

## CHURCH OF CHRIST AND HALL

96-100 Grote Street

The Scotch Baptists who initially met in a mud hut on the western side of Morphett Street, emigrated to South Australia to attain religious freedom and were the first 'immersionists' to establish themselves in the colony. In 1846 the Scotch Baptists opened their first stone chapel in Franklin Street, and eschewing ' . . . all denominational badges of distinction, [decided to] call themselves merely the Church of Christ . . . '.

Thomas Magarey who arrived before 1846 is credited with consolidating the Church of Christ which was at that time already in a crisis over doctrine. He discovered that there was a difference of opinion between those who believed ' . . . that individuals should wait around for God to convert them, a point of view developed by John Calvin in the sixteenth century and popular among the Scotch Baptists, and others . . . contending that the Scriptures clearly set forth the step by step response required of the individual seeking salvation'. Magarey accentuated the division by distributing copies of the journal of British Churches of Christ. The church split over the issue. Most of the congregation departed with William Scott (who was in favour of the first argument) to North Adelaide, leaving a handful in the city with Magarey. Scott and his followers eventually united with the Baptist Church.

Within ten years a larger chapel to replace the earlier one of 1846 was needed for the growing Adelaide congregation and this was provided by a chapel in Grote Street in 1856. The Sunday School at the rear was built in the mid-1880s. By the 1920s the chapel needed replacing again.

A fund-raising project was started but as so little money was raised the plans did not go ahead. A member of the congregation, Howard Culley, volunteered to draw up plans in 1921. Finally tenders were called in 1924 and Goodenough and Son were chosen to construct the chapel for £8382. The foundation stone was laid by Mrs Gardson and Mrs A. Cleveland in mid-1925, and the official services to commemorate the opening of the new chapel were held on 24 and 25 April 1926.

The church illustrates a late use of bluestone (from the Tapley Hill quarries) while the Sunday School to the rear is typically of bluestone construction with stuccoed dressings. The Sunday School building contrasts markedly with the vertically emphasised composition of the church with its buttressed walling and steeply pitched roof. The combination of dimensioned bluestone and brick panels and dressings in the construction of the church provides its distinctive appearance.

The church is a prominent element in Grote Street, making a positive contribution to the streetscape because of its bulk, materials and siting close to the street. The building is adjacent to the Hampshire Hotel and opposite the former Grote Street school buildings, and together all form an important group.

ACA, Assessments; Chapman, G., *One land, one faith, one baptism*, 1979, pp. 12-13; Churches of Christ Archives, Church of Christ minutes, letter from E.H. Spottswood,

## Heritage of the City of Adelaide

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25 November 1921, letter from H. Culley, December 1921; Dezwart, D., 'Church of Christ' in D. Langmead (ed), *Creed and architecture*, 1970, p. 105; MLSA, Historical photographs (Town Acre 310); *South Australian Register*, 7 January 1846, 24 April 1926; Taylor, H.R., *The story of a century*, 1946.

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The property described in this Information Sheet is a place of Local Heritage (City Significance). 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.*

