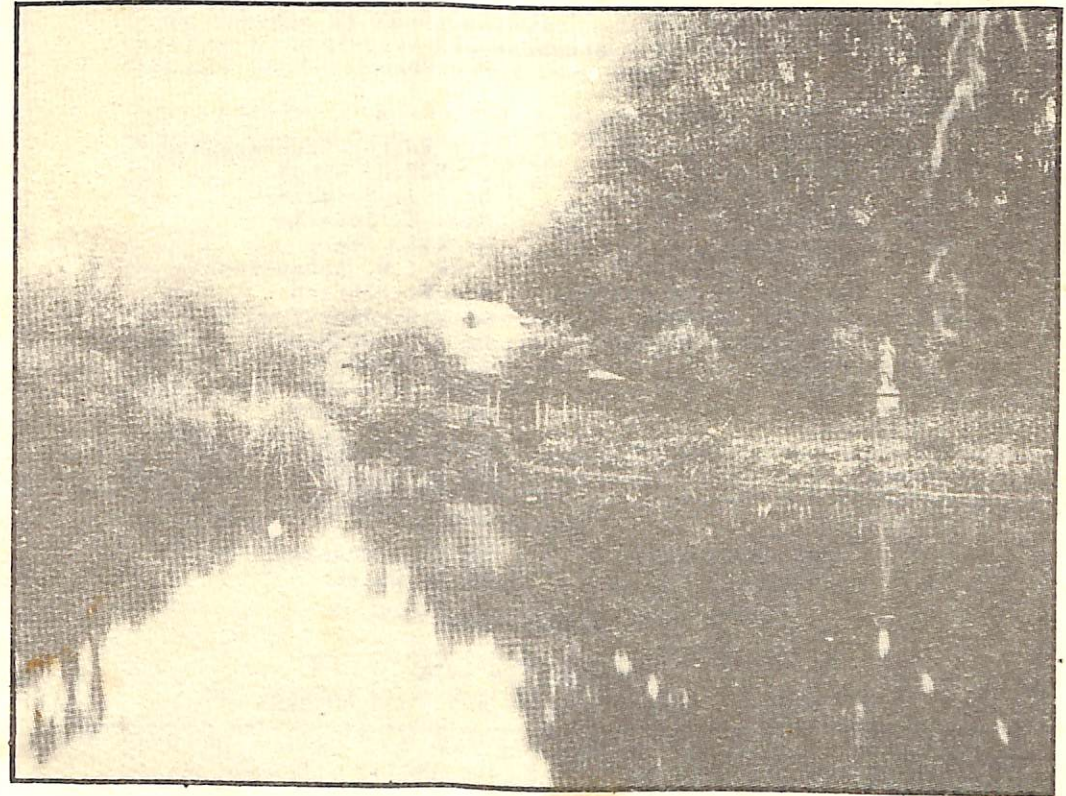




The  
Historical Society  
of  
South Australia  
Inc.



Newsletter No.75 March 1988



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Publication No. SBH 1254.



# 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 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 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 the above objects or any of them.

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## COUNCIL

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	Mr M. Keain
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WORD PROCESSING:	Ms V.J. O'Neill
AUDITOR:	Mr G. Ralph

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FOUNDED IN 1974

Cover View across the lake, Adelaide Botanic Gardens. Diana's Island and the Simpson Kiosk (1907) are shown in this early twentieth century photograph. Photo Botanic Gardens Collection.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Friday, 8 April 1988

\*\* Venue: Old Parliament House, North Terrace \*\*  
(Note different venue.)

7.45 p.m.: Annual General Meeting

8.15 p.m.: Susan Marsden: South Australia's History  
What lies ahead?

Members are asked to note that the AGM will commence at 7.45, 15 minutes earlier than the normal starting time for Friday evening lectures. It will be followed about 30 minutes later by an address by Susan Marsden, who recently took up the position of Historian in the History Trust, held by Dr John Tregenza until his retirement last year.

Susan Marsden has enjoyed a distinguished career as a freelance historian. In her talk she proposes to canvas a wide range of issues which affect history, the History Trust and historians in 1988, and suggest ways in which the Historian's job may evolve in years to come. It is a wide-ranging brief and one, she says, which should lead to a healthy dialogue with members of the historical community present.

The Friday evening lecture was to have been the keynote address in a three day conservation conference to be held jointly with Dr Brian Crozier and the staff of Old Parliament House. That conference has been postponed until later in the year.

But the venue for the AGM and Susan Marsden's lecture will remain as published in the programme - the main assembly chamber in Old Parliament House, a marvellous piece of restoration work in its own right.

-oOo-

Friday, 6 May 1988 at 8.00 p.m.

Venue: State Library Lecture Theatre

**Dr Brian Morley: The Botanic Gardens of Adelaide**

Dr Brian Morley has been Director of the Botanic Gardens since 1981. His illustrated lecture will trace the history of the gardens since their establishment in 1855, gardens of which generations of South Australians have been justly proud.

An English observer, Richard Twopeny, had this to say of Adelaide's Botanic Gardens in his Town Life in Australia (1883):

'... the pride of Adelaide is its Botanic Gardens, which, though unpromisingly situated on a perfectly level spot, with no water at hand, has been transformed, by means of artificial water and artificial hillocks, into the prettiest garden in the world. The area is only forty acres, but every inch has been turned to the utmost advantage, and this is really a garden, while the Sydney Gardens - mark the plural - are more parklike, and those in Melbourne can hardly be called gardens, in the strict sense of the word.'

In Dr Morley's time a lot has been done to restore buildings and features which date back to the Victorian and Edwardian eras. Restoration work has been carried out on the Tropical House, the North Lodge, the Museum of Economic Botany and the Simpson Kiosk, while the Coalbrookdale and Scarfe fountains once more are in working order.

-oOo-

\*\*\* FUND RAISING TOUR \*\*\*

Sunday, 27 March 1988, 10 a.m.

