

(Extract from Former Hardy's Winery Site Heritage Assessment – Local Heritage Places prepared by Grieve Gillet Andersen Architects, June 2022, pages 7-11)

CAREW COTTAGE AND ATTACHED FORMER SCHOOL ROOM, SUNKEN GARDEN AND PINE TREE
(HERITAGE ID 5375)

Carew Cottage, named after John Reynell's grandson, Carew Reynell, consists of several disparate built components. The earliest part of the dwelling, constructed in 1910, is the timber framed and clad gable roof structure. The two-storey masonry wing to the east was added later, supposedly in the c1920s, as well as the stone kitchen / laundry addition to the south. The detached timber clad room, referred to in previous assessments as the School Room, likely dates from the 1910 period, evidenced by its similar material palette and detailing, although previous assessments assert this was constructed in 1930. This date has been unable to be verified.



Figure 3: Carew Cottage, off Panalatinga Road, Reynella — viewed from north (GGA, February 2021)

3.21 EXISTING HERITAGE LISTING

This information is drawn from the 2003 Noarlunga Heritage Review. Previous assessments in 1997 and 1979 generally contain the same information.

Address: Panalatinga Road, Reynella

Plan No: DP 31765

Allotment No: Pt 405, Section 538, Hundred of Noarlunga
Certificate of Title: 5072/629

Previous Assessments: Noarlunga Local Heritage Inventory, 1997

Description:

A two storey house with a symmetrical front facade and a large single storey section at the rear. Walls of the two storey section, which is only one room deep, are masonry, rendered and painted. The corrugated iron roof is hipped. Walls of the single storey section at the rear are timber framed with weatherboard cladding, the roof of this section is gabled.

An ancillary structure attached to the rear verandah is timber framed and weatherboard clad, with a gabled roof.

There is a sunken rose garden alongside the dwelling and mature pine trees in the grounds.

History:

In 1900, aged 17, Carew Reynell (1883-1915) grandson of John Reynell, took over management of Reynella Winery. Carew reintroduced the making of brandy at the Winery and Reynella Hospital Brandy became one of the leading brands in the country.

In 1910, Carew Reynell married May Byard. It is thought that he built this house near the winery for them to live in that same year.

Carew was killed in action in Gallipoli in 1915, but May is said to have lived here until she died in 1967. The house was apparently known as "Greenacres".

The structure attached to the rear verandah was apparently built as a schoolroom in 1930.

The sunken rose garden alongside the dwelling was apparently established as a memorial to Carew and his son Richard who was killed in action in the Battle of Britain in 1940.

The mature pine trees in the grounds probably date from the time that the house was built.

Statement of Heritage Value:

The heritage value of this building resides primarily in its association with Carew Reynell and his family and its association with the Reynella Winery.

The mature pine trees contribute to the historical context of the place.

Relevant Criteria:

- (b) It displays historical and economic and social themes that are of importance to the local area; and
- (e) it is associated with a notable local personality (Carew Reynell) and his family.

References:

Catterall, Vanessa - Noarlunga Local Heritage Review, 1997, Item No. REO6

3.2.2 REVIEW OF HERITAGE STATUS

Additional historical information has come to light about Carew Cottage. The following additional information is provided to assist in the review of the heritage status of the dwelling as well as the rose garden and row of pine trees.

Additional Historical Summary

One of the local heritage places at Reynella is described as: "Carew Cottage and attached former School Room, Sunken Garden & Pine Trees". This is a complex place made up of a number of elements. It was assessed for the State Heritage Register in 1984, but was not recommended for entry. Subsequently it was entered in a Schedule of Local Heritage Places in the City of Onkaparinga Development Plan in 2009.

