

JEFFCOTT CHAMBERS (Former Supreme Court Hotel)

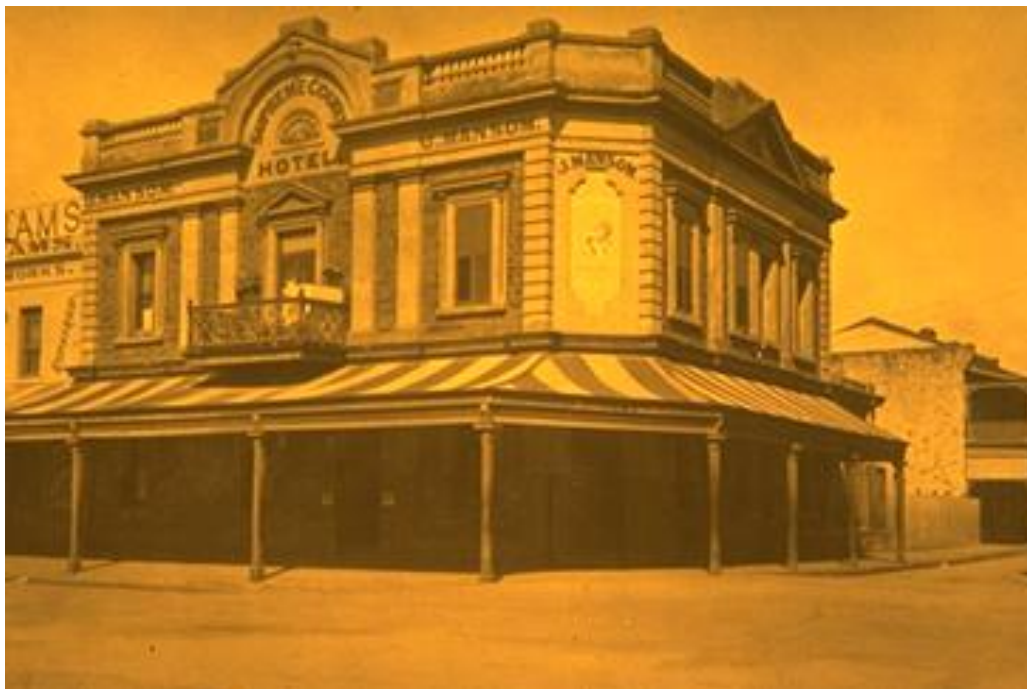
5-7 Gouger Street

This building is of great environmental significance as a notable element of Victoria Square, situated adjacent to the courts complex and opposite the Sir Samuel Way Building. Recent refurbishment has recaptured the building's robust architectural character.

The first hotel in this vicinity was called the Rainbow and was immediately east of the site of the present building. It was first licensed in 1853 and was for many years associated with the publican William Sowter. The hotel changed its name in 1875 to the Supreme Court Hotel. By this time, the South Australian Company owned the site, which Sowter leased. In the late 1870s Sowter had also leased the property to the west (the site of the present building), and in December 1880 agreed to the following lease covenant set by the lessor:

To lay out and expend the sum of £2,000 during the first 10 years in the erection on the said land of good and substantial buildings of brick or stone according to plans etc., and not to erect or build on the land or any part thereof any buildings not approved of in writing by the said South Australian Company.

Although his lease was only for ten years, he soon carried out the obligations required of it. Architects English and Soward requested tenders for the erection of the new Supreme Court Hotel in July 1880 and by 1881 the present building had been erected.



(CD Ref 1606/19)

The hotel traded until 1970 when the building required considerable upgrading. It became an office of the Courts Department until a fire destroyed much of its interior. Despite the

Heritage of the City of Adelaide

Adelaide City Council favourably considering a proposal to demolish this building in 1977, it was subsequently renovated by a company of barristers (Rumpole Pty. Ltd.). They renamed it Jeffcott Chambers in memory of South Australia's first chief justice who led a somewhat eccentric and notorious life until he drowned in 1837 at the Murray Mouth.

The building, which was associated with the South Australian Company and the colony's boom period, is considered an important corner element and a significant 'stop' to the Victoria Square environs and the court complex to the east.

ACA, Assessments; GRO, 51/331, William Sowter; *South Australian Register*, 16 July 1880.



