
HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SA PUBLICATIONS

Journal

The *Journal of the Historical Society of South Australia* has appeared annually since 1975, with the exception of 1978 and 1980 when there were two issues. Back issues of all numbers except 1, 4, 9 and 10 are available at \$12.00 each (postage included). *Note however that stocks of some issues are running low.*

The contents of each journal are listed in the 'South Australian History in Journals' guidesheets included in Newsletters No's 77 (July 1988) and 79 (November 1988).

Newsletter

Back issues of more recent years' issues are available at \$1.00 each.

Guidesheets

These leaflets are made available gratis by the Society as a community service to promote history beyond its membership. They are issued as supplements to its Newsletters and additional copies are normally available in the Mortlock Library and the History Trust head office.

- No. 1 South Australian Local History 1. Guides, Indexes & Bibliographies (1978, out of print)
- No. 2 Good Reading in South Australian History (Revised edition 1987)
- No. 3 South Australian History in Journals—A Select List of Articles (1981)
- No. 4 Making History (1988)
- No. 5 South Australian History in Journals—2. A Select List of Articles (1988)
- No. 6 More Good Reading in South Australian History (1992)

Occasional Paper

E.J. & J.R. Robbins *A Glossary of Local Government Areas in South Australia 1840–1985* (1987) \$3.00 + \$1.00 postage

Joint Publications

S. Marsden & R. Nicol (eds) *The Politics of Heritage* (1990) [with the History Trust of S.A.] \$7.50 + \$1 postage. Available direct from the History Trust only.

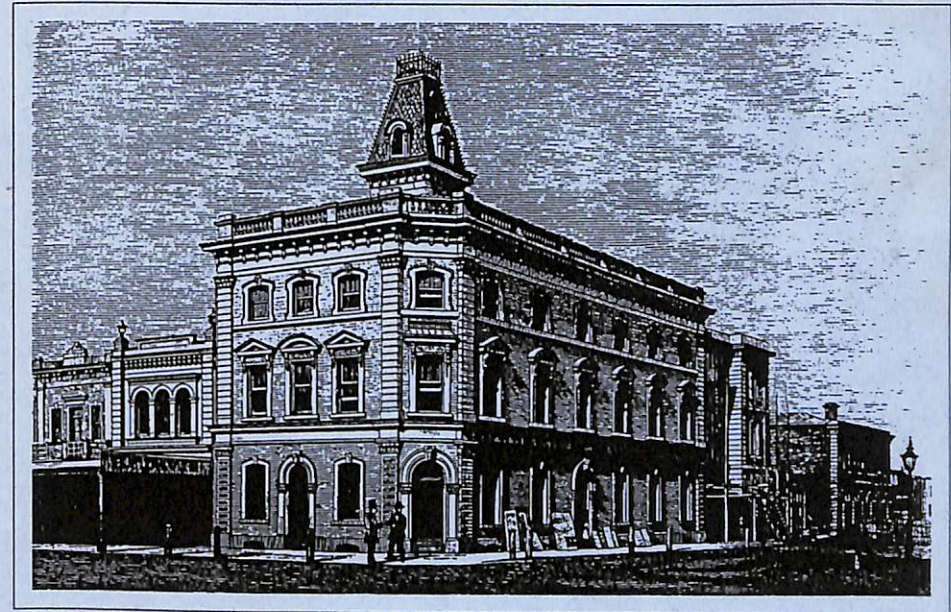
various *South Australian Gazette and Colonial Register* A facsimile reproduction of volume 1, 18 June 1836 to 29 December 1838. (1988) [in association with the S.A. Government Printer] \$35 (limp) or \$75 (hard back). Available direct from the Government Printer and selected Adelaide bookshops.

'Insights' Series

R. Nicol & B. Samuels (eds) *Insights into South Australian History volume one: Selected articles from the Journal of the Historical Society of South Australia* (1992) \$14 postage paid. \$12 for orders of 5 or more.

The Historical Society of South Australia Inc.

Newsletter No. 105 March 1993



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THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC.

Institute Building, 122 Kintore Avenue, Adelaide 5000

OBJECTS

- (a) to arouse interest in and to promote the study and discussion of history, especially South Australian and Australian history
- (b) to promote the collection, preservation and classification of source material of all kinds relating to South Australian and Australian history
- (c) to publish historical records and articles
- (d) to promote the interchange of information among members of the Society by lectures, readings, discussions, field trips and exhibitions
- (e) to co-operate with similar societies throughout Australia
- (f) to do all such things as are conducive or incidental to the attainment of any of the above objects

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Lectures

VENUE: Prince Philip Theatre, Prince Alfred College, Kent Town.

Friday 2 April 1993—7.45 p.m.

Alison Dolling

A Life with South Australian History

This talk, in two parts, considers the individual as the carrier of history; in this case South Australian social history as reflected in one person. Its starting point is the subdivision of Trammere Farm in 1919; a fringe reference to the Depression and the era of the small private school; World War 2, seasonal Land Army work; billeting soldiers; accommodating a refugee family and migrants; education of repatriated servicemen; The Chronicle newspaper, a channel for local history, initiation into historical research.

The second part relates to Great Uncle John William Thiselton's business activities in Silverton and The Barrier in the 1880s and his marathon bicycle journey in 1894 in connection with W.A. mining ventures. By way of contrast and in conclusion we join the Thiselton School of Dancing, King's Theatre, Adelaide. (1928)

Friday 7 March 1993—8.00 p.m.

