

TERRACE HOUSES

33-37 Archer Street



(CD Ref 1215/70)

This terrace appears older than its actual construction date of 1879. The terrace of three houses seems to have been designed and built by William Stroud May, a carpenter by trade who lived in North Adelaide and engaged in local building projects and speculative building. One of his more important works appears to have been the tower of the grand Congregational church

in Brougham Place. A Congregationalist himself, it appears likely that May was the partner in May and Walters, contractor for the tower in 1871-72.

The Honourable Boyle Travers Finniss lived in one of these terrace houses from 1880 to 1882. Finniss arrived in South Australia in 1836. He was assistant surveyor to Colonel William Light with whom he established a land agency and surveying business in 1838. Among other things, this business was responsible for the design of the town Gawler. Unlike Light, who died soon afterwards, Finniss' career continued to be influential in the public affairs of the colony. He was in turn, chief draftsman, commissioner of police, registrar-general and treasurer, first premier of South Australia, first government resident in the Northern Territory, member of the House of Assembly from 1857 to 1862 and again in 1868 and 1876, and member of the Legislative Council from 1847 to 1857 and in 1873. During his residence in Archer Street in 1881 he resigned from the civil service with a view to writing *The constitutional history of South Australia* which was published in 1886.

The terrace is of less architectural significance than Böhm and Dolphin terraces, also in Archer Street. However, such terraces are comparatively rare in Adelaide. This example, although austere and relatively standard in form, has added interest in the use of balconettes supported on decorative cast-iron brackets and with 'swag bellied' balustrading. The use of half-paned French doors is relatively unusual in buildings at this time.



(CD Ref 1215/72)

Heritage of the City of Adelaide

The terrace makes an important contribution to the character of Archer Street, reinforcing its dominant two storey development and providing the western portal to Murray Street.

Coxon, H., et al, *Biographical register of the South Australian parliament 1857-1957*, 1985, P. 1-3; Jensen, E., & R., *Colonial architecture in South Australia*, 1980, p. 474,

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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	TERRACE OF HOUSES	Building N ^o 33/2303
Address	31-37 Archer Street, 29-39 Murray Street (known as 33,35,37 Archer Street, North Adelaide)	CT 3523/98, 3533/1,3543/35

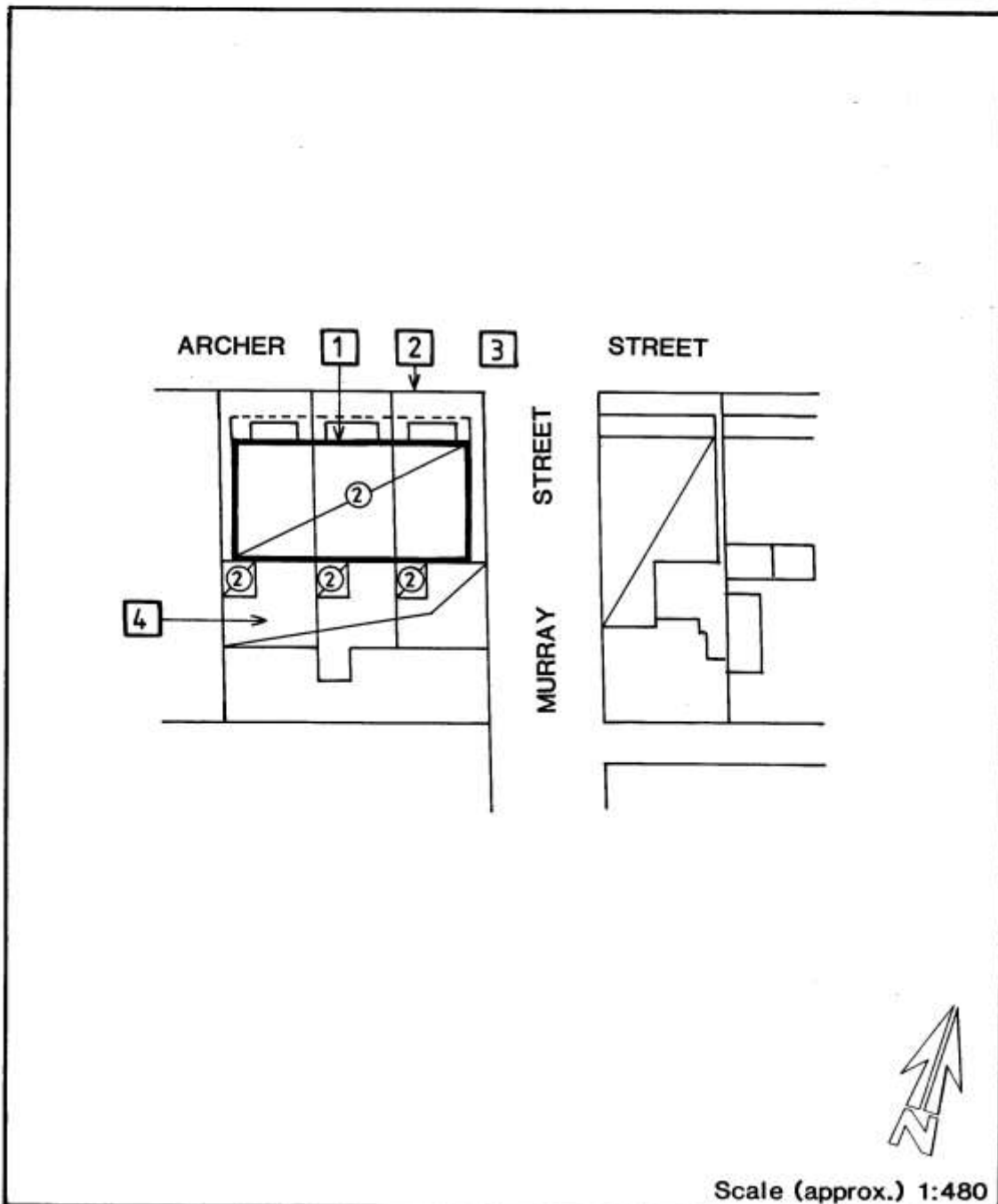


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NOTES:

1. Rendered facade.
2. Brick fence with cast iron railings (not original).
3. Cantilevered balconettes at first floor level. (Replacing original balcony).
4. Brick additions.