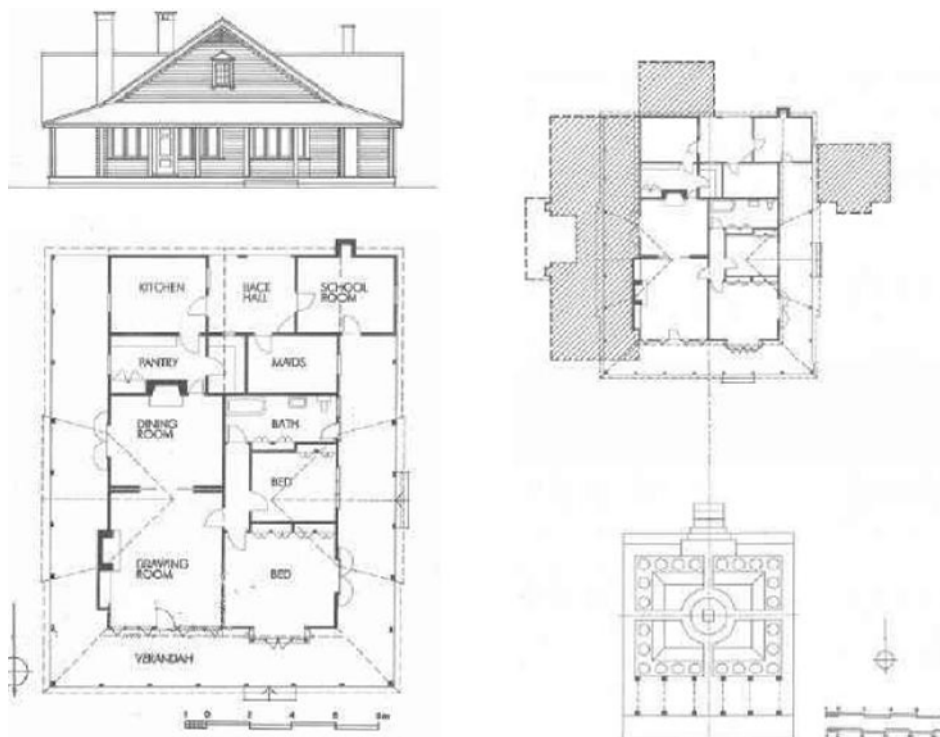
In 1910, the 27-year-old Carew Reynell married May Byard, and at about the same time built a new house which they called Greenacres beside Panalatinga Road on Reynella winery land. After Carew's death in 1915, The widowed May lived in the house for various periods until her death in 1967. Since the departure of the Reynell family, the house has usually been called Carew Cottage or Carew House.

The house has been extended on three occasions, and until recently there was confusion about the sequence of construction. The original house of 1910 was a very unusual building for South Australia. It was an elegant gabled timber house, single-storied and symmetrical with verandahs on three sides, facing north with its main axis parallel to Panalatinga Road. When it was built the front verandah probably looked out over a view of vineyards.

The architect was Robin Dods of Brisbane, prominent and influential in Queensland for his graceful Edwardian timber houses, but little-known in South Australia. This unlikely choice of architect probably came about because Dods was friends with Queensland journalist Henry Carew Reynell, who was a relative of Carew Reynell of Reynella, although their precise family relationship has not been determined.

Brisbane architect Robert Riddel, the principal authority on Dods' work, believes that Dods may have visited Reynella in early 1910 during an Adelaide stopover while returning from a visit to Europe.

During May Reynell's occupancy, the house underwent three extensions. The first must have been a stone rubble kitchen, immediately to the rear (south) of the timber house. The second is said to have taken place in the 1920s, when a two-storey rendered brick extension was added to the east of the house, effectively turning its axis through ninety degrees so it presented a facade facing Panalatinga Road. The addition of this facade was not clearly thought through,



8.188 House for Carew Reynell, Reynella, SA 1910; elevation and floor plan. (Author 1986)

8.189 House for Carew Reynell, Reynella, SA 1910; formal garden with subsequent additions hatched. (Author 1986)

Figure 4: Plans drawn by Robert Riddel for his 1986 thesis on Architect Robin Dods (Robert Riddel,)

and created a number of problems, removing a verandah, adding five cramped rooms, complicating the floor levels, and adding an internal staircase which simply does not fit the room it occupies, and partly blocks a doorway. Its purpose in providing additional accommodation for the widowed May and her two relatively young children is unclear.

The final addition to the house was a simple timber room attached to the western verandah. Whoever designed it has gone to some trouble to match the roof pitch, gable details and weatherboards of Dods' 1910 house. It is known as the Schoolroom, which is slightly puzzling as the southwestern room of the house, right alongside it, is also known as the schoolroom. Robert Riddel's explanation is that as the house had only three bedrooms, Carew and May's son and daughter shared a bedroom, and did their school lessons in another one. As they grew older sharing a bedroom became inappropriate, so one of them moved into the schoolroom, and the external schoolroom was added. The date of the external Schoolroom is given in oral tradition as 1930, but if the shared bedroom theory is correct, its date is more likely about the mid-1920s, when the children were entering their teens. It is also possible the building dates from the 1910 period of construction, although there is no evidence to confirm this, and its use at that time is difficult to speculate on.

