

# 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>	Highgate Park
<b>Any other or former name(s):</b>	Previous name: 'Julia Farr Centre' and original name: 'Home for Incurables'
<b>Is the place already on another heritage list?</b>	Unknown

2. Location					
<b>Street Address:</b>	103 Fisher Street				
	Suburb / Town:	Fullarton	Post Code:	5063	
<b>Local Council Name:</b>	City of Unley				
<b>Land Description:</b> (if known)  -34.958117627661714, 138.6196709812134	<b>Title:</b>	<b>Volume:</b> 5990	<b>Folio:</b> 95	<b>Parcel Type:</b>	<b>Parcel No:</b>
	<b>Plan Type:</b> Deposited	<b>Plan No:</b> 74086	<b>Section:</b>	<b>Hundred:</b>	
<b>GPS Location/s:</b> (If known)	<b>Longitude</b> 138.619671E		<b>Latitude</b> 34.958118S		

3. Ownership	
<b>Name of Owner(s):</b>	Home for Incurables Trust (HIT)
<b>Contact person:</b> (if different from owner explain relationship)	The SA Minister for Human Services (currently Nat Cook MP) is sole trustee of the HIT as well as 'Registered Proprietor' on the Highgate Park Certificate of Title
<b>Postal Address:</b>	Street Address: Level 8, Riverside Centre North Terrace
	Suburb / Town: Adelaide Post Code: 5000
<b>Phone Number:</b>	8463 6560 (Office of SA Minister for Human Services)
<b>Ownership History:</b>	The Home for Incurables Trust has been the only owner of the property during the last 145years. JFA Purple Orange, a non-profit disability advocacy organisation formed out of Julia Farr Services, is facilitating a working group which is being consulted through the process of the sale of Highgate Park including examining the future of the trust.

4. Nominator (your details)	
<b>Your Name/s:</b>	Mr Peter Havord
<b>Organisation/Position:</b>	Local resident of Adelaide
<b>Daytime Phone:</b>	0481 727 093
<b>Fax:</b>	

# SA Heritage Register

Nomination form

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HERITAGE COUNCIL**

<b>Postal Address:</b>	Street Address: 2 Highgate Street	
	Suburb / Town: Fullarton	Post Code: 5063
<b>Email Address:</b>	pjhavord1@gmail.com	

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HERITAGE COUNCIL**

## B. Description

<b>5. Description of nominated place or object</b>	
<b>Description of the nominated place or object and its current condition:</b>	Located in Adelaide's inner southern suburbs, Highgate Park is currently a 7-acre site with a 140+ year history of caring for the disabled community of South Australia. Highgate Park features several major elements: (1) Gosse International Student Residence - this building opened in 1949 as accommodation for hospital staff but was repurposed in 1997 for university student accommodation. It was named Gosse International Student Residence in honour of Dr William Gosse who worked with Julia Farr and others to raise funds in 1878 to purchase a house (long since demolished) and land in Fisher St, Fullarton (now Highgate Park) to care for the disabled. The Gosse building is currently operating and in good condition and is fully occupied by 63 student tenants. (2) The large footprint, 9-storey Highgate Tower hospital building, which closed in April, 2020, is currently unoccupied and in good condition. (3) The Chapel, which closed in 2020 is in good condition. (4) The Roundhouse administration building which is no longer used is in good condition. (5) A large, beautiful green space, comprising 190 trees, including 19 significant and regulated trees, shrubs and lawns is maintained by a groundsman and in good condition, and (6) Several car parks in fair to good condition.
<b>Are you aware of any modifications or additions to the place or object?</b> Can you provide dates for these changes?	Over the 140+ year history of the Highgate Park site there have been several hospitals, staff accommodation and administrative buildings, and chapels constructed and most demolished. Over the same period, car parks and green spaces have been added and modified at various times on the Highgate Park site.
<b>Do you believe there may be historical items under the ground?</b> Should an archaeological investigation be considered?	On page-37 of Bruce Hopgood's 175-page booklet: 'Home for Incurables Incorporated 1878 to 1981 – Stories and Pictures of Events & Memorabilia' (available at the State Library of SA) photos show relics found under the foundation stone upon demolition of the old East Block. On page-150 of the same booklet Hopgood describes the time capsule that was placed in the Highgate Tower hospital building foyer on 23 September, 1988. There may also be historical items under the ground, or under current buildings on the Highgate Park site, but their location/s would best be determined by examining the archive of information, documents and other materials for the Highgate Park site held by the South Australian government.
<b>Date you inspected the place or object:</b>	I live onsite at Highgate Park as one of 63 tenants at Gosse International Student Residence. I "inspect" Highgate Park every day.
<b>Have you had any contact with the Owner?</b>	Yes, I had recent email communication with the office of the SA Human Services Minister, Nat Cook, confirming she is the registered proprietor and sole trustee for the Home for Incurables Trust which owns the Highgate Park site.
<b>Current use of the place or object:</b>	63 students live at Gosse International Student Residence on the Highgate Park site. The Highgate Park green space is regularly used by local community members in various for recreation, yoga, exercising their dogs, painting, and photography. Some car parks are used by Gosse student residents and construction personnel working on neighbouring properties.

