



**SUBMISSION FORM**

# 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>Port Adelaide was the beating industrial heart of the state for well over a century.</p> <p>This busy working port was essential to the economic, industrial and agricultural development of SA. Ketches, windjammers and other water craft plied these waters bringing in agricultural produce such as wheat for milling and wool for export, and transporting essential supplies to South Australia's remote settlements.</p> <p>Industry necessary to service the Port and its trade sprang up around Port Adelaide, Rosewater, Birkenhead and Ethelton.</p> <p>From the turn of the century and up to the 1950's, worker's cottages were built for the maritime work force in the suburbs close by including Birkenhead, Peterhead, Glanville, Taperoo and Semaphore.</p> <p>These worker's cottages became affordable housing for an influx of artists and low income families in the 1970's and 80's. The</p>



## SUBMISSION FORM

	<p>corrugated iron, brick and stone cottages are now icons of that era and are sought after by the next generation of residents.</p> <p>Buildings like Shed 26, with its iconic roofline, reflect the maritime industries that built our state. Structures like this, now almost completely disappeared from the Port's shoreline, are one of the many reasons why local residents can still identify with its working class history and why they are proud to live in the suburbs around the Le Fevre Peninsula.</p>
(b) it has rare, uncommon or endangered qualities that are of cultural significance	<p>Working class history is of cultural significance.</p> <p>Shed 26 is a powerful reminder of the State's industrial history. It's a much more attractive record of the Port's industrial heritage than a wooden pole and sign with a picture of what used to be there! The great grandchildren of these workers will ask in the future why it wasn't valued. If it were a stone structure owned by the propertied class, it would probably be less at risk. The buildings linked to working class history are often ephemeral, makeshift and functional. They still hold important stories and must be valued.</p>
(c) it may yield information that will contribute to an understanding of the State's history, including its natural history	<p>Much of South Australia's marine infrastructure was fabricated inside Shed 26. Stories told of working life will be much richer when workers can be interviewed in the building or with the re-purposed building as a backdrop. The building itself is a testament to labour history.</p> <p>Lost opportunity for archaeological dig to uncover artifacts that may contribute to knowledge of the state's history. Remnants of Kurna history along the riverbank may also be uncovered.</p> <p>The Kurna people have an ongoing connection with the river. The layers of past inhabitant's social, cultural and working lives are as deep as the layers of mud in the river and its banks. Repurposing shed 26 honours this past, in the present, for the future.</p> <p>The building contributes significantly to both local and state sense of place. Re-purposing the structure will keep something of the unique character in the midst of a generic housing</p>





## SUBMISSION FORM

	development that will predominantly consist of cement tilt-ups.
(d) it is an outstanding representative of a particular class of places of cultural significance	As an industrial building right on the river frontage, Shed 26 provides one of the very last visual reminders of the importance of the Port and its industry to the development of South Australia.
(e) it demonstrates a high degree of creative, aesthetic or technical accomplishment or is an outstanding representative of particular construction techniques or design characteristics	



## SUBMISSION FORM

(f) it has strong cultural or spiritual associations for the community or a group within it

In the Port's Inner Harbor, Harts Mills and Shed 26 are the last remaining structures that speak of Port Adelaide's maritime and working class history.

These two working class structures connect the harbor and distinguish the Port from Semaphore, the adjacent beachside suburb. These buildings provide an important visual connection and are crucial identifiers of place.

As a local resident and arts worker since 1984, I have been involved in the successful adaptive re-use of three significant structures.

The first – The Holden Factory, on Jenkins Street, after it was vacated by Holden and before it burnt down in 1986 - housed Vitalstatistix Theatre Company, Port Youth Theatre Workshop and Port Life Community Arts. I was a founding member of Vitalstatistix and the company built its audience base in the surrounding community. After the fire destroyed the building, we moved into the Waterside Workers Hall across the Birkenhead bridge. The company still occupies the building caring for its history and maintaining the State heritage-listed site whilst producing contemporary performance art works and hosting community events.

I am now involved, as a management member, in the Port Adelaide Artist Forum who reside in Gallery Yampu in The old Sailing Club on Jenkins Street, adjacent to the Birkenhead Bridge. Just a stone's throw from Shed 26.

It is deeply meaningful to local residents to be able to have access to these old buildings and to the adjacent riverside. They evoke memories as well as provide a sense of continuity and involvement in a rich cultural history. Community come to use these building with a sense of pride and knowledge that history is acknowledged in the very structure of the building.

Councils and Government agencies are keen to develop place-making projects that highlight South Australia's identity. It is so much more authentic to build on and around something that already exists (ie hard structures that embody the past) rather than create something that merely sign posts it.

It is a priority of people living in the surrounding suburbs now to reflect the past through maintaining some semblance of





## SUBMISSION FORM

	<p>our Port's maritime history. Many community consultations have given voice to what the community wants. Time after time we believed in the consultation process. It is time those voices were valued and heard.</p> <p>The boat sheds along Jenkins Street have all been demolished.</p> <p>Shed 26 is our last hope of retaining the visual impact of a wharf shed on the northern side of the river. The potential for re-use of the building – keeping the recognisable roofline and exterior – is great.</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>A government body controlling marine infrastructure has existed on that piece of land from the first days of European settlement. The original Government Dockyard established in the 1850s was replaced by the SA Harbors Board and then the Department Marine and Harbors until the 1980s. There has been almost a continuous history of Government control of South Australia's ports and marine infrastructure on this site.</p> <p>Shed 26 references a working harbor: boilermakers, blacksmiths, fitters and turners, electricians, plumbers and the tea lady all worked in that building. It is the last vestige of a massive government complex that employed hundreds of people from the surrounding suburbs. Once this is gone it renders that organisation's contribution to both Port Adelaide and the State, invisible. While it stands in a repurposed form it continues to honour the contribution of both the organisation and its employees.</p>



## SUBMISSION FORM

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## SUBMISSION FORM

### Declaration

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 /  I do not *[please circle your choice & cross out other]* wish to appear personally before the Council to make oral representations.

Signature: [REDACTED]

Date: 17 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)