



## Pathways



GRG 7/70/2/116



GRG 1/108/24/2



GRG 7/70/2/62

## A message from the Director

Welcome to the 3rd edition of Pathways.



The last six months at State Records has enabled us to establish our operations related to the State Records Act, Freedom of Information Act, Privacy and Copyright after a huge amount of change. Our new

facilities and systems at Gepps Cross and the City have been put to the test and we have commenced a review to see what aspects need adjusting to improve our service. The way we provide our services and the way you, our customers, utilise our facilities has settled so we feel the time is right to undertake this review. As an example the release of ArchivesSearch earlier this year has been successful with many researchers searching the database online and ordering the records they want to view at a time and location that maximises the value of their time in the Research Centre.

We are keen to receive your views as an input to this review so next time you visit a Research Centre please fill out a feedback form or if you prefer you can provide your thoughts via our website using the Visitor Evaluation Form which can be found at: [http://www.archives.sa.gov.au/readingroom/visit.html#Evaluating\\_our\\_Services](http://www.archives.sa.gov.au/readingroom/visit.html#Evaluating_our_Services)

We will do our best to improve in line with your suggestions but like other government agencies we will also need to balance that with our other statutory responsibilities and available resources. Having said that we will do our best to make improvements and address issues you raise.

I look forward to receiving your feedback and in the meantime please enjoy this issue of Pathways.

**Terry Ryan**  
Director State Records

## Upcoming Dates

New Freedom of Information Fees and Charges commenced – 1 July 2005

New State Records Fees and Charges commenced – 1 July 2005



GRG 24/170/72

## State Records Council Update

Since the February edition of Pathways the State Records Council has met three times, including one special meeting, with a host of disposal schedules reflecting all aspects of government record keeping being considered and approved.

Since the formation of the new Council in early 2005, State Records has been inundated with a large quantity of schedules and the Council members have worked tirelessly to ensure they have progressed in a timely fashion.

## 14th Annual State History Conference

The Annual State History Conference of the History Trust of South Australia was held at Whyalla on 28–29 May 2005. The Conference, entitled Blast from the Past, focussed on rural and industrial communities in South Australia.

State Records, a principal sponsor of the Conference, also presented a number of papers including a view of early Whyalla as contrasted with Whyalla of today. This view was facilitated by a display of records from State Records' collection including early police station, education, land, mining, industry and hotel records.

The story of Cissy Sultan provided Conference goers with a personal face to good record keeping practices. Cissy, an elderly Aboriginal woman, was assisted by the Aboriginal Access team at State Records to locate information about her family, and went on to publish her story (Cissy's Story). Her book is a valuable contribution to the Aboriginal history of the Whyalla region.

"Blast from the Past" was a fitting title for the History Conference. It very appropriately demonstrated the value and power of community and regional history and how archival records contribute to historians' interpretations of the past.

State Records congratulates the History Trust of South Australia on another successful Conference.

## What's new in ArchivesSearch?

Since there wasn't a State Records Act back in the 19th century, it's good to see that Head Teachers of some schools took their job seriously according to Regulations introduced in 1885!

These regulations stipulated that Admission registers and Inspector's registers were to be kept. The endeavours of these recordkeeping pioneers have resulted in the following records being transferred to the custody of State Records. This is fortunate as they yield useful genealogical information.

New accessions relate to:

**Mount Muirhead School**  
GRS 10775/1 Admission register 1886–1920  
GRS 10776/1 Committee minutes 1940–1942

**Sebastopol School**  
GRS 10780/1 Inspector's register 1943–1955  
GRS 10781/1 School journals 1941–1956  
GRS 10782/1 Admission registers 1881–1917

**Pompoon Swamp School**  
GRS 10783/1 Inspector's register 1929–1950

**Hatherleigh School**  
GRS 10784/1 Inspector's register 1919–1969  
GRS 10786/1 Admission register 1886–1932

**Saint Clair School**  
GRS 10787/1 Admission register 1912–1931  
GRS 10788/1 School journals 1912–1956  
GRS 10789/1 Inspector's register 1913–1956



GRG 1/108/24/2

## Aboriginal Name Index

The State Records of South Australia—Aboriginal Name Index (ANI) database is used to collate and enter data from archival material held at State Records. The information is drawn from the records created by the former Aborigines Office, the Aborigines Department and the Aborigines Protection Board.