In the Steps of von Guerard - I

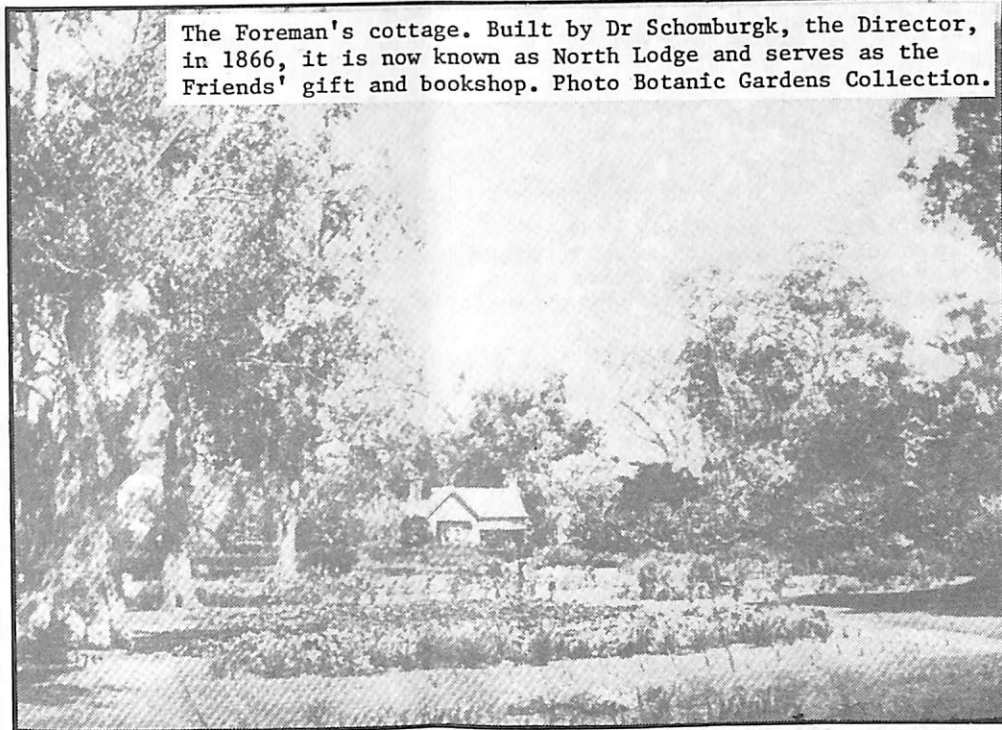
On Friday 27 July 1855 the artist Eugene von Guerard climbed Mount Lofty. This walk, to be led by Dr John Tregenza, formerly Historian in the History Trust, will follow his route to the summit, pausing along the way at eight points from which he sketched the hills. The ascent will be via Zig Zag Hill.

Austrian by birth (his father was court painter to Francis I), von Guerard was 42 when he came to Australia. Here he sketched the Ballarat diggings and became one of the best known landscape artists of his time. Most of his work was executed in Victoria where he later became curator of the National Gallery.

As for von Guerard's sketches of the Adelaide Hills, Dr Tregenza first became aware of them in 1977 when working on the Historic Pictures Index for the Art Gallery of South Australia. Sadly none of the sketches are held in Adelaide. They are in the Mitchell Library, Sydney, and the Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, while the one full studio landscape is held by Elders.

Fortunately the sketches have been reproduced in Alison Carroll's and John Tregenza's Eugene von Guerard's South Australia. This book is available in hardback and paperback

The Foreman's cottage. Built by Dr Schomburgk, the Director, in 1866, it is now known as North Lodge and serves as the Friends' gift and bookshop. Photo Botanic Gardens Collection.



The Victoria House, Botanic Gardens, between 1865 and 1878. Photograph Botanic Gardens Collection.





View in Botanic Park, late nineteenth century. Photograph  
Botanic Gardens Collection.

from the AGSA bookshop and Migration Museum bookshop.

Please assemble in the carpark near the kiosk at Waterfall Gully at 10 a.m. The walk will finish there about 3.30 p.m. Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring lunch, drinks and (depending on the forecast) waterproofs with you. The walk will go ahead except in very heavy rain.

Although we will stick to walking trails, and the pace will not be very fast, we are climbing Mount Lofty, so a reasonable level of fitness is called for.

As in the past the Society suggests a donation of \$2 which will go into our publication coffers.

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#### SOCIETY NEWS

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\*\*\*\* 1988 Subscriptions: A Reminder \*\*\*\*

Have you renewed your subscription for 1988? Details were forwarded as an enclosure to the January Newsletter.

Please forward your renewal form and money to:

The Treasurer  
Historical Society of S.A.  
Institute Building  
117 Kintore Avenue  
Adelaide 5000

If you have time please fill in the membership questionnaire which was printed on the back of the renewal form. Your advice will guide us in planning programmes and venues for 1989.

-oOo-

\*\*\* Secretary to the Historical Society \*\*\*

Margaret Roberts, secretary since 1985, will be relinquishing her position at the AGM in April. The Society owes her a great deal for the work she has put into the position of secretary these last three years.

We are therefore searching for another secretary. The secretary is a full member of the Society's Council which meets in the History Trust's North Terrace rooms on the second Thursday evening of the month. Other responsibilities are best explained by Margaret herself at Tel. 356 0099 (after hours)

### The Society's Finances

Your attention is drawn to the balance sheet which is printed as the centrespread of this issue. The Treasurer will report to the Society at the AGM in April.

-oOo-

### Report on the February Meeting.

Jim Daly addressed approximately 75 members and visitors on Friday 5 Feb., his topic being the Alienation of the Adelaide Parklands, the second talk on this topic in two years. The earlier address was a personal view by the Premier (Mr Bannon), whereas Jim described the formation of the parklands, the process of alienation, management of the parklands and the fight to return alienated areas.

