



The
Historical Society
of
South Australia
Inc.



Newsletter No. 83 July 1989



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.

COUNCIL

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

FOUNDED IN 1974

Cover photograph The toll house at Glen Osmond in 1903. Mortlock Library photograph.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Friday, 4th August 1989 at 8.00 pm
Venue: State Library Lecture Theatre
(Corner Kintore Avenue and North Terrace)

Margaret Allen: Matilda Jane Evans -
South Australian Writer

Matilda Jane Evans, who wrote under the pseudonym Maude Jeanne Franc, was one of the most prolific South Australian writers last century. Born in 1827, she wrote 14 novels, mostly located in the familiar settings of Adelaide, the Hills and the Barossa Valley. They were republished for some 40 years after her death in 1886. These days the odd copy is to be found in second hand bookshops.

There is a strong evangelistic and temperance theme in her novels, stories and verse.

Margaret Allen is Senior Lecturer in History and Women's Studies at SACAE's city campus. She has written a history of Salisbury and is now working on South Australian women writers, Evans, Spence and Catherine Martin amongst others.

Margaret Allen is co-editor of Fresh Evidence: New Witnesses, a documentary history of South Australian women which is to be published by the Government Printing Division in July. Assuming there are no hitches, copies will be available for sale after Margaret's lecture.

-oOo-

Friday, 1 September at 8.00 pm
Venue: State Library Lecture Theatre

Jim Faull: Life on the Edge -
Settling the Far West Coast of South Australia

Life on the Edge, Jim Faull's history of the Far West, was published in 1988, and it is difficult to imagine a more appropriate title for a history of this far flung district. For the early settlers it was life on the edge in so many ways - the edge of the desert, the edge of the bight, the edge of poverty, the edge of racial tolerance.

In its first phase of European settlement much of the Far

West formed part of Barr Smith's Fowlers Bay run, a classic pastoral empire. Following a vigorous debate in parliament the country was thrown open to closer settlement in the late 1880s, the surveyors moving in in 1888. The first settlers followed shortly afterwards in a trek to the west which featured covered wagons.

They were lured, Jim Faull says, by the prospect of new land, larger blocks and an annual lease for agricultural land, the first time in South Australia that crown land had been leased for agricultural purposes. For many it would prove a disaster.

Jim Faull is Senior Lecturer in Geographical Studies at SACAE's Magill campus. He is a prolific writer of South Australian history with 14 books to his name, four local histories (Macclesfield, Melrose, Milang and the Far West) among them.

-oOo-

*** FUNDRAISING TOUR ***

Sunday 27 August 1989 at 2.00 pm

HISTORIC HINDMARSH

Hindmarsh is one of Adelaide's oldest surveyed settlements. It was planned from the outset as a working class community and has none of the great houses one finds on other parts of the Adelaide plain.

The tour will cover house, church, industrial and commercial sites as well as Hindmarsh Cemetery, one of the oldest in Adelaide. Members and friends should rendezvous at Hindmarsh Cemetery, Adam Street, at 2 pm.

The tour guides are Robert Nicol, President of the Historical Society, and Ms Susan Marsden, State Historian. Robert is the author of the heritage survey of Hindmarsh Cemetery and Susan the author of the heritage survey of Hindmarsh district.

A donation of \$2.00 per head is suggested.

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NEWS

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING LIBRARY

HSSA members should note that this is an excellent library, with useful SA bibliographies, local histories and the many information packed heritage studies (including recent productions on subjects such as shipwrecks, the Mound Springs region in the Far North, Fleurieu Peninsula and Eyre Peninsula).

Details from the library's 'Guide for External Users' are reprinted below. Susan Marsden.

HOURS OF OPENING

Monday to Friday 9 a.m. to 4.45 p.m.

LOCATION

3rd Floor
New Zealand Insurance Building
55 Grenfell Street
ADELAIDE SA 5000

TELEPHONE:

216 7767 (Direct line)

The Department of Environment and Planning library exists primarily to assist departmental staff in the performance of their duties. It is not a public library. However, tertiary students and the general public may use the library with the following provisos:

We do not lend journals or theses to any external user, nor do we provide photocopy facilities.

TERTIARY STUDENTS

May borrow two books at a time, on the production of some identification from their place of study, e.g. Student card, library card.

The loan period is two weeks, and extensions can be requested by telephoning the library and quoting the number on the spine of the book.

CONSULTANTS, LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES, ETC.

As above, except that there is no limit on the number of loans. Identification required: Business card, Council I.D. card, Letterhead, etc.

GENERAL PUBLIC (Including HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS & STUDENTS)

May use the library for reference purposes only. We will

only lend material to these users via the inter-library loan system, i.e. Approach your own library with details of the publication(s) required, and they will arrange the loan with us.

IMPORTANT NOTE INTER-LIBRARY LOAN TRANSACTIONS (i.e. LOANS OR PHOTOCOPIES) COST \$6.00 EACH, PAYABLE IN L.A.A. (LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA) VOUCHERS.

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BICENTENNIAL PROJECTS

[In an earlier Newsletter Susan Marsden, State Historian with the History Trust, requested information about projects undertaken in the bicentennial year. Dr Geoffrey Bishop, President of the East Torrens Historical Society Inc., replied as follows. Ed.]

11 April 1989

Dear Susan,

Your request for information re Bicentennial projects prompts me to send you some details re a project in East Torrens which is now partly completed. This is the restoration of the former Council Chambers at Norton Summit. The building is to be jointly used as the local post office and as a local museum, viz. the Old Council Chambers Museum, the latter being under the control of our Society.

The building has been substantially renovated and it is anticipated that the museum will open in the next month or so. The premises will also be available for small local meetings. Between these activities this public building will again serve a useful purpose in the East Torrens district.

Yours sincerely,
Geoffrey Bishop.

Susan Marsden's Note:

Dr Bishop is the President of the very active East Torrens Historical Society, which was established in 1982. The old East Torrens Council Chambers - constructed in 1902-03 - will house the post office and the society's local museum. The museum will be open during post office hours and on Sundays from 11.30 to 4.00 pm. The society would welcome gifts of photographs, books, pamphlets and historical items including furniture. The Historical Society of SA Council member and journal editor, Dr John Playford, and his sister Mrs Mary Snarkis, have donated an old fireplace from the Playford home "Drysdale" which was destroyed in the 1983 bushfires.