June Donovan

I Fancy Nancy: Dame Nancy Buttfield

June Donovan is a graduate of the Flinders University of South Australia and a partner in the firm of Donovan & Associates, History and Historic Preservation Consultants. She has been associated with numerous heritage surveys undertaken by the firm and is a joint author of two books that flowed from the firm's inventory of stained glass windows in South Australia, *A Guide to Stained Glass Windows in and about Adelaide*, and *150 Years of Stained and Painted Glass*. More recently she assisted Dame Nancy Buttfield to write and produce the story of her life.

There are two special features of Nancy Buttfield's life among many which make her story a fascinating one. Born Nancy Holden, she was not part of the Adelaide Establishment, with her father being blackballed from the Adelaide Club. However, she had a privileged upbringing nevertheless, and attended a finishing school in Paris after completing her secondary education. Perhaps more importantly, however, Nancy Buttfield, who entered the Senate after a casual vacancy in October 1955, was South Australia's first woman member of parliament.

SA Historical Society—Tour of East Torrens 28 March

Sunday 28 March 10.00a.m. Bus Tour.

Bookings ph. Marcia Dunshore 381 7429 a.h.

In association with East Torrens Historical Soc.

'Toilers of the Hills'

- 10.30 Meet at Magill (Smith's Garage)
To Norton Summit via Old Norton Summit/Third Creek Road
Visit 1. St Johns Church of England (built 1872)
2. Former Council Chambers (built 1902-1903)
- 12.00 To Basket Range via Main Lobethal Road then Uraidla
- 12.30-1.15 Lunch at Uraidla Showgrounds; opportunity to walk around Uraidla township. (BYO lunch, drinks provided)
- 1.30 To Piccadilly via Swamp Road and market gardens.
Visit 1. Mt Lofty Bible Christian Cemetary
2. Brooks' Cottage (on Register of State Heritage Items)
- 2.30 Return to Norton Summit via Tregarthen Road—Woods Hill Road
- 3.30 Arrive back at Magill

(Participants will be issued with a Heritage Tour Map and a walking tour map of Uraidla)

SOCIETY NEWS

Annual Dinner

Details in the 1993 programme are incorrect. In the programme the date is shown as 20 September 1993 BUT should be Saturday, 25 September 1993

Annual General Meeting

Friday 2 April 1993—7.45 p.m. Prince Philip Theatre, Prince Alfred College, Kent Town.

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA Inc.
Institute Building, 122 Kintore Avenue, Adelaide 5000

RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION (1 JANUARY 1993 TO 31 DECEMBER 1993) ACCOUNT NOW DUE			
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2. Family	\$ 30	6. Associated Societies	\$ 20
3. Student or pensioner	\$ 18	7. Life member	\$500
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ARTICLES

LOCAL HISTORIANS AS ACTIVISTS

A paper presented by Brian Samuels, Information and Community Liaison Officer, History Trust of South Australia, to the Second State History Conference held at Port Pirie, South Australia, 25-26 July 1992.

I'll approach my subject today in three stages. First, it's important to examine why people become interested in the past in the first place. Then I'll look at some different levels of activism, and finally I'll examine a couple of activities in more detail.

Why people become interested in the past

It can be a nostalgia trip - reading about old friends in a local history or looking at objects relating to everyday life in a local museum can provoke warm memories of past times.

It can be escapism - you can escape the trials and pressures of the present by reading about the machinations of the rich and powerful or the romance and colour of centuries past. (Cheerfully overlooking the poverty and squalor and death at an early age).

It can be curiosity - simply wanting to know what has gone before.

It can be antiquarianism - gathering facts for the pleasure of gathering them and ordering them, with no other motivating purpose.

It can be a quest for understanding - to try to understand why things are as they are.

It can serve to provide a sense of belonging - the more you know about your local area the more your daily life can be enriched and the greater the sense of belonging you can develop.

This to me is perhaps the most fundamental value of local history, and the prime reason for being an activist and wanting to promote its value more widely.

Much has been written about the pressures and problems of modern life and the loss of community spirit, in part due to the proliferation of the God car, the effects of television and the increased speed of change.

In his pioneering work *Local History in England* (Longman, London 1959, 3rd edition 1984 p 5) W.G. Hoskins, widely acknowledged as the father of modern English local history, wrote as follows:

Primarily I regard the study of local history and topography as a hobby that gives a great deal of pleasure to a great number of people... It is a means of enjoyment and a way of enlarging one's consciousness of the external world, and even (I am sure) of the internal world. To

acquire an abiding 'sense of the past', to live with it daily and to understand its values, is no small thing in the world as we find it today.

I think that is as true today as it was when he wrote it in 1959.

How then can local historians help more people gain an abiding sense of the past?

Levels of activism

Well, just as there are several levels of interest in local history there are several levels of activism.

I'm sure you are all aware of the way people's interest in local history can be fairly limited. In the case of museums it can mean collecting memorabilia for its nostalgia or curiosity value and nothing more. In the case of historical societies, it can mean the bulk of members being passive listeners at meetings or passive recipients of magazines.

The voluntary group that is carried by a handful of key people is nothing new. The challenge facing the community history movement is to go beyond its present limitations and not just reach more people but actually involve them in its work.

There are no startlingly new activities in the following list, but I hope it reminds you of just how much community historians have to offer their communities.