Three years before South Australia was founded the Committee of the House of Commons on Public Works reported: "Your Committee feel convinced that some open spaces reserved for the humbler classes, would assist to wean them from low and debasing pleasures. Great complaint is made of drinking houses, dog fights, and boxing matches, yet, unless some opportunities for other recreation is afforded to working men, they are driven to such pursuits." Light was perhaps influenced by this when he laid out the parklands for the benefit of the public. Not all of the 2300 acres however were destined to remain for unrestricted public use; the colonial government alienated 280 acres for its own use.

In the absence of official opposition to alienation, numerous other bodies have also enclosed areas. Sometimes it seemed that officials encouraged alienation. When in 1879 the South Australian Cricket Association requested an increase of three acres enclosed by their fence, the former Mayor of Adelaide and MLC, Sir Edwin Smith, was disappointed that they did not seek more. On other occasions the officials did not notice a new alienation. The Brookman Building of the School of Mines on North Terrace was erected on land not legally defined for this purpose, nor was this fact noticed by the Government.

Yet despite such a cavalier attitude to the parklands, they have always had their defenders. Governor Gawler was committed to their preservation and acted quickly when he learnt that private individuals were planning to purchase them, as they had the status of waste lands of the Crown. Gawler purchased, but apparently did not pay for, the whole 2300 acres, only minutes before speculators arrived in the Land Office. When the racing organisation sought to enclose the racecourse in the late 1870s, an anti-fencing lobby emerged and Victoria Park remains unfenced to this day. In later years some alienated areas have been returned to public

use, such as the E&WS depot at Hackney, and recently the Adelaide Parklands Preservation association has been formed to lobby for the return of more areas, among other objectives.

Bill Stacy

-oOo-

### Reactions to the 1987 issue of the Journal.

As in past years, the 1987 Journal of the Historical Society of South Australia represented an enormous effort by the editor, Dr John Playford, who almost single-handedly saw it through from first drafts to finished product. The Journal has built up a considerable reputation in academic circles and has fulfilled one of the objectives of the Society's charter, the publication of South Australian history. Council has had every reason to thank Dr Playford for his labours these last ten years or so.

As for the 1987 issue, it was the biggest ever, running to 206 pages with 45 pages of reviews. The large review section itself reflects the large number of serious works of history which appeared in the sesqui-centenary year. The 1987 issue has also attracted some comment from members. It is proper that the Newsletter should act as a forum for the exchange of views so three responses are reproduced below.

The first is a letter from the Society's Patron, Sir Walter Crocker, which is reproduced with his permission. Sir Walter's letter is followed by comments on the review section; one is a critique by Dr Brian Dickey, who challenges the assumptions underpinning some reviews, and the other a short reply by Dr Playford, who looks at some of the problems inherent in editing the journal of a small learned society.

#### From Sir Walter Crocker

May I on finishing reading Number 15 send a few lines to you and the Council to express my appreciation for the Journal. This number is a particularly gratifying example of the degree to which the Historical Society has achieved maturity, and of the contribution it is making to the historiography of South Aust.

When Mr Gibbs and his associates launched the society the result could easily have misfired, lapsing into mediocrity or worse. In the event the articles are, like the addresses given at the meetings, increasingly bringing to light new knowledge, some of it highly significant. In the process old myths, romantic or genteelizing or just repetitive, are put into proper perspective.

The credit for the quality of the Journal no doubt belongs to a number of persons but special credit no doubt belongs to the Editor, Dr John Playford. It would be he who chooses or rejects articles, finds reviewers, supervises the minutiae of proof reading and so on, as well as finding printers within our means.

You and your colleagues on the council, and predecessors, have done and are doing an admirable job. Thank you!

From DR Brian Dickey, History Discipline, Flinders University

The massive effort involved in reviewing a surge of histories of S.A. quickly and extensively is to be welcomed. It establishes the principle that the Journal of the Historical Society of South Australia will carry reviews of most if not all such publications, and that they will be reviews of record. This means that a reasonable and well-balanced account will be presented to assist a wide range of readers to be alerted to the work, and for future scholars to know what the middle ground of local opinion was on the books in question.

It is a difficult task, especially in a small community. I recognise that the editor is saddled with a duty that creates all sorts of burdens, and that sometimes compromises have to be made. JHSSA has, it seems to me, labored valiantly over the years to meet this requirement with considerable success.

Some specific principles seem to me to arise out of a reading of the reviews in 15 (1987) and to a lesser extent 14 (1986).

Firstly, several reviewers tended to express disappointment at what the book under review was not - most notably David Kilner on Marsden and Allen on Jones. While they are entitled to do this, they should take account of the constraints imposed on the authors. The editor should ensure the reviewer knows if, e.g., the work is commissioned, and hence what corporate goals are being fulfilled, by exclusion as well as inclusion. Authors should not be exposed by the editor to unjust criticism. It should be directed elsewhere.

Secondly, there is a widely held belief among review editors that reviewers should not be drawn from declared enemies of the work under review, especially if this leads to a defence of the reviewer's own work. That last did not occur in Nos 14 and 15, but there are some hostile reviews. Partington on Miller is one striking example. While he makes a powerful negative case, it lacks any effort at balance, or any recognition that there is a genuine scholarly debate

already established, to which Miller is conscientiously contributing.

By contrast, another principle in a journal of record, where scholarship about South Australia is entitled to be noted and assessed with care since it might be the only attention the work will get, is that experts should review. The newspaper is the place for the generalist, the aged but lively essayist whose piece tells us more about himself than about the book under review. Opportunities for reviewers simply to sound off should not be provided by the Journal.

Thus too one might stop and think whether a political scientist or a sociologist should be reviewing history books. Hepworth's two reviews don't really get to grips with their subject. Travers takes some points up but quite misses the major historical findings of the book in hand.

Fourthly, and related to that point is the obvious one that the Journal should not give the impression that the editor has a 'line' on scholarship he wishes to promote through the reviews. Thus I think it was unwise of editor Playford to review Moss in 15. The impression created was perhaps that the editor wished to promote a conservative account of South Australian history in contrast to the accounts being published.