Books and cards will be on sale at the museum and the society plans to prepare a touring map of the district, no doubt drawing on its current programme which includes field days and historical walks.

This project is another example of the government dollar (provided by the Bicentennial Authority) being stretched to remarkable lengths by the enthusiastic voluntary efforts of local historians. Are there more examples? Please write!

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ORAL HISTORY DATABASE

The J.D. Somerville Oral History Collection in the Mortlock Library of South Australiana has developed a computerised database to record information about oral history projects and collections - past, present or proposed - in South Australia.

In the last 20 years thousands of oral history interviews have been recorded in South Australia and the popularity of the technique continues to grow. Researchers who don't want to conduct interviews themselves are also beginning to appreciate the worth of oral history recordings as source material.

However, many collections of tape recordings that could be of great value to researchers are never used simply because very few people know they exist.

The Mortlock Library's Oral History Officer will operate the database to assist researchers who wish to locate information about particular subjects or interviews with particular people.

A registration form is available from the Oral History Officer, Mortlock Library, North Terrace, Adelaide 5000 to assist with this valuable service to the research community.

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PEOPLE, PRINT AND PAPER

Barr Smith Library Display

"People, Print and Paper" is a major exhibition portraying the role of books and the growth of the book trade in Australia's history. The exhibition has been compiled by the National Library of Australia in Canberra and will be displayed in Adelaide at the Barr Smith Library, University of Adelaide, from 24 May until 11 August. The exhibition includes many landmark publications from Australia's history, with approximately 500 exhibits which include the First Fleet, the Aborigines, children's books, colonial Australia

and Australia in the 20th century.

Library opening hours:

Monday - Thursday	9 am - 10 pm
Friday	9 am - 6 pm
Saturday & Sunday	1.30 pm - 5.30 pm

Examples of exhibits include a volume conveyed to Australia on the first fleet, a copy of the first book published in South Australia, and the first editions of many of Australia's most famous novels. The exhibition comes to Adelaide after display in Canberra and Sydney and is extensively illustrated.

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SOUTH AUSTRALIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETIES 1989

A listing prepared by Susan Marsden, State Historian, and Brian Samuels, Information Officer of the History Trust.

The History Trust of South Australia maintains an up-to-date register of South Australian historical societies. It distributes the register in this form annually to a number of key State-wide historical organisations and information agencies as a community service, and the Historical Society is pleased to bring it to a wider audience through the medium of the Society's Newsletter.

This listing supersedes that of January 1988 and for interest includes dates of establishment in square brackets (where known). The "M" following the date indicates that the organisation also runs a museum. The "C" indicates that the organisation is creating a historical collection (documents, taped interviews etc). These are mostly kept as a "local history collection" in the local public library. Seventeen historical groups have been added to the list, and five have disbanded, giving a total of 122.

Members of the general public often find it very difficult to contact historical societies. Adopting post office boxes as contact points, as many bodies already do, therefore has some advantages. In particular, it ensures that lists like this one remain current! Any amendments or additions to this listing should be phoned through to the State Historian, Susan Marsden on (08) 223 8811. Information on establishment dates would also be gratefully received.

National Trust branches are excluded from this listing as their contact file is maintained by their head office (phone (08) 223 1655). There are approximately 60 National Trust branches in addition to the historical and heritage groups listed here.

ABORIGINAL HERITAGE COMMITTEES

Contact Manager, Aboriginal Heritage Branch, Dept. Environment & Planning, 55 Grenfell Street, Adelaide 5000.

ADELAIDE BUS PRESERVATION GROUP

c/- Mr C Mountain, 51a Robsart Street, Parkside 5063.

ADELAIDE HISTORICAL BOTTLE CLUB [1971]

PO Box 344, Hindmarsh 5007.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA [1926]

Address unknown.

ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL HISTORIANS [1981]

Institute Building, 122 Kintore Avenue, Adelaide 5000.

AURORA HERITAGE ACTION [1983]

c/- 120 Wakefield Street, Adelaide 5000.

AUSTRALASIAN MARITIME HISTORICAL SOCIETY (S.A. BRANCH) [1969]

PO Box 89, Lobethal 5241.

AUSTRALIAN ELECTRIC TRANSPORT MUSEUM

GPO Box 2012, Adelaide 5001.

AUSTRALIAN RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY (S.A. DIVISION) [1952]

GPO Box 507, Adelaide 5000.

AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY OF ARCHIVISTS (ADELAIDE BRANCH) [1975]

c/- Mr J Love, Mortlock Library, GPO Box 419, Adelaide 5001.

AUSTRALIAN THEATRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY (S.A. REPRESENTATIVE)

Mr W Bertram, 25 Selkirk Ave, Clearview 5085.

AVIATION - See Department of and West Beach.

BAROSSA GOLDFIELDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY [1988]

c/- Mr R Swarbrick, c/- PO, Cockatoo Valley.

BAROSSA LIGHT HORSE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION [1985]

c/- Mr C Lloyd, PO Williamstown 5351.

BAROSSA VALLEY ARCHIVES & HISTORICAL TRUST INC. [1963] M C

c/- Pastor P Scherer, Box 51, Tanunda 5352.

BAROSSA VALLEY MACHINERY PRESERVATION SOCIETY

C/- Mr K P Rohrlach, 21 Dean Street, Angaston 5353.



Regatta on the Torrens, 1912

BAROSSA VALLEY ORAL HISTORY COMMITTEE

c/- Mr G Tucker, District Council of Angaston 5353.

BLANCHETOWN HERITAGE SOCIETY [1982]

Mrs R Howson, Blanchetown 5357.

BOOLEROO STEAM & TRACTION PRESERVATION SOCIETY INC.

c/- PO Box 52, Booleroo Centre 5482.

BOTTLES - See Adelaide.

BRIGHTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY [1983]

PO Box 544, Brighton 5048.

BUILT HERITAGE GROUPS OF S.A.

c/- Enfield Historical Society.

BURNSIDE HISTORICAL SOCIETY C

PO Box 152, Glenside 5065.

BUSES - See Adelaide.

CAMPBELLTOWN HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC. [1987] C

c/- Mr J Everett, 10 Osborne Street, Campbelltown 5074.