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| Recording | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- photographic surveys- newspaper cuttings books- videotaping people at work and play |
| Preserving | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- creating local history collections in public libraries- creating collections of objects in museums- purchasing microfilms of early newspapers- fighting to save heritage buildings and landscapes- rescuing significant records from neglect |
| Guiding to sources | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- compiling bibliographies- creating indexes |
| Researching | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- oral history interviews- cooperative research projects- compiling chronologies- transcribing original material |

Educating

- heritage walking trail brochures
- intelligent signposting and plaquing
- tourist guides
- topical media releases (eg for anniversaries)
- series of articles in local paper
- displays in libraries and shops
- brief history of locality
- histories of topics of special relevance
- a magazine or annual journal

Now the last decade or so has seen a good deal of activity in many of the areas I have just listed. Heritage walking trail brochures have proliferated, family historians have created a great many useful finding aids and indexes to sources, heritage surveys funded by the State Heritage Branch and the Federal Government's National Estate Program have documented many buildings that were previously undocumented and much more.

However, I will now focus on just two areas which offer considerable scope for useful work.

(a) Brief histories

The fundamental facts about a town need to be accessible. Why was it founded and why on that specific site? How has the town plan influenced subsequent development? What have been the effects of changing modes of transport? What have been the major employment opportunities?

Casual visitors are unlikely to read a 250 page tome. Neither are school students or many newcomers. A brief history of 20-30 pages that is not full of detailed information on all the major clubs that have ever existed but instead describes the locality's origins, the economic factors which underpinned its development and ends with an analysis of the community today, will be much more useful for those audiences. I should point out though that a good brief history can be harder to write than a long one.

I also hasten to add that the 250 page tome also has its place. The point is that we need both, and brief histories are still fairly scarce.

(b) Serving Tourists

What is the justification for historical societies involving themselves with tourism? There is a very pragmatic one - a lot of funding is being directed to tourism and tourists themselves have money to spend. However, there is a much more fundamental justification. When all is said and done a tourist is simply a visitor, and hence we are all tourists in our own land. Indeed, approximately 70% of tourists in South Australia are South Australians. If we are serious in both wanting to protect our heritage and help people to discover history, servicing visitors to our localities must rank as an important role.

A useful way of approaching this is to conceive of it as *interpreting* our localities to the visitor. The development of this specialised meaning of the word owes much to America, where the leading figure of the movement is Freeman Tilden. In his book *Interpreting Our Heritage* (University of North Carolina Press 1957, 3rd edition 1977, p 8) Tilden defined interpretation as:

'An educational activity which aims to reveal meanings and relationships through the use of original objects, by first hand experience and by illustrative media, rather than simply to communicate factual information'.

Note that the emphasis is on engaging and challenging the visitor to see beyond facts to their meaning and significance. The mere communication of information is not interpretation. The visitor must be led to wonder why, or led towards some understanding of an area or a subject's interest. A museum label giving an animal's scientific name does not rank as interpretation. A label explaining how the animal relates to its environment does.

Interpretive techniques range from the simple to the sophisticated, and include signs, labels, pamphlets, talks, audio-visual presentations, guided heritage walks, self-conducted walks using hired cassette tapes, plaques, working models, static displays, historical re-enactments and Interpretive Centres. And it deserves emphasising that Interpretive Centres are only one among many means of interpretation.

As well as serving the visitors desire to understand and learn about an area, good interpretation serves a further purpose. As encapsulated in a quotation from the U.S. National Parks Service's Administrative Manual:

'Through interpretation, understanding;
through understanding, appreciation;
through appreciation, protection'.

Looking ahead

Clearly much has been achieved in the last 20 or so years of community history work. The challenge lies in building on that work by firstly, taking history more effectively to the general public and, crucially, by involving more people in the voluntary community history movement so that more heads and hands can share in the labour.

I know this task is not easy, but for the long term future of the history and heritage movement it is vitally important. It involves demonstrating the values of history that you've been hearing about at this conference and placing the involvement of more and younger people in your work as one of the top, if not permanent items on your meeting agendas.

As Beverley Kingston wrote in her article 'The Use and Function of Local History' in *Locating Australia's Past: A practical guide to writing local history in New South Wales* (Local History Co-ordination Project, University of New South Wales 1988, pp 7-8):

'The best history is history which is alive. It must have meaning to those living with it, either because they experience the past through it, or because they can see that the past adds value to the quality of their daily lives. History for its own sake is in danger of being forgotten history.'

If the historical activities that you or your organisation are undertaking can be accused of being 'history for its own sake', then the time has come to review those activities and make sure that their purpose is clarified and that the wider audience for your work is always kept in mind.

And no matter how valuable your straight historical work is, the recruitment of the next generation of historical activists must also be given some priority.

In conclusion

We are community historians in at least two senses. If you conceive of your role as an historian of a community, then you can define your role as a very passive one. If you conceive of yourself as a historian for a community, then there are great many ways you can serve that community, and I hope I've encouraged you to take on a few new roles in the near future.

To borrow the motto of A Simpson & Son, a firm that once served the community in a great many ways, from jam tins to safes, from bush pots to wood, gas and electric stoves, *hodie non cras*, today, not tomorrow. If the community history movement can meet as many needs as Simpsons did in their heyday we'll be doing very well.



SOUTH AUSTRALIAN MEMORIALS 1802-1935

Leaflet No. 5. Community History Unit,
History Trust of South Australia

Memorials, so often taken for granted and all too easily overlooked in a society dominated by fast moving transportation, can offer many insights into the development of our State. This list is restricted to memorials of State significance - an inevitably subjective selection - and excludes indoor memorials and gravestones in cemeteries. Its main purpose is to be a ready reference guide, but its chronological arrangement also gives an indication of the growth of historical consciousness in South Australia.

