

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA Inc.

NEWSLETTER

Founded 1974

Institute Building, 122 Kintore Avenue, Adelaide 5000

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1. NEXT MEETINGS.

a) August Meeting

Dr Arnold Hunt is our guest speaker on Friday, August 7th. His subject is The Bible Christians in South Australia. This group was one of the four Methodist bodies which came together in a Union in 1900. There was a strong Cornish influence in the Bible Christians, who were well represented in places like Moonta and Burra. Sir Samuel Way was one of their most prominent members.

Dr Hunt is head of the Department of History and Religious Studies at the Salisbury College of Advanced Education. He trained in History and Theology at the University of Adelaide; he has taught in India and later did his Doctorate of Philosophy at the Hartford Foundation in America in Indian History. Before taking up his present position nine years ago, he taught at the Wesley College, Wayville for fourteen years. He has published a great number of articles over the years, as well as writing about fifteen books; the latter have been mainly in the field of Comparative Religion, and have been used widely in schools. He is currently doing research for a book on the History of Methodism in South Australia, which he hopes will be published by 1986 for the State's sesquicentenary. As one of South Australia's few writers of religious history, Dr Hunt's talk promises to be interesting and unusual.

b) Change of speaker and Topic for September Meeting.

Due to our intended speaker having an interstate commitment, our September meeting will now be "New Directions for South Australian History".

The start of the 1980's has been a very significant time for the promotion of our history. In June 1980 a Jubilee 150 Board was established to plan for 1986. In March of this year the History Trust of South Australia Act was assented to. At the time of writing the Edwards Report on the re-development of the South Australian Museum and a museum policy for South Australia is expected to be released any week. Short talks followed by questions and a panel discussion will provide the opportunity for members to brief themselves fully on these most important developments.

2. HISTORICAL SOCIETY AFFAIRS. *****

(a) Report on May Meeting.

On Friday, the first of May, Dr. Ian Davey gave a vital talk to a large audience in the Institute Public Lecture Theatre on the results of his research about the school population in Hindmarsh. He called his talk "Growing up in Hindmarsh at the turn of the century". This quantitative analysis of the school registers, allied to oral histories obtained from many of the elderly residents of Hindmarsh today (in the work of Sue Marsden and Ray Broomhill), gave interesting insights into a number of aspects of schooling after the introduction of the South Australian Education Act of 1875. In particular, the transitory nature of attendance shown in the school records of many children implied that many parents must have left the district to obtain work elsewhere, and then returned again a year or two later; also the fact that small private schools, of which very few records exist, played an important part in early schooling, especially for girls. Dr. Davey put forward a number of other intriguing arguments which prompted a great number of questions at the conclusion of his talk. We thank him warmly for addressing our members.

Helen Pearce.

(b) Report on Hallett Cove Field Trip.

Our field trip to Hallett Cove on the afternoon of Sunday, May 10th, under the leadership of Maud McBriar was a great success, despite overcast and blowy conditions. The Conservation Park and Sandison Reserve cover an area of about 54 hectares and are managed by the National Park and Wildlife Service. The area is well-marked with signs, the placing of which was carried out with great care, in the matter of not introducing any foreign material to the area.

Maud McBriar was a most enthusiastic and informed guide, and explained that one of the unique aspects of the area was that four main periods of rock formation could be seen at the one place, from the late Precambrian to the most recent Pleistocene; consequently there are also three unconformities (time gaps in which earth movement and erosion occurred) evident. An amazing co-incidence of the main glaciation at Hallett Cove is that a boulder from an earlier glaciation (Precambrian) is embedded in the glacial sediment.

A questioning and attentive group hiked from the north to the southern end of the Reserve for three hours with our expert guide. We extend to Maud our grateful thanks for making this a memorable afternoon.

Helen Pearce.

(c) Report on June General Meeting.

Christobel Mattingley held an audience of 100 people spell-bound when she spoke on "Time and Place - an Author's ingredients", at our June General Meeting. She explained how a lifetime of experiences goes into writing a single book, when some trigger crystallises the time and place. Her travels through Australia and Europe have enlarged the background for stories, but it is her clear recall of the feelings of childhood which give the vivid flash of recognition to her stories.

Many times she said how lucky she had been in her life-opportunities, but it is apparent that "good luck comes to the mind prepared", and that it has been her keen observation of places, her great empathy for the human condition, as well as her gifts as a story-teller, which have contributed so largely to her success as an author.

A vigorous question time followed the talk, and members were also able to look at a number of Christobel's books which were on display. We thank Christobel very much for an "enchanted evening".

Helen Pearce.

(d) Good Reading in South Australian History. (Guidesheet No. 2)

A copy is included as a supplement to this newsletter. Extra copies have been printed and will be available gratis in the State Library, Historical Museum of the Art Gallery and the Constitutional Museum. Members wanting extra copies should contact the Secretary. We are grateful to the State Government for financing the publication of Guidesheets 2 and 3 through the State Heritage Fund.

3. NOTICES.

(a) Adelaide University History Theses.

An updated list of these theses is now available from the History Department Office on the 4th floor of the Napier Building, immediately north-east of the Bonython Hall.

(b) Port Adelaide - SteamRanger Trip and Historic Walks and Rides.

Sunday, 30th August is the day for another SteamRanger/Life Be In It Steaming Wheelin' Historic Expedition. Port Adelaide is the destination, and the aims are to explore its colonial buildings, nautical museum and modern redevelopment of the shopping core on foot, or to pedal to Lefevre Peninsula and visit Fort Glanville, Glanville Hall, the Largs Pier Hotel and Semaphore.

Departs 12.45 p.m. Returns to Adelaide 4.50 p.m.

Adults \$5.50 Children \$3.00. Book at the S.A. Tourist Bureau or at all BASS outlets.