Associated with Carew House and just to the north of it is what is known as the Sunken Garden. This is a square area which had a central pond surrounded by rose gardens. It is said to have been established by May Reynell as a memorial to her husband Carew and her son Richard, both of whom died on military service in the first and second world wars respectively. The dates given for its construction range from the 1940s to the 1950s. However, there are later elements. A timber pergola supported on brick piers incorporates bricks which appear to date from the 1970s. The rose garden seems to have been neglected for decades, and consists mostly of bare earth surrounded by brick edging, with about six unhealthy rose bushes surviving.

A little further north is a row of Aleppo pine trees (*Pinus halepensis*), forming a visual boundary to the open space in which Carew House stands. These have sometimes been described as dating from 1910 when the house was built. However a recent arborist's report says that the oldest tree was planted between 1940 and 1950, and many others are much younger, self-seeded from the original. The date suggests that the trees (or tree originally) are associated with the memorial rather than the house.

Carew's older sister Gladys (1881-1956) was a notable potter and ceramicist, and she may have had a brief association with Carew House. In 1919 she established a pottery somewhere at Reynella, although nothing remains of it, and its precise location is unknown. The 1996 Noarlunga Local Heritage Inventory suggests that photographs show the kiln to have been near the main Reynell homestead. By 1922 she had moved to Victoria. She is far better known for her associations with Melbourne, London and Paris, in all of which she worked. At her death in 1956, her ashes were scattered somewhere at Reynella

After May's death in 1967, Carew House was subdivided out of the Reynella estate, and sold privately. It passed through the hands of a number of private owners in the following sixteen years, until Hardy's bought it in 1983 and re-incorporated it back into the winery land. The house appears to have been unoccupied for most of the time since 1983.



8.190 House for Carew Reynell, Reynella, South Australia 1910; house on right and 1920s additions at left. (photo c1939, Dods Archive)

Figure 5: c1939 image of Carew Cottage from Robin Dods Archive (Robert Riddell)

2021 Inspection

Carew Cottage and the surrounding property including the sunken garden and pine tree row was inspected externally (and the house internally) in February 2021. Like the dwelling fronting Reynell Road, it is located at some distance from the core winery buildings, and addresses Panalatinga Road, although has no street access to this major road.

Previous assessments have concluded that the two storey masonry section of the dwelling was the earliest part of the complex. It can be demonstrated by physical evidence, but also additional historical evidence, that this is incorrect, and the timber central portion is in fact the original dwelling.

The previous assessment asserts that the dwelling's heritage value is primarily vested in its association with historical themes of importance to the local area, and for its association with Carew Reynell.

Review of Local Heritage Significance

A review of the place against the criteria for listing as a place of Local Heritage Significance as outlined in the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016*, based on the physical evidence and known historical information has been undertaken. Note that previous assessments have concluded that criteria (a) and (e) only were met, however for thoroughness we have reviewed all criteria.

- *Criterion (a) it displays historical, economic or social themes that are of importance to the local area*

Carew House has an association with the winery as a functioning business, being located on the same land parcel as the winery buildings. It is known to have been built for Carew Reynell, a third generation member of the Reynell family, and someone who would have been expected to enter into the business, following his grandfather and father. However other than its siting adjacent the grounds, there is nothing about the dwelling that clearly demonstrates any historical, economic or social themes that represent the wine production business, or evidence its importance to the local area. It is physically removed from the core of the winery complex, and does not demonstrate clear themes simply as a result of having been built for a Reynell family member. The important themes of the development of the winery, and its role in the establishment of the local district, are also well evidenced in the collection of buildings already entered in the South Australian Heritage Register, including the original Reynell residence.

Unfortunately there is insufficient verified historical evidence at this time, to explain the later modifications and extensions to the house, which raise some questions as to their purpose. The two storey addition was possibly added to increase the 'grandeur' of the single storey (albeit of a large scale roof form) house, and to present a more formal frontage to Panalatinga Road, however the single room depth, misalignment of floor levels between the two sections, and incongruous staircase that occupies a central space in the original house, and does not fit cleanly within that space, are puzzling.

The sunken garden and row of pine trees are identified in previous assessments as being established as a memorial to Carew (killed at Gallipoli in 1915) and his son Richard (killed in World War Two in 1940), and a 1949 aerial photograph and arborist evidence would support the trees dating from around the 1940s. The rose garden could also date from this time, however it is difficult to confirm this. The brick arbour to the north of the sunken garden appears to be constructed with bricks dating from c1970s. Whilst both elements may retain some memorial and sentimental value in the unfortunate deaths of members of the family, the memorial aspect is not strongly legible in the remaining fabric and tree stock.