Turning to Whyte on Bridge, another matter arises. If a scholar has been involved in the writing of a book, he or she must not review it. As I understand it, Whyte was one of the referees appointed by the Libraries Board to review Bridge's manuscript. She made many comments which were considered or taken up by Bridge in his final text as Bridge scrupulously points out in his preface. It hardly seems appropriate for Whyte to then review the final product.

Sixthly, I wonder how much latitude an editor should give to reviewers to express opinions that really are merely expression of taste and preference. Elder (not otherwise identified - as also Fischer, O'Neil, Crocker and Stacey) speaks of the foreword of one of the books he had for review as 'unpleasant'. What an odd and irrelevant comment for a historian of a piece of history! The odd assertions which Elder subsequently makes one will have to leave to the authors to take up.

Lastly I commend the long-held principle of Historical Studies that authors do not have the right of reply: it takes up too much space and becomes uninteresting to the generality of the readership. However, the Newsletter might well be thrown open to correspondence on these matters. I would welcome them.

From Dr John Playford

Reviewing the Reviews: A Reactionary Rejoinder.

I have tried over the years, not always with success of course, to attract reviews for the Journal which stimulate and occasionally even provoke our readers. The reviews have been signed and the readers have been able to take into account the views of reviewers when judging the worth of a book. I certainly do not subscribe to the belief that reviews should always represent what Brian Dickey calls the 'middle ground' or that 'declared enemies' should always be excluded from the ranks of reviewers. Definitions of these categories would not in any case meet with universal approval.

The country's leading history journal Historical Studies, certainly does not seem to be rigidly applying Dr Dickey's principles. In the current issue (no. 89, Oct 1987) we find Rob Watts, a marxist social scientist from the Phillip Institute of Technology, blasting Dickey's history of social welfare in South Australia as 'celebratory, uncritically empiricist, and under-theorised'. He rubs in further the last point by informing readers that the author is 'uncomfortable with modern forms of theoretically informed history'. The same issue also includes a laudatory review of Jim Moss's Sound of Trumpets by Laurie Parkes of the United Trades and Labor Council, Adelaide, who in passing refers to me as Sir Thomas Playford's grandson. I have often found that writers who are very strong on theory are rather weak on genealogy.

Some of Brian Dickey's specific criticisms must be answered. Frequently, offers of a review are rejected before I find someone who is willing to accept the task. It would be invidious to give examples, except in my own case. I decided to review Jim Moss's book only after being turned down by two well-known historians, one of whom stated that he would need the whole issue to develop his critique!

Dickey claims that only 'experts' should write reviews, and that political scientists and sociologists should not pass judgement on books written by historians. Since I was trained in history before teaching political science, it is just possible that I make the grade, but I should point out that John Hepworth was a Catholic priest before he became an active Anglican layman and political scientist and that his Ph.D. thesis will be on Church and State controversies in Australia. Likewise, I find the reference to Father Peter Travers rather curious in view of the fact that he is an acknowledged expert in the field of poverty and many aspects of social welfare. At least Geoffrey Partington writes on a book in his own field; his review of Pavla Miller's work was hostile, although no more so than the one by his colleague Denis Grundy in the current issue of the Flinders Journal of

History and Politics. To go on scoring points would, I fear, either embarrass past reviewers or break confidences.

But I should like to make one final comment. As editor of the Journal I have gone out of my way to encourage a wide diversity of views. Whatever its failings, the Journal cannot be accused of not being a 'pluralist' publication. There is no conservative 'line' imposed on contributors. (As an unrepentant reactionary, I shall probably have a lot to answer for when I meet St Peter.) It will be quite a different story when I become editor of the Salisbury Review!

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## NEWS

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### AUSTRALIAN BICENTENNIAL HISTORIC RECORDS SEARCH

[The Historic Records Search, which was announced in the Newsletter in 1986, has been underway for some months now. The Search aims to locate and register historically significant records held in private hands - but not to control those records. They remain firmly in private hands. As such the Historic Records Search may offer an alternative to members of this Society who would prefer not to donate their papers to a library. Please contact one of the field officers for South Australia if you want further information, but please do so soon. Some of the literature put out by the Search is reproduced below. Ed.]

### JOIN THE PAPER CHASE

All Australians can take part in a paper chase throughout the nation for historically significant records. These may be letters, diaries, photographs, albums, note pads, small business records, and a host of other 'paper' material.

Until recently many Australians did not take their nation's history seriously: some people even thought that we had no history at all! Many of the documents that help us create our history - to tell us about our own and other people's pasts - have been destroyed, sometimes wantonly but more often through neglect.

We've all heard stories, and most of us can tell of friends and relations deliberately or inadvertently sending their documents to the tip.

(Continued on Page 14)

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC.  
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS  
FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER, 1987.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC.  
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS  
FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER, 1987.

