



**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

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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

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<b>Criteria under the <i>Heritage Places Act 1993</i>, section 16(1)</b>	<b>Provide evidence or other information why you believe criteria applies or does not apply to this place</b>
(a) it demonstrates important aspects of the evolution or pattern of the State's history	<p>Shed 26 is the last remaining reminder of the Government Dockyards (and the Glanville Dockyard) which served the State from the 1850s through to the late 1980s. It is a highly significant remnant of South Australia's maritime, industrial and working class history.</p> <p>While Shed 26 is a newer building/structure than the very nearby and State heritage-listed Fletcher's Slip and Hart's Mill precincts, Shed 26 should be as regarded as a symbol of an era of industrial modernisation from the 1950s and reflective of the <i>continuity of and evolution in</i> Port Adelaide's significant contribution to the state of South Australia.</p> <p>Shed 26 was the central facility for the maintenance, fabrication and modernisation of port infrastructure for the entirety of the State including regional centres. It represents a key part of the South Australian Harbors Board's work. It remains an eye-catching reminder of the working Port of Adelaide and of the contribution of generations of workers and their families to South Australia's development.</p>



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<p>(b) it has rare, uncommon or endangered qualities that are of cultural significance</p>	<p>While sawtooth buildings may once have been common, that is no longer the case. Importantly, Shed 26 is now the <i>last surviving sawtooth shed</i> in the inner harbour of Port Adelaide. In fact, it will soon become the last wharf shed of the inner harbour (once Shed 1 is demolished).</p> <p>As the only remaining artefact of the Glanville Dockyard, and one of very few remaining material symbols of a working Port in the inner harbour, the removal of Shed 26 would continue to erode and endanger Port Adelaide's unique built and cultural character.</p>
<p>(c) it may yield information that will contribute to an understanding of the State's history, including its natural history</p>	<p>There is always the possibility that documentary research, oral history projects, arts and cultural projects, and other explorations with those that worked there (or their relatives), could lead to more insight into the labour-intensive and modernising activities that occurred there, working class life, union history and/or other elements of State history.</p> <p>One might argue that this type of research is not reliant on the building continuing to exist; this is of course technically true - and highly cynical when, outside of a particular type of private and profit-making land development, there is no rationale for the building's removal.</p>
<p>(d) it is an outstanding representative of a particular class of places of cultural significance</p>	<p>The <i>combination</i> of Shed 26's large scale and role, its iconic look and its specific location on the inner harbor waterfrontage (including its role as a physical connector of Port Adelaide and the LeFevre Peninsula) certainly make it an outstanding and singular representative of the Port of Adelaide's working history and its significant contribution to South Australia.</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>As above, while these types of buildings were once fairly common, Shed 26 represents an outstanding and increasingly rare example of a sawtooth building and large workshop. Additionally, its physical location is very significant.</p> <p>It acts as a <i>substantial physical, historical, cultural and aesthetic connector</i> between Port Adelaide and the LeFevre Peninsula. Conversely, to lose this connectively and vista would be a big loss and would <i>irreversibly change this crossing point</i> between some of the oldest suburbs in Adelaide - Port Adelaide, Glanville, Birkenhead and Semaphore.</p> <p>Some of the recent narrative regarding Shed 26 has asserted it is 'ugly' and dilapidated. It is in fact a largely intact and striking structure with many possibilities for adaptation. Moreover, to assert that only 'beautiful' buildings should be kept, adapted or</p>



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listed is deeply at odds with the values of Port Adelaide and its community, the honouring of important working-class history, as well as State heritage principles of course. It is a classist position that contributes to the loss of working people's history and legacy.

I have lived in the area – primarily in the Peninsula suburbs that border the river, Glanville (currently), Ethelton and Exeter – for twenty-five years; I have seen the impact of the New Port Quays development in separating the Port from the Peninsula and changing/blocking the vista across the Port River to Port Adelaide. Keeping the Shed 26 structure intact is one of the last (and in fact best, given its location at the corner of Semaphore Road) opportunities to ensure that the Peninsula and the Port remain physically, visually and culturally connected.

