

ELDER MEWS

(Former Adelaide Workmen's Homes)

214-228 Angas Street, 220-234 Frome Street

In the annual reports of the Adelaide Workmen's Homes Trustees of 1898 it was stated:

All the advice tendered to us has gone in the direction of suburban cottages with a garden, and . . . in the matter of the style of building we may be obliged to deviate from the Peabody [Trust] buildings, but an important question is, how far are Adelaide workmen in want of accommodation within the City? The objects of the two trusts are the same, namely the comfort and health of working men, giving them convenient nearness to their work, but we may be by the circumstances of our case compelled to seek for the same ends in different ways of building.

Sir Thomas Elder bequeathed £25 000 to establish an institution to be called the Adelaide Workmen's Homes. These three remaining blocks of the Adelaide Workmen's Homes were built from that bequest. Sir Thomas directed the trustees to have regard to the Peabody Donations Trust Fund in England, his wish being that the Adelaide trust should be similar in format. But the Adelaide trustees were faced with a land tenure system, property values and residential density dissimilar to those in London and they opted for a garden cottage design. A competition was called to assess architectural proposals and Charles W. Rutt was selected. A site in Wakefield/Angas streets was purchased on which it was proposed to erect thirty two cottages, each with bedrooms, living room, fair sized cellar, pantry and bathroom. The cottages were:

. . . designed mainly with an eye to comfort, and the rooms are all of a good size, averaging about 14 foot x 12 foot and 11 foot high. The fronts which have been kept plain, will be constructed of Tapley's Hill hardstone, with red brick dressings.

Such amenities contrasted markedly with the cramped and primitive cottages built by other wealthy men for rental to much larger numbers of working-class residents.

These cottages were the first to be erected for the Adelaide Workmen's Homes, with subsequent developments in Mile End, Hilton and Richmond. Begun in 1899 the city site contained eventually forty eight cottages, all of similar design. In 1965 just before thirty five of the cottages were demolished for the extension of Frome Street, the institution's capital was reported to be £100 000, with 147 houses.

Although much diminished in extent, the complex remains testimony to Sir Thomas' philanthropy which also included the Adelaide Benevolent and Stranger's Friend Society and the rotundas in Elder Park and the Zoological Gardens. The cottages reflect colonial Adelaide's socio-economic structure in which capital was associated with a few 'great' men to whom benevolent institutions looked for assistance.

Philanthropy based on the benevolence of the gentry was a notable theme in the social history of the city, and its impact is still evident in several charitable organisations.

Heritage of the City of Adelaide

ACA, *Digest of Proceedings*, 28 August 1899, 26 March 1900, 20 July, 1903, 9 May 1904, 18 June 1906, 28 July 1906; *Advertiser*, 28 July 1965; Adelaide Workmen's Homes Trust, Annual reports; Cain, F.M., 'The state and housing in South Australia 1920 to 1930', Hons. history thesis, University of Adelaide, 1964, p. 16; *Observer*, 25 June 1898, 19 August 1899; *Register*, 7 April 1904; *South Australian Register*, 9 March 1898.

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 | ELDER MEWS | Building No | 12/2421 |
| Address | 214-222 Angas Street | CT | 4032/276 & 277 4032/281 & 283 |