(c) Libraries Board of South Australia

HISTORIAN

sought to write a
Centenary history of

THE STATE LIBRARY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

The Libraries Board of South Australia is considering using bequest funds to commission a centenary history of the State Library of South Australia (1884-1984) with a view towards publication in the centenary year 1984.

Experienced writers of history who may be interested in undertaking this work are invited to write to, or may discuss the proposal with, the State Librarian, Box 419 G.P.O., Adelaide, South Australia 5001 (telephone (08)223-8401) no later than Friday, 17th July, 1981.

(d) The University of Adelaide - Department of Continuing Education

SOUTH EAST HISTORY SCHOOL - OCTOBER 10, 11 & 12

In 1844, George French Angas, artist and naturalist, accompanied Governor Grey on an official expedition to the South East. Angas was delighted. He found the South East was 'beautiful, verdant country....-fresh from the hand of Nature....a fairy-tale land'. Visitors to the South East over the intervening years have echoed Angas' delight.

You too can enjoy the hospitality, beauty and history of the South East on this weekend school led by Dr. Derek Whitelock and Leith MacGillivray. Several South East residents with historical knowledge will be speaking about the areas they know well.

Based at Millicent we shall travel by bus to historic Robe, the resort favoured by South Australia's early Governors, and place of entry for Chinese on their way to the gold diggings. Near Millicent we'll visit Aboriginal sites, and a dig where archeologists have uncovered the oldest boomerangs yet discovered. A bus trip on Sunday to Port MacDonnell will take in the famous 'Glencoe' woolshed, the historic sights of Mount Gambier, a picnic at the Lakes, a chance to climb Mt. Schanck and a visit to Adam Lindsay Gordon's cottage, 'Dingley Dell'.

On the way home by private car on Monday we shall look over 'Yalium Park' Penola, the historic home of John Riddock, MP, where Gordon wrote some of his best known poetry. Penola is also the birthplace of lyric poet, John Shaw Neilson, the town from whence the geologist-priest, Father Julian Tennison Woods, laboured in a parish extending for hundreds of square miles, and where Mother McKillop founded the Order of St. Joseph's. Nearby are the famous Coonawarra vineyards. The South East is also a country of caves, forests, museums and conservation parks.

Enrol early because the school is limited to a bus load of forty.

FEE: \$30.00

ACCOMMODATION: Please arrange your own accommodation and make your accommodation bookings at once because of the long weekend.

TRANSPORT: Please indicate if you need a lift to Millicent or can offer a lift.

DINNER: A dinner at \$7.00 per head (excluding drinks) will be organized on the Saturday evening for those interested.

CLOSING DATE FOR ENROLMENTS: FRIDAY, 28 AUGUST, 1981

Enquiries: Phone 223 4333 Extn. 2729 or 2267

FORTHCOMING SEMINAR AND CONFERENCE

History of Burnside - Fri. July 31 and Sat. Aug. 1

Who Owns the Murray? - Wed. 7 & Thurs. 8 October

For details telephone 223 4333 Extn. 2729 or 2267

Department of Continuing Education, The University of Adelaide in
association with the Burnside Historical Society

HISTORY OF BURNSIDE

A Seminar

FRIDAY 31 JULY and SATURDAY 1 AUGUST, 1981

In Burnside Town Hall

PROGRAMME

Friday evening, 31 July

7.00-8 p.m. Planning Issues in Burnside since 1916 - Jim Warburton

8.00-8.15 p.m. Coffee

8.15-9.45 p.m. Burnside Built Heritage (illustrated) - Elizabeth Warburton, chaired by Mrs. Coralie Soward, Mayor of Burnside.

Saturday morning 1 August

9.30-10.45 a.m. The Wine and Olive Oil Industries (illustrated) - Dr. Geoffrey Bishop

10.45-11 a.m. Coffee

11 a.m. - 1 p.m. A bus tour around areas that were once vineyards, olive groves, farms and orchards, led by Geoffrey Bishop and Elizabeth Warburton.

1.00 p.m. Close.

About the Speakers

Elizabeth Warburton, author of 'Old Stradbroke' 1976; 'Martindale Hall' 1980; 'The Paddocks Beneath' (Burnside 1856-1981); several papers on South Australian History and historical contributions to 'Five Creeks of the River Torrens'.

Jim Warburton, 'Medium Density Housing in the R2 Zone' (Ed.) 1975; 'Five Creeks of the River Torrens' 1977; 'Planning Issues in Adelaide' (Ed.) 1979; one-time President of Civic Trust of S.A.

Geoffrey Bishop, 'The Vineyards of Adelaide' 1977; 'Australian Winemaking - The Roseworthy Influence' 1980; 'The History of Angove's Wines' (in preparation).

FEE: \$6.00 for Seminar
\$4.00 for Bus Tour

CLOSING DATE FOR ENROLMENTS: Tuesday, 28 July, 1981

Saturday afternoon

2.15-4.15p.m. Walking tours led by members of the Burnside Historical Society. Informative brochures will be handed out to those taking part.

1. Village of Burnside.
Margaret Black

2. Knightsbridge.
Margaret Preiss

Walkers to assemble outside St. David's Church, Glynburn Road, Burnside.

3. Rose Park
Peter Lane

Walkers to assemble at the World War 1 Memorial Statue on corner of Prescott Terrace and Alexandra Avenue.

(f) City of Adelaide Heritage Survey

As you may be aware the Adelaide City Council has commenced a survey of those items in the City which might be regarded as its heritage - those features of value which have been passed down from earlier generations and which help to make Adelaide unique among Australian and world cities. Once these features are identified, plans can be drawn up to ensure their conservation.

Your help in the identification process would be greatly appreciated. You can contribute by completing the following questions and sending them to the address given in the next sentence: What do you think makes Adelaide unique amongst other cities of Australia and the world? What features of Adelaide hold special significance for you? What features of Adelaide would you most like to see retained or enhanced? Are you aware of any heritage items within the City's bounds which you regard as significant, and yet are virtually unknown? (name, address and telephone number). Should you have any other suggestions please do not hesitate to contact Peter Donovan, Susan Marsden or Paul Stark at the City Planner's Department, 17 Pirie Street, Adelaide, telephone 217-0411, ext. 260.

