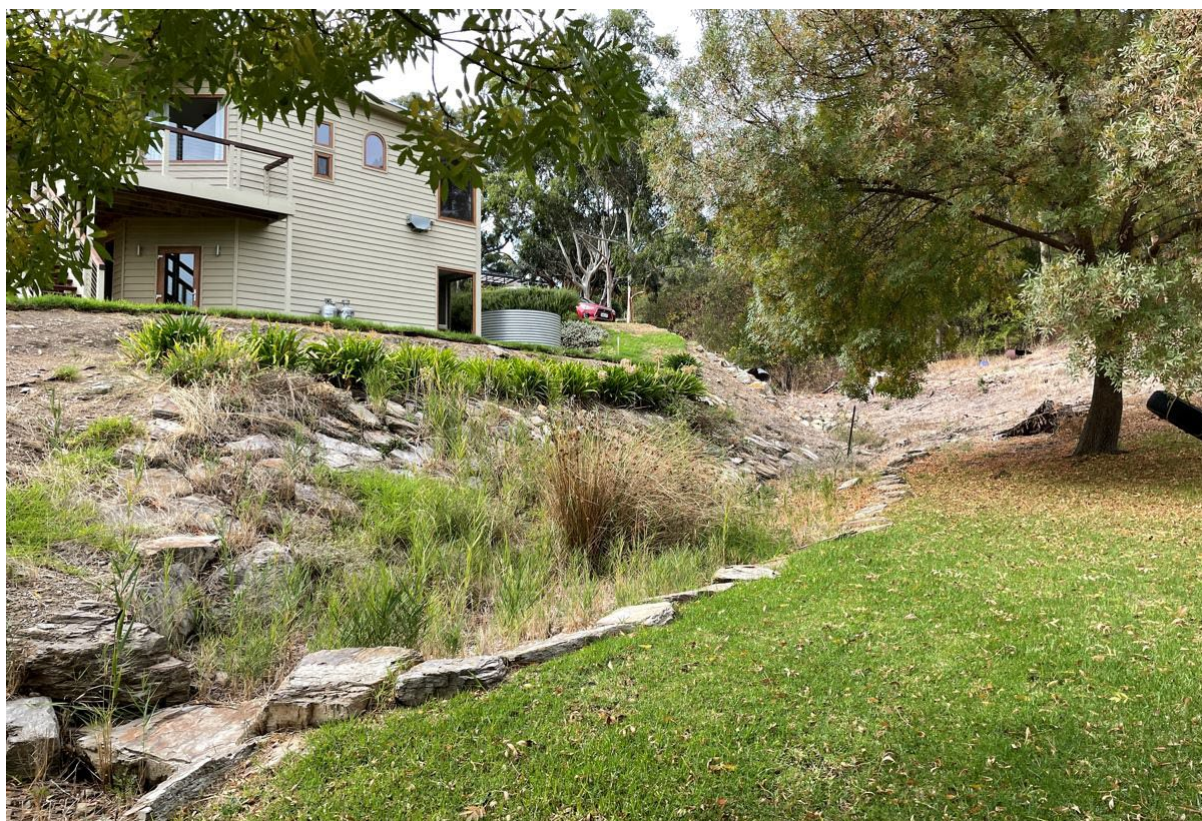

NAME: Slate culvert, 32 St Matthews Street, WILLUNGA

CURRENT USE:	Slate culvert
FORMER USE:	Slate culvert
DATE(S) OF CONSTRUCTION:	c.mid-19 th century with later additions and alterations
LOCATION:	32 St Matthews Street, WILLUNGA
LAND DESCRIPTION:	CT 6147/717, Section 258 & 268, Hundred of Willunga
OWNER:	Private ownership
RECOMMENDATION:	Local Heritage Place (amended)



Slate culvert at 32 St Matthews Street, Willunga (GGA, 2022)

NAME: Slate culvert, 32 St Matthews Street, WILLUNGA

DESCRIPTION:

C.mid-19th century culvert constructed of slate with dry stone wall construction with slate capping and extensive slate slab paving, following the natural topography of the site, dispersing to the north-west. Later c.2010 landscaping to eastern end of culvert includes reinforced concrete retaining walls and associated masonry fabric.

Site of 32 St Matthews Street, Willunga also includes mid-19th century cottage and outbuildings with extensive later additions and alterations, retaining walls and extensive landscaping.

This assessment applies only to 'unnamed Willunga creek' fabric and does not apply to any other building or structure located on the site.

