

LOCAL COURT

281-299 King William Street

This locality is the heart of South Australia's judiciary. The building is one of four court-houses which all contribute to the character of Victoria Square and environs.

When an announcement was made in 1865 that a new General Post Office was planned a new site for the Local and Police Court was sought, but initially without success. Meanwhile Town Acre 408 on the south side of Victoria Square was secured for the proposed Local and Insolvency Courts. It was then decided to build both the Police Courts and the Local and insolvency Courts on this same town acre block. A new set of drawings and modifications were made to the existing plans.

The construction by Crocker and Lawson of the bluestone Police Court was commenced in 1866 before the Local and insolvency Courts.

On 15 October 1867 the business of the Police Court was transferred to the new building. The new Police Court and offices were in King William Street, opposite the Supreme Court (now the Magistrates Court) and adjoining the new Local and Insolvency Courts (now the Supreme Court. The front was 'Roman Doric'. The Police Court was in the centre, with 'a somewhat elegant interior', and the wings which housed offices for the commissioner and a residence for the inspector of Metropolitan Police were added within the year.

The front was to be of stucco, but the colonial architect, William Hansom, must have changed his mind about this finishing detail, or it may be that as he resigned in February 1867 there was a change of plan by the incoming architect.

These buildings were used as the Police Courts until 1891 when they changed places with the Local and Insolvency Courts, which were by then in the original Supreme Court building across King William Street.

ACA, Smith Survey 1880; Department of Housing and Construction Plan Room, HD 1642-49; MLSA, Bierbaum files, Hague, R.M. *A history of law in South Australia*, No. 1051, Historical photographs (Town Acre 408), RN 39; *Observer*, 19 October 1867; PRO, GRG 38 records; *South Australian Register*, 15 January 1867, 6 January 1868.

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.

Heritage of the City of Adelaide

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	LOCAL COURT	Building No 15/1101-3
Address	293 King William Street; (on part land 279-299 King William Street; 261-279 Victoria Square; 1-7 Gouger Street; 2-20 Mill Street	NUA 0408/1

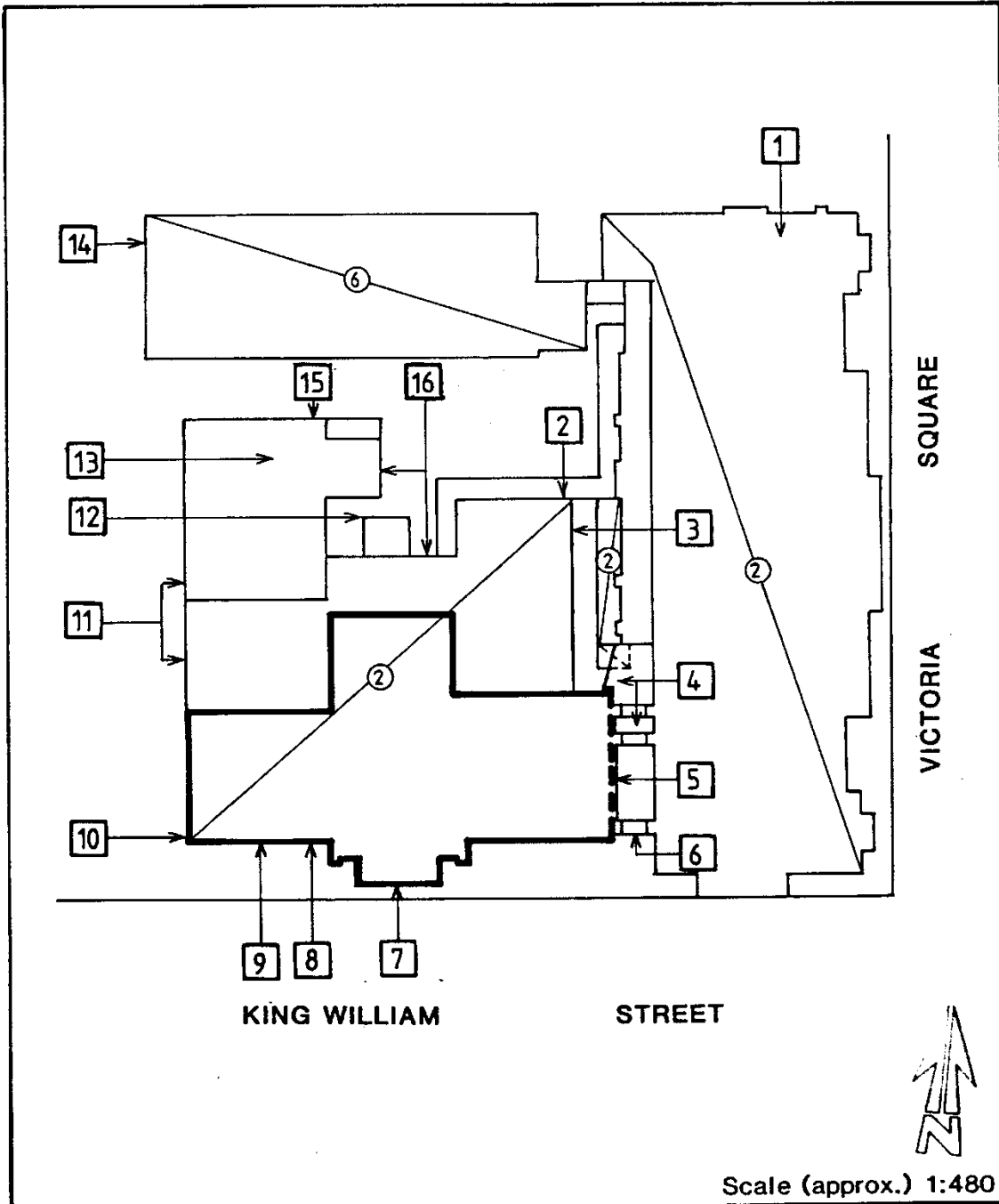


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NOTES:

1. Note: Supreme Court also listed.
2. Enclosed timber balcony at first floor level.
3. Rendered facade.
4. Vaulted brick ceiling.
5. Coursed random bluestone.
6. Stucco enriched arches with figurehead on keystone.
7. Rendered portico with Doric columns.
8. Coursed random bluestone with stucco enrichment and drafted sandstone plinth.
9. Note: Corbels and dentils.
10. Vermiculated quoins.
11. Rendered facade.
12. Brick.
13. Former "Central Road Board's" office.
14. Cream brick.
15. Rendered facade.
16. Coursed random bluestone with red brick quoins.