Thank you for your help.

M. Llewellyn-Smith
CITY PLANNER

(g) Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Material Incorporated

Aims:

The Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Material Incorporated which was established in 1973, is concerned with the long-term preservation of the nation's cultural collections. These collections are housed in Museums, Art Galleries, Archives, Libraries, Historic Houses and with private individuals, and they are at present deteriorating due to ignorance and neglect. Even where persons and institutions are aware of the problems, conservation work is unable to be carried out because of lack of adequate facilities and trained conservators. The I.C.C.M. is equally concerned with outdoor structures and sites.

The aims of the Institute are:

- (i) To promote the advancement of the science and art of the conservation of cultural material.
- (ii) To promote co-operation and an exchange of information and ideas between those concerned with the conservation of cultural material. In particular to improve scientific and technical knowledge and disseminate information within the field.
- (iii) To convene regular meetings of those interested in the conservation of cultural material, and
- (iv) To inform and make recommendations to government and organisations on the need for their participation in the conservation of cultural material.

In order to promote its activities the I.C.C.M. is seeking reciprocal institutional membership with Australian and International organisations with similar aims.

Membership:

Membership of the I.C.C.M. is open to all those interested in furthering its aims and it already includes several persons and institutions from overseas. The subscriptions currently are:

Student	-	\$7.50
Ordinary Member	-	\$10
Institutional Member	-	\$30
Life Member	-	\$200

All applicants for membership of the I.C.C.M. should complete the application form. This must be endorsed by two current members of the I.C.C.M. and signed by the applicant. The form with the appropriate fee and any further inquiries should be forwarded to:

The Secretary,
I.C.C.M. (Inc.),
P.O. Box 1638,
CANBERRA CITY. A.C.T. 2601

I.C.C.M. (S.A. BRANCH)

The Inaugural Meeting was held on Tuesday 26 May 1981 at 7.30 p.m. -
Institute Building, State Library.

Dates of next meetings are as follows:

Wednesday, June 24
Wednesday, July 29
Wednesday, August 26

Wednesday, September 30
Wednesday, October 28
Tuesday, November 24
Wednesday, December 23

NEXT MEETING - Wednesday 26 June - Mr David Tilbrooke.
Conservation in Marine Archaeology (with slides).

(h) Libraries Board Facsimile Programme.

Dear Ms. Moss,

Thank you for your letter of 22nd March concerning the facsimile publishing programme of the Libraries Board of South Australia.

The facsimile programme has been winding down for some years and has now ceased by a deliberate and specific decision of the Libraries Board. The Board believes that its first priority is the provision of a basic State and public library service. Therefore, with its priority listing scheme, it is considered that it would disadvantage the community if resources were diverted from its prime responsibility.

Although the direct production costs of the former facsimile programme were recovered and returned to the Government, the indirect costs of publication were very large. The Board believes that it can no longer continue the very heavy subsidy provided to the programme at the expense of its other activities.

The Board is very conscious of the fact that it led the Australian publishing field in facsimile publication in the nineteen sixties. This has demonstrated that this activity can be commercially viable, a fact witnessed by the upsurge in recent years in commercially produced facsimile editions. Assistance has been provided by making available some of the rare Australiana volumes to commercial publishers for facsimile purposes, and earned money for the Library by so doing.

Such arrangements are expected to continue to exist, although from time to time, in special circumstances, it may act in itself as a

publisher again. It is not expected that the Board will re-enter the publishing field on any regular basis.

Yours sincerely

(Signed) Murray Hill

MURRAY HILL M.L.C.
MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

(i) Biographical Index of South Australians, 1836-1885.

The objective of this project is to publish a multi-volume Index of all people who lived in South Australia between 1836 and 1885, with all volumes to be published and released by 1986 to coincide with the 150 Year celebrations of our State.

Work has already begun extracting information pertinent to the Biographical Index, but MANY MORE VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED.

Small work groups have been formed to extract information from the following sources, but additional helpers are required.

G.R.O. - Enrolments and Memorials
S.A. Archives - Adelaide Hospital Admission Records, C of E Registers (Microfilm)
Genealogy Society Library - West Tce. Cemetery Burial Register (microfiche), - Cyclopaedia of Sth. Australia.

And for the house-bound there are Family and District Histories which can be worked on at home.

It is intended to soon begin collating information at the Society Library on a regular basis. As this will be a major part of the project it is imperative that we have sufficient volunteers to cope with this mammoth task. It is envisaged that various groups will be responsible for certain letters of the alphabet (eg. Surnames beginning with A-C etc.) so please state your preference, if any, when offering your assistance.

In addition, members are requested to submit Biographical information in their own possession. Forms are available for this purpose from the Society Library.

HELP US TO HELP YOU - if you can contribute an afternoon or evening amonth please contact Jill Statton (telephone 296-8115) as soon as possible to be included in a work group.

JILL STATTON

It is possible that two or three generations will be eligible for inclusion.

- 1) Head of household.
- 2) A son of above who reached adulthood (defined as 15 years) within the Index period.
- 3) A single woman who arrived in S.A., within Index period, without her parents and never married.
- 4) A widow who arrived in S.A. within Index period.
- 5) A married woman whose husband's name is unknown.

If an exact date is not known, you can either write an approximation, e.g. mid-1850's, 1854-6, or if an approximate year is known, e.g. c. 1856 (for circa or about). Underline all surnames.

If you should like to know more details about the activities of The Society, or would like to assist in compiling the Index, perhaps by extracting information from The State Archives, etc., please contact The Society.

(j) Wanera Shipping Line.