Criterion (a) is not met.

- *Criterion (b) it represents customs or ways of life that are characteristic of the local area*

The dwelling is not particularly representative of any specific local customs or ways of life, and is an unexceptional residence in this regard.

Criterion (b) is not met.

- *Criterion (c) it has played an important part in the lives of local residents*

As a dwelling designed for residential purposes since its construction, the dwelling is not considered to have played an important part in the lives of local residents. As the residence of Carew Reynell it may have been an important residence within the community at that time, however Carew only lived in the house for a few short years. It is also understood to have been vacant for many years up until the present day.

Criterion (c) is not met.

- *Criterion (d) it displays aesthetic merit, design characteristics or construction techniques of significance to the local area*

Carew House is an unusual residential complex in the context of the local area. Traditionally, houses would have been of predominantly masonry construction, with lightweight lean-tos and additions for service areas constructed, added and altered as and when required. The earliest part of the dwelling has been established to be the timber framed and clad central portion, constructed in 1910. The later two storey masonry wing and single storey masonry addition to the south are later additions, evidenced by the visible external cladding of the timber section where the masonry addition has been added.

The timber dwelling is attributed to Queensland architect Robin Dods, and is the only known example of his work in South Australia, although he was a prolific designer in Brisbane and Queensland. His association with Carew Reynell has not been firmly established, but a thesis by Robert Riddell provides additional information about the construction of the house and how Dods may have come to be in Reynella around 1910. Despite the two storey addition lessening the integrity and legibility of the timber house, it remains a good example of Dods' work. However, Dods' importance to the local Onkaparinga region can only be described as tenuous, and therefore the design characteristics of the house cannot be described as being of significance to the local area, when assessed against this criteria.

Criterion (d) is not met.

- *Criterion (e) it is associated with a notable local personality or event*

(Note that the previous assessment altered the criteria to read "it is associated with a notable *local personality and his family*" which is not the legal wording of the criteria.)

The dwelling is associated with the Reynell Winery, as a residence known to have been built for and lived in by Carew Reynell, (grandson of founder John Reynell) and his wife May. However, Carew only lived at the place for a few short years before his death in World War One, and there is nothing in the fabric of the dwelling to reveal any specific associative significance with Carew or his family. (for example, retention of memorabilia within the place specifically associated with a person or family).

It is also questionable as to whether Carew Reynell was a notable local personality. He was a third generation member of the Reynell family, and was destined to continue the family business, but was killed at the age of 32 at Gallipoli.

The Architect Robin Dods, whilst a notable personality in Queensland, was not a prominent figure in the local district, and it is not confirmed if he even visited the site.

Criterion (e) is not met.

- *Criterion (f) it is a notable landmark in the area*

The dwelling is not a notable landmark in the area. It is set back from the road and not visually prominent, and is somewhat concealed by vegetation.

Criterion (f) is not met.

- *Criterion (g) it is a tree of special historical or social significance or importance within the local area*

Criterion (g) is not applicable.



Figure 6: Sunken Garden, Panalatinga Road, Reynella - note few remnant roses (GGA, February 2021)

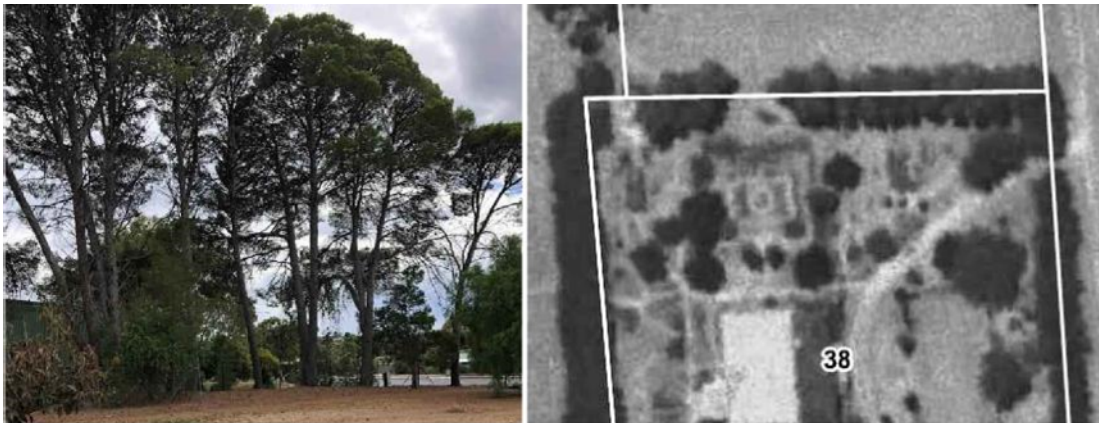


Figure 7: Row of pine trees, Panalatinga Road, Reynella (GGA, February 2021)