CAPE HORNERS AUSTRALIA INC. [1959]

63 Hurtle Square, Adelaide 5000.

CARL LINGER MEMORIAL COMMITTEE INC. [1972]

c/- Mr R Wallace, 1/4 New Street, Plympton 5038.

CUMMINS SOCIETY M

PO Box 507, Plympton 5038.

CLARE HISTORY GROUP [1984] C

c/- Ms H Dickeson, PO Clare 5453.

DEPARTMENT OF AVIATION HISTORICAL SOCIETY S.A.-N.T. DIVISION

GPO Box 2270, Adelaide 5001.

EAST TORRENS HISTORICAL SOCIETY [1982]

c/- G Bishop, District Council of East Torrens, 1 Crescent Drive, Norton Summit 5136.

ENFIELD & DISTRICTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY [1982] C

PO Box 546, Prospect East 5082.

ENGINEERING HERITAGE BRANCH [1987]

The Institution of Engineers Australia, (S.A. Division)

11 Bagot Street, North Adelaide 5006.

FIRE SERVICES - See South Australian.

FOLK FEDERATION OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

GPO Box 525, Adelaide 5000.

FOOTBALL - See South Australian.

FORT GLANVILLE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION INC. [1980] M

c/- Mr M Lockley, 58 Recreation Parade, West Lakes Shore 5020.

GAS - See South Australian.

GAWLER HISTORICAL SOCIETY C

c/- Mr G New, PO Box 547, Gawler 5118.

GENEALOGY - See South Australian.

GEORGETOWN HERITAGE SOCIETY [1987]

c/- Mrs H Fogarty, Box 41, Georgetown 5472.

GHAN RAILWAY PRESERVATION SOCIETY (S.A.) INC.

Address unknown.

GLENSIDE HOSPITAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

c/- Psychology Dept., Glenside Hospital, PO Box 17, Eastwood 5063.

HAPPY VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY [disbanded ? 1988].

HENLEY & GRANGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY [1979]

PO Box 56, Henley Beach 5022.

HIGHWAYS DEPT. NORTHFIELD DEPOT HERITAGE GROUP [1980]

c/- Mr R Earle, PO Box 82, Blair Athol 5084.

HINDMARSH HISTORICAL SOCIETY [1967] M

PO Box 22, Hindmarsh 5007.

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC. [1974]

122 Kintore Avenue, Adelaide 5000.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE UNITING CHURCH IN S.A. [1950]

c/- Dr A D Hunt, 13 Alfreda Street, Brighton 5048.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF WOODVILLE [1975] M C

c/- Municipal Offices, PO Box 1, Woodville 5011.

HISTORY TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA [1962]

c/- Institute of Teachers, 153a Greenhill Road, Parkside 5063.

IMMANUEL COLLEGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY [disbanded ? 1988]

JOHN McDouALL STUART SOCIETY

c/- Mr S W Marchant, PO Box 398, Eastwood 5063.

KANGAROO ISLAND PIONEERS ASSOCIATION [1983]

c/- Mr W Holmesby, 33 Maple Avenue, Rostrevor 5073.

KAPUNDA HISTORICAL SOCIETY [1966] M

PO Box 332, Kapunda 5373.

KAPUNDA ORAL HISTORY GROUP

c/- Mrs J Draper, Box 18 Kapunda 5373.

KAROONDA & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY [1982] M

Mrs B Fowler, PO Box 124, Karoonda 5307.

KENSINGTON & NORWOOD HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC [1979]

PO Box 891, Norwood 5067.

KIMBA & GAWLER RANGES HISTORICAL SOCIETY [1971] M

c/- Mrs M Eatts, PO Box 134, Kimba 5641.

KINGSTON SENIOR CITIZENS ORAL HISTORY GROUP

c/- Mr R J Smith, 15 Cock Street, Kingston 5275.

LABOUR HISTORY - See Society for the Study of Labour History.
LAMEROO DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY [1978]
c/- District Clerk, Lameroo 5302.
LIGHT HORSE - See Barossa, South Australia
LOBETHAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY
c/- Mrs L E Miller, Main Street, Lobethal 5241.
LOXTON DISTRICT HISTORICAL VILLAGE SOCIETY [] M
c/- C A Castle, 23 Third Street, Loxton 5333.
LOXTON HISTORY GROUP [1988?] C
c/- Mrs K Weatherall, Loxton Public Library, Loxton 5333.
LYNDOCH & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY
c/- Mr G Fischer, PO 207, Lyndoch 5351.

MALLALA HISTORICAL SOCIETY [] M
c/- PO, Mallala 5502.
MARION HISTORICAL SOCIETY [1985]
c/- Ms P Hughes, 2 Norma Avenue, Edwardstown 5039.
MARITIME - See Australasian.
MARREE HISTORICAL SOCIETY [1985]
Sixth Street, Marree 5733.
MENINGIE HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC. [1982] C
Ms J Woolston, PO Box 186, Meningie 5264.
MILANG & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY [1979]
c/- PO Box 16, Milang 5256.
MILE END RAILWAY MUSEUM - relocated to Port Dock Station Railway
Museum, Port Adelaide 5015.
MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA (S.A. BRANCH) [1966]
c/- Mr R Carter, 16 Broadmeadow Drive, Flagstaff Hill 5159.
MILLCENT ORAL HISTORY GROUP
PO Box 22, Millicent 5280.
MITCHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY [1977] C
33 Albert Street, Mitcham 5062.
MOUNT GAMBIER HERITAGE SOCIETY [1985]
Po Box 252, Mt Gambier 5290.
MOUNT HORROCKS HISTORICAL SOCIETY [1983]
PO Box 26, Watervale 5452.
MOUNT LOFTY DISTRICTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY [1978] C
c/- Stirling District Council, PO Box 21, Stirling 5152.
MOUNT PLEASANT DISTRICT HISTORICAL RESEARCH GROUP INC [1985]
c/- Mrs P Bartsch, Box 130, Mount Pleasant 5235.
MURRAY BRIDGE & DISTRICTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC. [1984]
PO Box 1297, Murray Bridge 5253.
MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (SA BRANCH) [1978]
c/- The History Trust of S.A., Institute Building, North Terrace, Adelaide
5000.