Paddlesteamer Wanera - Historical Cruise Aug. 17th

- Monday 17th Our Historical cruise commences 9.30a.m.
Cruise downstream thru Lock 11 (constructed 1927) along the Murray to Chaffey Landing, which is situated within walking distance of Mildara winery (Est. 1888). Tour and tastings conducted at Mildara.
After a barbecue lunch at Chaffey Landing, we continue to cruise downstream to Cowra Station (Est. 1846). Moor at Cowra Station for the evening. Weather and river conditions permitting, a moonlight cruise after dinner.
- Tuesday 18th After breakfast, a guided tour of Cowra Station.
On return to the boat, we continue cruising downstream to the junction of Australia's two greatest rivers - the Murray and Darling (discovered 1830). We then cruise upstream on the Darling to the irrigation settlement of Pomona (Est. 1908).
Return cruise to the historic old township of Wentworth (settled 1840), where a coach will take you on a tour of the town, including the Wentworth Gaol, built over 100 years ago.
After dinner, a visit will be made to the boat by members of the local Historical Society.
- Wednesday 19th Return cruise to Mildura, eta approx. 3p.m.
A coach tour begins, visiting the replica of the original Mildura homestead (1847), Rio Vista (original Chaffey homestead), Art Gallery and Museum, Max's Pioneer Cottage.
- Thursday 20th Prior to departure, the author of "Mildura Calling", Alice Laphorne, will visit the boat and conduct an informal discussion on the history of the area.
We then cruise upstream from Mildura, passing under the "opening" bridge and continuing until we reach Pysche Pumps (site of Mildura's first pumping station, 1888). A representative of the Irrigation Trust will hold a discussion explaining the history and working of the pumps.
Continue further upstream, passing thru Red Cliffs, for the evening mooring at a beautiful spot, Echo Point.
A farewell party tonight, fancy dress if you wish, so come prepared!
- Friday 21st Today is a leisurely cruise upstream to McFarlanes Reef and return to Mildura for disembarkation approx. 3.15p.m.

During the cruise, from Monday to Friday, Captain Leon Wagner gives a running commentary on all points of historic and general interest with regards to the Murray and Darling rivers and Sunraysia.

A special package is available at the Sunland Motel for passengers who wish to extend their holiday and visit other historical attractions such as "Big Lizzie" (45 ton traction engine), Walls of China (site of world acclaimed geological discoveries), Warbirds Aviation Museum.

COST OF WANERA HISTORICAL CRUISE:

Monday to Friday	\$248	per person (share basis)
Sunday on board	\$18	
Sole use cabin	\$70	(car garage \$14)

SUNLAND MOTEL:

\$24 dinner, bed & breakfast, per person (share) nett
\$8 sole use room nett

All enquiries about this cruise should be addressed to the Wanera Shipping Line, Sunland Motel, 232-236 Deakin Avenue, Mildura (P.O. Box 1930) 3500.

4. BOOK REVIEWS.

- (a) Tibooburra - Corner Country. John Gerritsen. 1981. 150 pages. Soft cover \$6, casebound \$12.

Tibooburra, Warri Warri, Yalpunga and Milparinka are mellifluous aboriginal names for some of the ghost towns in the corner country of western New South Wales - the area bounded by South Australia, Queensland and N.S.W.

In September 1981 the small surviving township of Tibooburra will celebrate its centenary and, to mark the occasion, John Gerritsen (A Ranger with the National Parks and Wildlife Service of N.S.W.) has assembled an interesting amalgam of historical facts and reminiscences of the district's identities.

While in the area some years ago I was told that several batches of old newspapers were placed in the ceiling of the Albert Hotel, Milparinka in bygone days, to provide insulation against the heat - including copies of the rare local paper, the 'Sturt Recorder', printed in the 1890s. I wonder if any have survived.

Tibooburra - Corner Country is a welcome addition to the otherwise little-known history of a small section of the Australian outback.

Copies may be obtained from : R.A.A. Bookshop, Hindmarsh Square, Adelaide.

R.H.B. Kearns.

- (b) Pioneer Building Techniques in South Australia, 104 Pages, B. & W. Photographs.

A copy of the recently published book "Pioneer Building Techniques in South Australia" by D. W. Berry and S.H. Gilbert (1981) has been given to The Historical Society of South Australia for its book collection by Mrs. Necia Gilbert. We thank her for this gift. It is an excellent book, giving a clear insight into early building techniques in this state,

especially those relating to the simpler cottages and barns of the pioneer settlers, although it does include several of the more consequential types of homes built in the last century. The illustrations are clear and illuminating, and the text augments them by drawing attention to special features of the architecture, often giving measurements of timber, for example, or the dimensions of a room or building.

The use of specific architectural terms has been kept relatively simple, so that the layman may read the book with pleasure and benefit. In addition, the book is a real inspiration to anyone who has ever considered renovating an old home, cottage or barn, because it demonstrates so well that care, historical research and empathy for an earlier period of history are necessary to produce the most truthful and harmonious results.

It also shows that many of the South Australian buildings are unique to this state, probably reflecting the different system of colonisation in South Australia, which attracted not only people from all parts of the British Isles, but also groups from Germany, who established their own particular building styles in the Barossa Valley and throughout the Adelaide Hills.

Copies of the book are available at \$9.85 (postage \$1.15 extra) from the National Trust of South Australia, S.A. 5000, or from Gilbert-Partners, 246 Melbourne Street, North Adelaide, S.A. 5006.

Helen Pearce.

5. THE HISTORY TRUST OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA. *****

After years of lagging behind other States in government support and direction of museums, South Australia now has a remarkably comprehensive piece of legislation. On March 26, 1981 the History Trust of South Australia Act was proclaimed, following smooth passage through both houses of Parliament, and before that, a period of intensive planning and drafting by a small committee of public servants chaired by Dr. N. Etherington, former Chairman of the Constitutional Museum Trust and now Chairman of the History Trust.