The strong emphasis on explorers reflects the concerns of the times - the achievements of such individuals were easily recognisable and suitable for heroic status. When memorials to explorers are removed we are left with an interesting handful of benefactors, public figures and significant events.

The list stops in 1935 out of cowardice! The proliferation of memorials for and since the State's centenary in 1936 makes their listing a daunting task.

The stories of how these memorials came to be erected are often as interesting as the individuals or events they commemorate. What modern day State Premier would be commemorated by a statue erected by public subscription as was the case with Charles Kingston (1916)? How many memorials stand as monuments to the tenacity of a handful of activists? Which memorials had broad popular support and which did not? Why did some of them take years to come to fruition? And what of the many proposals for memorials that came to nothing?

I would welcome suggestions for additions and thank Community History Unit volunteer Jean Oughton for her assistance in locating contemporary newspaper accounts of unveilings.

Brian Samuels
Information & Community Liaison Officer
Community History Unit

- 1802 Engraved sheet of copper erected 24 February on a 'stout post' at Memory Cove in memory of eight of Matthew Flinders' sailors who were drowned on 21 February. (Portion found on the beach 20 August 1866. Replacement plate mounted at the head of the bay 21 February 1897. Plate subsequently destroyed; replaced in August 1924.)
- 1803 Frenchman's Rock, Hog Bay, Kangaroo Island inscribed, presumably in January, by members of Nicolas Baudin's expedition. (Protective brick structure built 1906; rock removed in 1917-18 and a cement cast substituted for the original, which is now displayed in the Mortlock Library.)
- 1844 Monument to Surveyor-General Col. William Light, Light Square, Adelaide, completed. (Foundation stone laid 18 February 1843; inscription added to monument 1876; monument replaced 1905. The original inscription is now displayed in the Mortlock Library.)
- 1844 Flinders Monument, Stamford Hill, out of Port Lincoln, completed (Commenced c.1842; obelisk refaced with marble 1866 and new tablet affixed. A bronze plaque reproducing the same inscription was placed on top of the marble one and unveiled 9 March 1934.)
- 1852 Sturt Light (Cape Willoughby Lighthouse) first exhibited 10 January.

- 1858 Board on Old Gum Tree, Glenelg, commemorating the Colony's 21st anniversary, affixed 26 February. (Rain prevented board being affixed on 28 December 1857)
- 1858 Flinders' Light (Cape Borda Lighthouse) first exhibited 13 July.
- 1875 Monument to explorer John McKinlay, Murray Street, Gawler completed. (Foundation stone laid 14 November 1874)
- 1887 Obelisk to poet Adam Lindsay Gordon erected near the place where in July 1864 he made his famous leap on horseback over the fence around the Blue Lake, Mt Gambier. (Foundation stone laid 8 July)
- 1894 Statue of Queen Victoria, Victoria Square, Adelaide, unveiled 11 August.
- 1894 Statue of Robert Burns, west corner of North Terrace and Kintore Avenue, Adelaide, unveiled 5 May. (Subsequently moved to in front of Art Gallery in May 1930 and to in front of State Library in 1940.)
- 1902 Flinders Monument, Nepean Bay, commemorating his landing on and naming of Kangaroo Island, unveiled 22 March.
- 1902 Plaque on Rosetta Head, Encounter Bay, commemorating the meeting of Matthew Flinders and Nicolas Baudin, unveiled 8 April.
- 1902 Flinders Column, Mt Lofty, named 22 March to commemorate Flinders' sighting and naming of Mt Lofty on 23 March 1802 (Column originally erected as a trig station in 1885).
- 1903 Memorial to explorer Capt. Collet Barker, Mt Barker (town), unveiled 21 January.
- 1903 Statue of benefactor Sir Thomas Elder, University of Adelaide, unveiled 29 July.
- 1903 Statue of industrialist James Martin, Gawler, unveiled 15 August.
- 1904 Centenary Tower, Mt Gambier, commemorating naming and discovery of Mt Gambier by Lieut. James Grant on 3 December 1800, opened 27 April (Foundation stone laid 3 December 1900).
- 1904 South African War Memorial, North Terrace, Adelaide, unveiled 6 June.
- 1904 Statue of explorer John McDouall Stuart, Victoria Square, Adelaide unveiled 4 June.
- 1905 Replacement monument to Col. William Light, Light Square, unveiled 21 June.
- 1906 Statue of Col. William Light, Victoria Square, Adelaide, unveiled 27 November. (Shifted in 1938 to Montefiore Lookout, which was renamed Light's Vision at the suggestion of the Pioneers' Association, and a plaque added to the pedestal bearing an extract from Light's *Brief Journal*.)
- 1906 Statue of benefactor Sir Walter Watson Hughes, University of Adelaide, unveiled 28 November.
- 1906 Flinders Cairn, Kangaroo Head, Kangaroo Island, erected in the supposed locality of his first landing.
- 1911 Bandstand at Burra in memory of King Edward VII opened 1 February.
- 1915 Foundation stone for the first lock on the River Murray, named after pioneer navigator Capt. William R. Randell, laid at Blanchetown 5 June (Lock completed 1922).