I note that the only other location across that side of the river that maintains a vista and cultural connection is the very important Lartelare Park, built on the CSR sugar factory site within the New Port Quays development, marking Kurna people's unbroken connection with this land. The park came about through Kurna leadership, hard community work and eventually public and private commitment/investment.



Photo from 'its Port Adelaide' facebook, 2019





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Photo from 'its Port Adelaide' facebook, 2019



Photo from David Evans, facebook, 2019

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

Shed 26 is the last enduring remnant of these longstanding dockyards, where thousands of South Australians worked. It represents and holds in our collective memory the economic activity and community life – including the skilled and unskilled labour – of many people who contributed to South Australia's shipping and other industrial development of the state.

The building remains a *strong symbol for the identity* of Port Adelaide for *many people*. This is reflected in responses to consultations over the last decade – and hence why the building remained in both State Government and Local Government development plans even while not heritage-listed. Up until the



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latter part of 2018 there was no reason to believe or way to know that Shed 26 was slated for demolition, given its inclusion in various precinct and development plans, in published artist impressions including fly over videos, and the feedback given about its importance over many years of consultation with the community.

As mentioned above, its physical location is important to its ongoing meaning to the Port and Peninsula community. There is a strong visual connection between Port Adelaide's centre through to Hart's Mill through to the Shed 26 through to Semaphore and the Peninsula (and vice versa) that makes a *clear, tangible statement to locals and visitors alike* about the history and character of the area. Access to the waterfront alongside buildings such as Shed 26 or Hart's Mill deepen the community's belonging to this place and serve as a reminder of its singularity, specificity and specialness.

Additionally, these buildings physically represent more than symbolism of a working Port in a general sense— although that is important as they do serve to be a striking reminder as discussed above. A building such as Shed 26, which like Hart's Mill has seen thousands of people work there, has site-specific meaning for many real people, their families and descendants.

In addition to living in the area, I also work in Port Adelaide and have done for many years as an arts and cultural worker.



I have seen at close hand how important honouring the working class history of our hall is to individuals directly associated with the WWH (and their families and descendants); I am constantly struck by the ripple effect of this building when I meet people whose elders used the hall and they come for a visit (or decide to hold their weddings here!) many decades later or participate in a community project about the hall and its history.

Mostly however I am struck by how keeping, protecting, honouring and using a building like WWH (or Shed 26) in a contemporary fashion, contributes so much to a community's sense of pride, continuity, agency, safety, social health, belonging to place and their sense of a positive future, regardless of whether they have a direct association with it or not.



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	<p>The scale and simple design of Shed 26 leaves it suitable for many possibilities and mixed usages. There is simply no reasonable rationale to destroy it. Adaptively reusing Shed 26 would bring community, cultural and economic benefits; conversely, its destruction would be both a missed opportunity and a huge loss to both the Port's history and its future.</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>Shed 26 is associated with the Department of Marine and Harbors (1966-93) and its predecessors the SA Harbors Board (1914-66) and the Marine Board of SA (1860-1922), and more broadly with the role of the state and government in managing harbours and associated services for shipping.</p> <p>This public management of our harbours is sadly almost inconceivable now. Personally, I find it deeply ironic that the Government of South Australia/Renewal SA transferred this 5+ hectare site to private developer Cedar Woods for the grand total of \$2.</p> <p>The contribution of workers, and in fact the public purse, to the development of the Port of Adelaide, and therefore the State of South Australia, would be properly honoured by the permanent heritage listing of Shed 26 of the Glanville Dockyards on the Port River, Kaurana Country.</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.

[REDACTED] wish to make a written representation regarding the provisional

[REDACTED]  
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

Date: 24 February 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**