The History Trust grows out of a recommendation in the interim Edwards Report on the restructuring of the South Australian Museum. The interim report recommended that a State History Centre be established on North Terrace, and a large working party then met to examine the proposal. Members of the party generally agreed that authority for the Centre should be vested in a new organisation. The Act basically picks up themes proposed by the working party. It is, incidentally, worth noting that the Edwards Report had not been submitted when the History Trust, one of that report's expected major proposals, was established!

The formal powers of the History Trust are wide-ranging. Clause 14 (1) of the Act specifies that the Trust's functions are:

- (a) to carry out, or promote, research relevant to the history of the State;
- (b) to accumulate and classify data on any subject of significance to the history of the State;
- (h) to accredit or otherwise to evaluate museums, and to advise the Minister on the operation of museums and on the allocation of funds or other forms of assistance that may be available for the promotion or development of museums;

- (j) to encourage the conservation of objects of historical significance to the State;
 - (k) to advise the Minister on the conservation of objects in the ownership or possession of the Crown that are of historical significance to the State;
- and
- (l) to perform any other functions assigned to the Trust by or under this Act.

The above report is reprinted with permission from Country Showcase vol. 2 no. 1 April 1981. The Trust is currently operating with a skeleton staff. Dr. Peter Cahalan and Mr. Geoff Wilson, Director and Administrative Officer respectively of the Constitutional Museum, are also acting in those positions for the Trust. Mr. Brian Samuels has been seconded half-time (from the Education Department) to be the Trust's Information Officer and Mr. Geoff Speirs will shortly transfer from the S.A. Museum to continue the work he has been doing there as Museums Extension Officer.

The Trust replaces the Constitutional Museum Trust and its members comprise -

- Chairman - Dr. N. Etherington, Historian, Adelaide University.
- Dr. D. Jaensch, Political Scientist, Flinders University.
- Mr. B. Rowney, Heritage Architect, Heritage Branch.
- Dr. J. Radcliffe, President, Museums Association of Aust.
- Mr. P. Benson, General Manager, 5AA
- Mrs. C. Pritchard, Archivist.
- Mr. R. Gibbs, Teacher and Historian.
- Mrs. M. Grabowska Baldino, Lawyer.

The Constitutional Museum is one of the Trust's responsibilities, as is the Birdwood Mill Museum as of July 1st. Other government-owned properties may well come under the Trust in the wake of the Edwards Report, which has finally gone before Cabinet and been referred to a Cabinet Subcommittee.

6. MICROFILM YOUR LOCAL NEWSPAPER! *****

In terms of value for money, one of the worthiest historical projects any local community can pursue is to microfilm its older local papers. It both preserves them and makes them more accessible. The following press release from the Public Libraries Division of the Department of Local Government was issued in December 1980.

BURRA RECORD PRESENTATION

On Wednesday 10 December at 3pm in the Board Room, State Library, North Terrace, the Chairman of the Libraries Board of South Australia, Mr. Jim Crawford will present microfilm copies of the Burra Record (1876-1979) to the Burra School Community library.

The money for the project (\$1500) was all raised locally and the microfilming was done by skilled staff in the photographic section of the State Library. The State Library already has a programme of microfilming early South Australian newspapers but to date has concentrated on metropolitan papers.

The project was initiated by Ian Auhl a notable South Australian author who wanted to use the State Library's copy of the Record for research for a book. He was refused permission because of the state of the paper. Papers from the late nineteenth century onwards are printed on wood pulp paper with

a high acid content. While they perform a good service in providing a cheap usable format at the time, these papers were not made to last. Now the paper has yellowed and become very fragile and brittle.

Mr. Auhl decided to encourage the microfilming of the paper and offered a \$100 to Burra. The library and the High School took up the challenge and through public meetings and an appeal raised \$900. This was enough to start the project. However, part way through it was discovered that further funds were required and the library went back to the community and raised a further \$500.

Another large donation of \$100 was given by a Mrs. Fern from Port Pirie who will be at the presentation. She left Burra as a teenager and wanted to research her family tree with the assistance of the Record. She too was refused permission so offered the donation to further encourage the project.

About 40 boxes of microfilm will be presented at the function and a reader will be available to show how the film can be used.

The Country Press Association will be invited also. This Association through its individual members has agreed to pay 35% of the cost of microfilming country papers that are still being published today. On this basis the State Library hopes to start filming soon on the Northern Argus (Clare) and the Naracoorte Herald.

However to complete the project by 1986 - the 150th Anniversary of the State we should like other country communities to raise similar funds to film their papers. On past experience use of early newspapers doubles in the two years prior and the year after major centennial events. The Sesqui-centennial is expected to stimulate a similar interest in local history throughout the state.

Euan Miller
9-12-80

7. SOUTH AUSTRALIAN IRISH HERITAGE PROJECT *****

Ireland's vital role in South Australian history is not another Irish joke, but its lack of recognition is. The South Australian Irish Heritage Project (S.A.I.H.P.) is designed to rectify that situation with the anticipated interest arising from South Australia's founding sesquicentenary in 1986.

AIMS OF S.A.I.H.P.

- * Establish an Irish family and biographical index involving all religious groups;
- * Support research incorporating aspects of Irish heritage;
- * Identify, index, and copy relevant records or memoirs;
- * Investigate Colonel Robert Torrens' contribution to South Australia's founding and Irish emigration.

YOUR HELP is needed! If descended from an Irish emigrant who arrived before 1900, you could donate a brief family history at little expense by asking a knowledgeable relative. If you are a tertiary student, or an amateur historian researching a thesis or local area which has Irish involvement, you may wish to contribute information or gain assistance. Most importantly, you may know the existence of private correspondence concerning our State's Irish patron - Colonel Robert Torrens, his son - Robert Richard Torrens of the Land Titles Act fame, or his attorney - Mr Osmond Gilles, the State's first Colonial Treasurer. There may be relevant records or memoirs you know can be copied and indexed.