# SA Heritage Register

Nomination form

## South Australian HERITAGE COUNCIL

<b>Original or former use(s):</b>	Caring for members of the disabled community of South Australia.
<b>Are there any current or long term threats to the nominated place or object?</b>	Yes – the entire 7-acre Highgate Park site is currently up for sale. The sales process is currently at the tender assessment stage prior to a lengthy development application assessment phase. Renewal SA is managing the sale of the Highgate Park site.
<b>Name of Builder:</b>	Unknown
<b>Any other information:</b>	Unknown

### C. History

. Origins and history	
<b>Years of Construction:</b>	<b>Start:</b> 1878 <b>Finish:</b> c.1980
<b>Name of Designer / Architect:</b>	Unknown
<b>History of the nominated place or object:</b>	The 7-acre Highgate Park site has a 140+ year history of caring for the disabled community of South Australia. Highgate Park features several major elements: (1) Gosse International Student Residence. The building opened in 1949 as accommodation for hospital staff but was repurposed in 1997 for university student accommodation. It was named Gosse International Student Residence in honour of Dr William Gosse who worked with Julia Farr and others to raise funds in 1878 to purchase a house (long since demolished) and land in Fisher St, Fullarton (now Highgate Park) to care for the disabled. The Gosse building is currently operating and fully occupied by 63 student tenants. (2) The large, 9-storey Highgate Tower hospital building, opened in 1977 and closed in April, 2020, and is currently unoccupied. (3) The Chapel closed in 2020. (4) The Roundhouse administration building which is no longer used. (5) A large, beautiful green space with 190 trees including 19 significant and regulated trees. Several very large Norfolk Pines may have historic significance.
<b>Historical sources used to support your nomination:</b> Please attach copies of pages from publications or newspaper articles as appropriate.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hopgood, B., 2017. Home for Incurables Incorporated 1878 to 1981 Stories and Pictures of Events and Memorabilia (Copy at SA State Library)</li> <li>Julia Farr Centre, Wikipedia <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julia_Farr_Centre">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julia_Farr_Centre</a></li> <li>SaveGosse website: <a href="https://www.savegosse.org/old-bill">https://www.savegosse.org/old-bill</a></li> <li>City of Unley Museum</li> <li>Records from the substantial historical archive, previously held at the Highgate Tower hospital building, have been transferred to several locations including: State Records of South Australia; History Trust of South Australia; DHS Records Management</li> </ol>

# SA Heritage Register

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South Australian  
HERITAGE COUNCIL

## D. Heritage Significance

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

Highgate Park is of State heritage significance because it is the last, largest, living historic monument for caring for the disabled community in South Australia and goes back to the 1870's. The Gosse building opened in 1949 as hospital staff accommodation and continues to be used as student accommodation. The 9-storey Highgate Park Tower hospital building opened in 1977 and closed in 2020 and is a rare example of Brutalist architecture in South Australia. A time capsule was placed in the Highgate Tower hospital building foyer on 23 September, 1988. Historic relics were found under the foundation stone upon demolition of the old East Block building. Other historic items may lie under the ground or within or under current buildings on the Highgate Park site, Some of the large, mature significant and regulated trees on the Highgate Park site including several Norfolk Pines may be of historic significance.

### 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.

- |                          |  |  |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>It demonstrates important aspects of the evolution or pattern of the State's history.</b>   | The existing buildings on the Highgate Park site demonstrate important aspects of the evolution of caring for the disabled community of South Australia.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>It has rare, uncommon or endangered qualities that are of cultural significance.</b>  | Buildings on the Highgate Park site are rare surviving examples associated with caring for South Australia's disabled community.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>It may yield information that will contribute to an understanding of the State's history, including its natural history.</b>  | Historic relics have been found during demolition of pre-existing buildings and additional relics may remain undiscovered. A time capsule exists in the foyer of the Highgate Park Tower hospital building. The historic significance of Highgate Park trees, gardens and greenspace should be assessed. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>It is an outstanding representative of a particular class of places of cultural significance.</b>   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <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> |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>It has strong cultural or spiritual associations for the community or a group within it.</b>  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>It has a special association with the life or work of a person or organisation or an event of historical importance.</b>  | Highgate Park has special association with the seminal contributions to establishing South Australia's first dedicated facilities to care for the disabled community by the site's founders - Julia Farr and Dr William Gosse  |

## 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)

Paste images here:

See separate Highgate Park map PDF

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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 Peter Havord nominate Highgate Park, 103 Fisher St, Fullarton SA 5063 to be heritage listed.

The information I have provided is correct to my knowledge.

Your Signature/s: 

Date: 26 September, 2023

### Nomination Form Checklist

**Please check that your nomination includes:**

- X 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.
- X A history of the place or object explaining important aspects relevant to the nomination. This should generally help support arguments of cultural significance.
- X A clear description of the nominated place or object/s.
- X A statement of significance and indication on how the place or object satisfies one or more of the significance criteria.
- X Have you taken the opportunity to discuss the nomination with a heritage assessment officer?

**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