An assessment of the Local Heritage listed residence and outbuilding at 32 St Matthews Street, Willunga has been undertaken within the scope of Stage 2 assessment work. Please see relevant datasheet for further information.

It is recommended that 'unnamed Willunga Creek' slate culvert at 32 St Matthews Street, Willunga be included within the scope of the current Local Heritage listing that applies to 32 St Matthews Street, Willunga (Local, HID 5458)

A delineation of significant historic fabric is provided in the Extent of Listing.

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:

The 'unnamed Willunga creek' slate culvert at 32 St Matthews Street, Willunga is of significance as a substantial drainage culvert attributed dating to an early period for the Willunga township. Most likely built during the mid-19th century, the culvert represents both the use of Willunga slate as a construction material during the township's earliest developments, as well as a substantial example of drainage infrastructure, a significant theme in the township's history.

RELEVANT CRITERIA (As defined in Section 67(1) of the PDI Act 2016):

- a) it displays historical, economic or social themes that are of importance to the local area; being an early and substantial example of a drainage culvert constructed of Willunga slate, a highly significant local construction material strongly associated with the Willunga township. The theme of slate constructed engineering and infrastructure, particularly relating to drainage, is significant for the township.
- b) it represents customs or ways of life that are characteristic of the local area; being an early and substantial example of a slate culvert within the Willunga township. Much of the Willunga township's early infrastructure and buildings are constructed of this material in this manner, a construction method used from the mid-19th century well into the 20th century.

RELEVANT HISTORIC THEMES:**Theme 2: Regional Life in the Southern Vales**

2.3 Construction using local materials

Theme 8: Transportation and Human Movement8.4 Early road and drainage infrastructure

BRIEF HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:

Heritage fabric relating to the 'unnamed' Willunga creek at 32 St Matthews Street, Willunga does not appear to have been identified or assessed as part of any previous heritage survey, though the residence itself at this location was assessed as part of the 1997 Willunga District Heritage Survey

The 1997 Survey identified 32 St Matthew Street with early buildings at nearby 30 St Matthew Street as a group of three (previously four) early dwellings and outbuildings constructed for several Irish families who settled in Willunga in the 1840s. 32 St Matthew Street was noted as constructed by the Reilly (also Rielly) family and was still occupied by descendants of the original owners as of 1997. The building form was noted as having been rendered with additions to the east and west. The form of the cottage was noted as being altered though the cottage retained its original 'Irish' chimney forms.

Current research indicates that Thomas Reilly, laborer of Willunga, purchased the allotment in October 1863; the exact construction date is unclear though the pug construction may suggest the building predates Reilly's purchase; the construction typology being generally associated with early South Australian settlement (1840s-1850s). As noted in 1997, the property remained within the Rielly family, having been sold relatively recently.

Extensive additions have been undertaken in the 21st century, though the form and materials of the significant early fabric appears to have been retained. Chimney forms and external rendered walls appear as in the 1997 survey. A small ruinous slate outbuilding photographed in the 1997 survey has recently been sympathetically restored and now comprises a significant heritage element to the site. Slate retaining walls to the site, appearing to date to an early period, remain in stable condition.

A site visit was undertaken in February 2022 to identify any historical fabric relating to the drainage of the creek through the site. A substantial slate culvert to the immediate west of the residence was identified, following the site's natural topography falling towards the north-west. While little information regarding this culvert could be identified, it appears to date to an early period; the culvert's slate fabric and evident intention to direct water away from the building site is suggestive of a mid-19th century construction date. Recent landscaping to the eastern end of the culvert has recently been completed following the construction of residential additions in the mid-2010s, including large blocks of masonry with reinforced concrete walls to support the car-parking space immediately above; the landscaping does not appear to have negatively impacted early culvert fabric.

EXTENT OF LISTING:

The form and materials of all early masonry fabric, including dry stone slate walls, slate capping and slate paving. All later modifications, including concrete retaining walls and c.2010s landscaping to the eastern end of the culvert, are not included in the listing.

REFERENCES:

Historical CTs 44/203; etc.

McDougall & Vines, 1997, Willunga District Heritage Survey, pp. 283-4.

SITE MAPPING:



Site of 32 St Matthews Street, Willunga; slate culvert shown within red rectangle (Planning SA SAPPA)

OTHER IMAGES:



Early masonry fabric to slate culvert at 32 St Matthews Street, Willunga, looking east (GGA, 2022)



Early masonry fabric to slate culvert at 32 St Matthews Street, Willunga, looking north-west (GGA, 2022)
(GGA, 2022)