As Torrens has been neglected by the traditional and officially approved history of this State (whose interpretation his efforts do not patronise), it has been left to the amateur historian to research the following articles:-

- * Rev. J. Blacket, "Robert Torrens - the Founder of South Australia", Australian Christian Commonwealth, 27th Dec. 1907, P. 11, - see S.A. Collection, State Library.
- * R. J. Cox, "The Torrens Experiment", The Fedmag, Dec. 1979-Jan. 1980, - see S.A. Collection.
- * P. L. Moore, "Colonel Robert Torrens: Some Bicentennial Observations", S.A. Historical Society Journal, Nov. 1980, No. 8, Pp. 68-83, edited speech to the society 15th Feb. 1980, "Colonel Robert Torrens - a New Erin in Southern Seas".

Mr Moore, and Mr Cox have researched independently in Ireland, and South Australia respectively, the coincidental similarities of their conclusions establishes the integrity of Colonel Robert Torrens' contribution as a suitable founding theme for the 1986 sesquicentenary celebrations.

8. EARLY GERMAN SETTLEMENTS IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

by G. Young, School of Architecture, South Australian Institute of Technology. (Reprinted from Australian Historical Geography Bulletin No. 2, February, 1981 Pp. 44-69)

INTRODUCTION

A multi-disciplinary team of architects, geographers and historians have been researching early German settlements in South Australia for the last five years. Field surveys have been conducted in the Barossa valley and at Hahndorf. The project has been funded by the Australian Heritage Commission.

The team has attempted to identify the German characteristics of the towns and their districts and this paper deals principally with the architectural evidence of early German settlements. However, the background to the cultural transfer of a rural way of life common to the Prussian provinces of Brandenburg, Posen and Silesia to South Australia in the nineteenth century needs to be set in its proper historical context. Such was the homogeneity of these Lutheran congregations and their lack of interface with other settlements in South Australia that the old way of life continued until the First World War. We can discover in South Australia substantial evidence of a cultural, rural heritage dating back to Charlemagne.

THE GERMAN BACKGROUND

The Settlers' Homelands

The German lands occupy a northward sloping region of central Europe and are made up of three major areas: the Alps, the Central Uplands and the Northern Lowland. To the north-east, the Lowland broadens eastward to merge with the vast plains of Poland and Russia. On these northern plains lie Brandenburg, Posen and Silesia, three former Prussian provinces now under the aegis of post-1945 Poland.

The climate is continental with rainfall at 500-600mm p.a. and mean monthly temperatures ranging from -1°C (January) to around 19°C (July). Winters tend to be drier, springs short and summers warm with an increase in rainfall, mainly in the form of thundery showers. Soils are sandy or peaty, and at times marshy, with areas of fertile brown earth. Flat plains of open woodland merged across the Elbe with a denser mixed forest of oak, birch and pine.

German Colonization of Eastern Europe

The eastward movement of the Franks and Saxons began in the late Carolingian period. This intensified in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries when land was given in huge grants by the kings to the princes, prelates and lords of the Marches. The movement eastwards began with conquests and gains were consolidated by the settlement of German peasants on conquered land beyond the Elbe. Allied with the promise of land was that of personal freedom from feudal restrictions. These attractions were publicised by a professional organiser or contractor called a lokator who was employed by the lord who controlled the land. The lokator also laid out the villages and superintended the whole process of settlement.

By the middle of the fourteenth century, this colonization was checked by a decline in the supply of peasants from the west and by opposition from the revived Slav kingdoms of Hungary, Bohemia and Poland. The Black Death (1347-1351) introduced a long period of depression. Thousands of farms and villages were left empty and marginal agricultural land was abandoned. The once privileged eastern peasants' lands were absorbed into the estates of the more powerful landholders. The Thirty Years War (1618-1648) and the later Northern War (1700-1721) and the Seven Years War (1756-1763) accentuated these trends. The peasants were forced into compulsory military service and their lands were confiscated. Many were reduced to the status of bondsmen tied to the lord's estate.

The seventeenth and eighteenth centuries were periods when the power of the ruling princes was well nigh absolute, controlling particularly the formation of new village settlements. Systematic colonisation became a state aim as a large and prosperous peasantry was a necessary source of tax income and soldiers. Accordingly, Frederick the Great created a 'new province' for Prussia by draining marshlands, particularly those on the floors of the Great Valleys of the Oder, Warthe and Netze rivers.

From 1640 to 1740, about 100,000 colonists had been settled by the Prussian administration alone, especially in East Prussia. Between 1740 and 1786 their number rose to 300,000 and about 900 new colonial villages were established. The new inhabitants were often foreign, refugees from religious persecution (such as the French Huguenots), rather than German, and craftsmen or artisans rather than peasant farmers. These people formed settlements in areas close to large towns which their home industries serviced.

A new class of farmers emerged and the size of their land holdings reflected their social standing. For example, a cottager (Budner) was allowed approximately 6-8 morgen, whilst the full peasant farmer (Bauer) was allowed 20-30 morgen.

Settlement Patterns

When the German colonists overran the Slavic lands beyond the river Elbe or settled further east in nucleated settlements they carried with them their intensive agricultural methods. Around their formally laid out villages lay large blocks of arable land adjoining common pastures and forest. The arable blocks were divided into long narrow strips which allowed them to be ploughed by an oxen drawn wheeled plough (Scharpflug) with only a minimum number of turns. Rapid population growth in the early fourteenth century resulted in a continuous sub-division of the strips creating a complex mosaic of strip fields called the Gewannflur which as a planned field system was introduced into the Slav areas from the twelfth to the fourteenth century.

Although at first these eastern peasants were far better off than their contemporaries in western Germany, a strict social order soon developed with

the original farmer (Vollerbe) owning all the arable land and claiming full rights to the common land whilst the cottager (Budner) had no land rights. The lokators received their commission in kind owning large estates of four to six hides of land together with the right to build a mill or keep a tavern. The church was also allocated land in a central location in the village and a farm or house was provided for the pastor.