The archival material is the property of the Department for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation (DAAR). In order for individual Aboriginal people or other government agencies to gain access to the records, it is necessary to first obtain written permission to access the records from DAAR.

### The history of the Aboriginal Name Index

State Records began creating the ANI in 1992, when it was recognised that it was necessary to make the valuable information in these records more easily available to State Records' customers and particularly to Aboriginal people. The records from which the information is drawn date back to 1866. State Records' Aboriginal Access Team (AAT) assists Aboriginal customers, government and non-government organisations and individual historians to find information in these records about Aboriginal people using the index.

Particularly significant is the part that the AAT plays in assisting those individuals who have been affected by past government policies that separated Aboriginal children from their families. One of the AAT's primary purposes is to assist those people to find the information that may reconnect them with their families or their family history.

### What it is like now?

The ANI is a vital source of information, which now holds more than 74,000 entries that tie a name to a specific record that contains personal information about an Aboriginal individual. It is particularly useful for those Aboriginal people who want to find information in regard to their own personal family history.

### How is it used?

Only a few authorised State Records employees can access the ANI. The most frequent requests for assistance come via the South Australia Link-Up Program. This community-based program assists individual Aboriginal people deemed to be from the Stolen Generation who are seeking information about themselves or their families. This information may fill gaps in their lives or may assist them to be reunited with their families and / or communities. Team members will search the Index at the request of SA Link Up to determine if any relevant records are held by State Records.

### What the Aboriginal Information Management System (AIMS) project is about?

The purpose of this project is to update the ANI with a new information technology solution, increasing its usability, efficiency and scope. This will provide a greatly enhanced service to both the Aboriginal community seeking genealogical data and to other authorised researchers. Currently, the ANI sits in an old DOS based system. The AIMS project will provide software that is much more user friendly.

## Building Ideas Television Show

On Monday, 30 May 2005, the Building Ideas television show filmed a three minute segment at our City Research Centre.

The show focused on our restored heritage building project and the services we offer at State Records, along with other across Government building initiatives. The episode was screened on Channel 9 on 11 June 2005 at 5.00pm. However, if you would like to view the episode, please visit one of our Research Centres.

## Series of Interest

GRG 35/48/1 (previously known as GRG 35/48a)

- Possibly our most popular records
- These lists are the official passenger lists of emigrants selected by the Colonization Commissioner (London), and were forwarded to the Crown Lands and Immigration Department on arrival in Adelaide
- Lists typically give a passenger's name, age, occupation and marital status and county of origin
- These lists are the originals of the passenger lists held by the State Library of South Australia as Source 313

An index to these passenger lists is available on our online finding aid ArchivesSearch (select the passenger list search).



GRG 18/363/26/A/32

## South Australian History Week 21–29 May 2005

State Records joined in the celebrations of South Australian History Week with guided tours of our new research facilities at Gepps Cross and Leigh Street in the city.

Visitors to Gepps Cross were treated to a tour of the repository and Research Centre, while at Leigh Street the tour included the Research Centre and our exhibition, titled *Scabby Knees, Hopes & Dreams: A Child's Experience of Government, 1840–1990*.



## ArchivesSearch—the research tool available from the comfort of your own home!

The South Australian public can search our database of indexes from our collection of more than 54 kilometres of records in the comfort of their homes.

Anyone with Internet access can search our catalogue database and find previously hidden treasures. To give you an idea of the types of Government records we hold, our collection includes maps, plans, correspondence, files, volumes, audiotapes, videotapes, film, photographs and microfiche/film. These records generally are used for research into family history, historical events, immigration, emigration and shipping, issues relating to Aboriginal people and law enforcement/legal purposes.