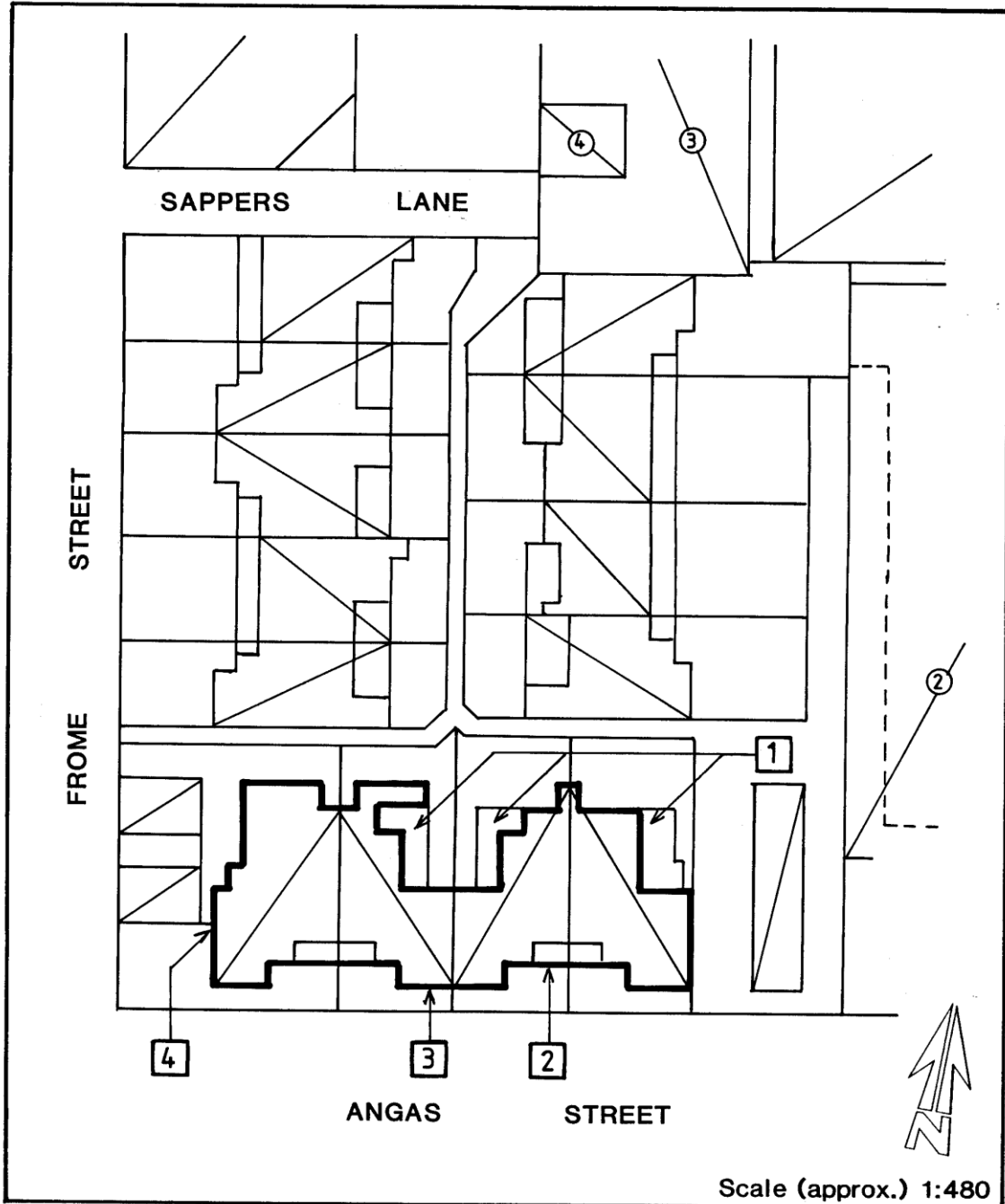


Image scanned - not to stated scale.

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 | ELDER MEWS | Building NO 12/2421 |
| Address | 214-222 Angas Street | CT 4032/276 & 277 4032/281 & 283 |

NOTES:

1. Weatherboard and brick additions.
2. Note leadlight windows and timber joinery.
3. Coursed squared random bluestone with red brick quoins.
4. Brick (English bond).



CITY OF ADELAIDE HERITAGE STUDY

The City Heritage Register - Definition of Items

Prepared by the Dept. of Planning and Development

| | | | |
|---------|----------------------|--|---------|
| Item | ELDER MEWS | Building No | 12/2425 |
| Address | 220-234 Frome Street | CT 4032/272 - 274 (inc.) 4032/278 & 282 | |