Because so many settlements had to be established quickly, a few well-tried forms were used. The most common were the long green (Angerdorf), the long street village (Strassendorf) and the farmlet village (Hufendorf). They approximated the ideal village described by Stieglitz at the end of the eighteenth century:

The villages should be laid out in such a manner that the homesteads are built in two opposite rows and somewhat separated from each other with houses for cottagers and crofters between them and that a continuous street runs through the whole village. Behind the houses should be the gardens and the fields and all the other land of each peasant who would therefore be in a better position to manage his farm and to get immediate help from his neighbour in case of fire, burglary or any other misfortune.

A complete holding was created all at once, with a house being situated along the line of the new road or dyke, and behind it first the garden, then arable land, then pasture and finally the wood lot or the fen. New settlers to these line or street villages took similar strips at each end of the village.

This systematic layout of farms with consolidated holdings set these settlements apart from those associated with the three field system of communal cultivation.

The hufendorf settlement was used by the Franks as early as the ninth century. It was suitable for colonising new lands with settlements located at strategic points on a network of roads, a system well used by the Romans. Later, it was used by German colonists on their eastward movement and, finally, the Prussian Government of the eighteenth century laid out numerous hufen villages. Early Frankish settlements had only 6 to 12 farmlets, with individual land areas ranging from 3 to 6 hectares. The later mediaeval settlements in eastern Germany and Prussia adopted the west German Frankish farmlets which normally had an area of 24.2 hectares with a width of 104 metres and length around 2,340 metres.

Two basic hufen village forms emerged: the forest farm village (waldhufendorf) and the marsh farm village (marschhufendorf) and, as their names suggest, were villages set either in heavily wooded areas, where forests were cleared, or in the northern marshes and river valleys which were reclaimed by diking. The street village (strassendorf) was another settlement form used by the Prussian administration. Aligned either side of a main road it had farm-houses and cottages placed closer together for the frontages did not have to be the width of the hufe. This allowed for denser settlement and was used for small towns connected with rural industries. By the mid eighteenth century, the Prussian Government was locating government offices and schools in some of the larger towns as well as allocating land for the Lutheran churches and their pastors.

East German Farmhouses

Three house forms, or the variations which occurred through acculturation, spread to the east of Europe. The Upper German House (Oberdeutsches Haus) is a long and narrow farmhouse which evolved from a

single room dwelling (hearth house) into a complex of living rooms, bedrooms and stores. The Lower German House (Niederdeutsches Haus) was in its simplest form a single unit structure in which man, his animals and his goods were housed under the same steep and lofty roof. Two main variants have appeared out of this basic house form: one, the Friscian house, is found along the northern marshes and is specially adapted to cattle farming. The other, the Saxon house, has a continuous central hay-loft or threshing floor with living quarters and stables either side of it. This type of farmhouse spread east into Brandenburg and eventually separated barns and stables were incorporated into the complex grouped around a closed farmyard. A third variation, the Franconian (Frankische) house occurred throughout central Germany and also housed man and animals under the same roof. Access to the farmhouse was on the side elevation and approximately central. Both front and back doors led into a wide passage hall (flur). From this, access was obtained to the living areas on the left and stables and stores on the right, as well as to the large loft. Eventually the animal byers, hay lofts and granaries were located in separate buildings grouped around a farmyard (hof).

The later Franconian house plan included a sophisticated arrangement of cooking hearths and ovens all linked together into centrally located chimneys. This became known as a passage-kitchen house (flurkuchenhaus) with either a kitchen as a separate room at the end of the passage or forming part of it thus giving a through passage plan. The new colonial settlements created by Frederick the Great were sometimes provided with simple half timbered passage-kitchen houses which were given the name Frederician cottages (Friderizianische).

Building Techniques

The extensive forests which first covered these regions of eastern Germany produced ideal building materials for the colonists' houses. Two basic construction techniques were developed.

The first and simplest was log construction (blockbau). This was more suited to the areas where there were extensive coniferous forests (e.g. the uplands and the areas further east towards Poland). It was used both by the indigenous Slavs and the German colonists and consisted of laying horizontally squared or rounded logs one above the other, skilfully interlocked at the corners.

The second was half timbered construction (fachwerk). This was introduced from western Europe from areas where the forests had long been cleared and strong deciduous timbers like oak were used to build structural frames (box frames).

As settlements prospered and developed, the wealthier farmers turned to the use of stone or brick for farmhouses. However, half-timbering remained common well into the nineteenth century, even if only in the construction of barns and other outbuildings. The introduction of extensive central cooking areas presented the owners with considerable fire hazards. The open-hearth dwelling, where the smoke was simply allowed to escape through a ridge vent, was constantly set on fire in spite of the clay parging provided on the underside of the thatch. Gradually the practice grew of using stone or brick walls to enclose the hearth. Regulations were introduced which defined the constructional requirements and were enforced by visiting inspectors. Not surprisingly, these became much stricter both in specification and enforcement at the time of Frederick the Great. Village and fire legislation (Dorf and Feuerordnungen) changed the timber framed canopies to brick flues or vaults which gave rise to the term 'black kitchen' (Schwarze-Kuche).

The house roofs were framed up with heavy ceiling beams supporting at their ends the large roof rafters which were morticed into them and pinned with oak dowels. Sometimes the former were projected out over the walls as brackets so as to allow the thatching to oversail and protect the tops of the walls. These high-pitched thatched roofs left useful spaces for bedrooms, or stores. Normally timber gable ends were used and small loft doors and windows let into them. The ceiling beams supported thick wattle and daub ceilings which gave excellent insulation against both the cold of winter and the heat of summer. The gable ends were sometimes ornately decorated with carved barges and fleche or weathercocks finishing the ridges. The large entrance doors to the hall and passageway were likewise often decorated with diagonal boarding or iron studs. The living room windows were kept small: later three paned casement lights, or two panes with transom and fanlight over were common. These sometimes had decorated timber shutters for protection against inclement weather or intruders. A more spiritual protection was offered the inhabitants by the use of house sayings or quotations which placed the house under God's care. The more affluent houses of the later eighteenth century saw the introduction of double doors, an influence which had spread through eastern European societies from the Italian Renaissance.