NATIONAL TRUST OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA [1955] M C
PO Box 61, Rundle Mall Post Office, Adelaide 5000.
NAUTICAL ARCHAEOLOGY ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA
c/- Port Adelaide Community College, McLaren Parade, Port Adelaide
5015.
NAVAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA (SA CHAPTER) [1987]
c/- Mr V Bylypenko, 15 Abiona Street, Flagstaff Hill 5159.
NORTH ADELAIDE SOCIETY
PO Box 60, North Adelaide 5006.
NORTHERN YORKE PENINSULA FAMILY HISTORY GROUP
(see YORKE).

ORAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (SA BRANCH) [1979]
c/- Ms B Robertson, 122 Kintore Avenue, Adelaide 5000.

PICHI RICHI RAILWAY PRESERVATION SOCIETY INC. [1973] M
Quorn Station, Railway Terrace, Quorn 5433.
PINNAROO HISTORICAL SOCIETY [1968; 1981] M
c/- Mr W Wurfel, PO Box 22, Pinnaroo 5304.
PIONEERS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA [1935]
13 Leigh Street, Adelaide 5000.
POLICE - See South Australian
PORT ADELAIDE HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC. [1972]
PO Box 254, Port Adelaide 5015.
PORT BROUGHTON HISTORICAL COMMITTEE [1981] M
Secretary, Mr K Maude, 12 Duffield Road, Port Broughton 5522.
PORT LINCOLN PIONEERS & DESCENDANTS CLUB
c/- Mrs Miller, 42 Dublin Street, Port Lincoln 5606.
PORT PIRIE DIOCESAN HISTORY SOCIETY [1988]
PORT PIRIE FAMILY HISTORY GROUP [1983]
PO Box 585, Port Pirie 5540.
POSTAL STATIONERY AND POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA INC.
GPO Box 4, Adelaide 5001.
PROFESSIONAL HISTORIANS - See Association of.

QUEEN ADELAIDE SOCIETY
c/- Adelaide City Council, King William Street, Adelaide 5000.

RAILWAY - See 'Australian', 'Pichi Richi' and 'Steamtown'.
REMARK, PARINGA & CAL-LAL HISTORICAL PRESERVATION SOCIETY C
c/- Mr P Leuders, PO Box 155, Renmark 5341.
RIVERLAND FAMILY HISTORY GROUP
PO Box 234, Loxton 5333.
ROBE ORAL HISTORY GROUP C
c/- Mrs S Ling, Mt. Benson, Roadside, Kingston 5275.

ROCKY RIVER HISTORIC & ART SOCIETY INC. [1977]
c/- PO Box 18, Laura 5480.
ROONKA SOCIETY [1983] [in recess]
105 North Terrace, College Park 5069.
ROSE PARK AND TOORAK GARDENS HISTORICAL RESEARCH GROUP
[disbanded]
ROYAL ADELAIDE HOSPITAL HERITAGE AND HISTORY COMMITTEE
c/- Mr W E J Ricketts, RAH, North Terrace, Adelaide 5000.
ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALASIA (S.A. BRANCH) [1885]
c/- State Library of S.A., North Terrace, Adelaide 5000.

SADDLEWORTH & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY [1967] M
c/- Mrs E Williams, 12 Charles Street, Saddleworth 5413.
SALISBURY & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY [1981] C
PO Box 838, Salisbury 5108.
S.A.C.A.E. SALISBURY CAMPUS HISTORICAL & RELIGIOUS STUDIES
SOCIETY [disbanded]
SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF LABOUR HISTORY [1987]
c/- Mr G Smith, 213 Gover Street, North Adelaide 5006.
SOCIETY FOR UNDERWATER HISTORICAL RESEARCH
PO Box 181, North Adelaide 5006.
SOUTH AUSTRALIA - See Historical Society of.
SOUTH AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL HISTORICAL SOCIETY
PO Box 1, West Lakes 5021.
SOUTH AUSTRALIAN GAS COMPANY HISTORICAL GROUP [1978] M
c/- Mr G Maloney, 35 Waymouth Street, Adelaide 5000.
SOUTH AUSTRALIAN GENEALOGY & HERALDRY SOCIETY INC. [1973] C
GPO Box 592, Adelaide 5001.
SOUTH AUSTRALIAN HISTORICAL AVIATION MUSEUM M
GPO Box 987, Adelaide 5001.
SOUTH AUSTRALIAN HORSE DRIVING SOCIETY [1973]
c/- Mr J Bull, 249 Victoria Road, Largs Bay 5016.
SOUTH AUSTRALIAN LIGHT HORSE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION [1976]
address unknown.
SOUTH AUSTRALIAN METROPOLITAN FIRE SERVICES HISTORICAL
SOCIETY c/- Station Officer, M Bryant, S.A. Fire Brigade Headquarters
Wakefield Street, Adelaide 5000.
SOUTH AUSTRALIAN POLICE HISTORICAL SOCIETY [1977] M
S.A. Police Museum, North Terrace, Adelaide 5000.
SOUTH AUSTRALIAN WOMEN'S HISTORY TASK FORCE [1982]
c/- Ms E Ramsay, 5 O'Connell Street, Goodwood 5034.
SOUTH EASTERN FAMILY HISTORY GROUP [1980]
PO Box 758, Millicent 5280.
SOUTH EASTERN HISTORICAL PRESERVATION SOCIETY INC. [1970]
PO Box 235, Naracoorte 5271.

'MAKING HISTORY'

A GUIDE FOR SOUTH AUSTRALIANS WHO ARE INTERESTED IN DOING THEIR OWN HISTORICAL RESEARCH AND WRITING OR WHO ARE ACTIVE MEMBERS OF LOCAL (INCLUDING INSTITUTIONAL AND SPECIALIST) HISTORICAL SOCIETIES.

PREPARED BY SUSAN MARSDEN, STATE HISTORIAN, HISTORY TRUST OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.



This is "Making History" no. 2, printed as a supplement to the Historical Society of South Australia Newsletter. Readers are invited to write to me about their own work or society activities and to suggest topics for future issues. My address is: History Trust of South Australia, Institute Building, 122 Kintore Ave., Adelaide 5000, telephone (08) 2238811 or 2238808 (messages).

In this issue the Advice and Exchange sections are combined. The Reference section, which will enlarge on the information below with an annotated list of handbooks and other advisory publications, will be included in the third issue of "Making History".

ADVICE AND EXCHANGE

What can local historical societies do? What should they do?