Figure 8: excerpt from 1949 aerial photograph showing pine trees and rose garden extant (City of Onkaparinga)

3.2.3 REVIEW OF STATE HERITAGE ASSESSMENT REPORT

The State Heritage Assessment Report considered whether any of the places reviewed in the Grieve Gillett Andersen Report, met any criteria to warrant inclusion on the South Australian Heritage Register.

In relation to Carew Cottage, the following Heritage South Australia assessment is provided:

Criterion A

"Carew built the cottage at the Reynell winery c.1910 as his home and lived there until joining the 9th Light Horse Regiment in December 1914. He was killed in action at The Nek (Gallipoli) in August 1915. Carew's wife May and their two children continued to live at the house, however, they had little to do with the operation of the winery. The garden was constructed later by May and the pine trees are the now mature growth of self-sown seedlings from the original planting and most likely date from the 1950s.

After the death of Walter Reynell in 1919, Walter's daughters created the company Walter Reynell & Sons Pty Ltd as a means to run the winery as a business. In the 1920s, May substantially altered the cottage, reorientating the house away from the operational aspects of the winery and turning it to face Panalatinga Road. May lived there until 1967 when she died.

Carew cottage, the sunken rose garden and pine trees do not have a clear and strong association with the evolution of early mixed farming or wineries in South Australia, as they were built/created after both were strongly established in the State. Nor do the property and its landscape features demonstrate important aspects of the evolution of the wine industry in the twentieth century. It was the home of May, Carew's widow and was not associated with wine or spirit production.

It has been suggested that the sunken rose garden and pine trees or a pine tree were memorial plantings to commemorate the deaths of both her husband Carew in the First World War and son Richard in the Second World War. While this has not been substantiated, even if it is correct, the garden and trees are a very personal response to the tragedy of those losses. It is the memorials and community-led plantings that demonstrate the memorialisation of service and loss during wars in South Australia. Places such as the Women's War Memorial Garden (16182) and Victor Harbor Soldiers' Memorial Garden (SHP 12746) represent this theme at the State level.

It is recommended that Carew Cottage, Sunken Garden & Pine Trees does not fulfil criterion (a)."

Criterion B

Carew Cottage is an example of a Federation bungalow built in South Australia c.1910. While an earlier example of the type, many Federation bungalows were built during the interwar period making such houses neither rare nor uncommon. The house was substantially altered in the 1920s substantially compromising the integrity of the original design and therefore it no longer possesses any qualities of cultural significance that might be considered to be increasingly endangered, such as highly intact original interiors.

Formal sunken rose gardens were a popular garden feature during the interwar period and formal rose and/or sunken gardens continue to be built and planted in South Australia. Over 50 public gardens were created in South Australia as a memorial to soldiers' who served, were injured or died during the First World War. While the number of such gardens is comparably small, it is the public manifestation of such places as sites to commemorate and mourn the dead that are of cultural significance to South Australia and not private memorial gardens. The Soldiers' Memorial Gardens at Victor Harbor (SHP 12746) and Women's War Memorial Garden, Cross of Sacrifice and Stone of Remembrance, North Adelaide (SHP 16182) are such public demonstrations of cultural significance to the State.

The grouping of pine trees at the rear of the garden created one of three boundaries to the garden planted around Carew Cottage, such plantings are not rare, uncommon or endangered.

It is recommended that Carew Cottage, Sunken Garden & Pine Trees does not fulfil criterion (b).

Criterion C

There is no evidence to suggest that Carew Cottage, the sunken rose garden and pine trees will contribute information to an understanding of Federation bungalow style dwellings and twentieth century gardens or tree plantings in South Australia that is not already well understood through a variety of primary and secondary sources.

It is recommended that Carew Cottage, Sunken Garden & Pine Trees do not fulfil criterion

Criterion D

Carew Cottage, garden and pine trees may be considered as an example of the class of place 'early twentieth century house and garden, and as an element of the class of place associated with the ongoing development of agriculture in South Australia including 'mixed farming' and the 'wine industry'.