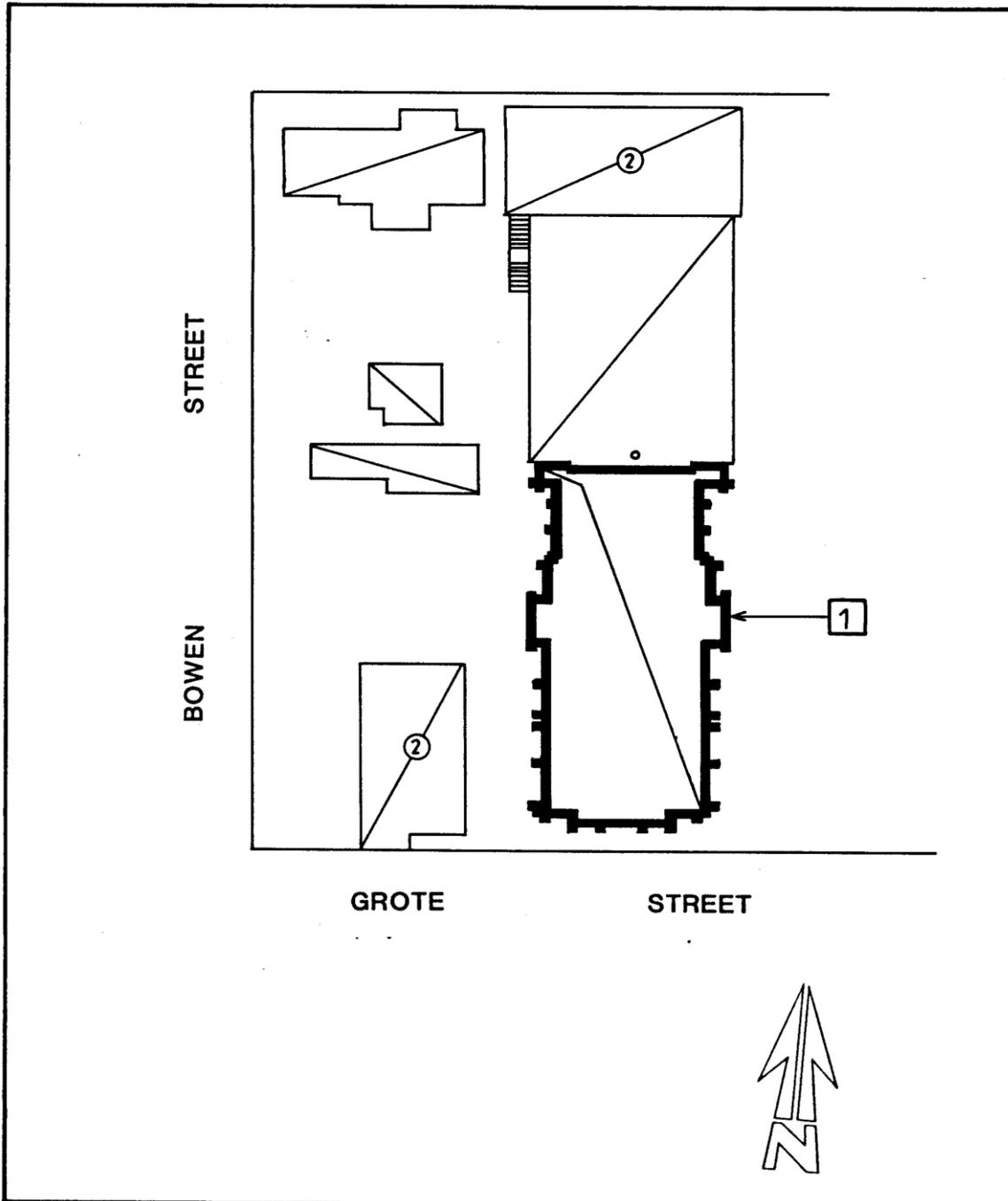


# CITY OF ADELAIDE HERITAGE STUDY

## The City Heritage Register-Definition of Items

Prepared by the Dept. of Planning and Development

Item	CHURCH OF CHRIST	Building No	10/0327-1
Address	96-100 Grote Street		CT 1751/38