Amongst other speakers from around Australia, I was invited to the National Conference of the Federation of Australian Historical Societies, convened by the Royal Historical Society of Victoria in Melbourne on 27-28 May, 1989. My topic was historical societies in South Australia, the conference theme being "Grass roots history - the future role of historical societies".

In this guidesheet I shall pass on to local historians and historical society organisers in SA some of the useful observations and suggestions that were made at this most interesting conference. The RHSV taped the proceedings and the Federation plans to publish these at a later date. The comments below are based on my own notes made during the final session when a panel of historians spoke on "The future of historical societies".

Diversity and bequests (Alan Roberts, Federation Secretary)

Alan Roberts said that societies should:
- be as diverse as possible;

- aim to recover some of the ground lost to National Trusts and genealogical societies. (However, I consider both as historical societies and would suggest rather that all groups with a common interest in history and heritage share some activities and present a united front when that heritage is threatened);
- develop a sound financial base. One possible source of funds is private benefaction. This is untapped by most societies even though their membership consists mainly of older people.

He also urged societies to develop a national focus.

Surveying historical societies' problems and prospects
(Gail Griffith, Executive Officer of the Royal Australian Historical Society)

Gail Griffith discussed some of the problems and prospects, drawing on a recent RAHS survey of NSW historical societies, which found that:

- many societies gather and maintain historical collections but lack indices and other finding aids to the collections and also lack suitable storage space. Local history collections were also discussed by other speakers, who made a strong case for societies to collect but not store records, rather, placing them in suitable local or central archives and making them widely accessible by preparing indices and short publications;

- there is a higher-than-expected level of local council support, mostly through the provision of premises but also by way of cash grants and help with printing costs. Nearly 80 per cent of respondents received some support. Council support for local history, societies and archival collections is growing in SA also. Societies should work as closely as possible with councils. (See also Mitcham Historical Society in "Making History" no. 1). Councils ought to be readily persuaded that this is in their own interests in fostering and maintaining local identity and community involvement;

- current problems include a shortage of younger members, few active members, lack of storage space and lack of funds;
- many do not provide leadership in their communities in matters relating to history and heritage. Many avoid matters "political", which the National Trust has assumed instead. The RAHS is encouraging them to become more controversial;
- few historical societies are adequate as local community resource centres.

Gail Griffith believes that the fundamental issue of the future is increasing popular awareness of the important role of the historical societies. They must take more responsibility for their own survival, becoming better at "marketing" their own resources and activities. Many societies open their museums or collections only on request, don't ask for local business support, fail to promote themselves at popular local events and don't circulate newsletters outside their own membership (astute SA societies send copies to their State Historian!).

Their central purpose is to educate and enthuse people about the history of the locality (or other speciality). This will help ensure local survival. That role will be strengthened if societies also develop regional organisations and resource centres (perhaps at local libraries in SA) and collectively lobby. Cooperation at regional level may also enable payment of professional historians and archivists and promotion.

Future roles (Tom Griffiths, former field officer, LaTrobe Library, now in the History Unit, Victorian Department of Conservation, Forests and Lands)

Tom Griffiths suggested that the future roles of historical societies should be:

- to move away from the primary role (at least in Victoria and NSW) of maintaining historical collections, instead cooperating as collectors with government bodies which have taken over this expensive maintenance function. (There was some dissent from this view, especially from large societies with well-established collections);
- to become further involved in heritage work (societies have good local knowledge);
- to publish for the wider community;
- to act as advocates to government agencies, the quality of whose work often depends on historical societies (the State Heritage Branch is an example in SA). This is a good argument for increased government funding;
- to be entertaining;
- to record contemporary life with photographs, films, newspaper cuttings and by recording members' commentaries. A Malvern Historical Society member told us that they cut out sketches of houses advertised for sale in the Age and the local paper, so compiling a street-by-street picture of today's housing stock in the locality.

Tom Griffiths proposed that historical societies act as the memory of their communities and that they offer public comment on the historical background to contemporary issues.

What is a successful historical society? (Joan Hunt, RHSV Council member and founder of two successful Victorian societies)

- Joan Hunt listed the characteristics of a successful historical society. It should:
- state and review its objectives;
 - be satisfied with what it is doing;
 - attract volunteers for particular activities by personally approaching individual members and by giving concrete, clearly defined tasks;
 - have a definite leadership whose members are willing to train themselves by attending conferences and workshops;
 - develop good public relations with membership and information leaflets (placed regularly on shop counters, in local libraries, with each outgoing letter), articles in the local media and interesting and regular newsletters;
 - help form coordinating groups (such as her own Central Highlands Historical Association) which can do things individual societies cannot do on their own, such as run workshops, share skills and hold a local history fair;

- accept some truths: many people become members to be entertained and informed, not to work. Indeed, most people are not even joiners but their interest can be tapped by good quality newsletters and events such as the successful Bicentenary Balls (which could be re-named and held annually);
- provide a focus for members, for example, a campaign to save and restore an important local building;
- make their historical collection accessible with research facilities available to serve students and other researchers at all levels;
- initiate rather than simply react; decide what should be done and do it;
- make use of the services of professionals such as archivists and field officers, historians and museums officers. (In SA the first two of these services are provided by the Mortlock Library and the Public Libraries Branch and the other two by the History Trust. Such services may also be commissioned from the membership of the Australian Society of Archivists and the Association of Professional Historians).

Other activities (Final discussion)

Historical societies should:

- tackle the issue of attracting and involving recent immigrants. Many of these people have a strong commitment to recording their experiences. Societies need not be locality-based but may include such speciality groups;
- enlist the support of State historical societies, for example, in seeking government funding;
- explore co-publications (a Tasmanian society member described the benefits gained by the publisher, in having the society do the research and manuscript preparation while the society had printing and distribution costs covered, with members buying at reduced prices);
- agree with State archives (in SA the Public Record Office and the Mortlock Library) that the society's collection will come to them if the society is disbanded;
- when copying significant historical material use archival quality paper, learn about preservation techniques and pass them on to the community;
- take advantage of the growth potential in involving people outside the district (such as former residents and family historians), and, when in contact with them, ask for information in return;
- teach and encourage members and others to collect, research, index and carry out other useful activities on their own or with friends at home, rather than always expecting attendance at meetings and working-bees.

Professor Weston Bate, of Deakin University, summed up the session with the observation that historical societies are the community memory and that if they carry out that function properly and imaginatively then people will respond.