- 1915 Anzac Memorial, Sir Lewis Cohen Ave, Adelaide, unveiled 7 September (Shifted to Lundie Gardens, South Terrace in October 1940).
- 1915 Memorial to philanthropists George Fife & John Howard Angas, Prince Henry Gardens, North Terrace, Adelaide erected (Moved to Angas Garden, King William Road in 1929).
- 1916 Statue of former Premier the Right Hon. Charles C. Kingston, Victoria Square, Adelaide, unveiled 26 May.
- 1916 Statue of explorer Capt. Charles Sturt, Victoria Square, Adelaide unveiled 21 December.
- 1919 Wreath from the first Australian Town Planning Conference, Adelaide 1917, attached to the pedestal of Light's statue.
- 1920 Statue of King Edward VII, North Terrace, Adelaide, unveiled 15 July.
- 1922 Memorial to South Australian men who died in the Great War 1914-1920 (sic), Pennington Garden, King William Road, Adelaide, unveiled 25 April. Paid for by the women of South Australia. (Plaque replaced original inscription in 1965. Separate stone of remembrance unveiled 25 April 1923.)
- 1923 Memorial to the horses which took part in the Great War 1914-1918, Victoria Square West, Adelaide, unveiled 30 January. (Later shifted to corner of East Terrace and Botanic Road.)
- 1923 Obelisk in memory of Caroline Carleton, authoress of the Song of Australia, Wallaroo Cemetery, unveiled 25 November. (Her grave is elsewhere in the cemetery. She was buried 12 July 1874.)
- 1924 Statue of the Rt Hon. Sir Samuel Way, sometime Chief Justice, Lieutenant-Governor, and Chancellor of the University of Adelaide, North Terrace, Adelaide, unveiled 17 November (*Australian Encyclopedia* [2nd edition] wrongly states 1934).
- 1925 Memorial to officers and men of Australian Light Horse Regiments who fell in the Great War 1914-1918, corner of North and East Terraces, Adelaide, unveiled 5 April.
- 1927 Statue of Sir Ross Smith, commemorating the first aeroplane flight from England to Australia in 1919, Creswell Garden, King William Road, unveiled 10 December.
- 1927 Memorial obelisk commemorating the tercentenary of Dutchman Pieter Nuyts' exploration of the coast constructed in Streaky Bay. (Plaque added and unveiled 7 October 1938.)
- 1927 Plaque commemorating the site of Col. William Light's home in Cawthorne Street, Thebarton, unveiled 6 August.
- 1928 Memorial cairn to Col. William Light at Rapid Bay, commemorating his first mainland survey in September 1836 unveiled 4 February. The cairn included a replica of the stone inscribed 'W L 1836'. (The original stone is on display in the Mortlock Library.)
- 1928 Plaque commemorating the starting point of John McDouall Stuart's 1861-62 south-north crossing of Australia mounted on the wall of the home Carclew, Montefiore Hill, Adelaide, 28 May.
- 1928 Plaque commemorating the first Government House mounted on guard room of present one, North Terrace, Adelaide (*City of Adelaide Reference Book* wrongly states 1927).
- 1929 Monument commemorating the starting point of the survey of Adelaide, the sites of the first public offices of land and survey and the homes of the first Surveyor-General and

Resident Commissioner, North Terrace, Adelaide, opposite the Newmarket Hotel, unveiled 16 July.

- 1930 Plaque unveiled on Simpson Newland (No. 6) Murray Lock 'to commemorate the completion of the locking of the Murray within South Australia and to honour and perpetuate the name of a pioneer advocate of its utilisation' on 14 January.
- 1930 Memorials commemorating Capt. Charles Sturt's exploration of the River Murray unveiled in January at Renmark (15), Loxton (16), Kingston Punt (16), Morgan (17), Mannum (17), Milang (18) and Murray Bridge (25).
- 1930 Monument to explorers Capt. Charles Sturt and Capt. Collet Barker on Hindmarsh Island, near the site where Sturt first saw the waters of Encounter Bay, unveiled 19 January.
- 1931 National Soldiers' Memorial to South Australian sailors and soldiers who fell in the Great War 1914-1918, corner of North Terrace and Kintore Avenue, Adelaide, unveiled 25 April. (A separate World War Two memorial was unveiled 11 November 1956 and one for the Malay Peninsula, Korean, Borneo and Vietnam campaigns was unveiled on 25 July 1987.)
- 1933 Monument to explorer Capt. Collet Barker on the cliffs at Port Noarlunga, in the approximate location of his landing on 17 April 1931, unveiled 31 January.
- 1934 Statue of explorer and navigator of Terra Australis, Capt. Matthew Flinders, North Terrace, Adelaide, unveiled 12 April.
- 1934 Small replica of a Bratten Plough, in memory of the Brattenising system of road-making originated by Robert Bratten, Overseer of Works for the District Council of Tumby Bay, unveiled at Tumby Bay 2 October.

Notes for Researchers

The published secondary material on the memorials listed is generally very scanty, often not even including details of the inscriptions. I have therefore listed precise dates of opening ceremonies whenever possible, so that interested researchers can pursue material in contemporary newspapers. I also have a considerable amount of material in my research files, which can be consulted in office hours. Interim versions of this list for 1802-1920 and 1921-1935 appeared in 1988 and 1990 respectively.

My principal sources were the *City of Adelaide Reference Book* (The Corporation 1983), H.M. Cooper *The Unknown Coast* (The author, 1953), E. Gunton *Memories in Stone* (The author, 1984), the *Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society of Australasia: S A Branch* and a typescript index to the memorials referred to in those Proceedings held by the Society's library.

