

## GREENHILL GALLERIES

234-240 Jeffcott Street



(CD Ref 1344/8)

While large sections of upper North Adelaide lay vacant until as late as the 1880s, Jeffcott Street was such an important thoroughfare that houses and other buildings were constructed there as early as the 1840s and 1850s. Even at the most isolated

northern end of the street several small houses of that era still face directly on to the passing traffic. One of the most interesting of these is this building, presently used as an art gallery which defines one of North Adelaide's boundaries overlooking the Park Lands at the corner of Jeffcott Street and Barton Terrace.

This building was constructed for W. Gibbings in 1856. Its early date of construction is reflected by the scale of the original section facing Barton Terrace and by its alignment with the pavement, part of the house being entered directly from the street. The irregular appearance of the building and different ceiling heights indicate the piecemeal growth typical of many early buildings. This is confirmed by the increases in annual rated values, from £24 in 1856, to £35 in 1861, to £45 in 1874. Judging from the Smith Survey, the building had reached its present form by 1880, if not by 1874. Despite the additions over twenty to thirty years, the building is consistently constructed of limestone rubble with brick dressings. The brick dressings to the Jeffcott Street frontage are of particular note, with moulded caps, hoods and gauged arches.

No information has been found about the first owner W. Gibbings. However, soon afterwards the house was sold to Frederick Simeon Carus Driffield whose family was associated with the house for over forty years from 1860. Driffield was a prominent businessman who was secretary of the Agricultural and Horticultural Society and later secretary of the Chamber of Commerce.

Driffield was born in Lancashire in 1825. He travelled to South Australia in 1849. Soon after his arrival, he, his brother and James H. Parr built the Knowsley flourmill near Woodside.

In 1851, as was the familiar tale during the gold rush days, Driffield took off to the Victorian diggings in the hope of clearing his increasing debts. His ventures at the Ovens diggings were successful. Soon after his return he became secretary of the Agricultural and Horticultural Society in 1856 which was followed by his move into finance. Loyau's account of Driffield's subsequent business life reads:

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*... he started, and bought to a very successful issue, the West Adelaide Building Society; was the manager of the Adelaide Lloyd's, afterwards the Adelaide Insurance Company ... giving it up in 1872, when he became the Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce.*

In recent times the building has been converted for use by the South Australian Chapter of the Royal Australian Institute of Architects and subsequently as the Greenhill Galleries.

ACA, Assessments, Smith Survey 1880; Loyau, G.E., *Notable South Australians*, 1885, p. 37; *Observer*, 22 June 1889.

The text in this Information Sheet was copied from the **Heritage of the City of Adelaide: An Illustrated Guide**, (1996). The photographs contained in this Information Sheet are a selection of those held by Heritage Services, in digital format.

The property described in this Information Sheet is included in the Register of State Heritage places. A heritage listing does not mean or imply right of access by the public to such properties.

*The heritage related Principles of Development Control as well as the Precinct specific objectives and Principles of Development Control are contained in the Adelaide (City) Development Plan. These should be referred to in whole when contemplating any development.*

*Further information on the Heritage Incentives Scheme, an initiative of Council to sponsor timely and appropriate conservation action is available upon request of the Customer Service Centre.*

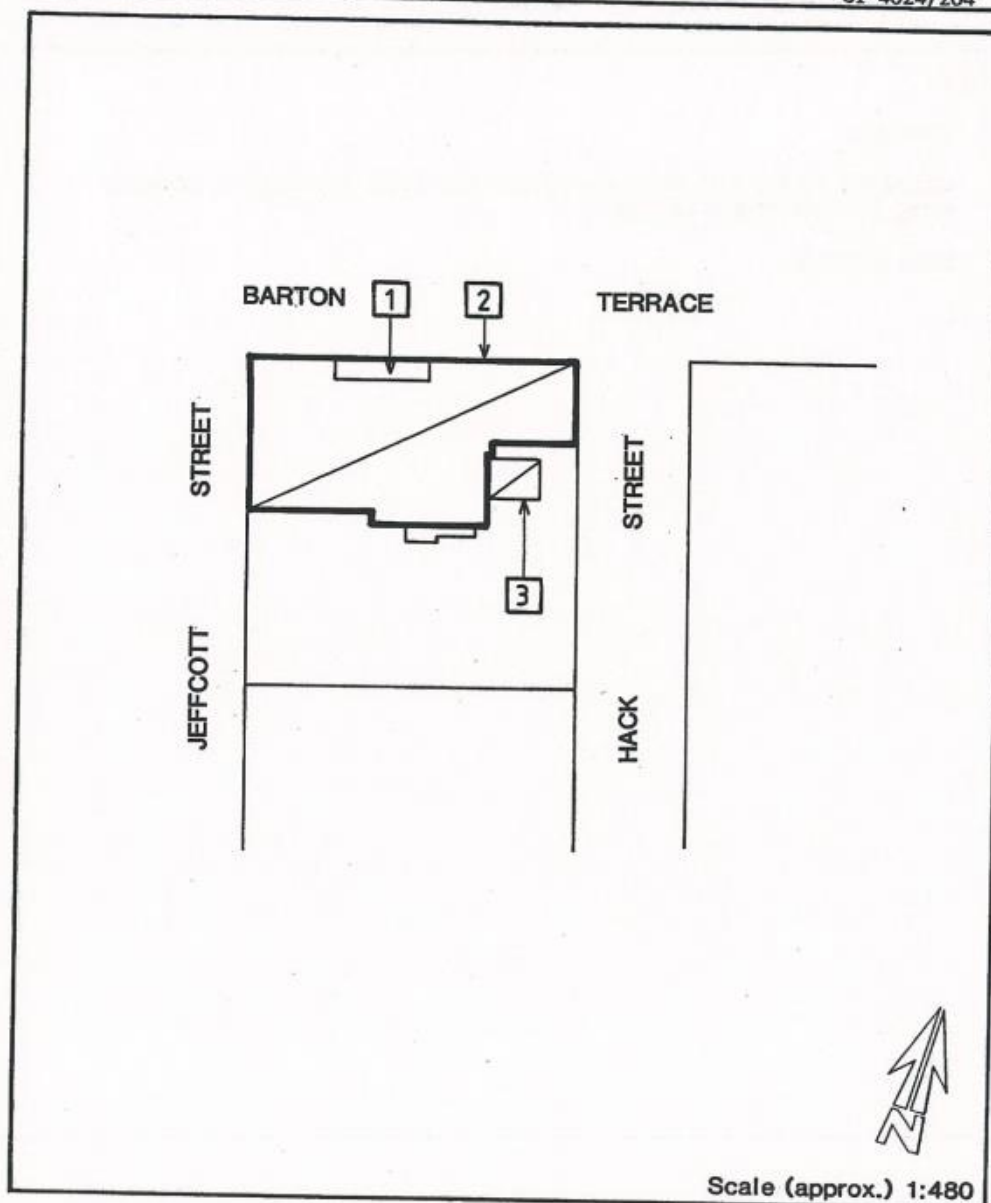


## CITY OF ADELAIDE HERITAGE STUDY

### The City Heritage Register-Definition of Items

Prepared by the Dept. of Planning and Development

Item	GREENHILL GALLERIES	Building N <sup>o</sup>
Address	234-240 Jeffcott Street, 137-140 Barton Terrace, 33-39 Hack Street, North Adelaide	29/0101
		CT 4024/204



Scale (approx.) 1:480

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#### NOTES:

1. Verandah.
2. Limestone rubble with brick quoins and fine brick dressings to openings along Jeffcott Street frontage.
3. Brick addition.