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**NOTE:**

1. Squared bluestone and brick structure (1925-26).

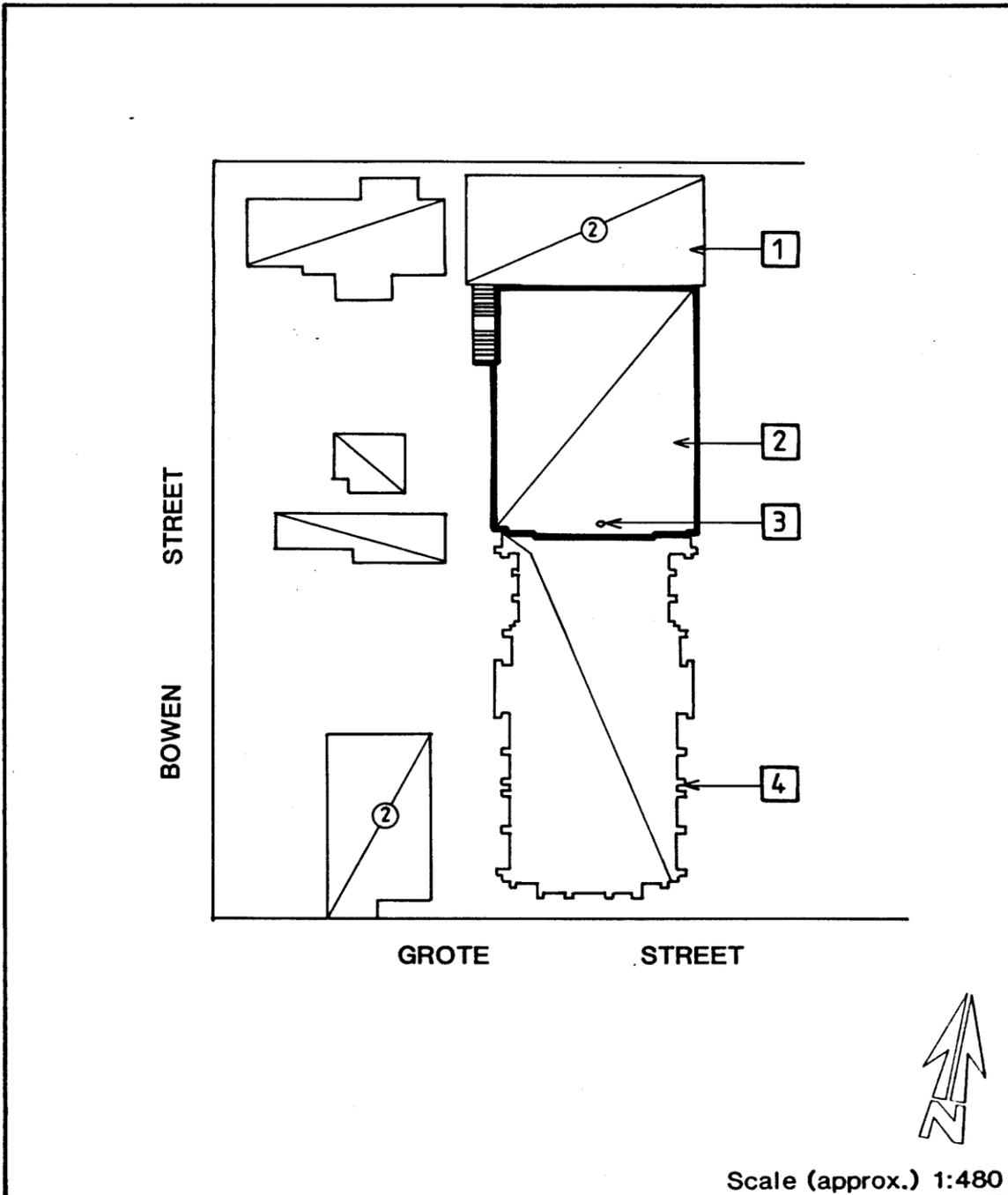


# CITY OF ADELAIDE HERITAGE STUDY

## The City Heritage Register-Definition of Items

Prepared by the Dept. of Planning and Development

Item	CHURCH OF CHRIST HALL	Building No	10/0327-2
Address	At rear 96-100 Grote Street	CT	1751/38



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Address	At rear 96-100 Grote Street	CT 1751/38

### NOTES:

1. Of later date. Brick/bluestone.
2. Bluestone rubble with stuccoed dressings (1880's).
3. Cast iron finial.
4. Squared bluestone and brick structure (1925-26).