The other most fruitful source for detailed research is the minutes, correspondence and other papers of the Historical Memorials Committee of the Royal Geographical Society of Australasia: South Australian Branch. The Committee was formed in 1927 and was a very energetic body. Since 1982 it has been known as the Geographical Heritage Committee.

The monuments to Light and Flinders are notable for the earliness of their erection, although it must be remembered that the Light monument marked his tomb. *The Guinness Book of Australian Firsts* (Collins Australia 1987) records that the first [presumably memorial] statue in Australia was unveiled in the Sydney Domain on 11 April 1842. It was a representation in bronze of Sir Richard Bourke, Governor of New South Wales 1831-7.

An interesting overview of memorials in Australia is contained in G. Davison 'The Use and Abuse of Australian History', *Australian Historical Studies* vol. 23 no. 91, October 1988, pp 55-76. Also of interest are the South Australian entries from the National Register of Unusual Monuments Project, held on open access in the Mortlock Library at Z/725.94/N277/b. The most comprehensive State listing available is for New South Wales - B. Henderson (ed.) *Monuments and Memorials* (RAHS 1988)

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Aboriginal POW's of World War One by David Huggonson

When the Wurttembergers of the German 27th Division drove back an Australian attack on the Hindenburg Line near the village of Riencourt in 1917, they were surprised to find a black man among their prisoners. He was Douglas Grant, the 30 year-old adopted son of Robert Grant of the Sydney suburb of Annandale. The attack made by the 4th Australian Brigade was supposedly to be led by a surprise concentration of tanks to break down the barbed-wire entanglements for the advancing infantry. The heavy snowfalls of early April prevented all but three tanks from leading the assault. The newly-built tanks were slower than walking men and none reached the wire before the infantry. Only one of the tanks with their thin armour plating reached the first trench. By 7 a.m., the burning hulks of the tanks littered the battlefields, testimony to the accuracy of the German gunners situated on the edge of Riencourt Wood. Despite the failure of the tanks and the tactical decision not to use artillery support to maximise the surprise factor, the Australians captured the first two trenches of the German line.

However, without the modern means of calling for artillery support, the Australians were unable to hold their gains against the German counter-attacks. The remnants of the 4th Brigade were forced to run the gauntlet of enemy fire back to the Australian line or be killed or captured.

The Brigade suffered 2339 casualties out of 3000 men who had patiently laid out in the snow for the previous two nights waiting for the tanks to arrive prior to the attack.¹ The Aborigine had been one of these enduring infantrymen, who were surely pushed to the edge of human tolerance, during this operation. Grant had been at the front for two wintry months when captured, having been taken on strength by the 13th Battalion on the 12th February, 1917.

Initially, Private Grant and the other Australian prisoners were forced to work in the forward areas around the French town of Douai. They were fed only one slice of bread a day plus some watery soup. The Germans also denied them bedding, soap, replacement clothing and boots. However, the men were issued with writing materials and encouraged to write to the English newspapers about their conditions. The exercise was largely a German protest against the treatment of German prisoners by the French. The Germans hoped that on hearing of the tit-for-tat treatment of prisoners the French might be persuaded by the British to withdraw German prisoners to less dangerous areas. After being a 'Prisoner of Respite' for three

¹ See C.E.W. Bean's chapter on Bullecourt in Anzac to Amiens, Australian War Memorial, 1961.



Douglas Grant in Sydney c1931 (Courtesy Mitchell Library, Sydney)

months 'Black Douglas' was transferred to Gefangenlager Wuhn at Wittenberge in Germany where conditions improved, particularly as Red-Cross parcels were allowed to be received by the prisoners.¹

To his German captors the Australian Aborigine was something of an enigma and he was drawn to the attention of Professor Hermann Klaatsch, an eminent anthropologist who coincidentally had met Douglas during a visit to Sydney in 1905. Robert Grant at the time was the Taxidermist at the Australian museum situated in Sydney's College Street and Douglas was a frequent visitor to his workplace.² The study of Australian Aborigines was beginning to become fashionable in European scientific circles, hence Professor Klaatsch's visit to Australia's foremost Museum.

Private Grant was moved closer to Berlin and placed in Wundsdorf Camp in the town of Zossen south of the capital, to lessen the travelling distance for the scientists. The Royal Prussian Photographic Commission led by Professor Stumpf took numerous photographs of the Aborigine for their collection. The Commission was also engaged in recording exotic languages. On this score, however, Douglas was a disappointment to them as he had long ago forgotten the few words of his tribal language he had spoken as a small baby on the shores of Lake Eacham before the bloody intervention of the Native Mounted Police in his life. Ironically, the mature Grant spoke English with the Scottish brogue of his foster family and the only exotic language he knew was Gaelic! The Commission also took extensive measurements of their rare specimen including his skull and genitalia. While in Wundsdorf, Douglas agreed to pose for the distinguished German sculptor, Rudolf Marcuse, who carved his bust in ebony. Later in the 1930's, Marcuse who was Jewish, fled to England with his collection of exotic busts.

