





# South Australian Heritage Council

Submission on whether the entry of **Shed 26, Semaphore Road, New Port** should be confirmed in the South Australian Heritage Register

The South Australian Heritage Council can only take into account heritage significance of a place as defined by the *Heritage Places Act 1993* (Act) when considering places for entry on the South Australian Heritage Register. Using the table below, please provide evidence or information to explain why you believe the place does or does not meet the criteria under the Act.

## Criteria

Criteria under the <i>Heritage Places Act 1993</i> , section 16(1)	Provide evidence or other information why you believe criteria applies or does not apply to this place
(a) it demonstrates important aspects of the evolution or pattern of the State's history	<p>Shed 26 (the sawtooth building) is of State heritage significance because of its substantial role in the maritime and industrial history of the State of South Australia.</p> <p>In the early years of white settlement in South Australia, a small parcel of land was set-aside on the south side of Hawker's Creek for the purposes of a dockyard. This dockyard was to service boats and ships through to the wider scope of operations of the Glanville Dockyard up until 1988.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div>



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	<p>Shed 26 stands as the last material existence of the Government Dockyard that served the Colony and State from the 1850s onwards.</p> <p>There are strong historical and industrial connections that have existed throughout the European occupation of South Australia in this section of the Port River most notably, between the Fletcher's Slip Precinct and the Glanville Dockyard Precinct. It is this sense of industrial connectivity that is central to the true character of the Port and is a reflection of the community's aspirations of the Port Adelaide Precinct Plan 2014 of 'strong connectivity and integration with designated precincts' (Port Adelaide Precinct Plan 2014: 1.1).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Though constructed more recently, Shed 26 is but another iteration in the evolution of the dockyard on this part of the Port River, particularly the period of industrial modernisation</li><li>• Its scope of operations continued a long tradition of building, repair and maintenance activities that materially affected the shape and continued existence of the Port's waterfront to an ever-increasing degree</li><li>• Shipping activity is a major factor in the evolution of this City and State's history and it seems logical that the maritime industrial activities that took place in Shed 26, and in the former Dockyards generally, should not be overstated.</li><li>• At present Shed 26 is the last remaining artefact of a large-scale industrial complex within the inner harbour of Port Adelaide. It remains as a tangible reminder of its significant contribution to the continued success of South Australia right from the earliest European origins of South Australia</li></ul> <p>To the existing community of Port Adelaide who value its history the heritage of our waterfront, Shed 26 is very important; it embodies a unique identity, holding memories and meaning far beyond Shed 26's architectural importance.</p>
(b) it has rare, uncommon or endangered qualities that are of cultural significance	<p>In a place like Port Adelaide, saw toothed roofed buildings were very common. Before electric light substituted for daylight in the late 19th century, consideration of good daylight strategies was essential. The sawtooth roof, with its glass panels facing away from the equator, blocks the light and heat of direct sun exposure and provides uniform, natural light over a large area. It was particularly useful in manufacturing buildings.</p> <p>Shed 26 is the last surviving saw tooth roofed building in the inner harbor. Its large footprint reminds us of the magnitude of its role as a waterfront workshop. If demolished, there would be no significant</p>



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reminder of the labour intensive activities that were, in the 1950's modernised by, what was then, a world-class building.

The sawtooth design, often seen on factory roofs, has won recent praise for its potential for renewable energy. The distinctive shape offers potential for solar panels to be installed. Good design for adaptive reuse of Shed 26 could realise significant commercial value to a 'willing' developer.

The recent history of the Port waterfront redevelopment has seen much of its heritage destroyed by developers and against the explicit wishes of the community.

The community signed-off on the guiding principles of the 2002 Port Adelaide Masterplan. These included: The preservation of State heritage buildings...the protection of Port icons...community access to the river and on-water activity...[and] maintaining the character of the 'working port' (LMC, 2002, p. 2). The key to the design was for the development to integrate into immediate surroundings, complement the heritage of the area and work in favour of the local community...by protecting the Port's heritage and character (LMC, 2004, p. 4).

Following the developer's repeated breach of the Masterplan Principles (and community trust), the development contract was cancelled and, in 2011/12 Premier Weatherill via Cabinet, appointed a Community Steering Committee to work with Government on a new Masterplan. I was privileged to represent our community as a member of the Port Renewal Steering Committee for the next 2 years.

Representing a broad spectrum of the community, The Steering Committee led consultations to explore our community's expectations and vision. The results of the consultations initiated public displays and open days. The first, in 2012, where more than 4,500 members of the community attended and responded to concept plans for the redevelopment of the Port and the second, in 2016, when more than 300 members of the public turned up to again validate the direction the development was taking. The outcomes of the first public open day included more than 1500 written comments and informed the 2014 Port Adelaide Precinct Plan.

Throughout all of these consultations Shed 26 was specifically listed as significant to the community and its heritage. Shed 26 was, therefore, recommended by the Steering Committee to be retained in any new development. Consequently, Shed 26 (the