The system ArchivesSearch, is a user friendly search engine that can find historical references over the Internet. To access ArchivesSearch you simply go online to [www.archives.sa.gov.au](http://www.archives.sa.gov.au), use it to search through our catalogue and if you find something of interest, pre-order and view the records at one of our research centres.

ArchivesSearch can be found on the State Records website at [www.archives.sa.gov.au](http://www.archives.sa.gov.au). Records (with some exceptions) can be viewed at the two State Records Research Centres, located at 26–28 Leigh Street, Adelaide and at 115 Cavan Road, Gepps Cross.

## ArchivesSearch Tips

The ArchivesSearch database, State Records' catalogue of holdings is now online so if you have access to the Internet, you may wish to explore the database from the comfort of your home or work.

ArchivesSearch lists the agency details and record series we hold at State Records. It will provide you with information on the types of records we hold at State Records and allow you to determine if we hold records relevant to your research.

If you simply wish to search the catalogue it is not necessary to register as a user. You can search ArchivesSearch by selecting the Searching option, which provides you with several different searching alternatives. These options include searching by keyword, name, and reference number, or to search in particular record series such as Passenger Lists or World War 1 Photographs. Each screen has hints and links to the Help and Frequently Asked Questions pages.

ArchivesSearch can also be used to register as a researcher and to pre-order records for viewing at one of our Research Centres.



GRG 7/70/2/114

## Snap! Photographs as Archives

“What is a record?”. This is a simple question, but one that is often easily misunderstood.

So much rests on the correct answer as it is the basic building block for developing adequate programs to manage such entities. When prompted, most people will provide a definition that usually centres on information as text on a paper format. A record can be this and more. A record is information, irrespective of the format which contains it. Consequently a record can be an email, as can a map or a plan, and it can also be a photograph.

Photographs intrigue and captivate the interest of most people. Nearly everyone has an album, shoebox or personal drive that stores a lifetime or two of memories as “snaps” of holidays, family events and other occasions deemed worthy of being captured as a photograph.

The historical photograph is an exception to this general public lust for the photographed image. The author Jack Finney in his book *Time and Again* describes it in tantalising detail:

“I’ve always felt a wonder at old photographs ... the sense of wonder, staring at the strange clothes and vanished backgrounds, at knowing that what you’re seeing was once real ... that these people were really there once ... You could have walked into the scene then, touched those people, and spoken to them. You could actually have gone into that strange outmoded old building and seen what now you never can—what was just inside the door”.

As a record, photographs possess a certain magic. A delight is generated that only words could hope to achieve. Photographs have been made in South Australia for almost as long as the state has been in existence. The earliest photographs made in South Australia were daguerreotypes. Images were formed in a process that required the adhesion of mercury to silver-coated plates of copper.

From the State Records archival collection, there is GRS 6258 Digital Photographic Collection for Mines and Energy. Images have been stored on Kodak Photo CDs—a very modern approach to image storage—but contain photographs dating back to 1845. These are open to public access through either one of our two public reading rooms.

Mines and Energy is not the only agency to have records stored at our Gepps Cross repository. Photos have been a way of capturing information as an official record for most government agencies. From crime and education, to Christmas Pageants with kids on elephants, State Records is the custodian for a myriad of photographs and the business of government that they document.



GRG 5/58 is a series of photographs of convicted persons from South Australia, 1919-1965.

The more common term is “mugshots”. The mugshot is characterised by images of different profiles, i.e. front on and side on along with personal details and the nature of their criminal activity. Of interest is the wearing of a hat by most criminals in their side on profile. This was quite obviously a requirement in an era when hats were far more prevalent on heads as an accessory than today. Consequently, a favoured hat could be a means for identifying its owner in the future.