 Prepared by S.E. Marsden, State Historian, History Trust of South Australia. Guidesheet first printed as a supplement to The Historical Society of South Australia Inc. Newsletter No. 83, July 1989.

SPORTING CAR CLUB OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC. [1934]

STEAMRANGER

Po Box 100, Dry Creek 5094.

STEAMTOWN PETERBOROUGH RAILWAY PRESERVATION SOCIETY [1977]M

PO Box 133, Peterborough 5422.

STIRLING - See Mount Lofty.

THEATRE HISTORY - See Australian

THE TEROWIE CITIZEN'S ASSOCIATION INC. [1976]

c/- Ms M Gray, PO Box 12, Terowie 5421.

TORRENS VALLEY & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY [1976]

c/- Mrs D Dowsett, Gumeracha 5233.

UNITING CHURCH - See Historical Society of.

UNLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY [ceased to exist in 1971]

VICTORIANA SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

c/- Mrs A Collins, 137 Coromandel Parade, Coromandel Valley 5051.

WILLIAMSTOWN & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY [1987]

c/- Mr T Clemow, 34 Wild Street, Williamstown 5351.

WAIKERIE DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PO Box 483, Waikerie 5330.

WATERVALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PO Box 39, Watervale 5452.

WEST BEACH AVIATION GROUP

address unknown

WEST TORRENS HISTORICAL SOCIETY [1977] C

c/- West Torrens Library, Brooker Terrace, Hilton 5033.

WOMEN - See South Australian.

WOODVILLE - See Historical Society of.

WUDINNA & LE HUNTE DISTRICTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY [1978]

c/- Mrs E G Franklin, Yaninee 5653.

YANKALILLA & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY [1977] M

c/- Mrs M Fairchild, Box 26, Yankalilla 5203.

YORKE PENINSULA FAMILY HISTORY GROUP [1976] C

PO Box 260, Kadina 5554.

YORKETOWN HISTORICAL SOCIETY [1986]

c/- Mr H Twartz, PO Box 61, Yorketown 5576.

FINDING OUT WHAT'S WHAT ABOUT HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

The History Trust of South Australia is about to carry out the first systematic survey of historical societies in South Australia.

The survey will aim to discover information about societies' membership and activities, their publications, premises and historical assets, as well as their sources of support and what they see as their problems and prospects.

It will be carried out by Dr Brian Crozier, a senior officer of the Trust with wide experience in the history arena. Brian will work in consultation with Susan Marsden, State Historian.

We understand from Brian that the Trust is greatly looking forward to getting the first comprehensive picture of historical societies in the State, and expects the survey to be of considerable interest to the State Government and historical agencies in South Australia, as well as to historical societies themselves.

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ARTICLES

COL. ROBERT TORRENS RM FRS MP 1780-1864 and IRISH EMIGRATION TO SOUTH AUSTRALIA

[Peter Moore, a member of the Society, has been awarded the C.H. Currey Memorial Fellowship for 1989. The Fellowship is awarded by the NSW Library Council annually. In Mr Moore's case the Fellowship is intended to help him complete his biography of Colonel Robert Torrens and a general study of Irish immigration to South Australia 1836-1855.

As shipping lists for the early period are inadequate he would be grateful for any assistance members may be able to offer. A contact address follows Mr Moore's article. Ed.]

The Torrens connection

Colonel Torrens was not only the first Chairman of the Colonisation Commissioners for South Australia. He was an Irishman and remained deeply affected by Ireland's problems; he was a classical political economist, using that science to alter British public policy in Ireland's favour; as a London newspaper editor-owner, he was able to influence political opinion more stridently than by economic pamphlets or even his five-year membership of the House of Commons. But Torrens and a coterie of like-minded men also worked behind

the scenes to promote orderly and benevolent emigration from Ireland.

The Irish in South Australia

Among the consequences of these efforts is the largely Protestant character of early Irish investment and emigration and the fact that it consisted of townspeople and not agriculturalists. Also important is the disproportionately high number of Anglo-Irish among the first officials: judges, lawyers, doctors, clergymen, policemen, and crown law, magistrates, emigration, customs, land titles and other administrators.

Early Irish migration to South Australia was achieved through one of four channels:

South Australian Colonisation Commissioners in London 1836-37

This method assumed that Irish people heard about the "New British Province", could satisfy themselves that this was their preferred destination, work out how to apply for and be granted land or a passage (or both), and make their way to a designated (usually English) port from which they might take ship. Irish people used this method only rarely between 1836-1855, partly because the Commission's marketing machine was largely ineffective in Ireland, partly because direct departures from Irish ports were few, and partly because of Irish suspicion about the "Orange colony" in what the Irish press usually called "New South Australia".

The Commissioners' Irish Land & Emigration Agents 1837-41

Only four agents were ever appointed by the Commissioners. This method was the most common resort of would-be Irish emigrants in this period, though it too depended on assumptions similar to those outlined above. Precise administrative patterns are difficult to describe, as many Irish whose names were referred to the Commissioners through Agents, were in fact operating under the aegis of the Emigration Community and the Emigration Company.

South Australian Protestant Emigration Community 1837

This sectarian and shortlived enterprise (January to October 1837) excited a great deal of interest and enthusiasm and really supplanted the Commission's own efforts in Ireland during 1837-1838. Capitalists provided the larger capital; tradespeople and their servants made up the bulk of the applicants both for shares and a passage. A ship was chartered for departure from Dublin, another was to be purchased for colonial trading. Members would proceed in a community, with their own clergyman and doctor and special funds for church and hospital, and settle together under the "Concentration Principle" in a new city to be called

Victoria. The scheme collapsed amid cries of shame and jobbery, many smaller shareholders losing most of their money. A number applied to the Commissioners for assistance and eventually sailed for South Australia as ordinary Commissioners' emigrants. Others ended up in NSW through the auspices of the Agent General for Emigration.

Irish South Australian Emigration Company 1839-1841

Dublin's Lord Mayor chaired its foundation meeting; paternal and practical resolutions were passed: a typical capital-raising enterprise. Colonel Torrens was actively involved in this venture and his son Robert Richard Torrens was its Secretary. The Company aimed to buy up tracts of provincial land with Irish capital and to settle younger sons of the Irish nobility and gentry on it with a tenantry of selected Irish agriculturalists. Montague Chapman, a Meath baronet, was a leading investor; Dr John Bernard was its principal Agent; Captain Bagot its executive officer, rounding up shiploads of tenantry by a wide canvass through Munster. Even Torrens junior went out with one of the Company's parties. The Company was a success, if shortlived and with limited overall impact both in Irish and in South Australian terms.