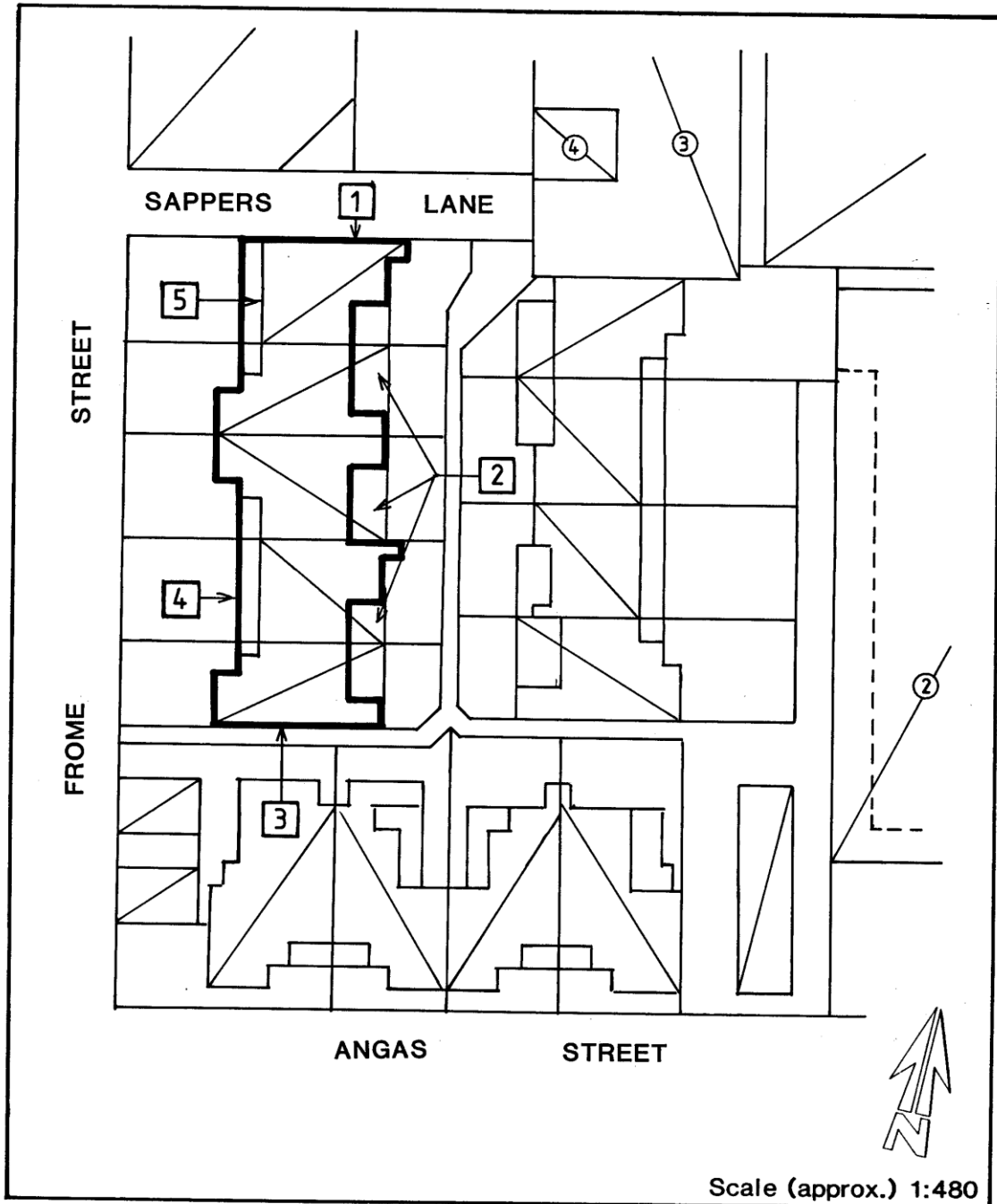


Image scanned - not to stated scale.

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 ELDER MEWS

Building No

12/2425

Address 220-234 Frome Street

CT 4032/272 - 274 (inc.)
4032/278 & 282

NOTES:

1. Rendered.
2. Weatherboard and brick lean-to.
3. Brick (English Bond) with bluestone plinth.
4. Note: Leadlight windows and timber joinery.
5. Coursed squared random bluestone with red brick quoins.