Portraits of people wearing hats are a common feature for another group of photographic records. The soldiers slouch hat as opposed to the gangster’s fedora. GRG 26/5 contains

numerous photographs of service men and women who were soon to participate in World War I. While not every person from South Australia who served in World War I has been photographed, this group of records is well worth searching in order to identify an ancestor from this tumultuous period of history. This can be done through searching the State records online search facility, ArchivesSearch, either from the internet at home, or from one of the State Records search rooms.

Sometimes the photograph isn’t there, but the negatives are. GRG35/342 is a collection of glass plates and negatives that were produced by the Photolithographic Branch between 1890 and 1957. The subject matter is diverse as they were taken for a wide range of government purposes such as publicity. Of particular interest is the inclusion of a number of Frank Hurley negatives in the collection. Hurley stands out as a notable photographer in Australian history, having been on the Mawson Antarctic expedition of 1919 and was marooned with Shackleton’s party between 1914 and 1916. Hurley also was the first official photographer for the AIF in World War I.

Not all photographs are as easily found as those in the series and groups mentioned already. Instead, many photographs lurk within other records and wait for the day when a cunning researcher finds them.

As records, photographs have their own unique preservation requirements. Due to chemical processes involved in their production, photographs are susceptible to deterioration. Glass plates and negatives are simply fragile due to the format, some photographs can fade or darken when exposed to excessive light sources and poorly processed film or prints may develop reactions that damage the image. The digital image is posing new problems in regards to preservation. How do we ensure that images taken on a digital camera and stored in a digital format, are able to be accessed and read in the next 100, or 50 ... or 5 years?

Needless to say, photographs must always be handled with care and their storage and access must be managed to appropriate standards.

Whether mercury particles or digital pixels, photographic images are unique records of our history and a source of visual information about people, places and events for researchers and family historians to access at State Records.



GRG 18/363/27/1/26S

## Birdwood Murder

At the beginning of March 2005, it was revealed police had been given a letter found inside a house in Birdwood detailing a murder that may have occurred over 100 years ago.

State Records was able to be of some assistance to police in verifying whether or not the alleged crime may have occurred. We contacted police for further information on the alleged crime and once we received that information, were able to determine if we held any relevant Birdwood (or Blumberg as it was then known) Police Station Records. Unfortunately, the Birdwood Police Station Records started outside the date range in question. However, State Records was still able to be of assistance as we held police gazettes (GRG 5/50) that contained reports of missing persons for the date range required.

State Records informed police of the existence of these records and performed a summary search of part of the relevant police gazettes to assist police in identifying if the alleged crime had taken place.

## Saint Lawrence (or San Lorenzo)

A patron saint of libraries and librarians is Saint Lawrence the Librarian. He is a third century saint and martyr (died 258 AD) who had responsibility for the written archives and records of the early church.

St Lawrence was one of seven famous deacons of the early church. The other six deacons along with Pope St. Sixtus II (Xystus II) were captured by the Emperor Valerian on August 6, 258, and martyred. They were buried together in the cemetery of Callistus. The oppression of the Christian church was very severe, and many Christians fled Rome or died.

As librarian and archivist, Lawrence was thought to have a list of all the members of the early church, and the locations of all the mythical hidden hoards of gold belonging to the Vatican. Captured by the soldiers of the Emperor Valerian a few days later, on August 8, 258 AD, he was told to produce all the wealth of the church. He was given only two days to bring all the treasures to the imperial palace. Particularly desired were the names of all the Christians who were also Roman nobles, since they could be ransomed for gold by the emperor, or executed and their wealth confiscated by the emperor for the state.

Lawrence gathered up all the diseased, orphaned or crippled Christians on the appointed day, brought them to the palace, and told the startled emperor that "These are the treasures of the church!"

According to tradition, for his presumed impudence, Lawrence was then slowly roasted on a grill on the site of the Basilica di San Lorenzo in Rome, in the hope that he would publicly renounce his religion and reveal the names of

the wealthy Christians. He is often represented holding a gridiron to memorialize this grisly manner of martyrdom. Although St. Lawrence was most certainly beheaded and not roasted, the traditions of his being cooked are somewhat stronger than actual fact. As a result, St Lawrence is also considered a patron saint for cooks. There is also the popular story that he was so willing to embrace Christ in heaven, that he did not mind the pain from the fire of his martyrdom, and indeed, he found the strength to tell his executioners "Turn me over. I am done on this side."