Not surprisingly, many of these building techniques were still used by the early German settlers in South Australia when they first settled in the colony. Important examples of their work remain offering a unique picture of a very long and developing cultural tradition.

FOOTNOTES

1. The project is directed by Gordon Young of the South Australian Institute of Technology and Ian Harmstorf of the Adelaide College of the Arts and Education. Archival research and fieldwork has been carried out by Alexandra Marsden and Lothar Brasse assisted by teams of students from both institutions.
2. Stieglitz: 'Encyklopadie der Burgerlichen Baukunst', in E.A. Guttkind: Urban Development in East Central Europe, vol.1, London 1964.

(To be continued in next issue of Newsletter)

9. NEWSLETTER EXCHANGE.

Since May, 1981, the following Newsletters and Journals have been received:*

- a) Australian Historical Bibliography, Bulletin No. 3, February, 1981.
- b) Australian Historical Geography, Bulletin No. 2, February, 1981.
- c) Australian Historical Statistics, Bulletin No. 2, February, 1981.
- d) Canberra Historical Journal, New Series No. 7, March, 1981.
- e) Canberra and District Historical Society Newsletter, Nos. 223, 224 and 225, April, 1981, May, 1981 and June-July, 1981.
- f) Newsletter of the Royal Australian Historical Society and Affiliated Societies, No. 2 New Series, April, 1981.
- g) Portonian, Vol. 9, No. 2, June, 1981.
- h) Royal Geographical Society of Australasia (S.A. Branch Inc.) Newsletter, Vol. 17, Nos. 3 and 4, April, 1981 and May, 1981.
- i) Royal Western Australian Historical Society Newsletter, Vol. 20, Nos. 4 and 5, May, 1981 and June, 1981.
- j) The South Australian Genealogist, Vol. 8, No. 2, April, 1981.
- k) The National Trust of South Australia Annual Report, 1980.
- l) The National Trust of South Australia Newsletter, No. 107, June, 1981.
- m) The National Trust of South Australia Register of Historic Buildings, 4th Edition, December, 1980.
- n) South Australian Horse Driving Society Newsletter, March-April, 1981 and May-June, 1981.
- o) Torrens Valley Historical Journal, No. 14, April, 1981.

10. NEWSLETTER ARTICLES.

- a) "List of Publications on the Economic and Social History of Australia Published in 1976 (Parts 1-10)" by G. R. Henning. 13 pages.
- b) "Early German Settlements in South Australia" by G. Young (Senior Lecturer in Architecture, S.A.I.T.) 26 pages (10 pages of illustrations). This article is a result of the research undertaken by "A multi-disciplinary team of architects, geographers and historians (who) have been researching early German settlements in South Australia for the last five years. Field surveys have been conducted in the Barossa valley and at Hahndorf." (The "Hahndorf Report" in 2 volumes is now available at S.A.I.T. at a cost of \$16 for both volumes. The Lobethal Survey, undertaken during late 1980-early 1981, is now nearing completion.)

- c) "Lies, Damned Lies, and Dead Silence : how to make numbers talk" by S. W. Dyer. 5 pages. "This essay grew out of an attempt to investigate one small part of the Australian scene in the inter-war period - the extent to which the horse had been replaced by the internal combustion engine". The study concentrates on South Australia.
"Sports Crowd Attendance in South Australia, 1919-39; An Economic Interpretation" by W. Vamplew (Flinders University) 21 pages (5 tables)
"The inter-war economy in South Australia, as in other states, experienced severe fluctuations. At one time unemployment reached 35.4% and money wages fell 23% in two years. Inevitably these, and other changes, had an impact on social life."
- e) from June-July Newsletter : Pg. 9. The origin of the Kelpie Dog. Pg. 9-10 "A brief history of the Canberra Botanic Gardens, Part. I."
- f) "Captain Bligh and the Breadfruit : A case study in Natural History".
"The breadfruit project arose from the needs of the British planters in the West Indies, who regretted the amount of land and time occupied in raising food (cassava, taro and plantain) to feed their plantation slaves, and thought they saw an answer in the breadfruit".
- g) "The Potential of History in Port Adelaide". "This article was written for The Local Museum July, 1980, and with the exception of Fort Glanville is still relevant. We believe that a Government looking for the development, particularly of Tourism, is indeed foolish to ignore the potential of Port Adelaide."
- h) May Newsletter : "Restoration of the Grave of Lt. W.G. Field".
- j) "Passengers Arriving - Port Adelaide, 1846-1850 Part 8."
"A Letter from early South Australia."
Cemetery Transcription - Arno Bay Cemetery.
- k) National Trust Annual Report : Page 9 "I am pleased to report that the State Government saw its way clear last year to raise our annual grant from \$2,000 to \$5,000."
- l) "A grant of \$8,000 to the National Trust of South Australia has been made by the Minister of Environment, Mr. David Wotton, to enable the Urban Conservation Committee to continue its work."
- o) "Branches of the Methodist Church in Early S.A. History" by Dr. Arnold Hunt. 16 pages.

11. CONSTITUTIONAL MUSEUM - COMING ATTRACTIONS. *****

- (1) "The Detroit Inheritance" - The Motor Car Industry in South Australia, 1910-1980. Opening 6th July.
- (2) "Do We need the Nuclear industry?" A display organized by the Campaign Against Nuclear Energy. 3rd August-6th September.

1855 Publications.

The two volumes produced for the re-enactment of the 1855 Election and the 1855 colonial picnic are available from the Constitutional Museum for \$12 (resource book) and \$2 (essays). They represent very good value for money and contain a lot of information not easily obtainable elsewhere.