic or technical accomplishment or is an outstanding representative of particular construction techniques or design characteristics; or*
- (f) it has strong cultural or spiritual associations for the community or a group within it; or*
- (g) it has a special association with the life or work of a person or organisation or an event of historical importance.*

## More information

If you would like to know more about the work of the South Australian Heritage Council and Heritage South Australia, here are some useful links.

Receive information through our email distribution list. Email us at:  
[dew.heritage@sa.gov.au](mailto:dew.heritage@sa.gov.au)

Web: <https://www.environment.sa.gov.au/topics/heritage>



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