The courage and dignity of St Lawrence and many of these other early Christians in facing their death did much to gain respect for their religion in Rome, and after the death of St Lawrence, there was widespread conversion to Christianity.

His feast day is August 10th, and is usually celebrated by librarians and archivists (in honor of his traditional method of death) with cold cuts.

The annual Perseid meteor shower, one of the best known of the annually occurring meteor showers, and which occurs near his feast day in August, is sometimes called "The Tears of St. Lawrence" in Italy.

A reliquary with the head of Saint Lawrence is held in the Vatican Library.

<http://www.geocities.com/Athens/Forum/7905/lorenzo.html>



## RAIA Awards

The official results of the 2005 Awards of the **Royal Australian Institute of Architects** in South Australia were recently published.

The Bickford North Building, 26-28 Leigh Street, won 1 award of merit and 2 commendations in the Interior Architecture category. Woods Bagot of Adelaide were the designers responsible for the interior of the building.



GRG 7/71/2/103

## Dorothy answers some FAQs

Dear Dorothy,

My cousin has lent me some old family photographs. I have photocopied a couple of them so I can make notes about the picture, but the copies aren't that great and I really want to keep a set for my children and grandchildren. Is there a way I can make better copies without going to a professional copying shop? Also, is there a better way my cousin should be storing these? They are in a collection of very old envelopes, sorted by family group. The envelopes themselves are starting to fall apart.

Yours,  
Second son of a second son.



Dear Second Son,

Isn't it frustrating that anyone can inherit their ancestors' less appealing physical traits but we have to divvy up the heirlooms? There are many commercially available products that will help you copy and store your borrowed treasures but you will need to consider how much time, effort and money you wish to invest, based on how accessible you wish the copies to be. For example:

- photocopies are fine for making research notes, or for pasting in scrapbooks of interim value, or for family histories that might endure high use by grubby little fingers;
- professional reproduction of negatives is the best option for long-term preservation, but due to the high cost you are less likely to make a matched set for each of the grandkids; and
- electronic scanning and printing sits somewhere in the middle. Depending on the technology you use to scan pictures, a copy can be high quality and easily reproduced either electronically or in hard copy.

If an electronic media is used for storage (such as CD, floppy disk, tape or memory chip), you should be aware of the lifespan of the media and keep a "backup" in an alternative type of media if possible. When discussing the storage of official records, State Records asks its customers to

"maintain and actively manage as required for ongoing evidential and/or historical purposes".

I will give you a special warning about using application software to create, store and catalogue your images. If the software does not produce the image in a standard format (such as .bmp or .gif) and does not name the file well, or does not attribute the details about the images (metadata) to the image's own file, then you may be at risk of losing access to the images with future software updates, or of having no idea which of the hundreds of files contains the picture of Aunt Ada with the tall hat.

All media (including the original photos) should be stored in an acid-free, PVC-free, dust and vermin-free environment with low humidity, low exposure to sunlight and where the temperature is at a cool to mild level. Storage containers like envelopes with adhesives are always risky because adhesive deteriorates with time. The same risk applies to attaching sticky labels for identification, or using sticky tape. Some forms of adhesive can actually damage a picture.

Regards,  
Dorothy.



Dear Dorothy,

I recently travelled into the mid-north of SA (Orroroo, Peterborough etc), took the advice of the tourism signs, and went off-track for a while to look at the ruins of Pekina Station. The ruins intrigued me because the land was completely covered in bracken-like trees, and yet there was a once-good creek flowing right below the former homestead. After spending a lot of time looking at the photos I took there, I wondered what must have happened to the people who "had a go" in establishing the Station. Are there any records in your collection that might be able to help me get started on my search? I might one day return to the local area to find out more, but I just wanted to get a first glimpse into what may have happened there, and when.