RECEIPTS		PAYMENTS	
1986	1987	1986	1987
<u>Balances 1 January 1987</u>		<u>Publications</u>	
1804.48	Operating Account -758.63	3305.16	Newsletters 3579.37
1762.48	Deposit Stock Account .00	3507.74	Journals 5338.03
5806.57	Premium Interest Account 13942.60	194.28	Stationery & Programs 787.17
2923.67	Life Membership Account 3746.14	.00	Receipt Books 360.36
4027.10	Special Publications Account 5210.84		
<u>16324.30</u>	<u>22140.95</u>	<u>7007.18</u>	<u>10064.93</u>
<u>Subscriptions</u>		<u>Administration</u>	
1700.00	Family 1975.00	100.00	Secretarial Expenses 248.24
4296.00	Ordinary 4498.00	46.70	Treasurer's Expenses 59.98
470.00	Corporate 500.00	26.32	Word Processing .00
590.00	Pensioner/Student 660.00	4.75	Photocopying 35.00
714.00	Country 636.00	42.00	Refunds, Subscriptions 42.00
550.00	Life 550.00		Bank Charges:-
<u>8320.00</u>	<u>8819.00</u>	15.50	Operating Account 16.33
<u>Other Income</u>		.06	Deposit Stock Account .00
683.75	Journal Sales 657.65	2.74	Premium Interest Account 1.71
100.00	Proceeds, Advertisement Inserts 50.00	.32	Life Membership Account .24
1284.00	Field Trips 519.00	.00	Special Publications Account .00
168.00	Donations 228.00	539.00	Field Trip Expenses 72.00
1500.00	Grants 2000.00	300.00	Theatre Hire 240.00
	Interest:-	.00	Supper Supplies 69.50
113.18	Operating Account 100.73	10.20	Fees and Licenses .00
96.26	Deposit Stock Account .00	538.40	Advertising .00
1280.09	Premium Interest Account 1767.64	<u>1625.99</u>	
272.79	Life Membership Account 354.55	40.00	Transfer, Ord Member to Life Member
438.74	Special Publications Account 535.55		<u>Balances 31 December 1987</u>
75.00	Book Sales on Consignment 145.50	-758.63	Operating Account 536.41
16.00	Newsletter and other sales 10.00	13942.60	Premium Interest Account 15208.53
31.40	Proceeds - Raffles .00	3746.14	Life Membership Account 4650.45
94.61	Proceeds - Suppers 76.14	5210.84	Special Publications Account 6201.39
392.80	Air Fare, Canberra Conf (contra) .00	<u>22140.95</u>	
16.00	Overpayment, Subscriptions 42.00	392.80	Air Fare, Canberra Conf (contra)
<u>6562.62</u>	<u>6486.76</u>	<u>31206.92</u>	<u>26596.78</u>
<u>31206.92</u>	<u>37446.71</u>	<u>31206.92</u>	<u>37446.71</u>
=====	=====	=====	=====

I have examined the books and records of the Historical Society of South Australia Inc. for the year ended 31 December 1987, and have received satisfactory answers to my questions. In the light of my examination, I certify that, in my opinion, the Statement of Receipts and Payments as shown above is a true and fair account of the year's transactions.

.....Glen Ralph.....  
GLEN RALPH, BA, ALAA, Grad Dip Rel Ed, Hbn Auditor 18/1/88

(From Page 11)

The aim of the search is to locate and register these papers, but not to collect them. They will be recorded so that future researchers and historians will be able to use them.

Interested researchers, including members of the general public, will have access to the Register through State libraries and major shire and municipal libraries across the country. To protect their privacy, owners of records will be able to withhold their names and addresses from public listing if they so desire.

The Search will register not just grand documents but records of small businesses and community organisations and family records sometimes held for generations. A series of courtship letters between a man in Sydney and a woman in Perth, written in the 1980s or even in the 1950s might be a valuable guide to social attitudes and conditions of the time, as may documents from the wars and early life in Australia. Similarly, an immigrant's letters in the 1960s can tell historians much about the experience of migration.

Records can date from the earliest years of Australia's history to yesterday and Australians will be encouraged to realise that the papers they generate today are the historic records of the future. Owners will be given a certificate of recognition and information on how to preserve the papers encouraging a sense of responsibility.

The ABC's new Social History Unit is participating.

Executive producer Jenny Palmer and producers Tim Bowden, Daniel Connell, Janet Parker, Stephen Rapley and Bill Bunbury in Perth, are co-ordinating a nationwide series of programs about the Search to be broadcast over ABC regional radio stations over the next twelve months.

Together with the Search Field Officers they'll present programs based on some of the records found in each region, promoting the aims of the Search and providing an invaluable communications link throughout the nation.

#### HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SEARCH

Individuals or organisations should fill out a Search brochure, available from libraries, historical societies, Bicentennial Community Committees and other community organisations, or by phoning the Search at the National Library (062) 621270. They can also contact one of the 30 Field Officers around Australia or the Australian Bicentennial Authority's National office and State and Territory offices.

#### SOME EXAMPLES FROM THE PILOT SEARCHES

It is sadly recognised that millions of documents have been lost and destroyed. In any small gathering someone will recount how they, or members of their family, threw out heaps of old things when an elderly relative died, or they moved house. "If only I had known" is the most common catchcry.

In 1986 a dress rehearsal for the Australian Bicentennial Historic Records Search was undertaken in three local government areas and in conjunction with the RSL. Some examples from these pilots are listed below:-

#### ITEMS LOST

- An elderly lady had all her husband's letters and diaries from the 1st World War. When he died she thought the papers should go with him.

- All the records of a Tasmanian district including details of families descended from the convicts had been handed down through the family to one woman. She weighed up their value against the hurt she thought their revelation would bring to the community, and systematically burnt them.

- Cyclone Tracy destroyed records both personal and professional; medical records over 20 years belonging to a family doctor, and almost an entire community's memories of weddings, births and family occasions were lost.

#### ITEMS FOUND

- A Scots labourer in Warrnambool, Victoria describes his arrival in the colony in 1866 in a series of letters. In a mixture of Gaelic and English he said "Australia is a Godless land, but if a man is careful he can make a good living". He married the boss's daughter and did very well.

- A Melbourne painter was called to a job, left a key and a bottle of beer, and asked to take away an old box of 'rubbish' when he was finished. He took it home, sorted through the papers and discovered 500 letters from a teacher who established two of Australia's leading preparatory schools.

- The complete records from the Kameruka Estate near Bega in the 1870s contains details of employees, the wages books and milk production in those days. The property belonged to the Tooth family and is one of only two known properties in Australia that were established on the English share farm system with a Lord of the Manor. The other was in East Gippsland.

- A wonderful little book from 1910 in Victoria called "My Friends opinions". Jottings of favourite recipes, foods,

occupations and ambitions of the time.