The initial timber cottage designed in the Federation bungalow style reputedly by Robin Dods was constructed in c.1910, however, the original cottage was extended on a number of occasions. While the addition of the timber room (possibly schoolroom) and stone kitchen were sympathetic to the Federation bungalow, the two-storey brick addition built in the 1920s by May Reynell, changed the orientation and presentation of the house, substantially increased its size and undermined the architectural quality of the earlier timber structure. The addition has fundamentally compromised the integrity of the original design and its interior features, cutting into the eastern facade of the house and cutting up interior features such as the timber staircase. Consequently, the house is not considered to be an outstanding example of the class, early twentieth century house and garden.

The simple formal, sunken rose garden is typical of many gardens constructed in the first half of the twentieth century. While of simple design, some elements such as the low height of the pergola are poorly resolved, meaning the garden is not considered to be an outstanding example of the class.

In c.1910, Carew Reynell, grandson of John Reynell, constructed Carew cottage as his residence at the Reynell winery. The house and garden elements are a later addition to the Reynella Farm and later Reynell winery that provide little evidence of how a mixed use farm and winery operated. While it does illustrate the intergenerational succession that was to occur, Carew's death in 1915, and the subsequent restructuring of the business, led to the house becoming the residence of his widow and has little association with running the business thus it cannot be considered as an integral element of the place.

It is recommended that Carew Cottage, the Sunken Garden & Pine Trees do not fulfil criterion (d).

Criterion E

The c.1910 Federation bungalow likely designed by Dods may once have demonstrated a high degree of creative and aesthetic accomplishment and been an outstanding representative of a Federation bungalow. However, the addition of the two-story brick structure to the eastern side of the bungalow in the 1920s has extensively compromised the integrity of the original bungalow. The addition altered not only the entire eastern elevation, but has also resulted in substantial internal reorganisation of the spaces. For example, level changes are poorly resolved, a number of the spaces are poorly designed, and interior elements such as the staircase have been modified without the same degree of design resolution achieved for the earlier structure.

The sunken rose garden is typical of such gardens from the first half of the twentieth century, and as with the house, demonstrates a lack of design resolution for key elements of the garden. For example, the pergola height. Consequently, Carew Cottage and its garden cannot be considered to demonstrate a high degree of creative or aesthetic accomplishment nor are they outstanding representatives of either a Federation bungalow or the gardens of the era.

It is recommended that Carew Cottage, Sunken Garden & Pine Trees do not fulfil criterion (e).

It is recommended that the nominated place does not fulfil criterion (e).

Criterion F

While Carew Cottage, sunken garden and pine trees may have strong associations for some individuals, there is no evidence to suggest that any group recognised more broadly within South Australia has a strong spiritual or cultural association with the site.

It is recommended that the Carew Cottage, Sunken Garden & Pine Trees do not fulfil criterion (f).

It is recommended that the nominated place does not fulfil criterion (f).

Criterion G

Carew Cottage was probably designed by Queensland architect Robin Dods who is recognised in Queensland for the design quality of his commissions built in that State, and in particular the adaptation of the arts and crafts into the Australian Federation architectural style. While Dods was an influential architect in Queensland, Carew Cottage may have been his only commission in South Australia and even then it remains unclear if he did design the cottage for Carew. While Carew Cottage was a well-resolved design, it is more stripped back than his Queensland examples and had little if any impact or influence on architecture in South Australia. While Dods is historically important to the development of architecture in Queensland he is not considered historically important to the development of architecture in South Australia.

John and his son Walter Reynell were responsible for establishing and then developing the property as a mixed farm and winery before focusing the business increasingly on wine production in the late nineteenth century. Walter's son Carew Reynell began working for the Reynell winery c.1901 at the age of 17 or 18, and during the 1900s was given increasing levels of managerial responsibility. He built the cottage in c.1910 and lived there until he joined the 9th Light Horse Regiment in December 1914 with the rank of major. Carew was killed in action at The Neck on 27 August 1915. The cottage was Carew's residence for only a short time before he died and therefore demonstrates little of his life. The cottage is also not associated with his work at the winery.

It is recommended that Carew Cottage, Sunken Garden & Pine Trees do not fulfil criterion (g).

It is recommended that the nominated place does not fulfil criterion (g).

3.2.4 GGA review summary

The State Heritage Assessment Report does not provide any additional information to suggest a review of the conclusions of the assessment above.

It is the view of the authors of this report that the original assessment against local criteria stands. For this reason, it is recommended that Carew Cottage does not remain as a Local Heritage Place.