Private Gordon Naley, who had been seriously wounded at Gallipoli, rejoined the 16th Battalion at Etaples on the 15th February, 1917. The 16th Battalion was a composite battalion made up from men of Western Australia and South Australia. It formed one of the four battalions of the 4th Brigade. The thirty-three year old 'half-caste' son of Bill Naley, the late manager of Mintaro Station was also one of the 3000 men of the brigade who assaulted the Hindenburg Line near Riencourt. Gordon Naley was wounded in the hip and taken prisoner by the German infantry when they reoccupied the trench lines that the Australians had initially managed to capture with their surprise attack. Private Naley was interned near the German town of Zerbst and through the Red Cross was able to correspond with his English sweetheart, Cecilia Karsh of the London Suburb of Fulham. They obtained a licence to marry twenty days after Gordon was

¹ See page 10, 'Reveille', 31 December 1931.

² See page 301, The Australian Museum Magazine, 15 March 1952

repatriated to England on the 6th January, 1919. The newly-weds made their home in Barmera, South Australia.

A third Aboriginal Digger captured during the Anzac Corps' April assaults on a string of villages fringing the Hindenburg Line was Private Roland Carter of South Australia's 50th Battalion. The Adelaide Observer in reporting his enlistment in 1915, stated that he was the first Aborigine from the Point McLeay Mission to join up and that the people of the mission met to wish him godspeed and present him with a silvermounted razor strop and safety razor.¹

The Point McLeay Mission was established in 1859, by a Missionary of the Aborigines 'Friends' Association named, George Taplin. The 266 acre site was a traditional camp of the Ngarinyeri tribe on the shores of a body of water that the British titled Lake Alexandrina but had long been called Mungkull by the Ngarinyeri people. The allotted remnant of the Ngarinyeri traditional lands was insufficient to support the dispossessed population so the families were forced to depend on donated rations and outside seasonal work when available. When the South Australian Government took over the management of the mission of the 1st January, 1916, the population was described as consisting of '70 full bloods and 310 half-castes'.²

Private Carter was taken prisoner during the Australians' costly dawn attack on the village of Noreuil. The 13th Brigade gained possession of the remains of the village but at the price of 600 casualties. Unlike four of the sixteen recruits from Point McLeay Mission, Carter survived the war to return home shortly after Andrew Rankine who was also captured by the Germans in 1918 during their spring advance on Villers Bretonneux. In a statement made by Private Rankine on his repatriation to a rest camp near the English port of Dover, he said that about 2.30a.m. on the morning of the 3rd May he became caught in a barbed-wire entanglement and was captured unwounded. Private Rankine was eighteen years old when taken prisoner. When the Armistice was signed he was with a group of British prisoners who broke away from their guards at Grandleeze in Belgium. Private Rankine also stated that while making his way to the British lines he witnesses the German sabotage of one of their ammunition columns which destroyed part of the city of Charleroi located south of Brussels. The Belgian citizens fed the former prisoners until they reached the British lines at Beaumont.³

To be continued ...

1 Observer, Adelaide, Saturday, 11th September 1915

2 Christobel Mattingley and Ken Hampton (Ed), Survival in our own land, Wakefield Press, Adelaide, 1988.

3 AWM 30 B13.1 - A.J.E. Rankine, 'B' Company 48th Battalion.

South Australian Museum

NORTH TERRACE, ADELAIDE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 5000

EVENING TALKS

25 February

DAVID PATON

Zoologist, the University of Adelaide

"Birdscaping our environment - are we getting it right?"

24 March

ROBYN WILLIAMS

Presenter, ABC Radio National "Science Show"

"Science for a competitive and productive Australia"

29 April

BARBARA HARDY, AO

Environmentalist and conservationist

"Who owns Nature?"

26 May

INVITED SPEAKERS

Chairperson: Lester Russell

"Reminiscences about S.A. White"

Talks begin at 6 pm

Refreshments from 5.30 pm

in the exhibition

Captain White and the House of Birds.

The many sides of Samuel Albert White Naturalist and Collector

Tickets \$5.00 available at Museum Shop
Bookings essential telephone 207 7370

ACQUISITIONS

Mortlock Library

Cox, A. Bertram (Alfred Bertram)

Links With A Past: A History of Golf at Glenelg compiled by A Bertram Cox at the request and on behalf of Glenelg Golf Club; art work by Geoffrey Ashton.
Glenelg North, S. Aust.: Pagel Books for Glenelg Golf Club, 1987

Crawford, Frazer S.

Atlas of Principal Portions of Settled Districts in the Province of South Australia 1877-8.

Adelaide, S. Aust.: Surveyor General's Office, 1877

Elverd, John

Glanville Refinery From Beginning to End: 100 Years of Sugar Refining in South Australia.

[Glanville, S. Aust.]: CSR, 1991

Flinders, Matthew, 1774-1814

A Voyage to Terra Australis / by Matthew Flinders.

Netley, S. Aust. : South Australian Government Printer, 1989

A Free Passage to Paradise?: Passenger Lists of United Kingdom Emigrants who applied for free passage to South Australia 1836-1840 / compiled by Pat Button.
Adelaide: South Australian Genealogy and Heraldry Society, c1992.

Hawker, Frankie, 1915-

Bungaree: Land, Stock & People / Frankie Hawker and Robb Linn.

Everard Park, S. Aust. : Turnbull Fox Phillips Adelaide, 1992

Ireland, Kingsley J.

Overall Down Under: The Family History of Jesse and Sarah Overall and their Four Children / by Kingsley J. Ireland

[Manoora, S. Aust.]: Overall Family Reunion Committee, c1992.

Brockhoff, Carol.

Onkaparinga: The Story of a Mill

[Lobethal, S. Aust.]: Lobethal Mill Reunion Committee, 1992.

Cross, Eric A.