Local community halls are a likely source of documents because committees are required to meet at least once a year and a record of that must be kept. These halls for many decades were the centre of social life throughout Australia.

It is thought that many letters from World War 1 exist outside the Australian War Memorial and that they reveal facts that were not made public at the time. One lady kept all her husband's letters from the Second World War which were censored, and when he returned home, he filled in the blanks.

#### FIELD OFFICERS

Over the next twelve months, 30 field officers will work in regions around Australia assessing privately held papers for their historical significance. Such records can provide valuable insights into daily life, family life, the development of large and small businesses and the work of community organisations.

The field officers were chosen from more than 600 applicants and represents a cross section of librarians, historians, archivists and others who have already made an important contribution in community work.

Nine of them will cover the Capital Cities in each State and the others will be located in their home towns in regional centres, with enormous distances to cover. The work will require expertise, patience, care and understanding of privacy and family memorabilia, and a tireless attitude to long hours of searching.

The five field officers in South Australia are:

Robert Linn,  
Mortlock Library of South Australiana,  
North Terrace, Adelaide 5000. (08)223 8973

Roslyn Paterson  
South Australian Genealogy & Heraldry Society Inc.  
201 Unley Road, Unley 5061. (08)272 4732

Maureen Andrews  
Mount Gambier Public Library  
Civic Centre, Mount Gambier 5290. (087)249337

Greg Slattery  
Northern Cultural Centre Trust  
106 Gertrude Street, Port Pirie 5540. (086)324698

Erna Franklin  
Council of Le Hunte Offices  
Burton Terrace, Wudinna 5652. (086)802002

#### ORAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES EARLY 1988

19 March Introductory Oral History Workshop

The Oral History Association is offering oral history awards for schools in 1988 and this workshop is aimed at assisting teachers and any other interested persons who want to learn how to go about oral history.

10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Somerville Room, Mortlock Library of South Australiana

26 April Oral History Discussion Evening - All Welcome

Rob Linn, historical consultant, will speak about Oral History and Consultancy, drawing upon his work for companies including Dairy Vale, Balfours; the legal firm Baker McEwin and the History Trust's Schubert's Farm.

7.30 p.m. Somerville Room, Mortlock Library of South Australiana

Contact: Beth M. Robertson, President, Ph 223 8824 (W) or 278 2025 (H)

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#### MORTLOCK LIBRARY MICROFICHE

The Mortlock Library has made a number of important primary sources available on microfiche.

They may be ordered as follows:

Attention: Mr Brian Tuffin  
Mortlock Library of South Australiana  
G.P.O. Box 419  
Adelaide 5001

Tel.: (08) 223 8928

Please quote number and short title as underlined. An invoice will be sent with each order. The purchase of individual microfiche may be arranged.

#### MICSET01 SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ALMANACS AND DIRECTORIES 1839 - 1900.

These are a guide to where and for how long somebody resided in a particular place. Usually only the head of the household (invariably male) was listed. No details apart from name, address and occupation are given.

From the early 1870's they are arranged in one alphabetical name sequence for the State, although there may also be separate country township sections and street sections for the Adelaide metropolitan area. There are also mercantile, society, ecclesiastical, legal, government and municipal listings.

The almanacs and directories were published under a variety of titles between 1839 and 1973. These will be distinguished by their respective editors or publishers.

MICSET01: 369 MICROFICHE = \$A280.00 plus postage.

0001 GENEALOGICAL SOURCE 1529

INDEX TO REGISTER OF IMMIGRANT LABOURERS APPLYING FOR A FREE PASSAGE TO SOUTH AUSTRALIA: 1836 - 1841.

Compiled by Professor Douglas Pike from records held in the Public Record Office, London.

Arranged alphabetically by name of applicant. Gives age, occupation and U.K. address of the applicant; also sex and age, but not names of dependants accompanying the applicant. It does not indicate whether the applicant actually embarked or arrived in South Australia.

The index is believed to be lacking a small number of entries.

Set of 52 microfiche: \$41.50 plus postage.

0002 GENEALOGICAL SOURCE 313

OFFICIAL PASSENGER LISTS, MAINLY OF IMMIGRANTS ARRIVING IN SOUTH AUST UNDER UNITED KINGDOM ASSISTED PASSAGE SCHEMES: 1847 - 1886.

Not all lists have survived, but those available give passengers' names, most give ages, occupation and marital status, while some give county of origin. Passenger lists held in England relating to these voyages were destroyed in 1900.

0003 GENEALOGICAL SOURCE 313 INDEX

Arranged alphabetically by name of passenger, giving the reference the passenger list/s where the name appears.

A chronological listing of the passenger lists appears at the end, giving the list reference and name of ship.

0002: Set of 132 microfiche: \$101.50 plus postage.

0003: Set of 11 microfiche: \$10.00 plus postage.

0002 & 0003 when ordered together: \$109.00 plus postage.

0004 THE TEMME COLLECTION. PART 1: 1836 - 1850.

DETAILS OF ALL KNOWN SHIPWRECKS AND GROUNDINGS IN SOUTH AUSTRALIAN WATERS.

The collection consists largely of extracts from newspaper articles, but additional information, such as official reports and photographs, has been included where available.

It has been compiled over a number of years by Mr. R. Temme.

Set of 8 microfiche: \$10 plus postage.

MORTLOCK LIBRARY

In November 1987, as Acting President of the Society, I wrote to the Mortlock Librarian, Margy Burn, about a number of matters. The issues then causing some concern to the historical community were: the curtailment of the library's hours of opening; the Society's use of Mortlock materials in its own publications; and the desirability of future donors being given a clear statement of the terms on which the Mortlock is prepared to receive material. Ms Burn's reply is published below with her permission. Ed.

Dear Dr Stimson,

I apologise for the delay in replying to your letter of 9 November 1987 in which you noted some matters raised by your council concerning the Mortlock Library. As you are aware, there is an accumulation of work in the Library and we are not always able to deal with enquiries as quickly as we would wish.