"Irish" Emigrant Ships 1837-1841

Between 1837 and 1841, Irish emigrants travelled aboard regularly despatched Commissioners' ships. Passenger lists for this period are scanty. I am trying to reconstitute those lists and to identify those who departed, comparing them with those who applied to go, and eventually studying their circumstances after settlement.

The following ships carried Irish emigrants.

Ship's Name	Arrived	Comments
Sarah Elizabeth	Apr1837	
Navarino	Decl837	
Trusty	May1838	Emigration Community refugees
Canton	May1838	Emigration Community refugees
Eden	Jun1838	Emigration Community refugees
Orleana	Jan1839	Emigration Community refugees, including John Reid's party
Katherine Stewart Forbes	Mar1839	
Elizabeth Johanna*	Decl839	

William Nichol*	Jun1840	Emigration Company
Fairlie	Jull1840	
Mary Dugdale	Oct1840	Emigration Company
Birman	Decl840	Emigration Company - Capt. Bagot's party
Brightman	Decl840	Emigration Company - R.R. Torrens' party
Alexandrina*	Apr1841	

(* refers to Dublin departures)

Can You Help?

If you know anything about Irish people aboard these ships, I would be most interested to learn about their arrival and subsequent South Australian experiences. I have extensive material from Irish sources about many of these people and may be able to assist you to trace their Irish origins.

Please write to: **Peter Moore**
42 Prospect Street
SURREY HILLS NSW 2010
(02) 357 5442

(Financial assistance with postage, photocopying etc is available.)

* * * * *

JEFF GUESS: A POET FOR OUR HISTORY!

The Department for the Arts recently made available a grant to enable Jeff Guess, a South Australian poet, to work on a collection of poems about South Australian history as reflected in the History Trust museums of Old Parliament House, Migration Museum, SA Maritime Museum and Birdwood Mill.

Jeff Guess is a widely published poet and regularly appears in most Australian newspapers and magazines. His work has also been published overseas. He has four collections in print, the third and most popular launched during Writers' Week in 1988. Entitled PAINTING THE TOWN - The Gawler Poems, it was published by the Wakefield Press and reflects the many sides to life in a country town.

The poet worked closely with the State Historian, Susan Marsden, at the History Trust. Ms Marsden says, "Jeff Guess' new collection of poems will follow the theme of HISTORICAL JOURNEYS. This is a major theme of the History Trust museums, given the great impact migration and transport had

on the settlement and development of South Australia. We are all also taking journeys through time."

Guess also ran workshops at the four museums with both History Trust staff and school children to get them writing creatively about history. He worked at the newly opened Port Dock Station Museum as well.

On taking up the grant Jeff guess said of the role of being a poet in the museums: "I think it is a very special opportunity. I am looking forward to the task of translating some of our history into poetry. It has given me a new and fresh focus for my writing, and already there are so many things I've found to write about - I'll run out of time before I run out of ideas."

Dr Peter Cahalan, the Director of the History Trust, said: "History is one way of seeing the world around us. Poetry is another. The Trust wants South Australians to realise that their lives are the stuff of both history and poetic myth."

Three of Jeff's poems are republished below with his kind permission.

DRY-STONE WALLS

At 97 looking back he says
'It's a dying art'
and he should know.
Been apprenticed, a mate
a plugger and a master.
Collected stones for years
before they let him lay
his first one down.
'Only ever handle
them big basalt rocks once,
learned that pretty fast.
They stay
where they're set right.
Stand through their own gravity
300 years or more.
Got to have a bit of nous
to go with it though.
What folks now don't know ...
take one stone off
for the garden, or a souvenir
sure as eggs
you'll bring a section down.
It's all got to do with balance
one rock against another
for mile after mile.
Nothing to do with magic-
the mortar's in the making, and
of course a few 'dead marines'
And although he says

'And none of mine
have ever fallen down'
Some of them have-
but I understand what he means.

Jeff Guess

RIDLEY'S STRIPPER - CIRCA 1843

'reaps, thrashes and winnows, all at the
same time, and this at the rate of nearly
an acre an hour.'

Governor George Grey

He got the idea from Pliny,
and further back the Gauls.

He took his first copy from
old men with rakes in the wide fields-

drawing off ears of wheat.
He found with some astonishment

the first bits and pieces, nuts and bolts,
one Sunday afternoon, browsing

amongst his sagging shelves of Scripture
and falling from hundreds of bookmarked

pages in his poetry collection.
Though he was still left the amazing task

of putting the whole thing together
with his own hands.

Jeff Guess

THE PRESIDENT'S CHAIR

used in the Legislative Council 1857-1939

No ordinary supine seat
nor that of a Vice-regal throne

but somewhere between the two
a symbol carved out of oak

for a new colony
about to launch into the traditions

of its native soil
and Victorian know-how

and for 8 decades
from its instructive solemn vantage

watching every Parliament get up
through struggle and dissent

three capricious wars
and all of the tears in things.

Jeff Guess

* * * * *

THE HERITAGE DEBATE

Two views on the recent government initiatives follow. The report by Jon Womersley of State Heritage Branch is taken from Planning Newsletter No. 20, 2 March 1989, while the second is from Aurora Newsletter (no date) the newsletter of Aurora Heritage Action Inc. Ed.

State Heritage Branch (J. Womersley)

The State Government is to strengthen controls over South Australia's heritage.

Councils will be able to designate special historic (conservation) zones for protecting the historic character of an area and there will continue to be one heritage list - the Register of State Heritage Items and Areas. These are the principal results from a review of local area heritage conservation.

The issue of giving councils local heritage control has been widely debated since November 1986 when a discussion paper was circulated to councils and other groups.

Special historic (conservation) zones

The State Government recognises that councils are often frustrated in their attempts to maintain the historic character of some areas because they have no planning control over demolition. In future, councils will be able to prepare supplementary development plans (SDPs) which will define special historic (conservation) zones in the Development Plan. Each zone will have objectives, a clear statement of desired future character and specific principles of development control. These will cover form, mass and materials to ensure that new development is consistent with the historic character of the area.