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	<p>saw tooth building) was specifically mentioned, to be retained, in the SA Cabinet approved Port Precinct (Master) Plan (pg48)</p> <p>The design brief in the Port Precinct (Master) Plan was deliberately loose but identified to potential developers that <i>"The remaining 'saw tooth' building west of Fletchers Slip provides a short term opportunity for dry boat storage and/or recreational use and possible longer term loft apartments and/or cultural use. The building represents an ideal opportunity to seek design ideas for its short and long term use."</i></p> <p>The Burra Charter states that it is not always possible to find a long-term use that is both appropriate to the heritage and financially viable. Specific mention of Shed 26 in the Port Precinct Plan indicates the desire of The State and our community for a low impact phased development and temporary uses that would maintain it in use, thus protecting the building until a new, longer term use could be found.</p> <p>The Development Plan Regional Centre Zone policies based on Port Adelaide Centre Vision and Framework and Port Adelaide Precinct Plan also specifically mention Shed 26.</p> <p>Design Outcome Guide for the North West Policy Area dated 23/8/18: <i>"...gateway to the Port River from the west, strong vistas to link with Semaphore Rd, high degree of pedestrian activity, housing developed around transit oriented development principles, Glanville station book-ended, promontory west of Fletcher Dock as an event space, reuse of remaining 'saw tooth' building..."</i></p> <p><a href="https://www.cityofpae.sa.gov.au/webdata/resources/files/Design%20Outcomes%20Guide%20%E2%80%93%20Fletcher%E2%80%99s%20Slip%20and%20North%20West%20Policy%20Areas.pdf">https://www.cityofpae.sa.gov.au/webdata/resources/files/Design%20Outcomes%20Guide%20%E2%80%93%20Fletcher%E2%80%99s%20Slip%20and%20North%20West%20Policy%20Areas.pdf</a></p> <p>As is evident from this testimony, for many years our community has expressed a strong, special association with Shed 26 and demonstrated a consistent desire for it to be retained and adaptively reused. Shed 26 is now endangered and the aspiration of the community appears to once again be disregarded in the push for the short-term profit of a property developer.</p>
(c) it may yield information that will contribute to an understanding of the State's history, including its natural history	No response



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<p>(d) it is an outstanding representative of a particular class of places of cultural significance</p>	<p>The existing community, while pro-development, has a keenness to preserve the community feel of Port Adelaide. This is, after all, a maritime place – built on the shoulders of swaggering sailors and militant wharfies, as much as it was on those of astute merchants and bold entrepreneurs.</p> <p>The rapid social change, likely to be brought about by 500 new homes to built as part of the Fletchers Slip development, has the potential for disharmony between newly arrived groups and the established community. Exacerbating this potential social segmentation with a development that does not integrate with the existing built-form does little to encourage social cohesion and the continued sense of community.</p> <p>Shed 26 provides meaningful urban connections between some of Adelaide's oldest suburbs - Birkenhead, Ethelton, Port Adelaide and Semaphore – connections which are likely to be lost over time as the waterfront development progresses. It is significant, not only for its past, but also for the future of our community.</p>
<p>(e) it demonstrates a high degree of creative, aesthetic or technical accomplishment or is an outstanding representative of particular construction techniques or design characteristics</p>	<p>No response</p>
<p>(f) it has strong cultural or spiritual associations for the community or a group within it</p>	<p>The Glanville Dockyards, and in particular Shed 26, is one of the few remaining remnants of the shipping-related repair and maintenance activities that were long-standing features of Port Adelaide's Inner Harbour and of the work practices carried out there and nearby.</p> <p>Shed 26 is a key part of the South Australian Harbors' Board work and it is the last remnant of the Port's industrial heritage from the 1950s. It shapes our cultural identity and maintains a strong association spiritually within the local community.</p> <p>The proposed removal of the Shed 26 building means that the Inner Harbour will have forever lost the last significant structure of this type along the Port River. As a result the heritage value, visual landscape and amenity of the locality would be irreparably diminished.</p> <p>I would also note that in Bob Heritage's interview (<a href="https://youtu.be/6o-3Gqpt-A4">https://youtu.be/6o-3Gqpt-A4</a>) he refers to the people who</p>



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	<p>came out here in the early days and used picks and shovels to build the wharf areas and docks. He states: "you have to respect that". He continues in similar vein to highlight how "things like that are easily forgotten unless tangible evidence remains" because these heritage forms hold the things that entrance us about a place. Such forms are what draw us frequently to the Port River or want to live here and enjoy our surroundings, deepening our sense of place, even finding peace of mind. Bob Heritage worked as an apprentice in Shed 26 between 1960-65.</p> <p>Some people do not consider Shed 26 pretty - at least from the outside. Pretty or not, it is very important to preserve pieces of our culture and our history. Shed 26 is part of our working class heritage and history.</p> <p>The striking saw tooth roof, site prominence and footprint of Shed 26 affords creative opportunities for a sensitive adaptive use that draws on the past, sense of place and tradition. The building itself presents urban design opportunities that will improve social cohesion. It should be noted that there are no community amenities (other than landscaping) planned for the Fletchers Slip precinct that will encourage social cohesion among the new residents.</p>
<p>(g) it has a special association with the life or work of a person or organisation or an event of historical importance</p>	<p><i>"Lector, si monumentum requiris, circumspice"</i></p> <p>If you seek his memorial, <b>look around</b> you.</p>



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### Declaration

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The South Australian Heritage Council is committed to transparency in relation to the listing process and wishes to enhance public confidence in the nomination, listing and decision-making process. The Council's policy is to make nominations for State heritage listing and submissions on provisional entries publicly available via webpage or to interested parties. The Council will adhere to the Privacy Principles and your name and personal details will not be released.

I [REDACTED], wish to make a written representation regarding the provisional entry of **Shed 26, Semaphore Road, New Port**. The information I have provided is correct to my knowledge.

- I **support** the confirmation of this provisional entry  
 I ~~do not support~~ the confirmation of this provisional entry

I do wish to appear personally before the Council to make oral representations.

Signature: [REDACTED]

Date: 4 March 2019

Please attach any relevant documents.

A heritage officer may contact you to discuss this submission.

This form must be received by 5pm on **12 March 2019**.

Please return the completed form to:

**Executive Officer**  
**South Australian Heritage Council**  
**GPO Box 1047**  
**ADELAIDE SA 5001**

Email: [DEWHeritage@sa.gov.au](mailto:DEWHeritage@sa.gov.au)