In relation to reproduction fees may I reiterate that the State Library introduced reproduction fees following a directive from the Department of Premier and Cabinet issued in January 1986. A circular from the Director of the Premier's Department stated that the uniform minimum fee of \$30 was to be charged to "non-Government organisations for the use of Government-owned photographs" and specifically referred to "commercial publication". "Discretion remains with the department concerned to waive fees, in whole or in part, and make available any photograph or slide at less cost or free of charge".

The policy of the Mortlock Library in regard to reproduction fees has been to be liberal in the exercise of our discretionary powers. Our files for reproduction fees waived substantially exceed those for fees charged. It is my belief that fees have been waived in all cases where authors or publishers have sought exemption on groups of personal hardship or that an educational, scholarly or non-commercial publication is intended.

It is not our wish to cause difficulties for South Australian authors or publishers or to impede research or scholarship in any way. I can assure you that we will continue to give sympathetic consideration to applications for exemption from organisations or individuals whose publications are not primarily intended to be profit-making.

In view of your Council's concerns that procedures may change under a future administration I have referred the matter to the State Librarian for consideration. He may wish to seek a formal policy decision from the

Libraries Board in relation to the charging of fees. If a formal policy is adopted by the Board we will inform the Society in due course. In the meantime intending authors or publishers with enquiries about reproduction fees are urged to consult with Mortlock Library staff at the earliest opportunity.

In relation to the second matter raised in your letter concerning the reduced hours of service which recently came into operation may I thank your Council for its expression of concern and support.

It is with great regret that I recommended to the Libraries Board that the hours of service should be reduced. The Mortlock Library has been highly successful since its opening. Unfortunately in the current economic climate it has not been possible to gain additional staff to cope with increased demands for service from readers. As an example, we have the same number of reference librarians in 1986/7 as had the former South Australian Collection in 1984/5 but we are now answering 45% more enquiries (25,540 84/5: 45,970 86/7).

As you are aware we have a dual function, to provide service to present day readers and to preserve the state's documentary heritage through collecting, processing and conservation activities. Since the opening of the Mortlock we have redirected staff resources from collection services to reader services activities but we cannot do this indefinitely without jeopardising our preservation objective and ultimately reducing service to readers.

The small reduction in hours of opening will enable us to redirect some staff resources to collection services activities. It is my fervent belief that it is better to reduce hours of service than to reduce the quality of service offered when the Library is open.

I deeply regret that the reduction in hours was the only course of action open to me.

Please pass on to Council members my thanks for your Society's continuing interest in the Mortlock Library.

Yours sincerely,

*Margy Burn*

**Margy Burn**  
**Mortlock Librarian**

#### FUNDING FOR BICENTENNIAL HERITAGE PROJECTS

[The Australian Bicentennial Authority has announced grants totalling \$658,867 for heritage and environment projects in South Australia. The Bicentennial Bulletin: South Australia (Autumn, 1987) lists some of the heritage projects as follows. Ed.]

##### **Lawries Hill Church**

Restoration of church by local community to retain historic Mt Benson site. CONTACT: Brain Ling Tel. (087) 68 6262  
ABA: \$2000

##### **Crystal Brook Rotunda**

Renovations and upgrading of World War I commemorative stand to preserve useful memorial and one of few as such from that era. CONTACT: Des Ellis Tel. (086) 36 2150. ABA: \$6000

##### **Mintaro Institute**

Resulting from special architectural report specific alterations and additions to be undertaken in keeping with original architecture to conserve and enhance building's historic nature. CONTACT: John Mitchell Tel. (088) 43 9092  
ABA: \$59000

##### **Streaky Bay Council Chambers**

Restoration of 1892 Council offices on Streaky Bay's foreshore as part of community foreshore development. CONTACT: John Rumbelow Tel. (086) 76 1001. ABA: \$20000

##### **Wellington Ferry Landing Wall**

Restoration to complement recent work on adjoining historical courthouse with interpretation component. CONTACT: A.R. Turner Tel. (085) 72 7287. ABA: \$4000

##### **Clayton Farm Restoration**

Support for this substantial voluntary community input to restoration of this uniquely preserved historic farm recently purchased through State and Commonwealth heritage grant for establishment of farm museum. CONTACT: Michael Hutchinson Tel. (087) 54 6053. ABA: \$27700

##### **Penola Institute**

Renovation with professional assistance to enable this old institute to serve the district as an interpretive centre for historic and tourist information. CONTACT: Tony Bawden Tel. (087) 37 2391. ABA: \$35000

##### **St Michaels Barossa Goldfields**

Construction of a cairn and plaque to recognise development of camp site in area of old historic goldfield. CONTACT: Geoff Skein Tel. 264 1402. ABA \$4000

**Terowie Pioneer Gallery**

Development of old ES&A bank building to house documents related to the district's history.

CONTACT: Marina Grey Tel. 659 2187. ABA \$5000

**Robe Historic Trails**

Establish short and long trails plus driving tour whereby heritage items identified in special Heritage Investigation Survey are featured and further identified with trail guide brochures and audio cassette guides for benefit of tourists.

CONTACT: Rob Kay Tel (087) 68 2003. ABA: \$12000

**Warooka Photographic Record**

Enlarge and copy numerous photographs currently on loan for cataloguing and displaying in the Warooka Museum. Warooka Council celebrates its centenary in 1988

CONTACT: June Baker Tel. (088) 55468. ABA: \$500

**Brighton - Kingston House**

Restoration of rooms for use as museum and local history group meetings.

CONTACT: Barbara Hardy Tel 296 7338. ABA: \$30000

**Angle Vale Bridge**

Restoration of sole remaining laminated timber arch bridge in South Australia, together with suitable landscaping and parking to enhance tourist potential.

CONTACT: John Hawes Tel. 254 6422. ABA: \$42250

**Robe - Mounted Police Stables**

Complete upgrading of building as State Heritage Register item to enable use by local scout group.