Control over demolition will be achieved by expanding the definition of 'development' in the third schedule of the Development Control Regulations. The definition will be extended for historic (conservation) zones to include demolition and alteration to the external appearance of buildings and structures. These changes are expected to occur later this year.

A draft planning practice circular will soon be issued which will set out the specific procedures to be followed in preparing an SDP to introduce these zones.

The heritage register

Councils in consultation with local community groups will be able to draw up their own lists of heritage items which they believe ought to be included on the Register of State Heritage Items and Areas. They can appear before the South Australian Heritage Committee to argue the merits of their nomination. Council heritage lists will not be included in the Development Plan until the places have been entered onto the State Register.

Any place on the Register is protected from demolition without the consent of the planning authority (which usually a council). There is already a mechanism for the urgent protection of places of potential heritage significance which are not listed on the Register - namely a conservation order. Councils can and already do make use of these provisions.

It is important to realise that everything old and established is not necessarily historically significant, nor is something inappropriate simply because it is new. Our existing heritage law should not be used as a means for preventing legitimate changes in our environment. Places of heritage significance must have special, clearly identifiable qualities which justify their legal protection.

Aurora Heritage Action Inc.

After more than three years, the Minister for Environment and Planning has finally released a report on "Heritage Conservation for Local Area Planning".

The report follows submissions made by AURORA and other interested parties to a discussion paper issued by the Minister in November 1985.

Local councils are not to be given control over demolition, as we had recommended, but will, 'within strict guidelines, be able to prepare Supplementary Development Plans which designate special Historic (Conservation) Zones'.

Development within the specified zones will have to comply with each council's statements of desired future character,

approved by the Minister.

Councils cannot list and protect individual items of local heritage under the proposal, only areas of historic character. Thus a building of limited merit in a conservation zone may have more protection than an item deemed of local heritage value but not on the State Register.

There is to be only one heritage register in South Australia.

The Minister's news release says that demolition and alterations to buildings in conservation zones would only be permitted after planning authority had been given for new development.

This sounds as if councils would not be empowered to prevent demolition once a replacement building complies with the character of the zone, but we were assured at a seminar on 16 February 1989 by the Head of the State Heritage Branch that the Government intends to amend its proposal to give councils control over demolition in the conservation zones.

We await news of the amendment.

At the seminar on Heritage Conservation and Urban Planning, concern was expressed about the length of time for implementation of the new policy. First, the Planning Act must be amended, then councils must go through a lengthy procedure of adopting, displaying and recommending supplementary development plans, then these must be approved by the Minister on advice of his Advisory Committee.

Optimists at the seminar viewed the new policy as a first step toward better planning principles for heritage areas.

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NEW PUBLICATIONS

Christopher Nance and Des Speight (eds.)

Shaping the Heritage of South Australia

Published by Longman Cheshire. 122 pages. Price approx. \$12

This book traces the development of the built heritage of the State.

South Australia's built heritage is distinctive, particularly in the ways in which Adelaide and country districts were planned, settled and developed. The character of the houses and hotels, bridges and jetties, factories and farms that can

be seen around the state has been influenced by many things; by historical events, by fads and fashions, and by the environment.

The six chapters of this book explore the special character of that heritage. They trace the evolution of our heritage and they consider the ways that the natural environment has been used and how the environment has influenced the things that have been built.

The chapters are arranged chronologically. They touch upon an enormous range of topics: the styles and construction methods of cottages, mansions, factories, jetties and the like; more recent developments, such as car parks, drive-ins, freeways and airfields; and heritage and the natural environment.

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BOOK REVIEW

Russel Ward

A Radical Life

(Macmillan Co. of Australia, South Melbourne, 1988)
Pp. viii + 264. \$35.00

Russel Ward, son of Prince Alfred College's famous headmaster J.F. Ward, is the G.O.M. of Australian "Old Left" historians. I have admired him for his indomitable courage ever since without flinching he faced hundreds of younger "new leftists", including myself, at the "Socialist Scholars' Conference" held at the University of Sydney in May 1970, who were out for his blood after Humphrey McQueen delivered a searing attack on the "Old Left's" view of Australian history, focussing on the works of Ward and Robin Gollan. Only a man with real guts could have confronted the howling mob on that memorable occasion. My view of the world has since undergone a fundamental change; Ward, on the other hand, has remained true to his long-held vision, but I continue to respect him for his integrity and courtesy.

The earlier chapters of his biography up to 1956, describing his days at Prince's and at the University of Adelaide, will be of enduring interest to members of the Society. We have relatively few detailed personal accounts in published form of school and university life in Adelaide in the inter-war period and Ward's leaves us all heavily in his debt. It will be invaluable to historians of South Australia and deserves to be read alongside Ron Gibbs's history of P.A.C. and the chapter on the University of Adelaide of a slightly later date to be found in J.I.M.

Stewart, Myself and Michael Innes: A Memoir (Victor Gollancz, London, 1987).

John Playford.

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DIARY OF EVENTS

Compiled by Susan Marsden, State Historian with the History Trust of South Australia.

Monday 17 July, 8 pm
Burnside Historical Society. Speaker: C.R. Kelly, 'Merrindie - A Family Farm'. Burnside Community Centre (behind library), corner Greenhill and Portrush Roads.

Thursday, 3 August, 8 pm
Brighton H.S. Speaker: Dr Don Langmead, 'George Strickland Kingston'. Council Chambers, 24 Jetty Road, Brighton.

Sunday, 6 August, 2 pm
Mitcham H.S. visit to Police Barracks Museum. Assemble at the Museum, North Terrace.

Wednesday, 9 August, 7.30 pm
Cummins Society. Speaker: Peter Quigley (Megaw and Hogg Antiques). Mr Quigley will speak on antiques and assess items members of the audience bring along. Queries: Barbara, 297 2395 (office hours).

Saturday, 19 August, 7.30 pm
Friends of the SA Museum. Speaker: Dr Peter Sutton, 'Dreamings in America - the evolution of an exhibition'. Dr Sutton helped assemble the acclaimed exhibition of Aboriginal Art now touring the USA. Royal Society rooms, Institute Building, corner Kintore Avenue and North Terrace.

Monday, 21 August, 8 pm
Burnside H.S. Speaker: Robert Clyne, 'The Trans Australian Camel Trek'. Community Centre (behind library), corner Greenhill and Portrush Roads.

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