Old Woodchester 1842-1992: Once called the Tin Pot; The Story of the Onauga District Council, Bletchley, Hartley, Highland Valley and Red Creek.

Strathalbyn, S. Aust. : E. Cross, 1992

Davies, Kerrie

Rose Park Primary School 1893-1993 / By Kerrie Davies, Leonee Hallett and Sabina Flanagan.

[Rose Park, S. Aust.]: Rose Park Primary School Council, 1992

Hall, K.J.

A Chemist's Line: The Family Tree & History of Frederick Hermann Heinrich Schultze and his wife Mary Schultze (nee Simon).

[Parafield Gardens, S. Aust. : K.J. Hall, 1992]

Henson, Barbara, 1942-

A Straight-out Man: F.W. Albrecht and Central Australian Aborigines / Barbara Henson

Carlton, Vic.: Melbourne University Press, 1992

Perry, Dulcie M.

Sir John Morphett: A South Australian Colonist of Distinction / Dulcie M. Perry.

Nova Gardens, S. Aust.: Cummins Society, 1992

Talbot, M.R.

A Chance to Read: A History of the Institutes Movement in South Australia

Adel., S. Aust.: Libraries Board of South Australia, 1992

Barker, Collet, 1784-1831

Commandant of Solitude: The Journals of Captain Collet Barker, 1828-1831 / John Mulvaney and Neville Green.

Melbourne: Melbourne University Press at the Miegunyah Press, 1992.

Buttfield, Nancy

Dame Nancy: The Autobiography of Dame Nancy Buttfield / Assisted by June Donovan.

North Adelaide: N. Buttfield, 1992

Callaghan W.H.

The Overland Railway / W.H. Callaghan

St James, NSW: Australian Railway Historical Society, NSW Division, 1992

Guide to the Sir Donald Bradman Collection Held in the Mortlock Library of South Australia: Compiled by Neil Thomas

Adelaide, S. Aust.: The Libraries Board of South Australia, 1992

Holmes, Kate

Arltunga, A Remote Mining Settlement: An Archaeological Investigation of an Historic Site / Kate Holmes

1990

Johnson, Martin R.

A Kind of Madness: An Anecdotal History of Timber Felling at Mount Crawford 1929-1986.

Evanston, S. Aust.: Chainsaw Teeth and Nails, 1990

Lockley, Michael H.

History of Ethelton School

Ethelton, S. Aust.: Ethelton Primary School, 1992

Munchenberg, Reg.

The Barossa, A Vision Realised: The Nineteenth Century Story

Truro, S. Aust.: Barossa Valley Book Committee, 1992

Parsons, Ron.

Australian Shipowners and their Fleets: Book Thirteen [Hobart to 1859 M-Z]

Lobethal, S. Aust.: R. Parsons, 1992

Raftery, Judith

Till Every Foe is Vanquished [Manuscript]: Churches and Social Issues in South Australia, 1919-1939 / by Judith Raftery 1988

Research Resources in South Australia Relevant to British Studies

Adelaide: Centre for British Studies, 1992

Sanderson Family: Ancestors and Descendants of Alexander Frederick Sanderson / Comp. by Douglas Sanderson

Kensington Gardens, S. Aust.: D. Sanderson, 1992

COMMUNITY HISTORY CALENDAR

On-Going Events

- 1st & 3rd Sundays** of each month 10.00-3.30 Adelaide Gaol: Guided tours available Port Road, Adelaide. Booked group tours on Thursdays and Fridays Further information Ph. 207 2383.
- 1st Thursday** of the month 7.30 Aurora Heritage Action Inc. Meetings, Metropolitan Hotel, Grote Street
- Weekdays** 11.00-2.00 Australia Post Postal Museum, Ground floor, 2 Franklin Street.
- 3rd Sunday** of each month 2.00-4.00 Glen Osmond Mines Tours: tours are conducted by members of the Burnside Historical Society. Bookings on 366 4200 (ask for Angela).
- Last Wednesday** of the month State Conservation Centre of SA. Clinic Day for advice on preservation, restoration and repair of historical and artistic works. Ph. (08) 223 1766
- Every Sunday** 2.00-4.30 Historic Cummins: The Cummins Society conducts Open Days with guided tours. Sheoak Ave., Novar Gardens.
- To August** Art Gallery of SA. South Australia Decorative Arts. Contemporary South Australian decorative arts have been collected by the Gallery since 1884 when a silver presentation casket made by Henry Steiner was donated. Both historical and contemporary works have been acquired since then, for display and reference, in order to develop a comprehensive collection of decorative arts produced in this state. South Australia furniture, ceramics, metalwork and jewellery will be featured. Historical works from the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries as well as recently-made works will be on display until August/September 1992.
- Saturdays** 2.00-4.00 National Trust of South Australia. Burra Burra Branch: Market Square Museum. Adult \$1.00, Child \$0.50, Family \$2.50
- Sundays** 12.00-2.30 National Trust of SA. Moonta Branch Museum.
- Wed/Sat/Sun** 1.30-4.00 National Trust of SA. Victor Harbor Branch. The Old Customs and Station Master's House.
- Thursdays** 10.00 South Australian Cricket Association Inc. Adelaide Oval Tours. Conducted tours from the South Gate. Approx. 2hr duration.
- Tuesdays** 2.00-4.00 Yorke Peninsula Family History Group's library s housed within the N.Y.P. Public Library and is available to members during library opening hours. Volunteers are available Tuesday afternoons to assist the public or members. Fees apply to non-members.