Yours,  
City Slicker.

Dear City Slicker,

There are several books available at the State Library of South Australia that will give you the authorised history of Pekina. However you may be interested to take a more leisurely journey through the primary material as produced in the Station's hey-day.

Pekina, and many other towns and districts of South Australia, are referred to in either Parliamentary Papers or Gazettes, or the local newspapers. Further than that, there is correspondence in various Government Record Groups about matters such as placement of doctors, establishing schools, surveying land and issuing of leases.

At State Records, we have a collection of Research Notes that are useful starting points for your search. The Notes explain the nomenclature of each town or district, in some cases they list early residents from the South Australian Directory, describe the early infrastructure and list references to the places in various newspapers and papers. (The main purpose of the Research Notes is to describe what sources from our collection, or from the State Library, have been used in research already undertaken on many varied subjects.)

From these references alone I was able to establish that the pastoral lease for Pekina Station was likely to have been issued around 1851, that the Station itself was described in the Parliamentary Papers for 1864, that the township was surveyed in 1873 and various events and services sprouted in the town from the late 1870s.

From the microfilm of the South Australian Directory, I was able to see that there was no listing for a resident at Pekina in the "Northern" area in 1864 (though Melrose was a thriving place by this time), yet the 1865 Directory showed a Mr Shaw as Manager at Pekina.

I hope this has given you a starting point for your next journey into the mid-north—which may be undertaken entirely from within the city limits!

Regards,  
Dorothy.

[Please note that although the sources—and Dorothy—are fictitious, the questions are based on actual enquiries.]



GRG 7/70/2/62

## Retracing your family history?

Our Ancestors and Archives publication can help you!



Ancestors in Archives, a State Records publication

When used in conjunction with our new online tool ArchivesSearch, Ancestors and Archives will ensure greater success in tracing your family history. This publication details information on how our collection is organised, with specific references to those series of most interest to family history researchers (eg passenger lists, school admission records etc). Ancestors in Archives can be purchased from the information counter at either of our Research Centres for \$22.00.

Alternatively, complete the form below and return it to us at the address provided. For mail delivery, add \$7.00 **per item** for South Australia and \$10.00 **per item** for interstate postage.

Payment for mail orders (cheque or money order **only**) should be addressed to:  
**State Records of South Australia**  
**GPO Box 1072**  
**Adelaide SA 5001**

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## Website Links of Interest

Want to update your desktop with a photograph from South Australia's historical past?

Wallpapers can be downloaded from:  
<http://www.archives.sa.gov.au/publications/wallpaper.html>

Handy links for those carrying out any research into the Government's dealings with indigenous people can be found at: <http://www.archives.sa.gov.au/aboriginal/links.html>

State Records of South Australia, a brief insight into our history:  
<http://www.archives.sa.gov.au/about/history.html>

**Cover:** John Martin's pageant, 1962. SRSA GRG 7/70/2/116. Streetscape, c.1916. SRSA GRG 1/108/24/2. Adelaide City Baths, 1940s. SRSA GRG 7/70/2/62. **Page 2:** Royal Visit, 1954. SRSA GRG 24/170/72. **Page 3:** Streetscape, c.1916. SRSA GRG 1/108/24/2. **Page 4:** Eudunda Area School, 1949. SRSA GRG 18/363/26/A/32. **Page 5:** John Martin's pageant, 1961. SRSA GRG 7/70/2/114. **Page 6:** Centenary pageant, 1936. SRSA GRG 7/71/2/103. **Page 7:** Eudunda Area School, c.1949. SRSA GRG 18/363/27/1/26S. **Page 8:** Adelaide City Baths, 1940s. SRSA GRG 7/70/2/62.



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## Pathways

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The Gepps Cross Research Centre is  
also open 11.00am to 5.00pm on the  
first Sunday of each month.

For further information about State  
Records of South Australia and the  
services we provide visit our website  
[www.archives.sa.gov.au](http://www.archives.sa.gov.au)

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