(CD Ref 1606/22)

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	JEFFCOTT CHAMBERS (former SUPREME COURT HOTEL) Building N ^o 15/1101-1
Address	5-7 Gouger Street, 2-4 Mill Street
	Crown lease in Register Volume 1605 F85

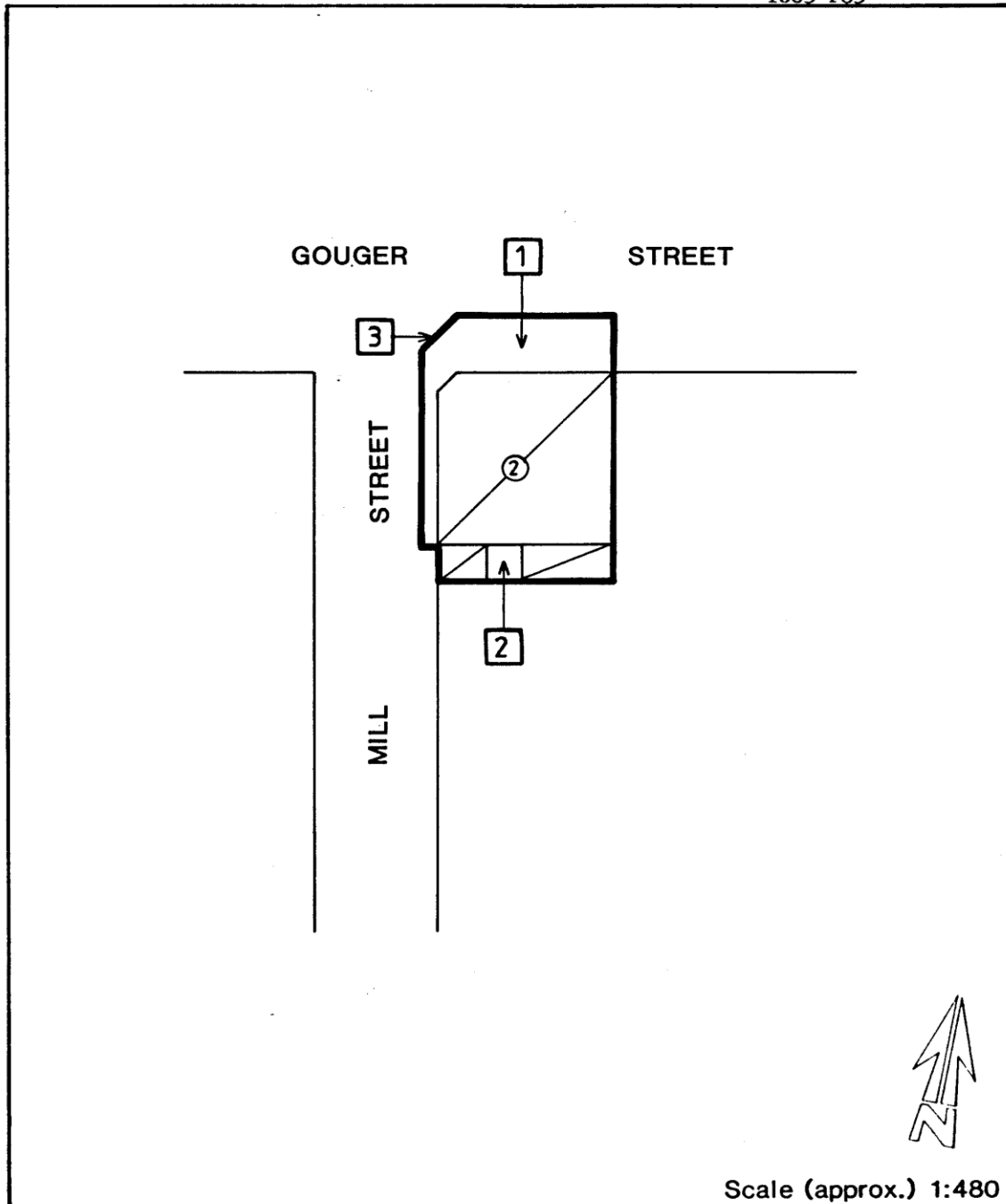


Image scanned - not to stated scale.

This Curtilage Map has been prepared as a guide only and no warranty or assurance is given about the accuracy of the content as it may contain obsolete information. The Corporation excludes all liability [including for negligence] in relation to your use of these documents.



CITY OF ADELAIDE HERITAGE STUDY

The City Heritage Register-Definition of Items

Prepared by the Dept. of Planning and Development

Item	JEFFCOTT CHAMBERS (former SUPREME COURT HOTEL)	Building No 15/1101-1
Address	5-7 Gouger Street; 2-4 Mill Street	Crown lease in Register Volume 1605 F85

NOTES:

1. Bluestone walling.
2. First floor addition excluded from curtilage.
3. Restored verandah.