CITY OF ADELAIDE HERITAGE STUDY

The City Heritage Register-Definition of Items

Prepared by the Dept. of Planning and Development

| | | | |
|---------|--------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|
| Item | ELDER MEWS | Building No | 12/2430 |
| Address | Off 224-228 Angas Street | CT | 4032/275, 279 & 280 4063/74 |

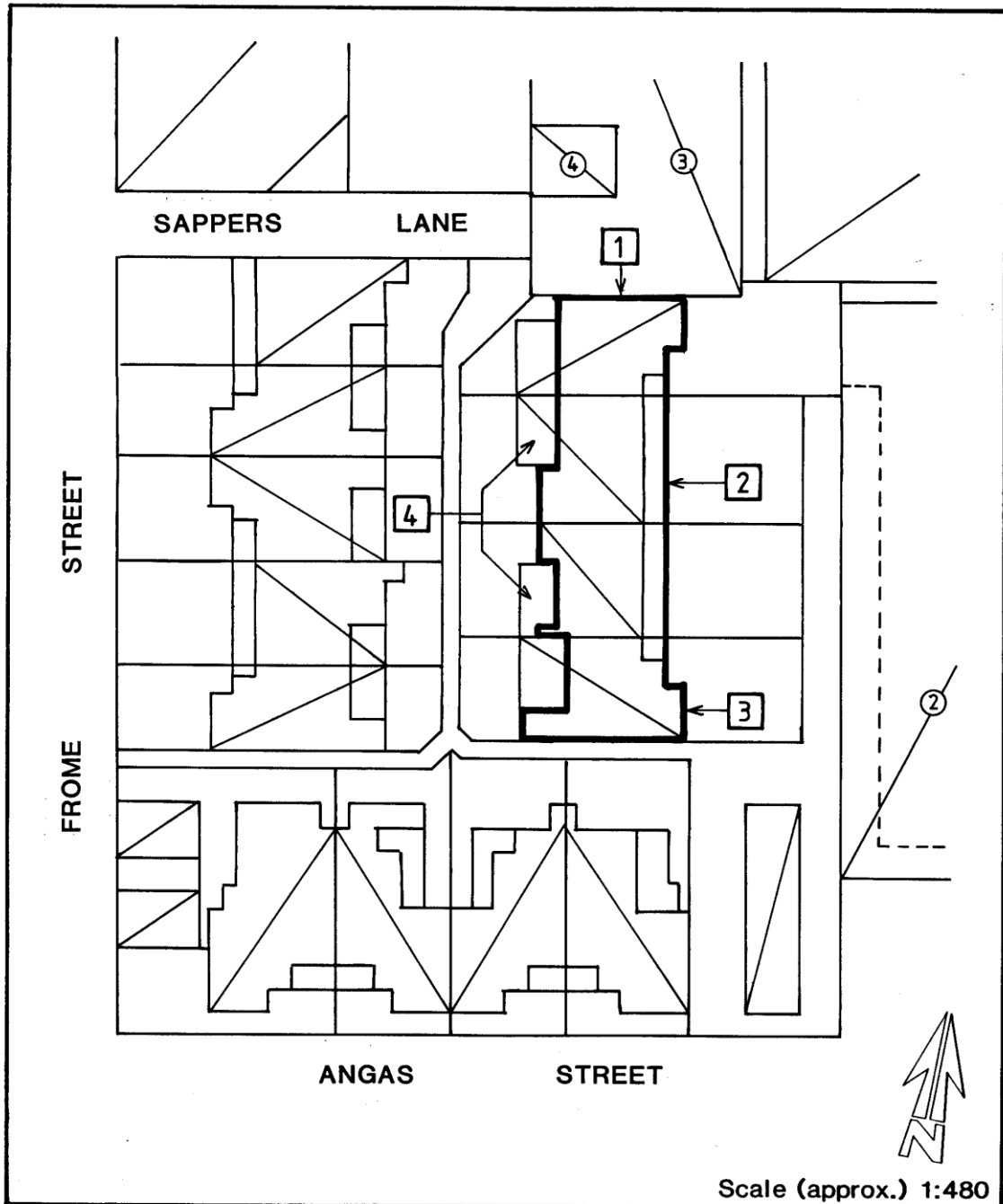


Image scanned - not to stated scale.

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 | ELDER MEWS | Building No 12/2430 |
| Address | Off 224-228 Angas Street | CT 4032/275, 279 & 280 4063/74 |

NOTES:

1. Brick (English bond).
2. Note leadlight windows and timber joinery.
3. Coursed squared random bluestone with red brick quoins.
4. Weatherboard and brick additions.