CONTACT: Helen Walker Tel (087) 68 2247. ABA: \$5000

**Overland Corner Hotel**

Further restoration and landscaping to enhance historic and tourism image of already well restored historic landmark.

CONTACT: Bev Snider Tel. (085) 88 7021. ABA: \$2500

**Historic Church - Hindmarsh**

Restoration of early colonial Wesleyan church as focal point in Hindmarsh Council's Historic Precinct redevelopment project. CONTACT: John Hunt Tel. 46 9871. ABA: \$60000

**Sleep's Hill Quarries Trails**

Preserve and make accessible this unique area of geological and historical interest at the same time helping to reduce bushfire risks as demonstrated by past disasters.

CONTACT: Dr Warwick Dooland Tel. 212 5976. ABA: \$8000

**Clare Heritage '88**

Photographing and microfilming of numerous collections of the district for storing and availability in Clare Public Library. CONTACT: Clare Local History Group. ABA: \$12000

**City of Adelaide Oral History**

Interviewing and recording of Adelaide's oral history by Adelaide City Council. CONTACT: Peter Crush Tel 218 7211

ABA: \$24000

**Bouncing Billy Tram**

Restoration of C-type tram car for use on St Kilda Tramway Museum. CONTACT: John Hoffman Tel. 381 5811. ABA: \$24000

**Geranium - Memorabilia**

Program to search, copy and record district's history since arrival of settlers in 1906.

CONTACT: Rosemary Howard Tel. Geranium 258. ABA \$2034

**Biographical Index of SA**

Further two volumes of collection compiled for South Australia's Sesquicentenary representing additional 40,000 families living in this State during first 50 years of colonisation. CONTACT: Andrew Peake Tel. 293 7959.

ABA: \$30000

**Loxton Community History Collection**

Community project to obtain, copy, collate, preserve and display all possible material re Loxton's history for local public library.

CONTACT: Rosemary Mawby Tel (085) 7049. ABA: \$5000

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**DOCUMENTS**


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**THE BEEF RIOT, 9 JANUARY 1931**

[In his book Unemployed Workers. A Social History of the Great Depression in Adelaide, Ray Broomhill says the riot of 9/1/31 was 'the largest and most violent demonstration of the entire Depression.' About a thousand men, women and children marched on Adelaide from the port, their complaint the State A.L.P. government's decision to replace beef on all ration tickets with mutton. Another thousand unemployed men joined at the top of Port Road. A bloody battle eventuated when police confronted the demonstrators in Victoria Square, arresting twelve of them. Seventeen people, ten policemen included, were admitted to hospital when it was all over, and Broomhill considers the riot marked a new low in relations between the unemployed and the Labor government. That afternoon The News reported charges of communist organization. Ed.]

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# Iron Bars, Sticks, and Other Weapons Used

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## CONSTABLES RETALIATE WITH BATON CHARGES

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## OFFICERS AND DEMONSTRATORS SEVERELY INJURED

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### Premier Alleges Communists Organised Raid

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After meeting with resistance from mounted troopers, an army of unemployed who attempted to force an entry into the office of the Premier about noon today clashed with the police. One of the worst riots in the history of South Australia followed.

The rioters used iron bars and sticks to fight policemen with drawn batons, and there were serious casualties on both sides.

One of the men struck by a baton was Mr. F. K. Nieass, M.P.

In the struggle there were several casualties, men falling to the ground with blood streaming from wounds in the head.

Severe fighting raged for about 20 minutes, and isolated struggles continued for half an hour more.

The police effected a number of arrests.

The Hon. L. L. Hill (Premier) stated afterward that there was evidence that the demonstration had been organised by Communists. He had witnessed the disturbance, and the police refrained from using their batons until they had been attacked.

The following received treatment at Adelaide Hospital:—

CLAUDE WAYE (aged 28 years), police constable, 85 Kilkenny road, Kilkenny; fractured jaw; admitted to Albert Ward.

MRS. DOROTHY HOCKLEY (27), Gracechurch street, Port Adelaide; concussion and fractured ribs; admitted to Faith Ward.

GEORGE R. Q. THOMAS (25), police constable, Morgan avenue, Mitcham; cuts on forehead.

FRANK J. SHARMAN (26), police constable, West Croydon; lacerated skull.

MICHAEL J. DALY (52), police sergeant, 5 Filsell street, Thebarton; punctured wounds in head.

THOMAS GIBSON (31), unemployed, Exhibition Camp; cuts above left eyebrow.

ALBERT PRIOR (45), laborer, Barton terrace, North Adelaide; lacerated scalp.

DUNCAN SMITH (48), laborer, Ebor avenue, Mile-End; cuts on right temple.

CONSTABLE A. G. WALKER received a slight injury to the left shoulder, but did not go to hospital.

CONSTABLE H. SPARSHOTT, of Nailsworth, sustained a broken finger on the left hand.

After treatment all the injured except Constable Waye and Mrs. Hockley left hospital.

The following men have been charged at the City Watchhouse, Adelaide:—

Michael Belich (aged 28 years), laborer, rioting; William James Bandick (28), laborer, participating in riot; Hans Schultz (36), fireman, participating in riot; Herbert Reimann (26), laborer, inflicting grievous bodily harm on Constable Thomas, indecent language, offensive behaviour, resisting arrest; James Frederick McGuinness (31), baker, offensive behaviour, resisting arrest; Richard Kuman (24), laborer, riotous behaviour; Ronald George Hogg (36), laborer, stonethrowing; Alfred Thomas Rossan (35), laborer, throwing a missile; Alexander Bitchan (30), driver, indecent language; Robert Dukes (25), laborer, rioting; Thomas John Gordon Gibson (31), laborer, participating in riot; Duncan William Smith (48), laborer, participating in riot.

In the procession of unemployed, which numbered between 2,000 and 3,000 when it reached the Treasury Building, were many women.